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Advocate

January 2019

[Calendar](#)

[In the News](#)

[KIDS COUNT Facts](#)

[Research](#)

[TCCY Home](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[TCCY Newsroom](#)

[TCCY Regional Councils](#)

Healthy Tennessee Table of Contents

[Social Determinants of Health;](#)
[Human Capital and Prosperity;](#)
[Environment and Health;](#)
[ACA;](#)
[Second Look Commission;](#)
[JJDPA and Farm Bill Reauthorized;](#)
[Children's Advocacy Days;](#)
[TCCY Legislative Resources;](#)
[Funding Opportunity;](#)
[Update.](#)



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Health Is More than Health Care

“How will it affect health care?” The rise in health care costs nationally and for individuals and frustration with our health care system may necessitate asking this question of every policy, from decisions to build roads to increased military spending and beyond.

Public health is impacted by factors outside the health care system. The link between higher levels of education and better health has long been known. Life expectancy also rises with income. These factors are identified among social determinants of health.

Figure 1

Social Determinants of Health

Economic Stability	Neighborhood and Physical Environment	Education	Food	Community and Social Context	Health Care System
Employment	Housing	Literacy	Hunger	Social integration	Health coverage
Income	Transportation	Language	Access to healthy options	Support systems	Provider availability
Expenses	Safety	Early childhood education		Community engagement	Provider linguistic and cultural competency
Debt	Parks	Vocational training		Discrimination	Quality of care
Medical bills	Playgrounds	Higher education		Stress	
Support	Walkability				
	Zip code / geography				

Health Outcomes
 Mortality, Morbidity, Life Expectancy, Health Care Expenditures, Health Status, Functional Limitations



“Social determinants of health are conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks,” according to the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion’s Healthy People 2020 initiative.

Many responses to the high cost of health care in the United States focus on changing individual health behaviors, but other factors, such as where you live, affect your health. Social determinates contribute one-fifth of the risk of premature death.

The Centers for Disease Control lists five social determinants of health, each with key issues. The determinants are:

- Economic stability;
- Education;
- Social and community context;
- Health and health care;
- Neighborhood and built environment.

Outcomes are very different in neighborhoods with differing levels of housing stability, educational quality, health care access, etc. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention listed location as a stronger predictor of premature death from heart disease than genetics. The lack of consistent social supports results in geographic disparities.

The United States spends much more on health care than do other developed countries. It has some of the most advanced health care technology and research. Yet, it scores lower on public

health outcomes. The United States is unique among developed countries in lacking universal health care, and it is generally accepted by health care experts this contributes to its low ranking.

The Commonwealth Fund, which ranks 11 predominately European, highly developed countries on health care, listed the United States last in its most recent report. This is despite spending that is two and a half times more than the No. 1 ranked country, the United Kingdom. U.S. health care costs have remained high while it has continued to languish at the bottom of the Fund's public health rankings.

Countries with lower health care costs frequently provide their residents with many more supportive services. Many protect and promote the economic and social well-being of citizens, based on the principles of equal opportunity, equitable distribution of wealth and public responsibility for citizens with challenges preventing them from achieving a good life.

Artiga, S., and Hinton, E. Kaiser Family Foundation, **Beyond Health Care: The Role of Social Determinants in Promoting Health and Health Equity**, <http://bit.ly/2RNqTqR>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, **Social Determinants of Health: Know What Affects Health**, <http://bit.ly/2Csko7n>.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, **Vital Signs Telebriefing on Health Disease and Stroke Deaths**, <http://bit.ly/2QrlnNZ>.

Commonwealth Fund, **2018 Scorecard on State Health System Performance, Tennessee**, <http://bit.ly/2Qv2bia>.

United Health Foundation, **America's Health Rankings, Tennessee, 2018**, <http://bit.ly/2T5dYjV>.

[Return to Table of Contents.](#)

World Bank: Human Capital Paves the Way to Prosperity

The United States was ranked 24th in the world by the World Bank based on investments in human capital. The 2018 study used levels of education and health care as measurements of a commitment to economic growth.

“Human capital consists of the knowledge, skills, and health that people accumulate throughout their lives, enabling them to realize their potential as productive members of society, said the World Bank president. We can end extreme poverty and create more inclusive societies by developing human capital. This requires investing in people through nutrition, health care, quality education, jobs and skills.”

The World Bank says a child born in the United States today will be 76 percent as productive when she or he grows up compared to productivity of a child with a complete education and full health. This places this child in the 8 percent of the world's children who will grow up to be more than 75 percent as productive as they could be.

