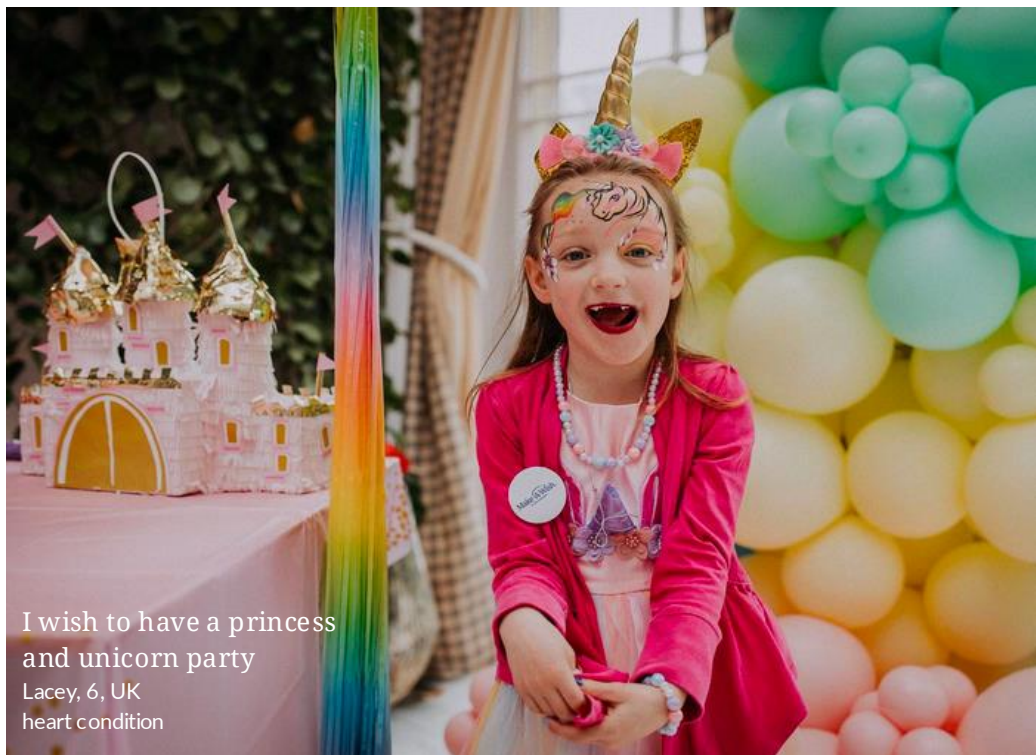




| Make-A-Wish®



I wish to have a princess
and unicorn party

Lacey, 6, UK
heart condition

TOGETHER, WE TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF WISH CHILDREN.

THANK YOU to the Potato Foundation for your commitment to Make-A-Wish. Through your generous support, Make-A-Wish affiliates in Austria, the United Arab Emirates, and the United Kingdom have been empowered to grow their capacity and grant more life-changing wishes to children with critical illnesses in their countries. This grant is helping us reach more children in need, bringing hope, strength, and joy to families across these regions.



GRANT SUMMARY

Make-A-Wish International and our affiliates in Austria, the UAE, and the United Kingdom have completed the period of partnership with The Potato Foundation. We are pleased to report that the donation of €120,000 has contributed significantly to the growth of our wish development

WISH GRANTING

Since November 2024, Make-A-Wish Austria, the UAE, and the United Kingdom have granted life-changing wishes to 943 children with critical illnesses – made possible in part by the generous funding provided through the grant.

INTERNATIONAL AMBITION

At Make-A-Wish, our vision is bold: to grant the wish of every eligible child. With more than 10,000 children currently waiting and nearly 3,500 newly diagnosed each day across our global network, the need has never been greater. Achieving our goal of 50,000 wishes annually by 2030 requires unwavering commitment—and it's only possible through the generosity of partners like the Potato Foundation. Their support helps us expand our reach, build capacity, and bring the life-changing power of a wish to more children, restoring hope and joy when it's needed most.

Make-A-Wish grants wishes in almost 50 countries and territories globally through Make-A-Wish International and Its Affiliates, and Make-A-Wish America and Its Chapters.

615,000 **32,000**

Make-A-Wish has granted more than 615,000 wishes worldwide since 1980.

Make-A-Wish granted nearly 32,000 wishes globally in FY24.

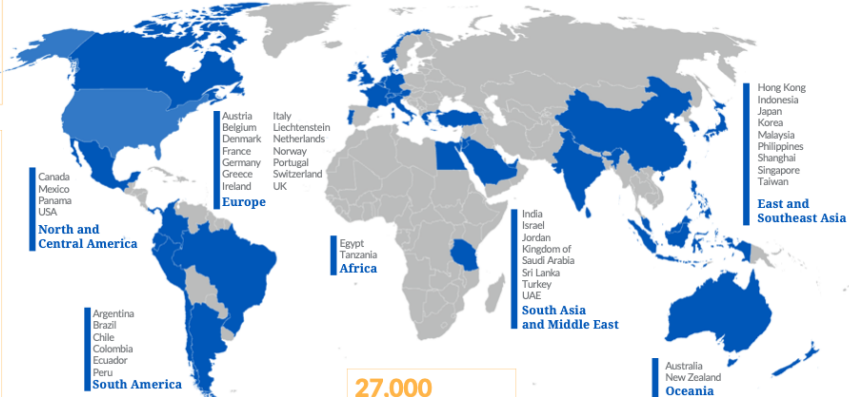
Granted wishes by wish type*



I wish:

- to have... 66%
- to go... 27%
- to be... 2%
- to meet... 5%

*across Make-A-Wish Affiliate countries and territories



27,000

More than 27,000 volunteers help us grant thousands of wishes each year around the world.

