Incidence Rates
Between 2012 and 2016, the female breast cancer incidence rate for women in California was 121.5 new cases per 100,000 women per year. With respect to race/ethnicity, non-Hispanic white women experienced the highest incidence rate (139.5 new cases per 100,000 women per year).

Mortality Rates
The breast cancer mortality rate for women in California was 19.8 deaths per 100,000 women per year. With respect to race/ethnicity, while non-Hispanic white females showed the highest rate of new breast cancer cases, African-American women experienced the highest mortality rate (31.1 deaths per 100,000 women) in the state.

* Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Population. Source: California Cancer Registry, California Department of Public Health. Prepared by the California Department of Public Health, California Cancer Registry.
Incidence and Mortality Trends

Female breast cancer incidence has decreased at a statistically significant rate from 1988 to 2016. From 2012 to 2016, the rate for invasive breast cancer among women in California compared to the rest of the nation was 16.4 percent lower among Hispanics, five percent higher among non-Hispanic whites, five percent lower among Asians/Pacific Islanders, and 1.8 percent lower among African Americans.

Improvements in early detection and treatment contributed to a 42 percent decline in breast cancer deaths in California between 1988 to 2016.

Screening offers the ability for secondary prevention by detecting cancer early, before symptoms appear. The earlier breast cancer is detected, the better the chances for successful treatment. A mammogram can often show breast changes that may be cancer before physical symptoms develop. The California Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) conducted from 2015 and 2016 showed that an estimated 74 percent of women 40 years of age and older reported having a mammogram within the past two years.

Overall, the earlier breast cancer is detected, the better chances for successful treatment and survival.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If diagnosed when the tumor is:</th>
<th>The Five-Year Survival Rate* is:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Localized: The tumor has broken through the basement membrane, but is still confined to the breast.</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional: The tumor has spread to the lymph nodes or adjacent tissues.</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distant: The tumor has metastasized, or spread to other parts of the body.</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Five-Year Relative Survival Rate for Breast Cancer in California</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Follow-up is through December 2010. Cancers that were unstaged at time of diagnosis are excluded

Risk Factors

Certain factors have been shown to be associated with an increased risk of certain types of cancer. The majority of known cancer risk factors are related to individual characteristics (such as age, race/ethnicity, or family history/genetic susceptibility) and behaviors (such as smoking, diet, physical inactivity, unsafe sex, and sun exposure).

For More Information

For more information on breast cancer risk factors, prevention, screening, symptoms, and treatment:

- **National Cancer Institute**
  Check out the NCI’s What You Need to Know About Cancer Index at: www.cancer.gov/about-cancer or call the NCI Cancer Information Service: 1-800-4-CANCER

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**
  www.cdc.gov

- **American Cancer Society (ACS)**
  www.cancer.org | 1-800-227-2345

* Source: 2015 and 2016 California Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, California Department of Public Health. Data are weighted to the 2010 California population