

Breast Cancer Health Survey

Black Women's Health Imperative

Friday, April 3, 2009

Introduction

- The Black Women's Health Imperative (Imperative) has been funded to pilot a strategic process that will support a new generation of Black women breast health leaders across the country. This initiative is of particular importance given the following fact: Black women have a lower incidence rate of breast cancer than white women. Yet Black women are more likely to die of breast cancer than white women (American Cancer Society, 2007).

Purpose of Survey

- To identify where the needs are on the issue of breast cancer and Black women.
- To identify any perceived barriers to mobilizing Black women in support of a national movement on breast cancer.
- To identify current and emerging trends about Black women and breast cancer.
- To identify opportunities for success.
- To hear thoughts from Black women about breast cancer as an important issue.

Survey Demographics

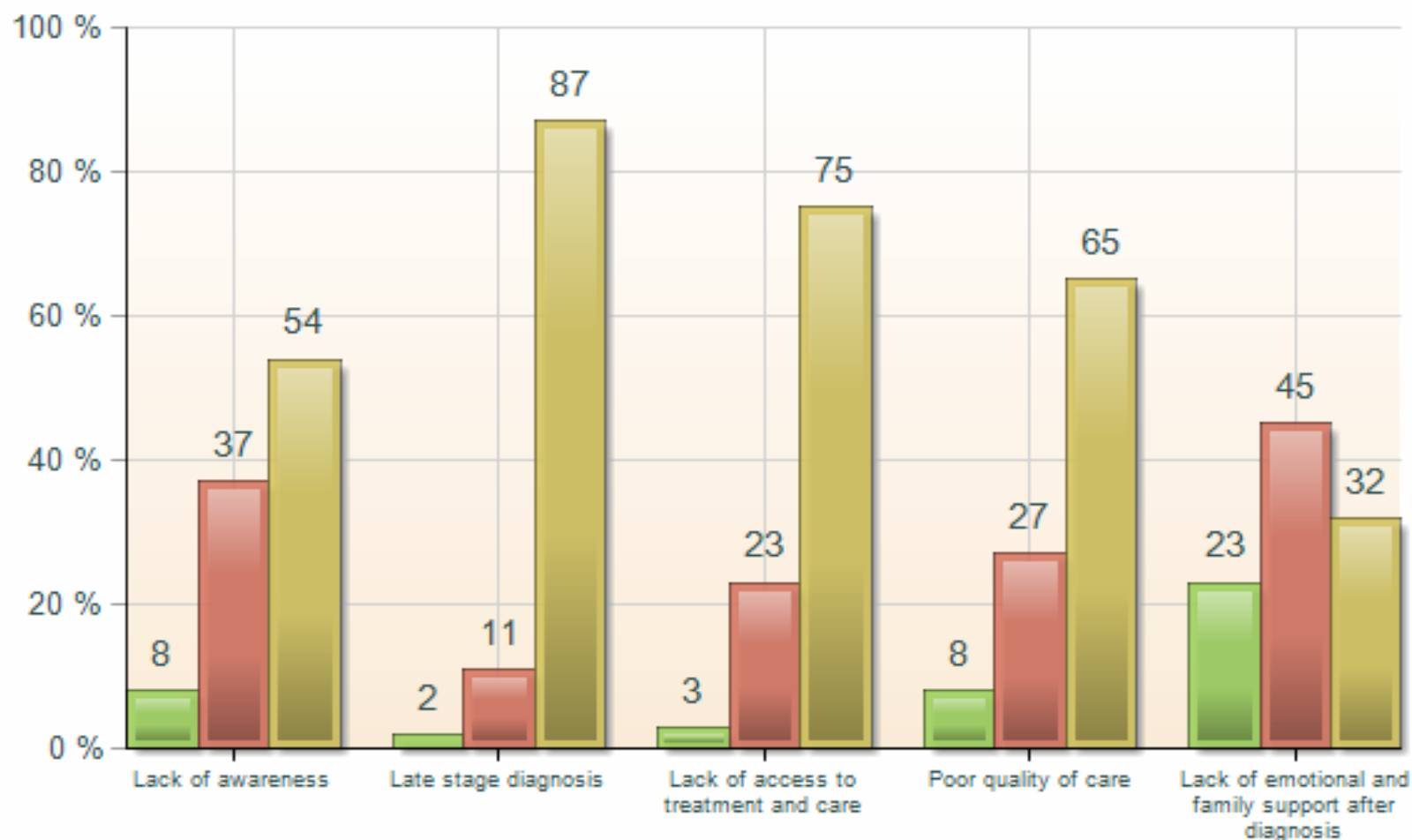
- Survey launch
 - March 6th, 2009
- Survey close
 - March 17th, 2009
- Convenience Sample
 - leaders affiliated with the Black Women's Health Imperative
 - email invites 2280
 - visits 391
- Completed surveys
 - 285

