

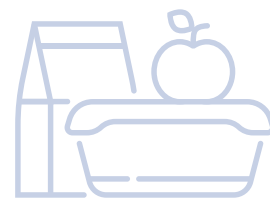


# 2024 State of Health in Tennessee

## A HEALTHY START : Poverty & Food Insecurity

In 2022, 17.6% of children were living in poverty in TN compared to 16.3% nationally.

Children in food-insecure households have higher rates of lifetime asthma diagnosis and depressive symptoms, higher rates of foregone medical care, and higher rates of emergency department use.

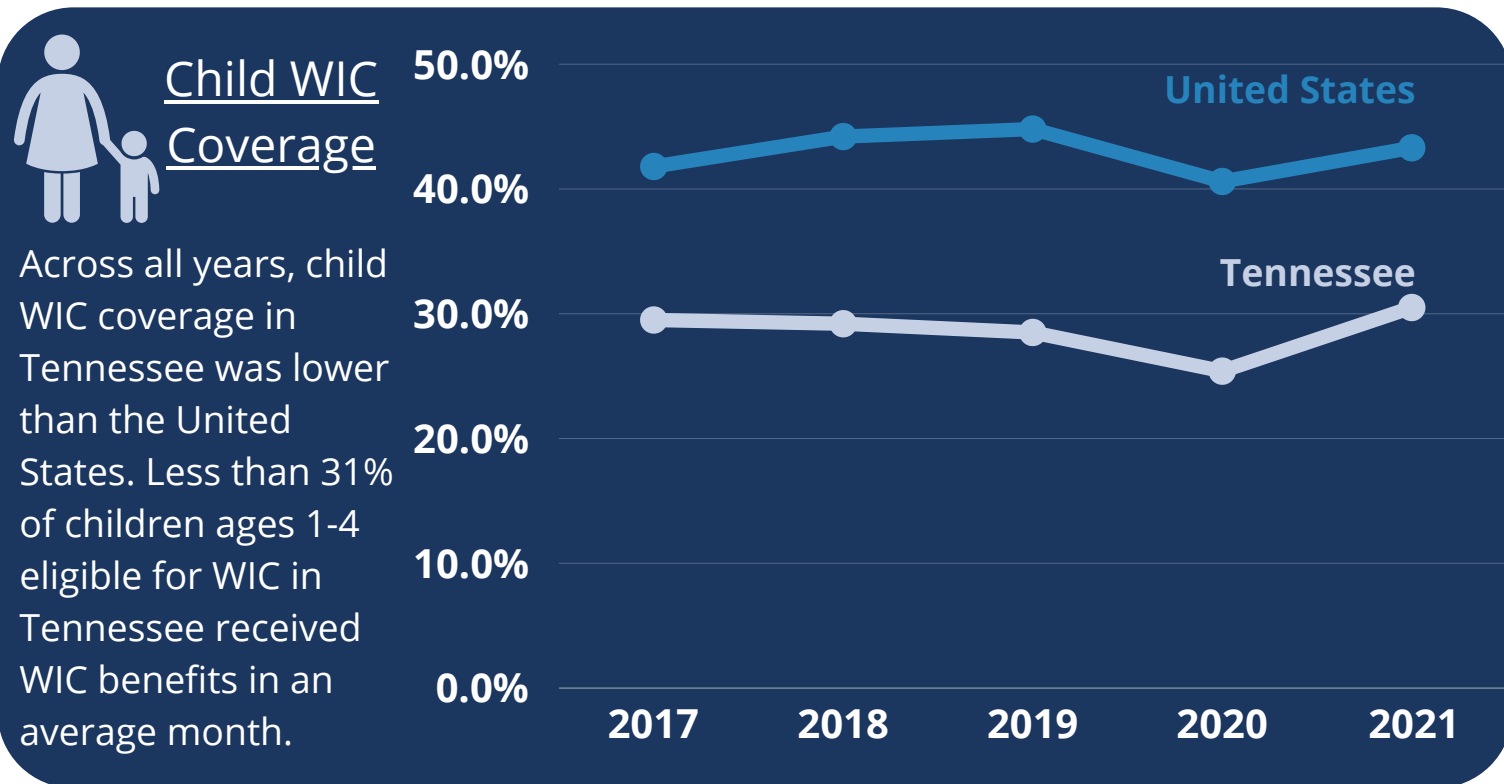


In 2022, 17.9% of Tennessee households with children had children who were food insecure, compared to 18.5% in the United States according to Feeding America.

