



## NATIONAL CANCER TRENDS FOR AAs AND NHPIs <sup>[1][2][3]</sup>

National cancer trends (1990-2008) among Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPIs) and Asian Americans (AAs) identified persistent cancer disparities and new ethnic-specific issues. NHPIs share a similar burden in common cancers such as breast, prostate, lung, and colorectal as non-Hispanic Whites (NHW), but they face higher risks from cancers such as stomach, liver, and uterus. In addition, NHPIs have higher cancer incidence rates compared to AAs. Increasing cancer incidence rates among Samoans and Guamanians/Chamorros and differences for Native Hawaiians in Hawai'i versus the mainland are key areas of concern. Further understanding social factors such as migration, acculturation, and geography may provide insights for reducing NHPI cancer disparities.

According to CDC, Asian Americans are the only racial group in which cancer is the leading cause of death. Among most AAs, breast cancer was the most common cancer, followed by prostate, lung, colorectal, liver, and stomach cancers. AAs continue to experience the lowest screening rates (breast, cervical, colorectal cancers) compared to all other racial groups. Disparities in cancer incidence and mortality after diagnosis are more evident among foreign-born, low income AAs and those living in ethnic enclaves. Targeted ethnic-specific community prevention and screening efforts are critical to reducing AA cancer disparities.

## IMPACT OF CANCER ON AAs AND NHPIs <sup>[1][2][4]</sup>

- Among NHPI women, increase in cancer incidence was found in breast, uterine, and colorectal cancers among Samoan women.
- Among NHPIs, increase in overall cancer incidence was found among Guamanians/Chamorros.
- Samoan women experienced higher rates of stomach (4.8 times) and uterine (3.3 times) cancers compared to Non-Hispanic White women.
- Samoan men experienced higher rates of liver (3.8 times), stomach (2.8 times), and lung (1.3 times) cancers compared to Non-Hispanic White men.
- Among AAs, screening rates for breast (64.1%), cervical (75.4%), and colorectal (46.9%) cancer were the lowest compared with all other racial groups.
- Among AA women, increasing cancer incidence were found in uterine (Asian Indians, Chinese, Filipina, Japanese), colorectal (Koreans, Laotians, Vietnamese), lung (Filipinas, Koreans), thyroid (Filipinas), and breast cancer (most AAs).
- Among AA men, increasing cancer incidence were found for prostate (Asian Indians and Pakistanis, Filipinos, Koreans, Kampuchean), liver (Filipinos, Vietnamese, Kampuchean), and colorectal (Koreans) cancers.
- Southeast Asian women: Kampuchean (24.8), Laotian (23.7), and Vietnamese (20.9) women have the higher rates of liver cancer compared with Non-Hispanic White women.
- Southeast Asian men: Laotian (64.5), Vietnamese (58.5), and Kampuchean (52.7) have the higher rates of liver cancer compared with Non-Hispanic White men.

## COLORADO'S STATE POPULATION (ALONE)

Race	Population 2009-2011	Percent
White	4,236,720	83.97%
African American	199,626	3.96%
American Indian and Alaska Native	49,941	0.99%
Asian American	137,757	2.73%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	6,124	0.12%
Other race	246,397	4.88%
Two or more races	168,997	3.35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,045,562</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

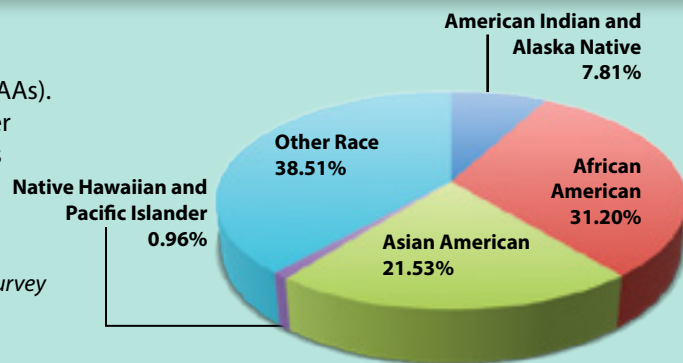
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey

- Colorado has over 5 million residents, of which 20.67% (1,042,944) are Hispanic or Latino. (Federal agencies only recognize five race categories: White, African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian American, and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander. The federal government considers race and Hispanic/Latino origin to be two separate and distinct concepts.)