Major factors contributing to breast cancer disparities among Black women

- Most believed that the three major factors contributing to breast cancer disparities among Black women requiring immediate attention are:
 - Late stage diagnosis
 - Lack of access to treatment and care
 - Poor quality of care
- Interesting results revealed that lack of emotional and family support after diagnosis required moderate attention.

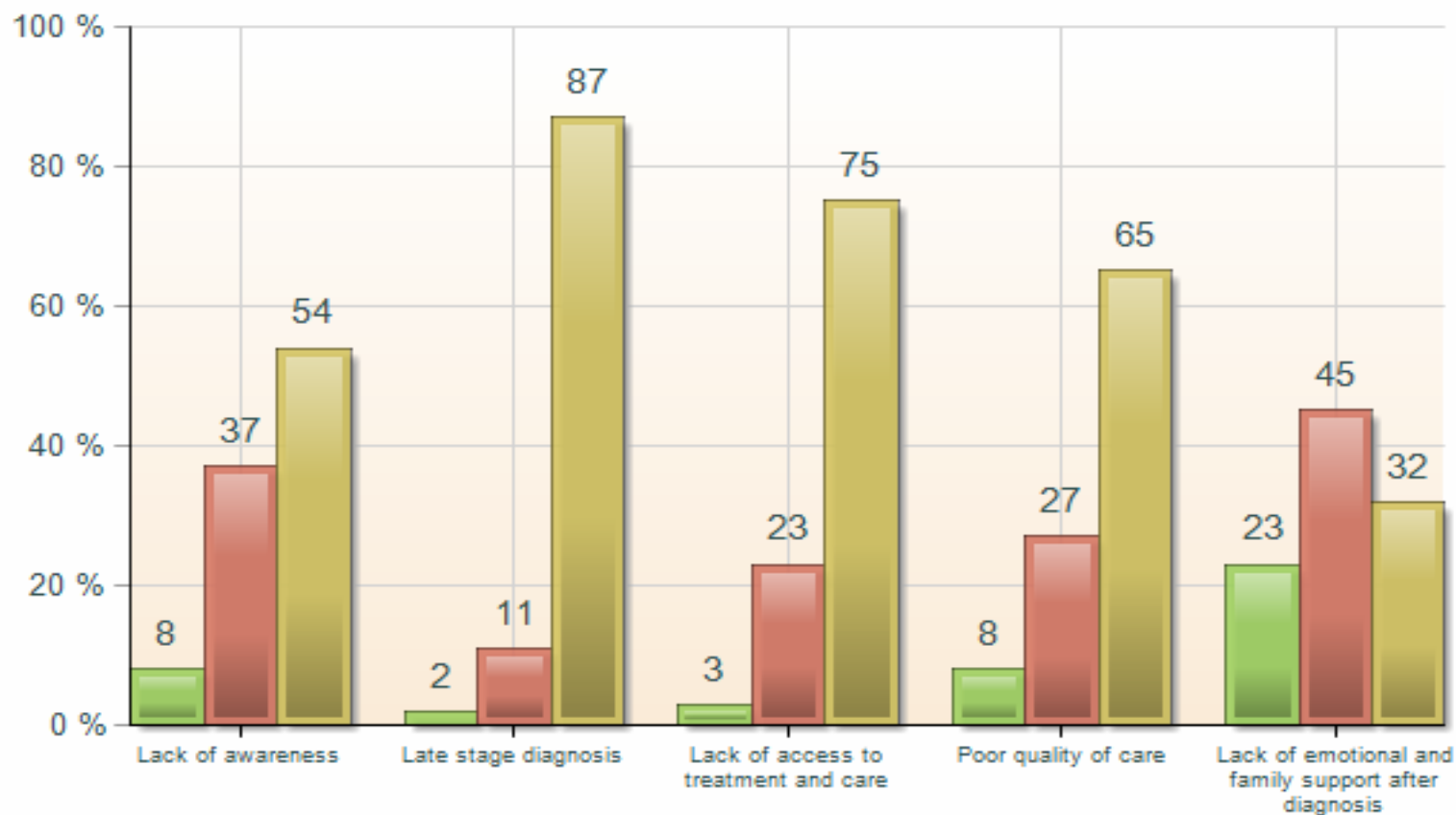
**What do you believe are the three major factors contributing to breast cancer disparities among Black women?
Please rate the extent to which the following factors require immediate attention 1= Not Urgent 2= Moderately Urgent 3= Very Urgent**