Programs that seek to combat the impacts of poverty and food insecurity include the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and Special Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).



In 2019, 88% of Tennessee who were eligible for SNAP were receiving benefits, compared to 82% in the United States.



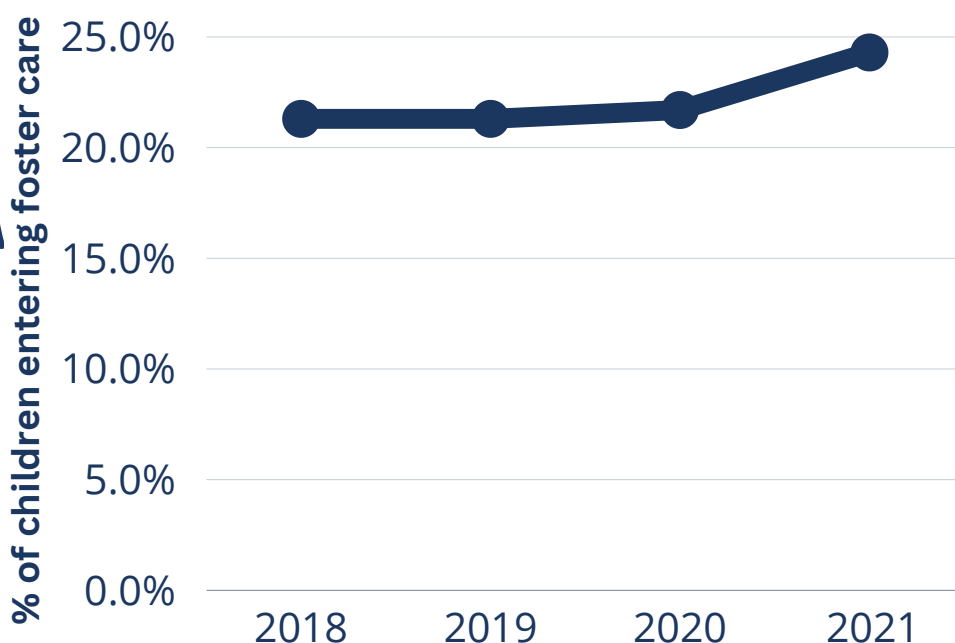


# 2024 State of Health in Tennessee

## A HEALTHY START : Child Care & Education



**Foster Care Re-entry** is defined as the percentage of children entering foster care who were re-entering after a prior episode.



Children who experience foster care instability, such as re-entry, are more likely to develop behavioral issues such as difficulty forming attachments and low self-esteem.

In 2021, 24.3% of children entering foster care in Tennessee were re-entering after a prior episode. Of those, half were re-entering after less than 12 months.

**Child Care** availability, capacity, and cost are significant barriers to Tennessee families and may impact a parent’s ability participate in the labor force.

**17.9%** of Tennessee counties do not have a DHS licensed child care facility that offers a discount.

The annual cost of child care in Tennessee in 2020 was 16.7% of the median family income (\$52,325).

