



Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth's

THE STATE OF THE CHILD IN TENNESSEE

2024

EXHIBIT
19

Tennessee v. Meta
Case No. 23-1364-IV
PX-03261











Tennessee State Government | Tennessee Commission on Children & Youth

TN.GOV/TCCY/STATEOFTHECHILD

TNAGMETA-018-00006126

TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON
CHILDREN & YOUTH

Advocating for data-driven decisions to improve the lives of children and youth in Tennessee.

ABOUT THE TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH (TCCY):

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) is an independent, nonpartisan agency created to ensure the state's policies and programs effectively promote and protect the health, well-being and development of children and youth.

Established by the Tennessee General Assembly as a permanent commission, TCCY is the state's centralized informational resource and advocacy agency for timely, fact-based information to aid policymaking and coordination of resources.

WHAT TCCY DOES:

Data and Insights: Monitors various child and youth indicators to identify trends and areas of concern; keeps up with best practices for addressing issues affecting children and youth.

Collaboration: Convenes various agencies and organizations in leading efforts to improve services for children and youth.

Policy Advocacy: Reviews data and outcomes of various policies related to children and youth to provide evidence-based suggestions for improvement.

Public Awareness: Promotes public awareness about children's issues and advocates for community engagement in addressing these concerns.

Introducing TCCY's Data Dashboard

FUTURE

Building Tomorrow: Tracking Progress, Shaping Success

Tennessee Commission on Children & Youth's Data Dashboard



The State of the Child is one of several reports that TCCY releases annually. Additionally, TCCY publishes County Profiles, Budget Recommendations, the Youth Transitions Advisory Council Report, and Resource Mapping Report. Each report relies heavily on data gathered by state and federal departments as well as non-governmental organizations. Now, many of the indicators used for each of the reports can be found in one location, TCCY's data dashboard, FUTURE.

TCCY's mission to lead systems improvement for all Tennessee children and families through data-driven advocacy, education and collaboration will be significantly supported by this new data dashboard. FUTURE will allow our partners, citizens and communities who rely on the data we gather, a way to find that information and additional data year-round. FUTURE is the next step in our efforts to advocate for data-driven decisions to improve the lives of children and youth in Tennessee.

Visit www.TN.gov/TCCY-FUTURE to learn more.

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth Commission Members

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Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, Authorization No. 316689. 200 copies. This public document was promulgated at a cost of $9.02 per copy.

ABOUT THE STATE OF THE CHILD REPORT

TCA 37-3-103(a)(1)(E) requires the commission to (E) Publish annually, on or before December 31, a comprehensive report on the status of children and youth in Tennessee; and distribute the report to the governor, to each member of the general assembly and to each of the state's depository libraries.

The purpose of the State of the Child is to provide an annual overview of the well-being of children, youth and families in Tennessee through the available data. The report seeks to cover as many topics affecting children as possible, spanning from maternal and prenatal health to youth aging out of foster care.

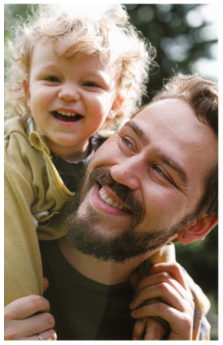
The data contained in this report comes from publicly available reports or data sets. The commission relies heavily on reporting from state and federal departments as well as non-governmental organizations. Without their continual work and dedication to the children in Tennessee, this report would not be possible.



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DEMOGRAPHICS















Race & Ethnicity

Demographics



Among those under 18 in Tennessee in 2023: [1]

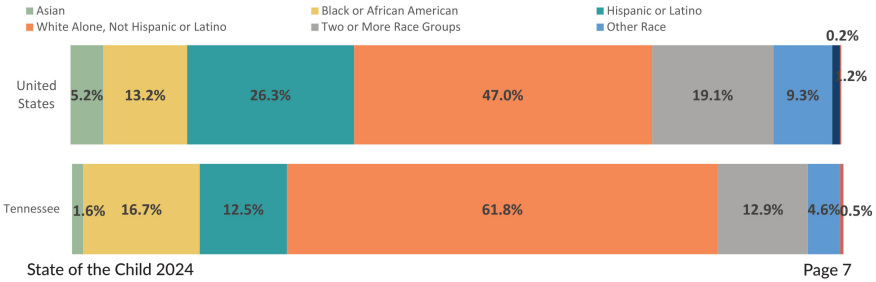
- 62 percent were White Alone, Not Hispanic or Latino
- 17 percent were Black or African American
- 13 percent were Hispanic or Latino
- 13 percent were Two or More Races
- 2 percent were Asian
- 0.5 percent were American Indian and Alaskan Native
- 0 percent were Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander

Over the last decade, Tennessee's children have become more diverse. In 2013, the largest racial group (Non-Hispanic White) comprised 67 percent of the child population, now it is 62 percent. [2]



Tennessee's child population is more diverse than older populations with 71 percent of the total Tennessee population reported to be White Alone, Not Hispanic or Latino. [3]

2023 Under 18 Population by Race/Ethnicity



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Age

Demographics

The services and investment needed from the state to support healthy and thriving children changes as they grow. Ensuring services are available to meet the needs of Tennessee children, from prenatal care through career development, is critical to a more successful future.

In 2023, more than one in five Tennesseans are under 18. [6]

32.0 percent of Tennessee children are under 6 [7]

32.7 percent of Tennessee children are age 6 to 11 [7]

35.3 percent of Tennessee children are age 12 to 17 [7]

Compared to 2013, Tennessee has seen a slight decline in the percent of the population under 18, shifting from 23 percent to 21.9 percent in 2023.[8,9]

In 2013: [10]

32.7 percent were under 6

33.1 percent were age 6 to 11

34.3 percent were age 12 to 17

Estimated total spending on children under five years of age accounted for 13.3 percent of all expenditures for children in Tennessee in FY 2022-23, while during that time period children under age five were 26.2 percent of all children in the state.[11]

Children under five experience the highest rates of poverty of any age group in the state.[12] Additionally, due to the rapid brain development occurring during the earliest years, which lays the foundation for learning and development throughout the lifespan, investing more of our state funds in our youngest Tennesseans would provide a greater return on investment.



Experiences

Demographics

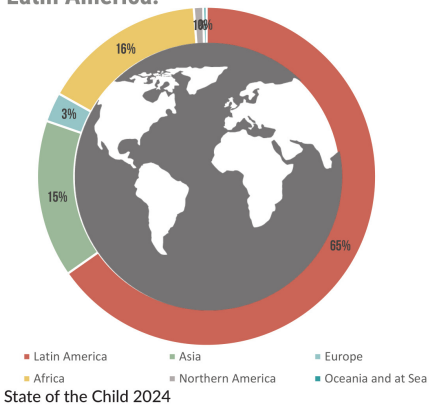
In addition to a child's age, life experiences can drastically shape services and supports needed to thrive.



1 in 9 Tennessee children age 5-17 speak a language other than English at home. In 2013 that figure was 1 in 13. [13,14]

One in seven Tennessee children are part of an immigrant family.[17]

Of Tennessee children born in another country, nearly two-thirds were born in Latin America.[18]



More than 8 in 10 Tennessee children are enrolled in a public school. [1]

Approximately 23 percent of all Tennessee children live in a household that received public assistance in the last 12 months. [1]

36 percent of Tennessee children live in renter-occupied housing units. [1]

Nearly 1 in 10 Tennessee children live with their grandparent as the householder. [10]

45 percent of teens 15 to 19 are in the labor force. [15]

More than 8 in 10 children live with their biological parent as the householder.

5 percent of Tennessee children are reported to have a disability. [1]

More than 1 in 3 Tennessee children age 12 through 17 were bullied, picked on or excluded in the last year. [16]

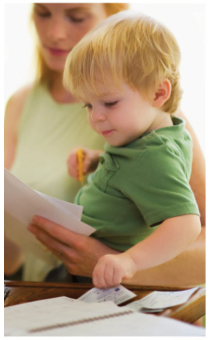
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ECONOMICS



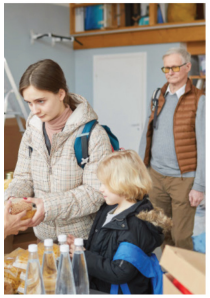














Measures of Poverty

Economics

There are two major measures of poverty, each considering different factors and expenses. Understanding which measure is being referenced and what is included is critical to properly assessing the challenges our children are facing and how we can improve resources and protections for them. Below is a brief explanation of the two commonly used measures, the Official Poverty Measure and Supplemental Poverty Measure.[1]

Official Poverty Measure[2]

U.S. Census Bureau

The Official Poverty Measure (OPM) was developed in the mid-1960's. It was calculated based upon the cost of a minimum food diet in 1963 multiplied by three. Each year it is updated to reflect current prices. The OPM only includes pre-tax cash income and does not include any government assistance or subsidies. The OPM is the same across the continental United States.

Supplemental Poverty Measure[3]

Bureau of Labor Statistics & U.S. Census Bureau

"In November 2011, the Census Bureau released its first report on the new SPM. The SPM addresses numerous concerns of official-measure critics, and its intent is to provide an improved statistical picture of poverty. The SPM income or resource measure is cash income plus in-kind government benefits (such as food stamps and housing subsidies) minus non-discretionary expenses (taxes, medical out-of-pocket expenses, and work expenses). The SPM thresholds are based on a broad measure of necessary expenditures—food, clothing, shelter, and utilities (FCSU)—and are based on recent, annually updated expenditure data. The SPM thresholds are adjusted for geographic differences in the cost of living. The SPM uses a broader unit of analysis that treats cohabiters and their relatives in a more satisfactory way." - Social Security Administration.

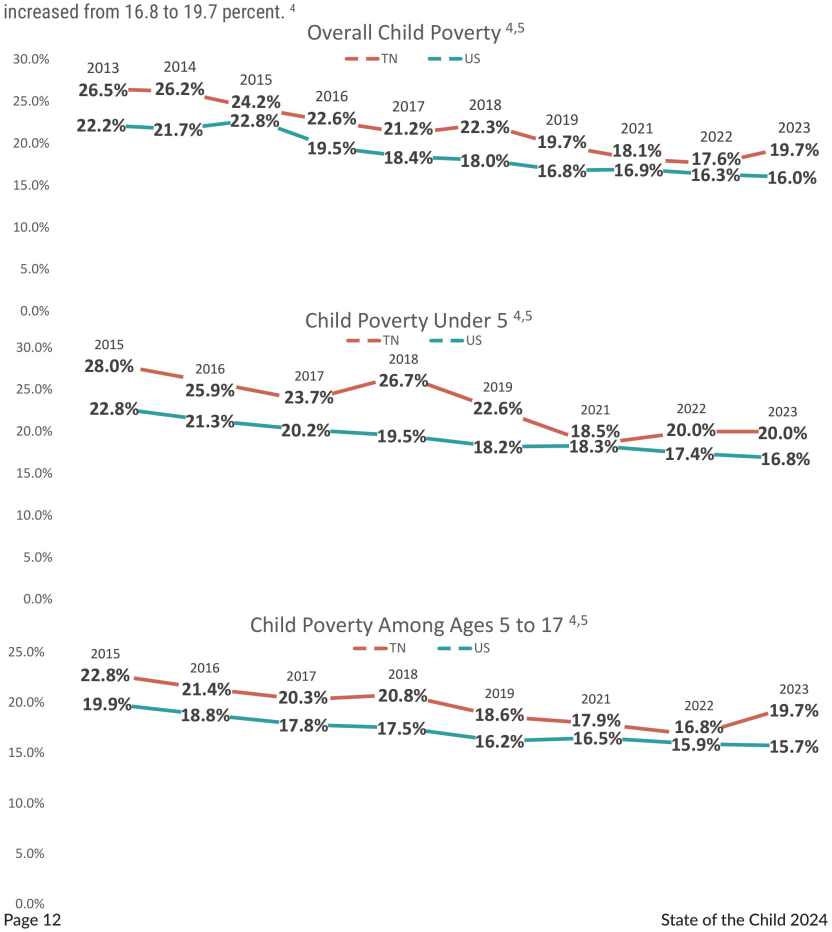
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Official Poverty Measure

Economics

Between 2019 and 2021 Tennessee made significant gains in reducing the percentage of children living in poverty. However, numbers from 2023 indicate those gains have been lost and place the state's child poverty rate back at 2019 numbers. [4,5] Poverty among those under 5 remained the same as 2022, with one in five children under five living in poverty. [4] At the same time poverty rates for those ages 5 to 17 increased from 16.8 to 19.7 percent. [4]





Over the last five years, the Median Household Income in Tennessee has increased more than the Consumer Price index, however, the Federal Poverty Line has failed to keep up with rising costs. [6,7,8]

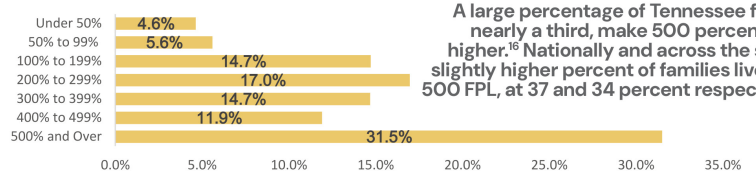
Year	Tennessee Family of Three Median Income	Family of Three Federal Poverty Line	Consumer Price Index Annual Average
Percent Change from 2019-2023	+26.7%	+17.2%	+19.2%
2023	$90,131	$24,860	304.7
2022	$85,423	$23,030	292.7
2021	$78,715	$21,960	271.0
2020	Unavailable	$21,720	258.8
2019	$71,133	$21,220	255.7

Due to the low poverty threshold established by the Federal Poverty Line (FPL), many programs establish their benefits cap as a percentage of the FPL. [9-15]

Sometimes referred to as benefits cliffs, these limits can create challenges as workers earn higher wages that might make them ineligible for still needed resources.

Percent FPL in 2023	50% FPL	75% FPL	100% FPL	130% FPL	133% FPL	138% FPL	142% FPL
Income for a family of three	$12,430	$18,645	$24,860	$32,318	$33,064	$34,307	$35,301
Benefits Eligibility Cap			Head Start TennCare (Caregiver)	Free School Lunch	TennCare (6 - 19)	Medicad Expansion	TennCare (1 - 6)

Percent FPL in 2023	180% FPL	185% FPL	195% FPL	250% FPL	85% State Median Income	300% FPL	400% FPL
Income for a family of three	$44,748	$45,991	$48,477	$62,150	$64,400	$74,580	$99,440
Benefits Eligibility Cap	Reduced Price Lunch	WIC/ Voluntary Pre-K	TennCare (0 -1)	CHIP & TennCare (Pregnant Women)	Smart Steps		



A large percentage of Tennessee families, nearly a third, make 500 percent FPL or higher. [16] Nationally and across the south, a slightly higher percent of families live above 500 FPL, at 37 and 34 percent respectively. [16]

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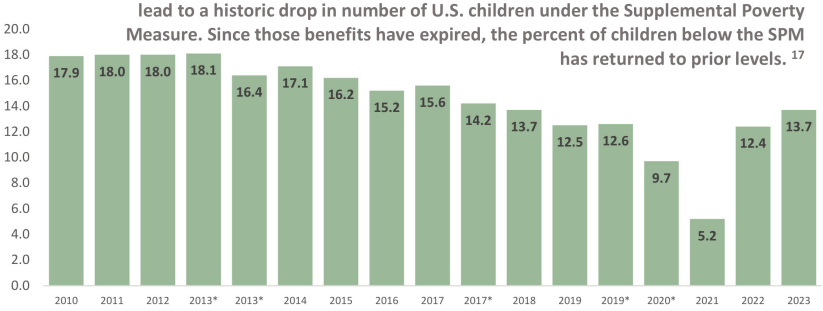
Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM)

Economics

The Supplemental Poverty Measure provides a more comprehensive look at the experience of families across the country, taking government assistance, expenses and location into account in a way the Official Poverty Measure does not.

National Supplemental Poverty Measure

Due to the inclusion of federal cash benefits in its calculation, the SPM is very responsive to benefit changes. The additional benefits provided in 2020 and 2021 lead to a historic drop in number of U.S. children under the Supplemental Poverty Measure. Since those benefits have expired, the percent of children below the SPM has returned to prior levels. [17]



Tennessee Supplemental Poverty Measure

At a state level, the Supplemental Poverty Measure figures are available as a three-year average.

Under 18 Years [18]

2021 - 2023 Tennessee: 6.1 percent
National: 10.4 percent

18 to 64 Years

2021 - 2023 Tennessee: 8.2 percent
National: 10.7 percent

65 Years and Older

2021 - 2023 Tennessee: 13.4 percent
National: 13.0 percent

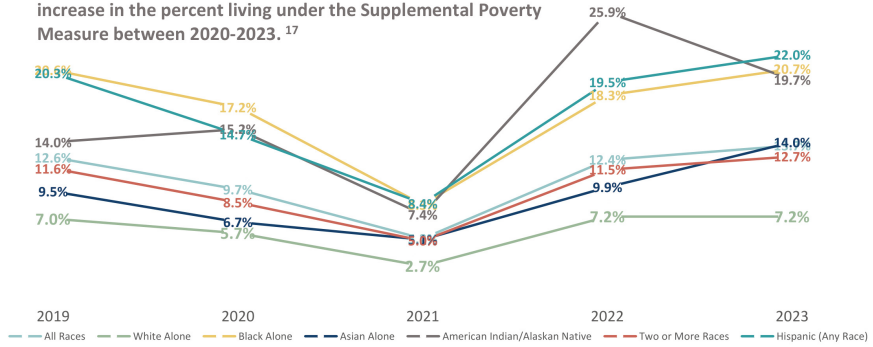
Supplemental Poverty Measure

Economics

The United States saw an historic decline in children living below the supplemental poverty measure in 2021 due to policies such as the child tax credit, stimulus, and pandemic EBT. Since the expiration of those programs, the percentage of children under the supplemental poverty measure has continued to increase to previous levels.

National Supplemental Poverty Measure

Nationally, children who are Black, Hispanic and American Indian/Alaskan Native saw the largest drop and then subsequent increase in the percent living under the Supplemental Poverty Measure between 2020-2023. [17]





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Supplemental Poverty Measure

Economics

Since the Supplemental Poverty Measure includes non-cash benefits such as tax credits or programs such as SNAP, WIC or TANF, we are able to measure the number of children those programs lift out of poverty. [19, 20] Though these numbers are only available on a national level, they still provide significant insight into how children, youth and families can be further supported. While children may receive many of these programs, these numbers evaluate the individual impact of each program on its own.

Refundable Child Tax Credit
2021: 2,919,000
2022: 1,411,000
2023: 1,382,000

Stimulus Payment
2020: 3,246,000
2021: 2,270,000

Social Security
2020: 1,115,000
2021: 1,065,000
2022: 1,353,000
2023: 1,364,000

Refundable Tax Credits
2020: 2,766,000
2021: 4,893,000
2022: 3,521,000
2023: 3,420,000

SNAP
2020: 1,150,000
2021: 891,000
2022: 1,407,000
2023: 1,346,000

School Lunch
2020: 160,000
2021: 271,000
2022: 828,000
2023: 651,000

Housing Subsidies
2020: 801,000
2021: 595,000
2022: 791,000
2023: 885,000

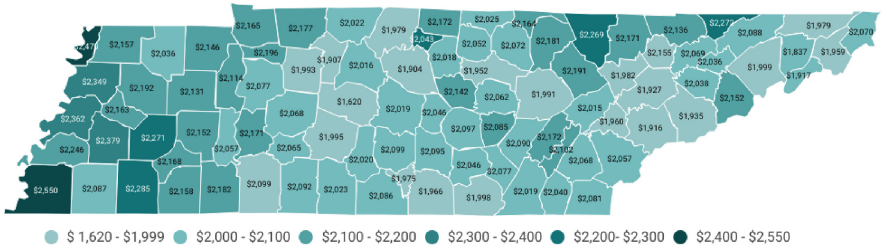
TANF
2020: 215,000
2021:109,000
2022: 286,000
2023: 261,000

WIC
2020: 66,000
2021: 39,000
2022: 98,000
2023: 102,000

Tax Credits

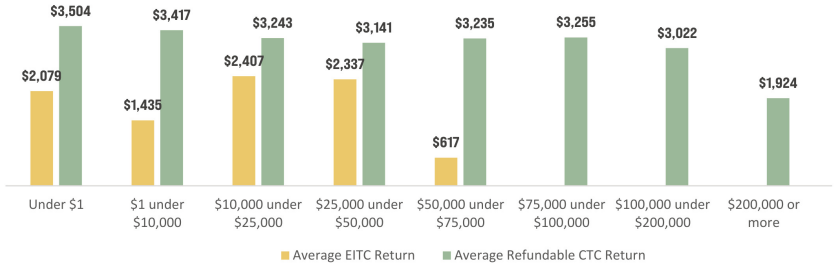
Economics

Average Earned Income Tax Credit Amount by County in Tax Year 2021 [21]

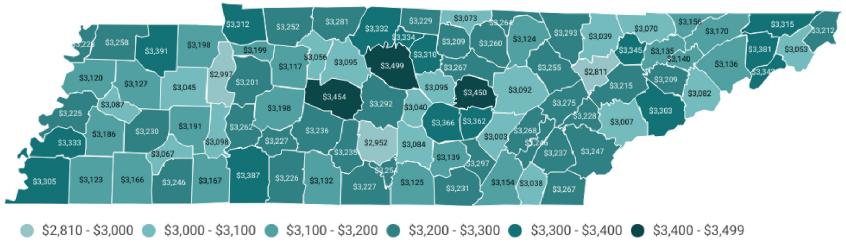


In 2021, 24 percent of Tennessee tax returns received an Earned Income Tax Credit. The average amount was $2,130. During that same time, 25 percent received a refundable Child Tax Credit for an average of $3,128. [21,22]

Average EITC Return & Refundable Child Tax Credit by Gross Income [21,22]



Average Refundable Child Tax Credit Amount by County in Tax Year 2021 [22]



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Household Finances

Economics

Among households with children in Tennessee between August 20th - September 16th, 2024:

Half of households reported it was somewhat or very difficult to pay for usual household expenses in the last week. Nationally, that figure was 41 percent. [23]

63 percent reported that the increase in prices over the last two months has been very stressful, compared to 56 percent nationally. [24]

Nationally and in Tennessee, 75 percent of households reported they think prices have increased over the last two months. [25]

Tennessee households were more likely to report being very concerned that prices will increase in the next six months at 66 percent, compared to 57 percent nationally. [25]

Nationally and in Tennessee, approximately 1 in 3 households reported that they chose not to take a trip in the last seven days due to the cost of gas. [26]

One in four Tennessee households reported a loss of income in the last month, compared to one in six nationally. [27]



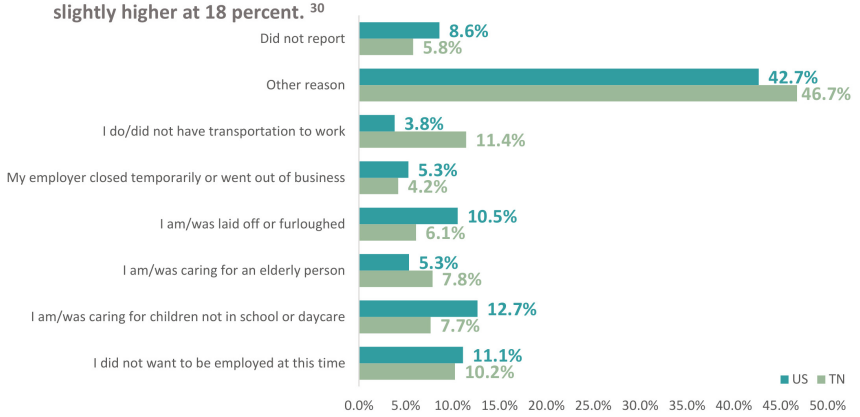


Employment

Economics

In 2023, Tennessee had an unemployment rate of 3.3 percent, making it tied with 2019 for the lowest unemployment rate in 50 years. [28] In August of 2024, Tennessee's unemployment rate was 3.1 percent. [28] The trend was similar nationally, with 2022 and 2023 having the lowest average annual unemployment rate since 1969 at 3.6 percent. [29]

Among all Tennessee workers not currently employed, 15 percent cited caregiving as at least one of the reasons they were not currently working. Nationally, the figure was slightly higher at 18 percent. [30]



*total excludes those who are not working due to being retired or sick/disabled.

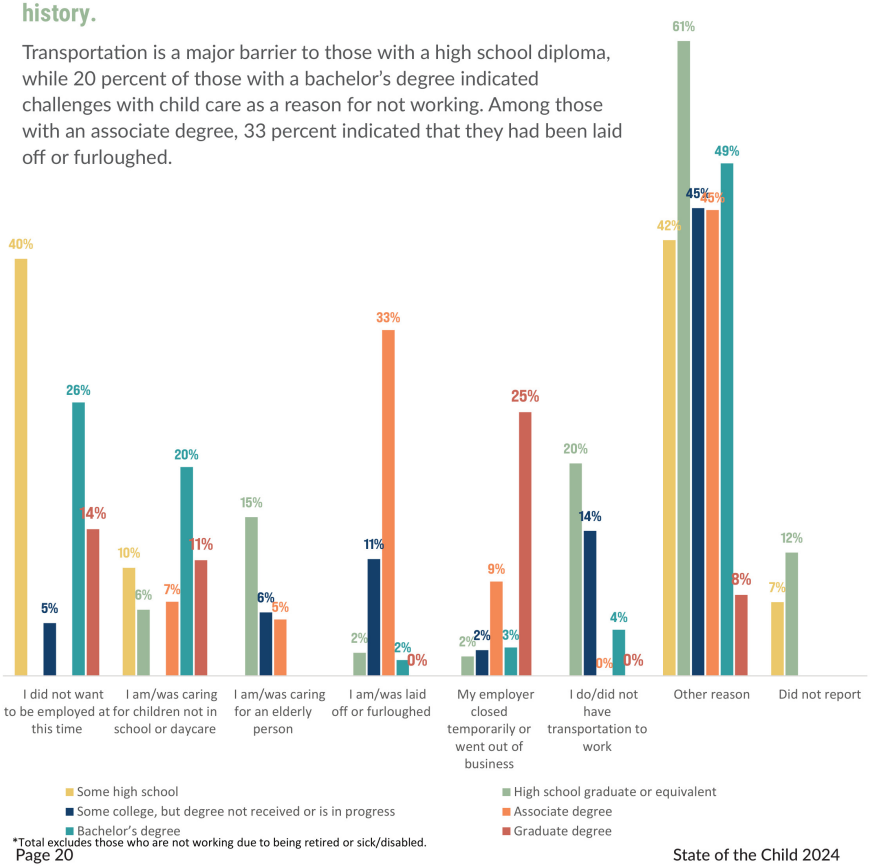
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Reasons for not working by educational attainment [30]

There are significant disparities in the challenges to obtaining employment based upon the individual's education history.

Transportation is a major barrier to those with a high school diploma, while 20 percent of those with a bachelor's degree indicated challenges with child care as a reason for not working. Among those with an associate degree, 33 percent indicated that they had been laid off or furloughed.



*Total excludes those who are not working due to being retired or sick/disabled.

