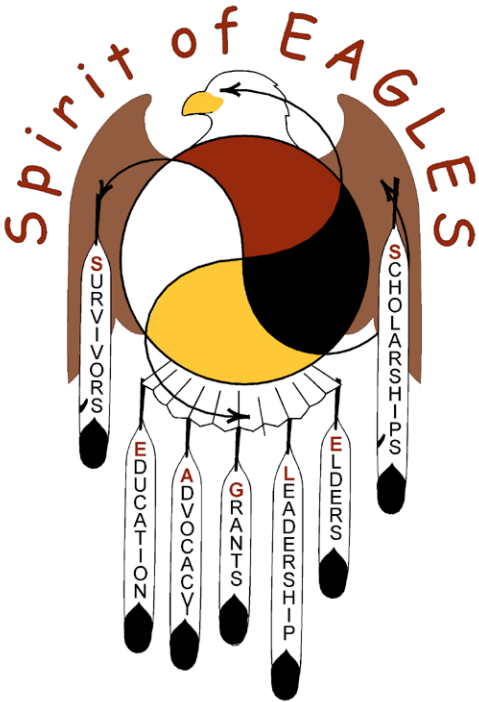




# Walking the talk: Using Cancer Data Wisely

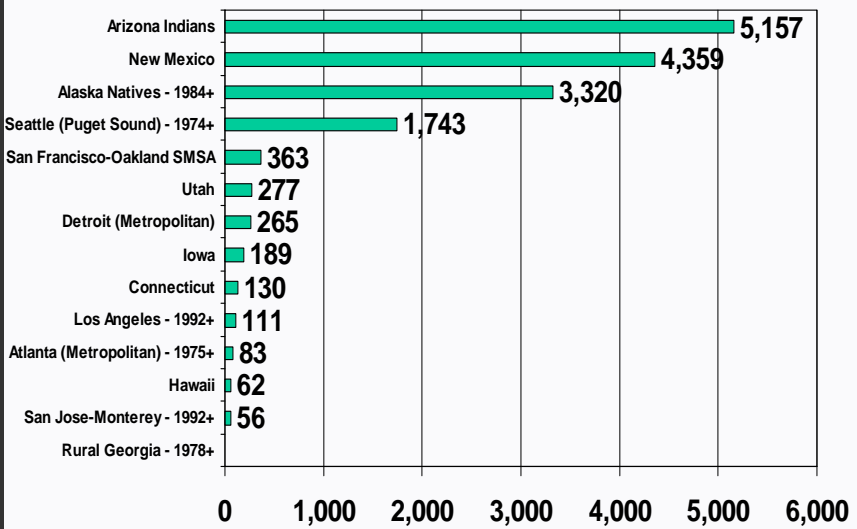
Judith Salmon Kaur, M.D.  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, MN