**\$8,732**

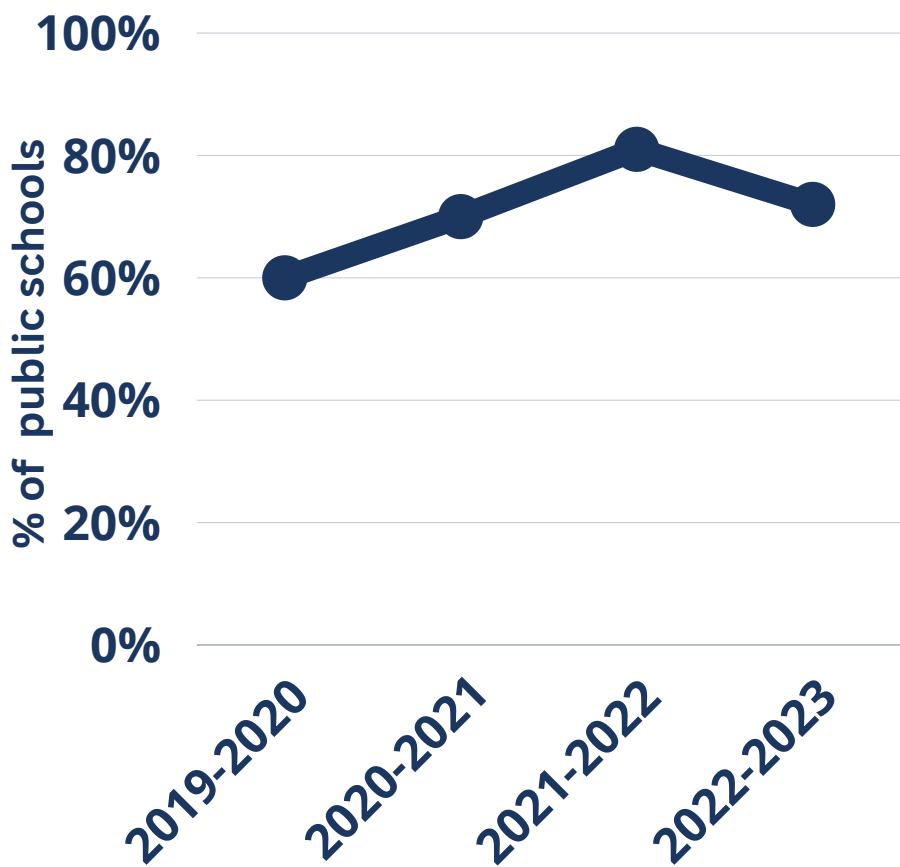


# 2024 State of Health in Tennessee

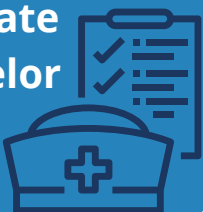
## A HEALTHY START : Child Care & Education

**School Nurses** provide services such as assessment, planning, care-coordination, critical thinking skills, quality improvement, and health education and promotion.

Percentage of Tennessee Public Schools employing a full-time nurse



In the 2022-2023 school year, 84% of Tennessee schools met the state standard of one certified counselor per 500 students.

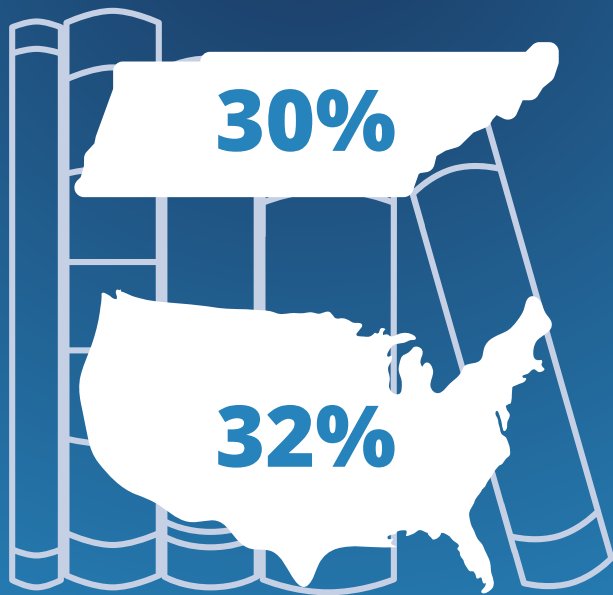


### Literacy

# 40.5%

of Tennessee public school students in grade 3 tested on track or mastered for English on 2023 TN Ready tests.