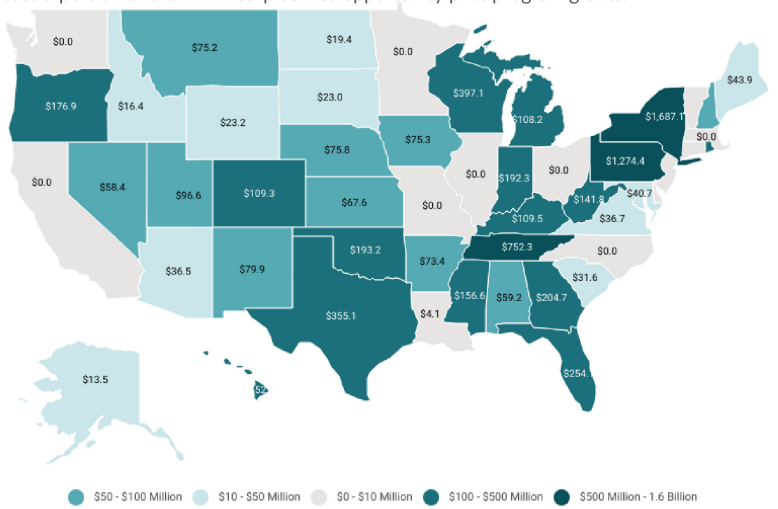
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Economics

At the end of FY2023, Tennessee had $752 million in unobligated TANF funds.[31] This was the third highest amount of unobligated funds behind New York and Pennsylvania.[31] Tennessee's unobligated balance makes up 10 percent of the total national unobligated TANF funds.

Evaluating the funds by child Tennessee had fourth highest, with $479 per child, placing us behind Hawaii ($1,541), Rhode Island ($520), and Pennsylvania ($485).[31]

The TANF Opportunity Act passed in 2021 required the Department of Human Services to allocate a portion of the TANF surplus into opportunity pilot program grants.



State	Unobligated Per Child	State	Unobligated Per Child	State	Unobligated Per Child	State	Unobligated Per Child
California	$0.00	Virginia	$19.49	Kansas	$97.41	Oregon	$212.71
Connecticut	$0.00	Arizona	$23.04	Iowa	$103.18	Mississippi	$230.34
Delaware	$0.00	South Carolina	$27.58	Utah	$103.53	New Hampshire	$264.86
Illinois	$0.00	Maryland	$29.88	South Dakota	$103.81	Wisconsin	$317.90
Massachusetts	$0.00	Idaho	$35.19	Arkansas	$104.02	Montana	$318.94
Missouri	$0.00	Texas	$46.97	North Dakota	$105.09	West Virginia	$402.48
New Jersey	$0.00	Michigan	$51.22	Kentucky	$107.66	New York	$426.05
North Carolina	$0.00	Alabama	$52.38	Indiana	$121.14	District of Colum	$448.53
Vermont	$0.00	Florida	$58.00	Nebraska	$157.59	Tennessee	$478.98
Washington	$0.00	Alaska	$76.65	Maine	$176.34	Pennsylvania	$484.75
Ohio	$0.00	Georgia	$80.65	New Mexico	$177.10	Rhode Island	$519.85
Minnesota	$0.00	Nevada	$85.15	Wyoming	$179.46	Hawaii	$1,541.15
Louisiana	$3.85	Colorado	$89.98	Oklahoma	$199.89		

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Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

In FY2023, 25 percent of TANF expenditures in Tennessee were for basic assistance and 24 percent were for Pre-K/Head Start.[32]

Tennessee Federal and State TANF Spending by Activity (in millions)	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
Basic Assistance	$74.1	$61.6	$18.4	$57.6	$23.5	$110.0	$68.4	$82.5
Child Care	$19.1	$19.1			$57.0	$7.6	$16.2	
Pre-K/Head Start	$48.2	$61.7	$85.9	$82.1	$83.1	$83.4	$84.3	$80.4
Work, Education & Training /Work Supports/ Work-Related Activities	$22.3	$18.8	$7.8	$20.7	$24.2	$20.0	$34.3	$59.9
Program Management	$26.6	$22.4	$26.3	$26.7	$31.9	$30.5	$28.4	$40.9
Other				$1.12	$1.1	$2.4*	$20.5*	$53.3
Child Welfare Services						$14.6	$32.2	$18.8

*From FY2021 on "Other" includes expenditures on "Out-of-Wedlock Pregnancy Prevention" & "Services for Children & Youth"

Housing

Economics

42% of Tennessee households with children and a rental payment report being behind on their rent. Nationally, that figure is 22 percent.[33]

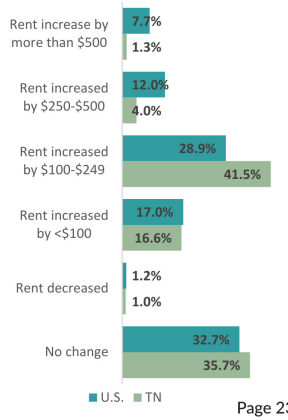
Among those who are behind in rent, 11 percent are very likely to face eviction in the next two months.[34] Nationally, those behind on payments were slightly more likely to face eviction, with 15 percent reporting eviction as very likely.[34]

44 percent of Tennessee households with children reported their household reduced or forwent expenses for basic household necessities, such as medicine or food, in order to pay an energy bill.[35] For one in five, this happened almost every month.[35]

More than one in five Tennessee households with children reported in the last year their home was kept at a temperature that felt unsafe or unhealthy in order to pay an energy bill.[35]



Of Tennessee households with children and a rental payment, 41 percent had a rent increase between $100-$249 over the last 12 months.[36]

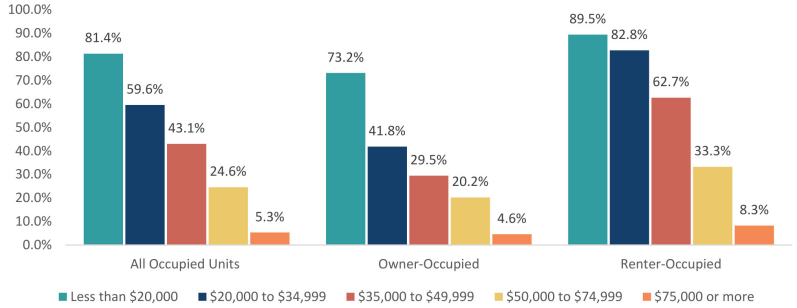


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Though many lower-income households are housing cost-burdened (spending 30 percent or more of their income on housing) it is more common among renter-occupied units. [37]



In 40 percent of rental units, rent is more than 35 percent of household income. Among those with a mortgage, housing cost-burden is much less likely at 19 percent. [38]

- Three out of four Tennessee children live in a one-family detached house. [39]
- More than one in three Tennessee households with children live in a structure built before 1979. [40]
- More than 1 in 10 Tennessee households with children have a non-relative living in the household. [41]
- One in eight Tennessee households with children have a grandparent living in the household. [42]
- More than half of Tennessee households with children have lived in their current home or apartment for 2 to 9 years. One in eight moved in less than 12 months ago. [43]
- 23 percent of Tennessee renter households are extremely low income, making $28,350 or less as a 4-person household. [44]
- Tennessee has a shortage of 121,810 rental homes that are affordable and available for extremely low-income renters. [44]
- 70 percent of extremely low income renter households are spending more than half of their income on rent. [44]

Homelessness

Economics

The numbers below are from Point-in-Time (PIT) information provided to HUD by Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs. The PIT Count provides a count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night during the last week in January 2023 and are specific to Tennessee. [45]



In 2023, there were 1,001 children experiencing homelessness across the state of Tennessee and 629 young adults age 18 to 24.

Sheltered:
There were 669 children living in an emergency shelter and 143 in transitional housing.

Among young adults, 145 lived in an emergency shelter and 31 were in transitional housing.

Chronically Homeless:
131 families with at least one child were experiencing chronic homelessness. Among those, 70 percent were in an emergency shelter and the remaining 30 percent were unsheltered.

Unsheltered:
208 children were living unsheltered.

392 young adults were living unsheltered.

Parenting Youth:
There were 53 young adults parenting children while experiencing homelessness. The majority of those young adults lived in an emergency shelter, while 4 were unsheltered and 2 lived in a transitional home.

There were 67 children of parenting young adults who were experiencing homelessness.

Unaccompanied youth:
There were 19 young people under 18 who were unaccompanied by an adult and experiencing homelessness. Five were in an emergency shelter and fourteen were unsheltered. Among those ages 18-24, 540 were on their own. Of those, 178 were in an emergency shelter, 23 were in transitional housing and 339 were unsheltered.

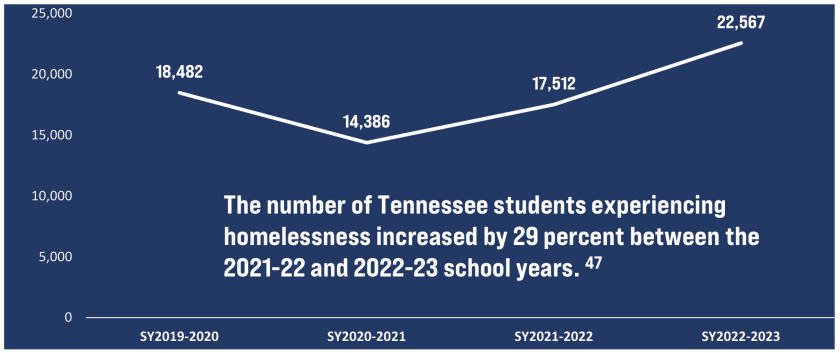
Unsheltered definition: In general, for purposes of the Point-in-Time (PIT) count, HUD considers individuals and families sleeping in a place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (e.g., abandoned buildings, train stations, or camping grounds) as "unsheltered" homeless. Additionally, HUD would generally consider individuals and families sleeping in a garage, shed, or other location outside of a housing structure, but on the property of a housing structure as "unsheltered" homeless for purposes of the PIT count. [46]

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Homelessness

Economics



Tennessee Students Experiencing Homeless by Subgroup in School Year 2022-23: [47]

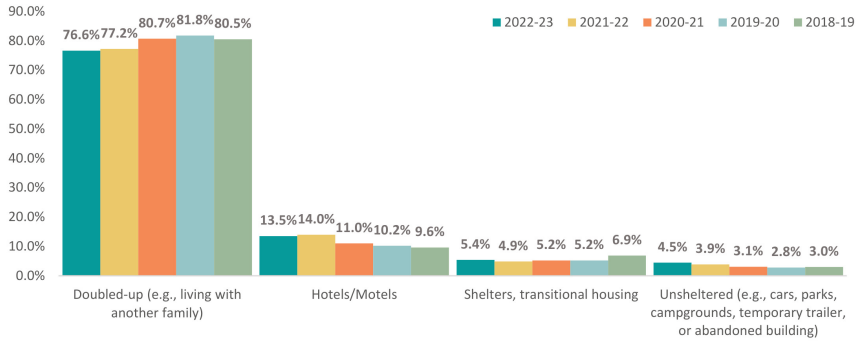
3,952
Children with Disabilities

61
Migratory children/youth

3,129
Limited English Proficient students

1,800
Unaccompanied homeless youth

Since 2018-19, there has been a decrease in the percent of youth who are experiencing homelessness and staying "doubled-up" with another family and an increase in those staying in hotels/motels or unsheltered (parks, cars, campground, etc.)[47]



CHILD CARE & EARLY EDUCATION















TNAGMETA-018-00006139

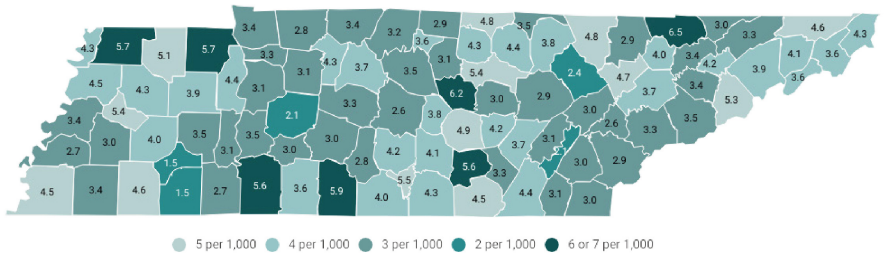
Accessibility

Child Care & Early Education

In Tennessee, there were 3.75 child care centers per 1,000 children aged 0-12 in 2024.[1]

The map below breaks this out by county. This includes providers licensed by Tennessee Departments of Human Services (2,331 providers), approved by Tennessee Department of Education (1,793 providers) or Exempt (37 providers).[1]

Across all licensed child care facilities in the state, including those licensed by the Departments of Human Services and Education and 37 exempt providers, the average capacity is 80 children.[1] The median is 60, though this does not take into consideration challenges with capacity that arise with a fluctuating workforce.



- 6 to 7 per 1,000 - Wayne, Grundy, Obion, Henry, Giles, Decatur, & Claiborne
- 5 per 1,000 -Marion, Shelby, Hardeman, Sullivan, Anderson, Scott, Clay, Warren, Weakley, Cocke, Putnam, Crockett, & Moore.
- 4 per 1,000 - Lawrence, Carter, Trousdale, Unicoi, Davidson, Bledsoe, Knox, Cannon, Fentress, Greene, Carroll, Madison, Union, Lincoln, Coffee, Washington, Bedford, Van Buren, Hamblen, Gibson, Lake, Cheatham, Franklin, Jackson, Johnson, Hamilton, Benton, Overton & Dyer
- 3 per 1,000 - Rutherford, Loudon, Hardin, Tipton, Marshall, Montgomery, Cumberland, Campbell, Macon, Monroe, Hancock, Maury, White, Haywood, McMinn, Polk, Lewis, Roane, Humphreys, Smith, DeKalb, Rhea, Dickson, Bradley, Sumner, Blount, Hawkins, Sequatchie, Houston, Williamson, Grainger, Robertson, Jefferson, Lauderdale, Stewart, Fayette, Perry, Henderson, Pickett, Wilson, & Sevier
- 2 per 1,000 - Chester, McNairy, Hickman, Meigs & Morgan

Affordability

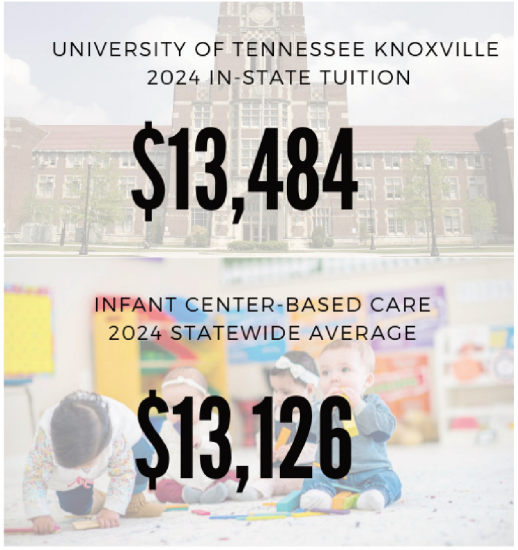
Child Care & Early Education

Cost of child care in Tennessee by type [2,3]

	Infant Center-Based	Infant Group Homes	Toddler Center-Based	Toddler Group Homes
FY2024	$13,126	$8,946	$12,063	$8,927
FY2019	$10,071	$6,696	$9,364	$6,452
Increase in Market Rate Price	**$3,055**	**$2,250**	**$2,699**	**$2,475**

Child care costs continue to be out of reach for many families, particularly single-income households. For many families, child care is the largest household expense, totaling more than their rent or mortgage.

Infant center-based care is more than 2024 in-state tuition in all but one of Tennessee's four-year public universities.[4]

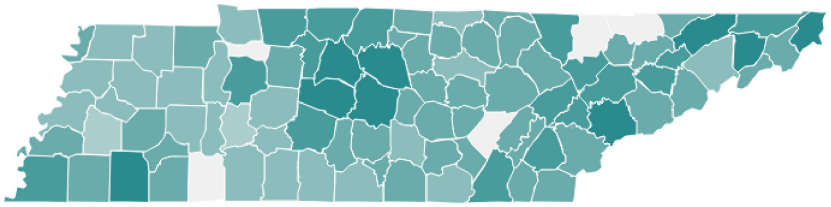


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TNAGMETA-018-00006140

Affordability

Child Care & Early Education



Average Annual Infant Care[5]

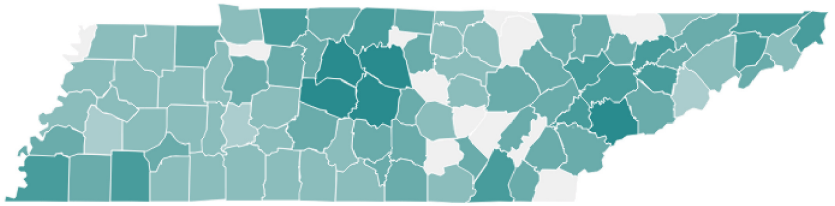
0 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000 10,000 12,000 14,000

	Average Annual Infant Cost	County	Average Annual Infant Cost	County	Average Annual Infant Cost	County	Average Annual Infant Cost	County	Average Annual Infant Cost
Anderson	$11,596	Decatur	$9,167	Henderson	$6,760	Maury	$10,465	Sequatchie	$8,970
Bedford	$8,450	DeKalb	$7,150	Henry	$8,060	McMinn	$10,400	Sevier	$9,815
Benton	$7,670	Dickson	$9,620	Hickman	$7,930	McNairy	$9,100	Shelby	$11,527
Bledsoe		Dyer	$7,540	Houston		Meigs	$9,167	Smith	$8,840
Blount	$13,195	Fayette	$8,840	Humphreys	$10,004	Monroe	$9,620	Stewart	$6,760
Bradley	$9,222	Fentress	$9,167	Jackson	$8,294	Montgomery	$10,530	Sullivan	$10,643
Campbell	$0	Franklin	$9,230	Jefferson	$10,833	Moore	$9,100	Sumner	$10,313
Cannon	$9,750	Gibson	$7,410	Johnson	$13,520	Morgan	$9,880	Tipton	$9,880
Carroll	$6,565	Giles	$6,327	Knox	$11,499	Obion	$6,760	Trousdale	$9,167
Carter	$9,880	Grainger	$9,167	Lake	$9,167	Overton	$8,320	Unicoi	$9,620
Cheatham	$10,270	Greene	$7,800	Lauderdale	$6,279	Perry	$5,850	Union	$8,710
Chester	$9,230	Grundy	$9,167	Lawrence	$7,800	Pickett	$9,167	Van Buren	$9,167
Claiborne		Hamblen	$10,400	Lewis	$7,280	Polk	$9,167	Warren	$8,450
Clay	$6,500	Hamilton	$11,267	Lincoln	$6,760	Putnam	$7,800	Washington	$12,220
Cocke	$9,167	Hancock	$9,167	Loudon	$11,960	Rhea	$8,411	Wayne	$6,240
Coffee	$7,865	Hardeman	$13,000	Macon	$9,295	Roane	$10,400	Weakley	$6,526
Crockett	$7,800	Hardin		Madison	$8,541	Robertson	$11,115	White	$8,060
Cumberland	$9,880	Hawkins	$13,000	Marion	$6,955	Rutherford	$14,326	Williamson	$14,664
Davidson	$12,352	Haywood	$5,590	Marshall	$8,710	Scott	$10,790	Wilson	$13,273

Blank cells indicate no reporting providers in the county

Affordability

Child Care & Early Education



Average Annual Toddler Care[5]

0 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000 10,000 12,000 14,000

County	Average Annual Toddler Cost	County	Average Annual Toddler Cost	County	Average Annual Toddler Cost	County	Average Annual Toddler Cost	County	Average Annual Toddler Cost
Anderson	$10,400	Decatur		Henderson	$6,760	Maury	$9,100	Sequatchie	$8,190
Bedford	$8,294	DeKalb	$6,994	Henry	$8,398	McMinn	$8,840	Sevier	$9,230
Benton	$6,955	Dickson	$9,360	Hickman	$7,670	McNairy	$7,800	Shelby	$10,920
Bledsoe		Dyer	$7,237	Houston		Meigs		Smith	$8,580
Blount	$12,610	Fayette	$8,450	Humphreys	$9,143	Monroe	$9,100	Stewart	$6,370
Bradley	$9,360	Fentress		Jackson	$7,852	Montgomery	$10,209	Sullivan	$10,487
Campbell	$8,840	Franklin	$8,320	Jefferson	$10,660	Moore	$8,580	Sumner	$10,192
Cannon	$9,750	Gibson	$7,017	Johnson	$11,440	Morgan	$9,880	Tipton	$9,360
Carroll	$6,565	Giles	$6,110	Knox	$10,998	Obion	$6,500	Trousdale	
Carter	$7,995	Grainger	$10,400	Lake		Overton	$7,540	Unicoi	$8,840
Cheatham	$9,542	Greene	$7,605	Lauderdale	$6,448	Perry	$5,850	Union	$8,450
Chester	$8,580	Grundy		Lawrence	$7,475	Pickett		Van Buren	
Claiborne		Hamblen	$8,996	Lewis	$6,500	Polk		Warren	$7,453
Clay	$6,500	Hamilton	$10,143	Lincoln	$6,847	Putnam	$7,720	Washington	$10,920
Cocke	$5,746	Hancock	$7,800	Loudon	$11,440	Rhea	$8,658	Wayne	$6,240
Coffee	$8,060	Hardeman	$11,700	Macon	$8,320	Roane	$9,620	Weakley	$6,461
Crockett	$7,358	Hardin	$6,500	Madison	$7,748	Robertson	$9,945	White	$7,323
Cumberland	$9,360	Hawkins	$9,100	Marion	$6,500	Rutherford	$14,339	Williamson	$14,027
Davidson	$12,913	Haywood	$5,980	Marshall	$7,670	Scott	$9,013	Wilson	$12,480

Blank cells indicate no reporting providers in the county

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Cost of Quality Care

Child Care & Early Education

The cost of care per child listed below is based upon the estimates developed by the University of Tennessee Boyd Center for Business & Economic Research using the Provider Cost of Quality Calculator tool. Additional information on calculations can be found in the Cost of Quality Care Study: A Survey of Recipients, 2023 report. On October 1, 2022, TDHS began transitioning to a redesigned Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS), which changes the approach to monitoring and assigns a numeric score rather than a star rating. For the purposes of this study, star ratings assigned under the previous QRIS approach were used. [6]

FY2021 Tier 1 counties included counties that are either one of the top-20 highest 2019 population or one of the top-20 highest average 2017-2019 per capita personal income counties, thus yielding the following 24 counties: Anderson, Blount, Bradley, Cheatham, Davidson, Fayette, Greene, Hamilton, Henry, Knox, Loudon, Madison, Maury, Montgomery, Putnam, Robertson, Rutherford, Sevier, Shelby, Sullivan, Sumner, Washington, Williamson, and Wilson. [7]
FY2021 Tier 2 counties excludes those counties that are either one of the top 20 highest 2019 population or one of the top 20 highest 2017- 2019 average per capita personal income counties, thus yielding 71 counties. [7]

Center-Based Care [6]

Total Costs Per-Child for Center Based Care by Classroom Age & Star Rating - Tier 1 Market (based upon 2021 expenditures)

	0 Star	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star
Infant	$13,390	$13,768	$14,194	$14,454
Toddler	$9,334	$9,586	$11,601	$11,809
Preschool	$6,089	$6,240	$6,415	$6,519

Total Costs Per-Child for Center Based Care by Classroom Age & Star Rating - Tier 2 Market (based upon 2021 expenditures)

	0 Star	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star
Infant	$10,834	$11,048	$11,236	$11,530
Toddler	$7,620	$7,763	$9,228	$9,463
Preschool	$5,049	$5,134	$5,212	$5,330

Group Home and Family Home Providers [6]

Total Costs Per-Child for Group Home Providers by Star Rating and Tier - (based upon 2021 expenditures)

	0 Star	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star
Tier 1	$10,834	$4,486	$4,516	$4,558
Tier 2	$3,829	$3,849	$3,876	$3,914

Total Costs Per-Child for Family Home Providers by Star Rating and Tier - (based upon 2021 expenditures)

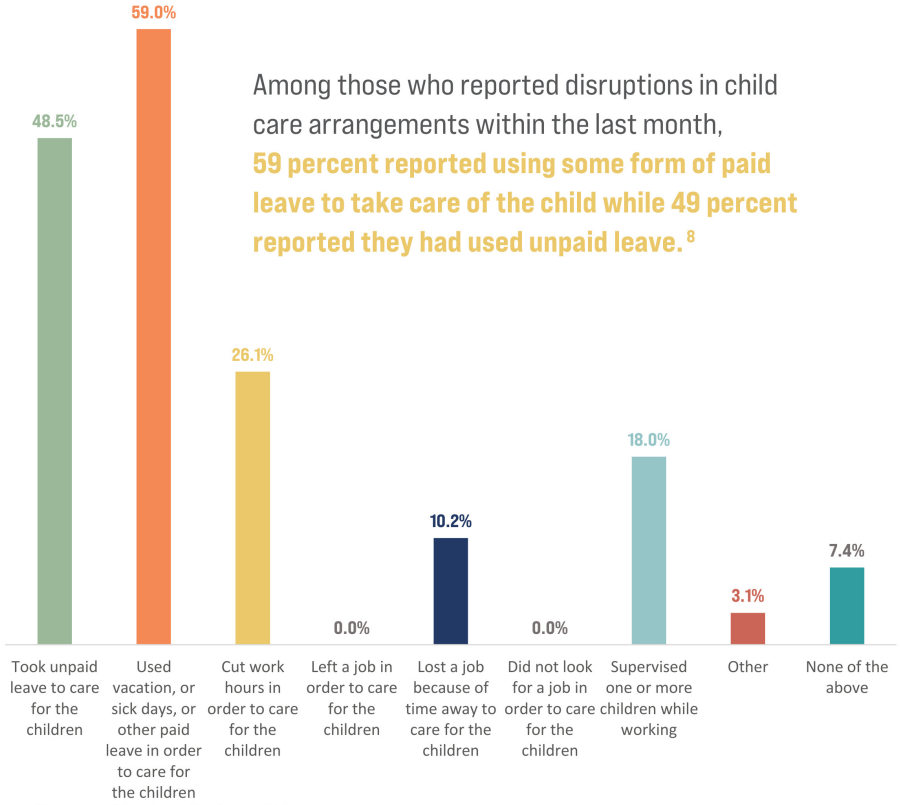
	0 Star	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star
Tier 1	$3,819	$3,849	$3,890	$3,948
Tier 2	$2,785	$2,811	$2,845	$2,893

Accessibility

Child Care & Early Education

Between August 20th and September 16th, 2024

10% Tennessee households with children in child care reported at some point in the last month they did not have care as a result of child care being closed, unavailable, unaffordable, or because they were concerned about their child's safety in care. [8]



Among those who reported disruptions in child care arrangements within the last month, **59 percent reported using some form of paid leave to take care of the child while 49 percent reported they had used unpaid leave. [8]**

*Survey participants could select multiple responses.

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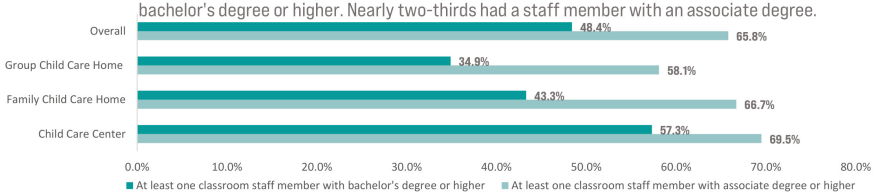
Workforce

Child Care & Early Education

Ensuring a strong child care workforce is a critical component of a healthy and functioning society. Creating a workforce that is highly skilled and well compensated allows for more opportunities for children's brains to develop and parents to engage in the workforce.

Education [6]

Just under half of child care providers surveyed reported at least one staff member had a bachelor's degree or higher. Nearly two-thirds had a staff member with an associate degree.



