

5-YEAR NATIONAL ORGAN TRANSPLANT ACTIVITY

SOUTH AFRICA

2017-2021

Report from

Southern African Transplantation Society

and the

South African Transplant Coordinators Society

for the

Global Observatory on Donation and Transplantation

Compiled by

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Introduction

South Africa submits annual data to the Global Observatory on Organ Donation and Transplantation (GODT), a collaboration between the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Spanish Transplant Organization, Organización Nacional de Trasplantes (ONT), focused on the collection of global data around donation and transplantation.

The WHO-ONT global database on donation and transplantation represents to date the most comprehensive source of worldwide data concerning activities in organ donation and transplantation that are derived from official sources, as well as information regarding legal and organisational aspects.

This five-year report includes some of the data submitted to the Global Observatory to assist in highlighting the need for improved deceased donation practices in South Africa and to enable documentation of progress in improving access to transplantation.

Definitions

Standard definitions as per the GODT are used.

Methods

These aggregate data are fully anonymised and submitted voluntarily by transplant centres upon request, with the collated data set reviewed by the Southern African Transplantation Society (SATS) for any gross errors.

There is no outside audit mechanism of the data submitted, although data cross-checks have been carried out where available. In 2017 and 2018 the data was collected by Maryn Reyneke and in 2019, 2020 and 2021 by Anja Meyer with assistance from Vuyiseka Soyizwapi. This 2021 data represents the first year of collection of waiting list data.

If there are any corrections to the data please contact admin@sats.org.za. The SATS is not responsible for any errors or omissions. All information in this report is provided “as is”, with no guarantee of completeness or absolute accuracy of the data.

From 2022 onwards, electronic data collection will streamline reporting requirements and gap analysis of the available data. Data is required to be submitted by the end of January 2023 in order to meet the publication deadlines of the GODT. Weekly reminders will be distributed to transplant centres throughout the month of January.

In the first week of February, each centre will receive a report for review of their centre's submission of activity within their centre and for sign-off by the head of that centre prior to anonymised collation and review of all data by the SATS, who will formally submit these data to the National Department of Health and the WHO-ONT Global Observatory.

The report will annually be available on the SATS website (www.sats.org.za), together with the annual GODT report.

Transplant Facilities in South Africa

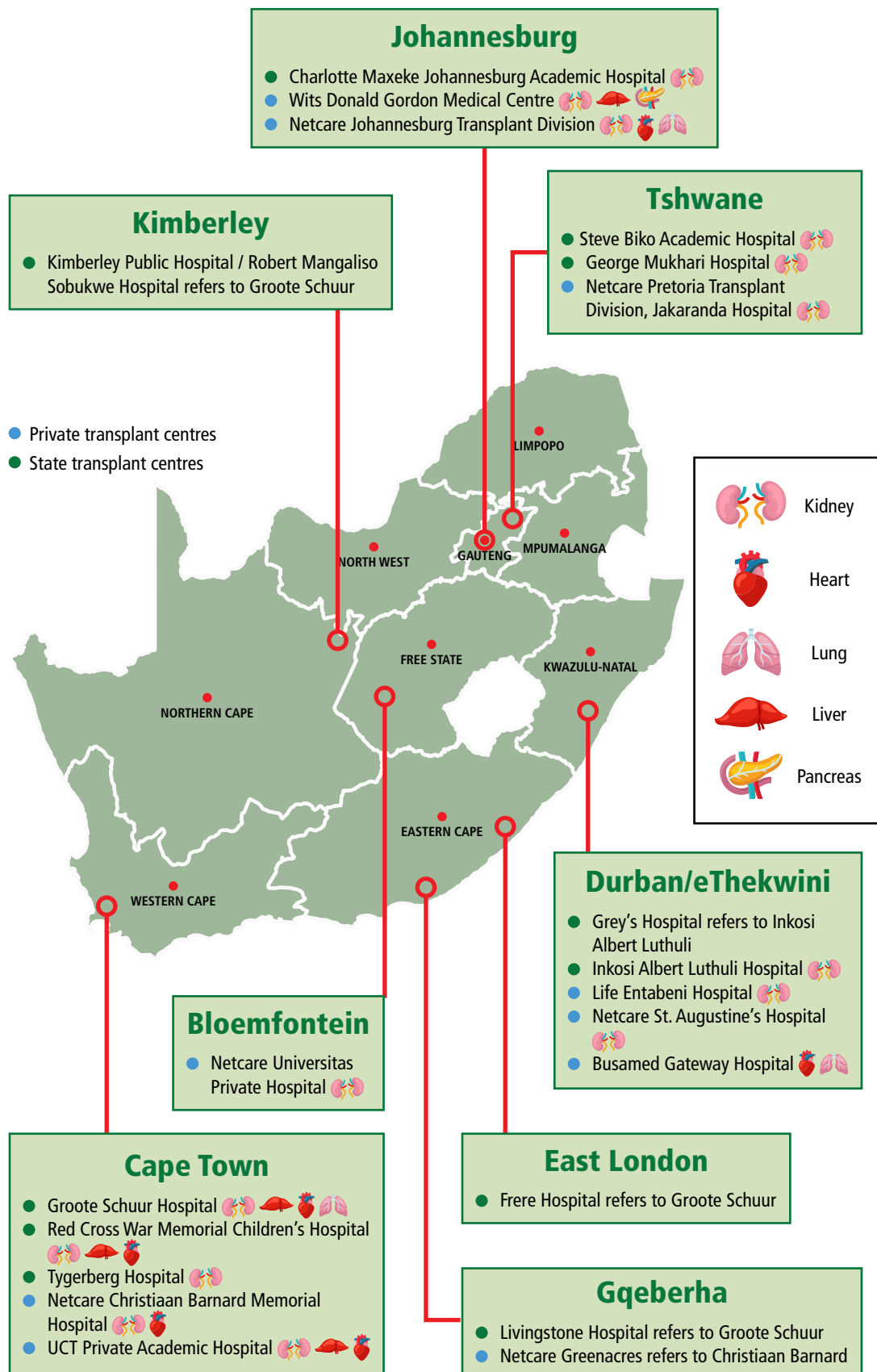


Figure 1 | Organ transplant centres in South Africa

Reflecting geographic distribution of transplant centres and organ transplant services offered

The background is a vibrant green with a pattern of small, light green dots. Overlaid on this are several flowing, translucent green ribbons that create a sense of movement and depth. The ribbons are layered, with some appearing in front of others, and they curve and twist across the frame.

