

# The 2009 Annual Report of the OPTN and SRTR

## Organ Donation and Utilization in the United States, 1999-2008

### Overview

- Despite the Organ Donation Breakthrough Collaborative's work to engage the transplant community and the suggested positive impact from these efforts, availability of transplanted organs over the past 5 years has declined.
- Living kidney, liver and lung donations declined from 2004 to 2008. Living liver donors in 2008 dropped to less than 50 percent of the peak (524) in 2001.
- There were more living donors that were older and who were unrelated to the recipient.
- Percentages of living donors from racial minorities remained unchanged over the past 5 years, but percentages of Hispanic/Latino and Asian donors increased, and African-American donors decreased.
- The OPTN/UNOS living donor transplant committee restructured to enfranchise organ donors and recipients, and to seek their perspectives on living donor transplantation.
- In 2008, for the first time in OPTN history, deceased donor organs decreased compared to the prior year.
- Except for lung donors, deceased organ donation fell from 2007 to 2008.
- Donation after cardiac death (DCD) has accounted for a nearly tenfold increase in kidney donors from 1999 to 2008. Use of livers from DCD donors declined in 2008 to 2005 levels.
- Understanding health risks associated with the transplantation of organs from "high-risk" donors has received increased scrutiny.

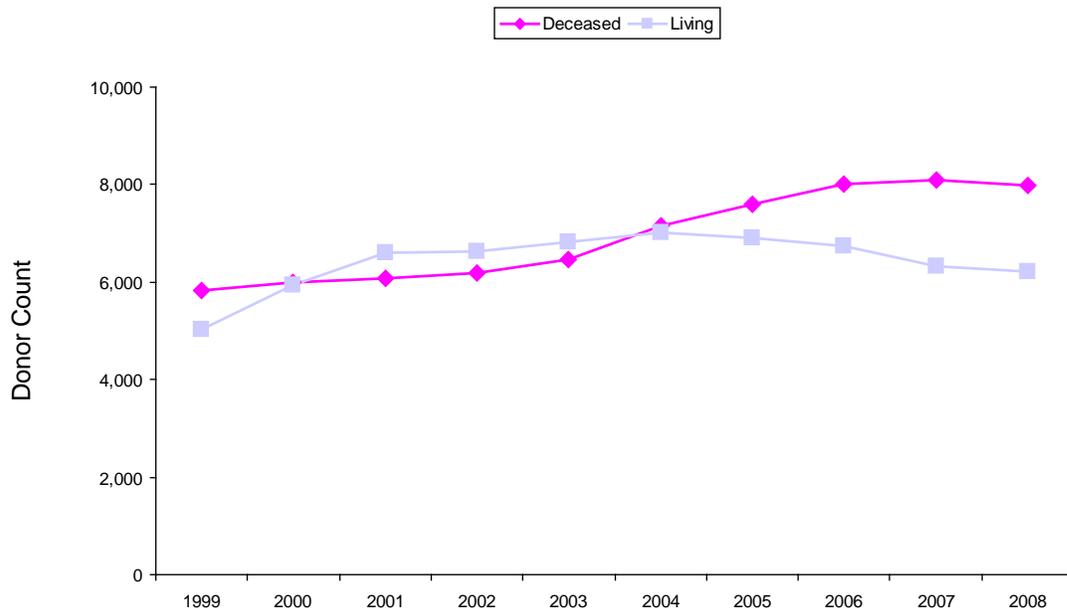
The figure on the following page shows the total number of donors of all organs for transplant from 1999 to 2008 for deceased and living donors. More information on these numbers and the points above may be found in Chapter II of the report.

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The data and analyses reported in the 2009 Annual Report of the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network and the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients have been supplied by the United Network for Organ Sharing and the Arbor Research Collaborative for Health under contract with the Department of Health and Human Services. The authors alone are responsible for reporting and interpreting these data; the views expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the U.S. Government.

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**Figure II-1. Total Number of Donors of All Organs Recovered for Transplant, 1999-2008**



Source: 2009 OPTN/SRTR Annual Report, Table 1.1.

Despite an increase in the number of living donors every year from 1999 until 2004, living donation has decreased progressively since 2004. There was an increase in the number of living donors between 1999 and 2008 that can be attributed to the 1,243 additional living kidney donors during that time. Donation of other organs by living donors decreased between 1999 and 2008.