

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.

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.

Unfortunately, early detection rates among African Americans in California are low. Only 33 percent of colorectal cancer cases among women are detected early. It is slightly higher for African American men, with 38 percent detected early. This is compared to the general population rate of 44 percent early detection.¹

African Americans: Most Common Cancer Types²

MEN	WOMEN
Prostate	Breast
Lung	Colorectal
Colorectal	Lung

African Americans: Most Common Cause of Cancer Death²

MEN	WOMEN
Lung	Lung
Prostate	Breast
Colorectal	Colorectal

(more)

¹ Source: California 2008 Cancer Facts & Figures

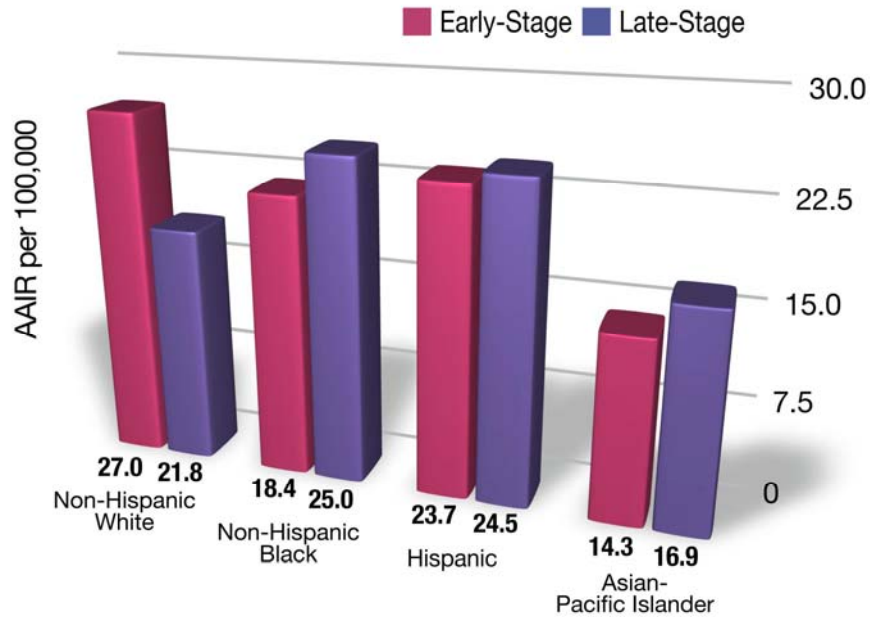
² Source: CA A Cancer Journal for Clinicians

This material was produced by PainePR and made possible through a generous grant from Beckman Coulter.

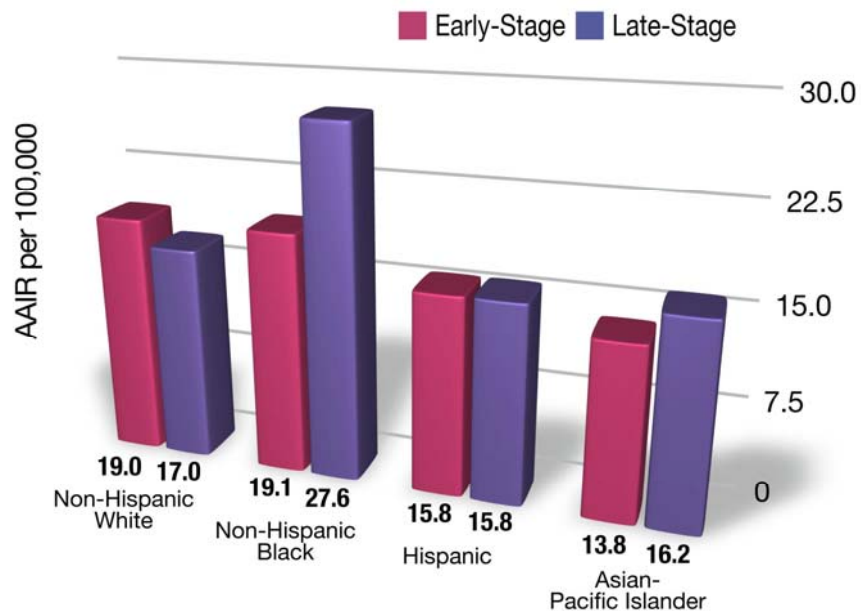
African Americans: Late-Stage Diagnosis

African Americans are one of the ethnic groups more often diagnosed at a late stage.³

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



³ 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.

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