Organ donation activity

**South Africa
2017-2021**

National

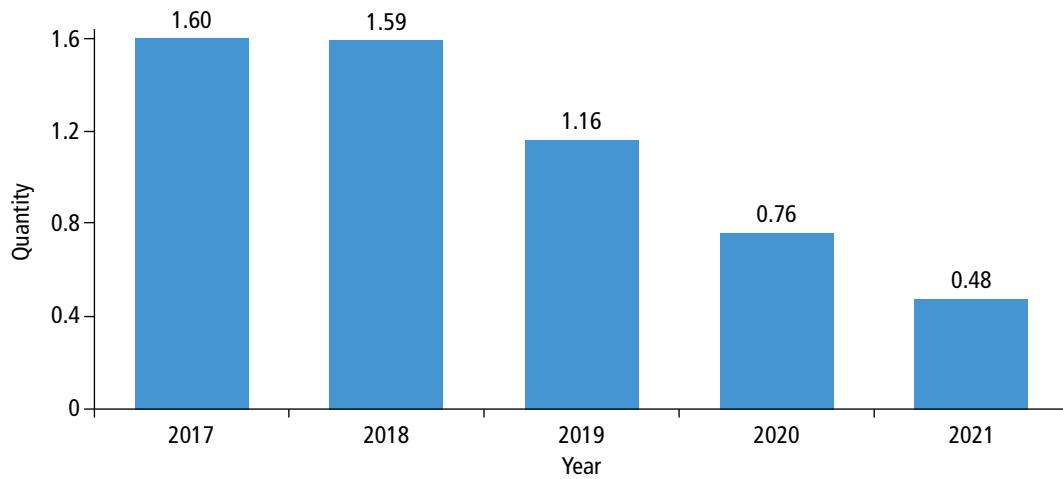


Figure 2 | National – Deceased organ donation rate per million population (pmp)

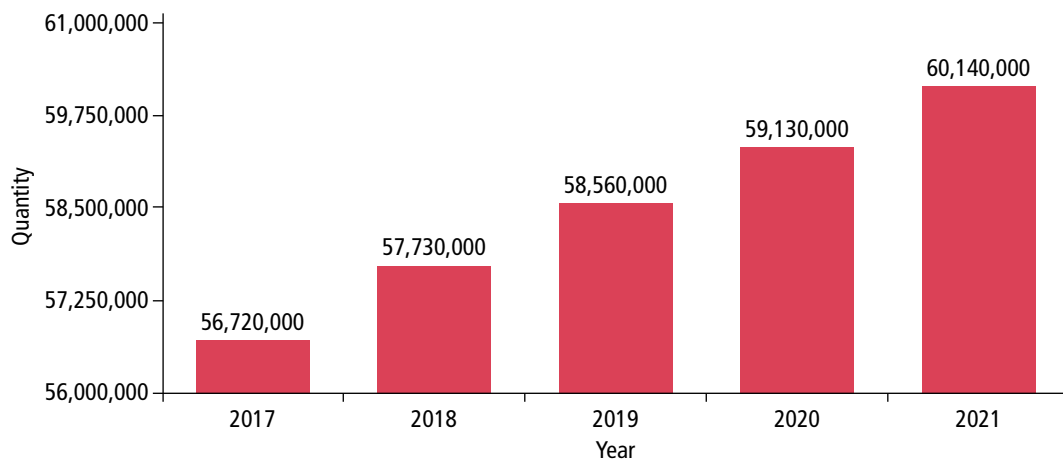


Figure 3 | South African population, 2017-2021

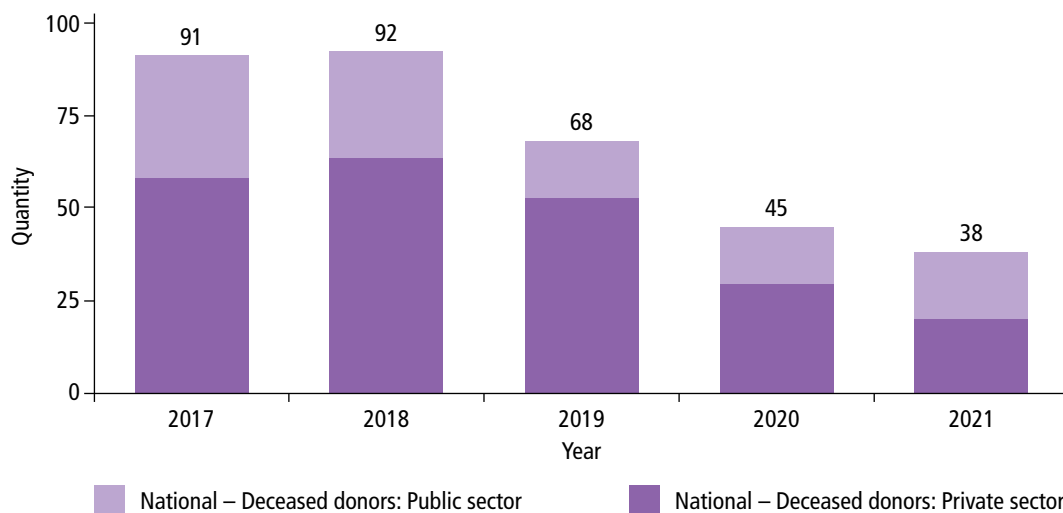


Figure 4 | National – Total consented deceased organ donors per healthcare sector

Western Cape

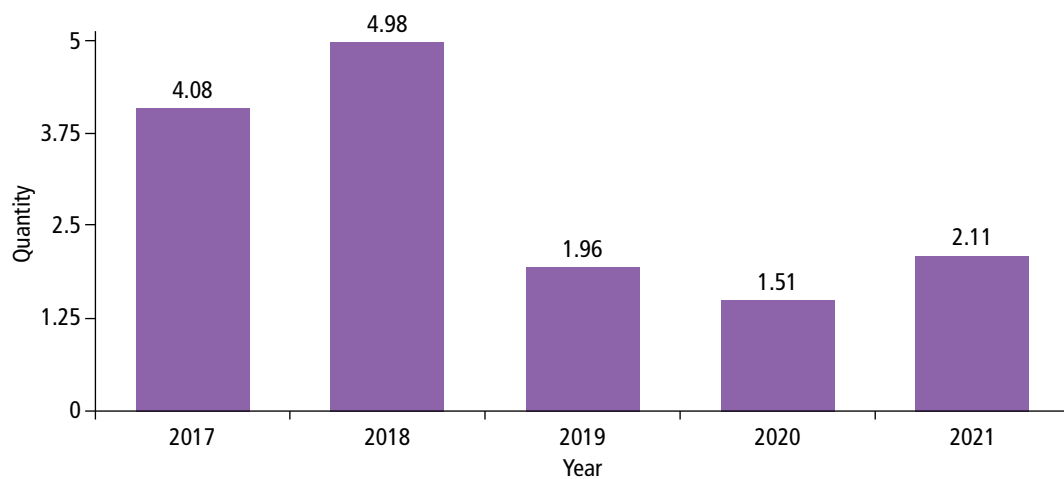


Figure 5 | Western Cape – Deceased organ donation rate per million population (pmp)

