Established risk factors of breast cancer:

* Women – being a woman is the biggest risk factor for developing breast cancer.
* Age – 2/3 invasive breast cancers are found in women aged 55 or older.
* Family history – Women with close relatives with breast cancer are at more risk.
* Genetics – About 5-10% of breast cancers are thought to be hereditary.
* Personal history with breast cancer – Women already diagnosed with breast cancer are at much higher risk of developing a different cancer in the same breast.
* Radiation to the chest or face before age 30 – Women who had radiation to the chest or face to treat other diseases (not breast cancer) are at higher risk.
* Certain breast changes – Women diagnosed with certain benign (not cancer) breast conditions are at higher risk of developing breast cancer.
* Race/ethnicity – African-American, Hispanic and Asian women are at higher risk.