### 2022 4th Grade Reading Proficiency



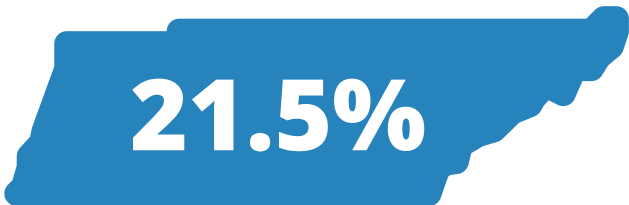


# 2024 State of Health in Tennessee

## A HEALTHY START : Trauma & Youth Safety

### Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

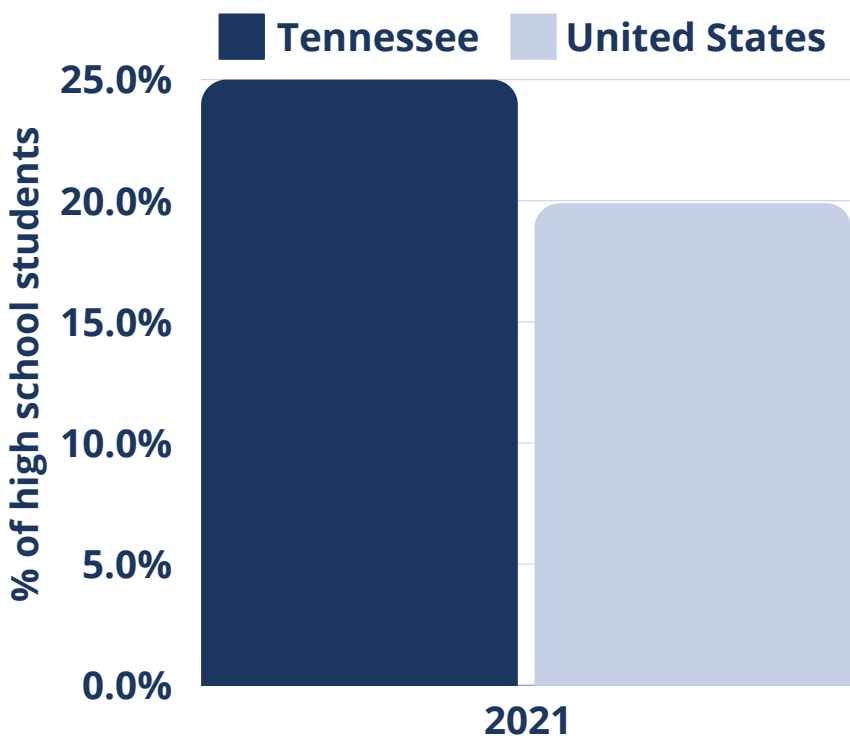
Children with a higher number of ACEs are more likely to experience chronic health conditions, such as heart disease and depression, and negative impacts on lifetime earning potential. Evidence is emerging on how positive childhood experiences (PCEs) act as protective factors against the health effects of ACEs.



of children in Tennessee had two or more **Adverse Childhood Experiences** in 2020-2021, compared to 17.2% in the United States.

In 2021, the percent of youth who experienced **Physical Dating Violence** in Tennessee (10.9%) was higher than in the United States (8.5%)

### Exposure to Neighborhood Violence



Defined as the percentage of high school students who ever saw someone get physically attacked, beaten, stabbed, or shot in their neighborhood.

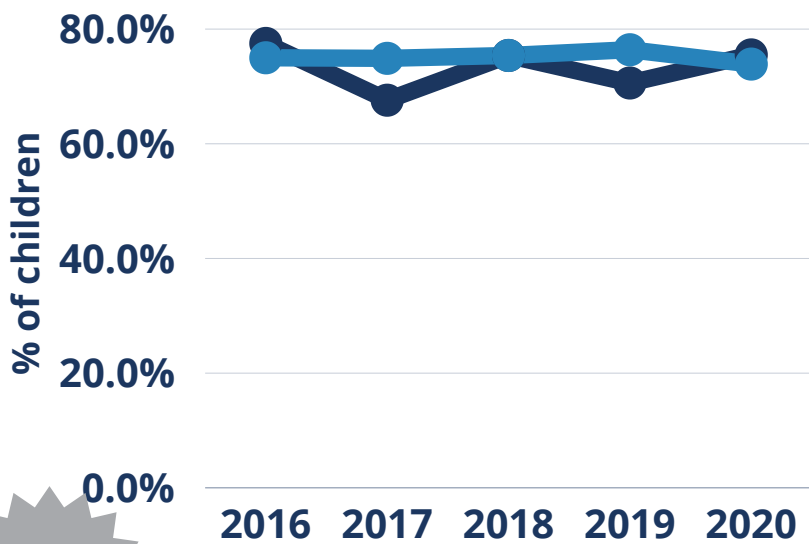


In 2021, the percentage of high school students who were **exposed to neighborhood violence** in Tennessee was statistically higher than in the United States



