

Quality Healthcare for Women in Tennessee

Is it a matter of law or medicine?

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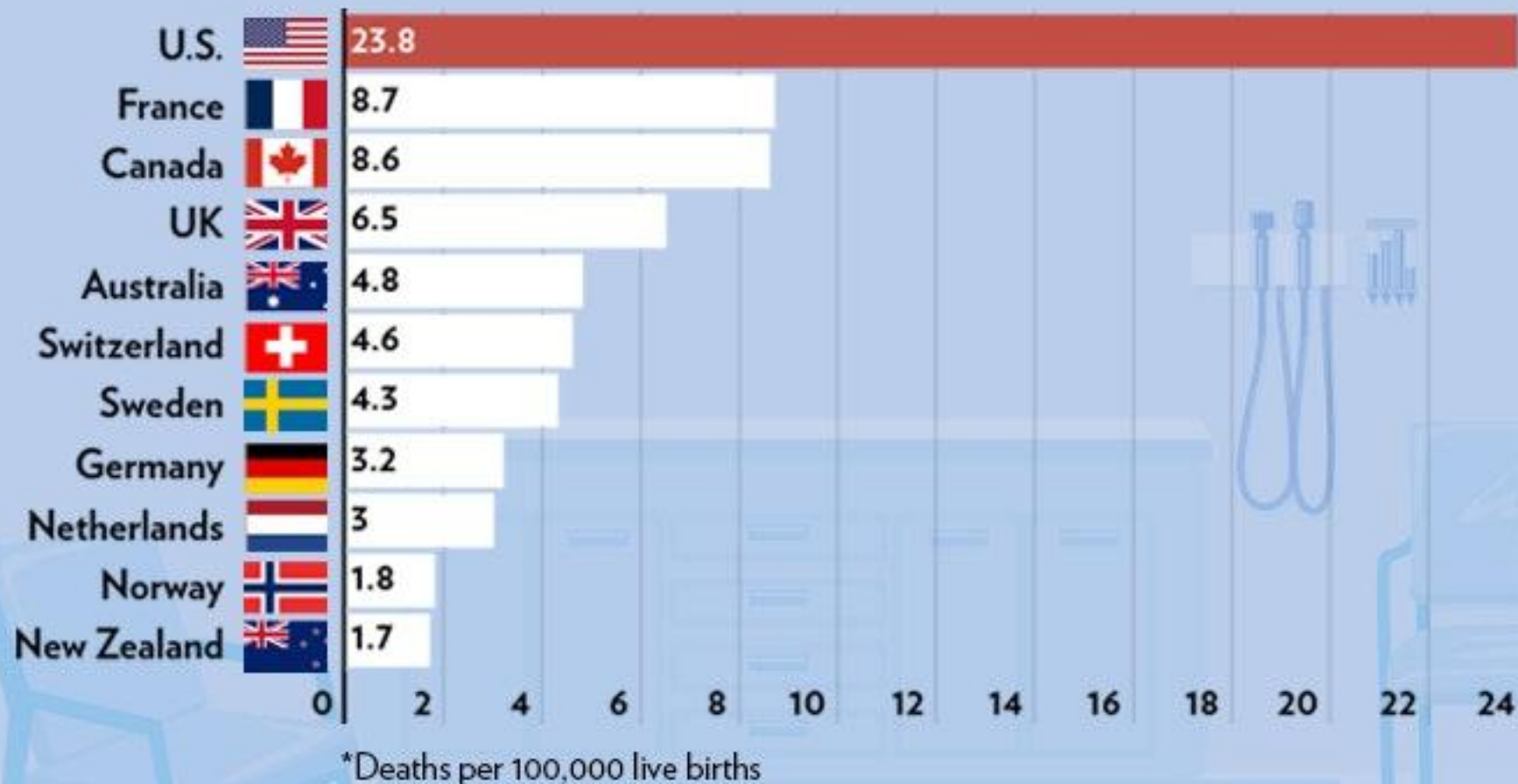
-Health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity

