

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



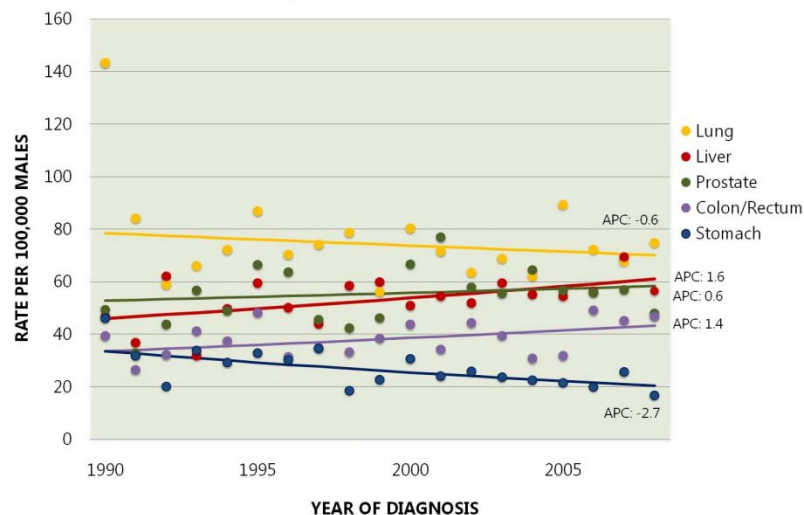
CANCER PREVENTION INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

Preventing Cancer. Promoting Life.

By 2010, Vietnamese Americans were the third fastest growing Asian ethnic group in the United States, growing by 42 percent from 2000 to 2010, and representing nearly 11 percent of the U.S. Asian population. Forty-nine percent of Vietnamese Americans live on the west coast, while 32 percent live in the south. (US Census 2010) As a group, they have experienced unique changes in cancer occurrence over the nineteen year period, from 1990 to 2008.

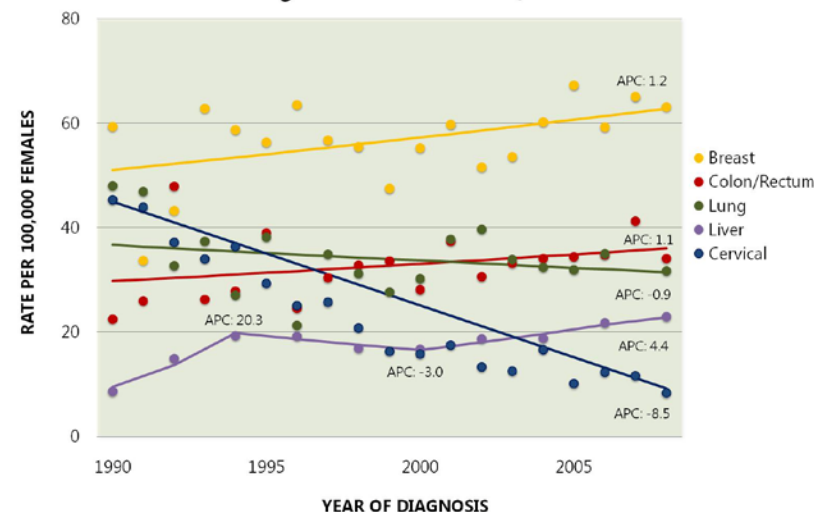
Vietnamese Males. Among this group, the five most commonly diagnosed cancers were lung, liver, prostate, colon/rectum and stomach. Between 1990 and 2008, Vietnamese males experienced a decrease in lung cancer rates by 0.6 percent each year, while stomach cancer rates decreased annually by 2.7 percent. In contrast, liver cancer increased annually by 1.6 percent, rising to the second most common cancer diagnosis by the end of the nineteen year period. Colorectal cancer increased annually by 1.4 percent, while prostate cancer remained nearly stable.

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



Vietnamese Females. Among Vietnamese females, the five most commonly diagnosed cancers were breast, colon/rectum, lung, liver, and cervix. From 1990 to 2008, annual rates of cancers of the breast and colon/rectum increased by 1.2 percent and 1.1 percent, respectively. Liver cancer rates rose the most dramatically, increasing by 20.3 percent annually until 1994, then decreasing slightly until the year 2000, and resuming a 4.4 percent annual increase thereafter. Meanwhile, lung cancer rates steadily decreased by 0.9 percent each year, while cervical cancer diagnoses plunged dramatically by 8.5 percent annually over the nineteen year period.

Age-adjusted incidence rates and annual percent changes of cancer among Vietnamese 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 48% of the U.S. Vietnamese 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.