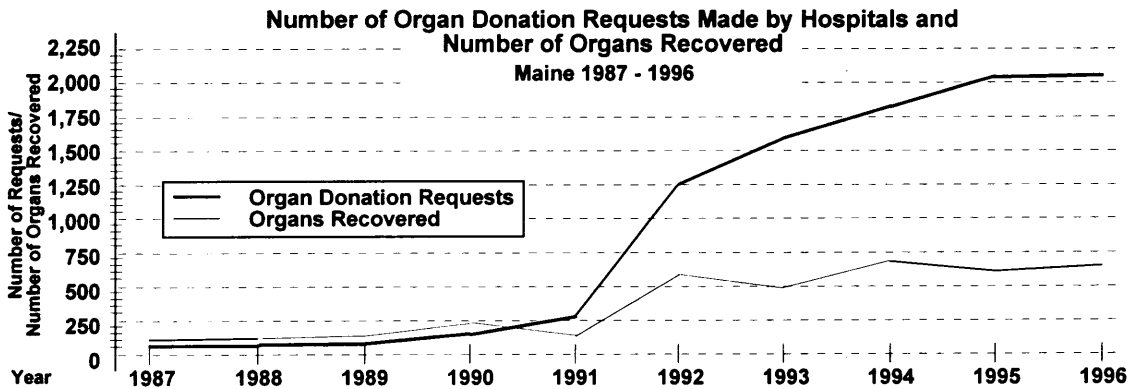


# ANATOMICAL DONATIONS

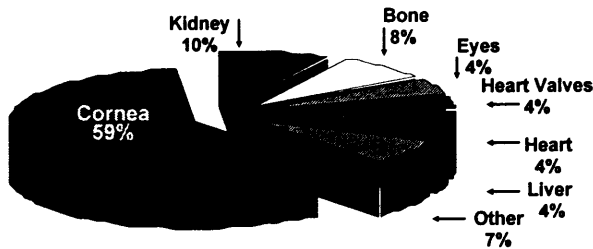
MAINE: 1987 - 1996

- ➔ In 1987, legislation was enacted in Maine requiring hospitals to ask permission for anatomical donations from the families of people who died in hospitals and who were medically appropriate candidates. Federal legislation, tying requests to Medicaid and Medicare reimbursement, followed the next year. Since the 1987 Maine law took effect, Maine hospitals have reported recovering a total of 3,536 donated tissues and organs for transplantation purposes.
- ➔ Maine hospitals reported making 2,027 requests in 1996, yielding 643 donations - almost 50 times the number of requests and 10 times the number of donations made in the first year of the legislation. (There were 43 requests and 64 donated organs reported in 1987.)



- ➔ The number of consents for organ donation, granted by families, grew from 29 in 1987 to 465 in 1996, a 16-fold increase.
- ➔ Not only was there growth in the number of consents granted and the number of organs available for transplantation between 1987 and 1996, there was also an increase in the types of organs and tissues available - from 10 organ types in 1987 (primarily major organs, such as kidneys, hearts, livers, and lungs) to 24 in 1996 including tendons, veins, skin and muscles, as well as the major organs historically donated.

Percent Organs Donated by Type of Organ  
Maine 1987 - 1996



- ➔ More than half the organs made available for transplant during the 10 year period were corneas (2,107). Other organs recovered for transplantation included 345 kidneys, 283 bones, 138 heart valves, 135 hearts, and 132 livers.

NOTE: The term "organs" includes tissues such as corneas, heart valves, bone tissue, etc.

For further data on this topic, please contact:  
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Angus S. King, Jr.  
Governor



Kevin W. Concannon  
Commissioner

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