

FACING THE FACTS

2020

Includes highlights from the Canadian Organ Replacement Register Annual Statistics 2019ⁱ

Kidney Disease

- 1 in 10 Canadians has kidney disease; that's **4 million people**.ⁱⁱ
- The leading cause of kidney failure is **diabetes** at 38%.^{*}
- The number of people living with end-stage kidney disease has **grown 35%** since 2009.^{*}
- 46% of new patients are **under the age of 65**.^{*}
- More than **50,000 Canadians** are being treated for kidney failure.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Treatment for those with end-stage kidney disease:
 - 58% are on **dialysis**
 - 42% have a **functioning transplant**ⁱⁱⁱ
- Of those patients on dialysis, **more than three-quarters** are receiving institutional hemodialysis, the most expensive treatment option.ⁱⁱⁱ
- A person can lose more than **50% of their kidney function** before symptoms appear. Symptoms are silent in the early stages.
- There is **no cure** for end-stage kidney disease.
- In 2018, kidney disease was the **10th leading cause of death** in Canada.^{iv}
- More than 25% 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

- **75%** of the 4,300 Canadians on the waiting list for an organ transplant **are waiting for a kidney**.^v
- Of the people on dialysis, only **11% are on the waiting list** for a transplant.^{iii and v}
- The five-year survival rate for adults with transplanted kidneys from living donors is **88%** and **81%** from deceased donors.^{*}
- There were **1,709 kidney transplants performed** in 2018.^v
- Median wait time for a deceased-donor kidney transplant is **3 years, 10 months**.^{*}
- Median wait times for 2018 were:
 - longest in **Manitoba** (6 years, 3 months)
 - shortest in **BC & Yukon Territory** (3 years, 1 month)^{*}
- 28% of kidney transplants were made possible by **living donors**.^v
- More than 50% of all living donors were **unrelated** to the recipient.^v
- Per million population, there were only **21 people who became organ donors** and **15 people were living donors**.
- Rates per million population for kidney transplants from deceased donors:
 - Highest rate **BC & Yukon Territory**: 24.2
 - Lowest rate **Saskatchewan**: 13.8
- Since 2008, the Kidney Paired Donation Program has completed **721 transplants**.^{iv}

Take Action:

1. Register your intention to donate your organs: either on your healthcare card, driver's license or through your provincial donor registry.
2. Speak to your family and loved ones to make sure they know and honour your wishes.
3. Consider living organ donation.
4. To join the Kidney Paired Donation Program Registry, visit www.blood.ca/en/organs-tissues
5. Know your risk for kidney disease and learn what you can do to treat kidney failure. Visit kidney.ca/risk.

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Burden and Cost of Care

Kidney disease and its treatment can take a **great physical and psychological toll**.

Patients with kidney failure must undergo hemodialysis treatments **three times per week**, each one taking **four to five hours**. Transportation to and from dialysis can be a significant and costly challenge.

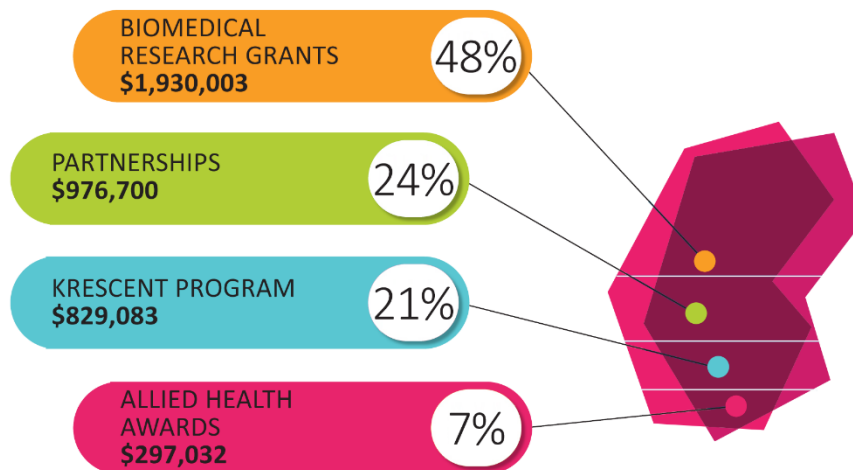
Dialysis is the most common treatment for kidney failure and costs the health care system **nearly \$100,000 per patient per year**.ⁱⁱ

The cost to the health care system for chronic kidney disease is approximately **\$40 billion per year**.ⁱⁱ

Research Investment

The Kidney Foundation is committed to supporting research excellence through its grant programs, having contributed **over \$127 million to research** since 1964.

Total invested in research in 2019: \$4,027,818



i) Organ replacement in Canada: CORR annual statistics, 2019, <https://www.cihi.ca/en/organ-replacement-in-canada-corr-annual-statistics-2019>

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) Organ replacement in Canada: CORR annual statistics, 2019, <https://www.cihi.ca/en/organ-replacement-in-canada-corr-annual-statistics-2019>, 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/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1310039401>

v) CORR e-Statistics on Organ Transplants, Waiting Lists and Donors 2018, <http://www.cihi.ca/sites/default/files/document/corr-e-statistics-2018-en-web.xlsx>

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.