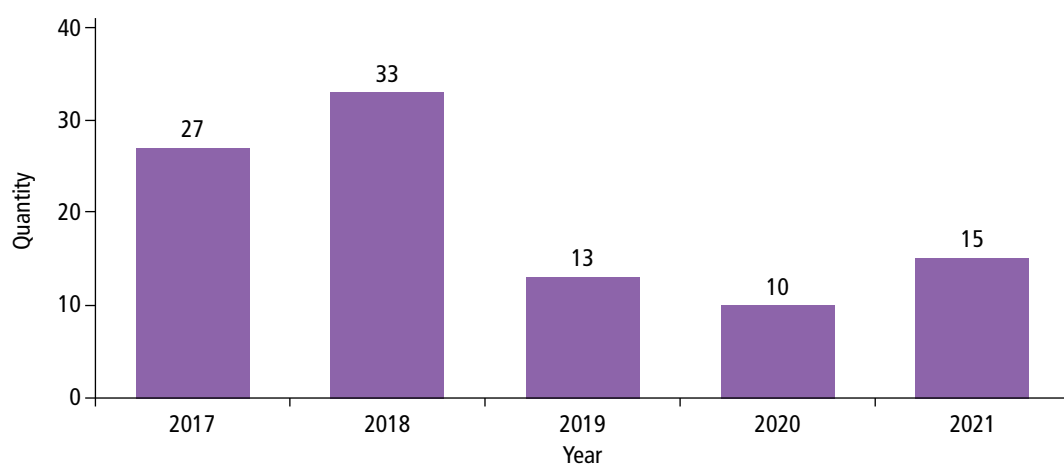


Figure 6 | Western Cape – Total consented deceased organ donors

Eastern Cape

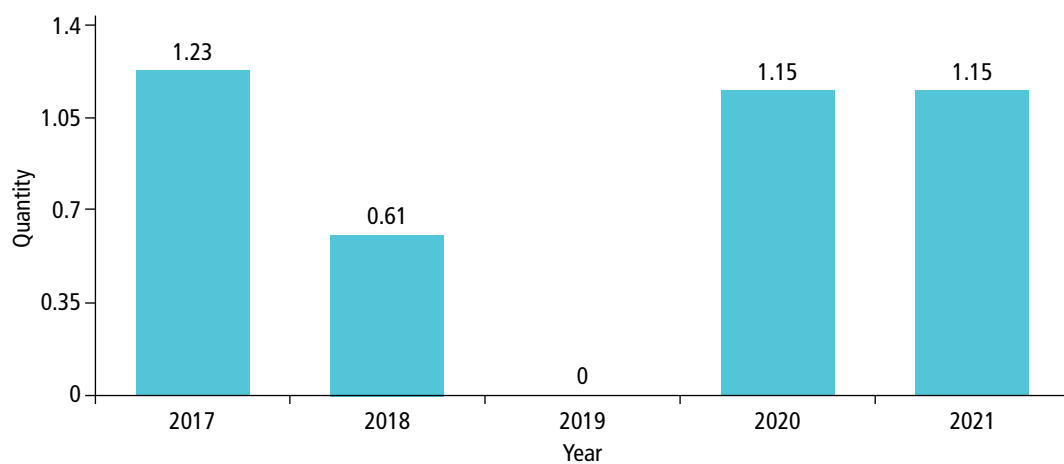


Figure 7 | Eastern Cape – Deceased organ donation rate per million population (pmp)

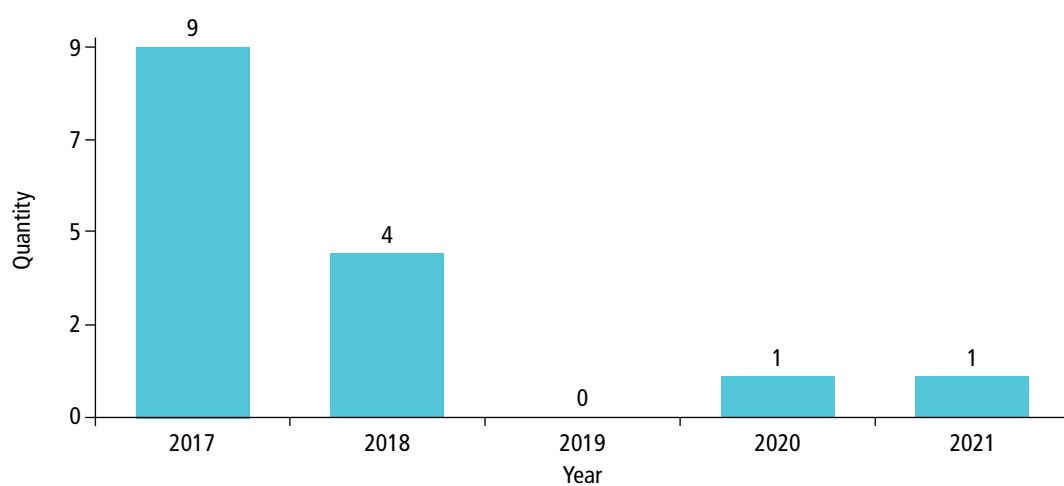


Figure 8 | Eastern Cape – Total consented deceased organ donors

Gauteng

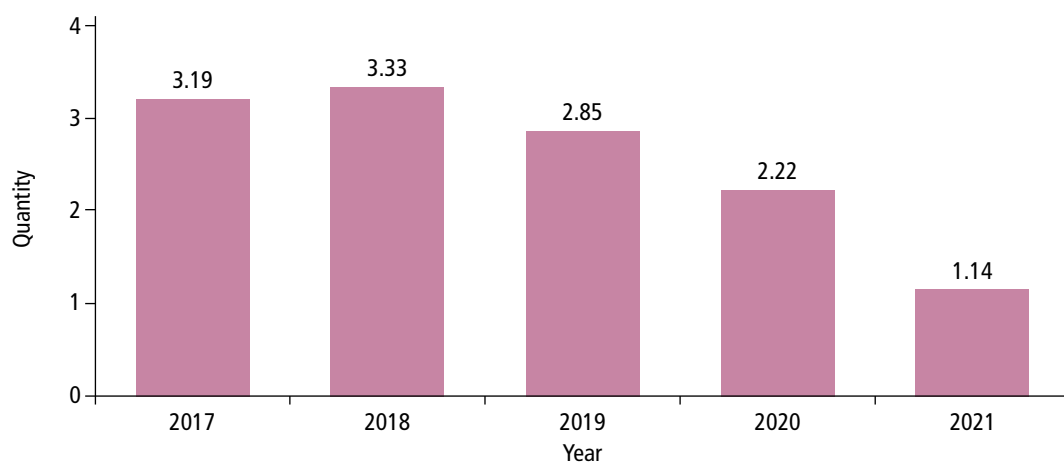


Figure 9 | Gauteng – Deceased organ donation rate per million population (pmp)

