

Contact: Heather Nairn, Deputy Executive Director

724-747-8250 hnairn@phc4.org

TITLE: PHC4 RELEASES NEW DATA TO HELP CANCER SURGERY PATIENTS

HARRISBURG—April 13th, 2023 The Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) released new data today to help cancer patients, caregivers, and families make decisions about cancer surgical care in Pennsylvania.

PHC4 reports cancer surgery volumes each year, for surgeries performed at Pennsylvania hospitals, across 11 types of cancers. The types of cancer surgery included in the report are Bladder, Brain, Breast, Colon, Esophageal, Liver, Lung, Pancreatic, Prostate, Rectal, and Stomach. The data included is from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, and is reported individually for each hospital. (Surgeries performed in ambulatory surgery centers are not included.)

“Between 2019 and 2022, there was a 4% decrease in surgery for these eleven cancers, but that doesn’t necessarily mean fewer diagnoses. This could reflect a change in medical management, or an increase in outpatient surgeries.” said Barry Buckingham, PHC4’s Executive Director.

Volume of Cancer Surgery by Year and Cancer Category

Cancer Surgery Type	2019¹	2020	2021	2022	% Change 2019-2022
Bladder	1,153	1,056	1,132	1,178	2%
Brain	1,277	1,296	1,384	1,426	12%
Breast²	12,092	11,867	12,116	12,324	2%
Colon	3,604	3,389	3,436	3,521	-2%
Esophagus	343	335	313	298	-13%
Liver	549	528	560	555	1%
Lung	2,374	2,298	2,225	2,377	0%
Pancreas	505	519	499	490	-3%
Prostate	3,035	2,800	2,248	1,875	-38%
Rectum	966	904	860	838	-13%
Stomach	309	296	315	325	5%
Total (all 11 cancers listed)	26,207	25,288	25,088	25,207	-4%

¹ Years represented are State fiscal, which reflect twelve consecutive months beginning in July and ending in June.

² Breast cancer counts include surgeries performed in inpatient and outpatient settings.

The report is available on PHC4’s website at www.phc4.org. You can also link to it through social media on Facebook.

PHC4 is an independent state agency charged with collecting, analyzing and reporting information, that can be used to improve the quality and restrain the cost of health care in Pennsylvania.