THE NEED FOR WISHES

Critical illness steals childhood from a child. A wish has the power to restore it. This moment turns their lives upside down and can impair a child's recovery, leaving them feeling hopeless. Make-A-Wish shines a light of hope in these dark times. Our peer-reviewed research demonstrates the transformative power of a wish — turning fear into confidence, sadness into joy, and anxiety into hope for children and their families.



A CHILD IS DIAGNOSED WITH A CRITICAL ILLNESS AND BECOMES ELIGIBLE FOR A WISH EVERY 25 SECONDS*

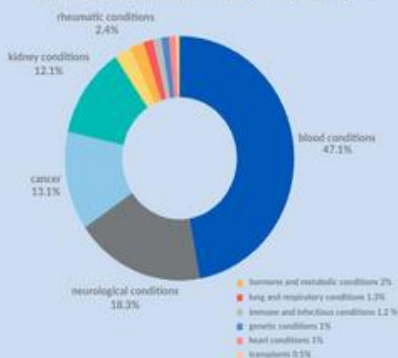
*across Make-A-Wish Affiliate countries and territories

For the first time, Make-A-Wish International can access country-specific data on children eligible for wish-granting, thanks to landmark research conducted in partnership with Research For Impact and the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). Using the Global Burden of Disease database, this research provides locally relevant, globally consistent pediatric disease profiles for qualifying conditions. This data forms the foundation of Make-A-Wish International's strategic planning and supports Affiliates in:

- Identifying underserved populations
- Guiding medical outreach and partnerships
- Anticipating wish demand
- Informing growth strategies
- Strengthening fundraising efforts
- Building credibility and trust

The research distinguishes between **prevalence** (total cases at a given time) and **incidence** (new cases over time), while also considering recovery and fatality rates — offering a comprehensive view of wish-eligible populations worldwide.

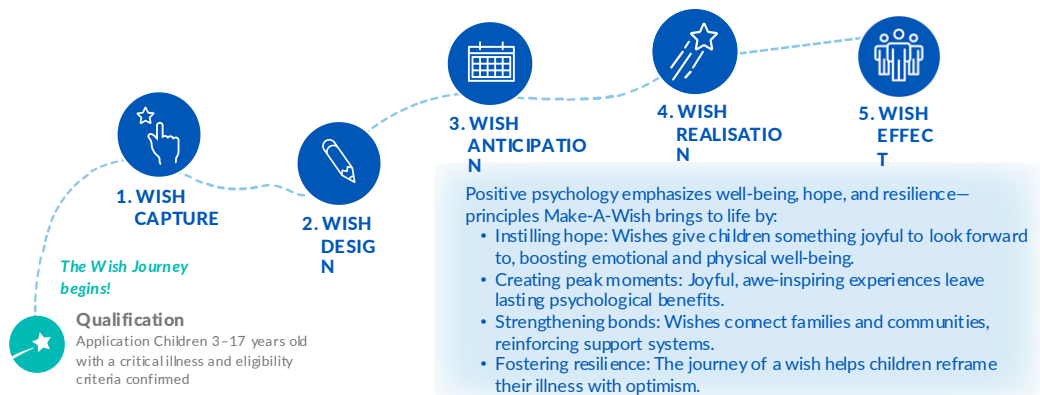
WE ESTIMATE THAT 1.25 MILLION CHILDREN EACH YEAR ARE DIAGNOSED WITH A CRITICAL ILLNESS AND MAY BE CONSIDERED ELIGIBLE FOR A WISH*



*across Make-A-Wish Affiliate countries and territories

Positive Psychology in the Wish Journey

A wish is a carefully planned journey based on the principles of positive psychology. Designed to complement a child's medical treatment, it aims to give them the hope, joy, and resilience they need to face their illness.



WISH JOURNEY THEORY OF CHANGE



WISH OUTCOMES & IMPACT



JOY AND HAPPINESS

97% of both parents and children said it brought them joy and happiness.



RESPIRE AND DISTRACTION

89% of wish children said their wish provided respite and distraction



SELF-EFFICACY

90% of wish children said they felt their wish experience brought them new knowledge, skills and/or confidence



BROADENED HORIZONS

90% of wish children said the wish experience helped them look forward and broaden their horizons.



FAMILY BONDING

93% of wish parents/guardians said the wish experience led to family bonding



INCLUSION AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

87% of wish parents and 84% of wish children said the wish experience left them feeling closer to friends and/or their community



STRENGTHENED INDIVIDUAL WELL-BEING

92% of wish children said the wish experience improved their well-being



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Make-A-Wish Austria



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Make-A-Wish AUSTRIA

"Thank you, Potato Foundation, for making an impact! Your incredible donation of \$37,204,20 will truly make an impact, turning dreams into reality for children who face unimaginable challenges. Thanks to your generosity, we are ready to fulfill heartfelt wishes, bringing moments of pure joy, hope, and strength to children and their families. You asked, "Ready to Make an Impact?" Your answer was a resounding yes, and we are profoundly grateful for your partnership."

Birgit Fux Chief Executive Officer.

AUSTRIA IMPACT SUMMARY

Thanks to your generous support, we've already been able to fulfil 111 wishes this year in Austria – many of them made possible through private donations like yours.

