

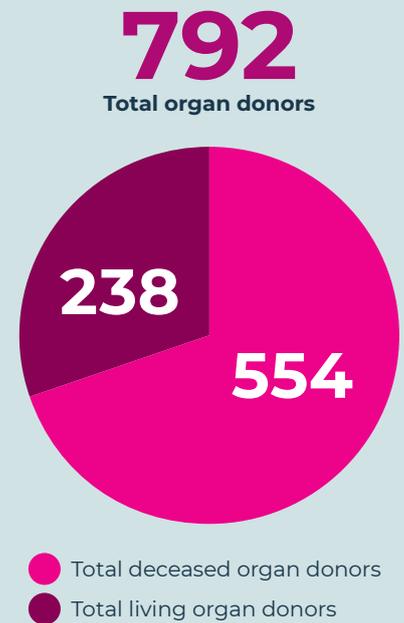
Living donation is an option for some patients with end-stage organ failure. A living organ donor is someone who donates a kidney or partial liver to another person.

In 2018 there were 238 living donors – all kidney donors. They accounted for 30% of all organ donors (792).

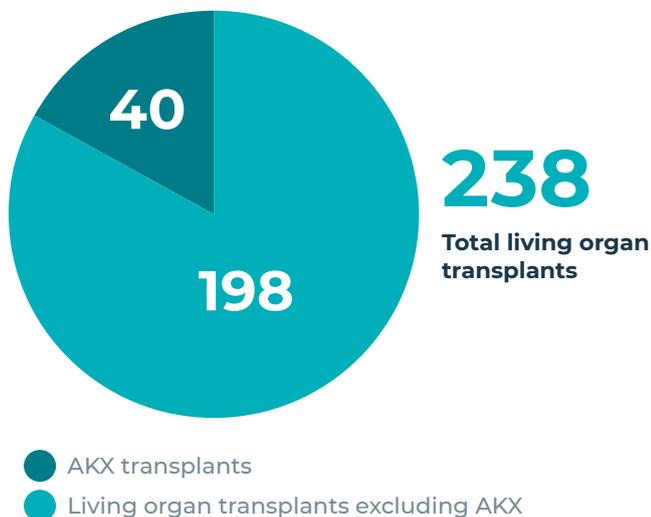
Living donation and transplantation numbers vary from year to year. In 2018 there was a 13% decrease compared with 2017 (273, including two liver donors) and a 21% decrease since 2010 (300).

The 238 living kidney donors in 2018 included 40 donors through the Australian Paired Kidney Exchange (AKX) Program funded by the Australian Government through the Organ and Tissue Authority. A further 19 pairs were matched as part of the AKX Program in 2018. These transplants are scheduled for early 2019.

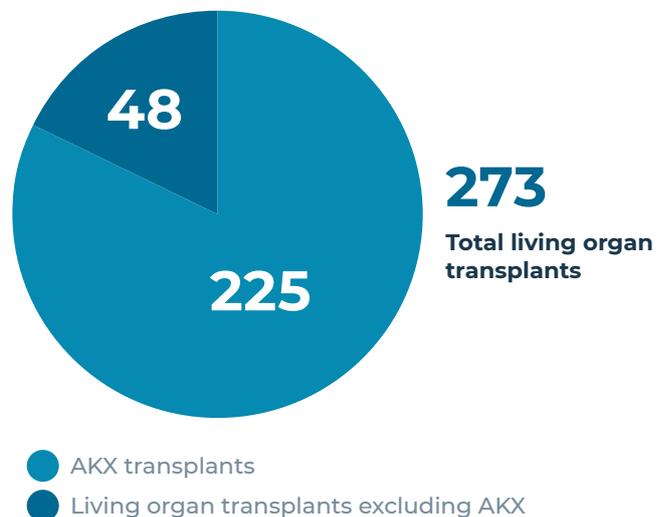
The AKX Program has resulted in 286 Australians receiving a kidney transplant since it commenced in 2010.



Living organ transplants 2018



Living organ transplants 2017



Source: Australia and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Registry

How does AKX work?

The AKX Program increases live donor kidney transplants by identifying matches for patients who are eligible for a kidney transplant, and have a living donor who is willing but unable to donate because of an incompatible blood type or tissue type.

The AKX Program uses a computer program to search a database of registered recipient/donor pairs to look for combinations where the donor in an incompatible pair can be matched to a recipient in another pair. If the computer finds a compatible match, two or more simultaneous transplants can occur by exchanging donors.