

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



CANCER PREVENTION INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

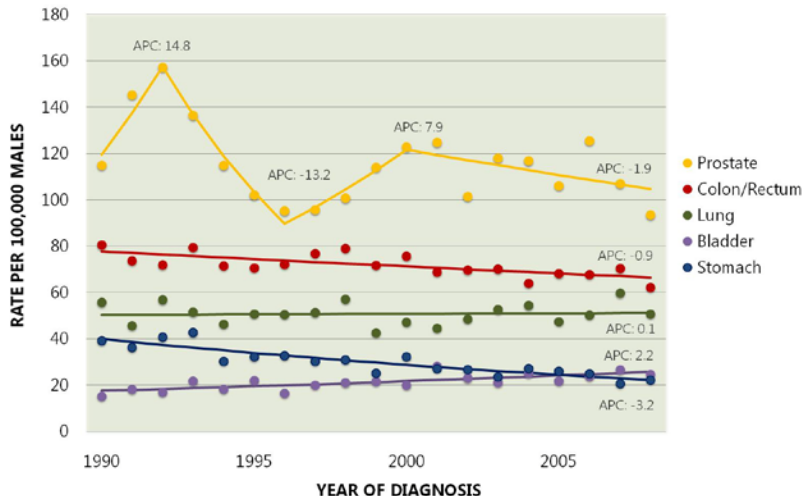
Preventing Cancer. Promoting Life.

By 2010, Japanese Americans represented five percent of the Asian American population, increasing in size by 13.5 percent since the year 2000. The largest group of Japanese Americans live in California (33%), followed by Hawaii (25%). (US Census 2010) They have had unique changes in cancer occurrence over the nineteen year period, from 1990 to 2008.

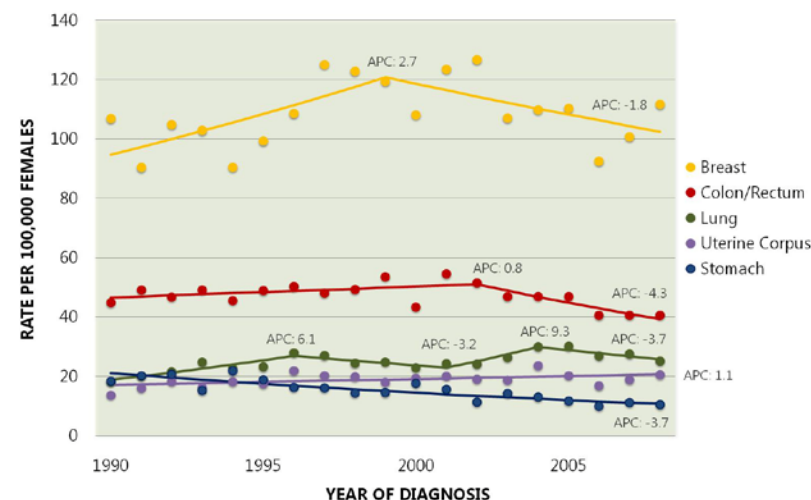
Japanese Males. Among this group, the five most commonly diagnosed cancers were prostate, colon/rectum, lung, bladder, and stomach. Prostate cancer increased annually by 14.8 percent in the early nineties, followed by an annual 13.2 percent decline in the mid nineties, and another 7.9 percent annual increase from 1996 to 2000, declining steadily thereafter. Cancer of the colon/rectum declined annually by 0.9 percent, while stomach and bladder cancer decreased by 3.2 and 2.2 percent, respectively. Lung cancer rates remained stable over the nineteen year period.

Japanese Females. Among this group, the five most commonly diagnosed cancers were breast, colon/rectum, lung, uterine corpus and stomach. Breast cancer diagnoses increased by 2.7 percent per year from 1990 to 1998, and decreased annually by 1.8 percent, from 1999 onwards. Rates of cancer of the colon/rectum remained stable until the year 2000 and declined by 4.3 percent each year, thereafter. From 1990 to 2008, both lung and stomach cancer rates declined annually by 3.7 percent, and cancer of the uterine corpus declined slightly by 1.1 percent each year.

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



Age-adjusted incidence rates and annual percent changes of cancer among Japanese 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: 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 58% of the U.S. Japanese 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.