So far, 140 applications have been received, with 89 wishes captured and 111 granted, reflecting the incredible momentum and impact of your support.

Each individual wish not only creates an unforgettable moment, but also brings hope, courage, and new strength in the midst of what is often a stressful daily treatment routine. For the children, this means stepping out of the role of "sick child" and into a world full of laughter, wonder, and genuine joie de vivre.

Thanks to generous supporters like you, we've once again been able to make many children's eyes light up this year – and give families a little lightness in a very challenging time.

Because fulfilling a wish is much more than just a nice day – it can be a turning point. Every donation brings us closer to our goal of fulfilling the heart's desire of every seriously ill child in Austria..

Austria

Prevalence and Incidence Research

Affiliate

Population aged 3-17 years old
Estimated number of annual new eligible cases (total)
Estimated number of annual new eligible cases per 100,000
Estimated prevalence of eligible cases

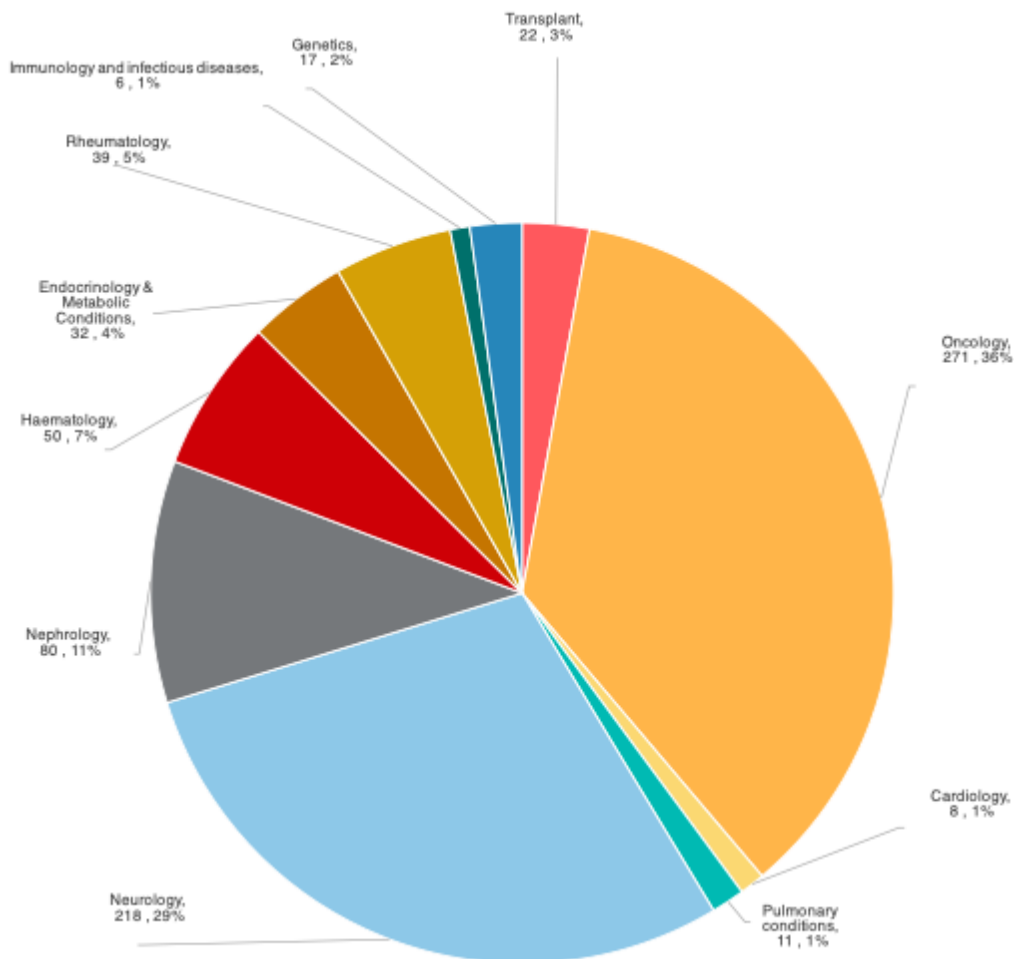
Austria

1,292,300
755
58
17,755

Wishes Granted



Estimated annual new eligible cases for Austria = 755



THE WISH STORY - EXTRACT AUSTRIA

I Wish To Go To The Big Apple & Mystic Falls Katarina's, 15, Austria, Lymph Node Cancer.

Big Apple & Mystic Falls – Katarina's dream trip to the USA

Katarina is 15 years old and lives with a diagnosis of lymph node cancer.

The illness has made her quieter and more withdrawn, as her mother explains. But when she talks about America, her eyes light up – the country of her dreams that has fascinated her for so long.

Her greatest wish was to travel to the USA. From New York, the city that never sleeps, to Covington in Georgia – better known as 'Mystic Falls' from her favourite TV series Vampire Diaries.

It was clear from the beginning that Katarina wanted to experience this trip with her sister Ana, with whom she has a particularly close relationship. Together, with our support, they planned everything step by step: new passports, visas and everything else they needed to make their dream come true. The anticipation was palpable – little travel goodies and messages in our WhatsApp group helped to bridge the waiting time until departure.

Then the time came: the flight took them to the city that never sleeps. New York lived up to Kati's expectations – with photos of the Empire State Building and many impressions that left a deep impression on her. As a surprise, her mother and eldest sister had also travelled with them. This meant that they could discover the metropolis together as a whole family.

