OVARY

Among women in the United States, cancer of the ovary ranks fifth in incidence. There are no proven methods of prevention and it often is a rapidly fatal disease.

Age-adjusted incidence rates in the SEER areas are highest among American Indian women, followed by white, Vietnamese, white Hispanic, and Hawaiian women. Rates are lowest among Korean and Chinese women. There are too few cases among Alaska Native women to calculate an incidence rate. Among women for whom there are sufficient numbers of cases to calculate rates by age, incidence in the age group 30-54 years is highest in whites, followed by Japanese, Hispanics, and Filipinos. For ages 55-69 years, the highest rates occur in whites, then Hispanics, and Japanese. Among women 70 and older, the highest rate occurs among white women followed by black and Hispanic women.
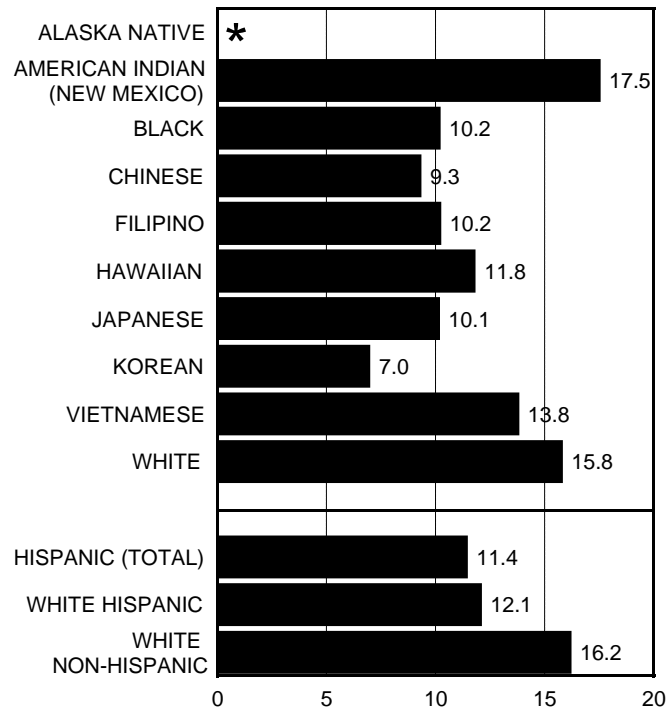
The ovarian cancer mortality patterns by racial/ethnic group differ from the incidence patterns. The age-adjusted mortality rate is highest among white women, followed by Hawaiian women, and black women. White women have the highest age-specific ovarian cancer mortality rate in each of the three age groups. The ratio of incidence to mortality rates ranges from 1.5 among black women to 3.0 among Filipino women.

Although the epidemiology of ovarian cancer is not well understood, hormonal and reproductive risk factors are implicated in the etiology of this disease. There is an inverse relationship between parity and the occurrence of ovarian cancer, with parous women having the lowest risk of this disease. The risk of cancer of the ovary also decreases with increasing length of use of oral contraceptives and there is some suggestion of a protective effect of hysterectomy.

OVARY

SEER INCIDENCE Rates Among Women, 1988-1992

	Rate
ALASKA NATIVE	*
AMERICAN INDIAN (NEW MEXICO)	17.5
BLACK	10.2
CHINESE	9.3
FILIPINO	10.2
HAWAIIAN	11.8
JAPANESE	10.1
KOREAN	7.0
VIETNAMESE	13.8
WHITE	15.8
HISPANIC (TOTAL)	11.4
WHITE HISPANIC	12.1
WHITE NON-HISPANIC	16.2