Not Urgent Moderately Urgent Very Urgent



**What do you believe are the three major factors contributing to breast cancer disparities among Black women?
Please rate the extent to which the following factors require immediate attention 1= Not Urgent 2= Moderately Urgent 3= Very Urgent**

Not Urgent Moderately Urgent Very Urgent

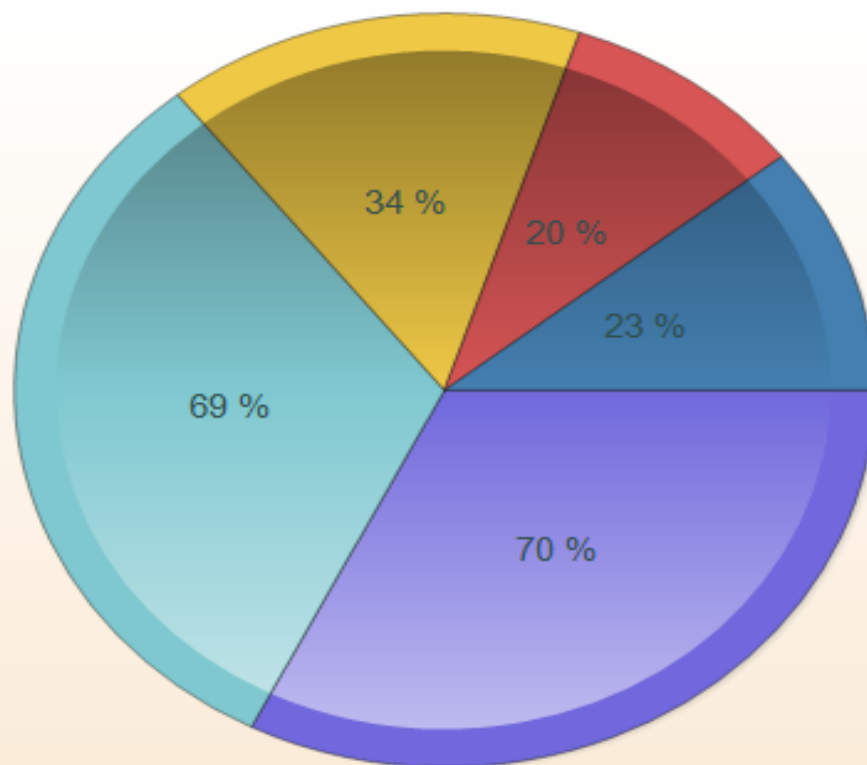


Major issues for Black women related to breast cancer survival

- Most think that the major issue for black women related to breast cancer survival is fear.
- Other issues ranked in the following order:
 - Lack of access to care and treatment
 - Unavailability of services
 - Specified Responses-
 - lack of knowledge/ information/ awareness
 - medical care costs/ insurance
 - putting care for self last
 - lack of preventative care
 - lack of diagnosis, and
 - poor care from medical professionals
 - Lack of emotional and family support

What do you think are the major issues for Black women related to breast cancer survival?

