



QUICK-START GUIDE

2015 NCDB Participant Use File (NCDB PUF)

The data included in this zipped file are provided in a flat text file format, and should be read with software such as SAS, SPSS (PASW), STATA, or any other statistical software of your choosing. Also included in this zipped file are four scripts that will allow you to read the data in SAS (NCDB_PUF_Labels_2015.sas), SPSS (NCDB_PUF_Labels_2015.sps), or STATA (NCDB_PUF_Labels_2015.do). You must have SAS, SPSS/PASW, or STATA software installed on your computer to be able to use these files. These three scripts include 1) input statements that will read the provided flat text input file and assign variable names, 2) variable labels and 3) either format statements (SAS) or value labels (SPSS/PASW, STATA).

The table appearing on the following pages provides a list of each of the item made available in PUF. In addition, “standard” or “analytic” variable names are provided, the diagnosis years for which individual items are available, and finally the item length and column location of each item is specified. The item and variable names in this table are the same as those documented in the on-line PUF Data Dictionary at (<http://ncdbpuf.facs.org/>). The data dictionary includes the item names, descriptions and value definitions of the variables included in your PUF file. Please refer to this data dictionary before beginning your analysis to ensure your familiarity with the provided data. **Note that the items included and diagnosis year availability are only applicable to the 2015 PUF (for the August 2017 RFA), which includes cases diagnosed in 2004-2015.**

Please note per the Data Use Agreement that any abstracts or publications using these data should include the following acknowledgement in all presentations/publications:

“The data used in the study are derived from a de-identified NCDB file. The American College of Surgeons and the Commission on Cancer have not verified and are not responsible for the analytic or statistical methodology employed, or the conclusions drawn from these data by the investigator.”

The abstracts and publications also need to indicate:

“The NCDB is a joint project of the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons and the American Cancer Society.”

If you have any questions regarding these files, e-mail your questions to NCDB_PUF@facs.org.

August 2017

NCDB 2015 PUF Item List		Adult Only/All*	PUF Item Name	Diagnosis Years Available**	File Layout			Data Type	
					Characters	Start	End		
Case Key	Case Key	All	PUF_CASE_ID	All	37	1	37	String	
Facility	Facility Key	All	PUF_FACILITY_ID	All	10	38	47	String	
	Facility Type	Adult*	FACILITY_TYPE_CD	All	1	48	48	Numeric	
	Facility Location	Adult*	FACILITY_LOCATION_CD	All	1	49	49	Numeric	
Patient Demographics	Patient Age	All	AGE	All	3	50	52	Numeric	
	Sex	All	SEX	All	1	53	53	Numeric	
	Race	All	RACE	All	2	54	55	Numeric	
	Spanish Origin	All	SPANISH_HISPANIC_ORIGIN	All	1	56	56	Numeric	
	Primary Payor	All	INSURANCE_STATUS	All	2	57	58	Numeric	
	Income 2000	All	MED_INC_QUAR_00	All	1	59	59	Numeric	
	Education 2000	All	NO_HSD_QUAR_00	All	1	60	60	Numeric	
	Urban/Rural 2003	All	UR_CD_03	All	1	61	61	Numeric	
	Income 2008-2012	All	MED_INC_QUAR_12	All	1	62	62	Numeric	
	Education 2008-2012	All	NO_HSD_QUAR_12	All	1	63	63	Numeric	
	Urban/Rural 2013	All	UR_CD_13	All	1	64	64	Numeric	
	Great Circle Distance	All	CROWFLY	All	8	65	72	Numeric	
	Charlson/Deyo Score	All	CDCC_TOTAL	All	2	73	74	Numeric	
	Cancer Identification	Sequence Number	All	SEQUENCE_NUMBER	All	2	75	76	String
Class of Case		All	CLASS_OF_CASE	All	2	77	78	Numeric	
Year of Diagnosis		All	YEAR_OF_DIAGNOSIS	All	4	79	82	Numeric	
Primary Site		All	PRIMARY_SITE	All	4	83	86	String	
Laterality		All	LATERALITY	All	1	87	87	Numeric	
Histology		All	HISTOLOGY	All	4	88	91	Numeric	
Behavior		All	BEHAVIOR	All	1	92	92	Numeric	
Grade		All	GRADE	All	1	93	93	Numeric	
Diagnostic Confirmation		All	DIAGNOSTIC_CONFIRMATION	All	1	94	94	Numeric	
Size of Tumor		All	TUMOR_SIZE	All	3	95	97	Numeric	
Regional Lymph Nodes Positive		All	REGIONAL_NODES_POSITIVE	All	2	98	99	Numeric	
Regional Lymph Nodes Examined		All	REGIONAL_NODES_EXAMINED	All	2	100	101	Numeric	
Stage of Disease		Diagnostic and Staging Procedure, Days from Dx	All	DX_STAGING_PROC_DAYS	All	8	102	109	Numeric
		Diagnostic and Staging Procedure	All	RX_SUMM_DXSTG_PROC	All	2	110	111	Numeric
	AJCC Clinical T	All	TNM_CLIN_T	All	4	112	115	String	
	AJCC Clinical N	All	TNM_CLIN_N	All	4	116	119	String	
	AJCC Clinical M	All	TNM_CLIN_M	All	4	120	123	String	
	AJCC Clinical Stage Group	All	TNM_CLIN_STAGE_GROUP	All	4	124	127	String	
	AJCC Pathologic T	All	TNM_PATH_T	All	4	128	131	String	
	AJCC Pathologic N	All	TNM_PATH_N	All	4	132	135	String	

