

Cancer Incidence Trends among Filipinos in the United States, 1990-2008*



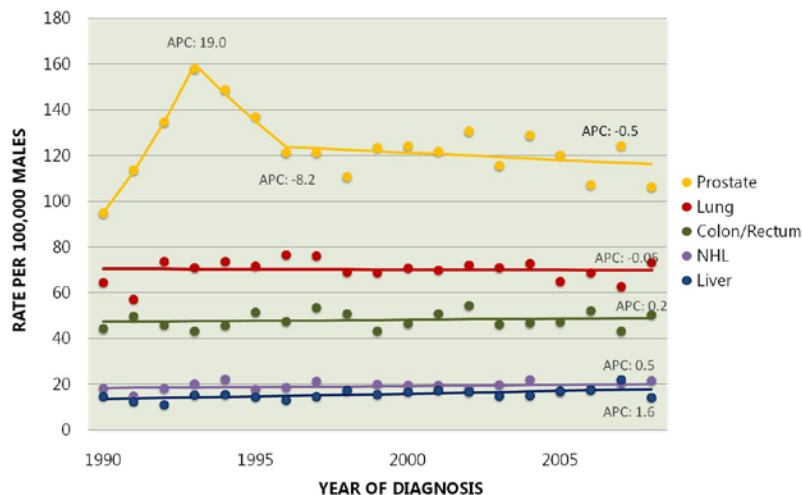
CANCER PREVENTION INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

Preventing Cancer. Promoting Life.

By 2010, Filipino Americans were not only the second largest Asian ethnic group in the United States, representing nearly 20 percent of the Asian American population, but they were the second fastest growing group among Asian Americans. From 2000 to 2010, the Filipino American population grew by nearly 45 percent, the majority of whom live in California (43 percent) and another 10 percent live in Hawaii. (US Census 2010) As a group, they have experienced unique changes in cancer occurrence over the nineteen year period, from 1990 to 2008.

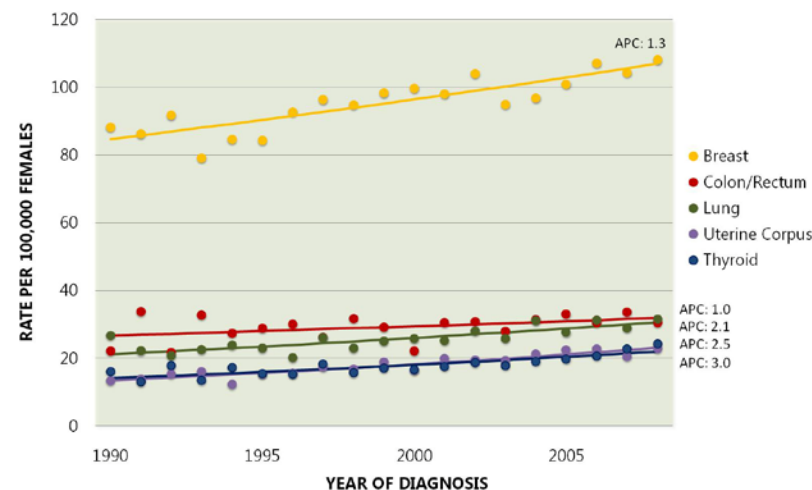
Filipino Males. Among this group, the five most commonly diagnosed cancers were prostate, lung, colon/rectum, non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) and liver. Filipino males experienced a 19 percent annual increase in prostate cancer diagnoses—peaking in 1993, and then declining dramatically by 8.2 percent, and stabilizing thereafter. Liver cancer rates increased by 1.6 percent each year, while NHL and cancers of the lung and colon/rectum remained stable.

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



Filipina Females. Among this group, the five most commonly diagnosed cancers were breast, colon/rectum, lung, uterine corpus, and thyroid. Breast cancer was the most commonly diagnosed cancer between 1990 and 2008, with rates increasing by 1.3 percent each year. Colorectal cancer also rose slightly by 1.0 percent, while the remaining cancers had larger spikes in growth over the nineteen year period. Cancer of the uterine corpus increased annually by 3.0 percent, while cancers of the thyroid and lung increased each year by 2.5 percent and 2.1 percent, annually.

Age-adjusted incidence rates and annual percent changes of cancer among Filipina 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](#); [liver cancer vaccination](#); [lung cancer screening](#) and [prostate cancer screening](#).

Note: 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 60% of the U.S. Filipino population, and they are adjusted to the 2000 U.S.

*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.