

Current State

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As of the 2021 census, women comprise over 51% of Nova Scotia’s population



NSH:

- Gynecology wait times from referral to consult:
 - Colposcopy 157 days, 143 patients on wait list
 - Gynecology Derm 176 days, 434 patients on wait list
 - Gynecology/Oncology 30 days



IWK:

- Gynecology wait list-for routine gynecological care remain high. The average wait time is 2.5 to 3 years. 15,235 waitlist requests for gynecological care at IWK. Only 30% of surgeries completed within benchmark (lowest in province)
- The surgical waitlist is 3X greater than it should be; and 21% of people on the waitlist have been there for greater than a year (most in the province)
- Urogynecology wait lists: 14% increase from 2023 to 2024 (1454 patients on waitlist Q1 2025/26).
- NSBSP: Advocacy, wait times are increasing
 - Screening in all zones except NZ (2 times benchmark)
 - Diagnostic Mammography (2 to 3 times benchmark)

Other:

- 3500 women in NS will get cancer this year, 1400 will die
- Embedded in wait times for MRI and Ultrasounds

Gaps & Challenges:

- Government Structure
- Lack of Provincial data collection and storage (NSH, IWK, Private)
- Data is fragmented and at times conflicting
- Inconsistency of billing codes being used
- KPI Database/SDR
- Inconsistent Information Sharing
- Unattached Patients & Coordination of Care
- Support for Perinatal Loss
- Inconsistent clinical pathways
- Minimal Research in Women’s Health
- Breast Screening: Media and Advocacy
- Emerging private clinics; inequitable care
- HHR