August 2017

AJCC Pathologic M	All	TNM_PATH_M	All	4	136	139	String
AJCC Pathologic Stage Group	All	TNM_PATH_STAGE_GROUP	All	4	140	143	String
TNM Edition Number	All	TNM_EDITION_NUMBER	All	2	144	145	Numeric
NCDB Analytic Stage Group	All	ANALYTIC_STAGE_GROUP	All	1	146	146	Numeric
CS Mets at DX	All	CS_METS_AT_DX	All	2	147	148	String
CS Mets Eval	All	CS_METS_EVAL	All	1	149	149	String
CS Extension	All	CS_EXTENSION	All	3	150	152	String
CS Tumor Size/Ext Eval	All	CS_TUMOR_SIZEEXT_EVAL	All	1	153	153	String
CS Mets at Dx-Bone	All	CS_METS_DX_BONE	2010+	1	154	154	String
CS Mets at Dx-Brain	All	CS_METS_DX_BRAIN	2010+	1	155	155	String
CS Mets at Dx-Liver	All	CS_METS_DX_LIVER	2010+	1	156	156	String
CS Mets at Dx-Lung	All	CS_METS_DX_LUNG	2010+	1	157	157	String
Lymph Vascular Invasion	All	LYMPH_VASCULAR_INVASION	2010+	1	158	158	String
CS Site Specific Factor 1	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_1	***	3	159	161	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 2	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_2	***	3	162	164	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 3	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_3	***	3	165	167	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 4	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_4	***	3	168	170	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 5	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_5	***	3	171	173	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 6	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_6	***	3	174	176	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 7	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_7	***	3	177	179	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 8	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_8	***	3	180	182	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 9	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_9	***	3	183	185	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 10	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_10	***	3	186	188	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 11	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_11	***	3	189	191	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 12	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_12	***	3	192	194	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 13	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_13	***	3	195	197	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 14	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_14	***	3	198	200	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 15	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_15	***	3	201	203	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 16	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_16	***	3	204	206	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 17	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_17	***	3	207	209	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 18	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_18	***	3	210	212	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 19	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_19	***	3	213	215	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 20	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_20	***	3	216	218	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 21	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_21	***	3	219	221	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 22	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_22	***	3	222	224	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 23	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_23	***	3	225	227	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 24	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_24	***	3	228	230	Numeric
CS Site Specific Factor 25	All	CS_SITESPECIFIC_FACTOR_25	***	3	231	233	Numeric
CS Version Number	All	CS_VERSION_LATEST	All	6	234	239	Numeric
Treatment	All	DX_RX_STARTED_DAYS	All	8	240	247	Numeric