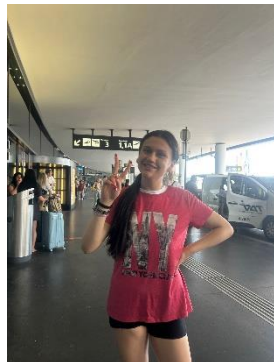
The absolute highlight awaited in Covington: the Mystic Falls Tour. Here, Kati suddenly found herself in the middle of the world of her favourite series. Another dream came true when she met Nathaniel Buzolic, an actor from Vampire Diaries, in person. And the overnight stay at the historic Twelve Oaks House made the trip perfect. Ana wrote to us joyfully: "Covington is really the highlight; Kati is having the time of her life here. Everyone here is so lovely."

Kati herself sent us some touching words: *'I am infinitely grateful that you made this possible for me. I already miss the trip and will never forget it.'*

This trip to the USA was much more than a holiday for Katarina.

It was a sign of hope, joie de vivre and the power that comes when dreams come true.

Her smile and gratitude remain an unforgettable gift for us.



THE WISH STORY - EXTRACT AUSTRIA

I Wish To Have A “Umrah” Pilgrimage To Mecca And Medina, Belmin, 17, Austria, Leukemia

A Journey of Faith and the Heart

Belmin is 17 years old and lives with leukemia. His greatest wish? An “Umrah” pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina, the holiest sites in Islam. For Belmin, family and faith are central pillars in his life – they give him strength, hope, and comfort. After a long and difficult journey, he dreamed of traveling to this sacred place with his loved ones to regain energy and return home to Austria renewed. In January 2024, the wish-granting team visited Belmin and his family at home for the first time. The most beautiful moment came shortly afterward: when the family learned that the journey could be made possible with the support of Make-A-Wish. The joy was immense, and the gratitude in the room was felt by everyone present.

From the end of December to early January, the family embarked on this very special trip – a time filled with spiritual impressions, togetherness, and unforgettable experiences. Shortly after their return, Belmin sent the wish team this heartfelt message:



“Thank you again for everything. It was really beautiful, we saw everything we had planned, and it all worked out perfectly. I’m truly satisfied and grateful that you made this possible for us. The whole trip was an experience I will never forget. Thank you so much for that!”

For Belmin and his family, this journey was far more than a vacation – it was a journey of the heart, full of hope, faith, and togetherness.



THE WISH STORY - EXTRACT AUSTRIA

I Wish To Have A Gaming Console Leopold, 13, Austria, Osteosarcoma

Easter Joy: Leopold's Wish Comes True

Leopold, 13 years old, is a bright and curious boy who, despite his diagnosis of osteosarcoma, has never lost his zest for life. He loves animals, life in the countryside, and spending time in the garden at his parents' home – especially with his beloved rabbit. Another of Leopold's passions is gaming; what excites him most is going on virtual adventures with his friends.

His biggest wish was to have his very own PlayStation 5 – and not just any one, but the exact setup he had carefully chosen and researched in advance, including specific games and a monitor. Leopold had everything meticulously prepared on his wish list.



The wish was granted around Easter, and we decided to make it extra special by turning it into a playful Easter surprise. In many European countries, there's a popular Easter tradition where children search for hidden eggs or small gifts in the garden or house, guided by clues left by the "Easter Bunny." We embraced this joyful custom to make Leopold's wish-come-true moment even more magical.

Before receiving his gift, Leopold embarked on a little treasure hunt: hidden inside small, colorful surprise eggs were clues and fun questions about his favorite video games. Step by step, these led him closer to his goal.

When Leopold finally discovered and unwrapped his console, his joy was overwhelming. With eyes shining, he opened each carefully wrapped package, filled with excitement and happiness. Before long, everything was set up, and Leopold beamed with joy, ready to dive into his new gaming adventures





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Make-A-Wish UAE

“On behalf of Make-A-Wish UAE Foundation, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude for your incredibly generous donation. Your support is invaluable to us and makes a world of difference to the children and families we serve. Your contribution will go directly towards granting the heartfelt wishes of children suffering from chronic diseases in our region. These wishes bring immense joy, hope, and strength to children facing unimaginable challenges, providing a much-needed break from their medical treatments and hospital stays. It is through the kindness and generosity of organizations like yours that we are able to create these magical moments for children. We cannot thank you enough for your support and belief in our mission.”

Hani Alzubaidi, Chief Executive Officer

IMPACT SUMMARY

Thanks to the generous support of the Potato Foundation, Make-A-Wish UAE has been able to grant 10 heartfelt wishes to children living with critical illnesses. These wishes reflect the unique dreams of each child—from the joy of receiving a brand-new iPhone 16 Pro Max with a pink cover and AirPods, to the excitement of owning a gaming PC with a custom chair and desk, or the thrill of visiting the Manchester United Football Club Stadium.

The children who received these wishes are living with serious conditions such as Type 1 Diabetes, Heart Disease, Hodgkin’s Lymphoma, Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, and Ewing’s Sarcoma. Each wish granted offers a powerful emotional lift, helping children and their families find moments of joy and strength amid the challenges of treatment and recovery.

In total, 830 wishes have been granted by Make-A-Wish UAE, with 888 referrals received—a testament to the growing need and the incredible impact of community support.

Every wish is more than a gift—it’s a turning point. With the support of partners like the Potato Foundation, Make-A-Wish UAE continues to bring light into the lives of children who need it most, proving that even in the face of adversity, hope can shine brightly.