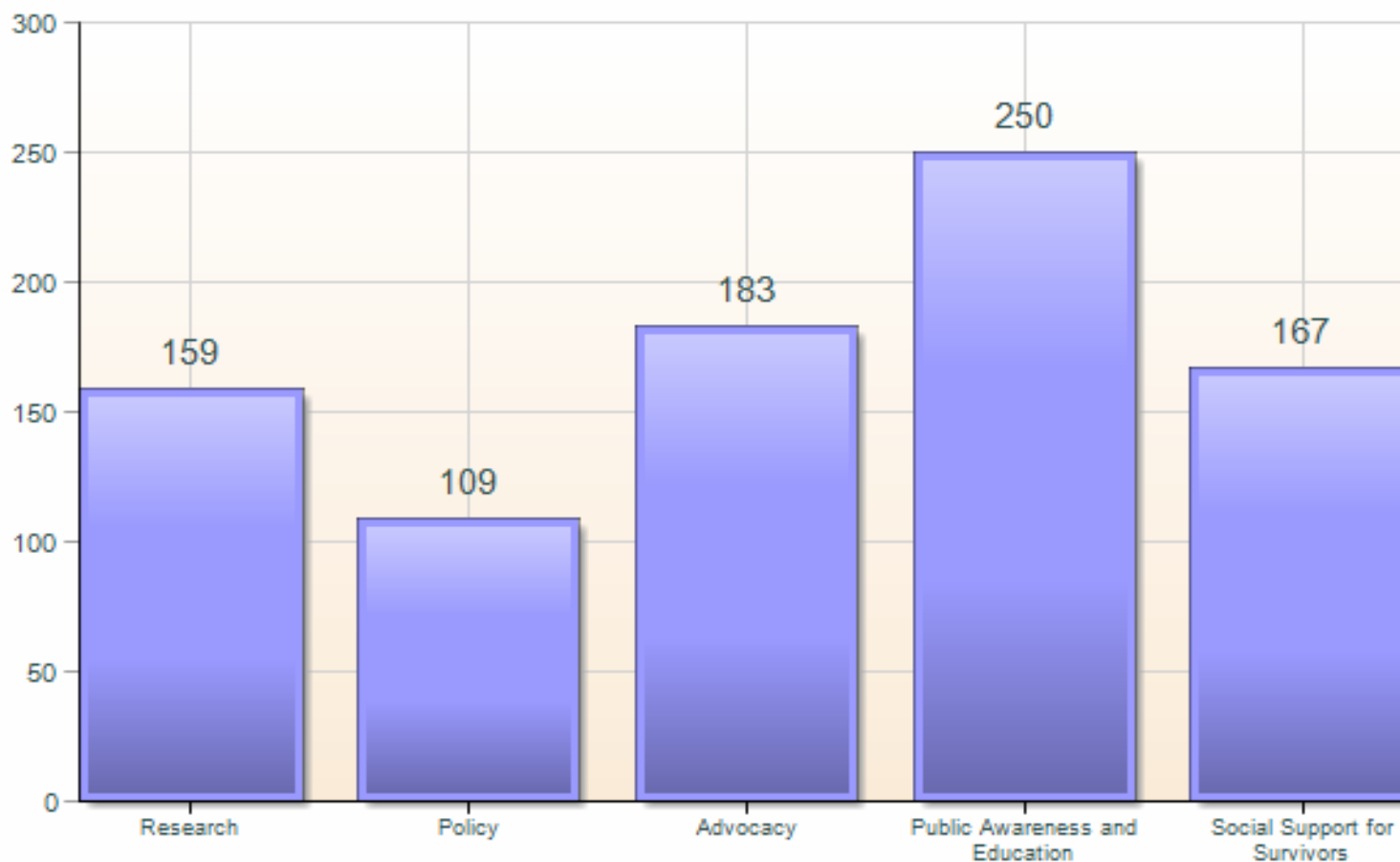
- Fear
- Lack of access to quality care and treatment
- Unavailability of services
- Lack of emotional and family support
- Other, please specify



