

THE FACTS



TENNESSEE

Speak
for **Health**

AN INITIATIVE OF THE
AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Tennessee receives \$132 total per person from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) in public health funding. The Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded the state \$7.09 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure in fiscal year 2023.

ACCESS TO CARE 9.3 percent of people in Tennessee do not have health insurance coverage, which is above the national uninsured rate of 7.9 percent. The number of practicing primary care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Tennessee has 309.9 active primary care providers per 100,000 people. Nationally, there are 283.4 practicing primary care providers per 100,000 people.

Notable Health Measures

- **Drug deaths** Tennessee reported 54.2 deaths due to drug injury per 100,000 people in 2023. This is above the national average of 32.4 deaths per 100,000 people and makes Tennessee the 2nd highest in the nation for drug deaths.
- **High school graduation** 90.4 percent of students graduate from high school in Tennessee. This is the 2nd highest rate in the nation. This is a notable measure as there is a strong connection between education and health. People with higher levels of education are more likely to adopt healthy behaviors.

The Challenges Ahead

- **Tobacco use** 17.0 percent of adults in Tennessee smoke cigarettes, ranking the state 2nd highest in the nation.
- **Occupational fatalities** The state reported 6.3 fatal occupational injuries in construction, manufacturing, trade, transportation and utility industries as well as professional and business services per 100,000 workers, ranking the state 4th highest in the nation for occupational fatalities.

SOURCES: America's Health Rankings analysis of Trust for America's Health, U.S. HHS, U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population, United Health Foundation, AmericasHealthRankings.org, Accessed 2025; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Fiscal Year 2023 Grant Funding Profiles Totals, (2023). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://fundingprofiles.cdc.gov/>

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