


# Breast cancer in Canada



**Breast cancer** develops in the cells of the breast tissue. When these cells change or no longer behave normally, they may lead to benign tumours (non-cancerous). In some cases, the changes may cause malignant breast tumours (cancerous).

## The data<sup>1,2</sup>

It is the **2<sup>nd</sup> MOST COMMON** cancer in Canada

**1 IN 8 WOMEN**  
  
will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime

About **27,400 women** will have been diagnosed with breast cancer in **2020**

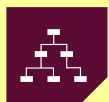
In **WOMEN**, breast cancer is the **#1 CANCER**

 **83%** of cases occur in **WOMEN AGED 50+**

## Risk factors include\*



AGING



FAMILY HISTORY



BRCA GENE MUTATION



REPRODUCTIVE STATUS (E.G. LATE MENOPAUSE)



HORMONE EXPOSURES (E.G. ESTROGEN)



ALCOHOL INTAKE



OVERWEIGHT OR OBESITY (AFTER MENOPAUSE)



PHYSICAL INACTIVITY


\* For more information, please visit: <https://data.prevent.cancer.ca/current>

## Screening and detection<sup>2,3</sup>

**82%**

of female breast cancer cases are diagnosed **EARLY IN THEIR DEVELOPMENT**, at **STAGE I** and **II**

The **PROBABILITY OF SURVIVING** breast cancer **AT LEAST 5 YEARS AFTER DIAGNOSIS** is about

 **88%**

Screening for breast cancer **WITH MAMMOGRAPHY EVERY 2-3 YEARS** is recommended for **AVERAGE-RISK WOMEN AGED 50 TO 74**

The screening guidelines above are available from the Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care.

**Note:** Statistics for lifetime probability, stage and survival exclude Quebec. Stage statistics include individuals aged 18 to 79 years at diagnosis and survival statistics include individuals aged 15 to 99 years at diagnosis. Unless specified, statistics include all stages combined.

## LEARN MORE ABOUT BREAST CANCER:



VISIT [Canada.ca](https://Canada.ca) and SEARCH 'breast cancer'



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MORE [www.cancer.ca/en/cancer-information/cancer-type/breast/breast-cancer/](http://www.cancer.ca/en/cancer-information/cancer-type/breast/breast-cancer/) [www.bcsc.ca](http://www.bcsc.ca) [www.cbcr.ca](http://www.cbcr.ca)

### SOURCES:

1. Brenner DR, Weir HK, Demers AA, Ellison LF, Louzado C, Shaw A, et al. Projected estimates of cancer in Canada in 2020. CMAJ. 2020 March 2;192:E199-205. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1503/cmaj.191292>.
2. Canadian Cancer Statistics Advisory Committee. Canadian Cancer Statistics 2019. Toronto, ON: Canadian Cancer Society; 2019. Available at: [cancer.ca/Canadian-Cancer-Statistics-2019-EN](http://cancer.ca/Canadian-Cancer-Statistics-2019-EN).
3. Canadian Cancer Statistics Advisory Committee. Canadian Cancer Statistics 2018. Toronto, ON: Canadian Cancer Society; 2018. Available at: [cancer.ca/Canadian-Cancer-Statistics-2018-EN](http://cancer.ca/Canadian-Cancer-Statistics-2018-EN).

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