



SECTION 1

Snapshot of Deceased Organ Donation Activity in Australia and New Zealand

SUMMARY

This section summarises some key messages from the report on organ donation and activity in Australia and New Zealand, in 2020.

Contents

Executive Summary	2
Suggested Citation	2
Donation and Transplant Snapshot in Australia 2020	3
Donation and Transplant Snapshot in New Zealand 2020	4

Executive Summary

Since its inception in 1989 in Australia and 1993 in New Zealand, the Australian and New Zealand Organ Donation Registry (ANZOD) continues to record and report on organ donation within Australia and New Zealand.

Data related to organ donation and transplantation activity is essential in identifying opportunities for improving the care of donors, informing on the quality of transplant organs and transplant recipient outcomes.

One organ donor can benefit a number of recipients suffering from end stage organ disease. One donor could donate up to 9 organs including, kidneys (left and right), liver (split left and right), heart, lungs (left and right), pancreas and intestine, improving the lives of people wait listed for an organ transplant.

Of importance for this reporting period was the emergence of COVID-19 that spread across the world, with the first reported case in Australia on 25th January 2020. Rapid evolution of the pandemic saw precautionary steps taken by the transplant sector which effected the organ donation programs in Australia and New Zealand. During the peak emergence of COVID-19 (late-March through to mid-May 2020) the COVID-19 National Transplantation and Donation Rapid Response Taskforce was established, comprised of members from the Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ) and Organ Tissue Authority (OTA). Recommendations from the Taskforce saw transplant programs for kidney, pancreas and islets transplants suspended and restrictions placed on liver, heart, lung, pediatric and multi-organ transplant programs to consider only recipients likely to die within four months if not transplanted. This was subject to case-by-case review of donor-recipient characteristics at a unit level. Limitations on movement of organs between states was also observed during this period due to challenges faced including border closures, flight restrictions and COVID-19 restrictions. Consideration of the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic should be given when analysing the data included in this chapter.

The following provides a snapshot of deceased organ and tissue donation activity in 2020.

Suggested Citation

ANZOD Registry. 2021 Annual Report, Section 1: Summary of Organ Donation and Transplant Activity. Australia and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Registry, Adelaide, Australia. 2021. Available at: <https://www.anzdata.org.au/report/anzod-annual-report-2020/>

Donation and Transplant Snapshot in Australia 2020

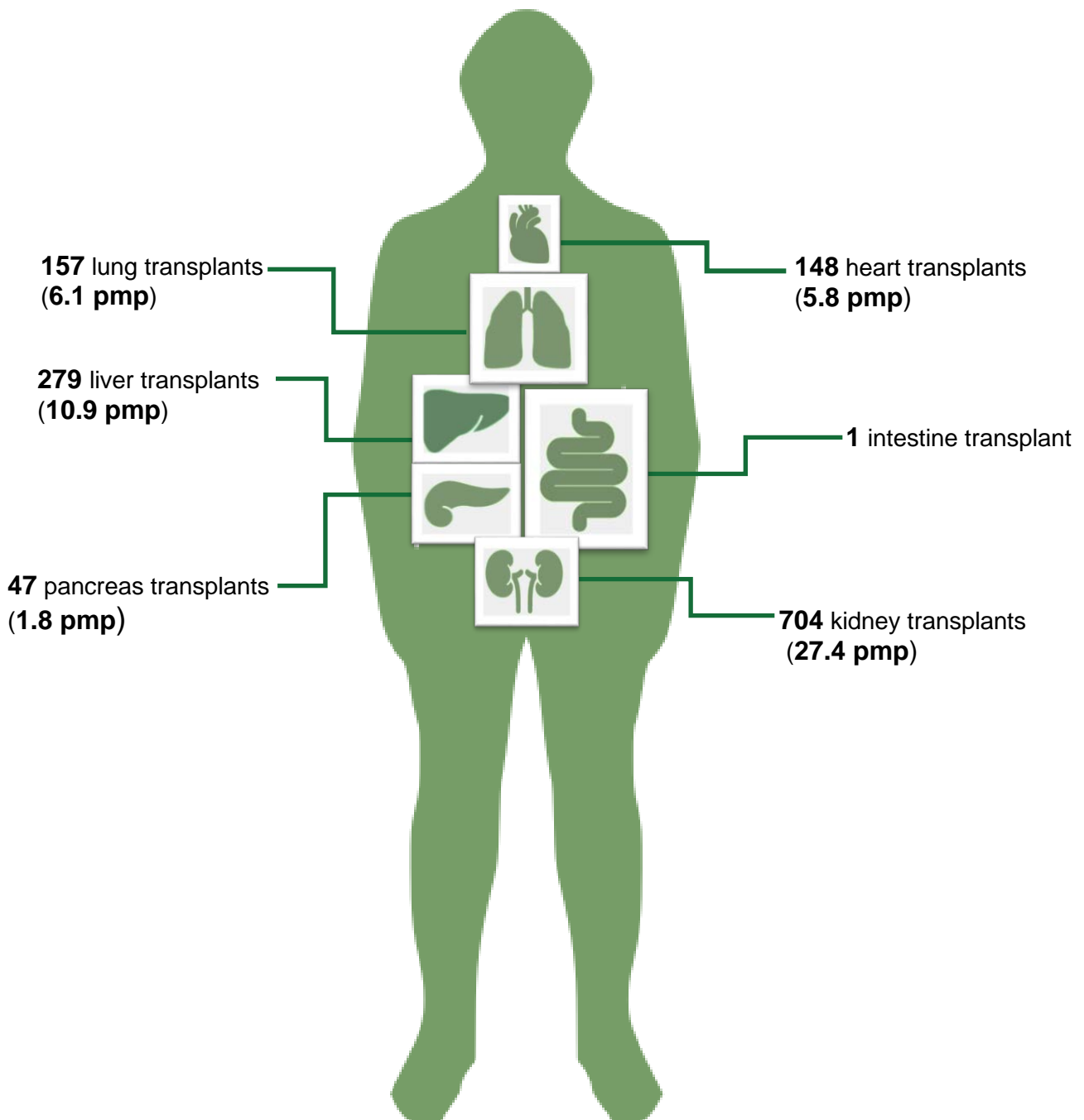
In Australia there were **463** actual deceased organ donors. Of these, **325** donations were following brain death and **138** following circulatory death.

The deceased organ donors per million population (pmp) for 2020 was **18.0** donors pmp.

A total of **1,336** organ transplant procedures saved or improved the lives of **1,269** recipients in 2020. The total number of recipients includes recipients of multi-organ transplants *

The following totals of organs represent the number of organs transplant procedures in 2020.

**Includes New Zealand donors not able to be matched to New Zealand recipients (primarily liver, lungs, hearts)*



Donation and Transplant Snapshot in New Zealand 2020

In New Zealand there were **64** actual deceased organ donors in 2020. Of these, **56** donations were following brain death and **8** following circulatory death.

The deceased organ donors per million population (pmp) for 2020 was **12.6** donors pmp.

A total number of **186** recipients benefited from organ transplantation in 2020*. The total number of recipients includes several recipients of various combinations of multi-organ transplants.

The following totals of organs represent the number of organs transplant procedures in 2020.

**Includes Australian donors not able to be matched to Australian recipients (primarily liver, lungs, hearts)*

