

Cancer Incidence and 5-Year Survival Among Asian/Pacific Islanders, United States—2008–2017

During 2008 to 2017, cancer incidence rates among the Asian/Pacific Islander population decreased from 338.2 to 285.4 cases per 100,000 males compared with 294.6 to 287.4 cases per 100,000 females.

Most Common Cancers

In 2017, 20% of all new cancer cases among Asian/Pacific Islander males were prostate cancer. Lung, colorectal, and liver cancer accounted for almost 33% of all new cases.

Among Asian/Pacific Islander females, 35% of all new cases were breast cancer while cancers of the lung, colon and rectum, and uterus accounted for 24% of all new cases in 2017.

Figure 1. Number of New Cancer Cases Among Asian/Pacific Islanders, 2017

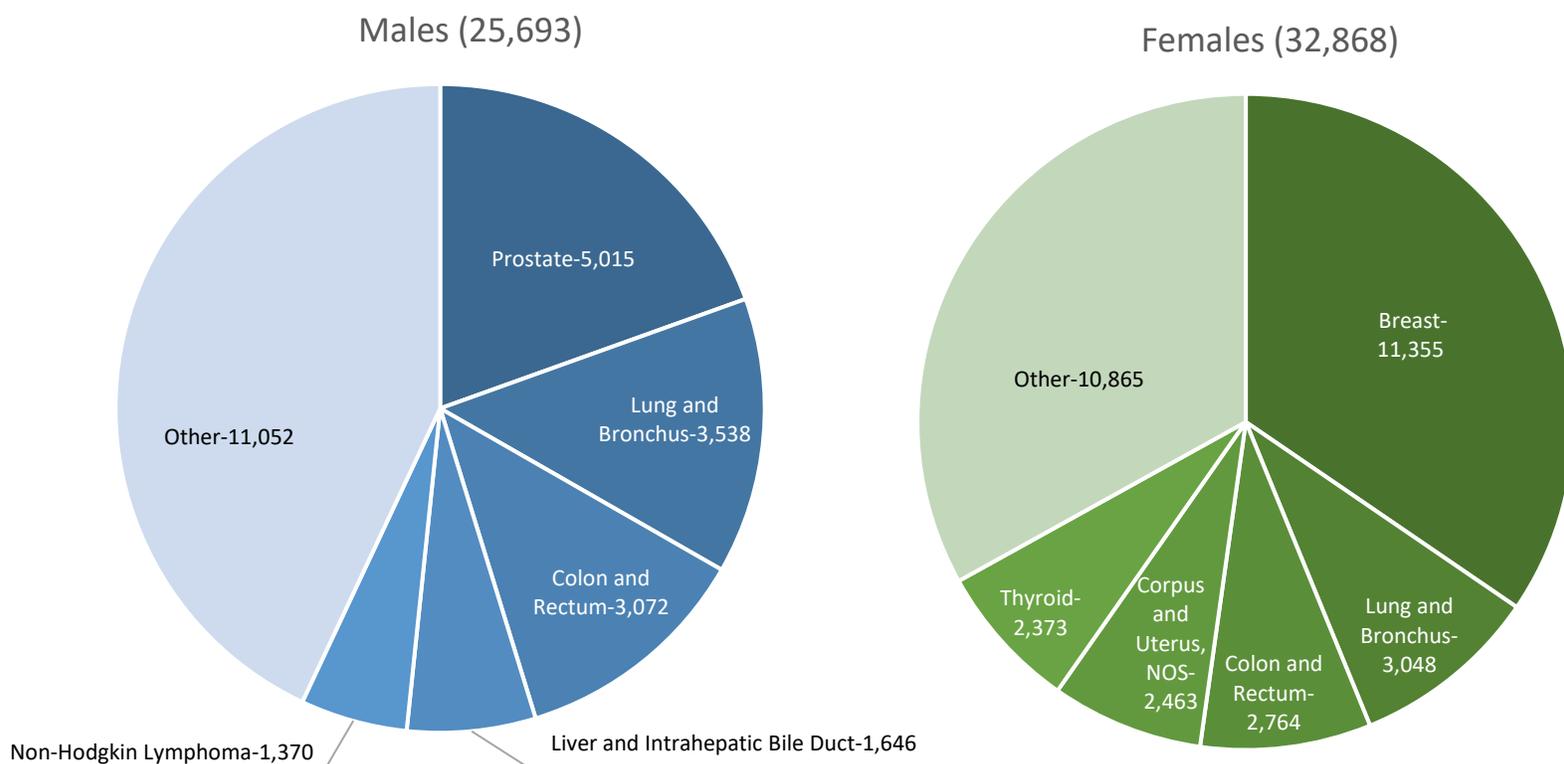
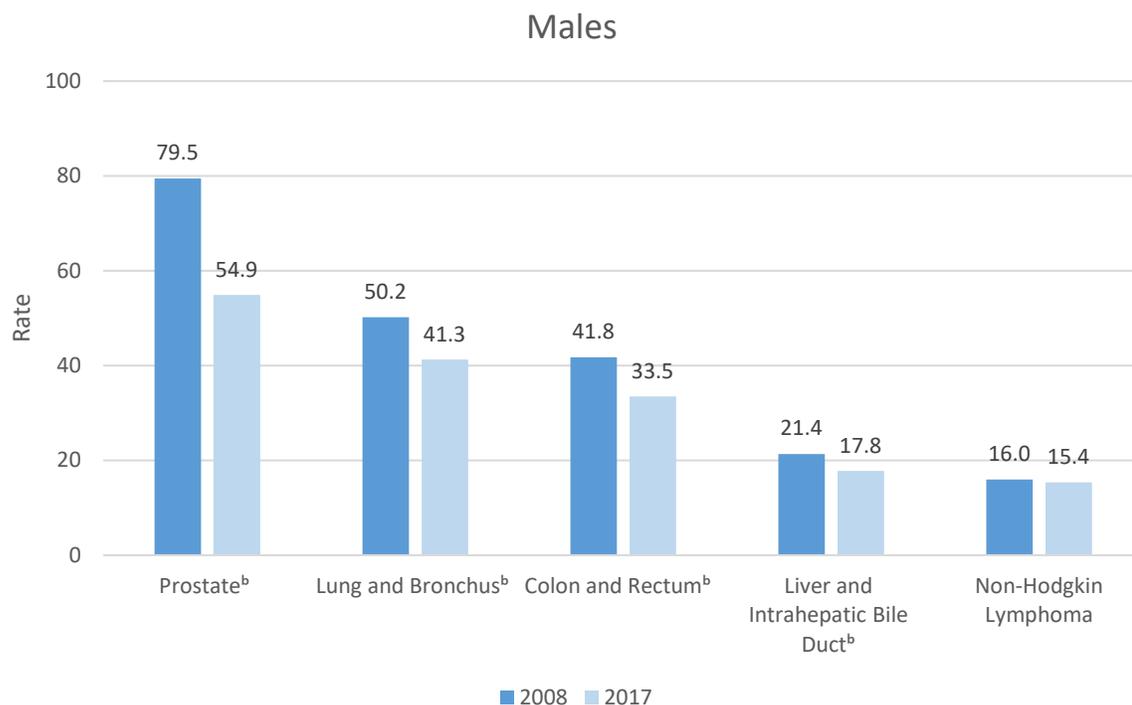