- World Health Organization



Maternal Mortality

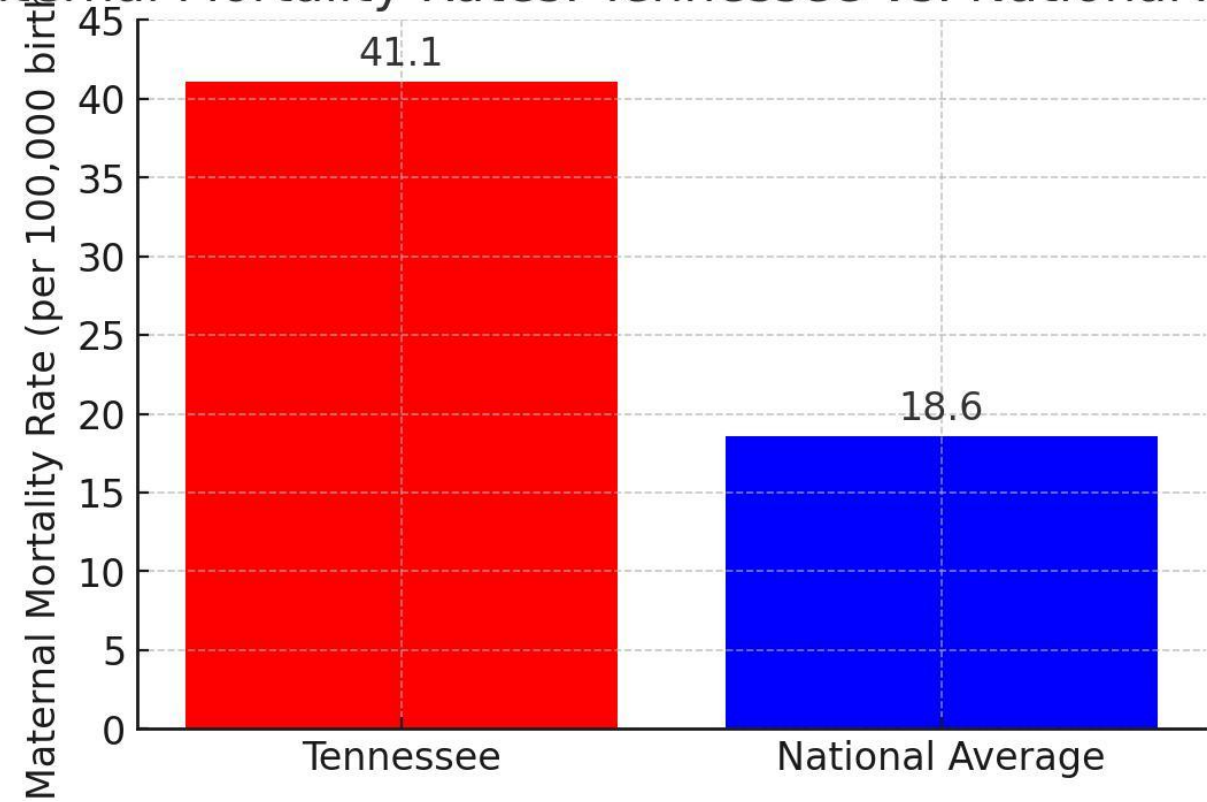
Maternal Mortality in the U.S. Far Outstrips That of Other Industrialized Nations



Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hestat/maternal-mortality/2020/maternal-mortality-rates-2020.htm>

Maternal Mortality

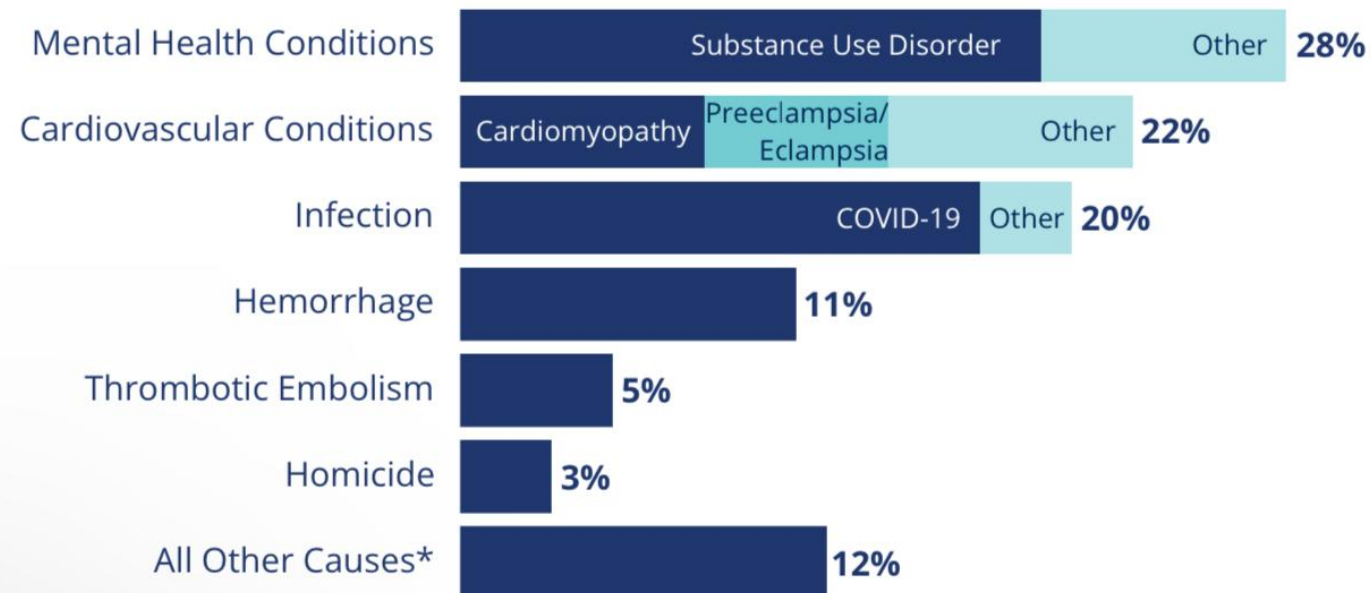
Maternal Mortality Rates: Tennessee vs. National Average



