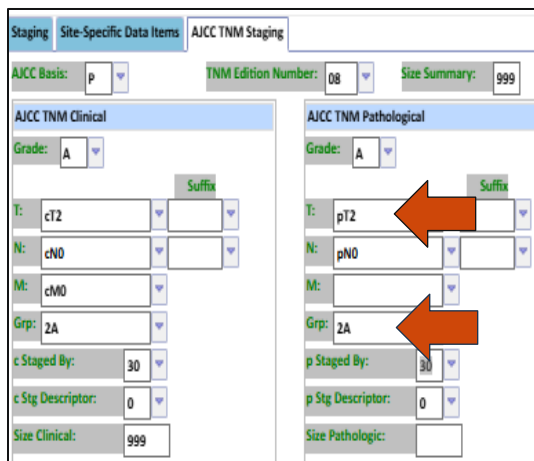


What is this Field and How is it Used?

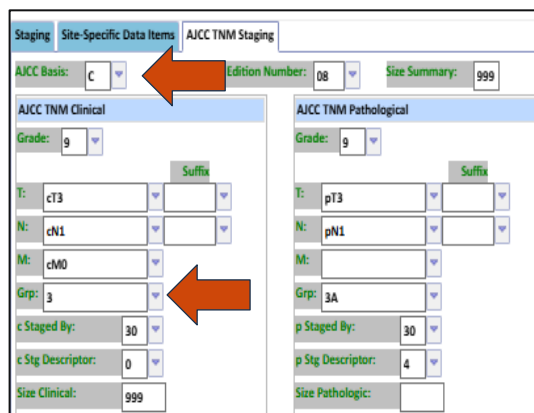
AJCC Basis is a field utilized in CRStar to indicate the best stage recorded for the case (in most instances, Clinical or Pathological). This field is colored red because it is a required component of the abstract, but it is not transmitted in any exports to standard setters.

Instead, this field is used to determine which stage groups cases are “lumped” into when users run reports. The AJCC basis that is chosen will determine which stage group the case is counted in when the field #568 (Summary AJCC Stage Group) is used in reports.



AJCC TNM Clinical		AJCC TNM Pathological	
Grade: A	Suffix	Grade: A	Suffix
T: cT2		T: pT2	
N: cN0		N: pN0	
M: cM0		M:	
Grp: 2A		Grp: 2A	
c Staged By: 30		p Staged By: 30	
c Stg Descriptor: 0		p Stg Descriptor: 0	
Size Clinical: 999		Size Pathologic:	

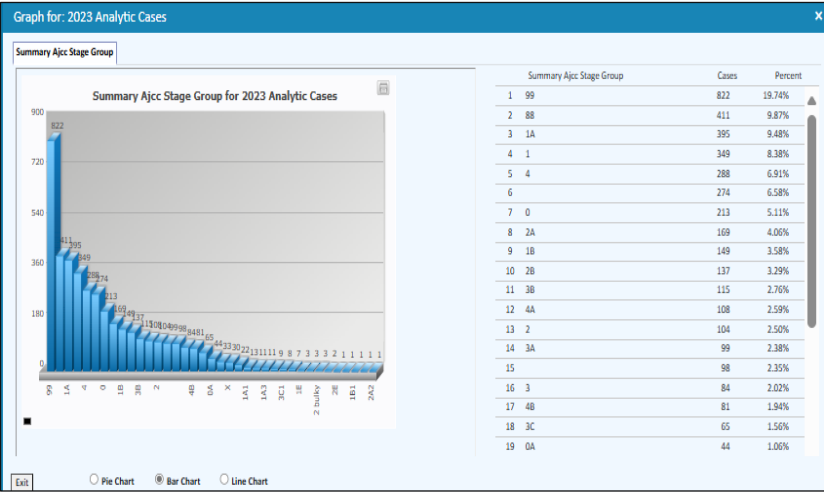
In this example, both clinical and pathologic staging have been recorded, but the pathologic staging is felt to be the most “complete” or “best” stage recorded; therefore, the AJCC basis is coded to a “P.” When a user runs a report based on Summary AJCC Stage Group (field #568), this case will be counted in the report as a stage 2A (the pathologic stage).



AJCC TNM Clinical		AJCC TNM Pathological	
Grade: 9	Suffix	Grade: 9	Suffix
T: cT3		T: pT3	
N: cN1		N: pN1	
M: cM0		M:	
Grp: 3		Grp: 3A	
c Staged By: 30		p Staged By: 30	
c Stg Descriptor: 0		p Stg Descriptor: 4	
Size Clinical: 999		Size Pathologic:	

In this example, a pathologic stage descriptor is used for pathologic staging, indicating that it is recorded post neo- adjuvant treatment. Therefore, for reporting purposes, this case should be counted in the stage 3B grouping. Neo- adjuvant treatment is sometimes given prior to surgery to reduce tumor burden or perhaps the term “down-staging” is used. In this case, the stage 3B (clinical) is the more accurate stage for grouping into studies or reports.

Here is an example of reporting using field #568, "Summary AJCC Stage Group." This is a population of one year of analytic breast cancer cases. Below is the table seen when graphing the Summary AJCC Stage Group (Field #568), for a population of cases.



