



## 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.

## WASHINGTON'S STATE POPULATION (ALONE)

Race	Population 2009-2011	Percent
White	5,312,511	78.74%
African American	239,524	3.55%
American Indian and Alaska Native	93,760	1.39%
Asian American	484,111	7.18%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	39,318	0.58%
Other Race	270,479	4.01%
Two or more races	307,103	4.55%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,746,806</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

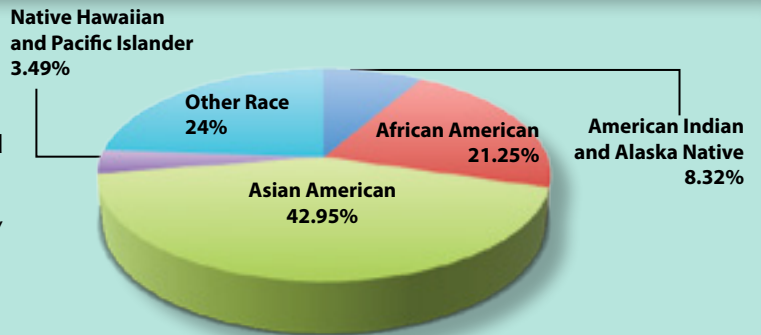
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey

- Of Washington's population, 11.27% (760,272) is 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.)

### WASHINGTON'S MINORITY POPULATION

In 2011, Washington's largest minority populations were Hispanic or Latino and Asian American. The largest concentration of Asians (58.56%) and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (36.65%) was in King County.

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



## WASHINGTON'S ASIAN AMERICAN POPULATION (ALONE)

Asian American Group	Population 2005-2007	Population 2009-2011	Percent 2009-2011	Percent Change
Asian Indian	43,854	59,604	12.31%	35.91%
Bangladeshi	143	190	0.04%	32.87%
Cambodian	13,537	21,083	4.35%	55.74%
Chinese, except Taiwanese	78,224	95,488	19.72%	22.07%
Filipino	83,806	89,314	18.45%	6.57%
Hmong	2,403	3,015	0.62%	25.47%
Indonesian	2,652	2,513	0.52%	-5.24%
Japanese	37,626	36,049	7.45%	-4.19%
Korean	56,732	60,724	12.54%	7.04%
Laotian	11,203	10,439	2.16%	-6.82%
Malaysian	333	310	0.06%	-6.91%
Pakistani	1,042	3,122	0.64%	199.62%
Sri Lankan	650	695	0.14%	6.92%
Taiwanese	2,268	5,643	1.17%	148.81%
Thai	5,526	5,687	1.17%	2.91%
Vietnamese	65,260	64,722	13.37%	-0.82%
Other Asian	11,305	20,933	4.32%	85.17%
Other Asian, not specified	2,492	4,580	0.95%	83.79%
<b>Total</b>	<b>419,056</b>	<b>484,111</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>15.52%</b>

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

7.18% of Washington's population is Asian American. Chinese, except Taiwanese, are the largest group, comprising of about 20% of the Asian population. Filipinos (18.45%) and Vietnamese (13.37%) are the next most prevalent groups. The Asian population is increasing at about 15.52% with Pakistani (199.62%) and Taiwanese (148.81%) as the fastest growing groups.

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

NHPI Group	Population 2005-2007	Population 2009-2011	Percent 2009-2011	Percent Change
Native Hawaiian	5,069	5,364	13.63%	5.82%
Samoan	7,530	14,385	36.55%	91.04%
Tongan	477	1,121	2.85%	135.01%
Guamanian or Chamorro	7,033	9,723	24.71%	38.25%
Fijian	882	1,595	4.05%	80.84%
Other Pacific Islander	6,347	7,166	18.21%	12.90%
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,338</b>	<b>39,354</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>43.95%</b>

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

The NHPI population of Washington is 0.58% and its population is increasing at 43.95%. There are several NHPI groups that are growing. The top two are Tongan at 135.01% and Samoan at 91.04%. Of the small NHPI population, Samoans are the largest, making up more than a third of NHPIs in the state.

## LANGUAGES SPOKEN

Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders speak over 100 languages and dialects. In Washington, 55.51% (77,740) of native Asian Americans and 12.09% (38,172) of foreign-born Asian Americans speak English only. Of Asian Americans who speak other language(s) besides English, 22.39% (13,947) of natives and 55.07% (152,881) 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	\$79,587	\$30,126
NHPI	\$60,015	\$19,565
White	\$72,640	\$31,987
WA	\$69,979	\$29,673

Asian Americans have the highest median family of all groups but report lower per capita income than whites. This is due to a greater number of individuals in Asian American households. Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders report the lowest income, over \$8,000 under the state median.

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

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Population 25 years and over	WA	AA	NHPI
Less than high school diploma	29.8%	14.89%	11.33%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	25.2%	16.40%	39.44%
Some college or associate's degree	29.5%	22.72%	37.08%
Bachelor's degree or higher	22.6%	45.99%	12.14%

Asian Americans have higher levels of educational attainment than the average Washingtonian. However, 14.89% of Asian Americans also have less than a high school diploma. The majority of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders are high school graduates (39.44%) and only 12.14% hold a bachelor's degree or higher.

