

FACT SHEET
Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative
Wait Times Data for Period Ending January 31, 2013

The Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative was launched in April 2010 involving government, surgical teams, health administrators and patient representatives in a high-priority joint effort to streamline surgical processes, improve the quality of patient care and reduce wait times. Wait times information updated monthly: www.sasksurgery.ca

Surgery patient waiting more than **12 months**:

- November 30, 2007: **5,125**
- January 31, 2013: **937**

Surgery patients waiting more than **six months**:

- November 30, 2007: **10,635**
- January 31, 2013: **4,185**

Surgery Performance, by Health Region

REGION	% of All Surgeries Performed Within 6 months ⁽¹⁾	Number of Patients Waiting more than 6 months	% of All Surgeries Performed Within 12 months ⁽¹⁾	Number of Patients Waiting more than 12 months
Cypress	99.8%	0	100%	0
Five Hills	99%	1	100%	0
Heartland	99%	0	99%	0
Kelsey Trail	90%	0	100%	0
PA Parkland	94%	87	99.6%	6
Prairie North	97%	31	100%	0
Regina Qu'Appelle	78%	3,047	92%	705
Saskatoon	93%	1,010	99%	223
Sunrise	98%	9	100%	3
Sun Country	98%	0	100%	0
Province	90%	4,185	97%	937

(1) Percentages based on surgeries performed using current data (August 1, 2012 to January 31, 2013).

(2) Number of patients waiting on January 31, 2013.

Some Saskatchewan projects contributing to surgery improvements include:

- Adoption of the surgical safety checklist before surgeries and processes to reduce post-surgical infections;
- An online specialist directory to empower patients, in consultation with their primary health care provider, to make informed choices about referrals to specialists;
- The use of pooled referrals to route patients to the next available specialist appropriate for their condition;
- Referral of patients on the public wait list to contracted third-party surgical centres;
- New patient-flow software introduced in Regina and Saskatoon to help move patients through the health system better and faster;
- Increased surgical capacity in Regina, Saskatoon and other centres; and
- Assessment centres to support early diagnosis and treatment of serious hip and knee problems and back problems.