Income [6]

Income by Presence of Degree Holders

	At least one classroom staff with associate degree or more	At least one classroom staff with bachelor's degree or more
Average Salary for Teacher/Educator	$32,989	$32,276
Median Salary for Teacher/Educator	$25,824	$25,824

Income by Star Rating

	0 to 2 Stars	3 Stars
Average Salary for Teacher/Educator	$35,568	$31,452
Median Salary for Teacher/Educator	$24,750	$26,400

Benefits [6]

	0 – 2 Stars	3 Stars
Paid vacation	61%	56%
School discount	29%	37%
Paid sick leave	39%	35%
Tuition assistance	16%	24%
Medical	10%	13%
Other health benefit	6%	14%

	0 – 2 Stars	3 Stars
Vision	3%	10%
Retirement Contribution	6%	10%
Other health insurance	6%	7%
EAP	6%	5%
Family Plan	0%	5%
Other benefits	7%	20%

EDUCATION

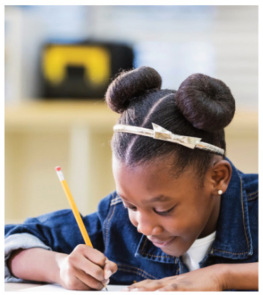










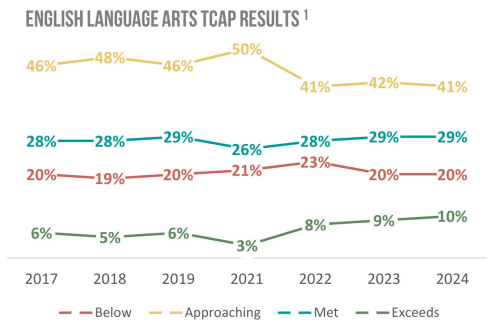


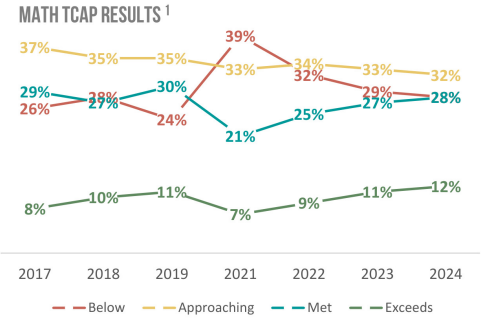


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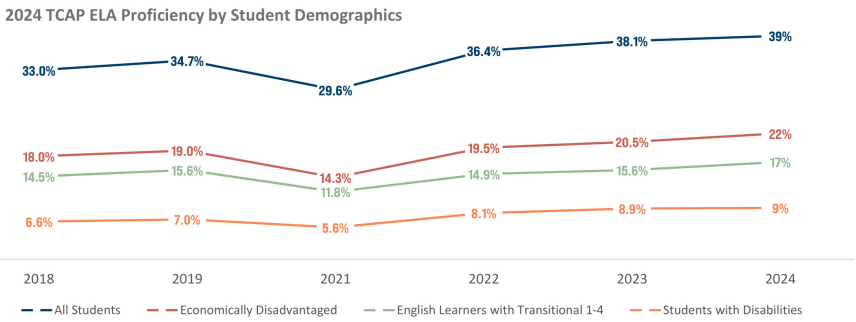


Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) Results

Education

The largest percentage of Tennessee students, 41 percent in English Language Arts and 32 percent in Math, fall into the "Approaching" score in TCAP.[1]

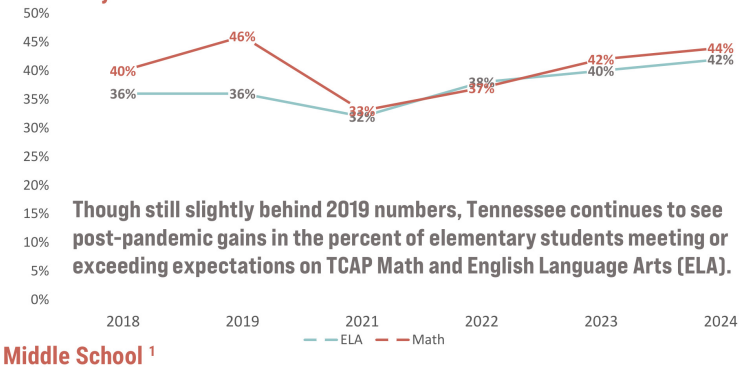
Results by demographics (all grades) [1]



TCAP Results

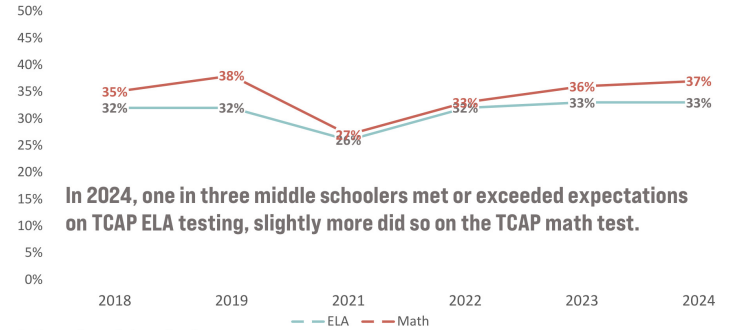
Education

Elementary School [1]



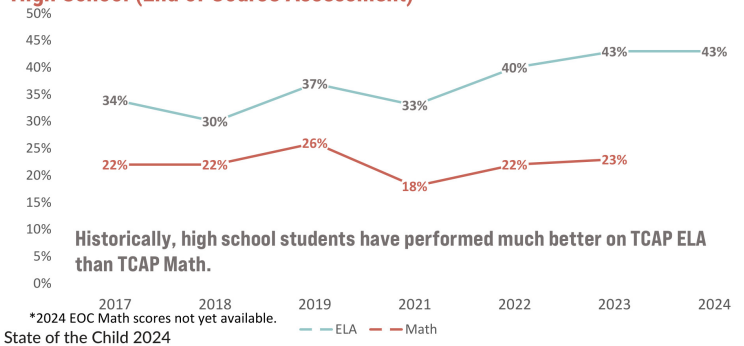
Though still slightly behind 2019 numbers, Tennessee continues to see post-pandemic gains in the percent of elementary students meeting or exceeding expectations on TCAP Math and English Language Arts (ELA).

Middle School [1]



In 2024, one in three middle schoolers met or exceeded expectations on TCAP ELA testing, slightly more did so on the TCAP math test.

High School (End of Course Assessment) [1]



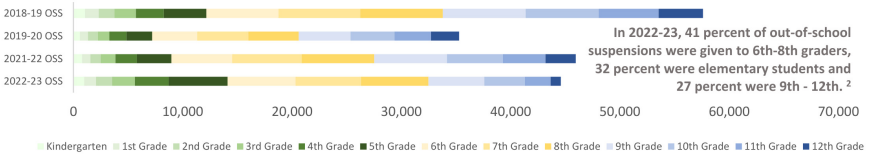
Historically, high school students have performed much better on TCAP ELA than TCAP Math.

*2024 EOC Math scores not yet available.

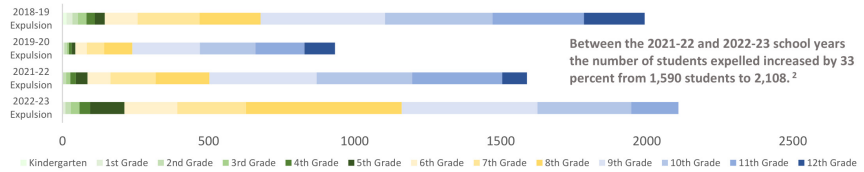
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Discipline

Education



In 2022-23, 41 percent of out-of-school suspensions were given to 6th-8th graders, 32 percent were elementary students and 27 percent were 9th - 12th. [2]



Between the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years the number of students expelled increased by 33 percent from 1,590 students to 2,108. [2]

In 2022-23 there were 894 instances of corporal punishment in public schools. Of those, 14 involved a student with an IEP/504 Plan. In total, 39 LEAs reporting instances of corporal punishment occurred in the 2022-23 school year. [3]

Among LEAs that used corporal punishment, 46 percent reported fewer than 10 instances. The number of instances per LEA ranged from fewer than 10 to 272. One LEA accounted for 30 percent of the instances of corporal punishment. [3]

Support Services

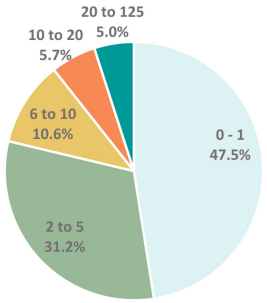
Education

IN THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR APPROXIMATELY:

47.5% of school districts had zero or one psychological professionals on staff. [4]

In 2023-2024, there were 577 social workers, an increase from 511 the previous year. [5] Using previous year daily attendance numbers, Tennessee public schools had **a ratio of 1 social worker to every 1,613 students.** [6]

The National Association of Social Work standards call for a ratio of **at least one for every 250 students.** [7]



Number of Psychological Staff/ Psychologists employed by County and City Boards of Education (2022-23). [4]

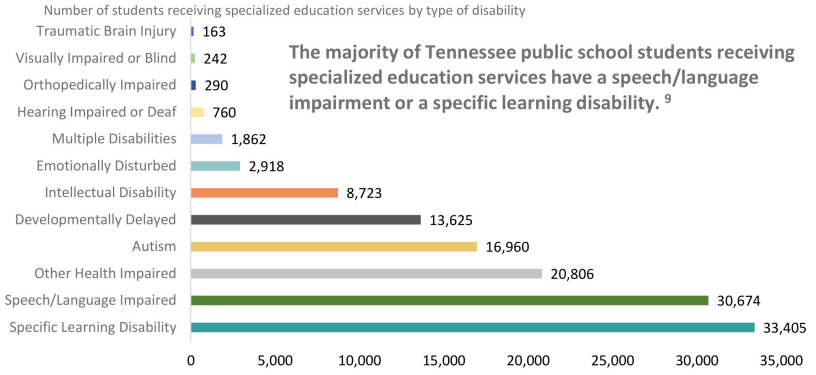
1,083 schools have a partnership with a community based mental health provider to provide services to students. [5]

36,554 student health encounters resulted in referral to a school counselor or mental health provider. [8]

Support Services

Education

131, 571 public school students with disabilities categorized under part B of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) received special education services. [9]



The majority of Tennessee public school students receiving specialized education services have a speech/language impairment or a specific learning disability. [9]



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School Infrastructure

Education

Building Tennessee's Tomorrow: Anticipating the State's Infrastructure Needs is the most recent in a series of legislatively required reports produced by the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. The report maintains an inventory of infrastructure needs across the state. Each year the report reviews needs over a five-year period. The 2024 report reviewed state-wide needs from July 2022-June 2027. All of the figures reflected below represent that time period. The 2024 report found school renovations and new public schools & additions to be the fourth and fifth highest need across the state, totaling $9.7 billion. [10]

One in 10 Tennessee schools have infrastructure rated in fair or poor condition. [11]

School districts where at least one in three schools have infrastructure rated in fair or poor condition: [11]

Lake County - 66.7 percent
Germantown - 66.7 percent
Bledsoe County - 60.0 percent
Athens - 60 percent
Davidson County - 43.4 percent
Lauderdale County - 42.9 percent
Marion County - 40.0 percent
Milan SSD - 33.3 percent
Humphreys County - 33.3 percent
Fayetteville- 33.3 percent

Tennessee's public schools need **87 million dollars** in infrastructure improvements to be in compliance with state and federal laws. [12]

Funds needed for compliance by state and federal law: [12]
$16 million for asbestos compliance
$47 million for Americans with Disabilities Act compliance
$13 million for Education Improvement Act compliance
$11 million for fire codes compliance.

School districts with the greatest need for compliance funding: [12]
$45.5 million - Shelby County
$5.23 million - Sullivan
$4.83 million - Bristol
$4.20 million - Collierville
$3.62 million - Madison County
$3.50 million - Germantown
$3.00 million - McNairy County
$2.02 million - Lauderdale County
$1.97 million - Montgomery County
$1.90 million - Oak Ridge

School Infrastructure

Education

"Public school facilities that are well-planned, designed, built, operated and maintained have an outsized positive impact on education, health, the natural environment and our communities" -

Mary Filardo, 21st Century School Fund, 2021 State of Our Schools: America's PK–12 Public School Facilities 2021. May 2021. [13]

Across all existing Tennessee public schools, there is $5.47 billion dollars needed to bring all existing public schools up to good or excellent condition according to the report's Facility Rating Scale. [14]

School districts with greatest need for renovation funding: [14]
$3.36 billion - Davidson County
$422 million - Shelby County
$174 million - Williamson County
$146 million - Rutherford County
$128 million - Wilson County
$75 million - Montgomery County
$72 million - Robertson County
$55 million - Bartlett
$54 million - Knox County

Tennessee public schools need $4.0 billion in infrastructure funds for new public schools and additions. [10]

Tennessee public schools in fair or poor condition need 2.3 billion dollars in infrastructure improvement. [14]



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HEALTH















Chronic Health & Disability Diagnosis

Health



- 1 in 5 Tennessee children have special health care needs.[1]
- 1 in 25 Tennessee children have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.[2]
- 1 in 10 Tennessee children have been diagnosed with ADD/ADHD.[3]
- 1 in 10 Tennessee children need treatment or counseling for an emotional, developmental or behavioral problem. [3]

In the 2023-24 school year, 163,791 public school students had a chronic illness or disability diagnosis.[4]

5 percent of Tennessee children under 18 are reported to have a disability in 2023.[5]

Among those reported to have a disability, the disabilities are then classified as cognitive, self-care, vision, ambulatory or hearing difficulties. Among all children under 18:

- 5.1 percent have a cognitive difficulty
- 1.0 percent have a self-care difficulty
- 1.0 percent have a vision difficulty
- 0.6 percent have an ambulatory difficulty
- 0.5 percent have a hearing difficulty

Disability Rights Laws in Public Primary and Secondary Education from the ADA National Network [6]

There are three main laws that address the rights of students with disabilities in public schools: The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

These laws each address different parts of the educational picture for students with disabilities.

The ADA is a broad law that provides civil rights protections to all individuals with disabilities in the US in many different aspects of life. Title II of the ADA prohibits discrimination by state and local governments, which includes public schools.

Section 504 is more limited, it provides civil rights protections to all individuals with disabilities in programs that receive federal funding, which includes most public schools. Both the ADA and Section 504 are nondiscrimination laws that do not provide any funding to the covered entity.

Finally, IDEA is a statute that mandates free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE) for students with disabilities eligible under IDEA. It is not an anti-discrimination law. Note that Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and least restrictive environment (LRE) are legal terms defined in IDEA. IDEA provides federal funding to schools to support IDEA eligible students.

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Chronic Health & Disability Diagnosis

Health

Many of Tennessee's public-school students work to manage chronic health conditions and disabilities while at school. School nurses, social workers, counselors and other support staff are crucial in maintaining a healthy and safe learning environment for all children.



Most common chronic health and disability diagnoses among public school students [7]

- 39,669 students have an ADHD diagnosis
- 29,385 have an asthma diagnosis
- 33,311 have an "other" diagnosis
- 17,212 have a mental health disorder diagnosis
- 15,682 have an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis
- 12,750 have a severe life-threatening allergy
- 5,836 have a seizure disorder diagnosis
- 3,265 have a diabetes diagnosis

In the 2023-24 school year: [7]

- Albuterol was administered at a public school or school-sponsored function 31,007 times.
- In 1,715 public schools there were 4,539 Automated External Defibrillators (AED). AEDs in public schools were used 35 times.
- The most common life-threatening allergies were food allergies. Epinephrine was administered 746 times in public schools.
- School nurses had 5.2 million encounters with students.
- Emergency treatment was administered to students 38,224 times.



In the 2023-24 school year, school nurses conducted 1.1 million health screenings in public schools including: [7]

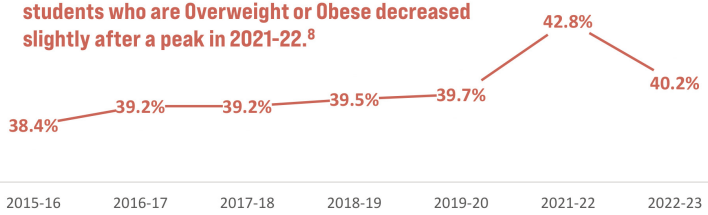
- 291,128 vision screenings
- 285,691 hearing screenings
- 230,385 BMI screenings
- 203,571 blood pressure screenings
- 50,621 oral health screenings
- 9,919 scoliosis screenings

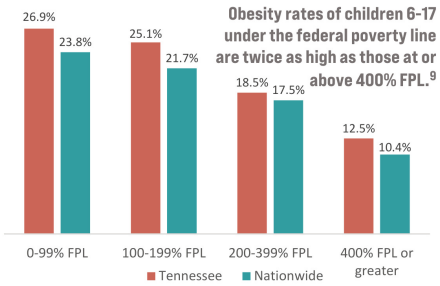
Obesity

Health

Obesity in childhood can be a risk factor for diabetes, high blood pressure or high cholesterol. Addressing and reducing childhood obesity requires a systemic approach that evaluates a child's access to affordable healthy and nutritious foods, safe green space and parks to play, and other contributing health factors. In addition to the listed physical health contributors, mental health can play a large role in childhood obesity.

In the 2022-223 school year, the percent of Tennessee students who are Overweight or Obese decreased slightly after a peak in 2021-22. [8]





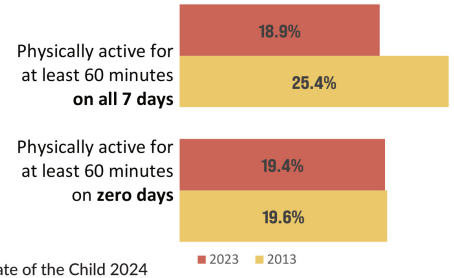
Among high school students, 35 percent were physically active for at least 60 minutes on five of the last seven days, a decrease of 13 percent over the decade. [10]

In the 2023-24 school year, 1,723 schools had a school produce garden representing a significant increase from 270 the previous year. [4]

79 percent of districts report zero schools allow the denial of physical activity as a punishment, an increase from 66 percent in 2022-23. [4]

Over the last decade, the number of high school students reporting they drank two or more sodas a day has decreased from 24 percent to 16 percent. [11]

Over the decade, the percent of Tennessee high school students physically active every day has declined. [12,13]



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Food & Nutrition

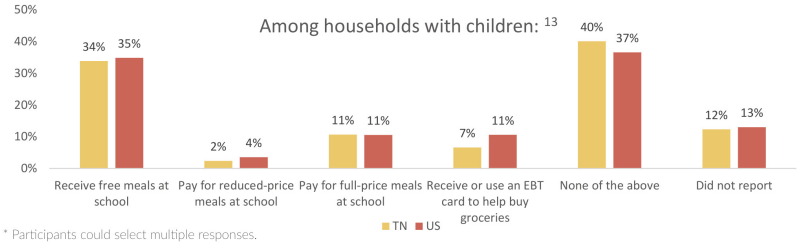
Health

Community Eligibility Provision

"The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is a non-pricing meal service option for schools and school districts in low-income areas. CEP allows the nation's highest poverty schools and districts to serve breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students without collecting household applications."
- U.S. Department of Agriculture [14]

Benefits of the Community Eligibility Provision [14]

- Eliminates unpaid meal charges
- Minimizes stigma
- Reduces paperwork for school nutrition staff and families, and
- Streamlines meal service operations.



* Participants could select multiple responses.

Among households with children who did not receive free lunch, one in four reported paying for children to eat at school made it difficult to pay for other household expenses. [16]

Food Insecurity

In 2022, Tennessee's child food insecurity rate was 17.9 percent representing 274,320 children. [17] By county, child food insecurity varied from 3.5 percent to 35.3 percent. [17]

1st - 19th		20th-38th		39th -57th		58th - 76th		77th - 95th	
Williamson	3.5%	Chester	16.4%	Decatur	17.9%	Fayette	19.7%	DeKalb	21.4%
Wilson	10.5%	Jefferson	16.5%	McMinn	18.0%	Gibson	19.7%	Carter	21.5%
Moore	11.4%	Roane	16.5%	Anderson	18.1%	Greene	19.7%	Obion	21.8%
Cheatham	11.6%	Bedford	16.9%	Meigs	18.4%	Monroe	19.7%	Fentress	21.9%
Blount	12.2%	Polk	16.9%	Montgomery	18.4%	Warren	19.7%	Pickett	22.6%
Robertson	13.1%	Putnam	16.9%	Franklin	18.5%	Davidson	19.8%	Henry	23.2%
Sumner	13.1%	Smith	16.9%	Henderson	18.6%	Grundy	20.0%	Campbell	23.3%
Maury	13.4%	White	16.9%	Van	18.7%	Grainger	20.2%	Johnson	23.3%
Rutherford	13.5%	Bradley	17.0%	Sullivan	19.0%	Jackson	20.2%	Sequatchie	24.3%
Knox	13.6%	Macon	17.0%	Tipton	19.0%	Claiborne	20.3%	Madison	26.4%
Dickson	13.8%	McNairy	17.0%	Coffee	19.1%	Crockett	20.4%	Bledsoe	26.5%
Lincoln	14.8%	Sevier	17.0%	Lewis	19.1%	Morgan	20.6%	Cocke	26.6%
Loudon	15.6%	Cannon	17.1%	Marion	19.2%	Hawkins	20.8%	Scott	26.9%
Humphreys	15.7%	Lawrence	17.1%	Dyer	19.4%	Benton	20.9%	Shelby	27.4%
Marshall	15.8%	Giles	17.3%	Hamblen	19.6%	Carroll	20.9%	Hardeman	28.8%
Stewart	15.8%	Overton	17.5%	Unicoi	19.6%	Rhea	20.9%	Lauderdale	28.9%
Houston	16.0%	Cumberland	17.6%	Union	19.6%	Hardin	21.0%	Hancock	29.2%
Trousdale	16.1%	Hamilton	17.6%	Wayne	19.6%	Perry	21.0%	Haywood	33.6%
Washington	16.1%	Hickman	17.7%	Clay	19.7%	Weakley	21.0%	Lake	35.3%

Health Insurance

Health

In 2023, 53.1 percent of Tennessee's youth were covered by TennCare down slightly from a peak of 55.3 percent the previous year. [18]

The decrease is likely due to the Medicaid unwinding process after the expiration of the Public Health Emergency. While the percentage of children covered by TennCare has returned to 2021 numbers, it still represents a significant increase of 28 percent over the decade. [18]

In 2023, Medicaid covered the delivery of 46 percent of Tennessee live births. [19]

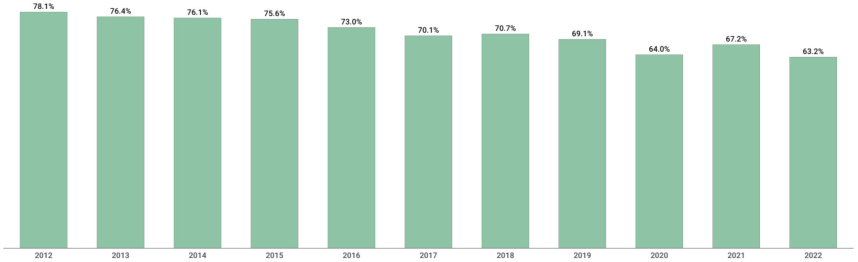


In nearly 1 in 10 households with children in Tennessee the adult householder is uninsured. [20]

In 2023, 5.6 percent of Tennessee children were uninsured. [21]

Over the last decade 78 to 63 percent of uninsured children have been financially eligible for coverage. [22]

Percent of Tennessee children who are uninsured and financial eligible for TennCare/CoverKids



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Health Insurance

Health

Private Coverage

Almost half of Tennessee children have employer-based health coverage alone or in combination with other coverage. [23]



Characteristics of uninsured Tennesseans: [21,24]

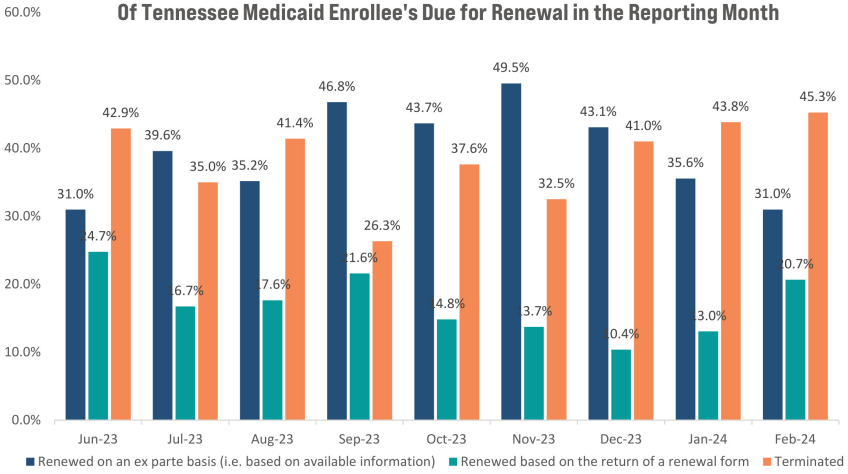
- 62 percent of Tennesseans over 16 who are uninsured are employed.
- 43 percent of these worked full-time year-round over the last 12 months.
- The most common industries for uninsured workers were construction (17.2 percent) and arts, entertainment/recreation, accommodation and food services (16.9 percent)
- 41 percent of uninsured Tennesseans had a household income under $50,000.
- In August and September 2024, more than half of Tennessee households with uninsured adults reported someone in their household lost employment income within the last month.

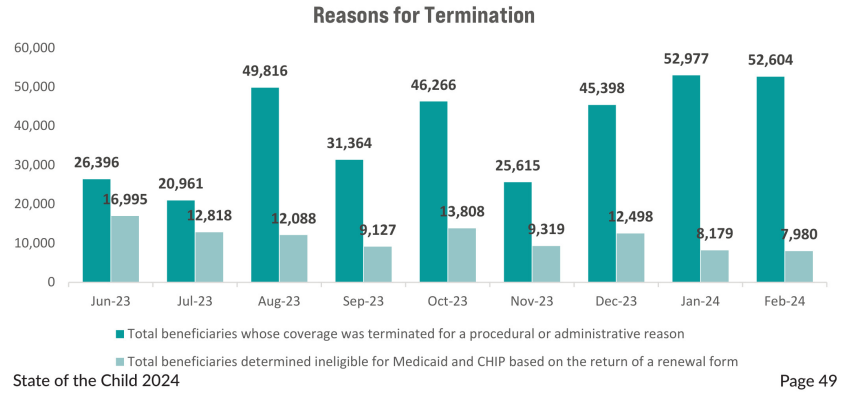


Health Insurance

Health

After the expiration of the pandemic public health emergency, states began the process of Medicaid unwinding. Below are Tennessee's monthly Medicaid and CHIP renewal outcome data submitted to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services from the Unwinding Data Report.[25] A significant component to ensuring children have access to health care is to protect those who are already insured or are eligible for insurance from losing coverage due to procedural mistakes on an application.