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

## HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

Groups	Number of Individuals Uninsured	Percent
AA	66,073	13.75%
NHPI	6,021	15.76%
White	654,862	12.51%
WA	923,249	13.96%

From 2009-2011, 13.75% of Asian Americans and 15.76% of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Washington were uninsured. The uninsured rate for all state residents was 13.96%. Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders make up 7.76% of Washington's total population and 7.81% of the total uninsured population.

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

# TOP 5 CANCER SITES: 2005-2009, MALE AND FEMALE, WASHINGTON<sup>5</sup>

NOS = not otherwise specified, IBD = intrahepatic bile duct

## Incidence (Rates per 100,000)

Rank	All Races	White	AA and NHPI
1	Prostate 155.3	Prostate 152.2	Female Breast 86.8
2	Female Breast 131.8	Female Breast 132.9	Prostate 78.9
3	Lung & Bronchus 64.2	Lung & Bronchus 65.2	Lung & Bronchus 40.9
4	Colon & Rectum 42.4	Colon & Rectum 41.9	Colon & Rectum 33.9
5	Melanomas of the Skin 25.0	Melanomas of the Skin 27.5	Liver & Intrahepatic Bile Duct 19.4

## Mortality (Rates per 100,000)

Rank	All Races	White	AA and NHPI
1	Lung & Bronchus 49.2	Lung & Bronchus 50.4	Lung & Bronchus 30.4
2	Prostate 24.9	Prostate 25.0	Liver & Intrahepatic Bile Duct 14.6
3	Female Breast 21.9	Female Breast 22.4	Prostate 12.2
4	Colon & Rectum 14.9	Colon & Rectum 15.0	Female Breast 12.1
5	Pancreas 11.0	Pancreas 11.1	Colon & Rectum 10.7

Source: U.S. Cancer Statistics: Working Group. U.S. Cancer Statistics 2005-2009 Incidence and Mortality Web-based Report.

The same cancers that are prevalent in whites also affect AAs and NHPIs, with the exception of melanomas of the skin. Mortality is also attributed to the same cancer sites: lung and bronchus, breast, prostate, and colorectal.

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum  
 Asian & Pacific Islander National Cancer Survivors Network  
 450 Sutter Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94108  
 Tel: (415) 954-9988  
 Email: APINCSN@apiahf.org  
 Websites: www.apiahf.org and www.apincsn.org  
 Like us! www.facebook.com/apincsn



## STATE PROGRAMS

Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs  
 General Administration Building  
 210 11th Ave. SW, Suite 301  
 P.O. Box 40925  
 Olympia, WA 98504  
 Tel: (360) 725-5667  
 Email: capaa@capaa.wa.gov  
 Website: www.capaa.wa.gov

Washington State Department of Health  
 Comprehensive Cancer Control Program  
 111 Israel Rd., Town Center 2  
 Tumwater, WA 98501  
 Tel: (360) 236-3784  
 Email: cancer@doh.wa.gov  
 Website: http://www.doh.wa.gov/CCC/

Washington State Prostate Cancer Coalition  
 P.O. Box 652  
 Auburn, WA 98071  
 Website: http://www.prostatewashington.org/

## CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

Cambodian Women's Association  
3603 S. Alaska St.  
Seattle, WA 98118  
Tel: (206) 760-0539

Chinese Information and Service Center  
611 S Lane St.  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Tel: (206) 624-5633  
Website: <http://www.cisc-seattle.org/>

Filipino Community Center of Seattle  
5740 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way South  
Seattle, WA 98118  
Tel: (206) 722-9372  
Website: <http://www.fcseattle.org>

First Tongan Assembly of God  
213 Blaine St.  
Seattle, WA 98109  
Tel: (206) 298-9458

Hmong Association of Washington  
P.O. Box 14492  
Seattle, WA 98114  
Tel: (425) 241-2085  
Website: <http://www.hmongofwa.org>

Japanese American Citizens League - Seattle Chapter  
316 Maynard South  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Tel: (206) 622-4098  
Website: <http://www.jaclseattle.org>

Korean Women's Association  
123 East 96th St.  
Tacoma, WA 98445  
Tel: (253) 535-4202 or (888) 508-2780  
Fax: (253) 535-4827  
Website: <http://kwaoutreach.org/>

Nepal Seattle Society  
P.O. Box 45633  
Seattle, WA 98145  
Tel: (806) 403-2447  
Email: [info@nepalseattle.org](mailto:info@nepalseattle.org)  
Website: <http://www.nepalseattle.org/nsscsm>

Organization of Chinese Americans - Greater Seattle  
606 Maynard Ave. South, Ste. 104  
P.O. Box 3013  
Seattle, WA 98114  
Tel: (206) 274-4656  
Website: <http://www.ocaseattle.org>

Refugee Women's Alliance  
4008 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way South  
Seattle, WA 98108  
Tel: (206) 721-0243  
Website: <http://www.rewa.org/>