Pregnancy-Related Deaths

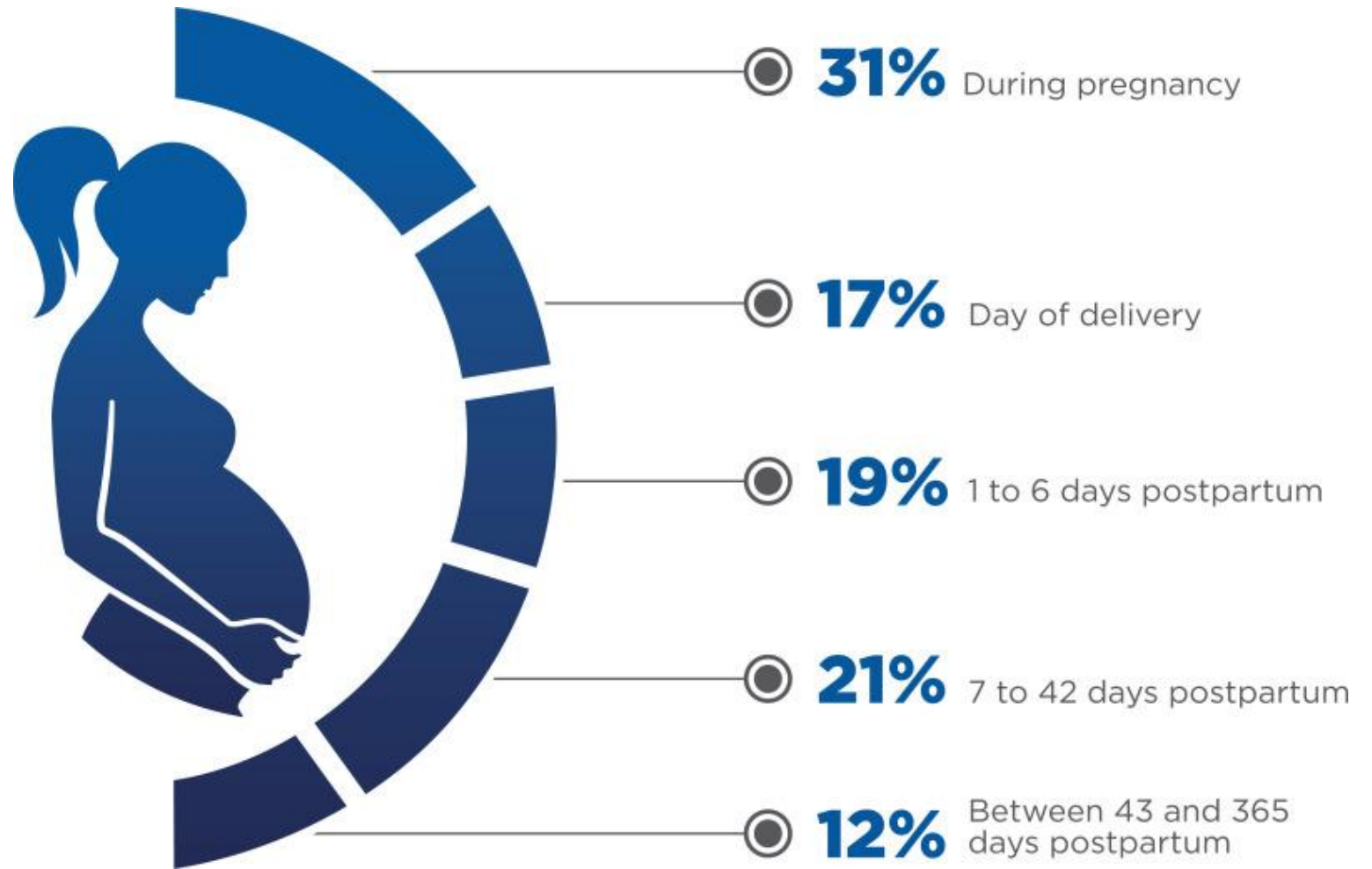
A critical part of the Maternal Mortality Review process is determining the underlying cause of each pregnancy-related death. The underlying cause of death is the disease or injury that initiated the chain of events leading to death. Throughout this report, we will refer to underlying cause(s) as simply cause(s).