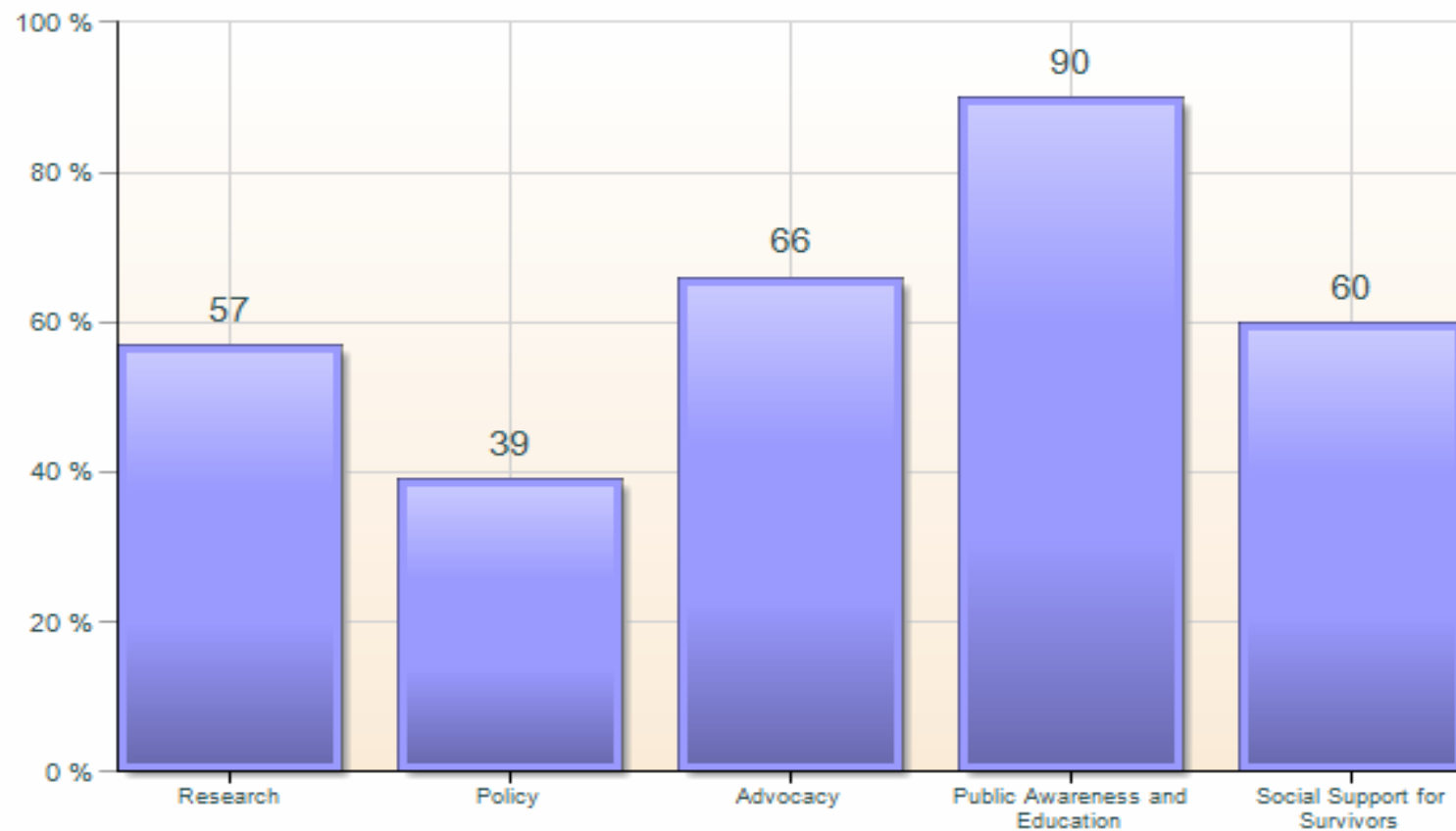
A national movement on Black women and breast cancer

- Most believed that when planning a national movement on black women and breast cancer that the priorities the Imperative should address are in public awareness and education.
- Other areas that should be addressed by the Imperative are listed below in rank order:
 2. Advocacy
 3. Social Support for Survivors
 4. Research
 5. Policy

When planning a national movement on Black women and breast cancer, what do you think are the priorities the Imperative should address in each of the following areas?



When planning a national movement on Black women and breast cancer, what do you think are the priorities the Imperative should address in each of the following areas?

