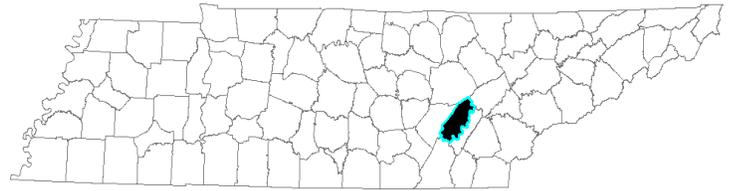
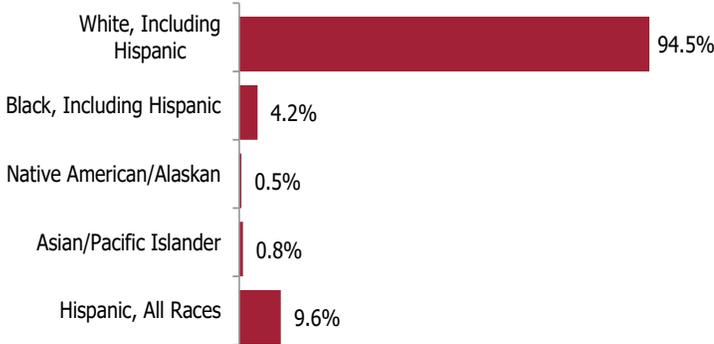


Rhea

TCCY Index Rank 40



Child Population by Race/Ethnicity



HEALTH

- Low birth-weight babies: 8.5% (Rank: 40)
- Children without health insurance: 4.8% (Rank: 68)
- Child and teen deaths: 50.7 per 100,000 (Rank: 77)

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Rank: 33

- Child Poverty: 24.1% (Rank: 46)
- Median Household Income: \$43,426 (Rank: 46)
- Fair Market Rent: \$825 (Rank: 25)

FAMILY and COMMUNITY

Rank: 34

- School suspension rate: 2.5% (Rank: 48)
- Teen pregnancy: 15.3 per 1,000 (Rank: 67)
- Substantiated Abuse and Neglect: 4 per 1,000 (Rank: 15)

EDUCATION

Rank: 33

- Third to eighth grade reading proficiency: 36.7% (Rank: 17)
- Third to eighth grade math proficiency: 38.9% (Rank: 30)
- High school graduation rate: 91.4% (Rank: 69)

Rhea County

Published 10/2019

Demographics 	Rhea County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Total population (state comparison is number not rate)	32,695	NA	6,715,862	0.5%	46
Population under 18 years of age	7,420	22.7%	22.4%	101.5%	25
Economic Well-Being 	Rhea County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Youth unemployment	160	25.8%	12.0%	215.0%	89
Per capita personal income (state is dollars not rate)	\$34,267	NA	\$45,517	75.3%	58
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	325	4.4%	3.2%	137.1%	82
Children receiving SNAP	3,007	40.5%	31.8%	127.5%	68
Children under five receiving WIC	771	40.0%	29.6%	135.1%	53
Education 	Rhea County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
School age special education services	530	10.3%	11.9%	86.6%	8
TEIS participation (per 1,000 in age group)	27	23.04	23.4	98.3%	43
Cohort high school dropouts	24	6.6%	5.5%	120.0%	79
Event high school dropouts	28	1.6%	2.6%	61.5%	63
Economically disadvantaged students	2,273	44.0%	34.7%	126.8%	79
School expulsions (per 1,000 students)	0	0.0	2.0	0.0%	1
Chronic absenteeism	712	16.0%	13.6%	117.6%	73
Health 	Rhea County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	5	12.20	13.5	90.2%	47
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	94	22.9%	12.7%	180.3%	65
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	5,215	59.8%	48.4%	123.7%	72
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	9,108	27.9%	21.8%	127.8%	79
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	277	67.6%	52.3%	129.2%	64
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	241	4.9%	5.5%	89.1%	40
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	5	12.20	7.4	164.9%	78
Neonatal death (per 1,000 live births)	3	7.30	4.6	158.7%	78
Child deaths (per 100,000 children age 1 to 14)	2	35.30	22.4	157.6%	74
Teen violent deaths (per 100,000 children age 15 to 19)	1	45.00	52.5	85.7%	55
Adequate prenatal care	195	47.6%	57.4%	82.9%	86
Children under age six screened for lead poisoning	506	21.9%	17.7%	124.0%	23
Public school students measured as overweight/obese	NA	40.8%	39.2%	104.1%	36
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 children age 15 to 17)	8	6.0	17.3	34.3%	15
Medical doctors by county (per 100,000 residents)	13	39.8	239.2	16.6%	61
Dentists by county (per 100,000 residents)	7	21.4	49.0	43.7%	56
Family & Community 	Rhea County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Reported child abuse cases	467	6.3%	4.9%	129.7%	69
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	39	4.7	3.9	120.6%	46
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	60	7.2	5.1	142.1%	61
Juvenile court referrals	0	0.0%	4.3%	0.0%	1
Recorded marriages (per 1,000 residents)	181	5.5	8.2	67.1%	81
Recorded divorces (per 1,000 residents)	139	4.3	3.6	119.4%	76
Births to unmarried females	197	48.0%	43.6%	110.1%	74
Regulated child care spaces (state is number not rate)	551	NA	307,218	0.2%	65

Rhea County

At 40th, Rhea County is in the top half of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's best rankings include a below average rate of substantiated cases of abuse and neglect and an above average percentage of 3rd to 8th grade students rated proficient on TNReady reading tests. The county's biggest opportunities for improvement are a high rate of child and teen deaths and a low high school graduation rate.

Additional strengths include average percentages of students demonstrating proficiency on TNReady math tests and low housing costs.

Additional challenges include above average rates of pregnancy among girls age 15 to 17 and of children who lack health insurance.

Policy/Practice/Program Options to Improve Outcomes. Many of these policies have multiple models for delivery, including public-private partnership and non-profit leadership.

- Child and teen deaths can be reduced with consistent enforcement of safety measures like proper car seat and seat belt use, bicycle helmet use and life preserver use around water. The fastest-growing cause of child and teen deaths in recent years has been homicide and suicide, often involving a firearm. Families who own firearms can reduce the risk to children and teens by following safe storage practices.
- Making high school students aware of the community college and technical school benefits available to them through Tennessee Promise can encourage on-time high school graduation.
- Comprehensive sex education classes that include both encouragement of abstinence and information on birth control have been shown to reduce the number of teen pregnancies.
- Most uninsured children in Tennessee qualify for either TennCare or CoverKids, so high rates of uninsured children can be improved with outreach to make sure that families are aware of these insurance opportunities. According to Census Bureau estimates, Rhea County has over 275 children who qualify for these health insurance programs but who nonetheless lack insurance.