



## 2020 deceased organ donation and transplantation

Transplantation is an effective and well-established treatment that saves lives, restores health and improves quality of life.

Receiving an organ transplant is not possible without organ donation.

## Year in review

- ▶ In 2020, Australia's deceased organ donation and transplantation rates dropped due to the emergence of COVID-19 in Australia.
- ► Challenges facing hospitals and with logistics including COVID-19 restrictions, flight reductions and border closures affected the national program throughout the year
- ▶ At the start of the pandemic, the transplant sector took precautionary steps and suspended the adult kidney and pancreas transplant programs from late-March through to mid-May.
- ▶ Donation and transplantation doctors and nurses have worked incredibly hard to minimise any impacts on people needing a transplant.

2020

2019

Diff.

Over the past 12 years

1,270
organ transplant recipients from

organ transplant recipients from

548
deceased organ donors

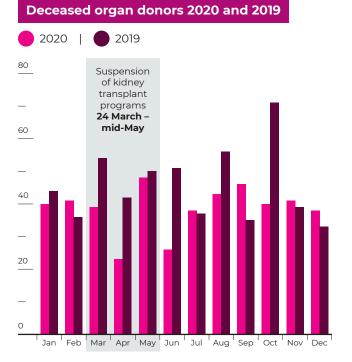
Diff.

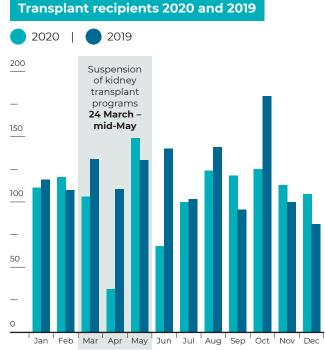
Over the past 12 years

14,352
organ transplant recipients
from

548
deceased organ donors

## Deceased organ donation and transplant recipients

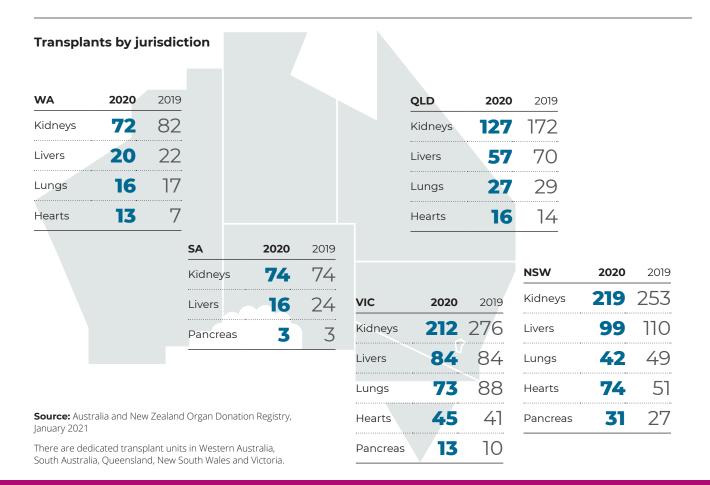




## Transplants by organ type

Kidneys Livers Lungs Intestine Heart **Pancreas** 2020 2019 Diff.

- ▶ Kidneys make up more than half of organs transplanted. There were 153 less kidney transplants (18% down on 2019).
- ► There were also 25 less lung transplants (14% down) and 34 less liver transplants (11% down on 2019).
- The number of hearts and pancreas transplants increased compared with 2019. There were 35 more heart transplants (31% up on 2019) and seven more pancreas transplants (18% up on 2019).
- Heart transplants increased notably in NSW where St Vincent's Hospital has a world leading program transplanting hearts from circulatory death donors.



We thank and acknowledge the generous Australians and their families who chose to save the lives of others in 2020 by saying 'yes' to donation.

We also acknowledge the dedication and commitment of our donation and transplantation doctors, nurses and support staff.

**Organ and Tissue Authority** 

Level 3, 14 Childers Street, Canberra City ACT 2601 GPO Box 802, Canberra ACT 2601

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