UAE

Prevalence and Incidence Research

Affiliate

Population aged 3-17 years old (2019)
 Estimated annual new eligible cases
 Estimated annual new eligible cases (per 100,000)
 Total prevalence of eligible cases in GBD
 Wishes as a % of annual new eligible cases

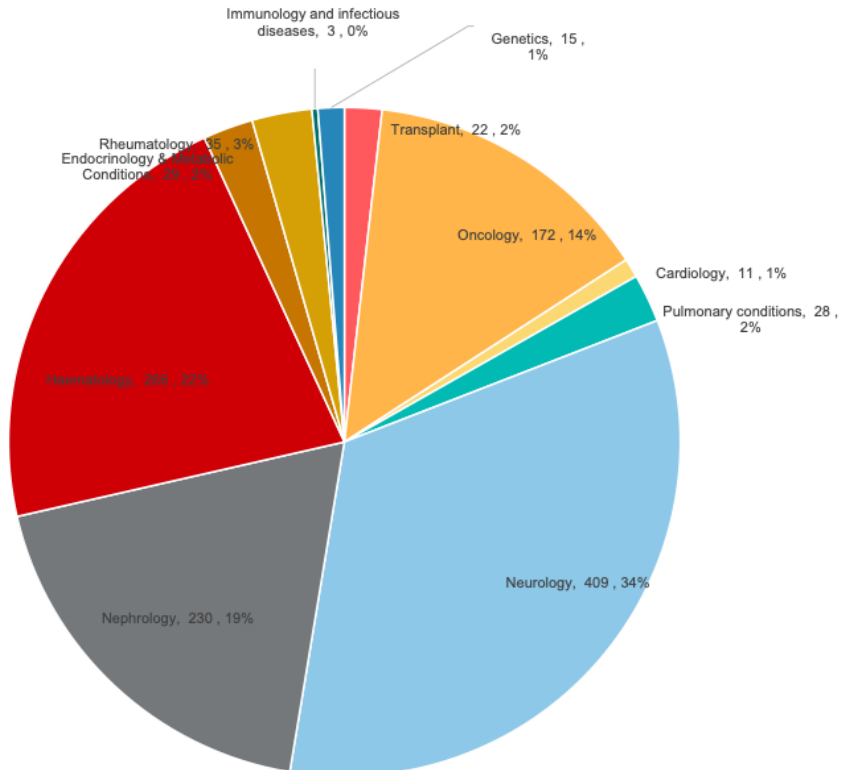
United Arab Emirates

1,192,230
 1,222
 102
 24,033
 25.13%

Wishes Granted



Estimated annual new eligible cases for United Arab Emirates = 1,222



THE WISH STORY - EXTRACT UAE

My Wish Is To Have An IPHONE 16pro Max With a Pink Cover And AirPods Mazoun, 11, UAE, Type 1 Diabetes



Mazoun, a lively 11-year-old battling Type 1 Diabetes, had a heartfelt wish: to have an iPhone 16 Pro Max with a stylish cover and AirPods. More than just a gadget, it symbolized a source of happiness and comfort during her hospital stay and a valuable tool to help her stay connected with her friends and family. When we visited her in the hospital, her excitement was infectious, knowing that Make-A-Wish was about to make her dream come true.

In the bustling hospital corridors, Mazoun eagerly shared her love for watching videos and exploring creative apps. For her, the iPhone wasn't just a device; it was a gateway to learning, joy, and staying connected with her loved ones. Her mother expressed hope that the iPhone would bring moments of happiness and distraction during Mazoun's treatment sessions.

On the day her wish was granted, we worked closely with her mother to plan a delightful surprise. Mazoun introduced me the Make-A-Wish UAE team at the mall, her face lighting up with anticipation. We surprised her with colorful balloons and the signature Make-A-Wish UAE box. She was ecstatic and couldn't wait to open it to see her wish come true.

As she unboxed her shiny new iPhone and stylish cover, and AirPods, Mazoun exclaimed, "Finally, I have my new iPhone! Now I can watch my favorite videos and connect with my friends anytime. Thank you,

Make-A-Wish UAE, for bringing happiness into my life." For Mazoun's parents, the gratitude was profound. Make-A-Wish and our sponsors not only fulfilled their daughter's heartfelt wish but also brought hope and positivity during a difficult time. Despite the challenges of hospital routines and treatments, they found immense comfort and joy in the happiness that Make-A-Wish UAE brought to their family.

My wish Is To Have A Laptop Eslam, 10, UAE, Type 1 Diabetes,

Eslam, a bright and cheerful 10-year-old boy diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes, had a special wish — to have his very own laptop. For Eslam, a laptop meant more than just fun and games; it was a way to support his learning, enjoy his favorite games, and explore the digital world.

We met Eslam and his parents at Dubai Hills Mall, where he greeted us with an excited smile and shining eyes. His energy and enthusiasm were contagious, and it was clear how much this moment meant to him.

Eslam chose an Asus VivoBook laptop in grey, proudly saying that the first thing he would do is download car racing games, football matches, and Super Mario. He also shared that he plans to use the laptop for his studies and homework, showing his eagerness to learn and grow.

It was a joyful moment for Eslam and his family, filled with laughter, gratitude, and hope. His wish was more than just receiving a laptop — it was about feeling empowered, supported, and inspired for the future. Eslam and his family thanked Make-A-Wish UAE and our sponsors for making his wish come true.



THE WISH STORY - EXTRACT UAE

My wish IS TO GO TO THAILAND SALEEM, 9, UAE, ACUTE LYMPHOBLASTIC LEUKEMIA.