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Infant & Maternal Care

Health

In 2023, 1 in 12 Tennessee births resulted in NICU admission. [26]

9.0 percent of Tennessee babies were born at a low birth weight. [27]

In 2023, Tennessee had 11.3 percent of babies born preterm. The highest percentage since 2008. [28]

In 2022, Tennessee had the 6th highest teen birth rate in the country, 21.0 per 1,000 females age (15-19). Nationally it was 13.9 per 1,000. [29]

Between 2016 to 2023, the number of births to children under age 15 in Tennessee has ranged from a high in 2021 of 72 births to a low of 51 births in 2020. In 2023, it was 52. [30]

80 percent of Tennessee babies were most often laid on their back to sleep. However, only 28 percent reported the baby slept alone and on an approved sleep surface. [31]

Maternal Depression

Among Tennessee women who were pregnant or gave birth in 2022: [31]

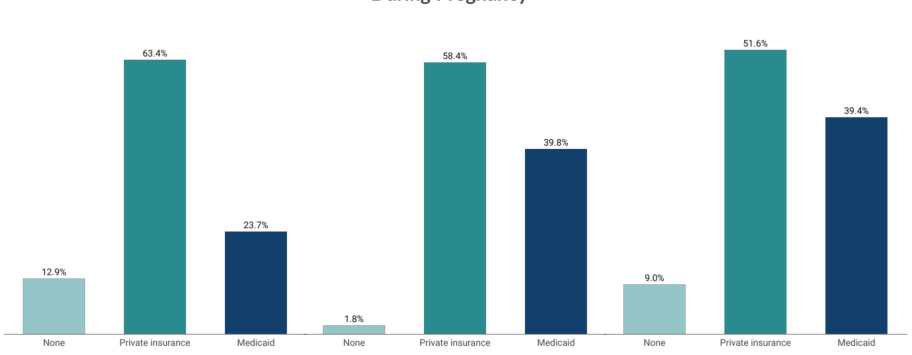
12.8%
had depression in the three months before pregnancy

13.4%
had depression during pregnancy

17.1%
had postpartum depressive symptoms

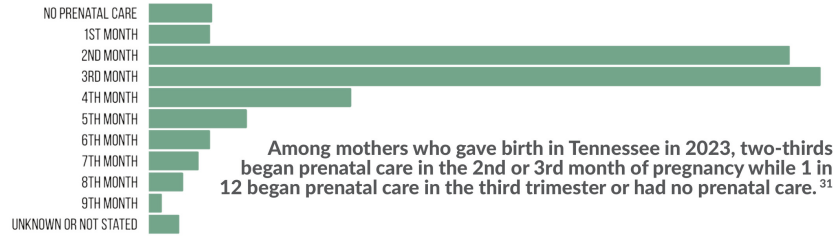


Health Insurance Status [31] During Pregnancy

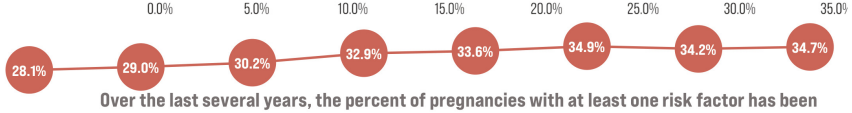


Infant & Maternal Care

Health



Among mothers who gave birth in Tennessee in 2023, two-thirds began prenatal care in the 2nd or 3rd month of pregnancy while 1 in 12 began prenatal care in the third trimester or had no prenatal care. [31]



Over the last several years, the percent of pregnancies with at least one risk factor has been increasing. In 2023, more than one out of every three births in Tennessee had a risk factor during pregnancy. [32]

2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

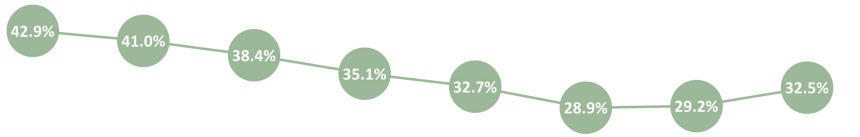
Pregnancy risk factors include Pre-Pregnancy Diabetes, Gestational Diabetes, Pre-Pregnancy Hypertension, Gestational Hypertension, Eclampsia, Previous Preterm Birth, Infertility Treatment Used, Fertility Enhancing Drugs, Assistive Reproductive Technology, and Previous Cesarean Delivery.



After trending upward between 2016-2020, instances of births in Tennessee with maternal morbidity have begun to decline. [33]

2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

Maternal Morbidity includes a maternal transfusion, admission to the Intensive Care Unit, Perineal Laceration, Ruptured Uterus and an unplanned hysterectomy.



In 2023, in one-third of Tennessee births the mother had received WIC for food for herself during pregnancy. [34]

2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

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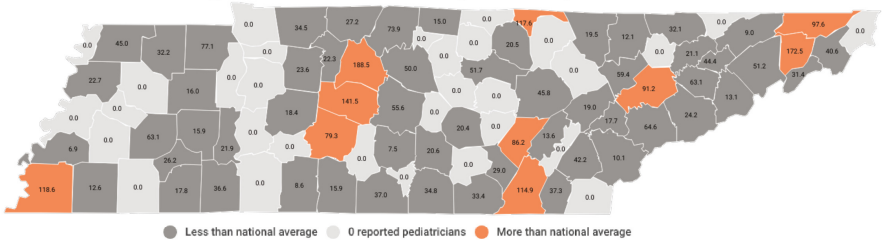
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Access to Care

Health

Pediatrician

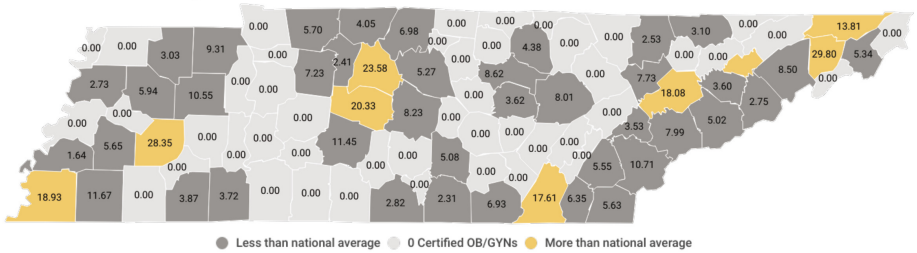
In 2024, Tennessee had a ratio of 77.5 pediatricians per 100,000 children compared to a national rate of 77.8.[35] Of Tennessee's 95 counties, 10 have rates higher than the national average and 31 have 0 currently certified pediatricians.[35]



Pediatrician includes those currently certified by the American Board of Pediatrics in General Pediatrics (alone) and those certified in both General Pediatrics and another ABMS specialty.

Obstetrics and Gynecology

In 2021, Tennessee had a ratio of 11.8 OB/GYNs per 100,000 people compared to a national rate of 12.2.[36] Of Tennessee's 95 counties, 9 had rates higher than the national average and 46 had 0 OB/GYNs.



Physicians include active Obstetrics and Gynecology M.D.s employed by the federal government or non-federal industries. Active M.D.s include those who are not retired, semi-retired, working part-time, temporarily not in practice, or not active for other reasons, and indicated they worked more than 20 hours per week.

Immunizations and Vaccinations

Health

According to Tennessee Department of Health's Results of the 2023 Immunization Status Survey of 24-Month-Old Children in Tennessee: [37]

In 2023, Tennessee did not achieve any of the three HP2030 objectives related to 24-month vaccinations. This is the first time that Tennessee has not met a single Healthy People objective since it started using Healthy People objectives as comparison measures. [37]

Overall, Tennessee's percent of children under 24 months who received the Full Series (4:3:1:FS:3:1:FS) increased from 77.1 percent in 2022 to 77.7 in 2023. [37]

Tennessee ranks in the bottom 25% of states for the completion of the Full Series (4:3:1:FS:3:1:FS), ranking 41st in the nation. [37]

Among the 2023 cohort, only 41.2% of 24-month-old children had received two doses of influenza vaccine by 24 months of age, a significant decrease from 48.3% in 2022 and 54.6 percent in 2021. [37]

Immunization rates for vaccines included in the full series declined for all immunizations except for the Varicella (VAR/Chickenpox). The largest decline occurred in the Hepatitis B Vaccine birth dose. [37]

Tennessee saw a slight decrease in immunization rates for the Haemophilus influenzae type B vaccine (HIB). Between 2022 and 2023 rates for HIB vaccine decreased 2.1 percentage points. Since the introduction of this vaccine in 1987, annual incidence of HIB has decreased 99 percent in those under 5. In 2022, Tennessee had fewer than 5 reported cases of invasive Haemophilus influenzae type b (HIB) statewide [37]

A Healthy People 2030 goal is to have fewer than 1.3 percent of children receive 0 recommended vaccinations. Tennessee is currently falling behind this goal with 2.8 percent of children with 0 recommended vaccines.[37] This is an increase from 1.6 the previous year.

In 2023, vaccine refusals increased from 2.1 percent to 3.0 percent. [37] **By region, refusal rates varied from a high of 4.8 percent in West Tennessee to 0.9 percent in Knoxville-Knox County and Mid-Cumberland.** [37]

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Dental Care

Health



In 2021, Tennessee had 1 dentist for every 2,139 people. This rate varied by county from 1:1,179 to 1:18,170. [36]

In 2023, 60 percent of public water systems in Tennessee had fluoridated water. [38] Community Water Fluoridation is a safe, equitable and cost-effective way to support oral health across a community, the CDC has named it one of the 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century. [39]

In 2023, 3.0 percent of Tennessee high school students reported they had not seen a dentist within the last 12-months before the survey.[40]

Among children aged 1-17, 78 percent of caregivers reported their child's teeth were in excellent or very good condition.[41]

In Tennessee, more than 1 in 9 children had cavities or decayed teeth in the last year, representing a slight improvement from almost 1 in 8 the previous year. [42,43]

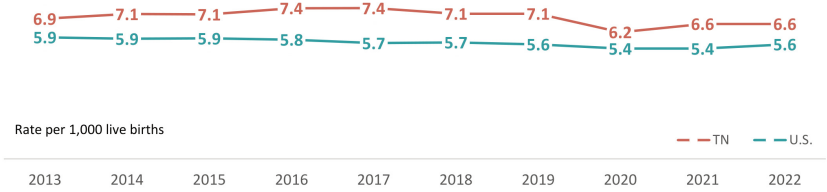
In 2022, 38.0 percent Tennessee pregnant women had their teeth cleaned during pregnancy. After a drop from 39 percent between 2018-2019, this number has been steadily increasing.[44]

Infant Mortality

Health

Of the 38 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries, the United States has the 7th highest infant mortality rate. [46]

Tennessee has consistently had a higher infant mortality rate than the national average, however, the gap has narrowed slightly in recent years. [47-50]

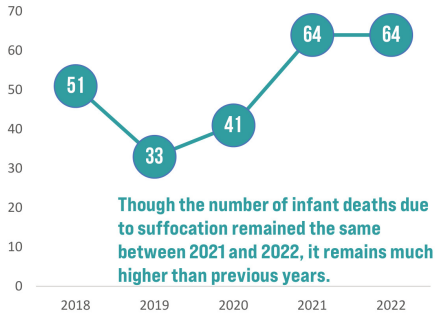


Leading Causes of Infant Deaths 2019-2022: [51,52]

Tennessee
273.1 per 100,000
Non-Injury: Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period
141.9 per 100,000
Non-Injury: Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities
100.7 per 100,000
Non-Injury: Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified
63.6 per 100,000
Suffocation
15.7 per 100,000
Non-Injury: All other diseases (Residual)

United States
266.5 per 100,000
Non-Injury: Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period
110.2 per 100,000
Non-Injury: Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities
70.1 per 100,000
Non-Injury: Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified
31.2 per 100,000
Suffocation
16.0 per 100,000
Non-Injury: All other diseases (Residual)

In 2021, Tennessee saw the highest number and rate of unintentional infant deaths due to suffocation since before 1999. Though the rate dropped slightly in 2022, the number of deaths remained the same. [53]



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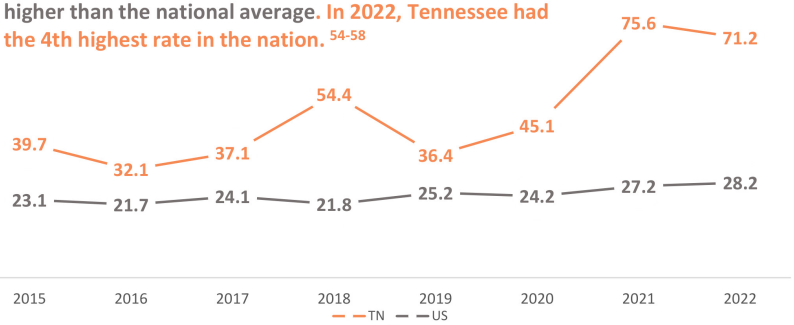
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Infant Mortality

Health

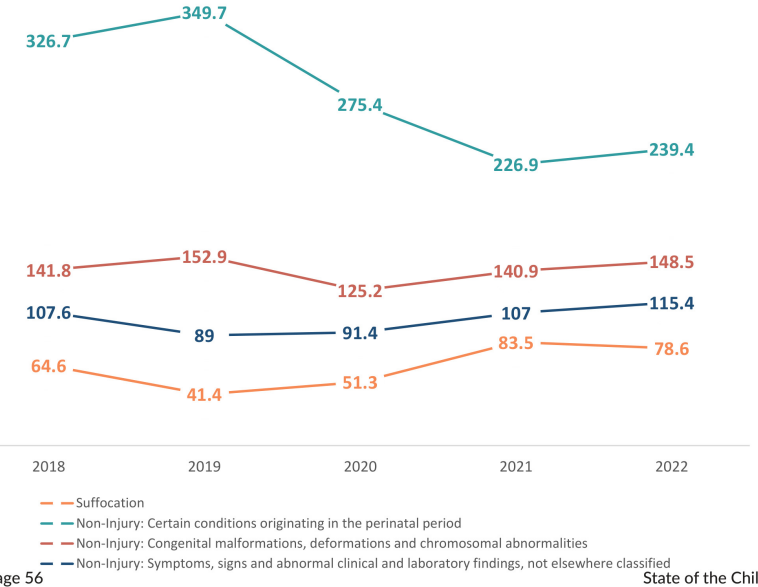
Infant Deaths due to Accidental Suffocation/Strangulation in Bed

Tennessee's rate of Accidental Infant Suffocation/Strangulation in Bed remains significantly higher than the national average. In 2022, Tennessee had the 4th highest rate in the nation. [54-58]



Leading Causes of Infant Death in Tennessee [59]

rate per 100,000



Infant Mortality

Health

Homicide

Between 2019 to 2022 there were 24 infant deaths due to homicide, a rate of 7.6 per 100,000. [60] Compared to the four years prior (2015-2018), this figure remained largely similar with 25 deaths for a rate of 7.8 per 100,000.

Tennessee had the 14th highest infant homicide rate between 2019 to 2022 and was slightly above the national average of 7.0 per 100,000. [61]

Maternal Mortality

Single year 2022 maternal mortality data for Tennessee is not yet available, however, five-year average data (2018 to 2022) is available.

The table below shows states' maternal mortality rates as calculated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). [63]

NCHS defines maternal deaths as: Maternal deaths include deaths of women while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and the site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management, but not from accidental or incidental causes. [63]

State	Maternal Deaths	Maternal Mortality Rate
Tennessee	**166**	**41.1**
Mississippi	70	39.1
Alabama	112	38.6
Arkansas	69	38.3
Louisiana	108	37.3
Kentucky	91	34.6
Virginia	158	32.7
South Carolina	92	32.3
Georgia	201	32.1
Indiana	124	30.9
Arizona	118	30
Oklahoma	72	29.6
Texas	532	28.2
New Mexico	31	28
North Carolina	159	26.7
New Jersey	131	26
Nebraska	31	25.1
Ohio	161	24.5
Florida	263	24.1
West Virginia	21	23.9
Missouri	84	23.8
United States	4295	23.2
Kansas	40	22.8
New York	241	22.4
Maryland	74	21.3

State	Maternal Deaths	Maternal Mortality Rate
Nevada	35	20.4
Idaho	22	20
Iowa	36	19.5
Michigan	101	19.1
Illinois	123	18.1
Washington	76	18
Pennsylvania	116	17.5
Oregon	34	16.6
Massachusetts	56	16.4
Colorado	50	16
Connecticut	27	15.6
Utah	36	15.5
Wisconsin	41	13.2
Minnesota	40	12.3
California	228	10.5
Montana	17	*
South Dakota	16	*
Hawaii	13	*
Alaska	12	*
District of Columbia	12	*
New Hampshire	11	*
North Dakota	11	*
Delaware	9	*
Rhode Island	9	*
Maine	7	*
Wyoming	7	*
Vermont	1	*

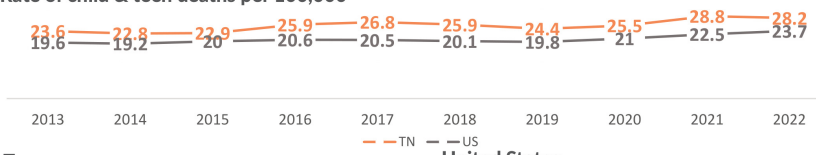
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TNAGMETA-018-00006154

Child & Teen Deaths

Health

Rate of child & teen deaths per 100,000 [64-67]



Tennessee
Top 5 Leading Causes of Death in 2022 (1-17) [68]
5.4 per 100,000
Firearm
4.1per 100,000
Motor Vehicle Traffic
2.4 per 100,000
Non-Injury: All other diseases (Residual)
1.7 per 100,000
Non-Injury: Malignant Neoplasms (Cancers)
1.6 per 100,000
Poisoning

United States
Top 5 Leading Causes of Death in 2022 (1-17) [69]
3.7 per 100,000
Firearm
3.3 per 100,000
Motor Vehicle Traffic
2.3 per 100,000
Non-Injury: All other diseases (Residual)
2.1 per 100,000
Non-Injury: Malignant Neoplasms (Cancers)
1.5 per 100,000
Non-Injury: Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities

In 2022, 1 in 5 deaths among those 1-17 were due to a firearm. 1 in 7 were due to Motor Vehicle Traffic, 1 in 17 were due to cancer and 1 in 17 were due to poisoning. [69]

Death by intent

Unintentional

FROM 2019 - 2022
There were 516 unintentional deaths among children 1-17. [70]

47 percent were from Motor Vehicle Traffic
Representing 244 deaths

15 percent were from Drowning
Representing 77 deaths

9 percent were from Poisoning
Representing 48 deaths

4 percent were from Fire/Flame
Representing 23 deaths

4 percent were from Suffocation
Representing 19 deaths

3 percent were from a Firearm
Representing 18 deaths

3 percent were from Other Pedestrian
Representing 18 deaths

In 2022, Tennessee had the 17th highest rate of unintentional deaths, representing an improvement from 13th in 2021. [71] **Tennessee also saw improvement in the rank of Unintentional Motor Vehicle Deaths.** [72]

3 percent were from Other Land Transport
Representing 16 deaths

3 percent were from Natural/ Environmental
Representing 13 deaths

2 percent were from a Fall
Representing 11 deaths

Death by intent

Homicide

FROM 2019 - 2022 [73]
There were 216 homicide deaths among children aged 1 - 17

83 percent were from firearms
Representing 180 deaths

7 percent were from an unspecified injury
Representing 15 deaths

The cause of death for the remaining 21 deaths are not listed due to data suppression standards

2013
In 2013, Tennessee had 34 homicide victims aged 1 to 17, representing a rate of 2.4 per 100,000. [74]

23 were due to a Firearm. [74]

2022
In 2022, Tennessee had 67 homicide victims aged 1 to 17, representing a rate of 4.6 per 100,000. [75]

53 were due to a Firearm. [75]

In 2022, Tennessee had a child/ teen homicide rate of 4.6 per 100,000 ranking it 10th highest in the country. [76] **Between 2019-2022 Tennessee ranked 8th highest for firearm homicides among those 1 to 17.** [77]

2022 AGE 1 - 17 HOMICIDE RATES

10 Highest		10 Lowest Available Rates*	
Louisiana	9.6	New York	1.5
Mississippi	7.6	California	1.6
South Carolina	6.1	Washington	1.9
Arkansas	5.4	Minnesota	2.4
Alabama	5.4	Kentucky	2.4
New Mexico	5.2	Florida	2.9
Illinois	5.0	Indiana	2.9
Missouri	5.0	Arizona	2.9
Georgia	4.8	Virginia	3.2
Tennessee	4.6	Oklahoma	3.2

*Rate for AK, CT, D.C., KA, MA, NE, NJ & OR were unreliable but all had fewer than 20 total deaths. Deaths for DE, HI, ID, IA, ME, MO, NE, NH, ND, RI, SD, UT, WV, & WY were suppressed due to being fewer than 10.

2019-2022 AGE 1 - 17 HOMICIDE BY FIREARM RATES

10 Highest		10 Lowest Available Rates*	
Washington D.C.	8.5	Massachusetts	0.4
Louisiana	6.0	New Jersey	0.7
Mississippi	5.4	Oregon	0.7
South Carolina	3.9	New York	0.8
Missouri	3.5	Utah	0.8
Illinois	3.3	Washington	0.9
Arkansas	3.2	Connecticut	1.0
Tennessee	3.1	Minnesota	1.1
Alabama	3.1	Iowa	1.1
Georgia	2.9	California	1.1

*Rate for AK, DE, NE, & WV were unreliable but each had fewer than 20 total deaths. Deaths for HI, ID, ME, MT, NH, ND, RI, SD, VT, & WY were suppressed due to being fewer than 10.

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Death by intent
Suicide

FROM 2019 - 2022 [78]
There were 146 suicide deaths among children aged 9 -17.

51 percent were from Firearms
Representing 74 deaths

40 percent were from Suffocation[4]
Representing 59 deaths

7 percent were from Poisoning
Representing 11 deaths

The majority of people with a Medically Serious Suicide Attempt (MSSA) do not later die by suicide.[79]

In a long-term study of individuals with a MSSA, 6.7 percent had died by suicide or suspected suicide within 5 years. **Three out of four were still alive 20 years later.[79]**

In 2022, one in three high school students who had attempted suicide in the previous 12 months reported that they had asked someone for help such as a doctor, counselor or hotline prior to their attempt. [80]

TENNESSEE RATES

Suicide rates among age 9 to 17 by year: [81]
2019: 4.1 per 100,000
2020: 4.7 per 100,000
2021: 4.9 per 100,000
2022: 4.9 per 100,000
2019-2022 suicide rate: 4.7 per 100,000

Suicide rate between 2019-2022 among age 9 to 17 by mechanism: [82]
Firearm: 2.4 per 100,000
Suffocation: 1.9 per 100.000

Suicide rate between 2019-2022 among young adults (18-24 by mechanism: [83]
Overall: 19.0 per 100,000
Firearm: 12.4 per 100,000
Suffocation: 4.4 per 100,000
Poisoning 1.2 per 100,000

NATIONAL RATES

Suicide rates among age 9 to 17 by year: [84]
2019: 4.4 per 100,000
2020: 4.5 per 100,000
2021: 4.6 per 100,000
2022: 4.2 per 100,000
2019-2022 suicide rate: 4.4 per 100,000

Suicide rate between 2019-2022 among age 9 to 17 by mechanism: [85]
Suffocation: 1.9 per 100.000
Firearm: 1.9 per 100,000
Fall: 0.1 per 100,000

Suicide rate between 2019-2022 among young adults (18-24) by mechanism: [86]
Firearm: 8.8 per 100,000
Suffocation: 4.9 per 100,000
Poisoning 1.4 per 100,000
Fall: 0.6 per 100,000

In 2022, Tennessee had the 15th highest rate of suicides among ages 9-17 and the 5th highest rate of firearm suicides among the same ages. [87,88]

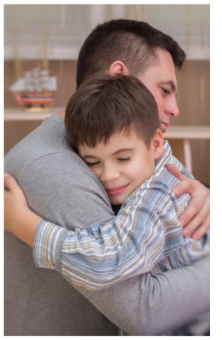
MENTAL HEALTH















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Mental Health of Tennessee High Schoolers

Mental Health

More than one in four students reported within the last month their mental health was most of the time or always not good. [1] Poor mental health was much more prevalent among high school girls.



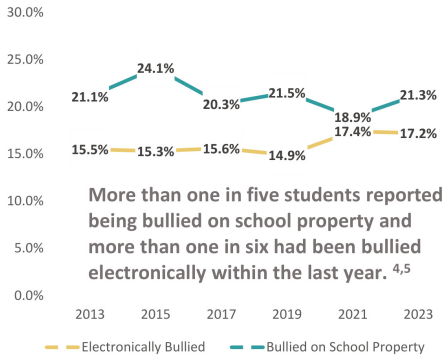
Within the last year, 55 percent of high school girls and 30 percent of high school boys felt sad or hopeless almost every day for two or more weeks, representing a **50 percent increase since 2013.** [2]

Tennessee students were slightly more likely than their national counterparts to report feeling sad or hopeless at 42.7 percent compared to 39.7 percent.