Samoan National Nurses Association  
3513 Portland Ave.  
Tacoma, WA 98404  
Tel: (253) 301-3872  
Fax: (253) 301-3962  
Email: [health@snaa.org](mailto:health@snaa.org)

Seattle Samoan Congregational Christian Church  
#3  
3550 S. Holly St.  
Seattle, WA 98118-3237  
Tel: (206) 723-3177  
Email: [saau@netzero.net](mailto:saau@netzero.net)

## CANCER SUPPORT GROUPS

Cancer Lifeline Seattle  
Dorothy S. O'Brien Center  
6522 Fremont Ave. North  
Seattle, WA 98103  
Tel: (206) 297-2100  
Website: <http://www.cancerlifeline.org/services/support-groups>

Cancer Patient Care  
1507 E. Sprague Ave.  
Spokane, WA 99202  
Tel: (509) 456-0446 or (866) 696-3149  
Fax: (509) 456-0459  
Email: [info@cancerpatientcare.org](mailto:info@cancerpatientcare.org)  
Website: [www.cancerpatientcare.org](http://www.cancerpatientcare.org)

Gilda's Club Seattle  
1400 Broadway  
Seattle, WA 98122  
Tel: (206) 709-1400  
Website: [www.gildasclubseattle.org](http://www.gildasclubseattle.org)

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
PO Box 19024  
Seattle, WA 98109  
Tel: (206) 667-5000 or (800) 804-8824  
Fax: (206) 288-1025  
Email: [hutchdoc@fhcrc.org](mailto:hutchdoc@fhcrc.org)  
Website: [www.fhcr.org](http://www.fhcr.org)

Gilda's Club Seattle  
1400 Broadway  
Seattle, WA 98122-3809  
Tel: (206) 709-1400  
Fax: (206) 709-9719  
Email: [info@gildasclubseattle.org](mailto:info@gildasclubseattle.org)  
Website: [www.gildasclubseattle.org](http://www.gildasclubseattle.org)

International Community Health  
Services  
International District Medical & Dental  
Clinic  
720 8th Avenue South  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Phone: (206) 788-3700  
Fax: (206) 788-3706  
Website: [www.ichs.com](http://www.ichs.com)

Mavin Foundation  
1425 Broadway, #517  
Seattle, WA 98122  
Tel: (206) 622-7101  
Email: [info@mavinfoundation.org](mailto:info@mavinfoundation.org)  
Website: [www.mavinfoundation.org](http://www.mavinfoundation.org)

Seattle and King County Public Health  
401 5th Ave., Suite 1300  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Phone: (800) 325-6165 or (206) 296-4600  
Fax: (206) 296-0208  
Email: [Ellen.Phillips-Angeles@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Ellen.Phillips-Angeles@kingcounty.gov)  
Website: [www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health.aspx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health.aspx)

Mavin Foundation  
1425 Broadway, #517  
Seattle, WA 98122  
Tel: (206) 622-7101  
Email: [info@mavinfoundation.org](mailto:info@mavinfoundation.org)  
Website: [www.mavinfoundation.org](http://www.mavinfoundation.org)

Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Puget  
Sound Affiliate  
112 Fifth Avenue North  
Seattle, WA 98109  
Tel: (206) 633-0303  
Fax: (206) 633-0304  
Email: [info@pskomen.org](mailto:info@pskomen.org)  
Website: [www.komenpugetsound.org](http://www.komenpugetsound.org)

Tacoma - Pierce County Health  
Department, Breast, Cervical, and Colon  
Health Program  
3629 South D Street  
Tacoma, WA 98418  
Phone: (253) 798-6410  
Fax: (253) 798-7666  
Email: [info@tpchd.org](mailto:info@tpchd.org)  
Website: [www.tpchd.org/health-wellness-1/breast-cervical-colon-health-program](http://www.tpchd.org/health-wellness-1/breast-cervical-colon-health-program)

## HEALTH SERVICES

Asian Counseling and Referral Service  
3639 Martin Luther King Jr. Way S  
Seattle, WA 98144  
Tel: (206) 695-7600  
Website: <http://www.acrs.org>

Asian & Pacific Islander Women & Family Safety Center  
P.O. Box 14047  
Seattle, WA 98114  
Phone: (206) 467-9976  
Email: [apiwfsc@apiwfsc.org](mailto:apiwfsc@apiwfsc.org)  
Website: <http://www.apiwfsc.org>

Center for Multi Cultural Health  
105-14th Ave., Ste. 2C  
Seattle, WA 98122  
Tel: (206) 461-6910  
Email: [cmch@cschc.org](mailto:cmch@cschc.org)  
Website: <http://www.multi-culturalhealth.org/>

Holly Park Medical & Dental Clinic  
3815 South Othello St.,  
2nd Floor  
Seattle, WA 98118  
Tel: (206) 788-3500  
Website: <http://www.ichs.com>

International District Medical & Dental Clinic  
720 8th Ave. South  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Tel: (206) 788-3700  
Website: <http://www.ichs.com>

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## REFERENCES

All data taken from the 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)

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<sup>5</sup> U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. *United States Cancer Statistics: 1999–2006 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; 2010. Available at: [www.cdc.gov/uscs](http://www.cdc.gov/uscs).