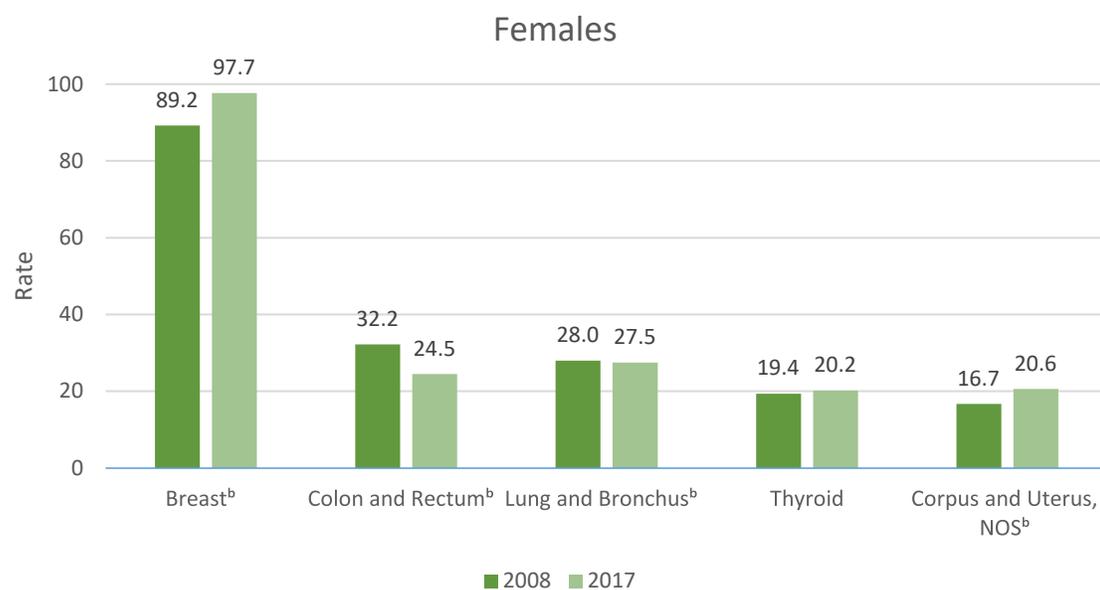


Figure 2. Change in Rates^a of Common Cancers Among Asian/Pacific Islanders During 2008 to 2017



Changes in Cancer Rates by Year of Diagnosis

Incidence rates of the most common cancers among Asian/Pacific Islander males went down from 2008 to 2017.