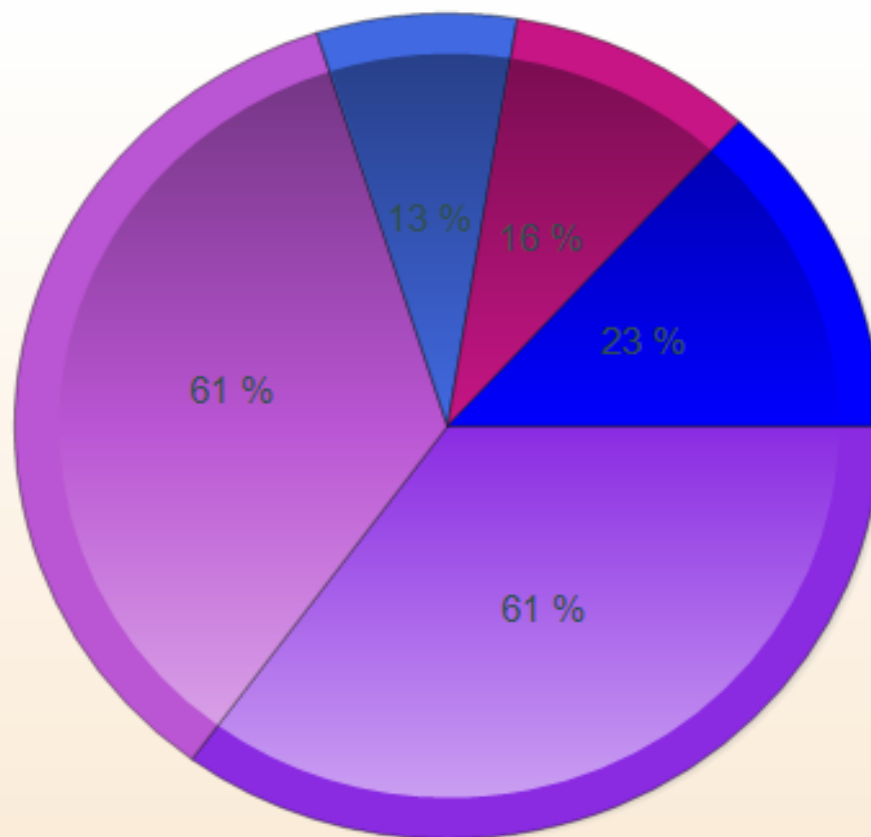


Breast Cancer Activities

- Most provided responses that varied by individual and organizations who were the current leaders on breast cancer among black women, however based on a preliminary assessment of the responses certain individuals/ organizations were mentioned more than others. Below are the items most frequently mentioned, in rank order:
 - Susan G. Komen
 - American Cancer Society
 - Government (NIH, CDC, NCI)
 - Black Women’s Health Imperative
 - Sister’s Network, Sister Study
 - Non HBCU Universities, Sororities
 - HBCUs, Churches
 - Magazines (Women’s Health, Ebony, Essence)
 - NBCC, AABC, CBWW, National Medical Association

What breast cancer activities have you been involved with?

- Participation in Fundraising Event (walk, 5K run, etc.)
- Participation in Support Group
- Other, please specify
- Promoting Awareness and Education
- Caregiver for Breast Cancer Survivor



Breast Cancer Participation

- Most responded that they had participated in breast cancer fundraising events (e.g. walks).
- Participation in other breast cancer activities include the items listed in rank order below:
 - Promoting awareness and education
 - Other specified activities
 - giving donations/ retrieving grants
 - participating in research
 - education
 - advocacy
 - support and prayers for those recently diagnosed, survivors and non-survivors
 - Caregiver for Breast Cancer Survivor activities
 - Participation in Support Group

Barriers to Breast Cancer Engagement

- Most responded that the barriers to engaging black women in a movement to address breast cancer issues at either the national or local levels include:
 - lack of money
 - lack of resources
 - lack of education, awareness, knowledge
 - fear
 - unequal distribution of power/ money among organizations (some organizations have a monopoly over breast related events/ activities)
 - time constraints
 - lack of effort, interest, support and belief in helping black women
 - social stigmas, myths, and taboos

Information on breast cancer disparities and inequities among Black women

- Most responded that they believed that there was not sufficient information on breast cancer disparities and inequalities among black women.



Do you believe there is sufficient information on breast cancer disparities and inequities among Black women?

Yes No Additional Comment