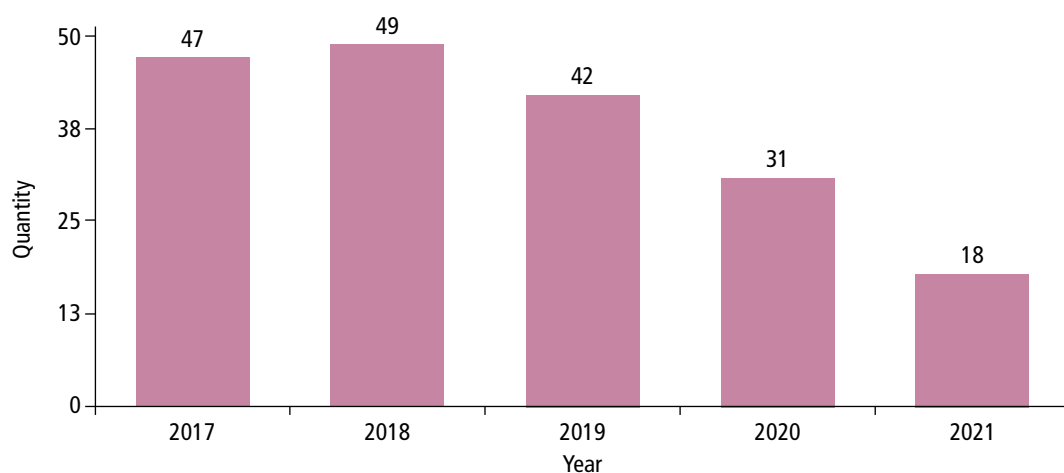


Figure 10 | Gauteng – Total consented deceased organ donors

KwaZulu-Natal

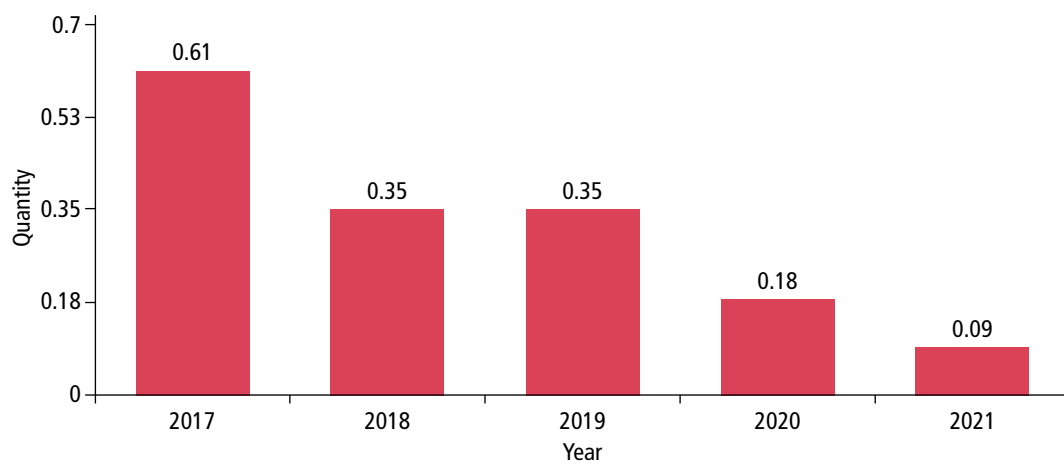


Figure 11 | KwaZulu-Natal – Deceased organ donation rate per million population (pmp)

