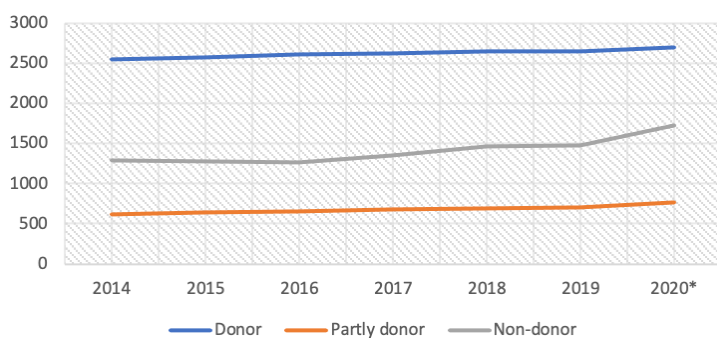


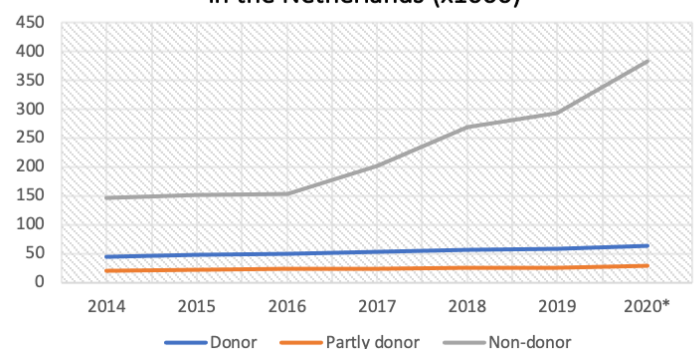
Non-western migrants in the Netherlands drastically more likely to not be an organ donor as compared to Dutch natives

As of July 2020, laws surrounding organ donation in the Netherlands have changed. While for a long time it went along the lines of: “Those who do not register, are not donors,” it has now become: “You are a donor, unless you register not to be one.” An analysis of Statistics Netherlands (CBS) data demonstrates how in particular non-western migrants in the Netherlands aren’t so keen on giving away their organs when they pass away.

Donor registration among natives in the Netherlands (x1000)

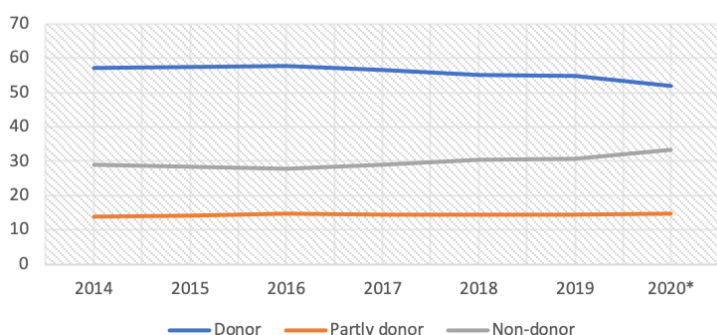


Donor registration among non-western migrants in the Netherlands (x1000)

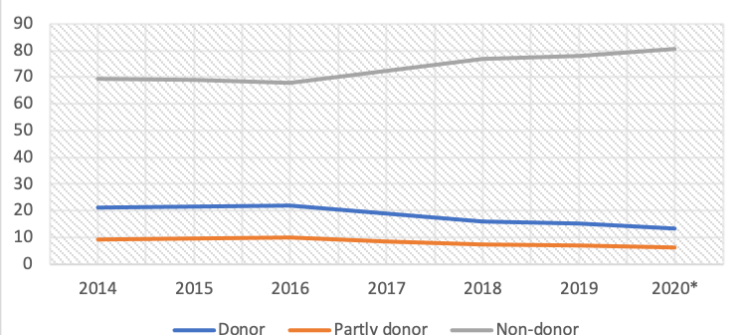


In fact, since the announcement of the new organ donation law in February 2018, around 114.4 thousand non-western migrants in the Netherlands registered as not wanting to be an organ donor. Chances are that this high number is to some extent linked to religion, as a 2016 [survey](#) among Dutch citizens has demonstrated that those who are religious are less likely to be an organ donor; in particular Muslims are not interested in donating their organs after passing away.

Donor registration among natives in the Netherlands (in %)



Donor registration among non-western migrants in the Netherlands (in %)



Looking at the share of citizens who are registered as non-donor, it becomes clear that around 80.6 percent of non-western migrants in the Netherlands was registered as such, while 33.4 of Dutch natives is (2020). This might not seem particularly troublesome, as thousands of people in the Netherlands are registered as organ donor nonetheless. However, ethnic diversity is of major importance in organ donation. According to [NHS Organ Donation](#), the chances of finding a transplant match with a donor from the same ethnic background is much higher than with someone from a different background.