Nine-year-old Saleem is a cheerful and adventurous boy diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. Through countless hospital visits and treatments, Saleem remained strong and full of hope—with one big wish lighting up his heart: to visit Phuket, Thailand.

That wish came true in the most unforgettable way. Saleem and his family stayed in a beautiful ocean-view villa with a private swimming pool, where the sound of the waves and the warmth of the sun created the perfect setting for relaxation and joy. It was a peaceful escape, filled with laughter and moments of magic. His adventure was packed with excitement! He visited the incredible Dolphin Show, where he clapped and cheered as the dolphins danced and leapt. At Lion Land, Saleem saw majestic creatures up close, and his eyes lit up with wonder.

One of his favorite experiences was meeting gentle giants at Kamala Elephant Park, where

He learned about the elephants, fed them, and shared some truly special moments. But the thrill didn't stop there—Saleem got behind the wheel in a buggy ride and soared through the trees on a zipline, giggling with excitement at every twist and turn.

He ended his adventure with a dreamy boat trip to the breathtaking Phi Phi Islands, where the turquoise waters and white sandy beaches felt like something out of a storybook. For Saleem, this trip wasn't just a vacation—it was a celebration of courage, a break from treatment, and a beautiful reminder that wishes can bring happiness, healing, and unforgettable memories. Here, turned home filled with stories, souvenirs, and a heart full of joy.

My wish Is To Go To Manchester Fatima, 17, UAE, Ewing's Sarcoma

Fatima, a 17-year-old girl bravely fighting Ewing's sarcoma, had a sincere and heartfelt wish: to travel to Manchester. For her, this trip was more than just a destination—it was a symbol of joy, adventure, and a much-needed escape from the challenges of her medical journey. From the very first moment we met, Fatima her excitement was contagious, knowing that the Make-A-Wish Foundation was about to make her wish come true. She passionately shared her love for travel and her fascination with Manchester. Whether it was experiencing the city's famous football culture, exploring its lively shopping scene, or simply enjoying a change of scenery, Fatima wished to create unforgettable memories. Her mother, standing proudly by her side, hoped this special trip would bring comfort, laughter, and happiness during such a difficult time.

We worked closely with Fatima's family to plan every detail of her wish. From flights and accommodations to fun activities around the city, everything was arranged to ensure a perfect experience. Fatima traveled with her two beloved sisters, making the journey even more special and meaningful. When the day of the trip arrived,

Fatima was overwhelmed with joy. Her face lit up at the airport as she exclaimed, "I can't believe I'm really going to Manchester!" Her excitement was infectious, and her smile said it all. Throughout the trip, Fatima cherished every moment—from sightseeing and shopping to simply spending quality time with her sisters. Her mother later shared how long it had been since the family had traveled together, and how this experience brought them closer, filling their hearts with joy. Fatima's parents were deeply grateful for Make-A-Wish UAE and our sponsors. They told us, "Make-A-Wish UAE had not only fulfilled their daughter's wish but also given their family a moment of peace, unity, and happiness during a challenging time. The memories made in Manchester will forever be a cherished source of strength, hope, and joy for Fatima and her family."





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Make-A-Wish United Kingdom



Make-A-Wish®

Make-A-Wish United Kingdom

"Thank you to the Trustees of The Potato Foundation for their generous gift of £29,019. Your support has helped us move toward our vision of being able to grant a wish for every eligible child in the UK. We continue to do everything we can to make wishes come true for critically ill children. One truly special highlight of my year last year was meeting Poppy, who is 9 years old, from Blackburn. Poppy was diagnosed with leukemia at just 3 years old. Her love of art has helped her through some extremely challenging times. Make-A-Wish UK and The Art of Wishes were honored to make her wish of hosting her own art exhibition come true. Thanks to your support, we can create magical memories for children like Poppy and their families, which they will cherish forever. Over the last year, we granted 1,272 wishes, the ripples of which will be felt for generations to come. We could not have done this without you. Thank you for your support."

Jason Suckley, Chief Executive Officer

IMPACT SUMMARY

Since your generous gift on 17th December 2024:

- 1,054 wishes have been granted
- We have received 1,651 referrals for children to have their wishes granted.
- 1,140 wish discoveries have been carried out (where we explore wish ideas with the child and their family).



"We couldn't be more grateful to receive such an amazing experience. Make-A-Wish is such a fantastic charity. They provide hope and memories for children that experienced truly difficult times." Wish parent

Our wider achievements

- We worked with our second cohort of STARBoard, made up of 10 wish children, and have just welcomed three new members. They form a key part of our strategy to ensure young people are at the heart of everything we do, embedding youth voice into Make-A-Wish UK.
- We are supported by 10 Community Referral Partners who have been carefully selected to allow us to target regions and ethnic minority groups that are underrepresented in our reach.
- We ran a pilot project with a network connecting Muslim mothers globally to gain a better understanding of the community and ways in which we can engage meaningfully. This helped inform our wish discovery process and reach more critically ill children with Pakistani heritage.
- In March 2024, we welcomed Doctor Eleanor Yule as our new Chief Medical Advisor. Eleanor, Consultant Paediatrician based at Great Ormond Street, is an expert in neurodisability and neurodevelopmental differences.

