



**Levels of approval:**

- **(Level 1) FCDS Approval Authority:** The basic rule of thumb is that as long as the tabulation cannot either directly or indirectly identify any patient, the data may be released. In an effort to protect the indirect identification of the patient, the "rule of ten" is applied; this rule suppresses any cell containing fewer than 10 cases. Tabulated data may be released at or above the county code level with a count of 10 or greater.
- **(Level 2) Department of Health Approval Required:** Tabulated data for counts less than 10, data below the county level or record level data.

**Data Request Types:**

**1. Stat Dataset**

- The *Stat Dataset* contains record level data (approximately 3 million records). The data are county level case data collapsed for some primary sites and many of the demographic variables collapsed into aggregate groups, i.e. diagnosis year in groups of five, five year age groupings, race, marital status, etc.; requires a signed agreement and is free of charge. **(Level 1) FCDS Approval Authority**

**2. Tabular Data**

- FCDS performs the data extract and analysis of the data based on the requestor's parameters. The basic rule of thumb is that as long as the tabulation cannot either directly or indirectly identify any patient, the data may be released. In an effort to protect the indirect identification of the patient, the "rule of ten" is applied; this rule suppresses any cell containing fewer than 10 cases. Tabulated data may be released at or above the county code level with a count of 10 or greater; for counts less than 10 or data below the county level; approval will be required from the Department of Health. **(Level 1) FCDS Approval Authority or (Level 2) Department of Health Approval Required.**

**3. Ad Hoc**

- These files contain record level data depending on variables and years requested, this file can be VERY large (all years would be ~ 4 million records). Files that contain record level data and can be used for patient ascertainment/contact or geo-spatial studies. All requests for these requests *will require* approval by the DOH Cancer Registry Program and may require additional approvals from DOH Institutional Review Board (IRB) and Bureau of Vital Statistics. **(Level 2) Department of Health Approval Required**

**4. Data Linkage**

- A data linkage project is a request that involves linking internal FCDS data to an external data set. The application process for data linkages is almost identical to that of Ad Hoc requests. (Please refer to the Ad Hoc requests section.) Fields used in the linkage must be consistent in both data sets. The researcher is required to send FCDS the data in a fixed length ASCII file with the proper record layout and format. **(Level 2) Department of Health Approval Required**

**5. Hospital Specific**

- **Reporting facility data is also considered confidential data.** Hospital data requests refer to requests for downloads for data which your facility has submitted. You must be the Facility Access Administrator in order to access this module. You will be able to select the admission year(s) you would like to have downloaded. The download file will be in the current NAACCR record layout. **(Level 1) FCDS Approval Authority**