



Breast Cancer Fact Sheet

- Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer death for women worldwide; it is the second cause of cancer deaths in the U.S.¹
- One woman in eight will develop breast cancer in her lifetime. In 1975, this risk was one in 11.¹
- About 1.5 million cases of breast cancer are diagnosed every year worldwide.²
- Breast cancer results in more than 400,000 deaths each year, worldwide.³
- When detected at an early stage by mammography, the five-year survival rate for breast cancer is 95 percent – 20 percent higher than the rate for cases detected by other means at a later stage.⁴
- The Netherlands and the U.S. have the highest incidence of breast cancer; China has the lowest.⁵
- In 2009, about 40,170 women will die from breast cancer in the U.S.⁶
- Death rates from breast cancer have been declining in the U.S. since about 1990, especially among women younger than 50. This is believed to be the result of earlier detection and improved treatment.⁷
- There are about 2.5 million breast cancer survivors in the U.S. today.⁶
- The lifetime probability of developing breast cancer in developed countries is about five percent. In developing countries it is about two percent.⁵
- About 90 percent of women who develop breast cancer have no family history of the disease.⁸
- About a million women have breast cancer but don't yet know it.¹

SOURCES:

1-. Georgia Breast Cancer Coalition Fund, http://www.gabcc.org/index_files/Page390.htm

2-. Ferlay J, Bray F, Pisani P, et al. GLOBOCAN 2002: Cancer Incidence, Mortality and Prevalence Worldwide. IARC CancerBase No. 5. version 2.0, <http://www-dep.iarc.fr>

3-. Health Disparities in Breast Cancer, <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/ondemand/index.cfm?fuseaction=media.play&mediaid=E437CC0E-EA45-0C7B-F9174B274C9A2117>

4-. National Breast Cancer Foundation, <http://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/edp/>

5-. American Cancer Society as quoted on http://www.tnbcfoundation.org/tnbc/forum/forum_posts.asp?TID=3674&PN=2

- 6-. American Cancer Society, http://www.cancer.org/docroot/cr/content/cr_2_4_1x_what_are_the_key_statistics_for_breast_cancer_5.asp
- 7-. American Cancer Society, http://www.cancer.org/docroot/cr/content/cr_2_4_1x_what_are_the_key_statistics_for_breast_cancer_5.asp
- 8-. The Breast Health Handbook, http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m0NAH/is_9_35/ai_n15795054/