

Cancer Surgery
Thoracotomy/ Video-Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery and Lobectomy

Actual Patient Waits for Procedures Performed
(01OCT2025 to 31MAR2026)

Area of Service	Patients completed	Within 2 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	5 - 6 weeks	7 - 12 weeks	13 - 26 weeks	Longer than 26 weeks	Patients Waiting on 31MAR2026
03 Saskatoon	44	48%	36%	14%	2%	0%	0%	6
06 Regina	17	Data	suppressed	because	< 20	procedures	performed.	< 5
99 All SK hospitals	61	56%	33%	10%	2%	0%	0%	6

† 90% of cases were performed within 30 days (4.3 weeks).

Notes:

- ◆ These procedures are performed by thoracic or cardiothoracic surgeons. These surgeons are listed under cardiovascular surgery in Regina and general surgery in Sasktoon.
- ◆ A thoracotomy is an incision into a chest wall to gain access to the chest cavity. The most common cancer to require a thoracotomy is lung cancer.
- ◆ Video-Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery (VATS) is a less invasive procedure than a thoracotomy. VATS uses small incisions and the ribs are spread apart to access the lungs.
- ◆ A lobectomy is the removal of a section (lobe) of a lung. It can be performed by open chest surgery (thoracotomy) or through VATS.
- ◆ 59% of all these lung procedures reported over this time period were categorized as cancer surgeries. Only cancer surgeries are included in this table.
- ◆ 98% of these lung procedures reported here were categorized with a diagnosis-based priority of four weeks or less. The remainder have a diagnosis-based priority of six weeks or longer. Emergency procedures are excluded.
- ◆ Time periods where patients specify that they are unavailable for surgery are subtracted from the wait time.
- ◆ Postponed cases are included, regardless of whether the reason for postponement is patient or system related.
- ◆ The results are based on the Apr 19, 2026 refresh of the Saskatchewan Surgical Patient Registry data mart and are subject to minor changes as data is added or corrected.