United Kingdom

Prevalence and Incidence Research

Affiliate

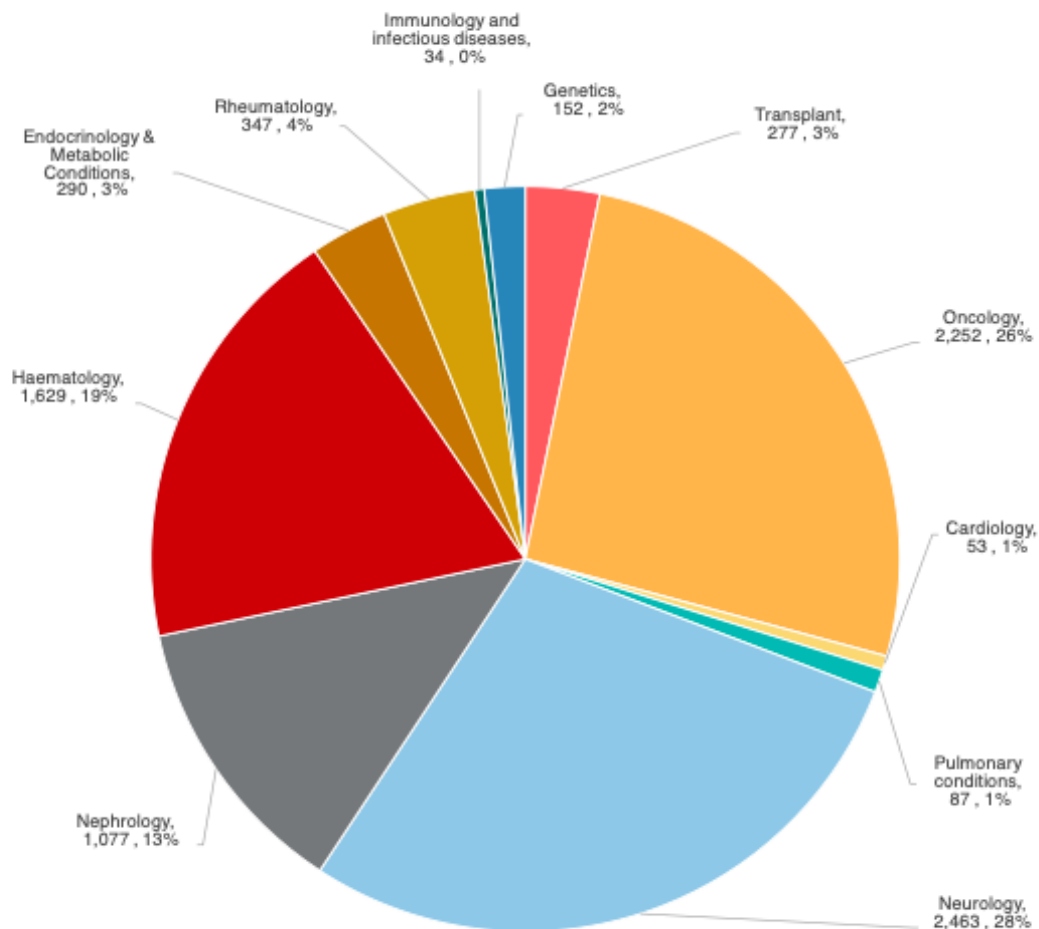
Population aged 3-17 years old
Estimated number of annual new eligible cases (total)
Estimated number of annual new eligible cases per 100,000
Estimated prevalence of eligible cases

United Kingdom

11,704,348
8,660
74
133,716



Estimated annual new eligible cases for United Kingdom = 8,660



THE WISH STORY - EXTRACT UK

I Wish To Be Surrounded By Golden Retrievers

Sellie, 10, UK, Osteosarcoma



In March 2024, Ellie received a diagnosis of osteosarcoma, a rare type of cancer. Since then, the cancer spread throughout her body, with the ten-year-old living with grapefruit-sized tumours in her groin lymph node.

For Ellie, the diagnosis has meant lengthy hospital stays, intensive doses of chemotherapy, and a leg amputation. After a year of gruelling treatment, Ellie received news that no ten-year-old should hear: chemotherapy was no longer working. As her mum Anna told us, “When the doctor said ‘nothing could be done’, Ellie was in a state. She was wailing, saying, ‘I don’t want to die. There are too many things I want to do.’ She is ten and made a will.”

Ellie’s condition has also taken its toll on her younger brother, eight-year-old Teddie. “When I’ve had to take Ellie into the hospital at night, he’ll call me asking why Ellie isn’t in the room that they share. He’s the sweetest little boy: he asks how Ellie is, he knows what GCSF injections are, and he asks if Ellie’s white blood cells are working.” Although going through what some adults would deem unimaginable, Ellie has remained extremely strong: “The brave ones are Ellie and Teddie. I can’t believe how resilient Ellie has been. They’re older than their years because this last year has aged them.”

As the family waits to hear news about Ellie’s future, including the prospect of more surgery, Ellie continues being her resilient self: “If you look at her now after losing her leg, you wouldn’t know. She’s running around and going to soft play. But I’m just waiting for this news about her future treatment.”

After a referral was put through to her teachers, Ellie had her wish discovery call. Mum recalled: “I had no idea she would choose to be surrounded by golden retrievers, it came out of nowhere!” After receiving the daunting news from her consultant, knowing that she had her wish to look forward to gave Ellie a much-needed distraction.

On the day of her wish, Ellie, her Mum, brother and Dad Patrick, drove from their home to Saint Ives, where over 50 golden retrievers waited. “As we pulled up to the rugby club, Ellie was in disbelief. She couldn’t understand that all these people turned up with their golden retrievers for her. It was raining, and they still came!”