Among Asian/Pacific Islander females, incidence rates of colorectal and lung cancers went down from 2008 to 2017, but breast and uterine cancer incidence rates went up.

^a Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 US standard population.

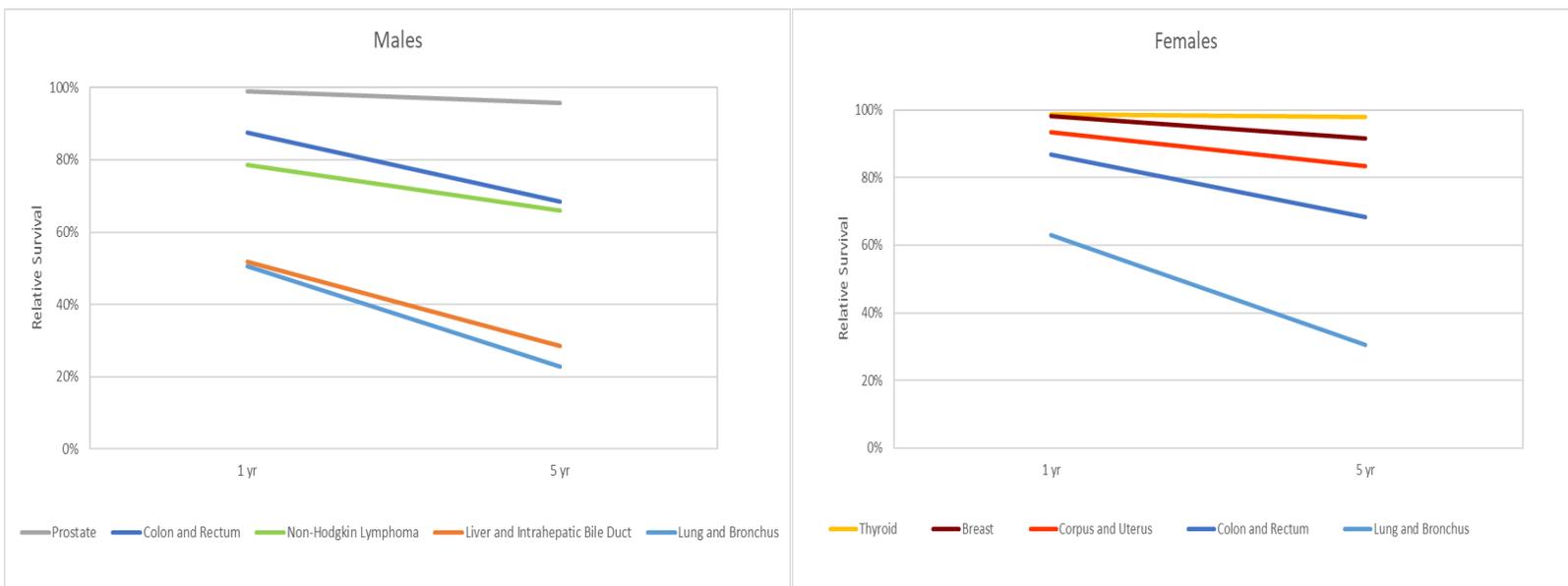
^b Annual percentage change (APC) in rates was statistically significant from zero ($P < .05$).



Five-Year Relative Survival for Males and Females by Cancer Type

Among Asian/Pacific Islander males diagnosed with 1 of 5 common cancers during 2001 to 2016, 5-year relative survival was highest for prostate cancer, intermediate for colorectal cancer and non-Hodgkin lymphoma, and lowest for liver and lung cancer. Females diagnosed with thyroid, breast, and uterine cancer during that same time period had the highest 5-year survival. Similar to males, the 5-year survival of colorectal cancer was intermediate for females and lowest for lung cancer.

Figure 3. 1-Year and 5-Year Relative Survival^a for Common Cancers Among Asian/Pacific Islanders, by Sex, 2001–2016



^a Relative survival estimates are based on cases diagnosed 2001–2016.

Data Sources

Data in this brief come from [U.S. Cancer Statistics](https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/uscs/), the official federal cancer statistics.

U.S. Cancer Statistics incidence data are from population-based registries that participate in CDC’s National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR) and/or the National Cancer Institute’s Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program and met high-quality data standards for the 2019 data submission period, covering 100% of the U.S. population.

U.S. Cancer Statistics survival data are from 45 NPCR registries that met high-quality data criteria for the 2019 data submission period and conducted linkage with the National Death Index and active patient follow-up, covering 94% of the U.S. population. Five-year relative survival estimates are based on cases diagnosed between 2001 and 2016.

More Information

- [U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Visualizations Tool](#)
- [U.S. Cancer Statistics on CDC WONDER](#)
- [How to Prevent Cancer or Find It Early | CDC](#)

Suggested Citation

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Cancer Incidence and 5-year Survival Among Asian/Pacific Islanders, United States—2008–2017. USCS Data Brief, no 22.* Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2021.