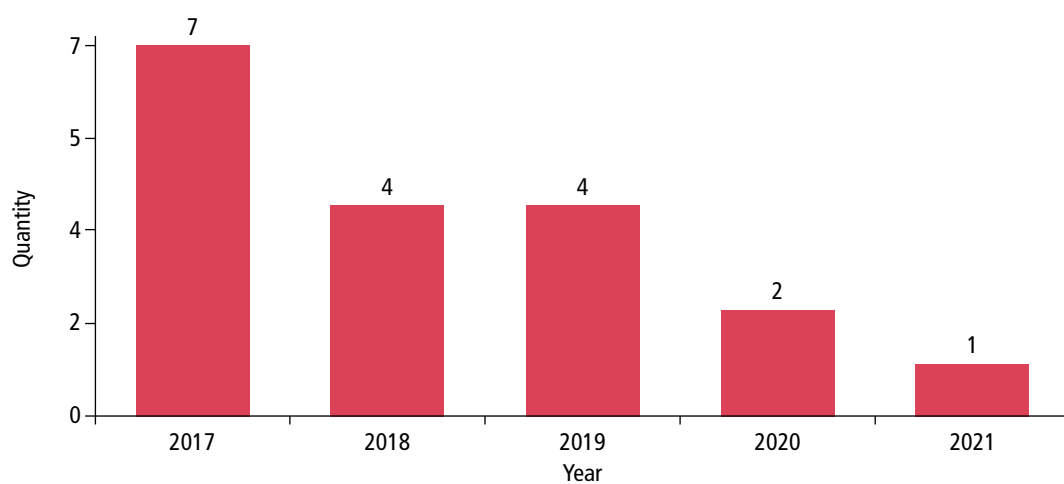


Figure 12 | KwaZulu-Natal – Total consented deceased organ donors

Free State

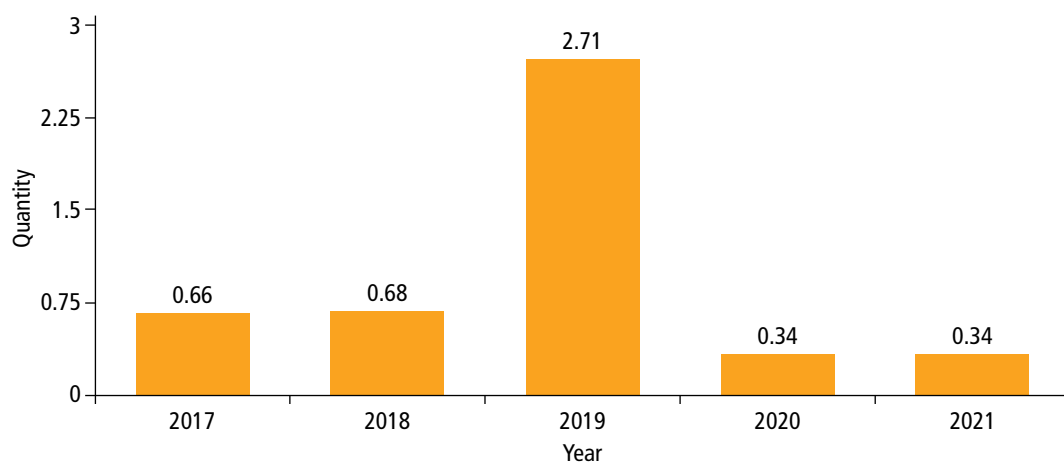


Figure 13 | Free State – Deceased organ donation rate per million population (pmp)

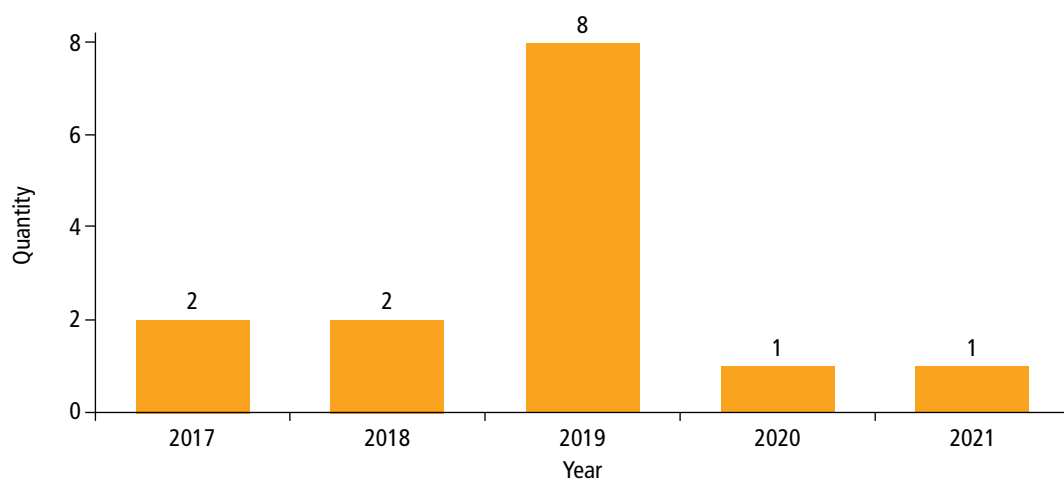


Figure 14 | Free State – Total consented deceased organ donors

Northern Cape

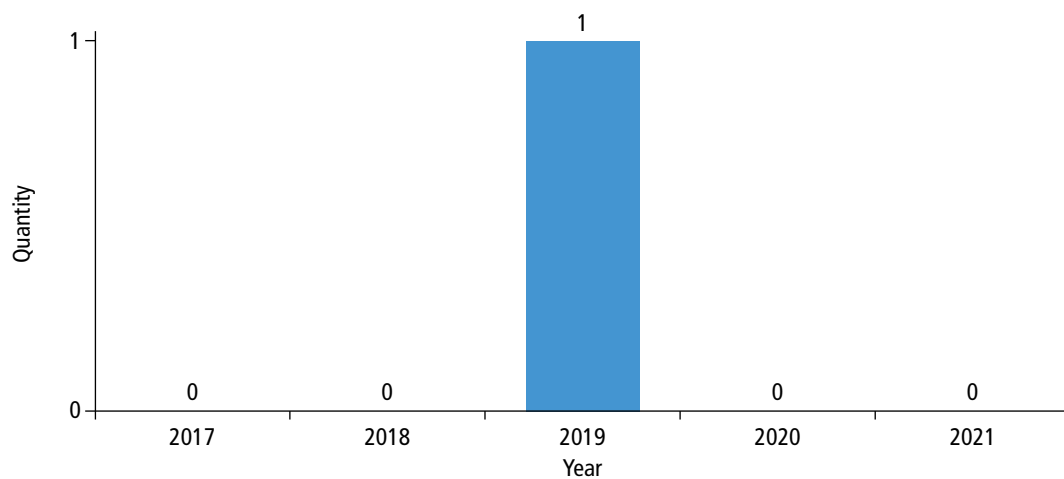


Figure 15 | Northern Cape – Deceased organ donation rate per million population (pmp)

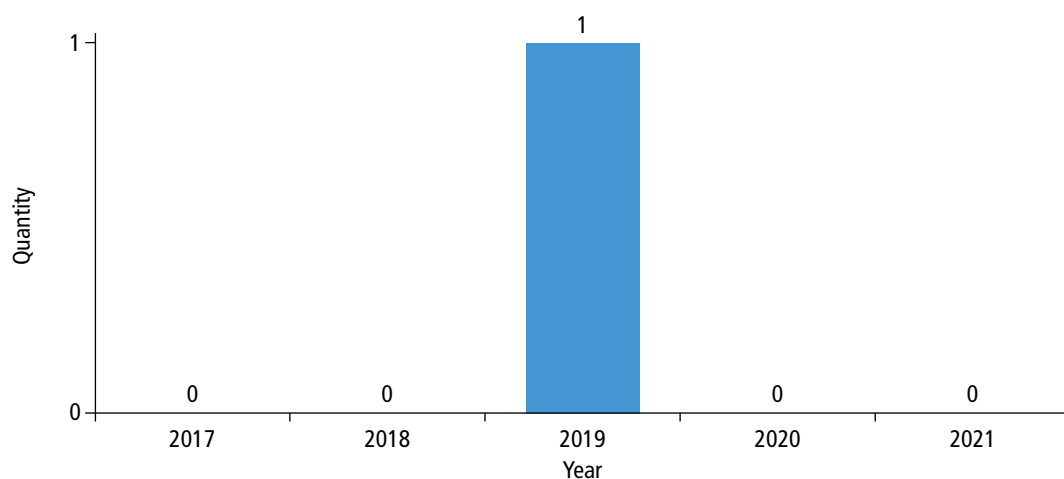


Figure 16 | Northern Cape – Total consented deceased organ donors

Limpopo, North West, Mpumalanga

Not reported.

Personal communication (Anja Meyer) – Donor activity for Limpopo, North West, and Mpumalanga have not been reported separately and donors may have been included in the data for Gauteng region.