	First Surgical Procedure, Days from Dx	All	DX_SURG_STARTED_DAYS	All	8	248	255	Numeric
	Definitive Surgical Procedure, Days from Dx	All	DX_DEFSURG_STARTED_DAYS	All	8	256	263	Numeric
	Surgical Procedure of the Primary Site	All	RX_SUMM_SURG_PRIM_SITE	All	2	264	265	Numeric
	Surgical Approach	All	RX_HOSP_SURG_APPR_2010	2010+	1	266	266	Numeric
	Surgical Margins	All	RX_SUMM_SURGICAL_MARGINS	All	1	267	267	Numeric
	Scope of Regional LN Surgery	All	RX_SUMM_SCOPE_REG_LN_SUR	All	1	268	268	Numeric
	Surgery Other Site	All	RX_SUMM_SURG_OTH_REGDIS	All	1	269	269	Numeric
	Surgical Inpatient Stay, Days from Surgery	All	SURG_DISCHARGE_DAYS	All	8	270	277	Numeric
	Readmission Within 30 Days of Surgical Discharge	All	READM_HOSP_30_DAYS	All	1	278	278	Numeric
	Reason for No Surgery	All	REASON_FOR_NO_SURGERY	All	1	279	279	Numeric
	Radiation, Days from Dx	All	DX_RAD_STARTED_DAYS	All	8	280	287	Numeric
	Radiation Therapy	All	RX_SUMM_RADIATION	All	1	288	288	Numeric
	Location of Radiation Therapy	All	RAD_LOCATION_OF_RX	All	1	289	289	Numeric
	Radiation Treatment Volume	All	RAD_TREAT_VOL	All	2	290	291	Numeric
	Regional Treatment Modality	All	RAD_REGIONAL_RX_MODALITY	All	2	292	293	Numeric
	Regional Dose	All	RAD_REGIONAL_DOSE_CGY	All	5	294	298	Numeric
	Boost Treatment Modality	All	RAD_BOOST_RX_MODALITY	All	2	299	300	Numeric
	Boost Dose	All	RAD_BOOST_DOSE_CGY	All	5	301	305	Numeric
	Number of Treatments to this Volume	All	RAD_NUM_TREAT_VOL	All	3	306	308	Numeric
	Radiation Surgery Sequence	All	RX_SUMM_SURGRAD_SEQ	All	1	309	309	Numeric
	Radiation Ended, Days from Start of Radiation	All	RAD_ELAPSED_RX_DAYS	All	3	310	312	Numeric
	Reason for No Radiation	All	REASON_FOR_NO_RADIATION	All	1	313	313	Numeric
	Systemic, Days from Dx	All	DX_SYSTEMIC_STARTED_DAYS	All	8	314	321	Numeric
	Chemotherapy, Days from Dx	All	DX_CHEMO_STARTED_DAYS	All	8	322	329	Numeric
	Chemotherapy	All	RX_SUMM_CHEMO	All	2	330	331	Numeric
	Hormone Therapy, Days from Dx	All	DX_HORMONE_STARTED_DAYS	All	8	332	339	Numeric
	Hormone Therapy	All	RX_SUMM_HORMONE	All	2	340	341	Numeric
	Immunotherapy, Days from Dx	All	DX_IMMUNO_STARTED_DAYS	All	8	342	349	Numeric
	Immunotherapy	All	RX_SUMM_IMMUNOTHERAPY	All	2	350	351	Numeric
	Hematologic Transplant and Endocrine Procedures	All	RX_SUMM_TRNSPLNT_ENDO	All	2	352	353	Numeric
	Systemic Surgery Sequence	All	RX_SUMM_SYSTEMIC_SUR_SEQ	2006+	1	354	354	Numeric
	Other Treatment, Days from Dx	All	DX_OTHER_STARTED_DAYS	All	8	355	362	Numeric
	Other Treatment	All	RX_SUMM_OTHER	All	1	363	363	Numeric
	Palliative Care	All	PALLIATIVE_CARE	All	1	364	364	Numeric
	RX Summ--Treatment Status	All	RX_SUMM_TREATMENT_STATUS	All	1	365	365	Numeric
Outcomes and Additional Treatment, Case, and Facility Items	Thirty Day Mortality	All	PUF_30_DAY_MORT_CD	2004-2014	1	366	366	Numeric
	Ninety Day Mortality	All	PUF_90_DAY_MORT_CD	2004-2014	1	367	367	Numeric
	Last Contact or Death, Months from Dx	All	DX_LASTCONTACT_DEATH_MONTHS	2004-2014	8	368	375	Numeric
	PUF Vital Status	All	PUF_VITAL_STATUS	2004-2014	1	376	376	Numeric
	Surgery at This Facility	All	RX_HOSP_SURG_PRIM_SITE	All	2	377	378	Numeric
	Chemotherapy at This Facility	All	RX_HOSP_CHEMO	All	2	379	380	Numeric
	Immunotherapy at This Facility	All	RX_HOSP_IMMUNOTHERAPY	All	2	381	382	Numeric
	Hormone Therapy at This Facility	All	RX_HOSP_HORMONE	All	2	383	384	Numeric

August 2017

	Other Treatment at This Facility	All	RX_HOSP_OTHER	All	2	385	386	Numeric
	PUF Multiple Source	All	PUF_MULT_SOURCE	All	1	387	387	Numeric
	Reference Date Flag	All	REFERENCE_DATE_FLAG	All	1	388	388	Numeric
	Scope of Regional LN Surgery, Dx Years 2012+	All	RX_SUMM_SCOPE_REG_LN_2012	2012+	1	389	389	Numeric
	Diagnostic and Staging Procedure at This Facility	All	RX_HOSP_DXSTG_PROC	All	2	390	391	Numeric
	Palliative Care at This Facility	All	PALLIATIVE_CARE_HOSP	All	1	392	392	Numeric

* Facility Type and Facility Location are suppressed for cases aged 0-39.

**Based on 2015 PUF including cases diagnosed in 2004-2015 only

***Availability differs by site and factor. Please visit the Collaborative Stage website for more information: <https://cancerstaging.org/cstage/>