Leading Causes of Pregnancy-Related Deaths, 2020-2022



**Other causes include stroke, neurologic/neurovascular conditions, amniotic fluid embolism, cancer, pulmonary conditions, anesthesia complications, collagen vascular/autoimmune diseases, hematologic conditions, diabetes mellitus, and renal diseases.*

Timing of Pregnancy Related Deaths



TN Maternal Mortality Review Committee

- Multidisciplinary team
- Reviews deaths related to pregnancy and childbirth
- Identifies risk factors and potential prevention strategies
- Exists at the state level and operates under the guidance of the **Tennessee Department of Health**

TN Maternal Mortality Review Committee

- **Key findings** from recent reports:
 - **85% of pregnancy-related deaths in Tennessee were preventable.**
 - The **leading causes of maternal death** include cardiovascular conditions, mental health issues (e.g., substance use, suicide), and hypertensive disorders.
 - **Racial disparities exist**, with Black women experiencing maternal death rates **twice as high** as White women.

Initiatives to Improve Maternal Mortality

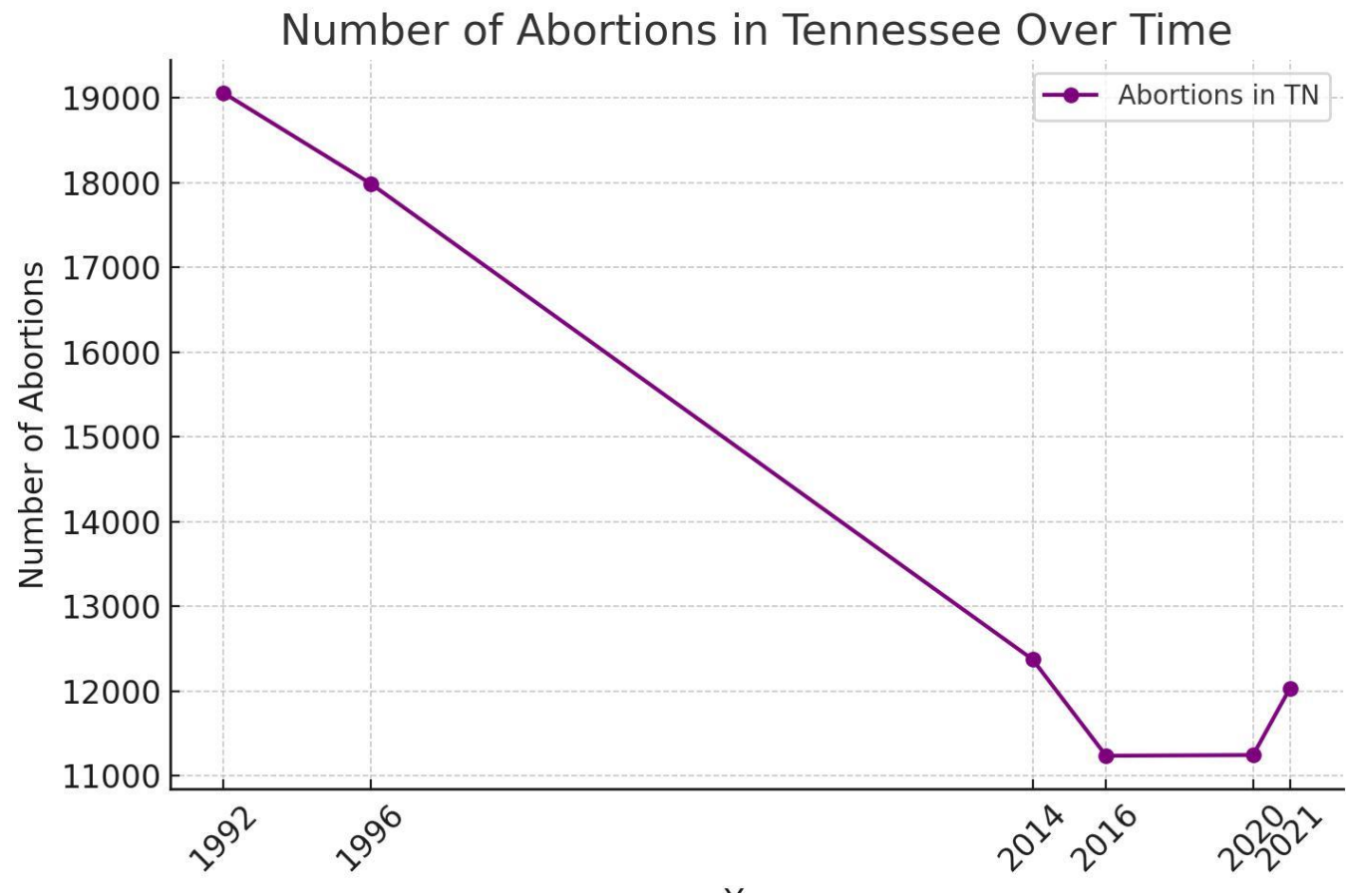
- **Prevention of Maternal Violent Deaths Program**
- **Tennessee Initiative for Perinatal Quality Care (TIPQC)**
- **Maternal Child Health Initiatives in Nashville**
- **Extended postpartum coverage from 60d to 12 months**

