



National Donate Life Month 2026 Donation & Transplantation Statistics

- In 2025, more than **49,000** transplants from **23,788** donors brought renewed life to patients and their families and communities.
- More than **100,000** people are waiting on the national transplant waiting list for lifesaving organ transplants.
- Nearly **60%** of patients on the national transplant waiting list are from multicultural communities.
- Another person is added to the national organ transplant waiting list **every 8 minutes**.
- **13** people die each day while waiting for a transplant. Over **5,600 people** in the U.S die each year while on the transplant waiting list.

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- **86%** of patients on the waiting list are waiting for a kidney. The average waiting time for a kidney from a deceased donor is **3 to 5 years**. A kidney from a living donor offers patients an alternative to years of dialysis and time on the national transplant waiting list (the living donor's remaining kidney will increase in size, doing the work of two healthy kidneys).
 - **9%** of patients waiting are in need of a liver. **Living donation of part of the liver** can help these patients (the remaining portion of the donor liver will regenerate within 4 months and regain full function).
 - More than **40%** of all deceased donors are age **50 or older**; **9%** are age **65 or older**.

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- A single tissue donor can help more than **75** people.

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- More than **85,000** corneal transplants helped to restore sight.

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- More than **170 million** people are registered organ, eye and tissue donors. *

** Living donation is not included in your deceased donor registration.*

Go to RegisterMe.org to register your decision to be an organ, eye and tissue donor. Learn more about organ, eye, tissue and living donation at DonateLife.net.

Data sources:

Data from Donate Life America EOY 2025 Registry Overview Report, and Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN), as of January 2026. 2024 Eye Banking Statistical Report. Washington, DC: Eye Bank Association of America; 2024. OPTN/SRTR 2025 Annual Data Report. Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients. Donate Lifesm is a registered service mark of Donate Life America. © 2026 Donate Life America