Organ transplantation activity

**South Africa
2017-2021**

Total National Organ Transplant Activity

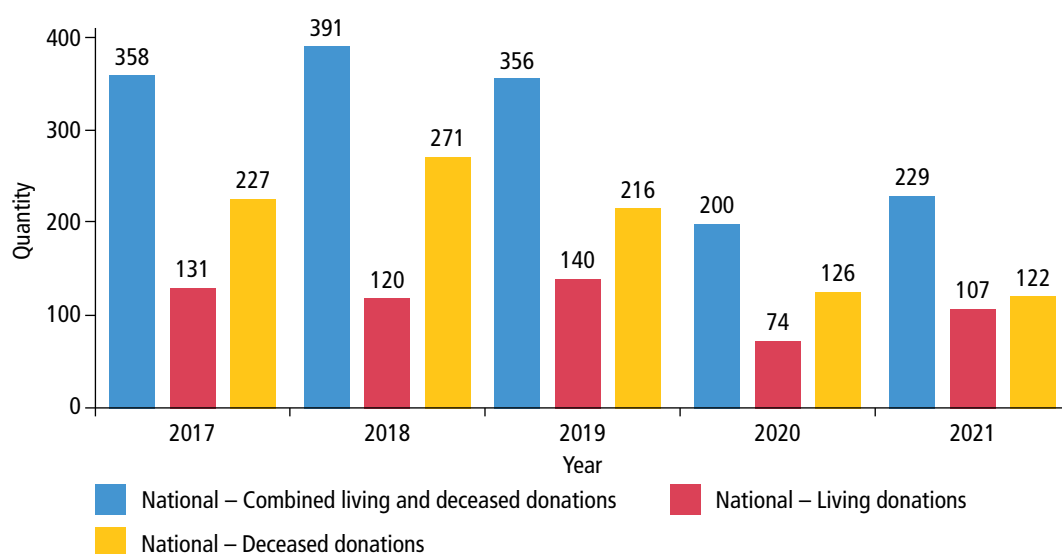


Figure 17 | National – Total solid organ transplantation activity

A deceased donor can donate multiple organs (heart, lung, liver, pancreas, small bowel and two kidney).

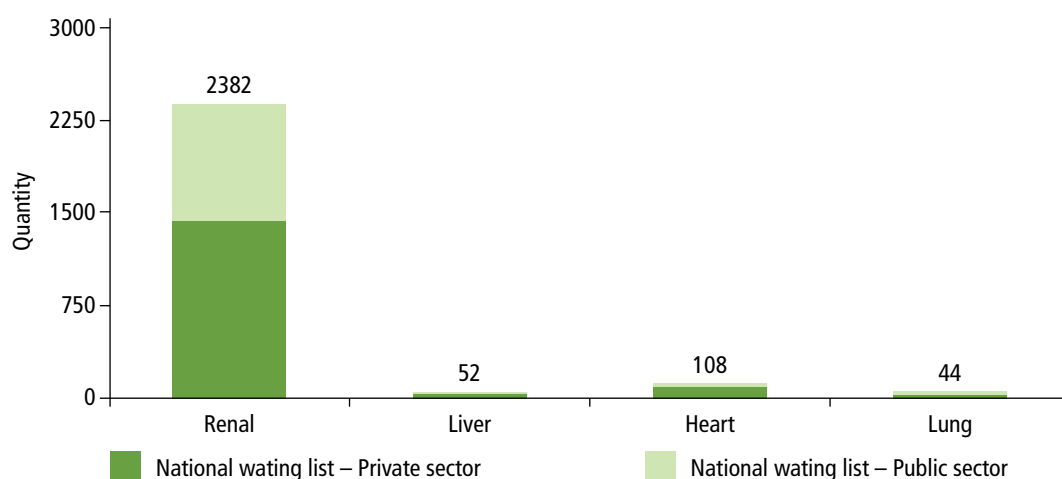


Figure 18 | National – Transplantation waiting list per organ per healthcare sector: 31 December 2021

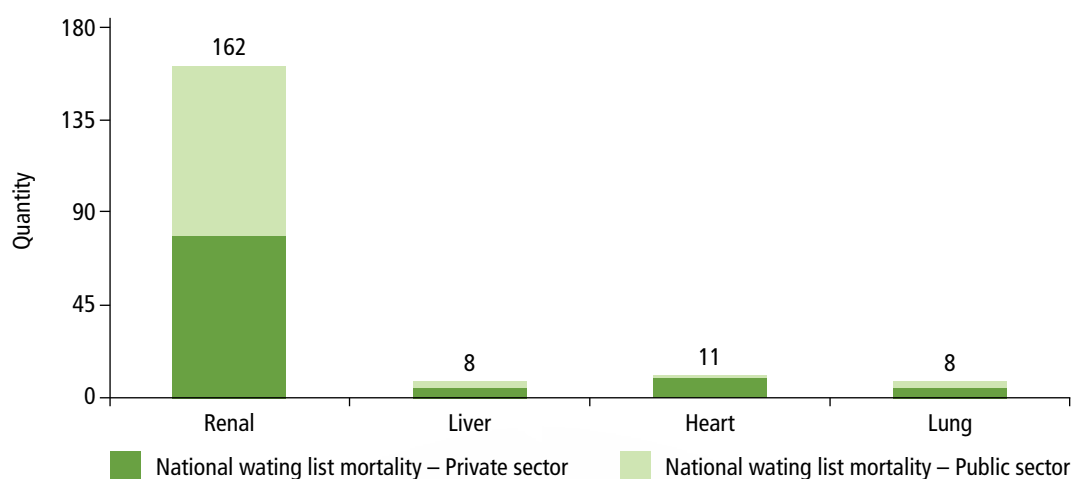


Figure 19 | National – Waiting list mortality per organ per healthcare sector, 2021

Renal Transplants

If a public patient is transplanted in a private facility, it is counted as a transplant done by the private sector. Conversely, if a private paying patient is transplanted in a public facility, it is counted as a public sector transplant.