United States MORTALITY Rates Among Women, 1988-1992

	Rate
ALASKA NATIVE	*
AMERICAN INDIAN (NEW MEXICO)	*
BLACK	6.6
CHINESE	4.0
FILIPINO	3.4
HAWAIIAN	7.3
JAPANESE	5.0
KOREAN	N/A
VIETNAMESE	N/A
WHITE	8.1
HISPANIC (TOTAL)	4.8
WHITE HISPANIC	5.1
WHITE NON-HISPANIC	8.2
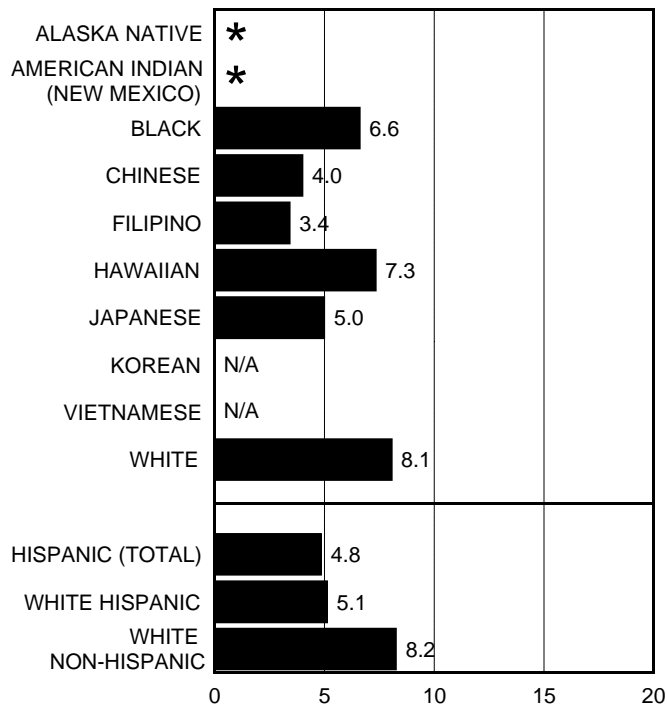
NOTE: Rates are "average annual" per 100,000 population, age-adjusted to 1970 U.S. standard; N/A = information not available;
* = rate not calculated when fewer than 25 cases.

OVARY

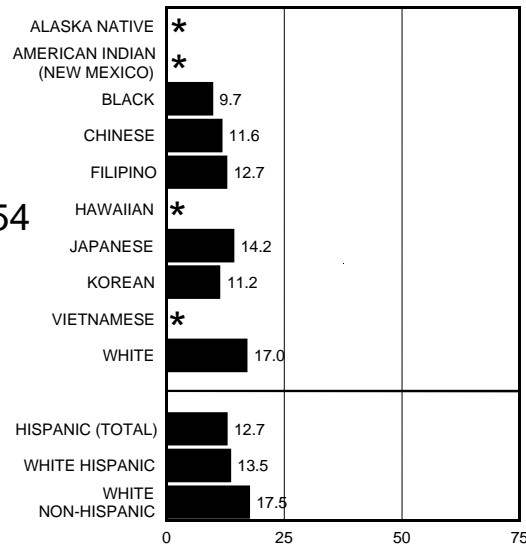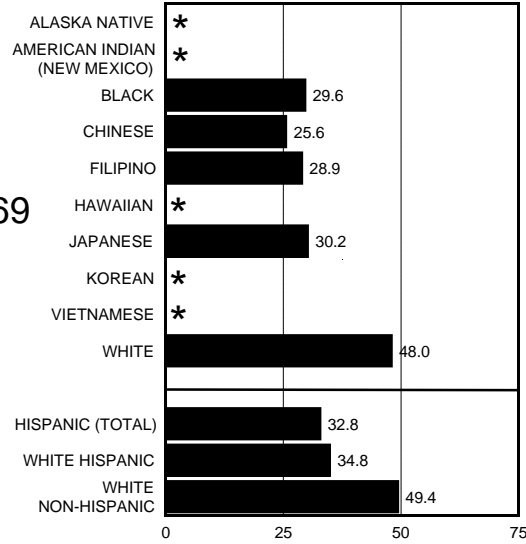## SEER INCIDENCE Rates Among Women by Age at Diagnosis, 1988-1992

