Since the 1980s, there have been significant improvements in treatment and overall breast cancer care. Unfortunately, improvement has not been equal among all populations. Many still suffer inequities, or disparities, from breast cancer and its effects, including high death rates.

Disparities are health differences in breast cancer outcomes among specific population groups, which may include, but are not limited to those associated with race/ethnicity, religion, nationality, socioeconomic status, age, sexual orientation, geography or disability.

Komen is dedicated to achieving health equity. With support from the Fund II Foundation, Komen has launched Stand for H.E.R- a Health Equity Revolution. This is a bold new initiative to decrease breast cancer disparities through targeted interventions in each of the 10 metropolitan areas where disparities are greatest.

**2021 RESEARCH FAST FACTS**

**Breast Cancer Inequities**

More than $123 million in over 300 research grants and more than 180 clinical trials focused on breast cancer inequities

### OUR RESEARCH INVESTMENT:  
(1982-2021)

**What We’re Investigating**

- Identifying the genetic, social and environmental differences that contribute to disparities in breast cancer outcomes in Black women.
- Determining how patient navigation affects patient acceptance of recommended breast cancer treatment in people of color and underserved populations.
- Testing which forms of chemotherapy cause fewer side effects in African-American women with breast cancer.

**What We’re Investigating**

- Black & Hispanic/Latina women are more likely to be diagnosed with advanced breast cancer than white women, and African-American women are about 40% more likely to die of breast cancer than white women.
- Mammography screening rates among American Indian and Alaska Native women are lower than rates among white, Black and Asian American women.
- Uninsured women have lower rates of breast cancer screening and have more advanced breast cancer at diagnosis compared to women with health insurance.


**OUR RESEARCH INVESTMENT:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic Area of Total Investment (1982-2021)</th>
<th>Biology 1.7%</th>
<th>Causes of Breast Cancer 11.5%</th>
<th>Early Detection Diagnosis and Prognosis 14.9%</th>
<th>Treatment 14.7%</th>
<th>Survivorship and Outcomes 55.7%</th>
<th>Prevention 1.6%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**TRAINING RESEARCHERS to Eliminate Disparities**

Komen has dedicated many resources to eliminating breast cancer inequities, including a dedicated grant mechanism — Training Researchers to Eliminate Disparities (TREND) grant — which supports early career researchers seeking careers focused on breast cancer disparities.

**Komen has funded:**

- 36 grants that have supported more than 150 students pursuing careers focused on breast cancer disparities research.

Learn more about breast cancer  
More Komen-funded Research Stories  
Get Involved & Support Komen Research

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