35 percent of high school students have lived with someone who was depressed, mentally ill or suicidal. [3]

Bullying

Students are more likely to report being bullied on school property (21.3 percent) than to report having been electronically bullied (17.2 percent). [4,5]



More than one in five students reported being bullied on school property and more than one in six had been bullied electronically within the last year. [4,5]

State of the Child 2024

Mental Health of Tennessee High Schoolers
Mental Health

Restrictive Eating

45 percent of students reported eating less food, fewer calories or foods low in fat to lose weight or keep from gaining weight. Among girls, this jumped to 54 percent. [6]

More than one in three high school girls and one in seven high school boys had taken one of the following actions within the last 30 days to try to lose weight or keep from gaining weight: [6]

- going without eating for 24 hours or more
- taking diet pills, powders or liquids
- vomiting or taking laxatives
- smoking cigarettes; or
- skipping meals

Non-Suicidal Self-Harm

More than one in four high school students reported that within the last 12 months they had done something to purposely hurt themselves, such as cutting or burning themselves, without wanting to die. [6]

This was more commonly reported among high school girls at 38.9 percent, compared to boys at 18.7 percent. [6]

In 2021, 11 percent of Black students reported non-suicidal self-harm. In 2023, that percent had increased to 30.2 percent. [6]



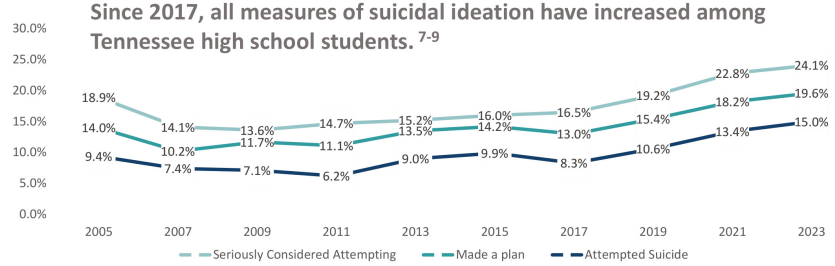
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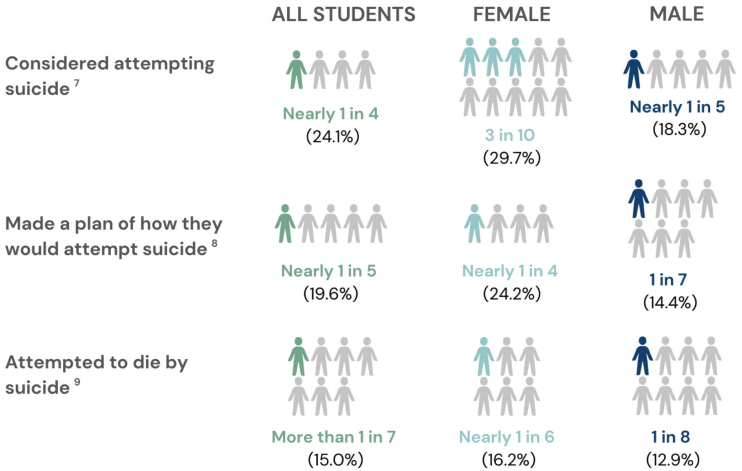
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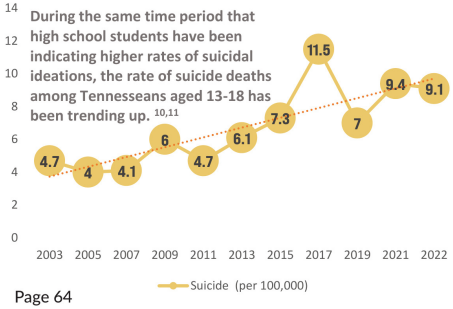
Suicide

Mental Health

Since 2017, all measures of suicidal ideation have increased among Tennessee high school students. [7-9]







Comparing Tennessee to the United States:

Between 2021 and 2022, the suicide rate in Tennessee among youth aged 13-18 decreased slightly from 9.4 to 9.1 per 100,000.[10] The U.S. also saw a decrease from 8.1 to 7.6 per 100,000. [12]

In 2023, Tennessee had a slightly higher rate of high school students considering attempting suicide as the rest of the nation. Tennessee also had more students reporting attempting suicide within the last year (15 percent) compared to the national average (9.5 percent). [13,14]

Treatment

Mental Health

In August and September of 2024, among all households with children in Tennessee, 1 in 9 reported a child in the home needs mental health treatment. [15]

This was most commonly reported among the highest income earners with one in four of those making $200,000 or more reporting a child needing mental health treatment. Of households reporting a child needing mental health treatment, 64 percent reported all children needing treatment had received it. [16]

Of all who needed treatment, one in five found it very difficult to get treatment, were unable to get treatment or did not try. Those making $100,000-149,000 reported the most difficulty obtaining treatment, with 43 percent reporting it was very difficult. [16]

42 percent were satisfied with all of the treatment the child received. [16]



Among Tennessee youth with a Major Depressive Episode (MDE) in the last year, 62. 4 percent did not receive any treatment. [17]

Nationally, this figure was 56.1 percent. In the best performing state, it was 31.5 percent and the state with the greatest challenge was reporting 82 percent. Tennessee ranked 39th on this measure. [17]

Reasons for not receiving mental health treatment among those 12 to 17 (National) [18]	2022	2023
Thought they should have been able to handle their mental health, emotions, or behavior on their own	80.5%	76.0%
Worried about what people would think or say if they got treatment	52.8%	49.8%
Worried that information would not be kept private	49.8%	49.5%
Did not know how or where to get treatment	46.6%	41.8%

Of Tennessee youth with MDE who received treatment, 68 percent reported that it helped them at least "some." [19]

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Substance Use

Mental Health

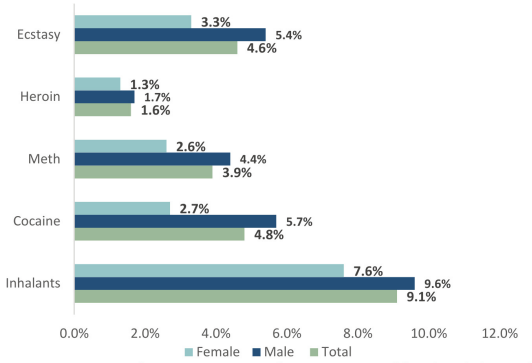


Prescription pain medication

Nearly one in seven students reported they had ever taken prescription pain medicine without a prescription or differently than prescribed. [27]

Other Substances

Percentage of Students Reporting Lifetime Use by Substance [35-39]



4.1 percent of Tennessee students reported having injected an illegal drug, compared to 1.2 percent nationally. [40]

Tobacco

More than one in five high school students currently vape. [20]
1 in 15 Tennessee students vape daily. [21]
In Tennessee, 5.4 percent of high school students currently smoke cigarettes, down from 28 percent in 2003. This number increased slightly from 4.9 in 2021, representing the first increase since 2011. [22]

Alcohol

Both nationally and in Tennessee, alcohol use among high school students has been trending down over the decade. [23,24]

In 2013, 28.4 percent of Tennessee high schoolers reported they currently drank alcohol.[24] In 2023, it was 19.5 percent.[24] Nationally, these figures were 34.9 and 22.1 percent respectively. [23]

After an increase in the percent of Tennessee high schoolers reporting binge drinking in 2021, that number has decreased back to 7.8 percent and is the lowest percent since 2017. [25] One in forty reported the largest number of drinks they've had in a row was 10 or more. [26]

28 percent of students reported they had been offered, sold or given an illegal drug on school property. [28]

Marijuana

Almost one in three (30.3%) students reported ever using marijuana, representing an increase back to previous numbers after a decline in 2021. [29]

One in six reports currently using marijuana. [30]

One in seven reports currently vaping marijuana. [31]

1 in 14 reports ever using synthetic marijuana.[32]

Tennessee students are more likely to report trying marijuana for the first time before 13 years old. In 2023, 7.2 percent of students reported doing so compared to 4.8 percent among their national counterparts. [34,34]

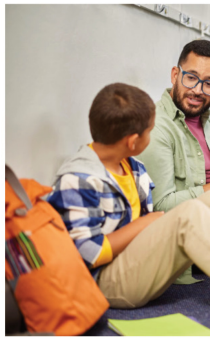
ADVERSITY & RESILIENCE















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Adverse Experiences - Youth

Adversity & Resilience



A survey of caregivers to Tennessee children aged 0 - 17 asked if, to their knowledge, the child had experienced one of the following: [1]

Parent or guardian divorced
20.4%

Parent or guardian died
3.3%

Parent or guardian served time in jail or prison
7.6%

Saw or heard parents or adults slap, hit, kick, or punch one another in the home.
5.4%

Was a victim of violence or witnessed violence in their neighborhood
3.4%

Lived with anyone who was mentally ill, suicidal, or severely depressed
9.2%

Lived with anyone who had a problem with alcohol or drugs
8.4%

Adverse Experiences - Adults

Adversity & Resilience

Among Tennessee adults surveyed about their experiences prior to turning 18, they reported experience the following: [2]

Did you live with anyone who was depressed, mentally ill, or suicidal?	**26.2%**
Did you live with anyone who was a problem drinker or alcoholic?	**26.7%**
Did you live with anyone who used illegal street drugs or who abused prescription medications?	**16.5%**
Did you live with anyone who served time or was sentenced to serve time in a prison, jail, or other correctional facility?	**12.1%**
Were your parents separated or divorced?	**34.0%**
How often did your parents or adults in your home ever slap, hit, kick, punch or beat each other up?	**14.8%**
Not including spanking, (before age 18), how often did a parent or adult in your home ever hit, beat, kick, or physically hurt you in any way?	**Once: 6.1%** **More than once: 20.1%**
How often did a parent or adult in your home ever swear at you, insult you, or put you down?	**Once: 4.2%** **More than once: 34.1%**
How often did anyone at least 5 years older than you or an adult, ever touch you sexually?	**Once: 4.5%** **More than once: 9.0%**
How often did anyone at least 5 years older than you or an adult, try to make you touch them sexually?	**Once: 4.2%** **More than once: 7.2%**
How often did anyone at least 5 years older than you or an adult, force you to have sex?	**Once: 2.0%** **More than once: 4.9%**

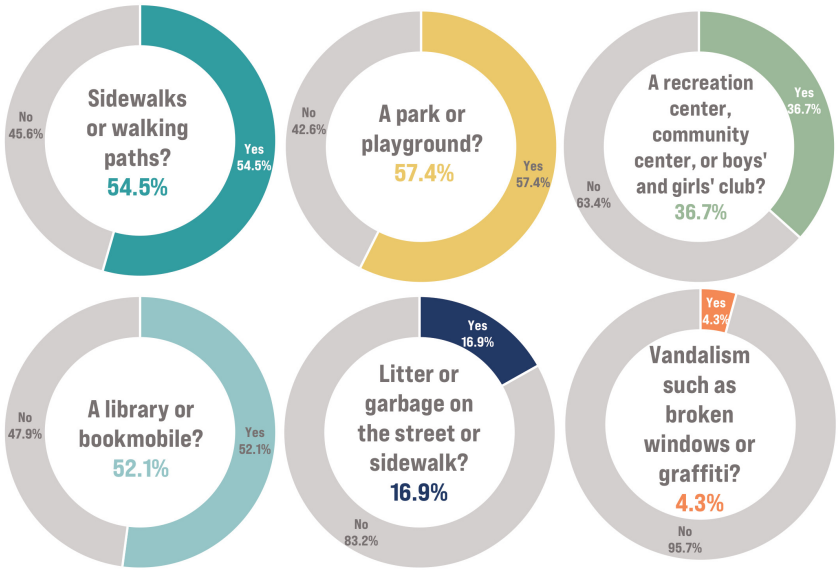
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TNAGMETA-018-00006160



Creating access to a safe community with places to engage, grow and learn is a critical component to supporting Tennessee's children. More than half of Tennessee's children have access to sidewalks, walking paths, parks or playgrounds in their neighborhood. [1]

Does your neighborhood or community have: [1]



Among Tennessee parents with children: [1]

87% Definitely or somewhat agree **people in this neighborhood help each other out.**

86% Definitely or somewhat agree **we watch out for each other's children in this neighborhood.**

96% Definitely or somewhat agree **this child is safe in our neighborhood.**

96% Definitely or somewhat agree **this child is safe at school.**

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High School Students

Adversity & Resilience

Among Tennessee high school students in 2023:

Nearly one in four high school students report they have ever been separated from a parent or guardian because the parent/guardian went to jail, prison, or a detention center. While 23.2 percent of Tennessee youth reported experienced this, nationally it was 14.4 percent. [3,4]

More than one in five students did not want to go to school on at least one day within the last month because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to/from school. This is a 124 percent increase between 2021 and 2023. [5]

1 in 10 students had been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property within the last year. [6]

One in four students reported they saw someone get physically attacked, beaten, stabbed, or shot in their neighborhood. [7] **The highest rates were reported among Black students at 36.5 percent.** [7]

Nearly 1 in 13 students reported in the last month they had slept away from their parents or guardians because they were kicked out, ran away, or were abandoned. [8] **Among 12th graders this jumped to more than 1 in 7 students.** [8]

Almost one out of three students reported they had lived with someone who had a problem with drugs or alcohol. [9]

Among all students, more than one in three reported they felt they were ever treated badly or unfairly in school because of their race or ethnicity. [8]

- More than half of Black students reported feeling this way.
- 60 percent of Hispanic/Latino students reported feeling this way.
- One in four white students reported feeling this way.



Reported feeling like most of the time or always people assumed that they were less intelligent because of their race or ethnicity: [8]
Hispanic/ Latino Students - 11.6 percent
Black Students - 9.7 percent
White Students - 5.5 percent

Among Metro Nashville Students:

1 in 12 students reported they had experienced sexual violence such as kissing, touching, or being forced to have sexual intercourse that they did not want to do, one or more times during the 12 months before the survey. Among female students this rose to 1 in 8. [10]

1 in 15 students and 1 in 8 female students reported they had been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to. [11]

Among female students who dated someone within the last 12 months, nearly 1 in 10 had experienced sexual dating violence that year.[12]

Resilience

Adversity & Resilience

Among Tennessee parents, 86 percent report they know where to go for help in their community when they encounter difficulties.[1]

Tennessee households with children report that when their family faces problems: [1]

94 percent report all or most of the time they know they have strengths to draw on.

92 percent report all or most of the time they talk together about what to do.

94 percent report all or most of the time they work together to solve their problems.



86 percent

of parents reported their child always or usually bounces back quickly when things do not go their way. [1]

93 percent

of parents report there is at least one other adult in this child's school, neighborhood, or community who knows this child well and who they can rely on for advice or guidance. [1]

Tennessee parents reported: [1]

There is someone they could turn to for day-to-day emotional support with parenting or raising children.

84%

They think they are handling the day-to-day demands of raising children somewhat or very well.

99%

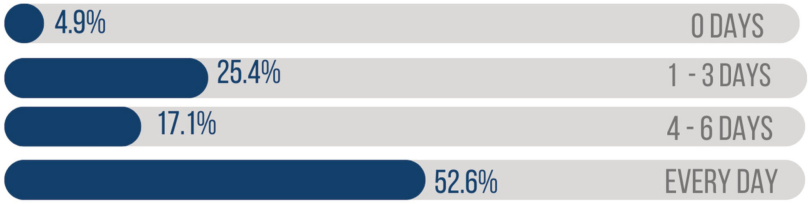
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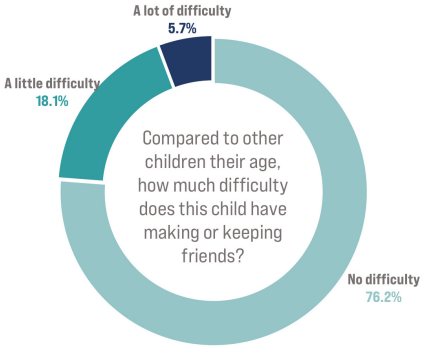
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Resilience

Adversity & Resilience

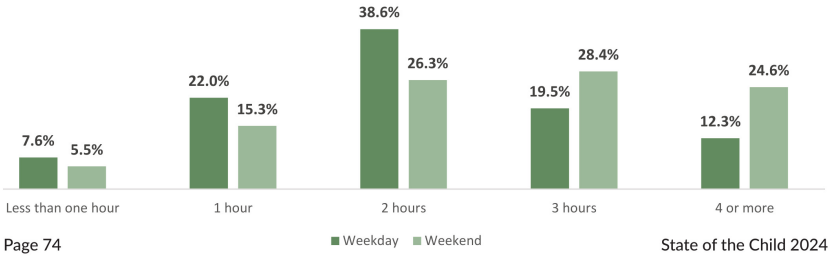
Number of days in the past week the child was read to:[1]





A little over three in four parents report child has no difficulty making or keeping friends, while one in four report it to be a little or a lot difficult.[1]

On weekdays, 39 percent of Tennessee children spend two hours per day playing outdoors. On weekends it is slightly lower at 26 percent.[1]



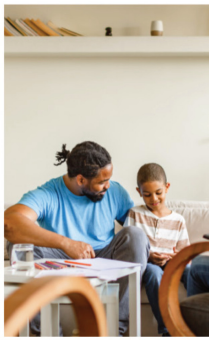
CHILD WELFARE















TNAGMETA-018-00006163

Child Maltreatment

Child Welfare



In April 2023 to March 2024, Tennessee had 5,026 children enter foster care, a rate of 3.20 per 1,000. [4]

In FY2023, there were approximately 166,249 hotline or abuse referrals. Of those, 54 percent were screened out. [2]

In 2023, 5,197 children entered foster care. This was the lowest number since at least 2017. Of those children, 24 percent were re-entering care. [3]

Among children entering care, the percentage of those who are reentering care has remained fairly consistent between 2017-2023, ranging from 21 percent to 24 percent. [3]

In 2023, 5,302 children exited care. [4]

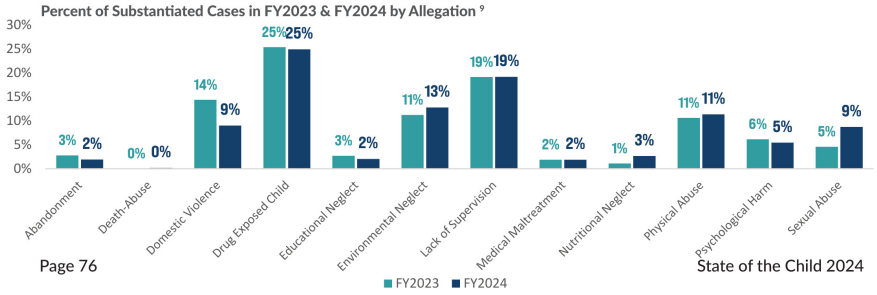
In FY2022, 98.5 percent of infants with prenatal substance exposure had a plan of safe care. This was the third highest percent in the country. [5]

In FY2022, 54 percent of perpetrators were the victim's parent. [6]

In FY2022, 3.7 percent of victims had been reunited with their families within the last five years. [7]

In FY2022, 22.6 percent of victims were under 1 year old. [8]

In FY2023 and FY2024, one in four substantiated cases of abuse were for allegations of Drug Exposed Child. The second most common were allegations of Lack of Supervision (19%). [9]



Investigations

Child Welfare

In 2022, the average time between the report of suspected maltreatment and the first face-to-face contact with the alleged victim or with another person who can provide information on the allegation was **nearly 7 days.** [10]

	Average time to investigation
2017	90.4 Hours
2018	95.2 Hours
2019	105.2 Hours
2020	100.7 Hours
2021	108.7 Hours
2022	167.0 Hours

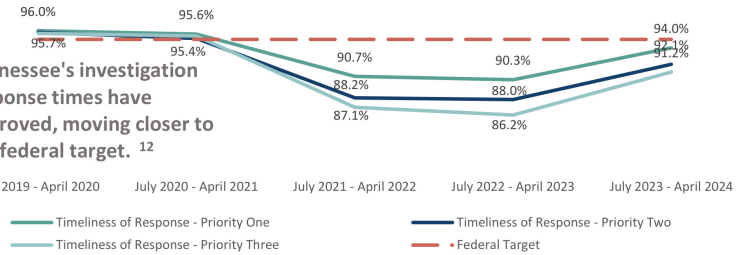
DCS response time policy: [11]

Priority-1 (P-1): Cases assigned this priority are initiated by a face-to-face contact with the ACV no later than twenty-four (24) hours, but immediately if the CPS supervisor deems it necessary. Priority 1 reports allege that children may be in imminent danger

Priority-2 (P-2): Cases assigned this priority are initiated by face-to-face contact with the ACV within two (2) business days. Priority-2 reports allege injuries or risk of injuries that are not imminent, life threatening or do not require immediate medical care where a two (2) business day delay will not compromise the investigative effort or reduce the chances for identifying the level of risk to the child.

Priority-3 (P-3): Cases assigned this priority are initiated by face-to-face contact with the ACV within three (3) business days. Priority-3 reports allege situations/incidents considered to pose low risk of harm to the child where three (3) business days will not compromise the investigative effort or reduce the chances for identifying the level of risk to the child.

Tennessee's investigation response times have improved, moving closer to the federal target. [12]



	Percent Maltreatment in Foster Care	Number Maltreated in Foster Care
FY2017	0.14%	185
FY2018	0.19%	269
FY2019	0.17%	244
FY2020	0.29%	425
FY2021	0.30%	436
FY2022	0.18%	259

After an increase in FY 2020 and FY2021, the percent of children maltreated in foster care has decreased back to 2018 numbers. [12]

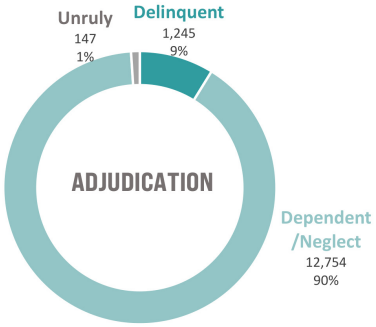
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TNAGMETA-018-00006164

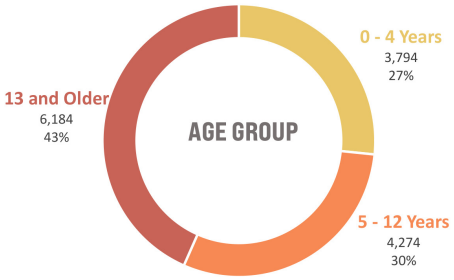
Custodial Demographics

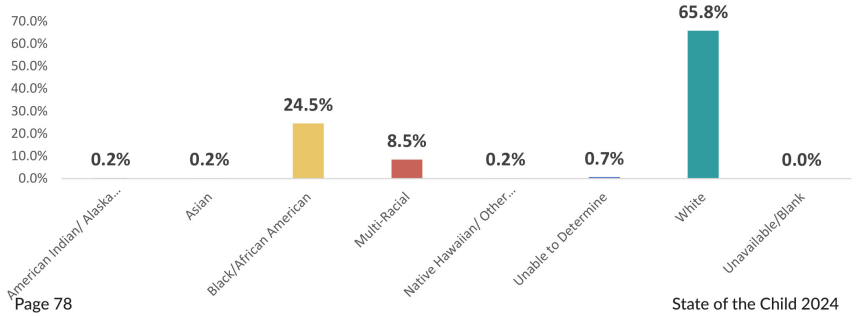
Child Welfare

FY2023 Demographics of Children in DCS Custody [13]



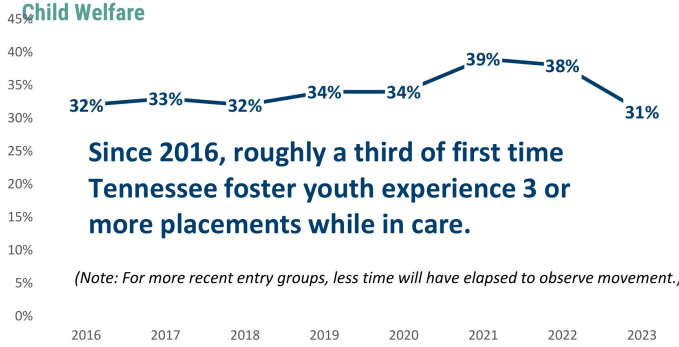






Placement

Child Welfare



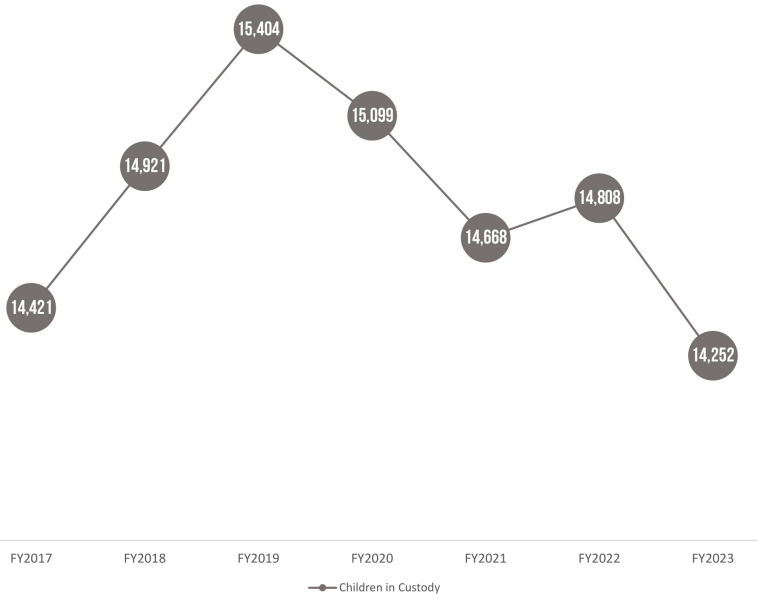
Since 2016, roughly a third of first time Tennessee foster youth experience 3 or more placements while in care.

(Note: For more recent entry groups, less time will have elapsed to observe movement.)

Of first-time foster children entering the system in 2022, **38 percent had been in three or more placements by December 31st, 2023.** [14]

Among children entering in 2023, 31 percent had been in three placements by December 31st. [14]

Total Number of Children in Custody by Fiscal Year [13]



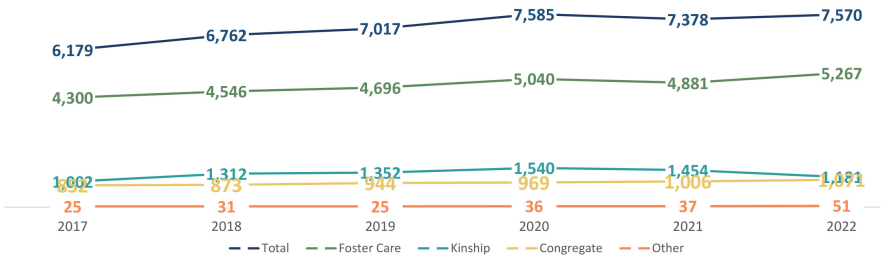
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TNAGMETA-018-00006165

Placement

Child Welfare

Number of children in custody by placement type on January 1st of each year [15]



On June 30, 2023, there were 3,521 youth in licensed residential child care or foster care programs. [13]

In FY2023, there were 7,862 children reported to be served by non-secure private or public agencies licensed or approved by DCS to provide residential child care and/or foster care. [13] Of those, 85 percent were custodial children. This is down slightly from 8,713 children served in FY2022. [16]

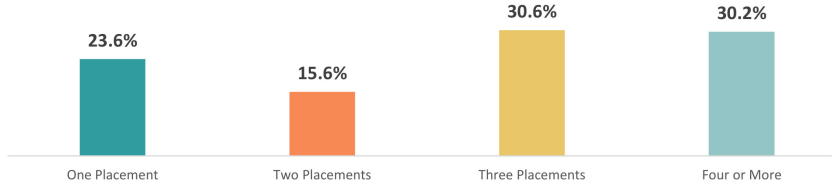


Placement

Child Welfare

In FY2023, 60 percent of children had been in 3 or more placements while in care. [13]

Number of placements of children in custody in FY2023



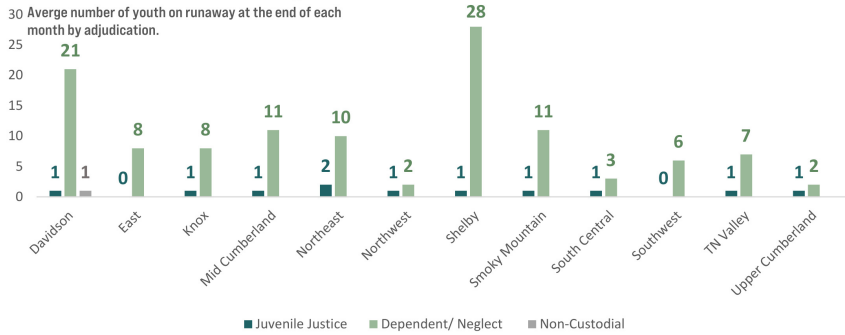
Runaway/Absconders

In FY2023, there were 723 new cases of youth who had runaway, an increase from 676 the previous fiscal year. Although the number of youths on the run increased, the average number of youths missing at the end of the month for FY2023 decreased by 13 children. [17]

Of the 723 new cases of runaway children, 198 had runaway previously. [17]

The majority of youth who had runaway were adjudicated Dependent/Neglected. In FY2023, there were an average of 117 Dependent/Neglected youth on runway compared to an average of 10 Juvenile Justice youth. [17]

Shelby County had the highest average of youth on runaway status at the end of the month in FY2023, with an average 28 Dependent/Neglect children and one Juvenile Justice child missing. [17]



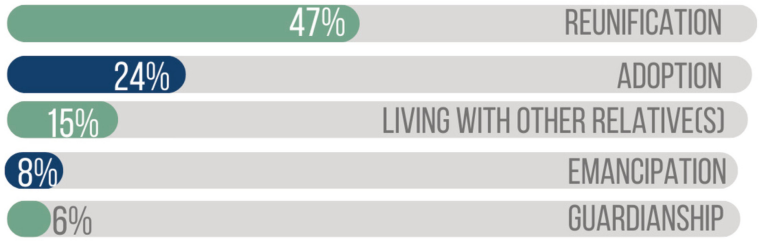
Note: The initial published report mistakenly stated "Davidson County had the highest average of youth on runaway.." On January 9, 2024 this page was updated to state "Shelby County had the highest average of youth on runaway..." as depicted in the chart above.