# 2024 State of Health in Tennessee

## A HEALTHY START : Infectious Disease



### Childhood Vaccinations

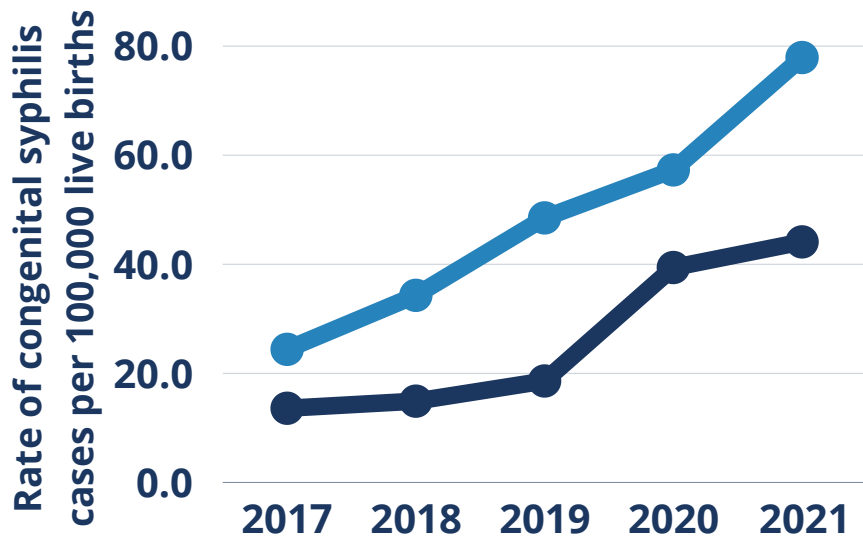
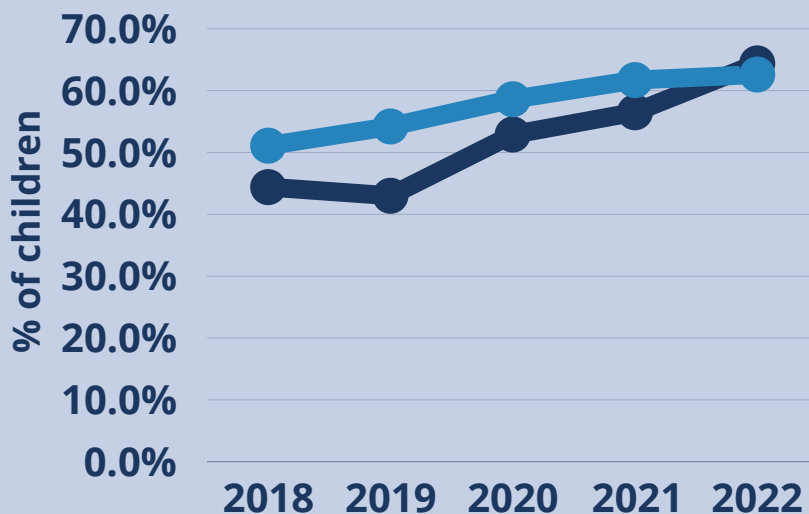
Percentage of children by birth year who received all recommended doses of the combined 7-vaccine series by age 35 months.

75.5% of children born in 2020 received the recommended vaccinations in TN compared to 73.9% in the US.

### HPV Vaccination

Percentage of adolescents ages 13-17 who received all recommended doses of the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine.

HPV, the most common STI in the U.S., can lead to genital warts and cancer. Vaccination is recommended for all children aged 11-12.



### Congenital Syphilis

Rate of congenital syphilis cases per 100,000 live births.

Congenital Syphilis, which can result in lifelong disabilities, development delays, and death, has increased in both TN and the US in recent years.



# 2024 State of Health in Tennessee

## A HEALTHY START : Health Indicators

Obesity in both children and adults can be influenced by genetics, disease or medications, and the physical environment as well as behaviors such as eating, physical activity and sleep. **Youth Obesity** can contribute to the development of health conditions such as Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, and joint pain. Children who are overweight or obese are also more likely to have **Asthma**.

In the US, the prevalence of obesity in children aged 2-19 from 2017-2020 was 19.7%. In the 2021-22 school year, youth obesity in TN was above

**42%**

**5.6%**

of children in Tennessee in 2020-2021 had Asthma, compared to 6.9% in the United States

The use of Electronic Vapor Products can expose users to nicotine and other harmful substances such as heavy metals, carcinogens, and ultrafine particles that can be inhaled deep into the lungs. Accessing electronic vapor products and other substances including illegal drugs can occur on school property. Since 2017, Tennessee had statistically more Drugs on School Property than the U.S.