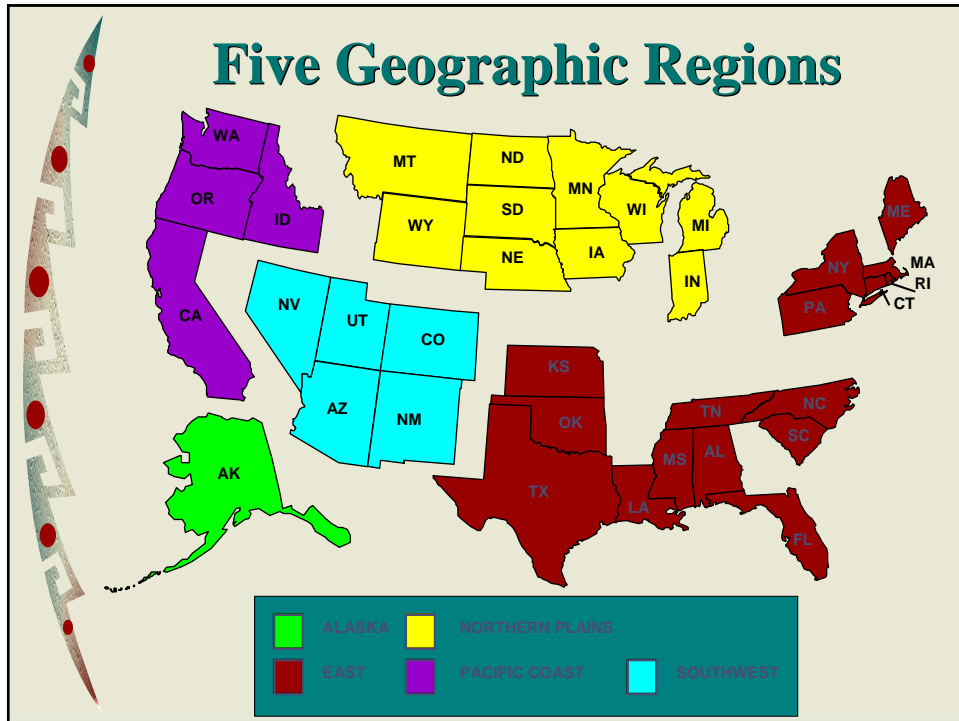
# Cancer in AI/AN

- A new disease
- Contract health care is fragmented
- SEER in the past included small numbers of AI
- Racial misclassification was very common

## SEER PROGRAM 1973-98 American Indian / Alaska Natives








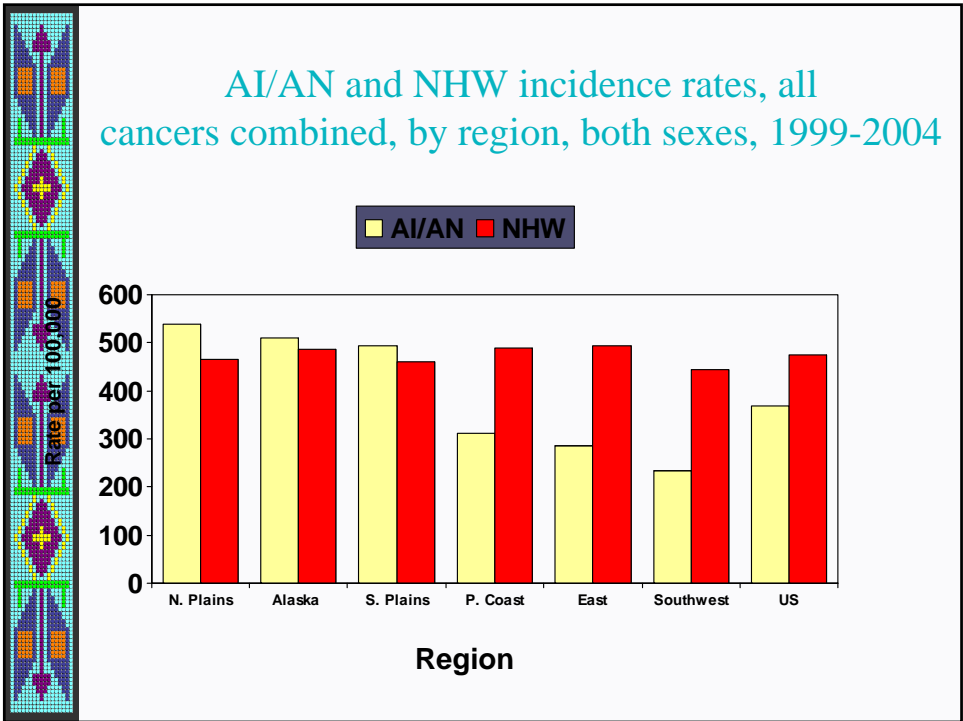
## REGION SPECIFIC CANCER PROFILES: *Basic Questions*

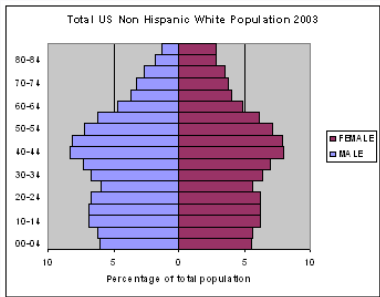
- What are the most common cancers?
- How many new cancers of each type each year?
- Are the numbers (incidence) “high” or “low”?
- Are the numbers increasing?
- Are screening programs working?
  - Early vs. late stage of disease at time of diagnosis
- What treatments are patients receiving?
  - Do the treatments work? --survival rates?
- Do Indians have any unique cancer risks?