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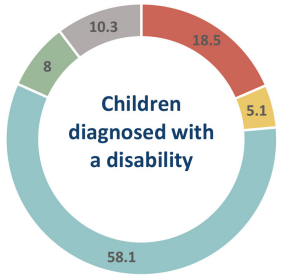
Exits from care

Almost half of exits from foster care care in 2022 were to reunification [10]

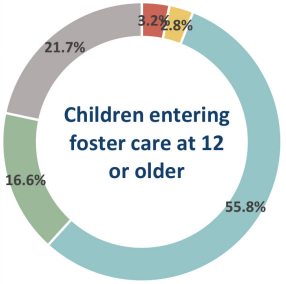






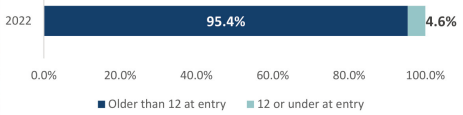


Exits from care by age and disability status [10]



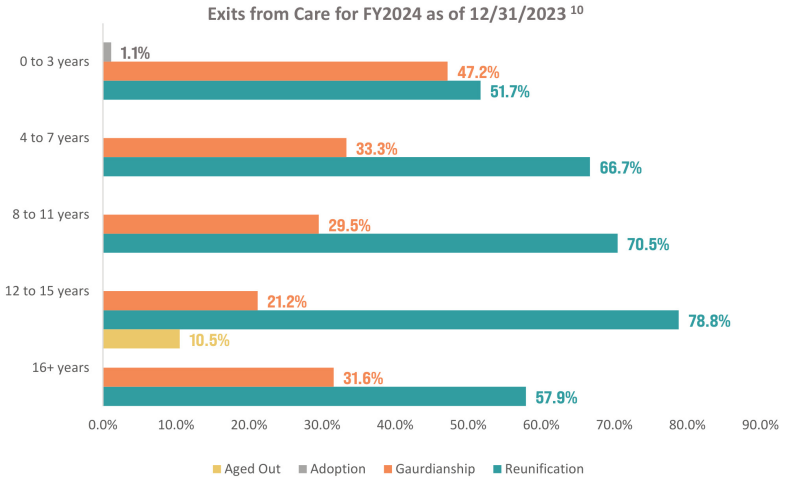
- Adoption
- Guardianship
- Reunification
- Other
- Missing data

In 2022, approximately 4.6 percent of children exiting foster care to emancipation entered care when they were 12 or under. [10]



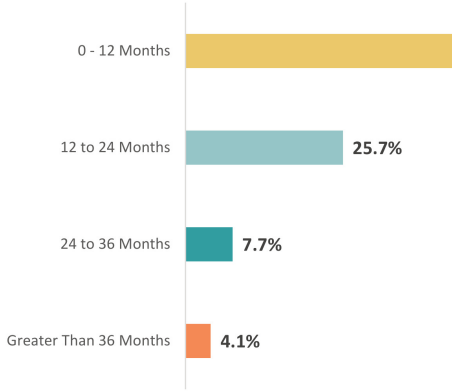
Exits from care

Exits from Care for FY2024 as of 12/31/2023 [10]



Permanency

Child Welfare



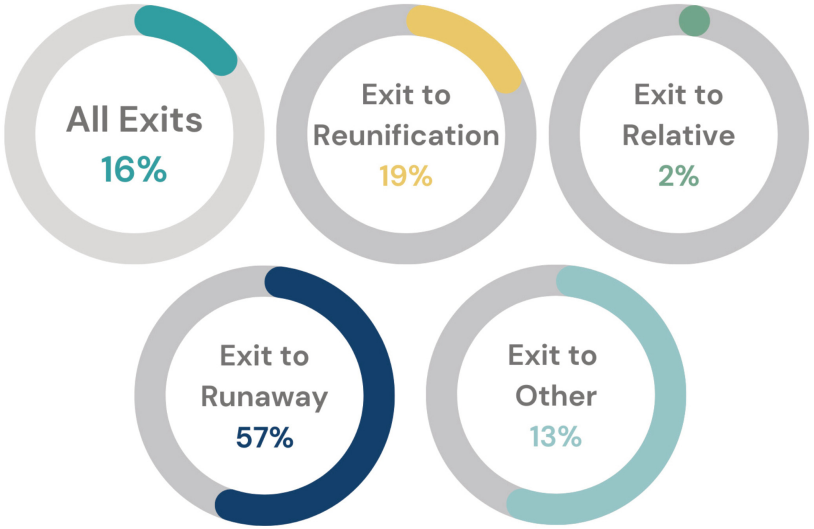
In FY2023, 63 percent of children who exited to permanency did so within less than a year. [13]

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Permanency

Child Welfare

Among children exiting care in 2022 (excluding those exiting to adoption or age of majority) 16 percent reentered care within 12 months. [2] This was most common among those who exited to runaway at 57 percent followed by those who exited to reunification 19 percent. Only 2 percent of children who exited custody to a relative reentered care within 12 months. [2]



The average length of stay for children/youth served through foster care programs was 291 days. Among those in residential programs it was 280 days. [3]

Between April 2023 - March 2024, 3.9 percent of children entering care were in care for less than eight days. [4]

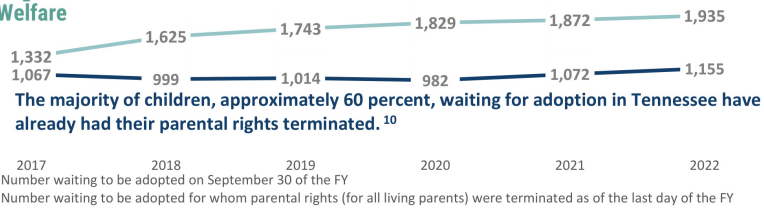
Risk factors for longer length of stay in custody: [5]

Vanderbilt Center of Excellence for Children in State Custody found the following variables in a child's case to be the greatest risk factors for a longer length of stay in custody:

- Age: 15 to 17
- Placement Setting: Trial Home Visit
- Age: 10 to 14
- Commitment Region: Northwest Region
- Placement Setting: Foster Family Home (Relative)
- Custody Reason: Incarceration of Parents

Adoption

Child Welfare



The majority of children, approximately 60 percent, waiting for adoption in Tennessee have already had their parental rights terminated. [10]

On September 30, 2024, among children waiting to be adopted whose parental rights had been terminated, the average time elapsed since termination was 16.6 months and the median was 9. [9]

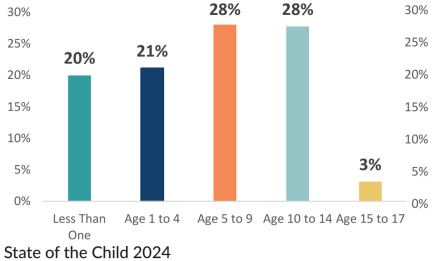
On September 30, 2024, among children waiting to be adopted the median was 10. [9]



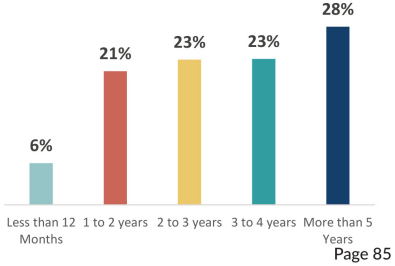
Placement of children waiting for adoption on September 30, 2024: [9]

- 80% Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)
- 11% Group Home
- 6% Institution
- 2% Foster Family (relative)
- 1% Pre-Adoptive Home
- 1% Runaway
- 0% Trial Home Visit

Children Waiting to be Adopted on September 30th, 2024 by Age of Entry into Foster Care [9]



Children Waiting to be Adopted on September 30th, 2024 by Time in Foster Care [9]



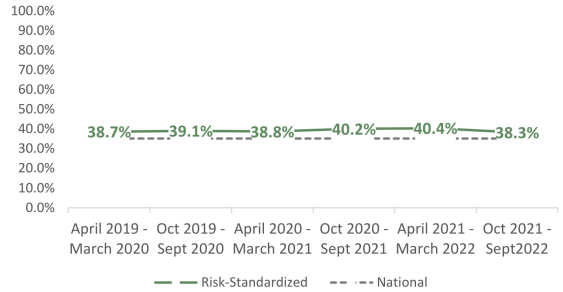
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National Comparisons -
Child Welfare

Risk-Standardized Performance (RSP) is derived from a multi-level statistical model and reflects the state's performance relative to states with similar children and takes into account the number of children the state served, the age distribution of these children, and, for one indicator, the state's entry rate. It uses risk adjustment to minimize differences in outcomes due to factors over which the state has little control and provides a more fair comparison of state performance against the national performance. [20]

PERMANENCY IN 12 MONTHS (ENTRIES)



Adjusting for risk, Tennessee performs **better than the national average** in the percentage of children exited foster care to reunification, adoption, guardianship, or living with a relative within 12 months of their entry. [20]

In the most recent data (when adjusting for risk) 38.3 percent of Tennessee children entering care exited to permanency within 12 months. The non-adjusted percent was 38.2 percent. National performance on this indicator was 35.2 percent. [20]

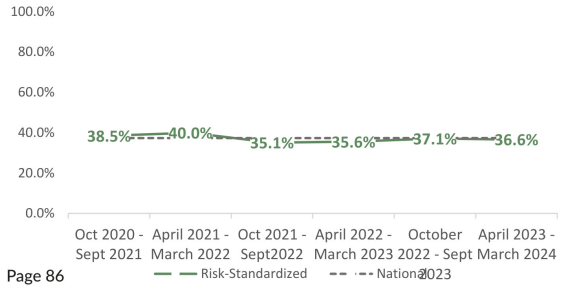
PERMANENCY IN 12 MONTHS (12-24 MONTHS IN CARE)



Adjusting for risk, Tennessee performs **similar to the national average** in the percentage of children who exited care within 12 months after being in care for 12 to 24 months. [20]

In the most recent data (when adjusting for risk) 43.9 percent of Tennessee children already in care for 12 to 23 months care exited to permanency within 12 months. The non-adjusted percent was 42.8 percent. National performance on this indicator was 43.8 percent. [20]

PERMANENCY IN 12 MONTHS (24+ MONTHS IN CARE)



Adjusting for risk, Tennessee performs **similar to the national average** in the percentage of children who exited care within 12 months after being in care for more than 24 months. [20]

In the most recent data (when adjusting for risk) 36.6 percent of Tennessee children already in care for 12 to 23 months care exited to permanency within 12 months. The non-adjusted percent was 38.3 percent. National performance on this indicator was 37.3 percent. [20]

National Comparisons
Child Welfare

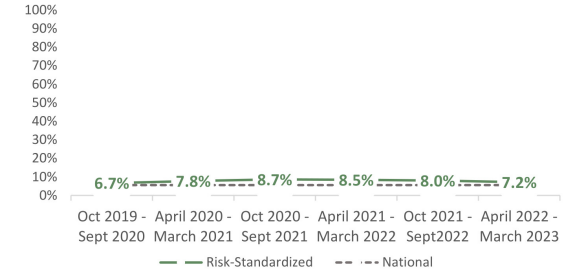
PLACEMENT STABILITY



Adjusting for risk, Tennessee performs **worse than the national average** in the number of placements per 1,000 days in care. [20]

In the most recent data (when adjusting for risk) Tennessee children had 5.18 moves per 1,000 days in care. The non-adjusted rate was 5.95. National performance on this indicator was 4.48. [20]

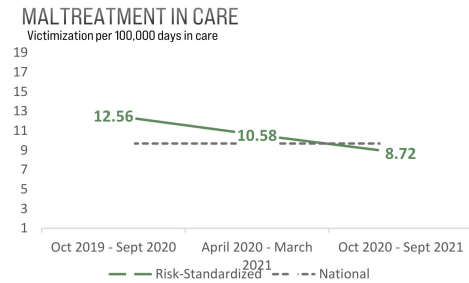
REENTRY INTO FOSTER CARE



Adjusting for risk, Tennessee performs **worse than the national average** in the number of children exiting to permanency who reenter within 12 months. [20]

In the most recent data (when adjusting for risk) 7.2 percent of Tennessee children who exited to permanency (excluding adoption) reentered care within 12 months. The non-adjusted percent was 6.7 percent. The national percent for this indicator was 5.6 percent. [20]

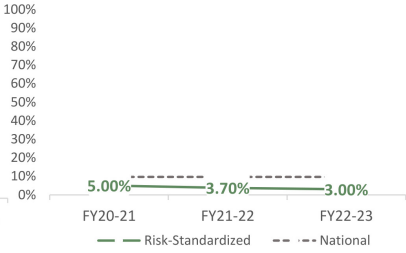
MALTREATMENT IN CARE



Adjusting for risk, Tennessee performs **similar to the national average** in the rate of children who experienced maltreatment in care.

In the most recent data (when adjusting for risk), there were 8.72 instances of maltreatment in care per 100,000 days in care. The non -adjusted rate was 6.69 and the national rate was 9.07 per 100,000 days.[20]

RECURRENCE OF MALTREATMENT



Adjusting for risk, Tennessee perform **better than the national average** in the rate of children who experienced maltreatment within 12 months of a prior substation for maltreatment.

In the most recent data (when adjusting for risk), there were 3.0 percent of children who experienced recurring maltreatment within 12 months. The non-adjusted percent was 2.1 and the national was 9.7 percent. [20]

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Systemic Factors

Child Welfare



Tennessee CFSR Systemic Factors [20]

About Child and Family Services Review (CFSR): The Children's Bureau conducts Child and Family Services Review for states to help states identify strengths and areas needing improvement in their child welfare practices and programs as well as institute systemic changes that will improve child and family outcomes.

The findings for Tennessee are based on:

- The Statewide Assessment prepared by the Tennessee Department of Children's Services (DCS) and submitted to the CB on August 1, 2023. The Statewide Assessment is the state's analysis of its performance on outcomes and the functioning of systemic factors in relation to title IV-B and IV-E requirements and the title IV-B Child and Family Services Plan.
- The February 2023 State Data Profile, prepared by the CB, which provides the state's Risk Standardized Performance (RSP) compared to national performance on 7 statewide data indicators.
- The results of case reviews of 75 cases [46 foster care and 29 in-home], conducted via a State-Led Review process statewide in Tennessee during October 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024, examining case practices occurring during October 2022 through March 2024.
- Interviews and focus groups with state stakeholders and partners

Systemic Factors: Eighteen items are considered in assessing the state's substantial conformity with the 7 systemic factors. Each item reflects a key federal program requirement relevant to the Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP) for that systemic factor. An item is rated as a Strength or an Area Needing Improvement based on how well the item specific requirement is functioning. A determination of the rating is based on information provided by the state to demonstrate the functioning of the systemic factor in the Statewide Assessment and, as needed, from interviews with stakeholders and partners.

The Department has developed a plan to address the outcomes of the CFSR and improve services. Details on the state's plan and updates on progress that has been made can be found in the Department of Children's Services Child and Family Service Plan 2025-2029.

Systemic Factors

Child Welfare

Statewide Information System - Not in substantial conformity

Statewide Information System

Description: The statewide information system is functioning statewide to ensure that, at a minimum, the state can readily identify the status, demographic characteristics, location, and goals for the placement of every child who is (or, within the immediately preceding 12 months, has been) in foster care.

Tennessee CFSR Result: The state's expectation is that updates to data must be completed within 3 business days. Although the state has a system in place to ensure that data are checked for accuracy on a monthly basis, the timeframe to update placement changes is too lengthy. As a result, a child's location is not readily identifiable. The agency reported that system users can readily identify the status, demographic characteristics, goal, and initial placement of all children in foster care or who have been in foster care in the past 12 months.

Case Review System - Not in substantial conformity

Written Case Plan:

Description: The case review system is functioning statewide to ensure that each child has a written case plan that is developed jointly with the child's parent(s) and includes the required provisions.

Tennessee CFSR Result: Data and information indicated that the state utilizes Family Team Meetings to ensure case plans are completed timely and that timely case plans are in place for most cases. However, data and information showed that case plans are not consistently developed with parents. Case plans are generic, presented to parents with the same tasks and goals, not routinely individualized based on the case circumstances, and not always updated to reflect the changing case circumstances.

Periodic Reviews:

Description: The case review system is functioning statewide to ensure that a periodic review for each child occurs no less frequently than once every 6 months, either by a court or by administrative review

Tennessee CFSR Result: The data provided in the Statewide Assessment did not address whether the initial periodic review was held within 6 months of entry into foster care and every 6 months thereafter. Data and information revealed that while periodic reviews are scheduled timely, they are often not held timely due to incomplete permanency plans, incomplete hearing information packets, and/or children or parents not in attendance. This was true both for court reviews and Foster Care Review Board Hearings.

Permanency Hearings:

Description: The case review system is functioning statewide to ensure that a periodic review for each child occurs no less frequently than once every 6 months, either by a court or by administrative review

Tennessee CFSR Result: Data and information demonstrated that although permanency hearings were occurring, there was a lack of evidence that initial and subsequent permanency hearings were happening timely.

Termination of Parental Rights:

Description: The case review system is functioning statewide to ensure that the filing of termination of parental rights proceedings occurs in accordance with required provisions.

Tennessee CFSR Result: The state did not provide evidence that TPR petitions that were required to be filed were filed timely, and provided data and information in the Statewide Assessment that demonstrated a declining percentage of children in care at least 15 months who had a TPR petition filed. There is no process for Tennessee to actively monitor that TPR petitions are filed timely in accordance with ASFA timeframes.

Notice of Hearings and Reviews to Caregivers:

Description: The case review system is functioning to ensure that foster parents, pre-adoptive parents, and relative caregivers of children in foster care are notified of, and have a right to be heard in, any review or hearing held with respect to the child

Tennessee CFSR Result: Data and information showed that notice to foster parents, pre-adoptive parents, and relative caregivers was not routinely functioning at the statewide level. There was no evidence provided that the notice of the right to be heard was included in the various methods of notice.

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Systemic Factors

Child Welfare

Quality Assurance System - Not in substantial conformity

Quality Assurance System:

Description: The quality assurance system is functioning statewide to ensure that it (1) is operating in the jurisdictions where the services included in the Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP) are provided, (2) has standards to evaluate the quality of services (including standards to ensure that children in foster care are provided quality services that protect their health and safety), (3) identifies strengths and needs of the service delivery system, (4) provides relevant reports, and (5) evaluates implemented program improvement measures.

Tennessee CFSR Result: Tennessee does not have a clear process or mechanism for using evidence collected through its quality assurance activities to inform, implement, or assess program improvement activities. Tennessee provided information on its quality assurance system for its three service areas: Child Programs (foster care, Family Crisis Intervention and Family Support), Juvenile Justice (Probation and Custody), and Office of Child Safety (Investigations and Assessment). The systems operate statewide in the jurisdictions where services provided in the CFSP are provided. Tennessee aligned its case review process for its accreditation with the Onsite Review Instrument and Instructions (OSRI) to evaluate the quality of services provided to children in foster care to protect their health and safety. Case record reviews along with reports are used to identify strengths and needs of the service delivery system, including the Child Stat Tracker, Cross Regional Workbook, and DSS Scorecard, with examples of the reports provided in the Statewide Assessment.

Staff and Provider Training: Not in substantial conformity

Initial Staff Training:

Description: The staff and provider training system is functioning statewide to ensure that initial training is provided to all staff who deliver services pursuant to the CFSP that includes the basic skills and knowledge required for their positions.

Tennessee CFSR Result: The state provided no data that initial training was completed timely, and very little evaluation data because the initial training was still new. There was some promising information related to the revised training that it may now be providing caseworkers with the skills and knowledge needed to perform their job duties.

Ongoing Staff Training:

Description: The staff and provider training system is functioning statewide to ensure that ongoing training is provided for staff that addresses the skills and knowledge base needed to carry out their duties with regard to the services included in the CFSP.

Tennessee CFSR Result: The state provided compliance data for ongoing training with agency caseworkers in the Statewide Assessment; however, no data were provided on the effectiveness of the ongoing training, supervisor training, or training for providers. Generally, the information conveyed was positive with respect to training, but no additional data were provided on the effectiveness of the training in ensuring that staff had the knowledge and skills to carry out their job duties.

Foster and Adoptive Parent Training:

Description: The staff and provider training system is functioning statewide to ensure that training is occurring statewide for current or prospective foster parents, adoptive parents, and staff of state licensed or approved facilities (that care for children receiving foster care or adoption assistance under title IV-E) that addresses the skills and knowledge base needed to carry out their duties with regard to foster and adopted children.

Tennessee CFSR Result: No data or information were provided on training for licensed childcare facilities. Tennessee provided data in the Statewide Assessment that showed compliance with the annual training hours for foster parents and reported that DSS trains foster parents and trains the trainers for providers of specialty foster homes. Tennessee requires at least 15 hours of ongoing training annually, and therapeutic foster homes must attend an additional 9 hours of training. Some information indicated that initial foster parent training supports development of the skills, knowledge, and abilities foster parents need to care for children. Ongoing training for foster parents is tracked, and if required training is not completed, foster parents are no longer eligible to care for children. Provider agencies assist foster parents by monitoring requirements and reminding the foster parents about training requirement deadlines.

Systemic Factors

Child Welfare

Service Array and Resource Development: Not in substantial conformity

Array of Services:

Description: The service array and resource development system is functioning to ensure that the following array of services is accessible in all political jurisdictions covered by the CFSP: (1) services that assess the strengths and needs of children and families and determine other service needs, (2) services that address the needs of families in addition to individual children in order to create a safe home environment, (3) services that enable children to remain safely with their parents when reasonable, and (4) services that help children in foster and adoptive placements achieve permanency.

Tennessee CFSR Result: In the Statewide Assessment, Tennessee identified an ongoing challenge in establishing sufficient resources in rural areas to meet the needs of the underserved populations, which in turn contributes to waitlists in urban areas as rural service recipients are referred to the closest provider. Data and information provided confirmed service gaps in mental health services as well as transportation and financial services in rural communities. The surveys also identified a lack of providers that accept Tennessee's Medicaid (TennCare) program, providers of residential services, and domestic violence prevention services for perpetrators or male victims. Stakeholder interviews confirmed the lack of services reported in the Statewide Assessment and identified a lack of therapeutic visitation services and mental health assessments for children and families. Several court jurisdictions order parents to begin with therapeutic visitation, and because there are limited providers, visits are significantly delayed.

Individualizing Services:

Description: The service array and resource development system is functioning statewide to ensure that the services in Array of Services can be individualized to meet the unique needs of children and families served by the agency.

Tennessee CFSR Result: Tennessee noted that it is growing capacity to provide individualized services; however, challenges remain with persons with disabilities because the only available resources are through the education system. Tennessee also acknowledged a lack of mental health providers willing to work with populations who speak languages other than English. Information received confirmed the challenges of providing services to families who do not speak English or Spanish, which would include families from Ukraine and Africa nations, and those speaking dialects of Spanish.

Agency Responsiveness to the Community: In substantial conformity

State Engagement and Consultation With Stakeholders Pursuant to CFSP and APSR:

Description: The agency responsiveness to the community system is functioning statewide to ensure that, in implementing the provisions of the CFSP and developing related Annual Progress and Services Reports (APSRs), the state engages in ongoing consultation with Tribal representatives, consumers, service providers, foster care providers, the juvenile court, and other public and private child- and family-serving agencies and includes the major concerns of these representatives in the goals, objectives, and annual updates of the CFSP.

Tennessee CFSR Result: Tennessee acknowledged its challenge to engage birth parents of children in foster care and noted its plan to expand its parent advisory group to include more birth parents of children in foster care; however, Tennessee has not yet expanded the parent advisory group, and their engagement seems to be more along the lines of providing information and receiving feedback, not including parents in decisions. It was learned that information shared is second-hand, decisions were made without input and the topics for planning meetings with the state were often overly broad.

Coordination of CFSP Services With Other Federal Programs:

Description: The agency responsiveness to the community system is functioning statewide to ensure that the state's services under the CFSP are coordinated with services or benefits of other federal or federally assisted programs serving the same population.

Tennessee CFSR Result: In its Statewide Assessment, Tennessee described the creation of the Unified Command Center, which requires state agencies to meet frequently to support DCS along with its Multi-Agency Collaborations Single Team Single Plan approach, which includes the Departments of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Medicaid, Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Housing and Urban Development, and Childcare. Tennessee has Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with the Departments of Health, Corrections, Mental Health and Substance Abuse, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, and the Social Security Administration, which allows DCS to streamline services across the state.

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Systemic Factors

Child Welfare

Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention: Not in substantial conformity

Standards Applied Equally:

Description: The foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system is functioning statewide to ensure that state standards are applied to all licensed or approved foster family homes or child care institutions receiving title IV-B or IV-E funds.

Tennessee CFSR Result: In the Statewide Assessment, Tennessee reported that the state updated its licensing standards as required by the Family First Prevention Services Act, and that foster home and child caring institution licensing standards are applied equally, with accommodations to waive non-safety related requirements for relative/kinship placements. Tennessee has standards for foster care licensing and one Resource Eligibility Team that ensures compliance with IV-E eligibility and DCS safety standards for all DCS and contract agency foster homes to ensure standards are applied equally. The Office of Child Welfare Licensing conducts an annual evaluation of each facility using a standardized instrument to ensure that those standards are applied equally.

Requirements for Criminal Background Checks:

Description: The foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system is functioning statewide to ensure that the state complies with federal requirements for criminal background clearances as related to licensing or approving foster care and adoptive placements and has in place a case planning process that includes provisions for addressing the safety of foster care and adoptive placements for children.

Tennessee CFSR Result: In the Statewide Assessment, no information was provided on how Tennessee identifies and completes background screenings on new household members joining a foster home, whether a foster home household member reaches 18 years of age, or whether a household member of a foster home was charged with a criminal offense between relicensing periods. Tennessee does not track foster homes disqualified due to background checks across counties; however, it was noted that each county has the same process and any background issue would be identified if someone applied in another county. The state uses its case planning process to ensure that caseworkers assess for safety during each monthly home visit with the children. Data and information revealed that background checks are monitored annually and any changes in household composition are captured during quarterly safety inspections of contracted foster homes and monthly foster parent support visits. Foster home providers rely on self- reporting if a household member acquires new charges between licensing periods. Once so identified, a foster home may be suspended until the issue is resolved.

Diligent Recruitment of Foster and Adoptive Homes:

Description: The foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system is functioning to ensure that the process for ensuring the diligent recruitment of potential foster and adoptive families who reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of children in the state for whom foster and adoptive homes are needed is occurring statewide.

Tennessee CFSR Result: Tennessee acknowledged a need to improve its use of race and ethnicity data on children in foster care to ensure that the foster and adoptive pool of prospective parents includes families who reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of the children in foster care. Data and information received noted that there is an insufficient number of foster parents who match the unique characteristics of the children in foster care. Tennessee developed targeted strategies in 12 regional recruitment and retention plans based on demographic indicators, and in 2022, contracted with a provider to assume recruitment responsibilities. Tennessee is working with that provider to develop a more robust statewide recruitment plan that identifies different cultural and racial needs with targeted recruitment goals in specific geographical areas. Recruitment efforts are addressed quarterly and compared to demographic information in TFACTS. It was learned that the agency uses booths at events and tries to recruit families at different churches that are open to children of various religions, and data on race, ethnicity, and other cultural aspects are used to develop strategic plans.

State Use of Cross-Jurisdictional Resources for Permanent Placements:

Description: The foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system is functioning to ensure that the process for ensuring the effective use of cross-jurisdictional resources to facilitate timely adoptive or permanent placements for waiting children is occurring statewide.

Tennessee CFSR Result: Tennessee joined the National Electronic Interstate Compact Enterprise (NEICE) in late 2022 and anticipated that this would significantly expedite the completion of home studies requested by other states. Initial data showed slight improvement; however, performance data provided by the state showed that Tennessee's system is not currently functioning to facilitate timely foster and adoptive placement of children. Tennessee uses cross-jurisdictional resources such as AdoptUSKids effectively to recruit adoptive homes and has developed agreements with four states sharing borders with Tennessee.