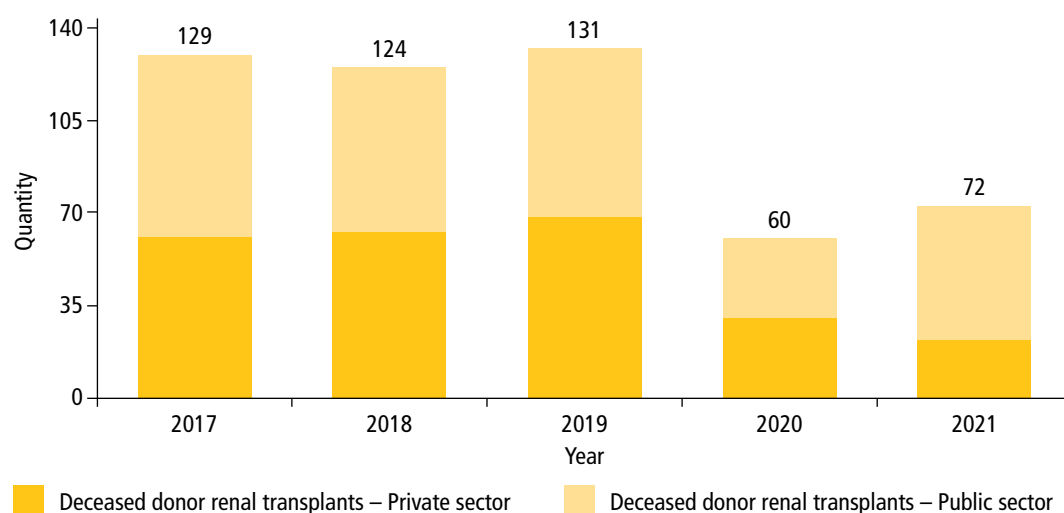


Figure 20 | National renal transplants – Deceased donors

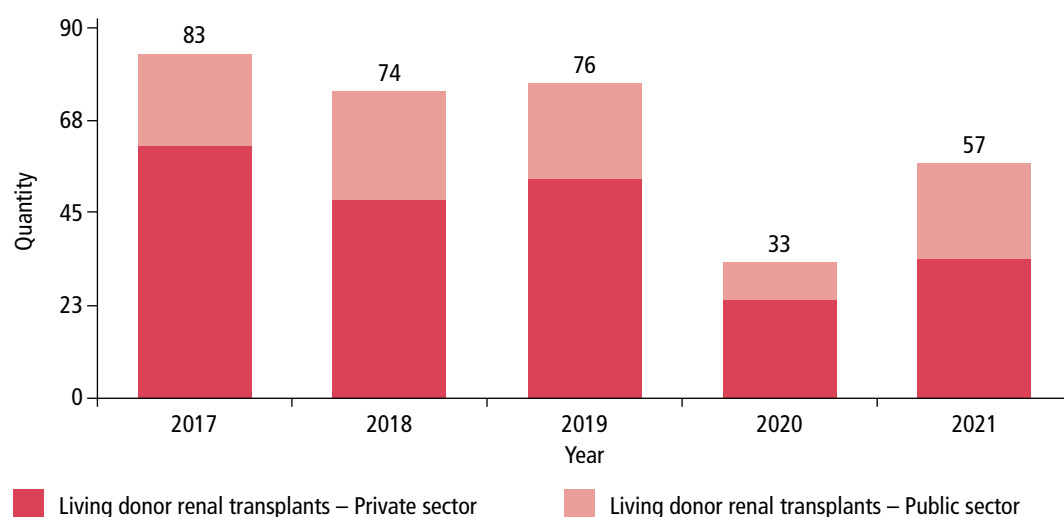


Figure 21 | National renal transplants – Living donors

Liver Transplants

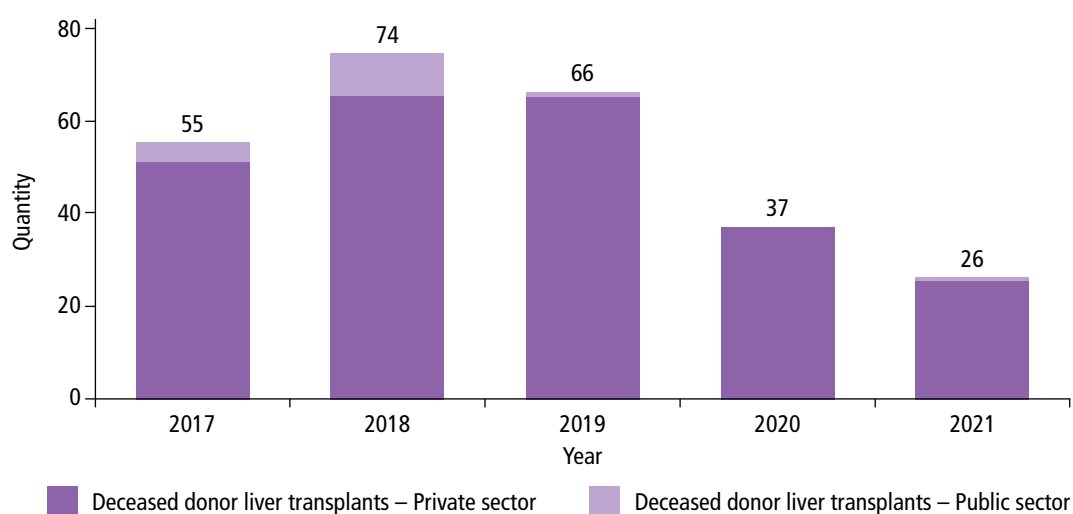


Figure 22 | National liver transplants – Deceased donors

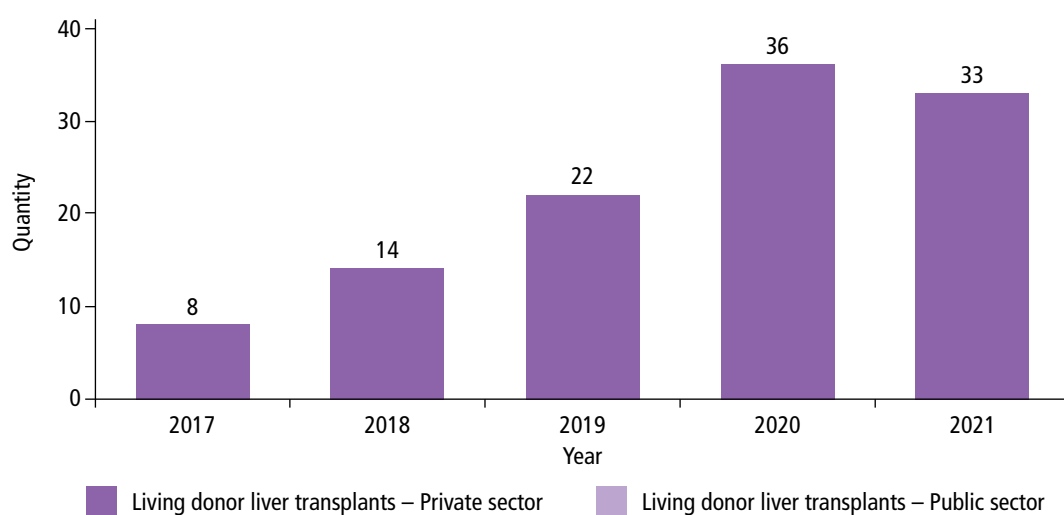


Figure 23 | National liver transplants – Living related donors

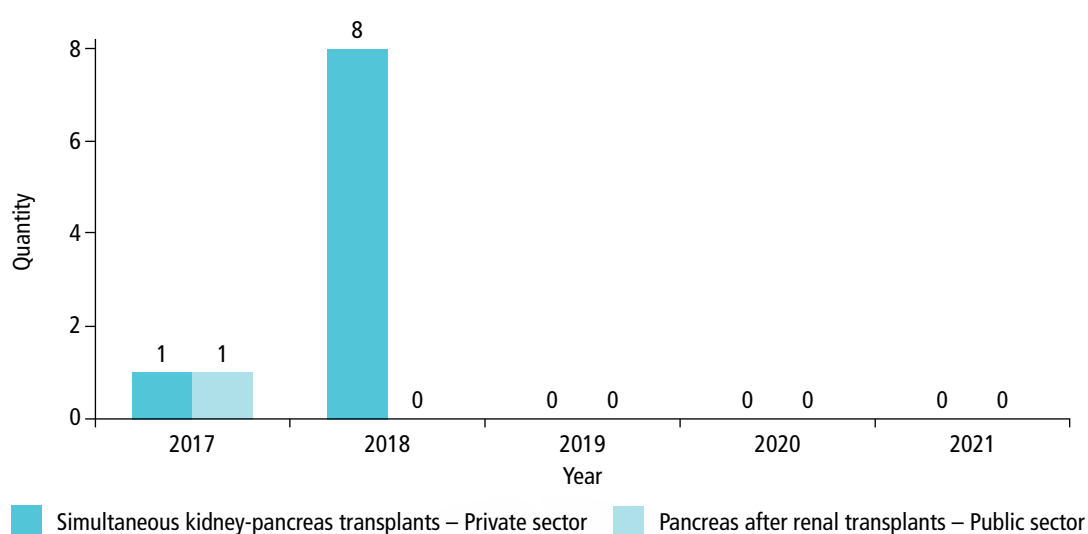


Figure 24 | National pancreas transplants (simultaneous kidney-pancreas transplants or pancreas after renal transplants)

Heart Transplants

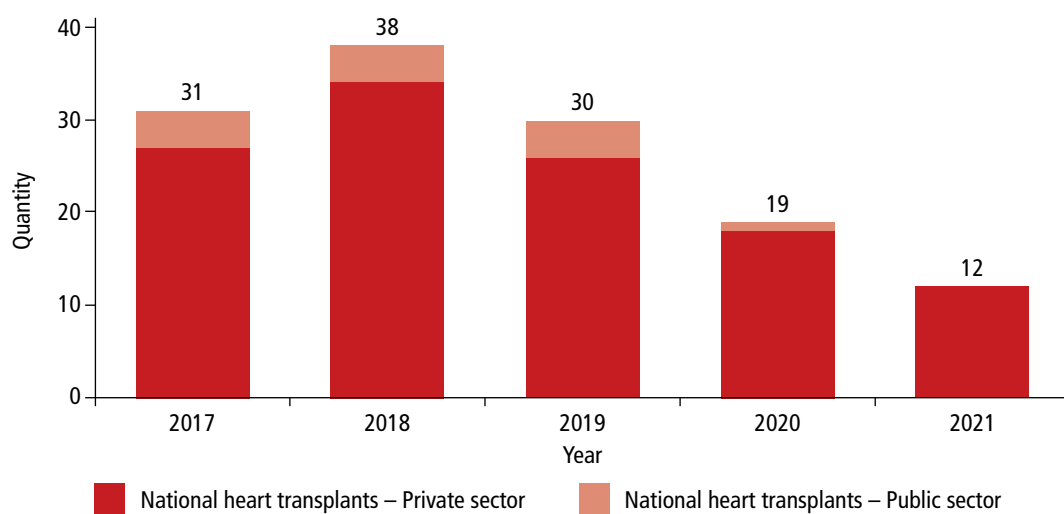


Figure 25 | National heart transplants

Lung Transplants