**39.5%**

of Tennessee high school students reported every using **Electronic Vapor Products**, compared to 36.2% in the US



**23.4%**

of Tennessee high school students were offered, sold, or given illegal **Drugs on School Property** in 2021.



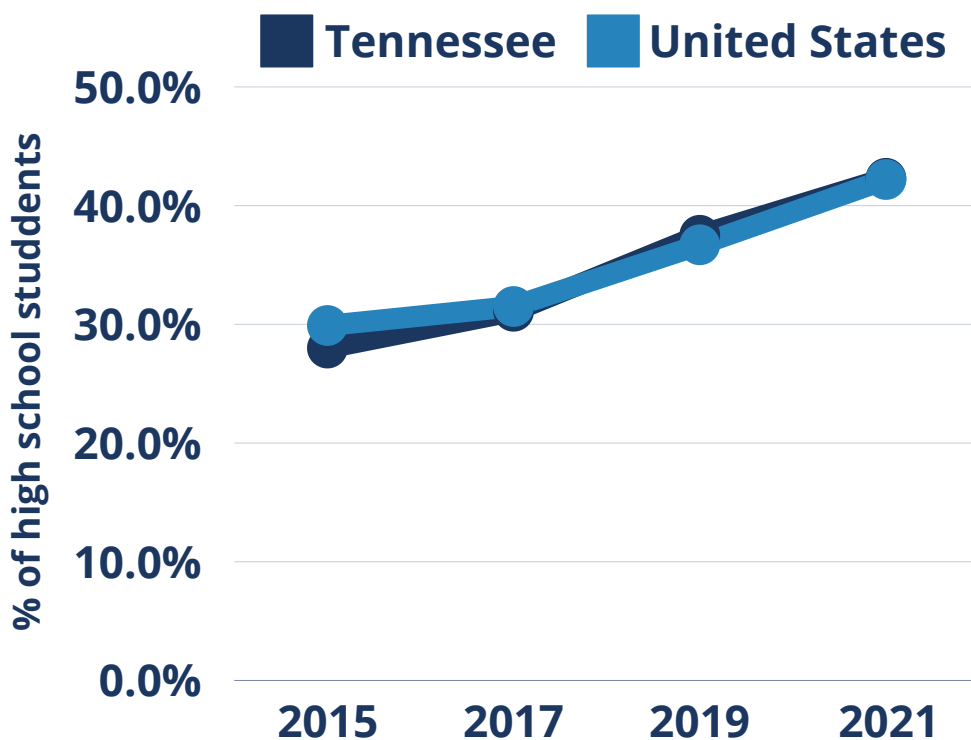
# 2024 State of Health in Tennessee

## A HEALTHY START : Youth Mental Health

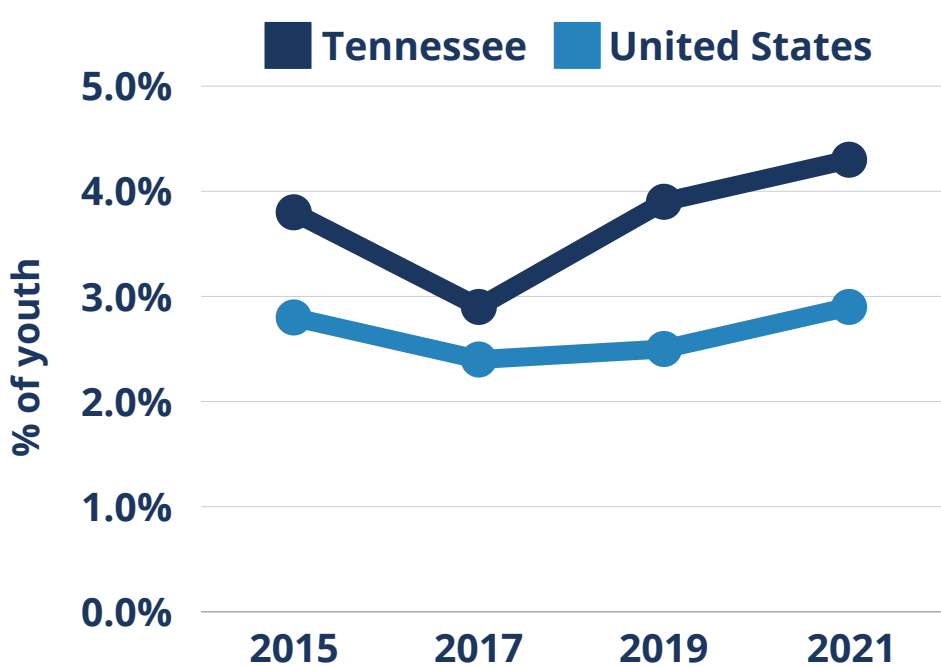
### Youth Hopelessness

Percentage of high school students enrolled in grades 9-12 who reported being sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row so that they stopped doing some usual activities.

Youth hopelessness in Tennessee increased from 28% in 2015 to 42.2% in 2021.



In 2022, Tennessee's youth **Suicide Mortality** was 2.49 deaths per 100,000 population (<18).



### Youth Suicide Attempt

Percentage of youth with one or more suicide attempts resulting in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse.

Suicide attempts among youth in Tennessee remain higher than in the United States.





# 2024 State of Health in Tennessee

## A HEALTHY START : Pregnancy and Childbirth

### 2022 Pregnancy and Childbirth

#### Quick Facts

#### TN v. US



#### Prenatal Care

**92.2%**

Percentage of mothers begin prenatal care between the 1st and 6th month of pregnancy

**N/A**

#### Smoking During Pregnancy

**7.3%**

Percentage of mothers who reported smoking cigarettes during pregnancy.

