

# Cancer Incidence Trends among Kampucheans in the United States, 1990-2008\*



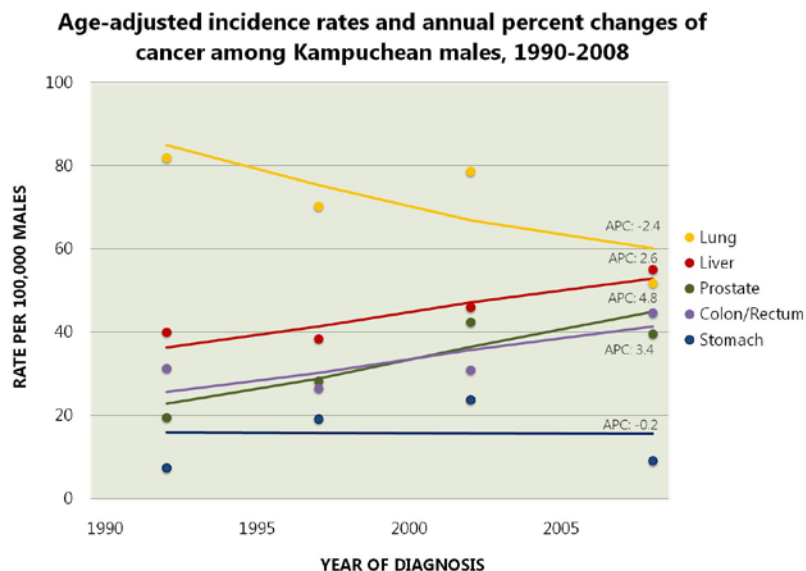
CANCER PREVENTION INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

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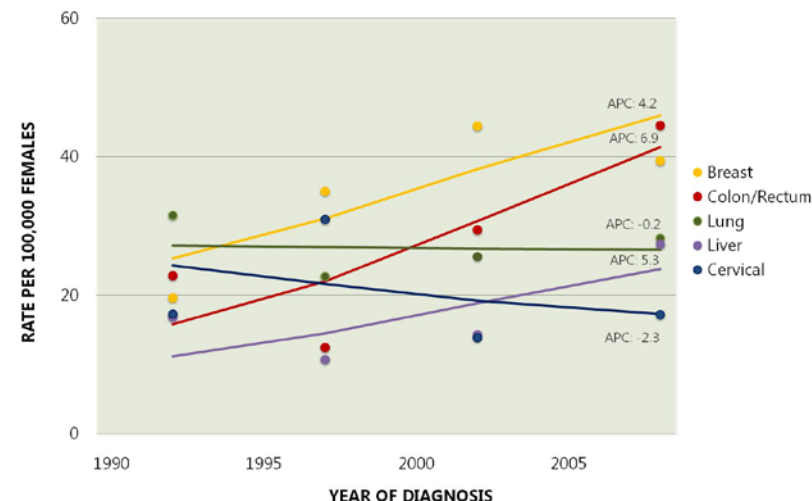
By 2010, Kampuchean Americans, also known as Cambodian Americans, made up 1.6 percent of the Asian American population. From 2000 to 2010, the Kampuchean population in the U.S. increased gradually by 34 percent. The majority of Kampuchean Americans live in California, with the largest communities living in southern California, followed by the state of Massachusetts. (US Census 2010) As a group, they have had unique changes in cancer occurrence over the nineteen year period, from 1990 to 2008.

**Kampuchean Males.** Among this group, the five most commonly diagnosed cancers were lung, liver, prostate, colon/rectum and stomach. While lung cancer was the most common cancer diagnosis from 1990 to 2008, rates decreased dramatically by 2.4 percent each year. In contrast, annual rates of cancers of the liver, prostate and colon/rectum increased dramatically by 2.6 percent, 4.8 percent, and 3.4 percent, respectively, while rates of stomach cancer remained stable.

**Kampuchean Females.** Among this group, the five most commonly diagnosed cancers were breast, colon/rectum, lung, liver and cervix. While breast cancer was only the third most common cancer diagnosis in the early nineties, it was the most common diagnosis by 2008, increasing by 4.2 percent each year. Cancers of the colon/rectum and liver increased dramatically by 6.9 and 5.3 percent each year, while lung cancer rates remained stable. Rates of cervical cancer, the most common cancer in the early 1990's, plunged by 2.3 percent per year, becoming the fifth most diagnosed cancer in the 2000's.



Age-adjusted incidence rates and annual percent changes of cancer among Kampuchean 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](#); [cervical cancer vaccinations and 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 49% of the U.S. Kampuchean 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](http://www.cpic.org) or email us at [data.release@cpic.org](mailto:data.release@cpic.org).