Safe Baby Courts

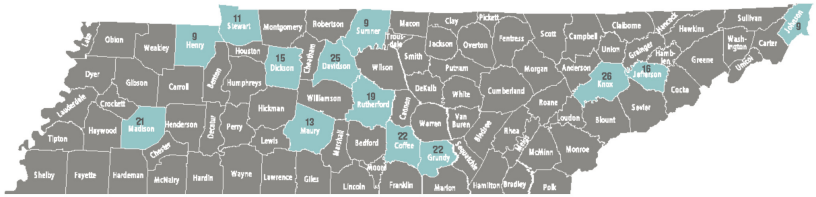
Child Welfare

Tennessee Safe Baby Courts, administered by the Administrative Office of the Courts, Department of Children's Services and the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, use a collaborative, multi-disciplinary approach to dependency and neglect cases with the needs of the youngest children (ages zero through three and their siblings) as the touchstone for decisions in the case. Anchored by the juvenile court judge or magistrate, each jurisdiction has a coordinator whose responsibility is to integrate and coordinate system responses to each participating family. The team addresses barriers to permanency, along with any other needs a child and a caregiver might have. Special focus is placed on the mental health of a child who has either been placed in DCS custody or is at risk of being placed into DCS custody. [21]

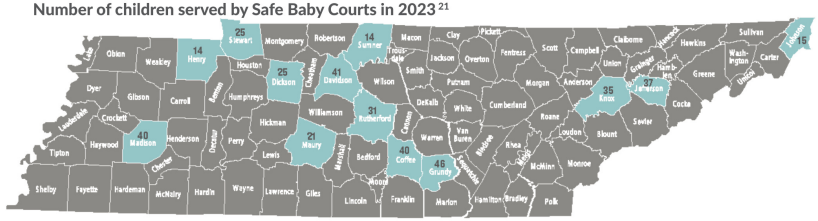


In 2023, Safe Baby Courts served 217 cases representing a total of 384 children in 13 counties. [21]

Number of Safe Baby Court cases by county in 2023 [21]



Number of children served by Safe Baby Courts in 2023 [21]



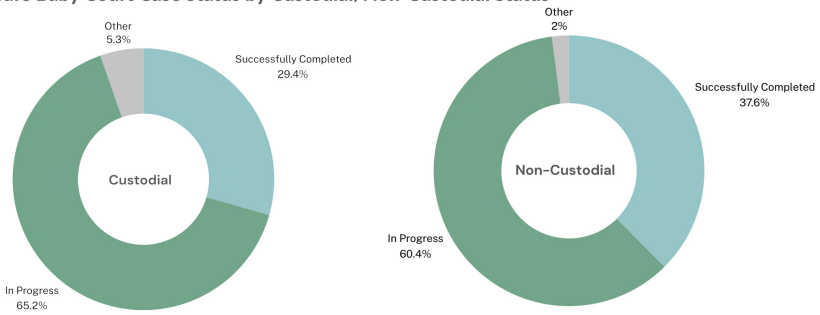
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Safe Baby Courts

Child Welfare

Safe Baby Court Case Status by Custodial/Non-Custodial Status [21]



"Other" can include a transfer of jurisdiction, a parent requesting to no longer be a part of SBC, a conflict of interest closing the case, or cases that were unsuccessfully discharged from the program by the judge or magistrate hearing the case.

Average length of stay for cases that successfully completed Safe Baby Court [21]
Custodial: 585 days **Non-Custodial: 274 days**

Living arrangement for Safe Baby Court Cases

Relative (Non-Custodial)	37%
Non-Relative (Foster Care)	27%
Birth Parent	20%
Relative (Foster Care)	7%
Non-Relative (Non-Custodial)	4%
Birth Parent with Supervision by Relative	4%
Foster Care (Res. Treatment Facility)	1%
Birth Parent with Supervision by Non-Relative	0%
Hospital	0%

In 2023, 37 percent of children involved in a Safe Baby Court case lived with a relative either currently or at the time of the closure of the case. [21]

There were 188 children in foster care at some point during their Safe Baby Court Case. [21]

- 54 children were in care for 0 to 6 months
- 29 were in care for 7 to 12 months
- 42 were in care for 13 to 18 months
- 63 were in care 19 months or longer

Treatment Services	Number Provided
Alcohol & Drug Assessment	388
Alcohol & Drug Outpatient Treatment	250
Mental Health Assessment	229
Alcohol & Drug Inpatient Treatment	186
Parenting Classes	162

Of the 217 families participating in Safe Baby Court Services, 87 percent participated in services. [21]

The total number of services provided were 2,319: [21]

- 1,320 were successfully completed
- 607 were in progress
- 344 were not completed
- 48 had a status as "other"

Relative Caregivers

Child Welfare



In FY2023, 2,478 children and 1,421 caregivers were served by the Relative Caregiver Program. [13]



The Relative Caregiver Program is offered in all 95 Tennessee counties. [13]

The Relative Caregiver Program provides services and support to relatives providing care for non-custodial children. These services and supports help children remain with their families and reduce the number of children entering foster care.

Since the beginning of the program, $5.7 million in payments have been made to Relative Caregivers. [22]

In FY2023, $853,344 in direct assistance was provided through the Relative Caregiver Program. [13]

In calendar year 2023, **0.5%** of children who had been in the custody of a Relative Caregiver who received direct assistance entered state custody. [22]

With new expanded eligibility criteria that went into effect in July 2024, it is expected an additional 1,941 children will become eligible for the Relative Caregiver program and subsequent payments. [23]

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Transition Age Youth

Child Welfare

Many former foster youths can face significant challenges in the transition to adulthood, placing them at greater risk of victimization or negative social outcomes. Extension of foster care services allows these youth the opportunity to complete or continue their education with access to health care, housing assistance and other supports to help them succeed in life, while at the same time playing an important role in achieving the goals Tennessee has set for improving graduation rates, increasing educational attainment, building stronger families and creating safer communities



In FY2024, 854 youth aged out of foster care. [23]

Of those aging out, 83 percent were eligible for Extension of Foster Care Services (EFCS). [23]

Among those who were eligible, 57 percent accepted EFCS. FY2024 had the highest acceptance rate since the state began offering the program. [23]

In FY2024, 408 youth accepted Extension of Foster Care Services, representing the largest number of youth ever served and an increase of 39 from the previous year. [23]

There was an increase in the average length participants stayed in EFCS. The average length of stay was 280 days, two weeks longer than the previous year. [23]

Self-termination represented the largest group who lost services in FY2024 (67 youth) followed by loss of services for academic eligibility (57 youth) and turning 21 (52 youth). [23]

Youth Villages' YVLifeSet program is designed to assist young adults between the ages of 17 and 22 who are transitioning from child welfare and juvenile justice services to adulthood to learn the skills needed to live successfully.

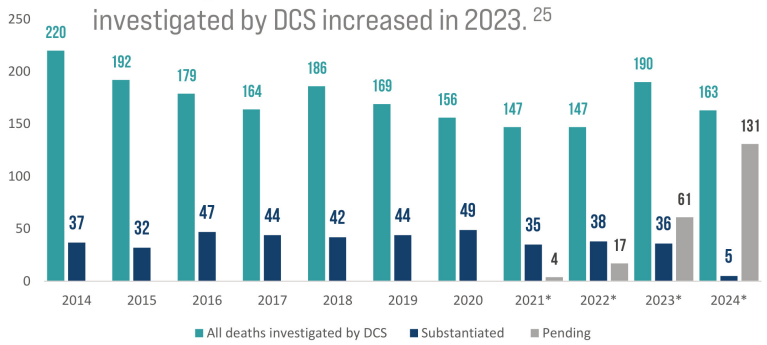
A total of 1,224 youth participated in the program. At 12-month follow-up: [23]

- 93 percent were not considered to be in legal trouble;
- 93 percent were living with family or independently; and
- 91 percent were in school, had graduated or were working.

Abuse Deaths

Child Welfare

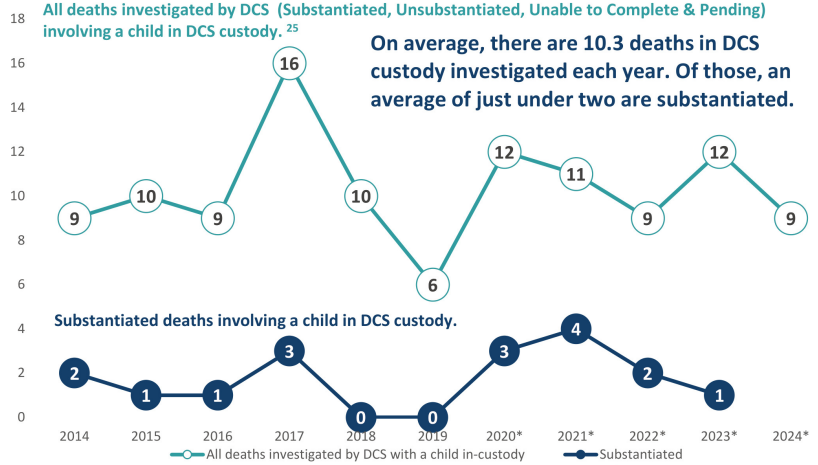
After a slight decline, the number of abuse deaths investigated by DCS increased in 2023. [25]



Of the 35 substantiated abuse deaths in 2021, 80 percent of the victims had contact with Department of Children's Services within the three years prior to their death.* Between 2014-2020, 62 percent of victims had prior contact with DCS. [25]

All deaths investigated by DCS (Substantiated, Unsubstantiated, Unable to Complete & Pending) involving a child in DCS custody. [25]

On average, there are 10.3 deaths in DCS custody investigated each year. Of those, an average of just under two are substantiated.



*Indicates a portion of death investigations still pending. 3% of 2021 abuse death investigations |12% of 2022 abuse death investigations | 32% of 2023 abuse death investigations | 81% of 2023 abuse death investigations| 2024 death numbers not final. Represents count as of 12/15/2024.

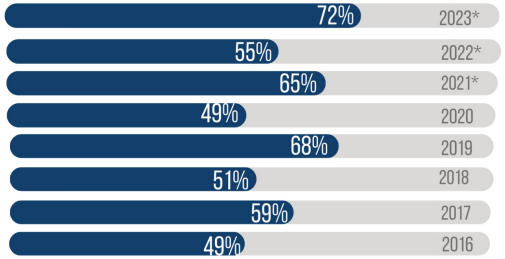
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Abuse Deaths

Child Welfare

Every year the majority of substantiated abuse death victims are one or younger.[25]



While children one and under comprise the majority of abuse deaths in Tennessee, they also comprise a majority of the under-18 deaths of any cause. [25]

Between 2018-2022, 62 percent of child and infant deaths were one or under. [26]

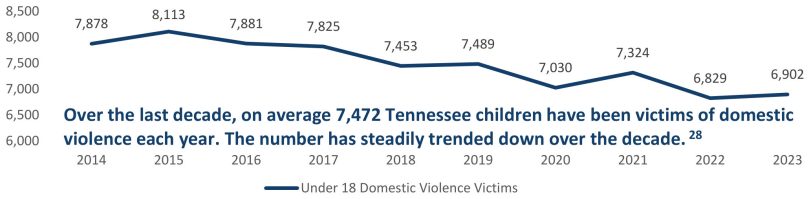
On average about one in six under-18 deaths in Tennessee results in a Department of Children's Services investigation.[25-27]

	DCS Abuse Death Investigations	Under 18 Deaths in Tennessee	Percent of Deaths Investigated
2014	220	884	24.9%
2015	192	894	21.5%
2016	179	965	18.5%
2017	164	980	16.7%
2018	186	930	20.0%
2019	169	912	18.5%
2020	156	861	18.1%
2021	147	926	15.8%
2022	147	952	15.4%
2023*	190	1,021	18.6%

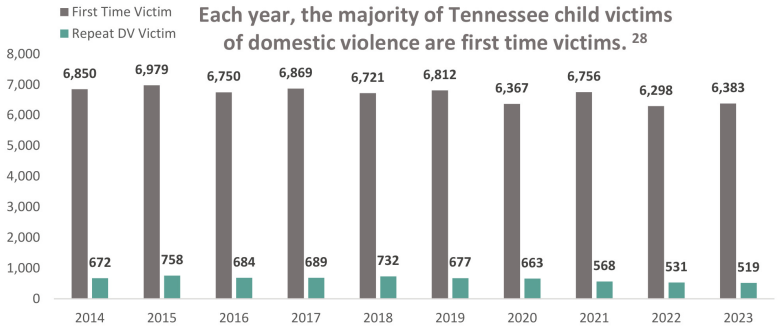
*2023 Under 18 Deaths based on provisional count.

Domestic Violence

Child Welfare



Over the last decade, on average 7,472 Tennessee children have been victims of domestic violence each year. The number has steadily trended down over the decade.[28]



Of the **6,493 repeat victims** of domestic violence since 2014, more than **one in six had an order of protection that was violated.[28]**

The most common domestic violence offenses against children in 2023 were:[28]
55.0 percent - Simple Assault
16.5 percent - Aggravated Assault
10.6 percent - Kidnapping/Abduction
6.1 percent - Forcible Fondling
5.1 percent -Intimidation

1.4 percent of Tennessee women experienced intimate partner violence while pregnant in 2022. That same year, 2.5% reported experiencing intimate partner violence in the 12 months prior to pregnancy. [29]

Among those who dated someone in the last year, **nearly one in seven Tennessee high school girls were in a physically violent relationship within the last year.[30]**

This represents an increase from 2021, and Tennessee remains the fifth highest rate in the country. [30]

Among Metro Nashville female students who dated someone within the last 12 months, nearly 1 in 10 had experienced sexual dating violence that year. [31]

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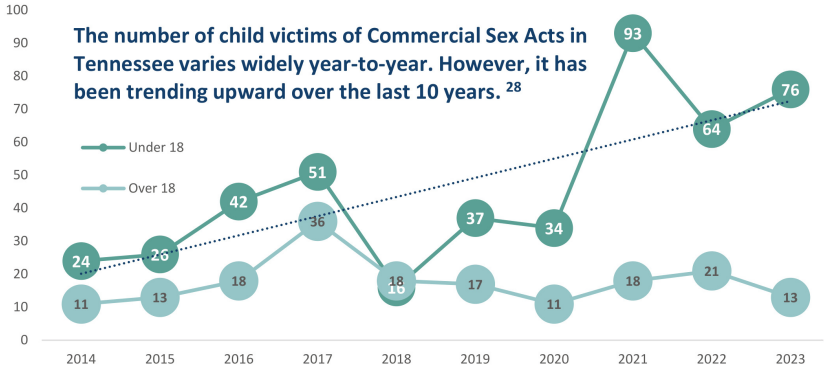
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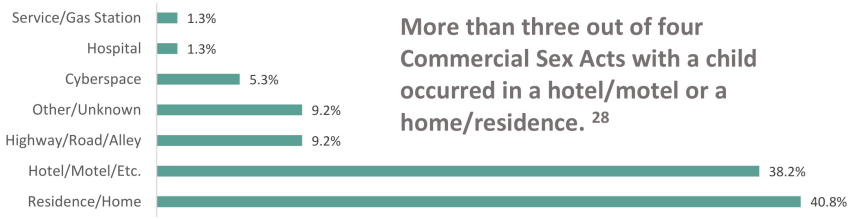
Human Trafficking

Child Welfare

2014-2023

The number of child victims of Commercial Sex Acts in Tennessee varies widely year-to-year. However, it has been trending upward over the last 10 years. [28]





More than three out of four Commercial Sex Acts with a child occurred in a hotel/motel or a home/residence. [28]

Between 2014-2023: [28]

There have been 475 reported child victims of Involuntary Servitude or Commercial Sex Acts in Tennessee and 198 adult victims.

There have been 463 child victims of Commercial Sex Acts over the last 10 years.

Among Cases of Commercial Sex Acts and Involuntary Servitude of children: [28]
In 4.1 percent of cases the victim was under 10.

Black children were overrepresented as victims, comprising 36 percent of victims.

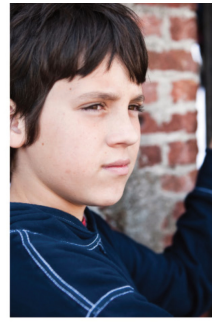
93 percent of victims were girls.

94 percent of known offenders were men.

In 2023, more than one in three victims of Commercial Sex Acts in Tennessee were 16 years old.

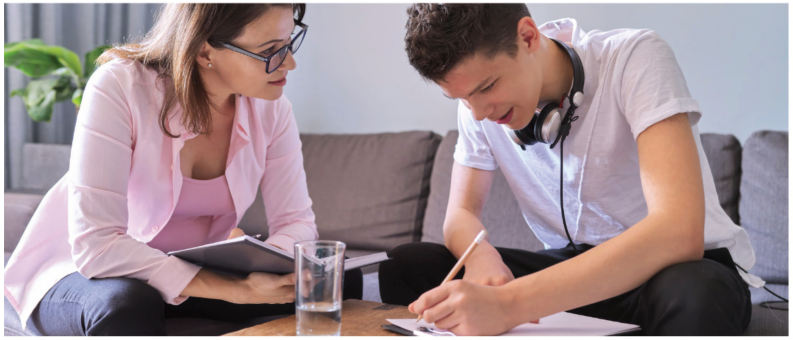
Commercial Sex Acts - Inducing a person by force, fraud or coercion to participate in commercial sex acts, or in which the person induced to perform such act(s) has not yet attained 18 years of age.
Involuntary Servitude - The obtaining of a person(s) through recruitment, harboring, transportation, or provision, and subjecting such person(s) by force, fraud or coercion into involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery (not to include commercial sex acts)

YOUTH JUSTICE











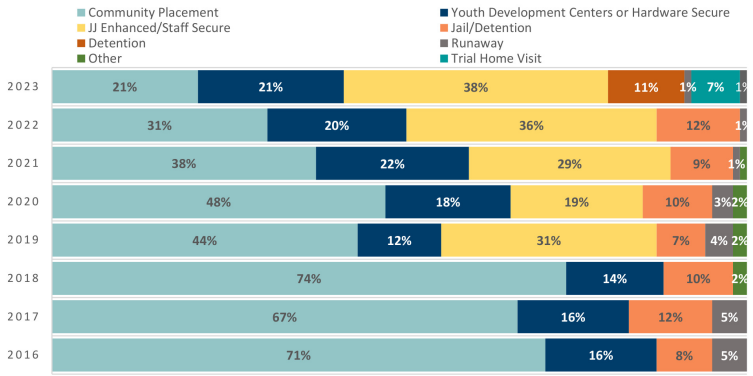




Placements

Youth Justice

Youth justice placements by point in time count on April 1st of each year [1]



There continues to be a smaller share of youth in DCS juvenile justice custody that are in community-based placements. [1]

Note: In 2023, placement in jails, transition homes and hospitals began being classified under "Community Placement". Additionally, trial home visits are no longer represented in Community Placement and have their own section.

Annual cost per child based on placement

Hardware Secure [1,2]

FY2025 Wilder - $595,924

FY 2023 Mountain View - $184,627

FY 2023 Hollis Residential Treatment Center - $184,627

FY 2023 CSI-Rockdale Academy (Texas) - $184,627

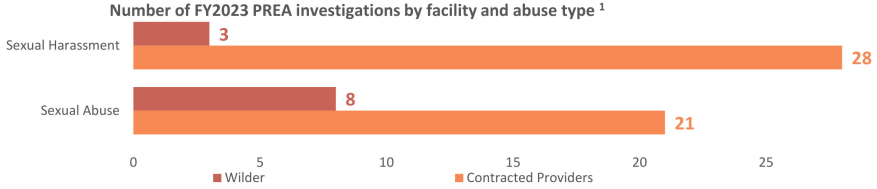
Community Based Placement [1]

FY 2023 Level 4- $211,594

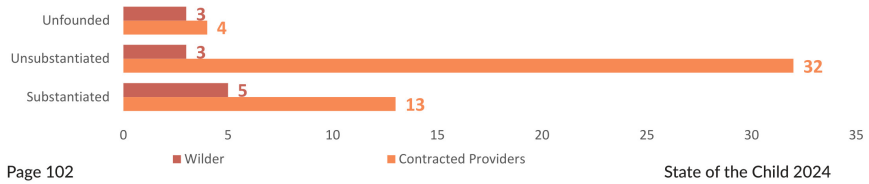
FY 2023 Level 3 - $97,776

FY 2023 Level 2 - $49,917

Number of FY2023 PREA investigations by facility and abuse type [1]



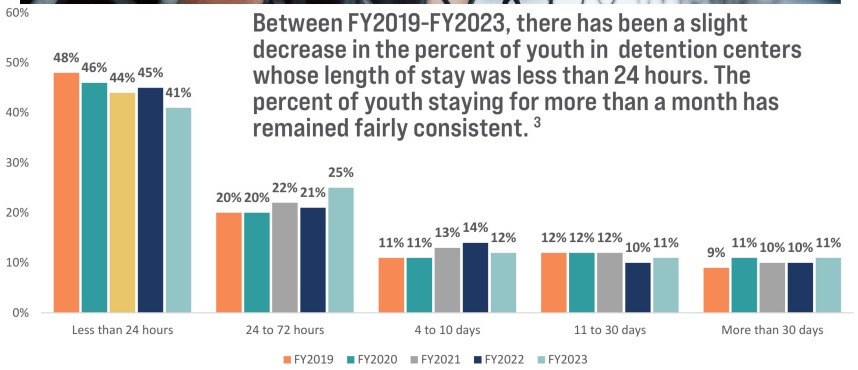
Number of FY2023 PREA investigations by disposition [1]



Placements

Youth Justice





Between FY2019-FY2023, there has been a slight decrease in the percent of youth in detention centers whose length of stay was less than 24 hours. The percent of youth staying for more than a month has remained fairly consistent. [3]

In FY2023, there were 870 youth placed in a Juvenile Detention Center for more than 30 days. Juvenile Detention Centers are designed to be short-term placements and often do not have the capacity to provide youth with the educational, health, mental health and rehabilitative services they need.

In FY2023, 368 youth were in a Youth Development Center or Hardware Secure facility. [3]

In FY2023, 655 youth were served by Aftercare. This number has been declining over the past two years. In FY2021, 845 youth were served on Aftercare. [3]

Over the last two years, the number of youths on pre-trial diversion or probation has been increasing. In FY2023, there were 2,448 youth on served by pre-trial or probation compared to 1,672 in FY2021. [3]

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Prevention & Intervention

Youth Justice

In FY2023, the Department of Children's Services provided $4.8 million in funding for a total of 28 grants to juvenile courts and community agencies that serve youth at risk of entering state custody for delinquency, truancy, and other status offenses. [1]

Tennessee served 3,155 youth through prevention and intervention grants in FY2023. [1]

97% of youth served through prevention & intervention services were diverted from state custody. [1]

Custody Prevention Grants | 100% diversion rate | $3.12 per day | $1,138 per year
Grantees under this classification offer program services for status and delinquent youth that include; case management, counseling, supervision, parenting classes, assessment, substance abuse groups and other family services as deemed necessary.

Child & Family Intervention Grants | 99% diversion rate | $1.20 per day | $438 per year
In recognition of the importance of the intake process in diverting youth from the juvenile justice system, OJJ provides prevention and/or intervention grants to three (3) juvenile courts to enhance the intake process. OJJ funds are used to completely or partially fund additional juvenile court personnel to conduct risk/needs assessments, mental health screenings and make referrals to community-based interventions.

These programs also serve youth who are at imminent risk of entering state custody. These services include county probation, counseling, case management and/or direct delivery of services, transportation, and liaison for educational issues

Truancy Prevention Grants | 100% diversion rate | $1.28 per day | $467 per year
These programs focus on decreasing truancy and improving academic performance by attendance monitoring, GED classes, and counseling. These programs utilize funds to employ a Truancy Specialist to keep abreast of youth experiencing truancy issues. Diverting juvenile offenders to truancy prevention programs can keep truant youth and less serious offenders from moving deeper into the juvenile justice system and allow the courts to save the most severe and costly sanctions for the most serious offenders.

Day Treatment/Education Grants | 100% diversion rate | $33.00 per day | $12,045 per year
Carroll Academy and two programs run by Genesis Learning Centers (Montgomery County Teen Learning Center, and Rutherford County Teen Learning Center), provide educational and therapeutic day treatment services for delinquent youth who have been referred by the local courts. All these youth are at high-risk of state custody and these programs allow the youth to be educated and treated in their communities. In addition to providing Department of Education (DOE) approved education services, these programs provide a therapeutic component utilizing cognitive behavioral intervention, with focus on life skills development, drug and alcohol education/counseling, and anger management. Referrals to these programs are under the supervision of the juvenile court as well as local schools.

Aftercare Grants| 98% diversion rate | $11.71 per day | $4,274 per year
OJJ strives to prevent re-entry into state custody by providing funding to community-based aftercare programs that help youth and their families adjust to re-unification following a custody stay. These programs offer intensive wrap around case management, treatment services and are designed to manage cases involving to mental health issues and/or drug and alcohol abuse. Both grants provide case management services before a youth is released from custody which continues when youth return home. In East TN (Knox County/East TN regional area) OJJ contracts with Helen Ross McNabb to administer the EXIT program. In West TN the Reunion program is administered by Quinco Mental Health Center.

Community Intervention Services Grants | 93% diversion rate | $12.45 per day | $4,544 per year
DCS provides grants to six service providers that deliver intensive probation services, case management, and counseling for delinquent youth who have violated county and/or state probation. The goal of CIS grantees is to reduce the number of commitments to DCS by keeping these delinquent youth in their home and community by providing a blend of intensive supervision and treatment.

Prevention & Intervention

Youth Justice

Multi-Systemic Therapy [1]

Multi-Systemic Therapy serves youth ages 12-18 that are at-risk of court involvement for delinquent behavior or out of the home placement or youth returning home from state's custody to prevent recommitment.

Each youth and family receive services from a therapist who works directly with the youth and family in the family home and is available 24 hours a day. Therapist work with the families on current behaviors and provide goal directed services including increasing family affection, decreasing association with deviant peers, increasing pro-social peers, engaging youth/family in positive recreational activities, improving school attendance and performance and aiding the family in meeting concrete needs such as housing, medical care, and other resources.

FY2021

255 youth served

85 percent success rate

FY2022

522 youth served

92 percent success rate

FY2022

232 youth served

89 percent success rate

One-year post-discharge:

88%
living with family/independently.

95%
in school, graduated, or employed.

87%
no trouble with the law.



95% of families reported they were satisfied with MST services upon completion of the program.

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UNDERSTANDING TRENDS IN YOUTH CRIME

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation publishes annual crime data through their Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS) that provides insight into trends in youth crime.[4]

With the exception of population numbers used to calculate rate, all of the data contained in this section is from TIBRS and can be accessed at crimeinsight.tbi.tn.gov [4]

Throughout this section, unless otherwise noted, the measure used is "Number of Crimes", the broadest available measure, meaning an arrest is not necessary and there is always the chance that the alleged perpetrator is mistakenly attributed as being under 18.

