

Breast & Ovarian Cancer Fast Facts

Every day in Australia:
61 people are diagnosed with breast or ovarian cancer
12 people die from breast or ovarian cancer.

About Breast Cancer:

- Breast cancer is the second most commonly diagnosed cancer in Australia and the most common cancer among females.
- 1 in 7 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime.
- 1 in 600 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime.
- 56 Australians are diagnosed with breast cancer every day.
- In the last 10 years, breast cancer diagnoses in Australia have increased by 15%.
- Every day 9 people in Australia will die from breast cancer.
- Since 1994, the five-year survival rate for breast cancer has increased from 76% to 93%.
- The five-year survival rate for metastatic stage IV breast cancer is much lower at 32%.

About Ovarian Cancer:

- Around 1,815 Australians are diagnosed with ovarian cancer each year.
- 49% of those diagnosed with ovarian cancer will survive five years from diagnosis.
- Approximately 1000 lives are lost to ovarian cancer annually in Australia.
- There is no early detection test for ovarian cancer — a pap/cervical smear does not detect ovarian cancer.
- Although a small number of cases are associated with a genetic predisposition, the cause of most cases remains unknown.
- Due to vagueness of symptoms and lack of an early detection test, around 70% of cases are diagnosed when the cancer is in the advanced stages, having already spread to other parts of the body.

By participating in the Mother's Day Classic, you're helping fund essential research that will improve the lives of those impacted by breast or ovarian cancer.

Source: NBCF and OCRF Updated Jan 2026

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