







Australian Government
Australian Organ and Tissue Donation
and Transplantation Authority












Data summary

Australian Donation and Transplantation Activity Report **2023**

Difference to 2022

 Deceased organ donation and transplantation	513 Deceased organ donors	+13%
	1,396 Organ transplant recipients	+14%
	55% Families consented to donation	+1%
	7.7 million Eligible Australians are registered to be a donor	+2%
 Living organ donation and transplantation	253 Living kidney donors	+13%
	55 Donors through the ANZKX program	+31%
  Eye and tissue donation and transplantation	1,546 Deceased eye donors	+5%
	328 Deceased tissue donors	+19%
	2,486 Corneal transplant recipients	+6%

	Deceased organ donors	Transplant recipients ¹	Consent rate	New registrations ²
 Australian Capital Territory	8	28	56%	3,955
 New South Wales	142	392	50%	47,132
 Northern Territory	3	8	25%	1,205
 Queensland	105	308	63%	35,391
 South Australia	49	116	58%	32,399
 Tasmania	21	57	83%	3,632
 Victoria	142	361	54%	40,454
 Western Australia	43	126	53%	15,645
 National	513	1,396	55%	179,813

The national program

- ▶ For someone who is seriously ill, an organ or tissue transplant can mean the difference between life and death, being healthy or sick, seeing or being blind, or between being active and never walking again.
- ▶ Transplantation enables people to resume an active role in their family, workplace and community.
- ▶ One organ donor can save the lives of up to 7 people and help many more through eye and tissue donation.

2023

~1,800

people were on the waitlist for a transplant in Australia

~14,000

additional people on dialysis, many of whom could benefit from a kidney transplant

