

BREAST CANCER IN CANADA

Overall Incidence



Each year in Canada, there are about 30,800 new cases of breast



Breast cancer is the 2nd most common cancer overall and the most common cancer in women



Hereditary breast cancer means a high risk of developing breast cancer is passed down through family genes. Most cases (90-95%) are not hereditary, with only 5-10% linked to inherited mutations such as BRCA1 or BRCA2.

Incidence by Sex



30,500 women (more than 99%)



290 men (less than 1%)

Breast Cancer by Subtype

71-73% HR+, HER2-

15-16% HER2+ (any HR status)

10-11% TNBC

Stage and Age at Diagnosis



82% of breast cancer cases are diagnosed at stage I



83% of breast cancer cases occur in women 50 years or older



Non-White women, especially Black women, First Nations women, and Métis women experience diagnoses at **younger ages** (median age of **52-60 years old**) than White women (median age of 63 years old)

Impact



About 84 women are diagnosed and 15 women die from breast cancer every day



About <mark>60 men die</mark> from breast cancer each year



Female breast cancer death rate has dropped by 47% since it peaked in the mid-1980s



89% of Canadian women diagnosed with breast cancer survive 5 or more years

Canadian Cancer Society (n.d.). Breast cancer statistics. Cancer.ca https://cancer.ca/en/cancer-information/cancer-types/breast/statistics Canadian Cancer Society (2024, June 10). 6 key findings that reveal the impact of cancer in Canada in 2024. Cancer.ca https://cancer.ca/en/about-

Public Health Agency of Canada (2023, June 16). Breast cancer and your risk. Government of Canada. https://www.canada.ca/en/public-

Public Health Agency of Canada (2022, October 21). Breast Cancer in Canada. Government of Canada. https://www.canada.ca/en/public-

Chiarelli, A. M., Edwards, S. A., Sheppard, V. B., Glendon, G., Mirea, L., & Andrulis, I. L. (2020). A population-based analysis of breast cancer incidence and survival by subtype in Ontario women. The Beast, 50, 85-92. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.breast.2019.12.001
Wilkinson, A. N., Ng, C., Ellison, L. F., & Seely, J. M. (2025). Breast cancer incidence and mortality, by age, stage and molecular subtypes, by race/ethnicity in Canada. The Oncologist, 30(8), OYAE283. https://doi.org/10.1093/oncolo/oyae283

A note on language: These statistics are reported by sex (male/female) and may not fully reflect the experiences of all genders.