### COLORADO'S MINORITY POPULATION

Arapahoe County is home to 28,411 Asian Americans (AAs). The second county with a vast number of AAs is Denver County (20,611). Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders predominantly reside in El Paso County (2,031) and Arapahoe County (1,263).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey



## COLORADO'S ASIAN POPULATION (ALONE)

Asian American Group	Population 2005-2007	Population 2009-2011	Percent 2009-2011	Percent Change
Asian Indian	16,094	18,228	13.23%	13.26%
Bangladeshi	103	193	0.14%	87.38%
Cambodian	2,082	2,937	2.13%	41.07%
Chinese, except Taiwanese	23,312	24,123	17.51%	3.48%
Filipino	13,951	13,833	10.04%	-0.85%
Hmong	4,072	2,722	1.98%	-33.15%
Indonesian	1,249	1,741	1.26%	39.39%
Japanese	11,837	10,124	7.35%	-14.47%
Korean	20,105	21,847	15.86%	8.66%
Laotian	2,133	2,230	1.62%	4.55%
Malaysian	398	128	0.09%	-67.84%
Pakistani	603	1,726	1.25%	186.24%
Sri Lankan	171	145	0.11%	-15.20%
Taiwanese	1,465	947	0.69%	-35.36%
Thai	2,540	2,968	2.15%	16.85%
Vietnamese	22,408	23,962	17.39%	6.94%
Other Asian	4,160	7,706	5.59%	85.24%
Other Asian, not specified	2,251	2,197	1.59%	-2.40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>128,934</b>	<b>137,757</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>6.84%</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2007, 2009-2011 American Community Survey

About 3% of Colorado's population is Asian American. Chinese is the largest group, comprising of 17.51% of the Asian American population. Vietnamese (17.39%) and Koreans (15.86%) are the next most prevalent groups.

## COLORADO'S NATIVE HAWAIIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER POPULATION (ALONE)

NHPI Group	Population 2005-2007	Population 2009-2011	Percent 2009-2011	Percent Change
Native Hawaiian	1,281	1,546	25.24%	20.69%
Samoan	422	1,038	16.95%	145.97%
Tongan	227	198	3.23%	-12.78%
Guamanian or Chamorro	1,423	1,606	26.22%	12.86%
Fijian	8	0	0.00%	-100.00%
Other Pacific Islander	939	1,736	28.35%	84.88%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>6,124</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>42.42%</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2005-2007, 2009-2011 American Community Survey

The Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander population of Colorado is 0.12%, but is increasing. Among the different groups, 26.22% is Guamanian or Chamorro and another one fourth (25.24%) is Native Hawaiian.

## LANGUAGES SPOKEN

In Colorado, 55.12% (22,523) of native Asian Americans and 17.36% (15,337) of foreign-born Asian Americans speak English only. Of Asian Americans who speak other language(s) besides English, 24.09% (4,418) of natives and 54.27% (39,623) of foreign-born speak English not well or not at all. 70.03% (3,260) of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPIs) and 8% (67) of foreign-born NHPIs speak English only. Of NHPIs who speak other (NHPIs) language(s) besides English, 17.85% (249) of natives and 62.89% (483) of foreign-born speak English not well or not at all.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey

## INCOME

Group	Median Family Income	Per Capita Income
AA	\$72,477	\$28,092
NHPI	\$62,917	\$23,126
White	\$73,911	\$32,197
CO	\$70,461	\$30,056

Although Asian Americans' (AAs) median family income is higher than the state median, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders' (NHPIs) median is much lower. Per capita income for both AAs and NHPIs are less than that of the state average due to a greater number of individuals residing in those households.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Population 25 years and over	CO	AA	NHPI
Less than high school diploma	10.19%	13.52%	11.90%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	22.56%	19.03%	31.68%
Some college or associate's degree	30.83%	21.77%	36.97%
Bachelor's degree or higher	36.43%	45.68%	10.39%

As compared to all Colorado residents (36.43%), 45.68% of Asian Americans (AAs) and 10.39% of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (NHPIs) hold a bachelor's degree or higher. Almost half of the NHPI population (43.58%) only have a high school diploma or less.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey

## HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

Groups	Number of Individuals Uninsured	Percent
AA	22,729	16.68%
NHPI	1,291	23.39%
White	596,422	14.31%
CO	770,062	15.55%

Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (AAs and NHPIs) account for 3.12% of the total uninsured in Colorado. NHPIs population in Colorado express the greatest rates of uninsured individuals. The uninsured rate for all state residents was 15.55%. AAs and NHPIs make up 2.85% of Colorado's total population and 3.12% of the total uninsured population.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey

## TOP 5 CANCER SITES: 2005, MALE AND FEMALE, COLORADO<sup>4</sup>

### Incidence (Rates Per 100,000)

Rank	All Races		White		AA and NHPI	
1	Prostate	134.2	Female Breast	130.3	Female Breast	75.0
2	Female Breast	130.6	Prostate	119.5	Prostate	54.2
3	Lung & Bronchus	48.6	Lung & Bronchus	48.7	Colon & Rectum	41.9
4	Colon & Rectum	35.9	Colon & Rectum	35.3	Lung & Bronchus	41.2
5	Melanomas of the Skin	22.2	Melanomas of the Skin	23.8	Stomach	17.9

### Mortality (Rates Per 100,000)

~ Rates are suppressed and not ranked if case counts are fewer than 16 or if the population of the specific category (race, ethnicity) is less than 50,000.

