Western Australian Cancer Statistics, 2014
Breast cancer

- Breast cancer remains the most commonly diagnosed cancer and the second highest cause of cancer death among women in Western Australia.
- In Western Australia, the chance of being diagnosed with breast cancer before the age of 75 is one in ten and the chance of dying is one in 85.

![Cancer incidence in Western Australian women, 2014](image)

- The steady increase in the number of breast cancer cases is likely to be due to the increased population size and an ageing population.
- Age standardised rates for new cases of breast cancer have increased from 60 per 100,000 to over 90 per 100,000 from 1983 to 2014. This is most likely to be the result of systematic breast cancer screening program (BreastScreen which started in 1991) that has lead to higher rates of breast cancer identification.
- Diagnosis of breast cancer increases as women age, with 6.3 per cent of cases diagnosed in women younger than 40, 16.6 per cent of cases in women aged 40-59 and 77.1 per cent of cases in women over the age of 50 in WA in 2014.
- The number of breast cancer deaths has increased slightly between 1983 and 2014. However age standardised rates show a decline in deaths, suggesting breast cancers are more commonly found when they are small and treatment is likely to be successful, coupled with improvements in breast cancer treatment itself.
- Breast cancer does occur in males, but is very rare. In 2014 there were 14 cases diagnosed in males, and less than 5 deaths in Western Australia.
Number of cases in women in Western Australia 1999-2014*

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<td>205</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>224</td>
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<td>284</td>
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*Total number of cases recorded by the Cancer Registry in one year

Breast cancer incidence and mortality:
Western Australia 1983-2014

Age standardised rates (ASR) in women in Western Australia 1999-2014*

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*Number of cases per 100,000 persons, adjusted for age (World 1960 population standard)

Breast cancer age standardised (ASR) incidence and mortality:
Western Australia 1983-2014

Cancer statistics provided by the Western Australian Cancer Registry (Department of Health WA)