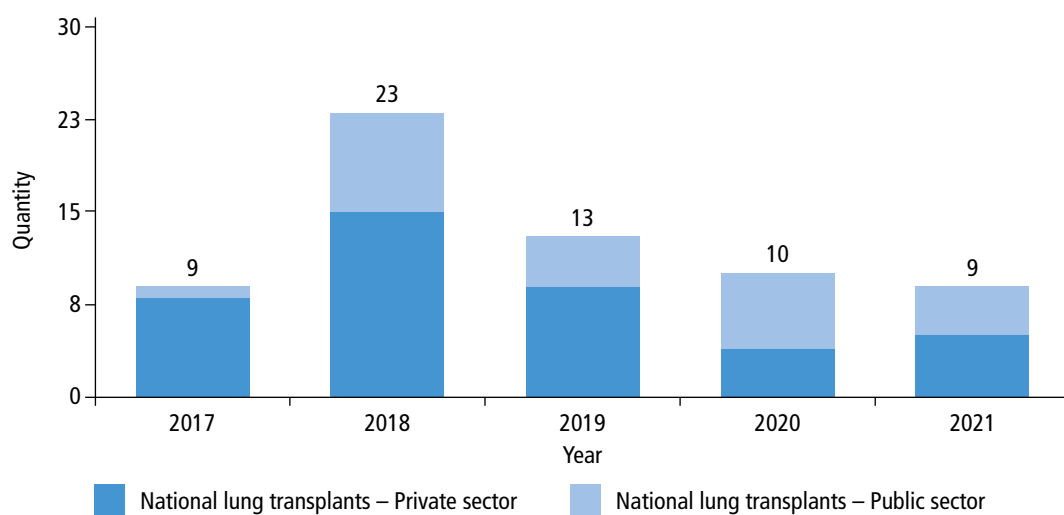


Figure 26 | National lung transplants

Summary

Organ donation and transplantation activity in South Africa is alarmingly low and have deteriorated over the last five years. Activity has dropped during the COVID-19 pandemic and has not since recovered.

Improved data collection in alignment with healthcare delivery as stipulated by the National Health Act is needed by and from each province to ensure that donation and transplantation activity are consistently measured.

This report is an iterative step towards improved data collection, which will enable measurement of quality improvements regarding deceased donation, living donation and life-saving transplantation activity.