Graph Pop

Create a Population Label Population Label: 2023 Analytic Cases

Delete Label Edit Selection

Report Elements

Item Number: 568 Graph Type: Pie Chart

Description/Title: Summary Ajcc Stage Group

Display Items As: Codes Descriptions Sort

Item Number: Graph Type: Pie Chart

Description/Title: Graph Type: Pie Chart

Display Items As: Codes Descriptions Sort

Item Number: Graph Type: Pie Chart

Description/Title: Graph Type: Pie Chart

Display Items As: Codes Descriptions Sort

Item Number: Graph Type: Pie Chart

Description/Title: Graph Type: Pie Chart

Display Items As: Codes Descriptions Sort

Send Report To: Excel Screen

Start Time: 1:56:25 PM End Time: 1:56:25 PM Records Selected: 4165

Run New Exit

It is a good idea to QC this field on occasion, to ensure that the proper stage grouping for cases is accounted for in reports and studies. Below is a list pop of cases with an AJCC Summary Stage Group = Blank. These cases clearly have clinical stage recorded, but the AJCC basis is set to "P" which causes the "AJCC Summary Stage Group" field (#568) to be blank in the report.

List Pop Graph Pop

Create a Population Label Population Label: 2023 Analytic Cases

Delete Label Edit Selection

Report Label: Analytic Cases 2023 Created By: Yolanda Topin Requested On: 06/19/2024

Choose the Items for Your Report

Item Nbr	Item Description	B/S/L	C/D	Display Length	Limiting Values
1 568	Summary Ajcc Stage Group	L	C	20	
2 4153	AJCC TNM Path T	L	C	20	
3 4155	AJCC TNM Path N	L	C	20	
4 4157	AJCC TNM Path M	L	C	20	
5 4158	AJCC TNM Path Stage Group	L	D	20	
6 4147	AJCC TNM Clin T	L	C	20	
7 4149	AJCC TNM Clin N	L	C	20	
8 4151	AJCC TNM Clin M	L	C	20	
9 4152	AJCC TNM Clin Stage Group	L	C	20	
10					

Add Delete

Heading: File Name: Include Column Headers Reporting Device: Excel File Delimited File Fixed-Width Screen Xml

Start Time: End Time:

Run New Delete Save

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
1	Summary Ajcc Stage Group	Ajcc Stage Basis	AJCC TNM Path T	AJCC TNM Path N	AJCC TNM Path M	AJCC TNM Path Stage Group	AJCC TNM Clin T	AJCC TNM Clin N	AJCC T
2									
3		P					cTX	cNO	cMO
4		P					cTX	cNO	cMO
5		P					cTX	cNX	cMO
6		P							
7		P					cTX	cNX	cMO
8		P					cT1c	cNO	cMO
9		P					cTX	cNX	cMO

How to Choose Which Value to Code the AJCC Basis Field?

Pages 4, 5, and 11 of the 8th Edition AJCC Staging Manual provide guidance for determining in which stage a case should be counted for surveillance analysis and comparison purposes. The stage that should be used for surveillance analysis and comparison purposes is what should be indicated in the AJCC Basis field. This should be determined on a case-by-case basis, as there are many unique situations that will determine how a case should be counted for comparisons.

C – Clinical Staging - The most complete and best staging information I have for this case and the clinical stage group is how this patient should be counted in studies that use AJCC Summary Stage Group.

P – Pathologic Staging - The most complete and best staging information I have for this case and no neoadjuvant treatment was given. Pathologic stage is how this patient should be counted in studies that use AJCC Summary Stage Group.

R – Retreatment Classification - This code should be very seldom used, as it indicates that no complete staging is available as outlined in the rules for AJCC clinical or pathologic staging. Retreatment classification staging will NOT be included in reports of AJCC Summary Stage Group, and this case would be excluded.

A – Autopsy Classification - This code is also seldom used and indicates that no complete staging is available as outlined in the rules for AJCC clinical or pathologic staging. Autopsy classification staging will NOT be included in reports of AJCC Summary Stage Group, and this case would be excluded.

Y – Classification performed during or after initial multi-modality therapy - This code is seldom used and indicates that no complete staging is available as outlined in the rules for AJCC clinical or pathologic staging. Y classified cases will not be included in reports of AJCC Summary Stage Group and this case would be excluded.

As outlined above, only cases with an AJCC Basis of C or P will be included in reports when using the field “Summary AJCC Stage Group,” field #568. Users should be cautious when using an R, A, or Y for AJCC basis as this case will be excluded in any reports based on Summary AJCC Stage Group. In scenarios where a patient received neoadjuvant treatment and a clinical stage is available, AJCC Basis should be coded to a “C.”

Keep in mind that this is an internal CRStar field that only comes into play when “Summary AJCC Stage Group” is used in reporting or “AJCC Stage” is selected for the stage output in canned reports.

This field does not affect how the data is exported to the state or NCDB and the field itself is not exported.

If the AJCC Basis field is left blank, the stage will be reflected as “unknown” in reports.

Support Available at www.mycrstar.com