

**Table 7.68**

Total Cases & Percentage of Total by Stage at Diagnosis by Race-Ethnicity, Invasive Cancers, Selected Sites in Hawai'i: 2000-2005

Race-Ethnicity	Stage at Diagnosis	Invasive Cancers					
		Breast (Female)	Cervix	Colon & Rectum	Lung & Bronchus	Melanoma (Skin)	Prostate
Native Hawaiian	Total Cases	938	60	484	761	45	444
	Early Staged (%)	61.9	45.0	41.7	14.7	64.4	88.1
	Late Staged (%)	37.3	53.3	55.2	81.6	35.6	9.5
	Un-Staged (%)	0.7	1.7	3.1	3.7	0.0	2.5
White	Total Cases	1,440	74	1,019	1,260	1,231	1,443
	Early Staged (%)	68.5	62.2	46.8	20.0	88.4	91.1
	Late Staged (%)	30.3	37.8	50.5	75.0	11.0	5.9
	Un-Staged (%)	1.1	0.0	2.6	5.0	0.6	3.0
Chinese	Total Cases	296	10	277	240	9	359
	Early Staged (%)	71.6	50.0	47.7	24.6	66.7	95.0
	Late Staged (%)	28.0	50.0	49.5	72.5	33.3	3.3
	Un-Staged (%)	0.3	0.0	2.9	2.9	0.0	1.7
Filipino	Total Cases	576	61	533	629	22	757
	Early Staged (%)	61.6	52.5	42.8	17.0	72.7	90.0
	Late Staged (%)	37.5	45.9	54.0	78.4	27.3	7.5
	Un-Staged (%)	0.9	1.6	3.2	4.6	0.0	2.5
Japanese	Total Cases	1,616	50	1,598	1,016	55	1,492
	Early Staged (%)	72.8	56.0	43.6	17.6	67.3	91.9
	Late Staged (%)	26.5	44.0	54.2	77.6	30.9	4.7
	Un-Staged (%)	0.7	0.0	2.3	4.8	1.8	3.4

Number of cases is a six year total.

Early = localized; Late = regional and distant. Localized, regional and distant cancers are invasive. In situ cases (non-invasive) are not included.

**Source:** Hawai'i State. University of Hawai'i. Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i. *Hawai'i Cancer Facts & Figures 2010*.

A cancer's stage is based on the primary site (site of origin), tumor's size, and whether it has spread to other areas of the body.

### **What is staging?**

Staging describes the extent or severity of an individual's cancer based on the extent of the original (primary) tumor and the extent of spread in the body.

### **Staging is important:**

- Staging helps the doctor plan a person's treatment. The stage can be used to estimate the person's prognosis (likely outcome or course of the disease).
- Knowing the stage is important in identifying clinical trials (research studies) that may be suitable for a particular patient.
- Staging helps researchers and health care providers exchange information about patients. It also gives them a common language for evaluating the results of clinical trials and comparing the results of different trials.

### **Definitions:**

**In situ** indicates a tumor that is early or "non-invasive" cancer that is present only in the layer of cells in which it began. An in situ lesion can only be diagnosed by microscopic examination.

**Localized** indicates a cancer that is limited to the organ in which it began, without evidence of spread. It can still be considered "localized" as long as there is no extension beyond the outer limits of the primary organ with no evidence of metastasis elsewhere within the body.

**Regional** indicates a cancer that has spread beyond the original (primary) site to nearby lymph nodes or organs and tissues.

**Distant** indicates a cancer that has spread from the primary site to distant organs or distant lymph nodes or by implantation metastasis.

**Unstaged or Unknown** indicates there is a cancer, but insufficient information exists to determine the stage or extent of the disease at diagnosis.