Reproductive Health

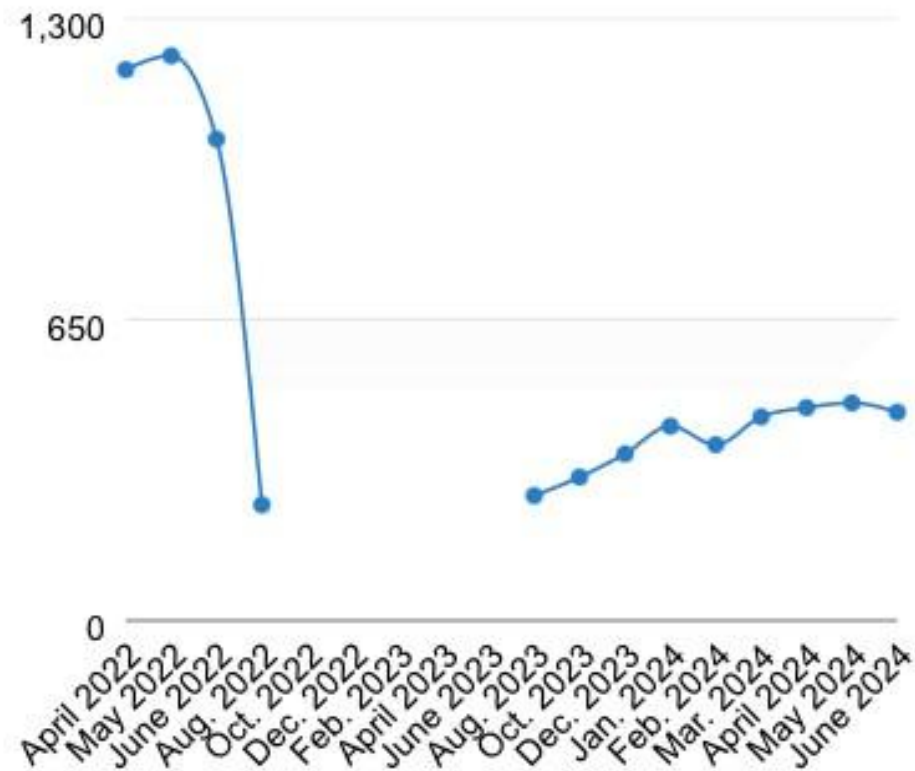
Reproductive Rights History

- **Roe v. Wade** was decided on **January 22, 1973** by the **U.S. Supreme Court**. The ruling established a constitutional right to abortion, legalizing it nationwide by protecting a woman's right to choose under the **14th Amendment's Due Process Clause**.
- On **June 24, 2022**, the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* in **Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization**, allowing states to set their own abortion laws