The human capital index measures the amount of human capital a child born today can expect to attain by age 18. It is based on five measures that have been linked directly to productivity:

- Child survival (to age 5);
- School enrollment;

- Quality of learning;
- Healthy growth;
- Adult survival.

“Researchers found that nations with greater improvements in human capital also tend to have faster growth in per capita GDP [gross domestic product],” according to the World Bank.

Improving success in the world, its nations, communities and individuals requires investing in people through nutrition, health care, quality education, jobs and skills. These efforts end extreme poverty and expand opportunities for all.

World Bank, ***Human Capital Project: A Project for the World***, October 2018, <http://bit.ly/2QzidYk>.

World Bank Databank, ***United States: Human Capital Index Rank 24 Out of 157***, October 2018, <http://bit.ly/2SLYXUj>.

Inman, P., *The Guardian*, **Asian Countries Dominate World Bank’s New Index of Investment in “Human Capital,”** <http://bit.ly/2Qy0v7O>.

[Return to Table of Contents.](#)

Protecting Health By Protecting the Community Earth

The federal Healthy People 2020 initiative defines environmental health as prevention of or controlling disease, injury and disability related to interactions between people and their environment. It highlights six elements of environmental health:

1. Outdoor air quality;
2. Surface and ground water quality;
3. Toxic substances and hazardous wastes;
4. Homes and communities;
5. Infrastructure and surveillance;
6. Global environmental health.

The Organization of Economic and Community Development includes exposure to air pollution in its measure of well-being in the countries it maintains data on.

The World Health Organization found approximately one in four deaths globally was due to preventable environmental factors. As our world heats, this number could rise. The increase in catastrophic weather events also challenges health.

Vulnerable people, including very young children, are most at risk.

Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, **Healthy People USA, Environmental Health**, <http://bit.ly/2QqSOQr>.

Wendling, Z.A., et al., ***Environmental Performance Index Country Profiles***, <http://bit.ly/2CnqBI9>.

[Return to Table of Contents.](#)

ACA Affects Us All

Americans' Opinions Of ACA Provisions

Percent who say they have a FAVORABLE opinion of each of the following provisions of the law:	Total	Democrats	Independents	Republicans
Allows young adults to stay on their parents' insurance plans until age 26	82%	90%	82%	66%
Creates health insurance exchanges where small businesses and people can shop for insurance and compare prices and benefits	82	91	78	71
Provides financial help to low- and moderate-income Americans who don't get insurance through their jobs to help them purchase coverage	81	92	82	63
Gradually closes the Medicare prescription drug "doughnut hole" so people on Medicare will no longer be required to pay the full cost of their medications when they reach the gap	81	85	82	80
Eliminates out-of-pocket costs for many preventive services	79	88	78	68
Gives states the option of expanding their existing Medicaid program to cover more low-income, uninsured adults	77	91	77	55
Requires employers with 50 or more employees to pay a fine if they don't offer health insurance	69	88	61	56
Prohibits insurance companies from denying coverage because of a person's medical history	65	70	66	58
Increases the Medicare payroll tax on earnings for upper-income Americans	65	77	69	42

NOTE: Some items asked of half sample.

SOURCE: KFF Health Tracking Poll (conducted November 14-19, 2018). See topline for full question wording and response options.



While the appeal to a Texas judge's ruling striking down the Affordable Care Act processes, it may be useful to consider how the law affects all of us. By expanding the percentage of insured people, especially, as originally implemented, including requiring younger, healthier citizens to pay into the system, the law laid the ground work for lower premiums for all insured people because access to health care coverage means people can get health care maintenance and treatment before problems become critical. All insured people may begin having to pay for preventive services, like annual physicals, if the ACA requirements to cover them end.

In addition to requiring coverage of people with pre-existing conditions, the ACA expanded coverage of youth up to age 26 under their parents' policies. Children in foster care are also covered through TennCare until age 26. The ACA created accountable care organizations based on the belief that coordination and communication among providers would improve care and reduce costs.

The U.S. Surgeon General chairs the National Prevention Council, created by the ACA and involving 20 federal agencies, to ensure the health, well-being and resilience of the American people by promoting health and preventing illness.

Kaiser Family Foundation, **Potential Impact of Texas v. U.S. Decision on Key Provisions of the Affordable Care Act**, Dec. 20, 2018.

Rovner, J., Kaiser Family Foundation, **5 Ways Nixing the Affordable Care Act Could Upend the Entire Health System**, Dec. 20, 2018, <http://bit.ly/2CtzrOo>.

Aaron, H.J., and Burtless, G., Brookings Institution, **Potential Effects of the Affordable Care Act on Income Inequality**, Jan. 27, 2014.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General, **National Prevention Council**, <http://bit.ly/2CoTmOg>.

