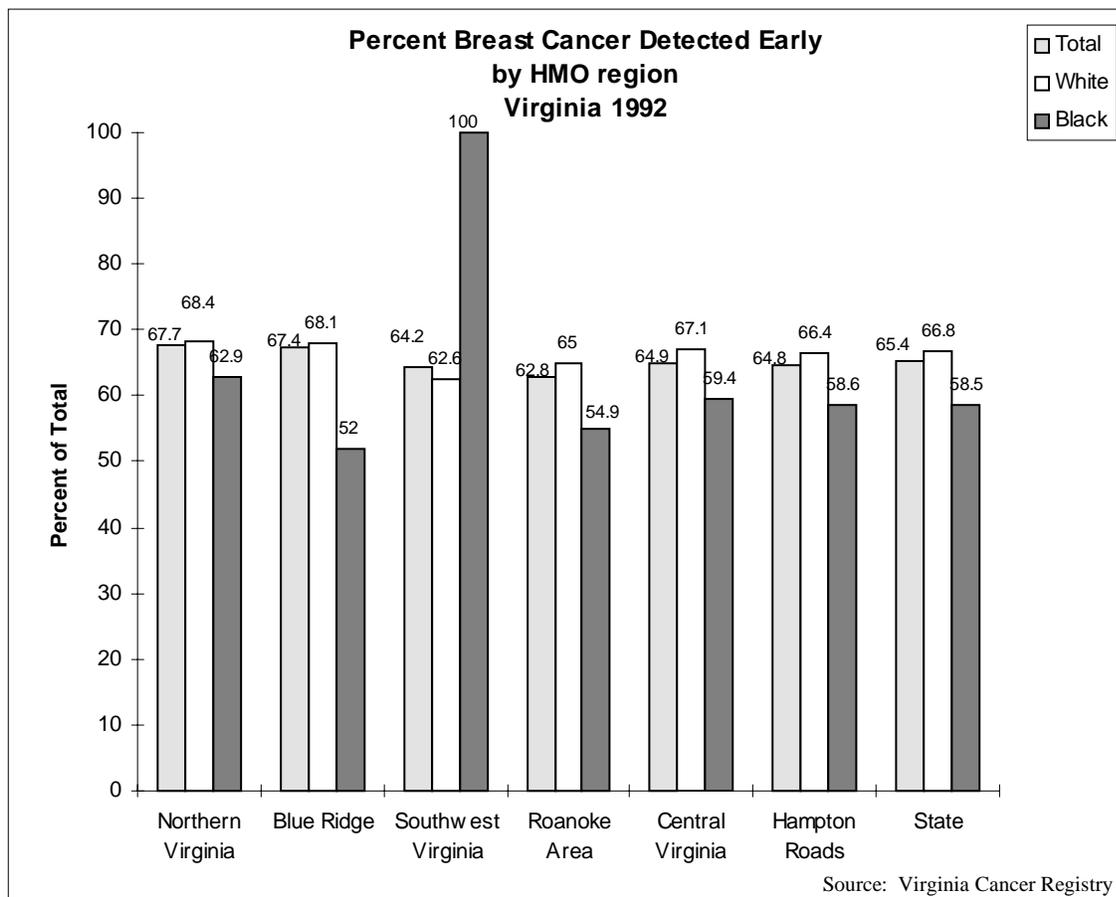


Stage of Breast Cancer at Diagnosis

Objective: *Increase the percent of breast cancer that is diagnosed in the early stages to at least 72.9% .*

The American Cancer Society (ACS) reports a national increase in breast cancer incidence during the 1980s, which has since leveled off. While still the second most frequent cancer cause of death among women, the mortality rates are declining for white women and younger black women. In both instances this is attributed to increased screening efforts and the detection of many breast cancers before they have become clinically apparent. The ACS estimates that 90 to 95% of all breast cancers can be detected through mammography. In Virginia, nearly two-thirds of all breast cancers reported for 1992 were diagnosed in the early stages, although the percentage for black women (58.5%) lagged behind that for white women (66.8%). Increased use of mammography facilities, frequency of women performing regular breast self-examination, and frequency of clinical breast exams can raise these percentages and thereby further decrease morbidity and mortality.



**Percent Breast Cancer Diagnosed Early by
Health District, Virginia 1992**

FIRST QUARTILE	Loudoun	75.0	Virginia 2000 Objective 73.1%
	Arlington	73.5	
	Roanoke	72.7	
	West Piedmont	72.0	
	Thomas Jefferson	70.4	
	Chesterfield	70.3	
	Rappahannock	69.4	
	Alleghany	68.9	
	Fairfax	67.6	
	Central Virginia	67.6	
SECOND QUARTILE	Peninsula	67.0	Virginia 1992 65.6%
	Mount Rogers	66.9	
	Three Rivers	66.7	
	Prince William	66.3	
	Portsmouth	66.3	
	Virginia Beach	66.3	
	Hanover	66.2	
	Lenowisco	65.4	
THIRD QUARTILE	Alexandria	65.3	Virginia 1992 65.6%
	Henrico	65.1	
	Central Shenandoah	64.8	
	Lord Fairfax	64.2	
	Chesapeake	63.9	
	Hampton	63.5	
	Norfolk	63.4	
	Western Tidewater	63.1	
Rappahannock/Rapidan	61.7		
FOURTH QUARTILE	Crater	60.6	Virginia 1992 65.6%
	Richmond	59.8	
	Piedmont	58.5	
	Pittsylvania/Danville	58.4	
	Cumberland Plateau	58.3	
	New River	49.3	
	Southside	47.2	
Eastern Shore	45.5		