AGE 30-54

Group	Rate
ALASKA NATIVE	*
AMERICAN INDIAN (NEW MEXICO)	*
BLACK	9.7
CHINESE	11.6
FILIPINO	12.7
HAWAIIAN	*
JAPANESE	14.2
KOREAN	11.2
VIETNAMESE	*
WHITE	17.0
HISPANIC (TOTAL)	12.7
WHITE HISPANIC	13.5
WHITE NON-HISPANIC	17.5

0   25   50   75

AGE 55-69

Group	Rate
ALASKA NATIVE	*
AMERICAN INDIAN (NEW MEXICO)	*
BLACK	29.6
CHINESE	25.6
FILIPINO	28.9
HAWAIIAN	*
JAPANESE	30.2
KOREAN	*
VIETNAMESE	*
WHITE	48.0
HISPANIC (TOTAL)	32.8
WHITE HISPANIC	34.8
WHITE NON-HISPANIC	49.4

0   25   50   75

AGE 70+

Group	Rate
ALASKA NATIVE	*
AMERICAN INDIAN (NEW MEXICO)	*
BLACK	44.9
CHINESE	29.1
FILIPINO	27.8
HAWAIIAN	*
JAPANESE	25.4
KOREAN	*
VIETNAMESE	*
WHITE	62.8
HISPANIC (TOTAL)	44.0
WHITE HISPANIC	45.7
WHITE NON-HISPANIC	63.8

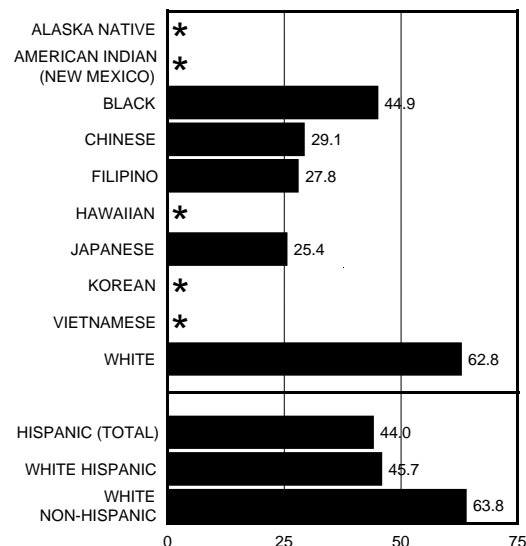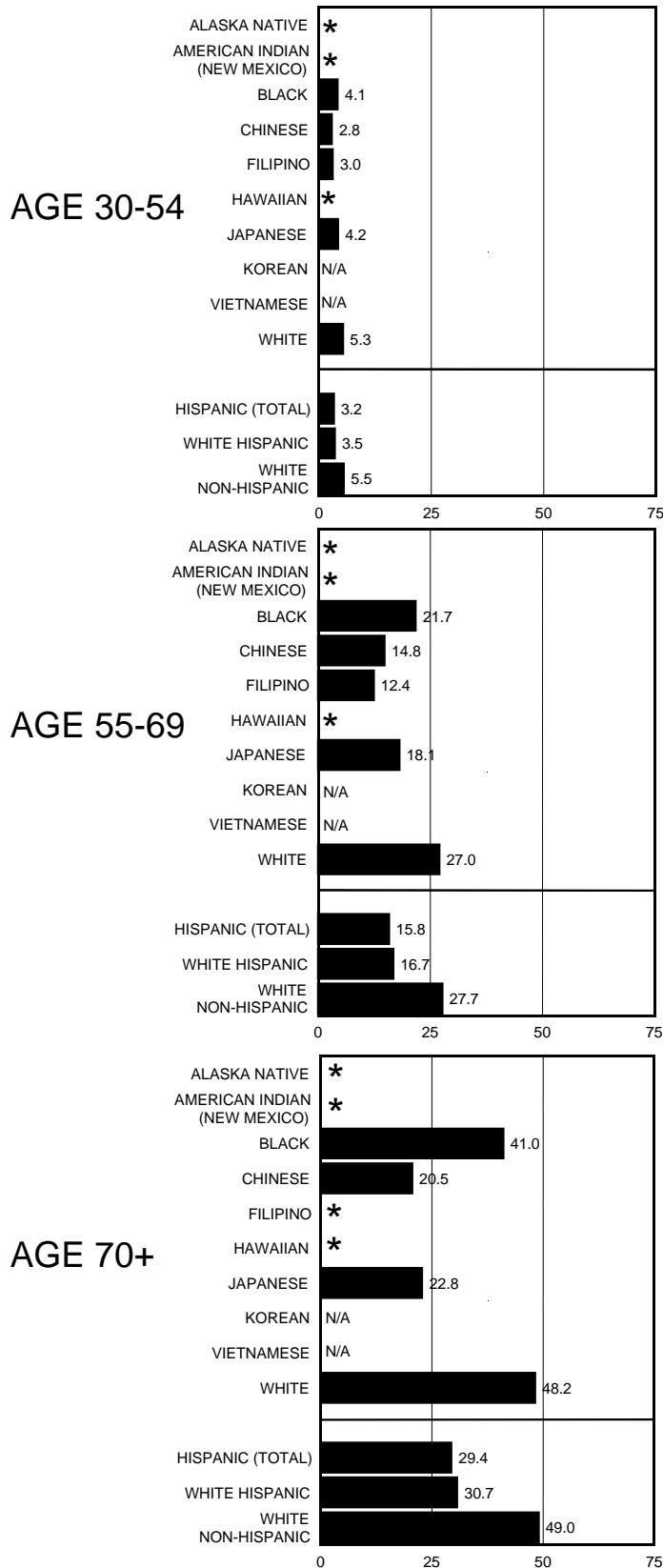0   25   50   75