[Return to Table of Contents.](#)

Second Look Commission Issues Report

The Second Look Commission (SLC), staffed by TCCY's Craig Hargrow, has released its eighth annual report. The Second Look Commission (SLC) was created in response to the need to review and improve how Tennessee handles severe child abuse cases. Legislation creating the SLC mandated it to review Department of Children's Services cases of children where a second or subsequent report of severe child abuse had occurred and make recommendations for the future. The SLC was created as a catalyst to facilitate improved response to severe child abuse.

Second Look Commission 2018 Annual Report, December 2018 is available at <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tccy/documents/slc/slc-areport18.pdf>.

[Return to Table of Contents.](#)

Congress Reauthorizes Legislation Critical to Child Well-Being

In December, the U.S. Congress passed two major pieces of legislation, the Farm Bill, which includes funding for the Special Nutrition Assistance Program or food stamps, and the [Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act](#), the primary federal law regarding juvenile justice. TCCY is the OJJDP State Advisory Group for Tennessee tasked with assuring the state complies with the law's core requirements.

Changes in the law require schools to accept credits earned in detention and states to focus on collecting and analyzing data on racial and ethnic disparities and establish a plan to address them.

In passing the [Farm Bill](#), Congress rejected proposals that could have dropped 1.5 million people from the program. It includes increased SNAP work-training funding and mandates more support for participants, but the U.S. Department of Agriculture can keep states from receiving waivers from existing work requirements and has begun to do so.

Congress has also passed the First Step Criminal Justice Act, addressing the adult system.

Johnson, L., *Juvenile Justice Information Exchange*, **JJDPA Reauthorization Passes Congress After 16 Years**, Dec. 13, 2018, <http://bit.ly/2RYL70y>.

Coalition for Juvenile Justice, **Summary of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018**, Dec. 13, 2018, <http://bit.ly/2QA5ULx>.

Evich, H., and Boudreau, C., *Politico*, **Farm Bill Headed to Trump After Landslide House Approval**, Dec. 13, 2018, <https://politi.co/2QsMYOD>.

Farm Aid, **Farm Bill Hub**, 2018, <http://bit.ly/2QyKFJM>.

[Return to Table of Contents.](#)

Children's Advocacy Days: Help Us Honor Advocates/Youth



Excitement is rising at TCCY as we prepare for the 2019 Children's Advocacy Days on March 12-13. Registration information will be forthcoming.

TCCY is soliciting nominations for awards to be given during the event.

The Jim Pryor Award recognizes the advocacy efforts of a professional or volunteer who is making a difference for Tennessee children.

The Youth Excellence Award honors a young person who is now giving back to the community after having had contact with juvenile court.

Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee will be bestowing the Unsung Hero Awards at the event.

Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award

Nomination: <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tccy/documents/cad/aw-pryor19.pdf>.

Youth Excellence Award Nomination: <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tccy/documents/cad/aw-yexcl19.pdf>.

[Return to Table of Contents.](#)

TCCY Legislative Advocacy Information

The 111th General Assembly will convene on January 8 at 12 noon. New legislators will be taking their seats this year. After formally opening, the legislature will pause to reorganize and incorporate the new members into the system.

Find your legislator: <http://bit.ly/2Qm77WM>.

Sign up to receive TCCY Tennessee **legislative updates** and the **Advocate** at <https://www.tn.gov/tccy/advocate-collaborate/tccy-ac-advlegis/tccy-ac-advocacy/leg-listserv.html>.

Sign up to receive TCCY **federal policy information** by following the instructions at <https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/tccy/advocacy-policy/federal-advocacy-issues/leg-listserv.html>.

TCCY's [Budget Recommendations](#) are also available.

Funding Opportunity

HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH) has received additional lead hazard control funding. HUD plans to publish the combined Lead Hazard Reduction; (Lead Hazard Control (LHC) and Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration (LHRD)) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) in early 2019.

Applicants are highly encouraged to access NOFAs using www.grants.gov, and can sign up to be notified when the NOFA is published.

Visit our OLHCHH website at www.hud.gov/healthyhomes for more information regarding the program division grant programs and how to apply for funding.

[Return to Table of Contents.](#)

Update



Papica

In December, TCCY staff provided gifts for two teens in state custody this year. Gerald Papica, TCCY Ombudsman Program director, has organized this efforts for years. For many years, TCCY has chosen to assist older children in foster care, who may be less likely to be chosen for holiday gifts, as people prefer to buy gifts for younger children.