THE WISH STORY - EXTRACT UK

Not only has Ellie's wish demonstrated to the family the power of community and the kindness of strangers-but it's also served as a reward for the siblings who have gone through so much. As Mum explained: "I see it as a reward. They have had a terrible year. No, the journey isn't over, but Ellie has done so much hard work. She deserves the world, and 50 goldens is the world in her eyes. I know it was Ellie's wish, but Teddie had an amazing day. He's had to put up with being away from us for weeks, so it was a reward for him too." For Ellie, her favorite part of the wish was cuddling the several puppies. As Mum told us: "She didn't want to leave them!"

Although Ellie's future remains uncertain, her wish has given her joyful memories that aren't defined by the realities of her condition. Everyone who came with their dogs took the time to stop and say hi to Ellie. No one brought up her cancer. It was all about Ellie, Teddie(her brother), and the dogs!" "Thank you isn't enough," expressed Mum. "The people who came with their dogs have no clue how much it meant to Ellie. Having a wish is a celebration for these children, these strong human beings who have gone through hellfire, but come out the other side smiling."



THE WISH STORY - EXTRACT UK

I wish to be a Scientist Audrina, 9, UK, Neuroblastoma

When Audrina was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, a rare form of cancer, the family's lives drastically changed. Her dad Zach described the build-up to her shocking diagnosis: "She had been suffering with pains and had been sick for ten months prior. 30 minutes after having scans done, the doctors called us back.

The scan revealed that there were some abnormalities. So, we went to Queens Medical Centre in Nottingham where she received her diagnosis and it snowballed from there. It was very difficult for all of us."

Neuroblastoma would shape Audrina's life. As mum Gemma explained, "Her life would have been completely different if she had never got cancer." Throughout treatment, Audrina was rarely able to go to school, forcing her to swap chatting with her mates in the school playground to instead talking to doctors and nurses in hospital.



THE WISH STORY - EXTRACT UK

As Dad told us, *"She missed pretty much all school, but when she did go in it was different - she had feeding tubes and had lost all of her hair. She was surrounded by adults, nurses, and doctors."*

To make matters worse, treatment has left Audrina with disabilities that she will live with for the rest of her life.

The diagnosis had a drastic impact for Audrina's parents. Having to cut back on the hours they worked, the family swapped their large house for a smaller one. "But we're pretty much always together as a family," said Mum.

Now, the family chooses to focus on the positives of life: "It changed our whole perspective on life. Now we prioritise having fun and spending time together over material things. We are now genuinely just so happy with the simple life and don't let silly things stress us out."



Influenced by the many hours spent in hospital and inspired by the doctors and nurses she'd met whilst undergoing treatment, Audrina aspires to be an immunologist when she's older.

As Audrina told us: "I want to be a scientist, I want to research into diseases like cancer and find cures! Wishing to go to the institute and learning the science behind human anatomy is something you can't organise yourself, so I thought, 'I have to use this opportunity to visit the Francis Crick Institute!'"

On the day of her wish, seven-year-old future scientist Audrina was immersed into the world of immunology. She was able to look at her favourite cells under microscopes, listen to a talk about mitosis, and use an electron microscope. Still buzzing from the experience, Audrina recounted how she "got to see a whole new side of biology - I got to work with the scientists, expand my knowledge, and learn some amazing facts from the professors!"

Another highlight of the wish came when Audrina met Nobel Prize winner and chief executive of the Francis Crick Institute, geneticist Paul Nurse. For Audrina, it was a once-in-a-lifetime moment where she was able to meet someone she looked up to, a source of inspiration for the future immunologist. Mum highlighted the importance of wishes for kids like Audrina, telling us how: "they need experiences to inspire them and keep them going



Something where they can think to themselves, 'ok, I have this awful condition, but it means I get to do this awesome thing, which I couldn't have done if I didn't have this condition.' It's like a silver lining. It's nice for them to feel special and be rewarded for how unbelievably brave they are."

"Thinking about my wish will bring back amazing memories of all the cool things that we did. It makes me feel so happy and lucky. Those memories will stick with me for a lifetime," said Audrina.

"A massive thank you to everyone who made my wish happen - I had the best time of my life! It was amazing. I was so lucky."



| Make-A-Wish®

DRIVING IMPACT TOGETHER



DRIVING IMPACT TOGETHER

As we reflect on the incredible progress made across our global network, one truth stands out: **none of it is possible without the belief and generosity of our supporters.** The Potato Foundation's grant has helped Make-A-Wish Affiliates in Austria, the UAE, and the United Kingdom build capacity and grant more life-changing wishes to children with critical illnesses. In the UAE alone, their support enabled the delivery of 10 heartfelt wishes—each one a moment of joy, strength, and hope for children facing unimaginable challenges.

TOGETHER, WE CAN DO EVEN MORE

With over **10,000 children still waiting** and our goal to grant **50,000 wishes annually by 2030**, we are more committed than ever to expanding our reach and deepening our impact.

Looking Ahead: Opportunities for Innovation

We invite the Potato Foundation to continue this journey with us through:

- **Multi-country wish grants** that connect children across borders
- **Themed wish campaigns** aligned with global awareness days
- **Employee engagement programs** to inspire corporate teams
- **Capacity-building investments** to strengthen Affiliate operations

THANK YOU Your support is not just a donation—it's a catalyst for transformation. Together, we are restoring childhoods, uplifting families, and driving impact across the world.

“This is a very special charity that gives generously to bring sparkle back to children and their families who have had a rough ride. We felt exceptionally lucky to be granted a wish, and especially one as magical as this.” Wish parent