Overview of kidney failure in Kentucky

**LEADING CAUSES OF KIDNEY FAILURE**

Percentage of kidney failure cases caused by diabetes: 44%

Percentage of kidney failure cases caused by high blood pressure: 29%

**NEW CASES OF KIDNEY FAILURE DIAGNOSED IN KENTUCKY IN 2021 (MOST RECENT DATA AVAILABLE)**

1,838

Received a kidney transplant: 43

Began dialysis: 1,795

The total number of Kentuckians living with kidney failure has increased by 25% since 2011.

Kidney transplants in Kentucky

**ONLY ABOUT 1 IN 4 KENTUCKIANS ON THE KIDNEY TRANSPLANT WAITING LIST RECEIVED A TRANSPLANT IN 2023.**

861

Kentuckians are on the kidney transplant waiting list*

210

Transplants performed in Kentucky in 2023, a 25% increase from 2013

67

Living donor transplants performed in Kentucky

143

Deceased donor transplants performed in Kentucky

86%

Compared to 2013, there was an 86% increase in living donor kidney transplants

*As of April 21, 2024

Sources: U.S. Renal Data System 2023 Annual Data Report, Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
Health disparities in kidney failure

KIDNEY FAILURE HAS A DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT ON PEOPLE OF COLOR. COMPARED TO WHITE AMERICANS, THE LIKELIHOOD OF DEVELOPING KIDNEY FAILURE IS:

- **4.3X** greater for Black Americans
- **2.3X** greater for American Indians
- **1.6X** greater for Asian Americans
- **2.2X** greater for people of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity than people of non-Hispanic/Latino ethnicity.

THE AMERICAN KIDNEY FUND (AKF) PROVIDES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO:

- **1 out of 21** White Americans with kidney failure
- **1 out of 12** Black Americans with kidney failure
- **1 out of 10** Hispanic/Latino Americans with kidney failure

Why people with kidney failure need financial assistance from AKF:

Kidney failure is a disability. Dialysis is life support. Treating kidney failure and its comorbidities is more consuming than a full-time job: more than 80% of people on dialysis cannot work.

- **938** Kentuckians on dialysis and living with transplants received grants from AKF in 2023 to pay for their insurance premiums and other health care-related costs not covered by insurance.

- **$2,954,767** in charitable assistance from AKF ensured that low-income Kentucky dialysis and transplant patients could afford their lifesaving health care in 2023.

Insurance breakdown of Americans who received charitable premium assistance from AKF in 2023:

- Medicare Part B: **44.6%**
- Medigap: **23.4%**
- Employer group health plans (including COBRA): **17.2%**
- Medicare Advantage: **1.4%**