**3.7%**

#### Preterm Births

**11.0%**

Percentage of live births that were preterm (less than 37 weeks gestation).

**10.4%**

#### Low Birthweight

**9.0%**

Percentage of live births with low birthweight (less than 2,500 grams).

**8.6%**

#### Postpartum Depression

**13.0%**

Percentage of women with a recent live birth who reported depressive symptoms.

**12.7%**

#### Breastfeeding

**83.3%**

Percentage of live births where breastfeeding was initiated at birth.

**85.2%**



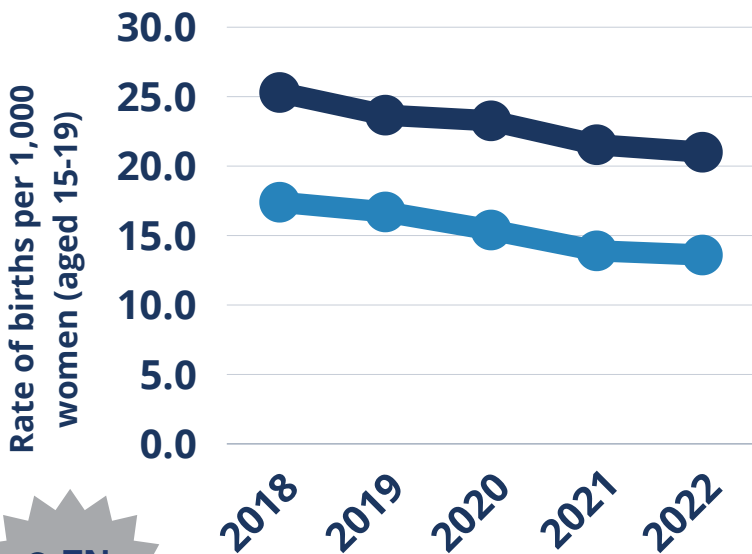


# 2024 State of Health in Tennessee

## A HEALTHY START : Pregnancy and Childbirth

### Teen Births

Despite decreasing in recent years, Tennessee continues to have one of the highest teen birth rates in the United States.



● TN  
● US

### Infant Mortality

In 2021, TN's infant mortality rate was 6.18 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, compared to 5.44 in the US



### Maternal Mortality

#### Pregnancy-Related Deaths

Death within one year of pregnancy where pregnancy was the aggravating factor.

Non-Hispanic Black Women were

# 2.3x

more likely to die than white women from 2017-2021

In 2021 there were

# 64.9

deaths per 100,000 live births

# 79%

of deaths were deemed preventable from 2017-2021

#### Pregnancy-Associated, not Related, Deaths

Death within one year of pregnancy where pregnancy was NOT the aggravating factor.

# 53

deaths within 2021