Breast Cancer Facts & Figures

The National Breast Cancer Coalition (NBCC) is a grassroots organization dedicated to ending breast cancer through action and advocacy. Following are a few statistics that speak to the need to end this deadly disease.

MORTALITY

In 2014, in the United States there were approximately 3,131,440 women alive who had a history of breast cancer. (ACS, 2015-2016)

Estimated chance that a woman in the U.S. develops invasive breast cancer during her lifetime, according to the National Cancer Institute (SEER, 2015):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chance</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.09%</td>
<td>1975</td>
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From 2003-2012, breast cancer incidence rates remained stable in white women and increased by 0.3% per year in black women. Incidence of in situ breast cancer remained stable for all women during this same time period. (ACS, 2016)

In 2016, it is estimated that 246,660 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed among U.S. women...

And approximately 2,600 new cases among U.S. men.

In addition to invasive cancers, 61,000 new cases of in situ breast cancer will be diagnosed among women in the U.S. in 2016. (ACS, 2016)

Mortality from breast cancer has declined faster for women under the age of 50 (by 3.0% annually from 2006-2010), regardless of race/ethnicity. (ACS, 2013-2014)

Between 1990 and 2011, the cancer mortality rate for women ages 50 and over declined by 1.9% annually. (SEER, 2014)

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death for women in the United States, after lung cancer. Approximately 40,450 women and 440 men will die from the disease in 2016. (ACS, 2016)

(GloboCan, 2012) This year, we will lose more than 522,000 women worldwide to breast cancer. That’s more than 1,400 women each day.
New Cases of Invasive Breast Cancer

Breast Cancer Rate (per 100,000 females) 2002-2012

Deaths

The current methods of treatment in use in the US are:

Surgery (Mastectomy & Lumpectomy)
Chemotherapy
Radiation
Hormonal Therapy
Targeted Therapy

Factors that decrease a woman’s risk of breast cancer include (ACS, 2016):

- Breast-Feeding
- Physical Activity (Exercise)

All women are at risk for breast cancer. Only 5-10% of those with breast cancer have inherited a mutation in the known breast cancer genes (BRCA1 and BRCA2) and 90-95% of breast cancer cases do not involve these inherited mutations. (ACS, 2015-2016)

Factors that increase a woman’s risk of breast cancer include (ACS, 2016):

- Family History of Breast or Ovarian Cancer
- Older Age
- Breast Density
- Genetic Factors
- Radiation
- Postmenopausal Obesity
- Alcohol Consumption
- Nulliparity (Having No Children)
- Long Menstrual History
- Ionizing Radiation
- Use of Combined Postmenopausal Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT)

Mammography screening does not prevent or cure breast cancer. It may detect the disease before symptoms occur. It has not led to a significant decline in the incidence of late stage disease. It may also lead to over diagnosis and over treatment. (Bleyer and Welch, 2012)

The diagnosis of ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) was relatively rare before the early 1980s and the widespread use of mammography. Today, approximately one woman is diagnosed with DCIS for every four women diagnosed with invasive breast cancer. (Allegra et al. 2010)

Mammography screening has led to a dramatic increase in the incidence DCIS, which has increased 800% from before widespread mammography started (early 70s) to three decades later whereas the incidence of distant disease (metastatic) changed 0%. (Bleyer and Welch, 2012)

Overdiagnosis of breast cancer from mammography screening means many women become breast cancer patients and survivors and yet there has been a relatively small impact on the number of women dying from breast cancer. (HG Welch, JNCI 2010)

The impact of some risk factors may vary for different races. According to results of the 4-Corners Breast Cancer Study, Hispanic women with breast cancer were more likely than white women with breast cancer to have characteristics associated with a lower risk of breast cancer, such as younger age at first birth, having more children, less hormone use, and less alcohol consumption. (Hines et al, 2010)

Older women are much more likely to get breast cancer than younger women. From 2008-2012, the median age for a breast cancer diagnosis was 61 years of age. (SEER, 2015)

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To see detailed references and to learn more about NBCC, please go to: BreastCancerDeadline2020.org/BCFactsFigures