

## Colorectal Cancer in the African American Community

### Fact Sheet

African Americans have the highest colorectal cancer incidence and mortality rates of all racial groups in the United States.<sup>1</sup>

This is a disease that is *preventable, treatable and beatable* disease, *but only with proper screening*. Colorectal cancer is known as a silent killer because symptoms only show up in the later stages when the cancer has already spread. It is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in Californian African Americans

Unfortunately, early detection rates among African Americans in California are low. Only 39 percent of colorectal cancer cases among women are detected early. It is slightly higher for African American men, with 44 percent detected early.<sup>2</sup>

### African Americans: Most Common Cancer Types<sup>2</sup>

MEN	WOMEN
Prostate	Breast
Lung	Lung
<b>Colorectal</b>	<b>Colorectal</b>

### African Americans: Most Common Cause of Cancer Death<sup>3</sup>

MEN	WOMEN
Lung	Lung
Prostate	Breast
<b>Colorectal</b>	<b>Colorectal</b>

(more)

<sup>1</sup> Source: Cancer Facts & Figures 2013, p. 43

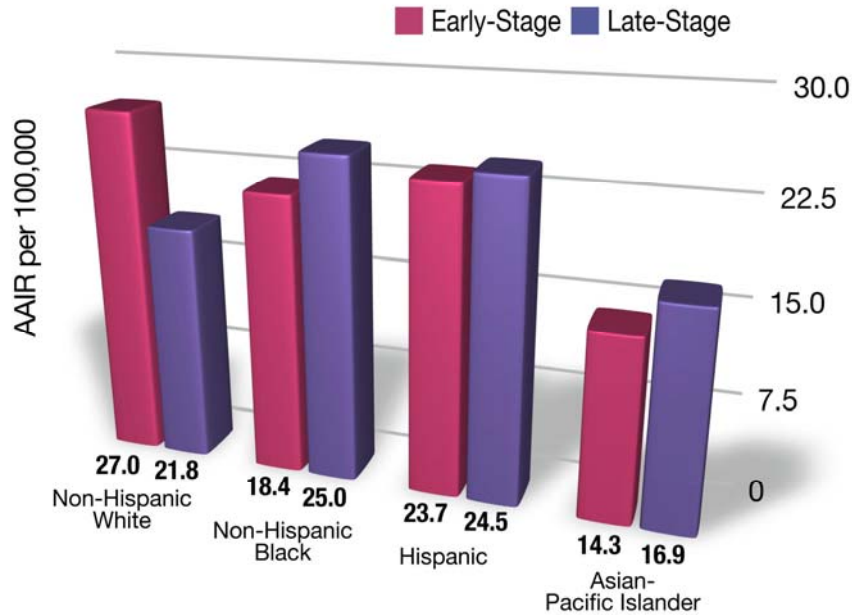
<sup>2</sup> Source: California 2013 Cancer Facts & Figures, p. 9, 13

<sup>3</sup> Source: CA A Cancer Journal for Clinicians

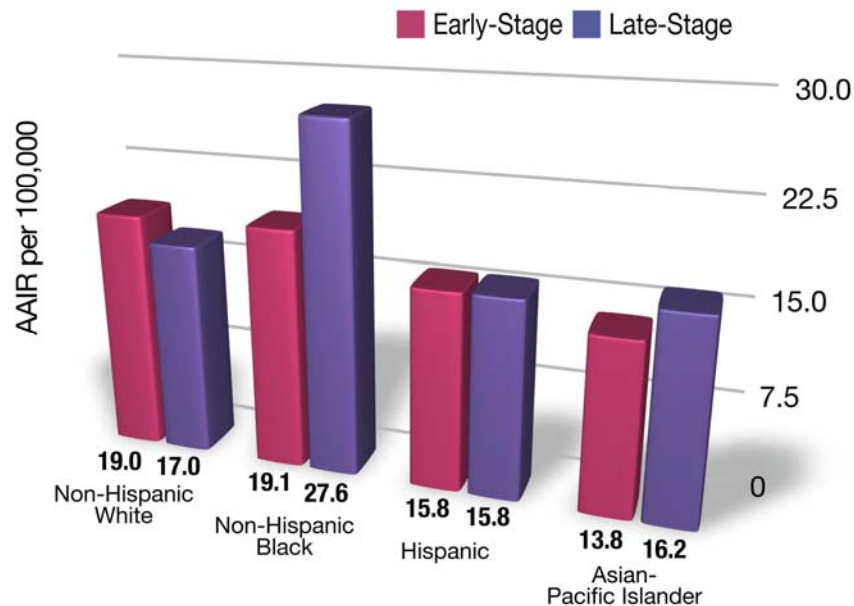
## African Americans: Late-Stage Diagnosis

African Americans are one of the ethnic groups more often diagnosed at a late stage.<sup>4</sup>

### Male African-Americans, Hispanic and Asian-Pacific Islanders are more often diagnosed at a late stage



### Female African-Americans, Hispanic and Asian-Pacific Islanders are more often diagnosed at a late stage



<sup>4</sup> Data and analysis provided by Monica Brown, Ph.D., epidemiologist with the California Cancer Registry. Data is for Sacramento area, which is reflective of the overall population of California. Stage at Diagnosis of Colorectal Cancer Cases by Sex and Race, 2001-2005-Sacramento Region.