

## **Technical Notes**

### **Improving Access to Health Services**

#### **Open Heart Surgery**

Source: Alberta Health and Wellness – Quarterly Reporting

Note: Data includes Capital and Calgary health regions.

#### **Median Wait Times in Weeks for Open Heart Surgery**

Source: Alberta Health and Wellness – Quarterly Reporting

Note: Data includes Capital and Calgary health regions.

#### **CT Scans**

Source: Alberta Health and Wellness – Quarterly Reporting

Note: CT is computerized tomography. Data includes Capital, Calgary, Chinook, Palliser, David Thompson, Aspen, Northern Lights and Peace Country health regions.

#### **MRI Scans**

Source: Alberta Health and Wellness – Quarterly Reporting


Note: Data includes Capital, Calgary, Chinook, Palliser, David Thompson, and Peace Country health regions.

#### **Major Joint Replacements**

Source: Alberta Health and Wellness – Quarterly Reporting

Note: Data includes Capital, Calgary, Chinook, Palliser, David Thompson, Aspen, Northern Lights, East Central and Peace Country health regions.

#### **People Waiting for Health Services:**

1.  Selected Diagnostic Tests – Source: Statistics Canada – Table 105-3004, 105-3001

Note: “Selected diagnostic tests” includes non-emergency MRI’s, CT scans or angiographies requested by a physician to determine or confirm a diagnosis. Wait time is time between when individuals and their doctor decided to go ahead with the test and the day of the test


2. Specialist Visit – Source: Statistics Canada – Table 105-3002, 105-3001

Note: “Specialist visit” corresponds to a visit with a medical specialist to obtain a diagnosis for a new illness or condition; does not include specialist visit for on-going care for a previously diagnosed condition. Wait time is time between when individual and their doctor decided that they should see a specialist and when they actually visited the specialist

3. Non-Emergency Surgery – Source: Statistics Canada – Table 105-3003, 105-3001

Note: “Non-emergency surgeries includes a booked or planned surgery provided on an outpatient or inpatient basis; does not refer to surgery provided through an admission to the hospital emergency room as a result of, for example, an accident or life-threatening situation. Wait time is time between when the individuals and their surgeon decided to go ahead with the surgery and they day of the surgery

Note: For all tables, includes household population aged 15 and over. Values in tables were collected during the Canadian Community Health Survey, 2003.

 When you see a key it means that the information is a featured indicator based on a plan for reporting comparable health indicators developed by the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers of Health. The Report of the Auditor General of Alberta on the featured indicators is provided on this website.

The source data for featured indicators was extracted from sources noted above as at September 2004.