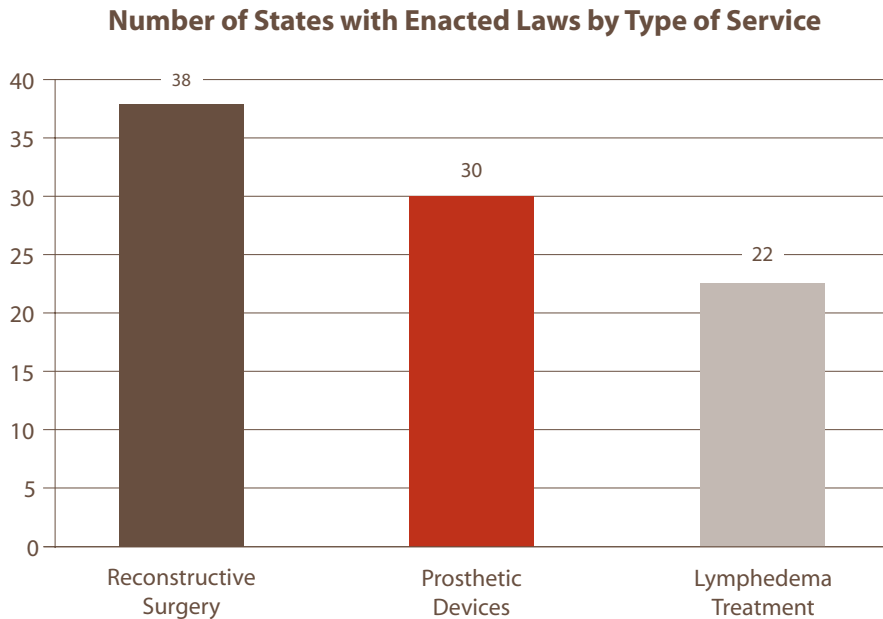


## Legislative Data Byte

## Coverage by Private Health Insurers for Breast Cancer Treatment Services (enacted as of March 31, 2009)



Since 1989, the National Cancer Institute's State Cancer Legislative Database (SCLD) Program has monitored the enactment of laws addressing insurance coverage for breast cancer treatment services in all 50 states and in the **District of Columbia** (collectively, states). The bar chart above illustrates the number of states with laws addressing coverage by specified private health insurers and/or managed care entities (collectively, insurers) for post-mastectomy services, supplies, or treatment including: (1) reconstructive surgery, (2) prosthetic devices, and (3) lymphedema treatment.

Thirty-eight states have enacted legislation addressing coverage for post-mastectomy services. Of those states, 36 require insurers to provide coverage for reconstructive surgery after mastectomy, including surgery to establish breast symmetry. **Kentucky** law mandates that insurers offer such coverage and **Michigan** law mandates that insurers offer or include such coverage.

A total of 30 states have enacted legislation addressing coverage for prosthetic devices. Twenty-eight states require insurers to provide coverage for prosthetic devices after surgery; in **Kentucky**, insurers must offer such coverage and in **Michigan**, certain insurers must provide coverage while others must offer such coverage. Twenty-eight states require specified insurers to provide coverage for both reconstruction and prostheses.

Insurers in 22 states must provide coverage for lymphedema treatment. Insurers in **Kentucky** must offer such coverage.

Twenty-one states require insurers to provide coverage for reconstructive surgery, prostheses, and lymphedema treatment; in **Kentucky**, insurers are required to offer such coverage.

Twelve states have not enacted legislation requiring insurers to offer or provide coverage for any of these post-mastectomy services.

*The SCLD contains information synthesized from state-level laws and resolutions, although resolutions not designated as such by the states are not captured. It does not contain state-level regulations; executive orders; measures implemented by counties, cities, or other localities; opinions of Attorneys General; or data addressing the implementations of state laws—all of which may vary significantly from the laws reported herein. Although coverage of Medicaid and Medicare law is not comprehensive, some SCLD records include these data.*