

Cancer Incidence Trends among Asian Indians and Pakistanis in the United States, 1990-2008*



CANCER PREVENTION INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

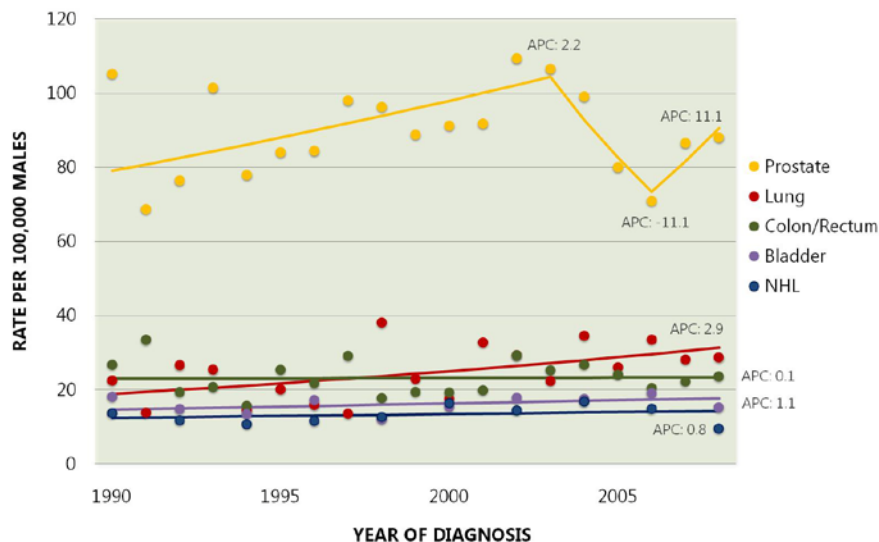
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By 2010, Asian Indians were the third largest Asian ethnic group in the United States, making up 18 percent of all Asians, while Pakistanis represented 2.3 percent of the Asian American population. (US Census 2010) As a combined group, they have experienced unique changes in cancer occurrence from 1990 to 2008.

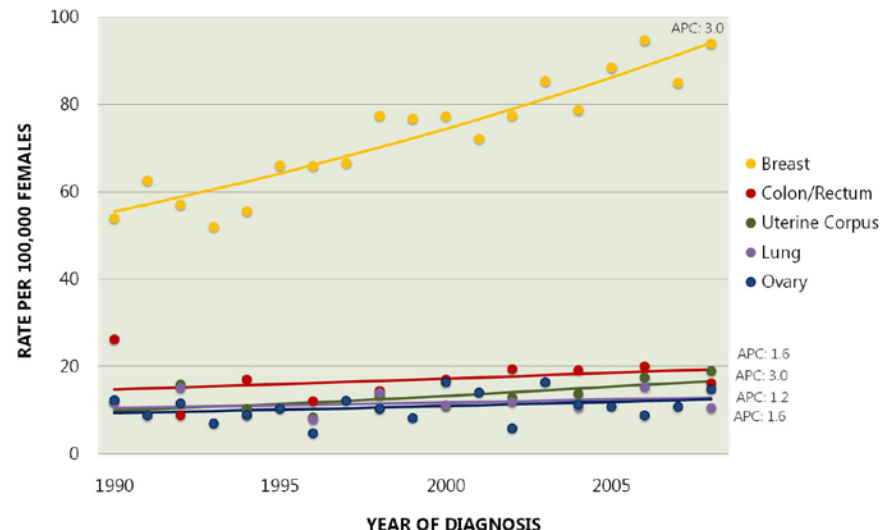
Asian Indian and Pakistani Males. Among this group, the five most commonly diagnosed cancers were prostate, lung, colon/rectum, bladder, and non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL). Between 1990 and 2008, prostate cancer was the most common form of cancer with an annual 11% decline in diagnoses from 2000 to 2005, followed by an 11% annual increase from 2006 to 2008. This group also experienced a 2.9% yearly increase in lung cancer diagnoses, while cancer of the colon/rectum remained stable. Both bladder cancer and NHL rose slightly each year.

Asian Indian and Pakistani Females. Among this group, the five most commonly diagnosed cancers were breast, colon/rectum, uterine corpus, lung and ovary. From 1990 to 2008, breast cancer was the most commonly diagnosed cancer, with a 3 percent rise in diagnoses each year. Cancer of the uterine corpus also increased by 3 percent annually, while cancers of the colon/rectum and ovary rose each year by 1.6 percent and lung cancer increased by 1.2 percent.

Age-adjusted incidence rates and annual percent changes of cancer among Asian Indian and Pakistani males, 1990-2008



Age-adjusted incidence rates and annual percent changes of cancer among Asian Indian and Pakistani females, 1990-2008



Prevention and Early Detection

The risk of many of these cancers can be reduced through healthy lifestyle modifications, early detection and vaccinations. More information on cancer prevention and early detection can be found in the following resources:

- The National Cancer Institute: [Cancer Prevention](#)
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [breast cancer screening](#); [colon/rectum cancer screening](#); [lung cancer screening](#) and [prostate cancer screening](#).

Note: This report combined Asian Indians and Pakistanis due to the SEER data coding rules. The incidence rates for this report were calculated based on data from the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Result (SEER) Program of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census. The rates are based on geographic regions that cover 33% of the U.S. Asian Indian and Pakistani population, and they are adjusted to the 2000 U.S. population standard.

★ This fact sheet is based on findings from the Journal of the National Cancer Institute 2013 publication "Cancer incidence trends among Asian American populations in the United States, 1990-2008." For access to the original scientific publication, please see our website www.cpic.org or email us at data.release@cpic.org.