Since the national program began in 2009

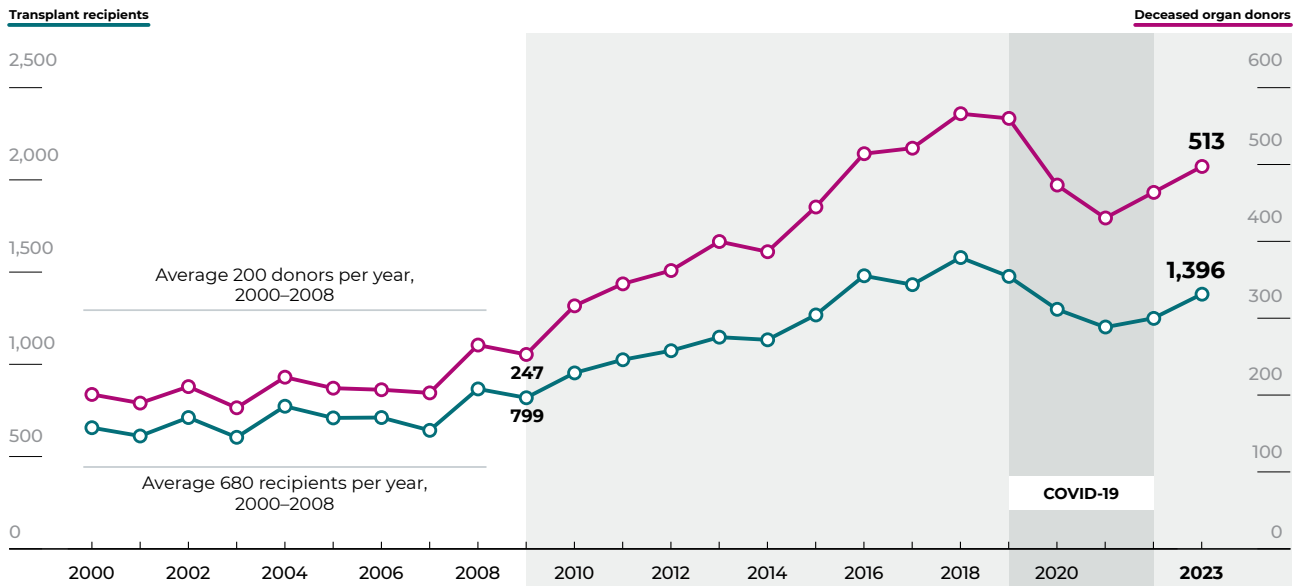
6,417

deceased organ donors

18,144

organ transplant recipients

Deceased organ donation and transplant recipients 2000–2023

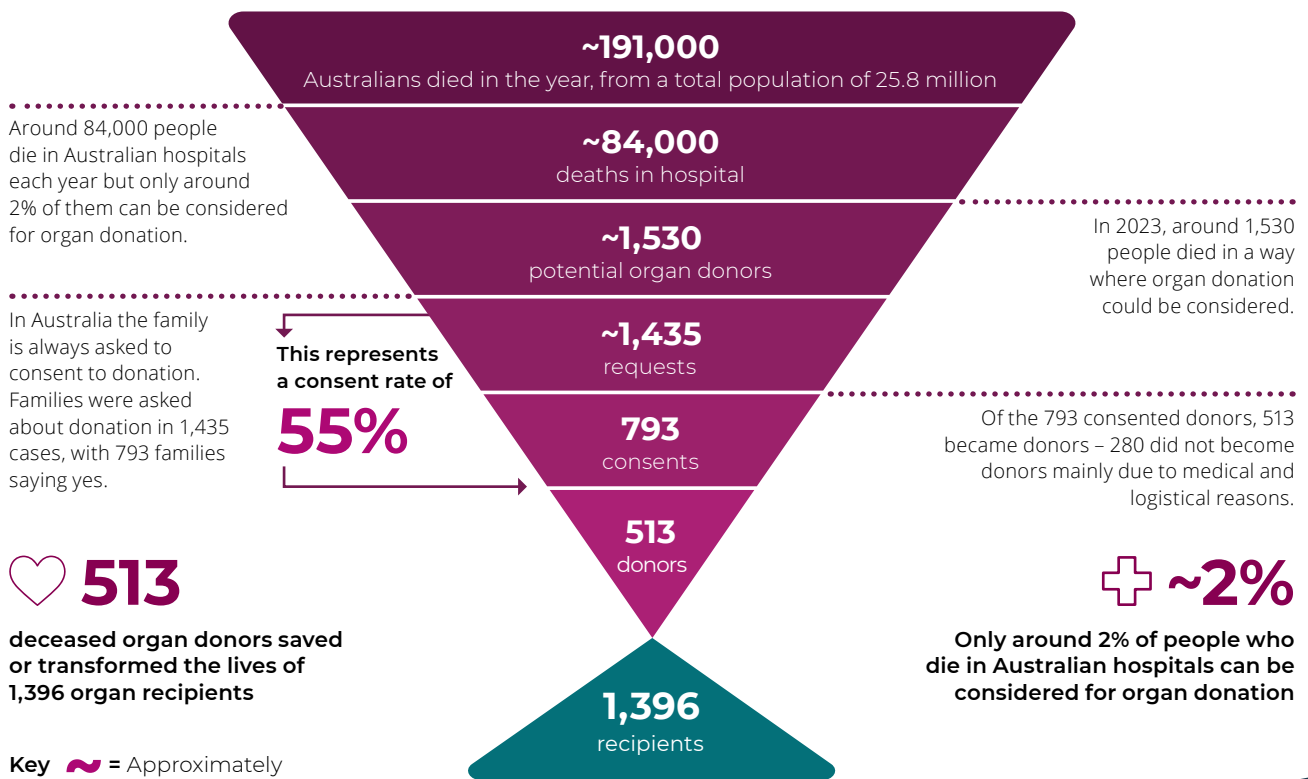


- ▶ The first 10 years (2009 - 2019) of the national program saw a 122% increase in deceased donation, resulting in an 81% increase in people receiving an organ transplant.
- ▶ Over two years (2020 and 2021), there was a 23% reduction in deceased donation activity due to the impacts of COVID-19 (from 2019).
- ▶ Over the past two years (2022 and 2023), there has been continued recovery in the sector. With a 13% increase in deceased donation (compared with 2022), the program is now only 6% down from pre-pandemic outcomes (from 2019).

Organ donation process

- ▶ Very few people can become an organ donor when they die.
- ▶ A person must die in a hospital in specific circumstances, in an intensive care unit or emergency department, as organs need to be functioning well to be considered for transplantation.
- ▶ Only around 2% of people who die in Australian hospitals meet the criteria required to be an organ donor.
- ▶ In 2023, around 1,500 people (of the 84,000 people who died in Australian hospitals) died in a way where organ donation could be considered.
- ▶ Families were asked about donation in 1,435 cases.
- ▶ Of these, 793 families said yes to donation in hospital – representing a national consent rate of 55% – with 513 people becoming organ donors.
- ▶ With only a small number of potential donors, increasing consent is critical to increasing our donation rate.
- ▶ There are around 1,800 Australians waitlisted for a transplant and around 14,000 additional people on dialysis – many of whom may need a kidney transplant.

Australia’s potential deceased organ donor population and transplantation outcomes



About this data

This data is an extract of the **2023 Australian Donation and Transplantation Activity Report**. The report provides an annual data snapshot and measure of progress against the national program for increasing organ and tissue donation for transplantation.

It only takes one minute to register as an organ and tissue donor.

Head to donatelife.gov.au/register or register in three clicks via the Medicare app, and tell your family you want to be a donor.

For media enquiries, please contact:

The Organ and Tissue Authority
T 0403 058 662 | E media@donatelife.gov.au