

# FACING THE FACTS

2023

Includes highlights from the Organ replacement in Canada: CORR annual statistics, 2021

## Kidney Disease

- 1 in 10 Canadians have kidney disease; that's **4 million people**.<sup>ii</sup>
- The leading cause of kidney failure is **diabetes** at 38%.
- The number of people living with end-stage kidney disease has **grown 29%** since 2012.\*
- 45% of new patients are **under the age of 65**.\*
- More than **53,000 Canadians** are being treated for kidney failure.<sup>iii</sup>
- Treatment for those with end-stage kidney disease:
  - 57% are on **dialysis**
  - 43% have a **functioning transplant**\*
- Of those patients on dialysis, **nearly three-quarters** are receiving institutional hemodialysis, the most expensive treatment option.<sup>iii</sup>
- Symptoms may not develop until **permanent damage** has occurred.
- There is **no cure** for end-stage kidney disease.
- In 2020, kidney disease was the **11<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death** in Canada.<sup>iv</sup>
- 27% of new end-stage kidney disease patients were **late-referrals**, which means they started dialysis only 90 days after first seeing a nephrologist.

## Organ Donation

- **76%** of the 4,043 Canadians on the waiting list for an organ transplant **are waiting for a kidney**.<sup>v</sup>
- Of the people on dialysis, only **10% are on the waiting list** for a transplant.<sup>iii and v</sup>
- The five-year survival rate for adults with transplanted kidneys from living donors is **88%** and **77%** from deceased donors.\*
- There were **1,673 kidney transplants performed** in 2021.<sup>v</sup>
- Median wait time for a deceased-donor kidney transplant is **3 years, 7 months**.\*
- Median wait times for 2021 were:
  - longest in **Manitoba** (6 years, 7 months)
  - shortest in **BC** (2 years, 7 months)\*
- 29% of adult kidney transplants were made possible by **living donors**.<sup>v</sup>
- More than 55% of all living donors were **unrelated** to the recipient.<sup>v</sup>
- Per million population, there were only **19 people who became organ donors** and **15 people were living donors**.
- Rates per million population for kidney transplants from deceased donors:
  - Highest rate **Nova Scotia**: 23.2
  - Lowest rate **Manitoba**: 5.1
- Since 2008, the Kidney Paired Donation Program has completed **952 transplants**.<sup>vi</sup>

i) Canadian Institute for Health Information. Organ replacement in Canada: CORR annual statistics [product release]. <https://www.cihi.ca/en/organ-replacement-in-canada-corr-annual-statistics>

ii) Manns, Braden et al. "The Financial Impact of Advanced Kidney Disease on Canada Pension Plan and Private Disability Insurance Costs" *Canadian journal of kidney health and disease* vol. 4 2054358117703986. 17 Apr. 2017, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5406196/>

iii) Canadian Institute for Health Information. Embargo: Organ replacement in Canada: CORR annual statistics [product release]. <https://www.cihi.ca/en/organ-replacement-in-canada-corr-annual-statistics>, supplemented with data collected by the Quebec Branch of The Kidney Foundation of Canada as provided by renal units.

iv) Statistics Canada. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tb1/en/tv.action?pid=1310039401>

v) Canadian Institute for Health Information. Summary statistics on organ transplants, wait-lists and donors [product release]. <https://www.cihi.ca/en/summary-statistics-on-organ-transplants-wait-lists-and-donors>

vi) Canadian Blood Donor Services, Kidney Paired Donation (KPD) Program, <https://professionaleducation.blood.ca/en/organes-et-tissus/programmes-et-services/kidney-paired-donation-kpd-program>.

\* Excludes Québec.