

Kidney failure

KENTUCKY: 2026

Overview of kidney failure in Kentucky

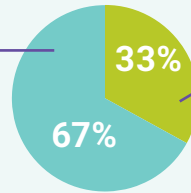
9,141

Kentuckians are living with kidney failure



6,137

Kentuckians are on dialysis



3,004

Kentuckians are living with a kidney transplant

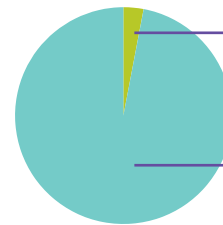


LEADING CAUSES OF CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE (CKD)

The leading cause of CKD is diabetes; other important common causes include high blood pressure, genetic diseases, glomerular diseases, and cystic diseases.”

1,721

New cases of kidney failure diagnosed in Kentucky in 2023 (most recent data available)



Received a kidney transplant: **56**

Began dialysis: **1,665**

The total number of Kentuckians living with kidney failure has increased by **16%** since 2013.

Kidney transplants in Kentucky



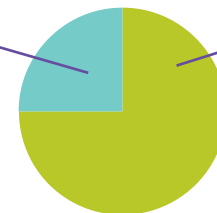
ONLY ABOUT 1 IN 4 KENTUCKIANS ON THE KIDNEY TRANSPLANT WAITING LIST RECEIVED A TRANSPLANT IN 2025.



850

Kentuckians are on the kidney transplant waiting list*

55
living donor transplants performed in Kentucky

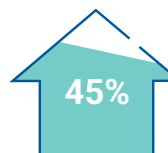


164
deceased donor transplants performed in Kentucky



219

transplants performed in Kentucky in 2025, a **43% increase** from 2015



Compared to 2015, there was a **45% increase** in living donor kidney transplants

*As of April 3, 2026

Sources: U.S. Renal Data System 2025 Annual Data Report, Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network

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:

4.3 x

greater for Black Americans

2.1 x

greater for American Indians/
Alaska Natives

1.9 x

greater for Asian Americans

2.3 x

greater for people of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity
than people of non-Hispanic/Latino ethnicity.

1 in 20

White Americans
with kidney failure

1 in 13

Black Americans
with kidney failure

1 in 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.

889



Kentuckians on dialysis and living with transplants received grants from AKF in 2024 to pay for their insurance premiums and other health care-related costs not covered by insurance.

AKF ensured that low-income Kentucky dialysis and transplant patients could afford their lifesaving health care in 2024.

About the American Kidney Fund

The American Kidney Fund (AKF) fights kidney disease on all fronts as the nonprofit with the greatest direct impact on people with kidney disease. AKF works on behalf of the 1 in 7 American adults living with kidney disease, and the millions more at risk, with an unmatched scope of programs that support people wherever they are in their fight against kidney disease—from prevention through post-transplant living. AKF fights for kidney health for all through programs that address early detection, disease management, financial assistance, clinical research, innovation and advocacy. For more information, please visit KidneyFund.org.