NOTE: Rates are per 100,000 population, age-adjusted to 1970 U.S. standard; * = rate not calculated when fewer than 25 cases.

OVARY

United States MORTALITY Rates Among Women by Age at Death, 1988-1992

AGE 30-54

Group	Rate
ALASKA NATIVE	*
AMERICAN INDIAN (NEW MEXICO)	*
BLACK	4.1
CHINESE	2.8
FILIPINO	3.0
HAWAIIAN	*
JAPANESE	4.2
KOREAN	N/A
VIETNAMESE	N/A
WHITE	5.3
HISPANIC (TOTAL)	3.2
WHITE HISPANIC	3.5
WHITE NON-HISPANIC	5.5

(scale: 0, 25, 50, 75)

AGE 55-69

Group	Rate
ALASKA NATIVE	*
AMERICAN INDIAN (NEW MEXICO)	*
BLACK	21.7
CHINESE	14.8
FILIPINO	12.4
HAWAIIAN	*
JAPANESE	18.1
KOREAN	N/A
VIETNAMESE	N/A
WHITE	27.0
HISPANIC (TOTAL)	15.8
WHITE HISPANIC	16.7
WHITE NON-HISPANIC	27.7

(scale: 0, 25, 50, 75)

AGE 70+

Group	Rate
ALASKA NATIVE	*
AMERICAN INDIAN (NEW MEXICO)	*
BLACK	41.0
CHINESE	20.5
FILIPINO	*
HAWAIIAN	*
JAPANESE	22.8
KOREAN	N/A
VIETNAMESE	N/A
WHITE	48.2
HISPANIC (TOTAL)	29.4
WHITE HISPANIC	30.7
WHITE NON-HISPANIC	49.0

(scale: 0, 25, 50, 75)

NOTE: Rates are "average annual" per 100,000 population, age-adjusted to 1970 U.S. standard; N/A = data unavailable; ✱ = fewer than 25 deaths.