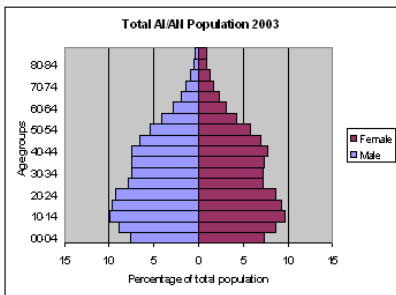
## TYPES OF CANCER DATA

- **PREVALENCE** (persons with cancer)
- **MORTALITY** (cancer deaths)
- **INCIDENCE** (new cases)
- **STAGE** (of disease at diagnosis)
- **TREATMENT** (patterns & trends)
- **SURVIVAL** (prognosis & outcomes)
- **RISK FACTORS** (case-control studies)





Prevention potential is great!



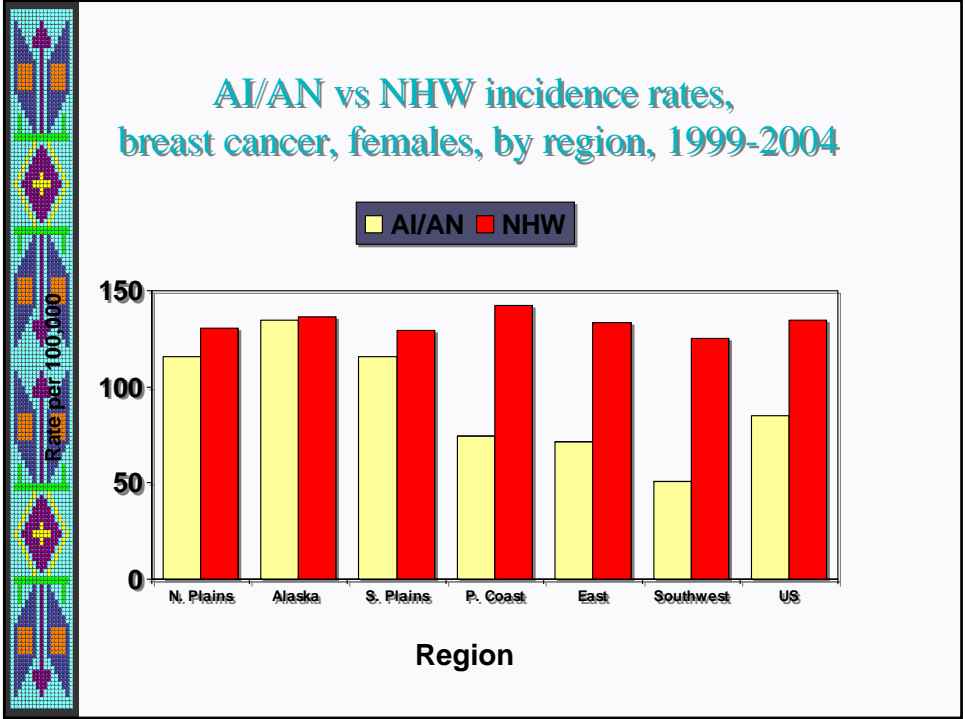


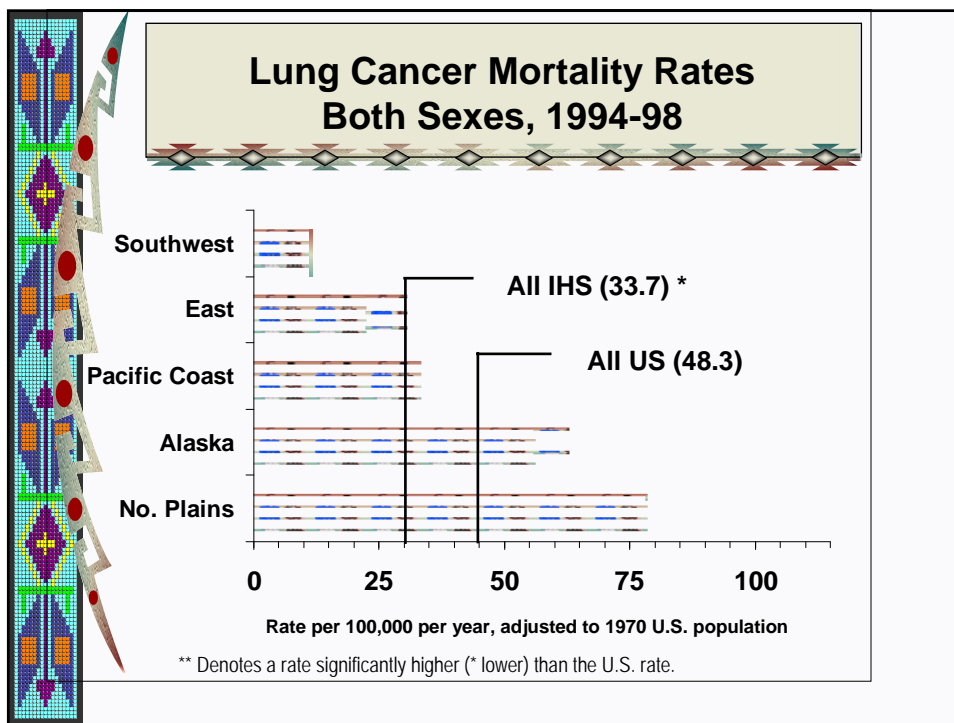
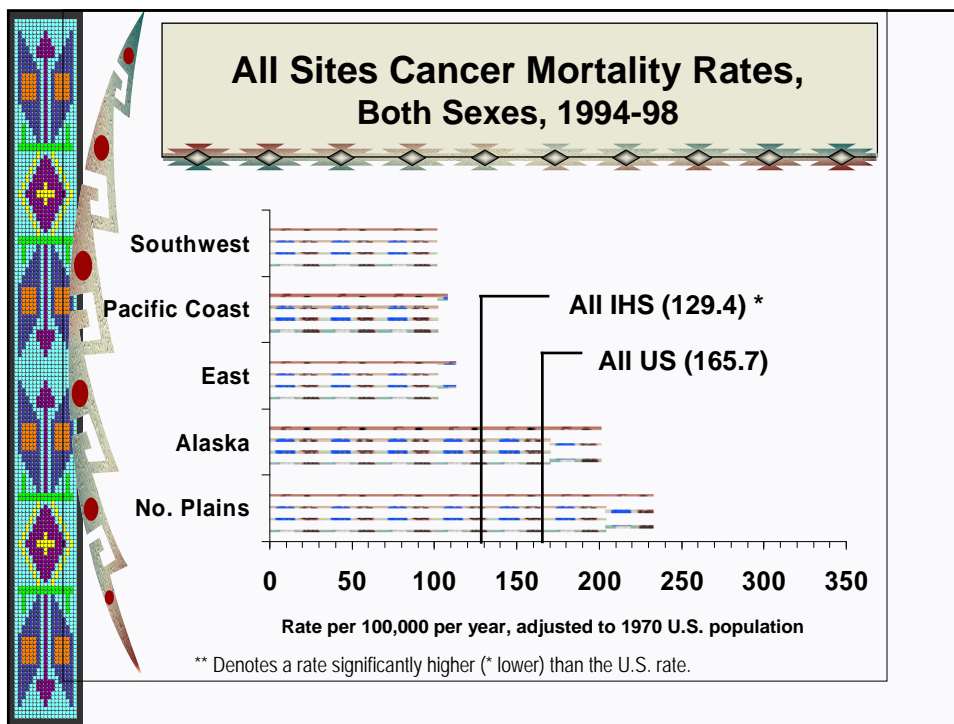
## Community Partners



## COLORECTAL CANCER

- BIOLOGIC BASIS OF DISEASE UNDERSTOOD
- SCREENING DEVELOPED
- INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED TO CONTINUE DECLINE IN DEATH RATES







## PAST SUCCESS

- BIOLOGIC BASIS OF CERVICAL CANCER
- DEVELOPMENT OF A SCREENING TEST
- INFRASTRUCTURE BUILDING TO MAXIMIZE SCREENING
- FURTHER RESEARCH TO DEVELOP VACCINE



## TRIBE-SPECIFIC CANCER PROFILES: *Prospects*

- PUBLIC HEALTH CAPACITY BUILDING
  - Personnel
  - Infrastructure
- DATA MANAGEMENT / DATA CENTER
  - Security / confidentiality
- EPIDEMIOLOGY & BIostatISTICS
- PARTNERSHIPS
  - Data collection / analysis



## Historical References

- They said smallpox was “hopeless”
- They said TB was “hopeless”
- They said polio was “hopeless”
- Cancer should not be “hopeless”

ARE WE MOVING  
FORWARD?