Rank	All Races		White		AA and NHPI	
1	Lung & Bronchus	36.4	Lung & Bronchus	36.5	Lung & Bronchus	27.5
2	Prostate	22.9	Prostate	23.0	~	
3	Female Breast	19.6	Female Breast	20.0	~	
4	Colon & Rectum	13.9	Colon & Rectum	13.7	~	
5	Pancreas	9.3	Pancreas	9.2	~	

Source: U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. United States Cancer Statistics: 1999–2009 Incidence and Mortality Web-based Report.

The most common cancers among Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (AAs and NHPs) are breast, prostate, colorectal, and lung and bronchus. However, rates for AAs and NHPs are much lower than the state averages and rates for whites. The leading cause of death among Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders is due to lung and bronchus cancer. There is no data available for other cancer mortalities for AAs and NHPs.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

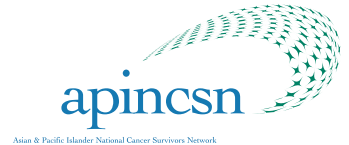
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Websites: [www.apiahf.org](http://www.apiahf.org) and [www.apincsn.org](http://www.apincsn.org)  
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## STATE PROGRAMS

Colorado Breast Cancer Resources Directory  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, A-5-CCP  
Denver, CO 80246-1530  
Tel: (303) 692-2331  
Email: [info@breastcancercolorado.org](mailto:info@breastcancercolorado.org)  
Website: [www.breastcancercolorado.org](http://www.breastcancercolorado.org)

Colorado Cancer Coalition  
c/o Colorado Foundation for Public Health and Environment  
9457 South University Blvd. #513  
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126  
Tel: (303) 692-2331  
Website: [www.coloradocancercoalition.org](http://www.coloradocancercoalition.org)

Colorado Community Health Network  
600 Grant Street, Suite 800  
Denver, CO 80203  
Tel: (303) 861-5165  
Website: [http://www.cchn.org/health\\_centers.php](http://www.cchn.org/health_centers.php)

Women's Wellness Connection  
Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, PSD-WWC-A-5  
Denver, CO 80246-1530  
Tel: (303) 692-2581  
Website: [www.womenswellnessconnection.org](http://www.womenswellnessconnection.org)

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## CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

Asian Pacific Development Center  
1825 York Street  
Denver, CO 80206  
Tel: (303) 393-0304  
Website: <http://www.apdc.org/about.html>

Asian Pacific Development Center  
1544 Elmira Street  
Aurora, CO 80010  
Tel: (303) 365-2959  
Website: <http://www.apdc.org/about.html>

Asian Women's Health Program  
Asian Pacific Development Center  
6055 Lehman Drive, Suite 103  
Colorado Springs, CO 80918  
Tel: 719-533-1301

Colorado Asian Health Education and Promotion  
6795 E. Tennessee Avenue, Suite 220  
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Tel: (303) 953-8176  
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Website: <http://www.cahep.org/>

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## CANCER SUPPORT GROUPS

Breast Friends  
Website: <http://www.bfcancersupportgroup.org>

## REFERENCES

All data taken from 2009-2011 American Community Survey unless stated otherwise.

<sup>1</sup> Gomez, Scarlett Lin, Lihua Liu, Anne-Michelle Noone, Steve Scoppa, James T. Gibson, Daphne Lichtensztajn, Kari Fish, Lynne R. Wilkens, Marc T. Goodman, Cyllene Morris, Sandy Kwong, Dennis Deapen, and Barry A. Miller. "Cancer Incidence Trends Among Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders in the United States, 1990–2008." *JNCI Journal of the National Cancer Institute* (2013): n. pag. 22 July 2013. Web. 1 Sept. 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Gomez, Scarlett Lin, Lihua Liu, Anne-Michelle Noone, Steve Scoppa, James T. Gibson, Daphne Lichtensztajn, Kari Fish, Lynne R. Wilkens, Marc T. Goodman, Cyllene Morris, Sandy Kwong, Dennis Deapen, and Barry A. Miller. "Cancer Incidence Trends Among Asian Americans in the United States, 1990–2008." *JNCI Journal of the National Cancer Institute* (2013): n. pag. 22 July 2013. Web. 1 Sept. 2013.

<sup>3</sup> Heron, Melonie (2012). *Deaths: Leading Causes for 2009*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Cancer Institute; 2013. Available at: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr61/nvsr61\\_07.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr61/nvsr61_07.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Klabunde, Carrie N., Martin Brown, Rachel Ballard-Barbash, Mary C. White, Trevor Thompson, Marcus Plescia, and Sallyann Sallyann Coleman King. "Cancer Screening — United States, 2010." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 27 Jan. 2012. Web. Sept. 2013. Available at: [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6103a1.htm?s\\_cid=mm6103a1\\_w](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6103a1.htm?s_cid=mm6103a1_w)

<sup>5</sup> Cancer Statistics Working Group. *United States Cancer Statistics: 1999–2009 Incidence and Mortality Web-based Report*. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Cancer Institute; 2013. Available at: [www.cdc.gov/uscs](http://www.cdc.gov/uscs)