Health Concerns and Data Around the Illinois Nuclear Power Plants

Joseph R. Sauer, MD

Illinois Dept of Public Health

- Improved design
- Zip Code Data
- Only included pediatric malignancies
- Included all nuclear power plants including closed Zion Plant

Will County Health Department

- Stated number of cancer cases increased near plants at same rate as increase in population
- Used change in population from 1990 to 2000 and change in cancer numbers from 1995 to 2000
- Indicates incidence was doubling over the 5 years

IDPH Public Data Set

- All data from public data set V16
- Zip Code Level
- Cancer type broken down to 10 categories
- Age grouping in 4 categories 0-14, 15-44, 45-64, 65+
- Grouped in 5 year intervals to protect privacy

Braidwood & Dresden Nuclear Power Plants

- Largest and oldest of Illinois nuclear power plants
- Poor safety history
- NRC Watch List through most of 1990's
- Numerous leaks of radioactive wastes and reactor byproducts
- Two leaks in excess of 3 million gallons into ground water

Dosimetry

- Practical under controlled circumstances
- Accuracy dependent on quality of measurements
- Numerous concerns for validity of testing
- Self-testing, self-reporting
- Unplanned releases via unmonitored pathways

Methodology

- Radius of 15 miles of either Braidwood or Dresden
- Chosen to maximize population without including Joliet which had different socioeconomic makeup
- All zip codes in which any portion lies within radius

Intervals

- 1987-1996 and 1997-2006
- Provides a full 20 years of data
- Similar relation to respective Census years of 1990 and 2000
- One interval prior to and one after the first reported leak of 1996

Illinois

	Cases	Cases	(1997-06) : (1987-96	5)	
Age Adjusted	1987-96	1997-06	Relative Risk	Percent Cha	inge
Oral	1113	1100	0.99	-1.2	
Colorectal	6089	5969	0.98	-2.0	
Lung	7162	7484	1.04	4.5	
Breast	7174	7178	1.00	0.1	No change in IL breast cancer
Cervix	650	529	0.81	-18.5	
Prostate	6077	7062	1.16	16.2	
Urinary	3189	3789	1.19	18.8	
Nervous	657	652	0.99	-0.7	IL neuro decreased 0.7%
Leukemia	3130	3624	1.16	15.8	IL leuk increased 15.8%
Other	11172	12603	1.13	12.8	
Total	47293	51561	1.09	9.0	IL total increased 9%

Braidwood and Dresden

	Cases	Cases	(1997-06):(1987-9	96)	
Age Adjusted	1987-96	1997-06	Relative Risk	Percent Change	
Oral	1153	1302	1.13	13.0	
Colorectal	6302	6817	1.08	8.2	
Lung	8322	8861	1.06	6.5	
Breast	6487	7479	1.15	15.3	Dres/Braid breast increased 15.3%
Cervix	594	581	0.98	-2.2	
Prostate	6035	7123	1.18	18.0	
Urinary	3362	4531	1.35	34.8	
Nervous	615	801	1.30	30.2	Dres/Braid neuro cancer increased 30.2%
Leukemia	3281	4293	1.31	30.8	Dres/Braid leukemia increased 30.8%
Other	11335	13747	1.21	21.3	
Total	48198	56792	1.18	17.8	Dres/Braid total increased 17.8%

Summary

- In Illinois, overall cancer rate increased 9%
- In Braidwood & Dresden area, overall cancer rate increased 17.8%

Leukemia

Illinois increased 15.8%

Braidwood & Dresden increased 30.8%

Brain Cancer

• Illinois decreased 0.7%

• Braidwood & Dresden increased 30.2%

Relative Risk Dresden & Braidwood vs IL

	1987-96	1997-06	Percent Change	
Oral	1.04	1.18	14.3	
Colorectal	1.03	1.14	10.3	
Lung	1.16	1.18	1.9	
Breast	0.90	1.04	15.2	Relative Risk for Breast cancer increased 15.2%
Cervix	0.91	1.10	20.1	
Prostate	0.99	1.01	1.6	
Urinary	1.05	1.20	13.4	
Nervous	0.94	1.23	31.0	Relative Risk for neurologic malignancy increased 31%
Leukemia	1.05	1.18	13.0	Relative Risk for leukemia increased 13%
Other	1.01	1.09	7.5	
Total	1.02	1.10	8.1	Relative Risk of developing malignancy is 10%
				higher than state of Il for past 10 years

Relative Risk after Spills 1997-2006

• Braidwood & Dresden: Illinois Ratio

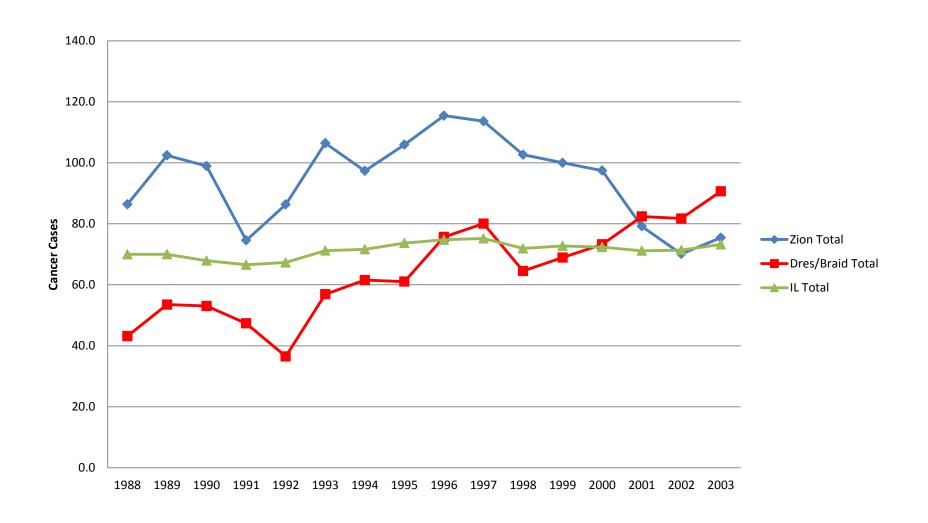
All Cancers Combined 1.10

• Leukemia 1.18

• Brain 1.23

- 10 % more likely to develop cancer living near plants
- 23 % more likely to develop brain cancer near plants

Pediatric Cancer Cases Per Hundred Thousand



Pediatric Cancer - Total

- Rate for ten years before (1986-95) versus ten years after (1996-05) change in exposure
- **Zion** showed pediatric cancer rate **decreased 9.7**% after closure of plant
- Braidwood & Dresden showed pediatric cancer rate increased 55% after leaks began
- Using 1987-96 vs. 1997-06 showed 13% decrease at Zion and 38% increase at Braidwood & Dresden

Reference Man

- Male
- 20-30 years old
- Weight 70 kg (154 lbs)
- Height 170 cm (5 ft 7 in)
- Caucasian

Price-Anderson Nuclear Industries Indemnity Act

- Implemented in 1957 for a fledgling industry
- Encouraged private sector involvement by removing the deterrent ... presented by the threat of potential liability claims following a large nuclear accident.
- Role expanded to include any incident involving radioactive materials by industry or contractors
- Does not mean they are not responsible

National Academy of Science Study

- Independent study commissioned by Chairman Jaczko of the NRC
- Purpose: to recommend scientifically sound approaches to study cancer risks associated with living near a nuclear power plant
- Phase I completed
- One of the two approaches is a case controlled evaluation of children with cancer born near a nuclear facility

Sarah Sauer



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