Crimes Against Persons - Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter, Negligent Manslaughter, Justifiable Homicide, Kidnapping / Abduction, Rape, Sodomy, Sexual Assault with an Object, Fondling, Incest, Statutory Rape, Aggravated Assault, Simple Assault, Intimidation, Human Trafficking - Commercial Sex Acts, Human Trafficking - Involuntary Servitude

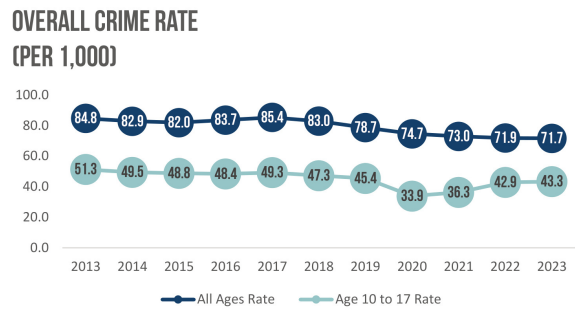
Crimes Against Property- Arson, Bribery, Burglary / Breaking & Entering, Counterfeiting / Forgery, Destruction, Damage, Vandalism of Property, Embezzlement, Extortion / Blackmail, False Pretenses / Swindle / Confidence Game, Credit Card / Automatic Teller Machine Fraud, Impersonation, Welfare Fraud, Wire Fraud, Identity Theft, Hacking / Computer Invasion, Robbery, Pocket-picking, Purse-snatching, Shoplifting, Theft from a Building, Theft from Coin-Operated Machine or Device, Theft from a Motor Vehicle, Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories, All Other Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Stolen Property Offenses.

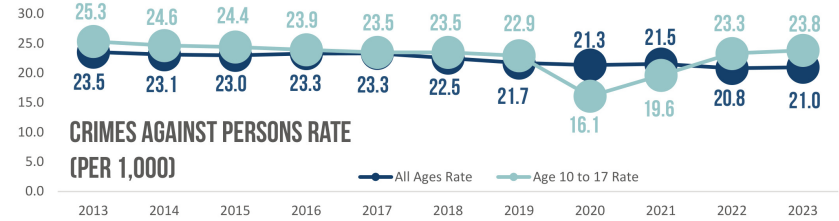
Crimes Against Society - Animal Cruelty, Drug/Narcotic Violations, Drug/Narcotic Equipment Violations, Gambling, Pornography, Prostitution, Promoting/Assisting or Purchasing Prostitution, and Weapons Law Violations.

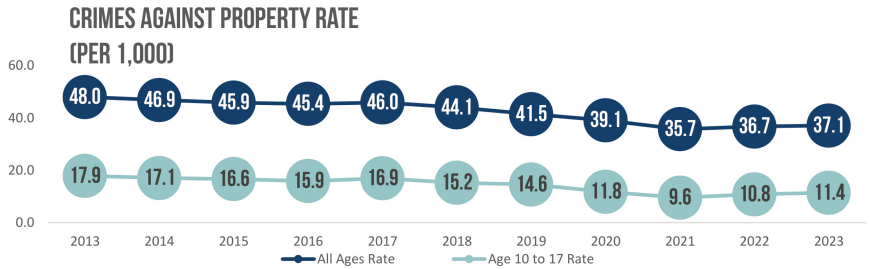
Crime Rate Over the Decade

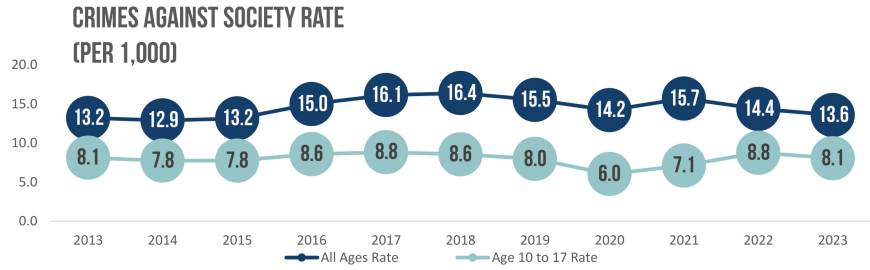
Youth Justice

Overall, the crime rate, including youth crime, has steadily trended down over the decade. In youth crime, there was a larger than usual drop in 2020 and subsequent increase back near previous levels in between 2021-2023









Crime Rate by County

Youth Justice

In 2013, Tennessee had 34,578 crimes committed by youth aged 10 to 17, representing a crime rate of 51.3 per 1,000.
In 2023, Tennessee had 30,944 crimes committed by youth aged 10 to 17, representing a crime rate of 43.3 per 1,000.

UNDER 18 CRIME RATES BY COUNTY

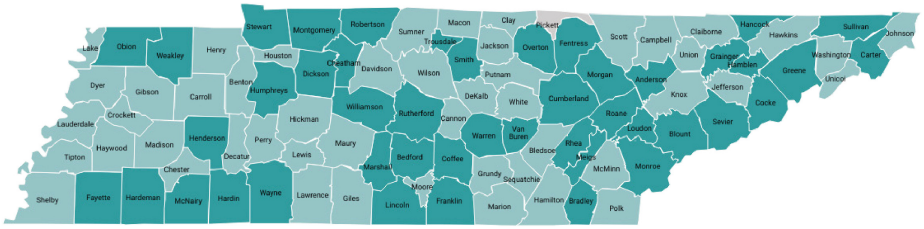
County	2013 Crimes (10 to 17)	2013 Population (10 to 17)	2013 Rate	2023 Crimes (10 to 17)	2023 Population (10 to 17)	2022 Rate
Anderson	244	7,371	33.10	300	7750	38.71
Bedford	156	5,424	28.76	259	5,991	43.23
Benton	17	1,517	11.21	5	1,494	3.35
Bledsoe	15	1,287	11.66	3	1,021	2.94
Blount	403	12,898	31.25	673	13,071	51.49
Bradley	404	10,714	37.71	497	11,235	44.24
Campbell	65	3,991	16.29	11	3,610	3.05
Cannon	29	1,340	21.64	21	1,420	14.79
Carroll	55	2,799	19.65	22	3,200	6.88
Carter	102	5,154	19.79	134	4,844	27.66
Cheatham	154	4,517	34.09	206	3,986	51.68
Chester	66	1,911	34.54	41	1,937	21.17
Claiborne	31	3,029	10.23	27	2,920	9.25
Clay	21	670	31.34	2	734	2.72
Cocke	72	3,470	20.75	103	3,491	29.50
Coffee	198	5,859	33.79	328	6,521	50.30
Crockett	50	1,629	30.69	33	1,515	21.78
Cumberlan	101	4,870	20.74	122	5,037	24.22
Davidson	5950	55,650	106.92	3856	60,547	63.69
Decatur	25	1,129	22.14	12	1,111	10.80
DeKalb	60	1,981	30.29	37	2,012	18.39
Dickson	161	5529	29.12	220	5685	38.70
Dyer	338	4,303	78.55	200	3,920	51.02
Fayette	68	3,830	17.75	76	3,503	21.70
Fentress	10	1,979	5.05	15	1,790	8.38
Franklin	97	4,293	22.59	129	4,235	30.46
Gibson	228	5,594	40.76	102	5,778	17.65
Giles	86	2,880	29.86	73	2,950	24.75
Grainger	14	2,313	6.05	17	2,156	7.88
Greene	160	6,634	24.12	301	6,682	45.05
Grundy	20	1,439	13.90	6	1,305	4.60
Hamblen	251	6,710	37.41	441	7,236	60.95
Hamilton	1544	32,292	47.81	1508	35,621	42.33
Hancock	5	631	7.92	6	676	8.88
Hardeman	79	2,462	32.09	130	2,251	57.75
Hardin	58	2,531	22.92	101	2,562	39.42
Hawkins	87	5,790	15.03	48	5,191	9.25
Haywood	131	2,033	64.44	84	1,770	47.46
Henderson	116	3,019	38.42	114	2,890	39.45
Henry	95	3,143	30.23	75	3,089	24.28
Hickman	50	2,518	19.86	28	2,374	11.79
Houston	19	920	20.65	8	842	9.50
Humphrey	19	1,930	9.84	36	1,870	19.25
Jackson	9	1,077	8.36	5	1,033	4.84
Jefferson	147	5,253	27.98	103	5,338	19.30
Johnson	33	1,516	21.77	24	1,424	16.85
Knox	1731	42,747	40.49	1,938	49,418	39.22
Lake	19	559	33.99	8	430	18.60
Lauderdale	82	3003	27.31	66	2444	27.00
Lawrence	162	4735	34.21	75	5227	14.35
Lewis	44	1286	34.21	15	1324	11.33
Lincoln	100	3527	28.35	141	3814	36.97
Loudon	84	4723	17.79	151	5227	28.89
Macon	33	2535	13.02	27	2913	9.27
Madison	930	10023	92.79	518	10385	49.88
Marion	32	2880	11.11	23	2681	8.58
Marshall	90	3555	25.32	162	3842	42.17
Maury	763	8458	90.21	868	10837	80.10
McMinn	240	5442	44.10	93	5389	17.26
McNairy	50	2824	17.71	67	2630	25.48
Meigs	8	1219	6.56	13	1287	10.10
Monroe	60	4658	12.88	120	4456	26.93
Montgomery	1099	19779	55.56	1488	26587	55.97
Moore	17	673	25.26	11	587	18.74
Morgan	11	2185	5.03	13	1960	6.63
Obion	125	3313	37.73	145	2973	48.77
Overton	17	2356	7.22	46	2236	20.57
Perry	10	835	11.98		854	0.00
Pickett		484	0.00		394	0.00
Polk	21	1766	11.89	18	1548	11.63
Putnam	226	7042	32.09	134	8753	15.31
Rhea	55	3433	16.02	65	3328	19.53
Roane	67	5270	12.71	107	4941	21.66
Robertson	209	7681	27.21	268	8210	32.64
Rutherford	1180	31953	36.93	1606	41765	38.45
Scott	51	2529	20.17	14	2286	6.12
Sequatchie	47	1554	30.24	19	1536	12.37
Sevier	253	9394	26.93	373	9400	39.68
Shelby	10567	107332	98.45	7534	102158	73.75
Smith	60	2153	27.87	59	2070	28.50
Stewart	7	1427	4.91	30	1334	22.49
Sullivan	866	14826	58.41	927	14402	64.37
Sumner	807	19498	41.39	661	21769	30.36
Tipton	488	7803	62.54	264	6765	39.02
Trousdale	15	839	17.88	28	1151	24.33
Unicoi	35	1754	19.95	5	1451	3.45
Union	77	2009	38.33	12	2004	5.99
Van Buren	5	527	9.49	8	584	13.70
Warren	135	4379	30.83	159	4394	36.19
Washington	518	11256	46.02	466	12851	36.26
Wayne	7	1527	4.58	16	1230	13.01
Weakley	54	3126	17.27	59	3322	17.76
White	40	2691	14.86	12	2727	4.40
Williamson	553	28137	19.65	1076	34038	31.61
Wilson	485	14077	34.45	494	17211	28.70

Crime Rate by County

Youth Justice

Between 2013-2023, Shelby, Davidson, Knox and Hamilton Counties all experienced a decline in the under-18 crime rate.

INCREASE IN UNDER 18 CRIME RATE OVER THE DECADE
DECREASE IN UNDER 18 CRIME RATE OVER THE DECADE
0.0% CHANGE IN UNDER 18 CRIME RATE OVER THE DECADE



County	Change in 10 to 17 Crime Rate from 2013 - 2023 (Per 1,000)	County	Change in 10 to 17 Crime Rate from 2013 - 2023 (Per 1,000)	County	Change in 10 to 17 Crime Rate from 2013 - 2023 (Per 1,000)
Anderson	5.61	Hamilton	-5.48	Morgan	1.60
Bedford	14.47	Hancock	0.95	Obion	11.04
Benton	-7.86	Hardeman	25.66	Overton	13.36
Bledsoe	-8.72	Hardin	16.51	Perry	-11.98
Blount	20.24	Hawkins	-5.78	Pickett	0.00
Bradley	6.53	Haywood	-16.98	Polk	-0.26
Campbell	-13.24	Henderson	1.02	Putnam	-16.78
Cannon	-6.85	Henry	-5.95	Rhea	3.51
Carroll	-12.77	Hickman	-8.06	Roane	8.94
Carter	7.87	Houston	-11.15	Robertson	5.43
Cheatham	17.59	Humphreys	9.41	Rutherford	1.52
Chester	-13.37	Jackson	-3.52	Scott	-14.04
Claiborne	-0.99	Jefferson	-8.69	Sequatchie	-17.87
Clay	-28.62	Johnson	-4.91	Sevier	12.75
Cocke	8.76	Knox	-1.28	Shelby	-24.70
Coffee	16.50	Lake	-15.38	Smith	0.63
Crockett	-8.91	Lauderdale	-0.30	Stewart	17.58
Cumberland	3.48	Lawrence	-19.86	Sullivan	5.96
Davidson	-43.23	Lewis	-22.89	Sumner	-11.02
Decatur	-11.34	Lincoln	8.62	Tipton	-23.52
DeKalb	-11.90	Loudon	11.10	Trousdale	6.45
Dickson	9.58	Macon	-3.75	Unicoi	-16.51
Dyer	-27.53	Madison	-42.91	Union	-32.34
Fayette	3.94	Marion	-2.53	Van Buren	4.21
Fentress	3.33	Marshall	16.85	Warren	5.36
Franklin	7.87	Maury	-10.11	Washington	-9.76
Gibson	-23.10	McMinn	-26.84	Wayne	8.42
Giles	-5.12	McNairy	7.77	Weakley	0.49
Grainger	1.83	Meigs	3.54	White	-10.46
Greene	20.93	Monroe	14.05	Williamson	11.96
Grundy	-9.30	Montgomery	0.40	Wilson	-5.75
Hamblen	23.54	Moore	-6.52		

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Crime Rate by County

Youth Justice

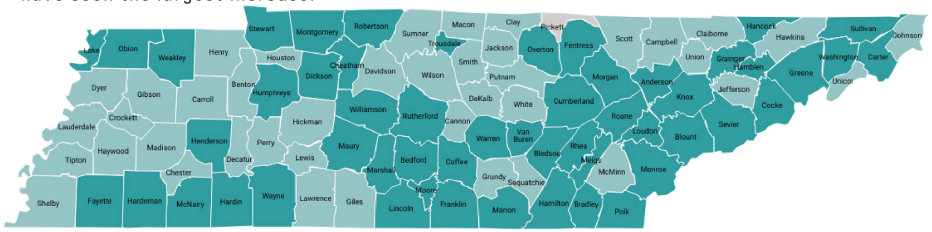
INCREASE IN UNDER-18 CRIME RATE OVER THE DECADE

DECREASE IN UNDER-18 CRIME RATE OVER THE DECADE

0.0% CHANGE IN UNDER-18 CRIME RATE OVER THE DECADE

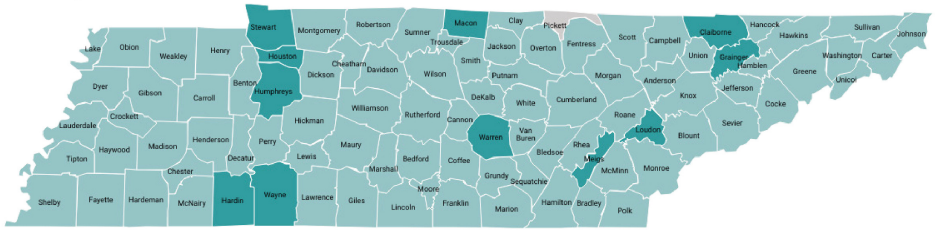
CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

Over the last decade Madison, Davidson and Shelby counties have seen the largest decline in the rate of under 18 Crimes Against Persons while Greene, Marshall and Coffee counties have seen the largest increase.



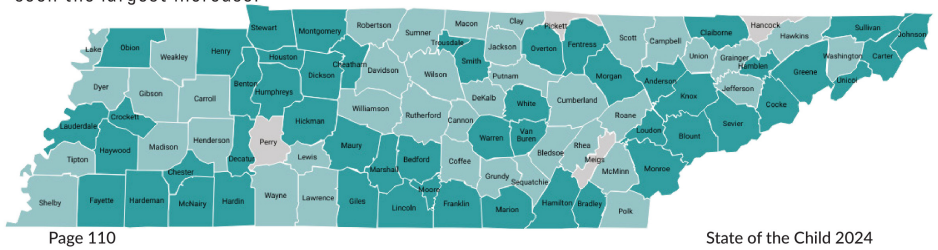
CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY

Over the last decade Madison, Dyer and Maury counties have seen the largest decline in the rate of under 18 Crimes Against Property while Macon, Wayne and Stewart counties have seen the largest increase.



CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY

Over the last decade Davidson, Lake and Bledsoe Counties have seen the largest decline in the rate of under 18 Crimes Against Society while Blount, Hardeman and Hamblen Counties have seen the largest increase.



Youth and Firearm Crimes

Youth Justice

Percent change over the decade in the type of weapon used **against** a youth victim with any age offender:

Firearm: ↑158.6

Knife/Cutting Instrument: ↓-9.7%

Blunt Object: ↓-13.3%

Motor Vehicle: ↑11.6^

Personal Weapons: ↓-18.2%

Asphyxiation: ↑122.2%

Poison/Drugs: ↑38.5%

Fire/Explosives: ↓-35.3%

Other: ↓-16.3%

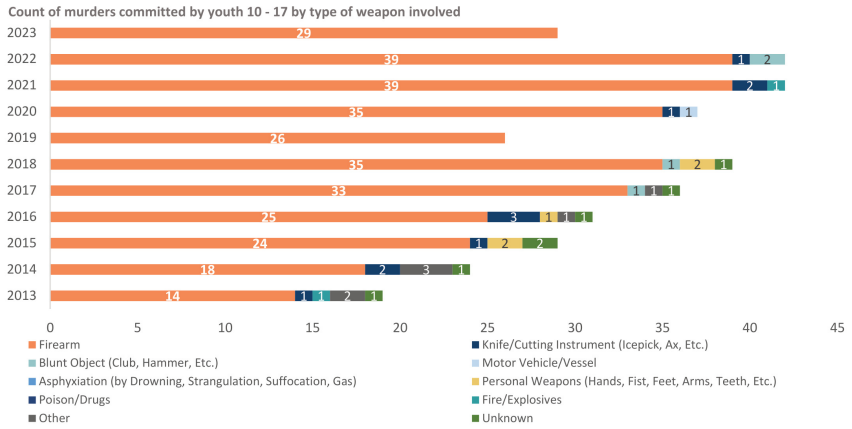
Unknown: ↑43.1%

None: ↑53.2

In 2023 crimes where a youth used a firearm:

- 68.5 percent involved a Handgun
- 25.0 percent involved Firearm (Type Not Stated)
- 6.5 percent involved a Rifle
- 2.4 percent involved an Other Firearm
- 0.9 percent involved an Automatic Handgun
- 0.7 percent involved a Shotgun
- 0.2 percent involved a Firearm-Automatic (Type Not Stated) or Other Firearm - Automatic

The majority of murders committed by youth involve a firearm



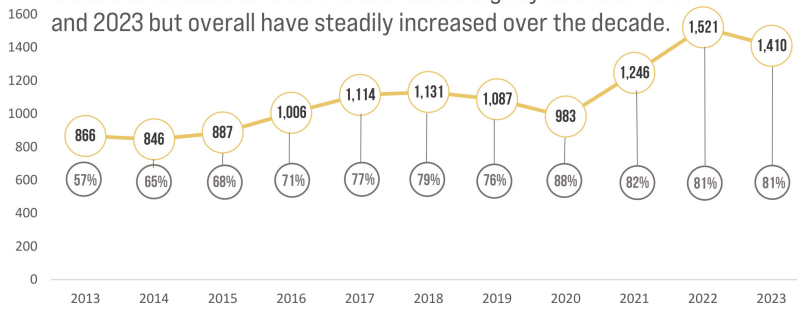
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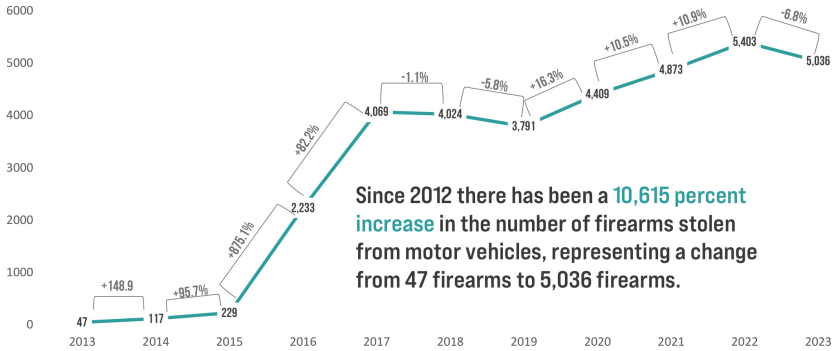
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Youth and Firearm Crimes

Youth Justice

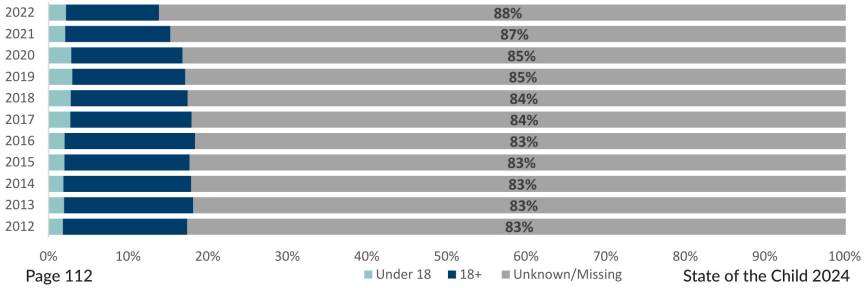
Weapons law violations for under 18 offenders and the percent of those attributable to firearms decreased slightly between 2022 and 2023 but overall have steadily increased over the decade.





Since 2012 there has been a **10,615 percent increase** in the number of firearms stolen from motor vehicles, representing a change from 47 firearms to 5,036 firearms.

In the majority of Thefts from Motor Vehicles the age of the offender is unknown.



Youth and Firearm Crimes

Youth Justice

Youth are much more likely to be the victim of a firearm crime than to perpetrate one.

In 2022, there were 1,508 victims of crimes involving a firearm where the offender was age 10 to 17. During that same time period, there were 4,448 under-age -18 victims of crimes involving a firearm.

Victims of crimes involving a firearm have increased by 78 percent between 2013-2023 and victims of firearm crimes with a youth offender have **increased 53 percent.** Crimes involving a firearm against a youth victim have **increased by 159 percent**.

IN 2013,

4.0% of crimes committed by youth 10 to 17 involved a firearm, representing 1,372 crimes

3.4% involved a knife or blunt object representing 1,188 crimes

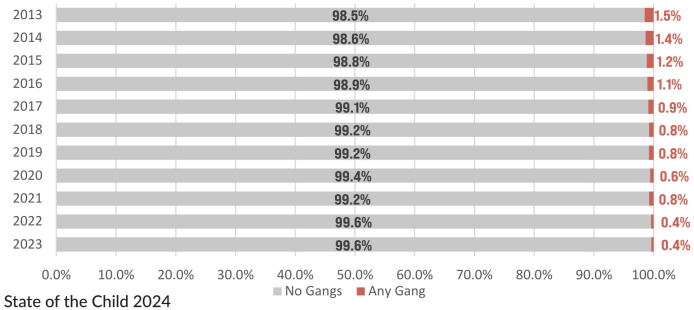
IN 2022,

8.2% of crimes committed by youth 10 to 17 involved a firearm representing 2,542 crimes

3.3% involved a knife or blunt object representing 1,017 crimes

Though still only 11.5 percent of all crimes committed by youth under 18, this represents a **107 percent increase in firearm use** over the decade and a **4 percent decrease in the use of knives or blunt objects**.

Gang involvement comprises a small percent of overall youth crime in Tennessee.



In 2023, gangs were involved in 0.41% of all youth crimes. Gangs comprised of adults were involved in 0.21% of all youth crime.

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Youth in Detention Survey

Youth Justice

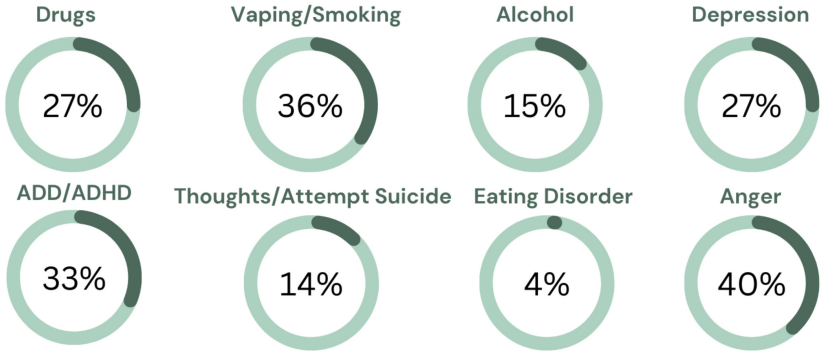
In spring of 2024, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth distributed its annual survey to youth in Juvenile Detention Centers across the state. Youth are asked about their life experiences and what they want legislators and those who work with teens to know. Youth were also asked about what they need more help with. This survey also fulfills federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention requirements.[5]

81% of youth indicated that they had (or maybe had) been arrested, in jail or detention before.

35 percent of youth stated that they have ever needed help with mental health or drugs/alcohol.

72% Of youth indicated that someone who lived with them had (or maybe had) been arrested, in jail or detention.

Have you needed help with the following



81% of youth reported they have at least one adult they can count on

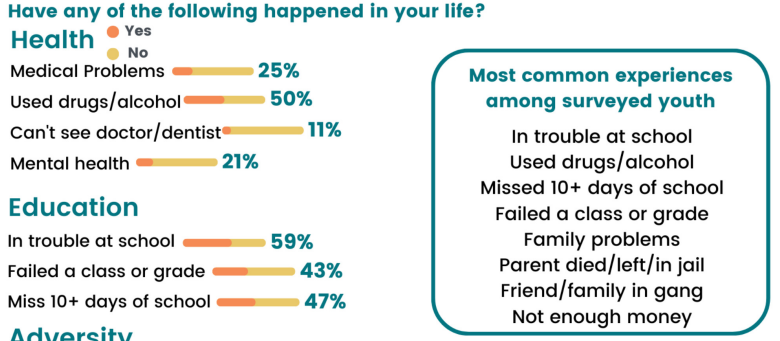
Which of these is easiest for you to control?

My behavior	My environment
72%	16%

Youth in Detention Survey

Youth Justice

Have any of the following happened in your life?



Most common experiences among surveyed youth

In trouble at school
Used drugs/alcohol
Missed 10+ days of school
Failed a class or grade
Family problems
Parent died/left/in jail
Friend/family in gang
Not enough money

Other (quoted as written)

"No father" "ODD and other mental issues" "Being in juvinile is hard" "Taken from mom" "Parents on drugs" "Lots of things floating around in my head I dont know how to let go"

Economics

- Not enough money 30%
- Lost place to stay 10%
- Lights/water turned off 14%
- Trouble getting a job 29%
- Adult at home lost job 12%
- Hard to get places/lost car/ride 4%
- Not enough food 11%

What do you need more help with?

- School - 38 percent
- Job - 37 percent
- Phone - 21 percent
- Dentist - 17 Percent
- Adult I can trust - 16 percent
- Mental Health - 15 percent
- Computer/tablet - 15 percent
- GED/Hi-Set - 13 percent
- Legal - 12 percent
- Rides - 11 percent
- Doctor - 11 percent
- Safety - 9 percent
- Clean clothes - 9 percent
- Place to live - 8 percent
- Medicine - 8 percent
- Food - 7 percent

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Demographics

1. U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce. (2023). Children Characteristics. American Community Survey, ACS 1-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table S0901. Retrieved October 14, 2024, from https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2023.S0901?q=S0901&g=040XX00US47.
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