

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



CANCER PREVENTION INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

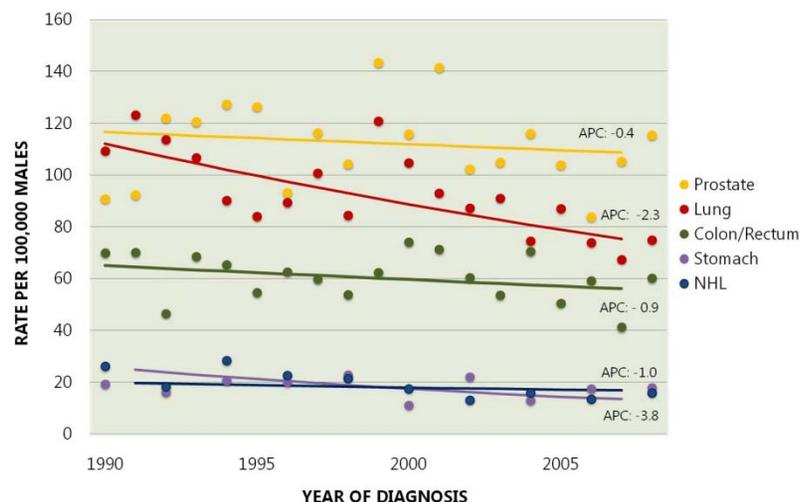
Preventing Cancer. Promoting Life.

Native Hawaiians are a Polynesian ethnic group from the state of Hawaii. Fifty-five percent of Native Hawaiians live in the state of Hawaii, while the second, third and fourth largest groups live in California, Washington and Texas, respectively. From 2000 to 2010, the Native Hawaiian population increased by nearly 31.4 percent, with the largest growth occurring 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.

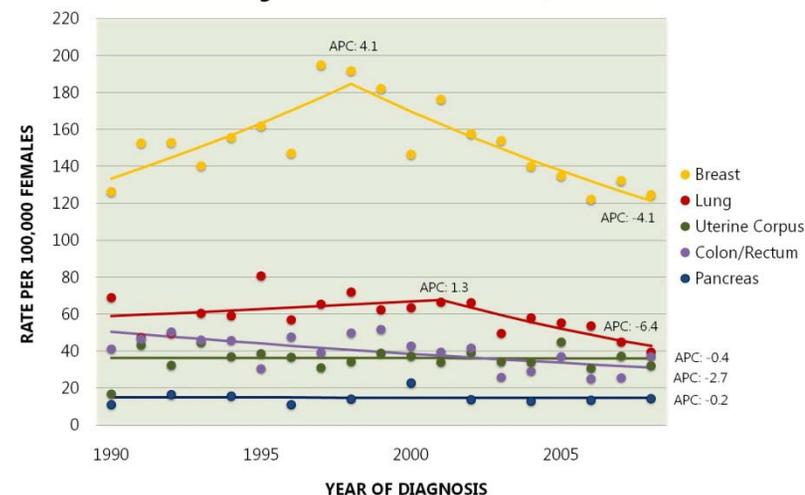
Native Hawaiian Males. Among this group, the five most commonly diagnosed cancers were prostate, lung, colon/rectum, non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL), and stomach cancer. Between 1990 and 2008, prostate cancer remained the most commonly diagnosed cancer, decreasing by 0.4 percent each year, while lung cancer decreased by 2.3 percent annually. Cancers of the colon/rectum and NHL decreased annually by 0.9 percent and 1.0 percent, respectively. Stomach cancer diagnoses also decreased, declining by 3.8 percent each year over the nineteen year period.

Native Hawaiian Females. Among this group, the five most commonly diagnosed cancers were breast, lung, uterine corpus, colon/rectum and pancreas. Breast cancer was the most commonly diagnosed cancer, increasing by 4.1 percent annually until the late nineties, and declining by 4.1 percent each year thereafter. Lung cancer was the second most commonly diagnosed cancer during this time period, with rates increasing by 1.3 percent each year until 2002, and plunging by 6.4 percent thereafter. Cancer of the uterine corpus decreased by 2.7 percent annually, while cancers of the colon/rectum and pancreas remained stable.

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



Age-adjusted incidence rates and annual percent changes of cancer among Native Hawaiian 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 73% of the U.S. Native Hawaiian 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 Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders 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.