



California Breast Cancer Mapping Project

The goal of the California Breast Cancer Mapping Project was to produce statewide maps that identify areas with elevated breast cancer rates in a way that is considered useful by a wide variety of stakeholders.

To do this, project staff recruited and worked with an advisory group of breast cancer advocates, health care providers, researchers, and public health practitioners. The advisory group guided the development of the mapping protocol, analysis, and results dissemination.

A New Way to Map Breast Cancer

The advisory group developed a protocol to map invasive breast cancer rates - based on a well-established statistical method - that would:

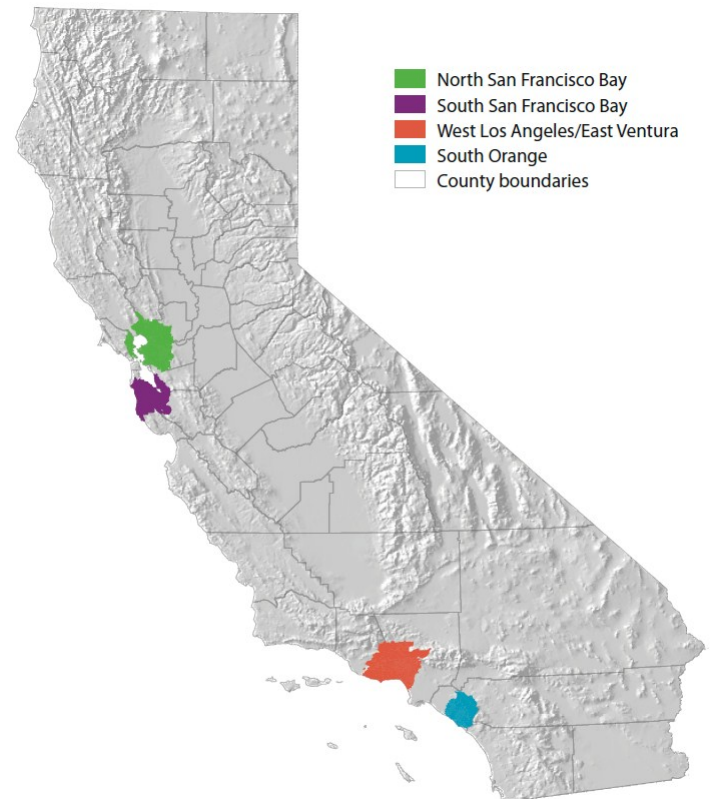
- **Maintain scientific rigor**
- **Eliminate false positive findings**
- **Protect patient confidentiality**
- **Provide information that is meaningful and supports public health action**

Project Findings

This mapping protocol yielded new and intriguing information by identifying areas – **no longer restricted by county boundaries** – with elevated rates of invasive breast cancer.

We identified four areas of concern where invasive breast cancer rates were 10-20% higher than the state average from 2000-2008.

We also analyzed demographic characteristics of women diagnosed with breast cancer and the populations living in areas with elevated rates.



Areas of concern in California for invasive breast cancer among women

Data source: California Cancer Registry, 2000-2008, prepared by the California Breast Cancer Mapping Project



New Areas of Concern Identified

Four areas of concern were identified, including portions of counties **previously unknown to have elevated breast cancer rates**. The areas of concern were:

- Parts of counties in the North San Francisco Bay Area
- Parts of counties in the South San Francisco Bay Area
- Western Los Angeles County and eastern Ventura County
- Southern Orange County and a small part of western Riverside County



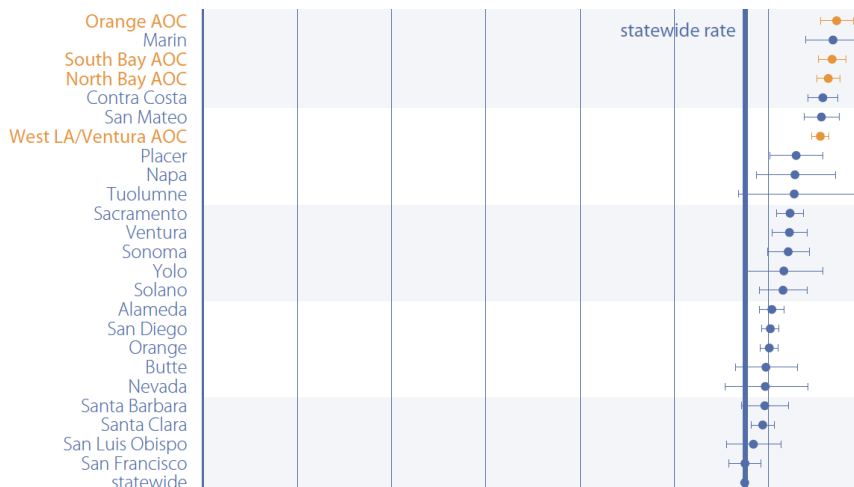
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Advancing the Body of Knowledge

The maps produced by the CBCMP protocol identified four areas of concern with invasive breast cancer rates **higher than most county rates**.

The CBCMP mapping protocol is a valuable supplement to other breast cancer surveillance methods, providing a more comprehensive picture of breast cancer risk in California than the consideration of counties alone.



Invasive breast cancer rates in areas of concern (AOCs, in orange) and counties (in blue) aggregating data from 2000-2008

Data Source: California Cancer Registry, 2000-2008, prepared by the California Breast Cancer Mapping Project

Recommendations

This mapping protocol can and should be used to identify which communities are most impacted by breast cancer. These areas could then be priorities for targeting resources, outreach, and services. The results may also suggest avenues for future research.

The full report and other information are available at: www.CaliforniaBreastCancerMapping.org

The California Environmental Health Tracking Program

CEHTP works to improve public health by delivering science-based information on the trends and distributions of diseases and environmental threats. For more information, go to www.CEHTP.org