

BREAST CANCER FACT SHEET

Breast Cancer in Saskatchewan

- It is estimated in 2025 that **790 Saskatchewan women were diagnosed** with breast cancer.
- It is estimated in 2025 that 170 Saskatchewan women lost their life from breast cancer.

Breast Cancer in Canada

- Breast cancer is the number one diagnosed form of cancer in women.
- Breast cancer accounts for **26% of all new cancer cases** in women.
- It is estimated that 35% of breast cancer cases will be diagnosed in females aged 30 to 59 years.
- **One in eight Canadian women** will develop breast cancer during their lifetime and one in 35 will die from it.
- The 5-year net survival rate for breast cancer is 89%.
- Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in women.
- On average, 15 women in Canada will die from breast cancer every day.
- On average, 89 women in Canada will be diagnosed with breast cancer every day.

Risk Factors

- **Age:** The risk of developing breast cancer increases as a woman ages. Breast cancer mostly occurs in women between 50 and 69 years of age.
- **Family History:** Having one first-degree relative (mother, sister, daughter) with breast cancer almost doubles a woman's risk. Approximately 5-10% of breast cancer cases are caused by an inherited gene mutation.
- **Early Menstruation:** Women who experience their period at age 11 or younger are more likely to develop breast cancer.
- Women who enter **menopause after age 55** are also more likely to develop breast cancer.
- **Body weight:** Obesity increases the risk for breast cancer in post-menopausal women.

Screening in Saskatchewan

- In 1990, the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency launched the Screening Program for Breast Cancer.
- Women **43 years and older should have regular screening mammograms**. Once a woman turns 43, she will receive an invitation letter every two years to have a mammogram completed by the Agency.
- **Eligibility is expanding to include women 40 years and older in July 2026**.
- Women with a family history of breast cancer or a breast density greater than 75% should be screened annually.
- You do not need a referral to have a screening mammogram. Simply call the Agency's BreastCheck Program toll free at **1-855-584-8228** to schedule.
- Each year, the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency provides approximately **37,500** screening mammograms through BreastCheck.

Sources:

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