

BREAST CANCER IN AUSTRALIA | FACTS & FIGURES

- Breast cancer is the most common life-threatening cancer facing Australian women.¹
- One-in-eight Australian women — mothers, sisters, wives, daughters, friends — will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime.¹
- Each day in 2016, 44 Australian women are expected to be diagnosed with breast cancer. (That's 15,930 throughout the year).¹
- Eight women die every day from breast cancer, leaving countless families devastated.¹
- Around one in 700 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer.¹
- Every year in Australia around 140 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer.²
- There are nearly 60,000 people living with breast cancer in Australia today.²
- More women are surviving breast cancer. In 1994 when NBCF was established, around 76 of every 100 women diagnosed with breast cancer were still alive five years after diagnosis. Today, 90 out of every hundred are still living.¹
- Breast cancer spreading from the primary tumour site to other parts of the body (also called metastasis, or secondary or advanced breast cancer) is the main cause of death. For women diagnosed with secondary breast cancer, only around 22 in 100* are still alive after five years.³

* According to the American Cancer Society, five-year survival rates for metastatic breast cancer are 22%. There are no Australian figures for survival rates by breast cancer stage.

References

1. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare & Cancer Australia 2012. Breast Cancer in Australia: an overview. Cancer series no. 71. Cat no. CAN 67. Canberra: AIHW
2. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2014. Cancer in Australia: an overview, 2014. Cancer series no. 78. Cat. No CAN 75. Canberra: AIHW
3. American Cancer Society. Breast cancer survival rates by stage.