

By The Numbers

The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2016, there will be 246,660 new cases of invasive breast cancer in U.S. women. When looking at a number that large, it is important to consider it as more than just a statistic.

These “numbers” could be your close family members, friends or colleagues. Some of these diagnoses may be more serious than others, but one thing is constant: These patients need our support and love as they work through the difficult process of survivorship.

Consider the following numbers compiled by Susan G. Komen and pledge to make a donation or become involved in the fight against breast cancer.

- Breast cancer is the most common type of cancer developed during a pregnancy. About one in 3,000 pregnant women will be diagnosed with breast cancer each year.

- Breast cancer incidences have increased slightly each year in African-American women.

- African-American women have the highest breast cancer mortality rate, while Asian-Americans have the lowest.

- Breast cancer causes more deaths than any other type of cancer in women ages 20-59.

- Cases of breast cancer in men has slightly increased in the past 30 years.

- Mortality rates are highest in Washington, D.C., Louisiana and Mississippi.

- 30,700 new cases of breast cancer are expected in African-American women this year.

- From 1990-2013 mortality rates have decreased by 37 percent.

- Most breast cancer diagnoses and deaths occur in women over age 50.

- Diagnoses in younger women usually have a mutated BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene that has mutated.



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