[Return to Table of Contents.](#)

Mark Your Calendar

Jan. 11, 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon CST, **Mid-Cumberland Council on Children and Youth Legislative Breakfast: "Our Communities as Trauma-Informed Communities,"** Wilson County Board of Education Event Center, 415 Harding Dr., Lebanon, with representatives from Wilson County Health Department, Dickson County Juvenile Court, Fall-Hamilton Elementary School and Williamson County CASA. Info: Susan.Cope@tn.gov. Register: <http://bit.ly/2RIIfEX>.

Southeast Council on Children and Youth with the Unity Group presents a **Children's Rights Conference**, Jan. 17, 11:30 to 1:30 p.m., Second Missionary Baptist Church, 2305 E. Third St., Chattanooga. Topic: Counting All. Contact: Rosalyn.Leavell-Rice@tn.gov or 423-634-6210. Register: <http://bit.ly/2QnzqUs>.

March 12-13, **Children's Advocacy Days, "CAD Tennessee: Ideas Worth Sharing,"** War Memorial Auditorium, Nashville. Contact: John.Rust@tn.gov

[Return to Top.](#)

In the News

Petty, S., *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, **Foster Kids Need a Wider Safety Net**, Dec. 4, 2018 <http://bit.ly/2RR60Le>.

Matthews, D., *Vox*, **There's a Great Anti-Poverty Bill in the Senate: Why Haven't We Heard More About It**," Dec. 10, 2018, <http://bit.ly/2QrVjSE>.

NWTN Today, **Adverse Childhood Experiences Lead to Public Health Threat**, Dec. 19, 2018, <http://bit.ly/2T5dYjV>.

[Return to Top.](#)

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ThinkTennessee, **State of Our State 2018: Education and Youth Civic Engagement**, <http://bit.ly/2ROh241>.

Hassan, M., First Five Years Fund, **Half of American Families Live in a Child Care Desert**, Dec. 7, 2018, <http://bit.ly/2RJvWZi>.

Forrest, S., MedicalXPress, **Coping Skills Program for Disaster Survivors Tested with Children Living in Chronic Poverty**, Dec. 10, 2018, <http://bit.ly/2Qn4gNb>.

Douglas, M., et al., Well-Being Trust, **Evaluating State Mental Health and Addiction Parity Statutes: A Technical Report**, <http://bit.ly/2ChaLZ4>.

Gunja, M.Z. et al., Commonwealth Fund, **What Is the Status of Women's Health and Health Care in the U.S. Compared to Ten Other Countries**, December 2018, <http://bit.ly/2SZvmqq>.

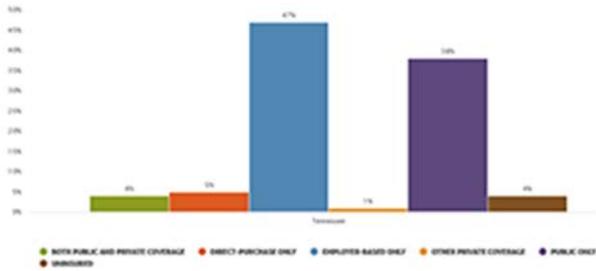
Kaiser Family Foundation, Women's Health Policy, **State Profiles for Women's Health**, July 25, 2018, <http://bit.ly/2CsG3MB>.

United Health Foundation, **America's Health Rankings, Tennessee, 2018**, <http://bit.ly/2CsG3MB>.

[Return to Top.](#)

Tennessee KIDS COUNT Facts

Children Who Have Health Insurance by Type-2017

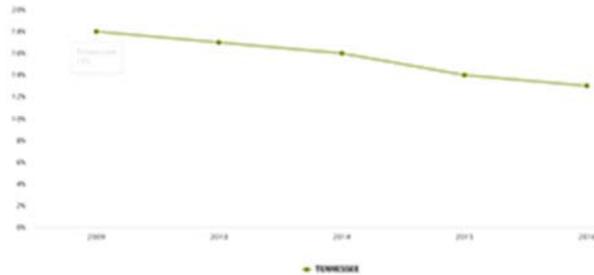


Children Who Have Health Insurance By Health Insurance Type

National KIDS COUNT
KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org
A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

<http://bit.ly/2Qp6sDD>

Children Who Have a Parent with No Health Insurance-2017



Children Who Have A Parent With No Health Insurance

National KIDS COUNT
KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org
A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

<http://bit.ly/2Qv4MJJa>

More data on Tennessee child well-being are available at <http://bit.ly/15alkVu>.

No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability or ability to pay, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity operated, funded or overseen by the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY). It is the intent of TCCY to bind all agencies, organizations or governmental units operating under its jurisdiction and control to fully comply with and abide by the spirit and intent of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

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