Reproductive Health



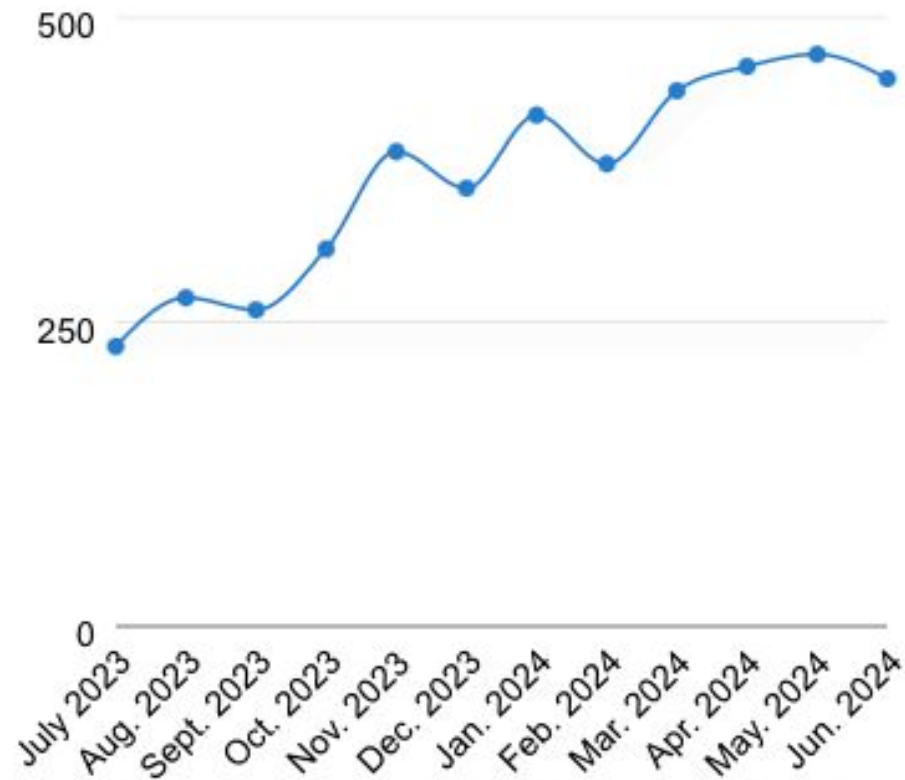
Estimated Number of Abortions by State and Month, April 2022 to June 2024, Tennessee



Note: National and state totals include telehealth abortions, including those provided under shield laws. *Shield laws* give some legal protections to clinicians who offer abortion care via telehealth to people living in states with total abortion bans, with 6-week bans, or with laws that explicitly or implicitly preclude a component of telehealth abortion, such as requiring in-person ultrasounds. Numbers

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Estimated Number of Telehealth Abortions, July 2023 to June 2024, Tennessee



Note: National and state totals of telehealth abortions include those provided under shield laws. *Shield laws* give some legal protections to clinicians who offer abortion care via telehealth to people living in states with total abortion bans, with 6-week bans, or with laws that explicitly or implicitly preclude a component of telehealth abortion, such as requiring in-person ultrasounds. Numbers

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TN House Bill 0026

"Unborn Child Protection Act of 2025"

**Prohibits a person or entity
from mailing or delivering an
abortion-inducing drug into
this state.**

The background is a dark blue gradient. It features several geometric elements: a vertical rectangle on the left, a horizontal rectangle at the bottom, and a large circle on the right side. The text 'Mental Health' is centered in the middle of the image.

Mental Health

Mental Health in Tennessee

- **30.5%** of women aged 18-44 reported being "not good" for 14 or more days in the past 30 days
- Approximately 95% of Tennessee counties are designated as Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas
- Projection that in 2030, Tennessee will face a shortage of 4,000 mental health care professionals



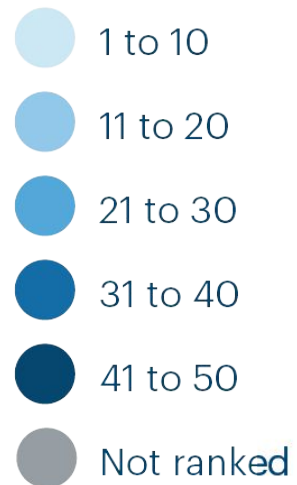
Mental Health Services

- **Crisis Services**
- **Behavioral Health Safety Net**
- **K-12 Mental Health Services Trust Fund**
- **School-based Mental Health Clinics**
- **Mental Health Block Grant**
- **Non-profit support**

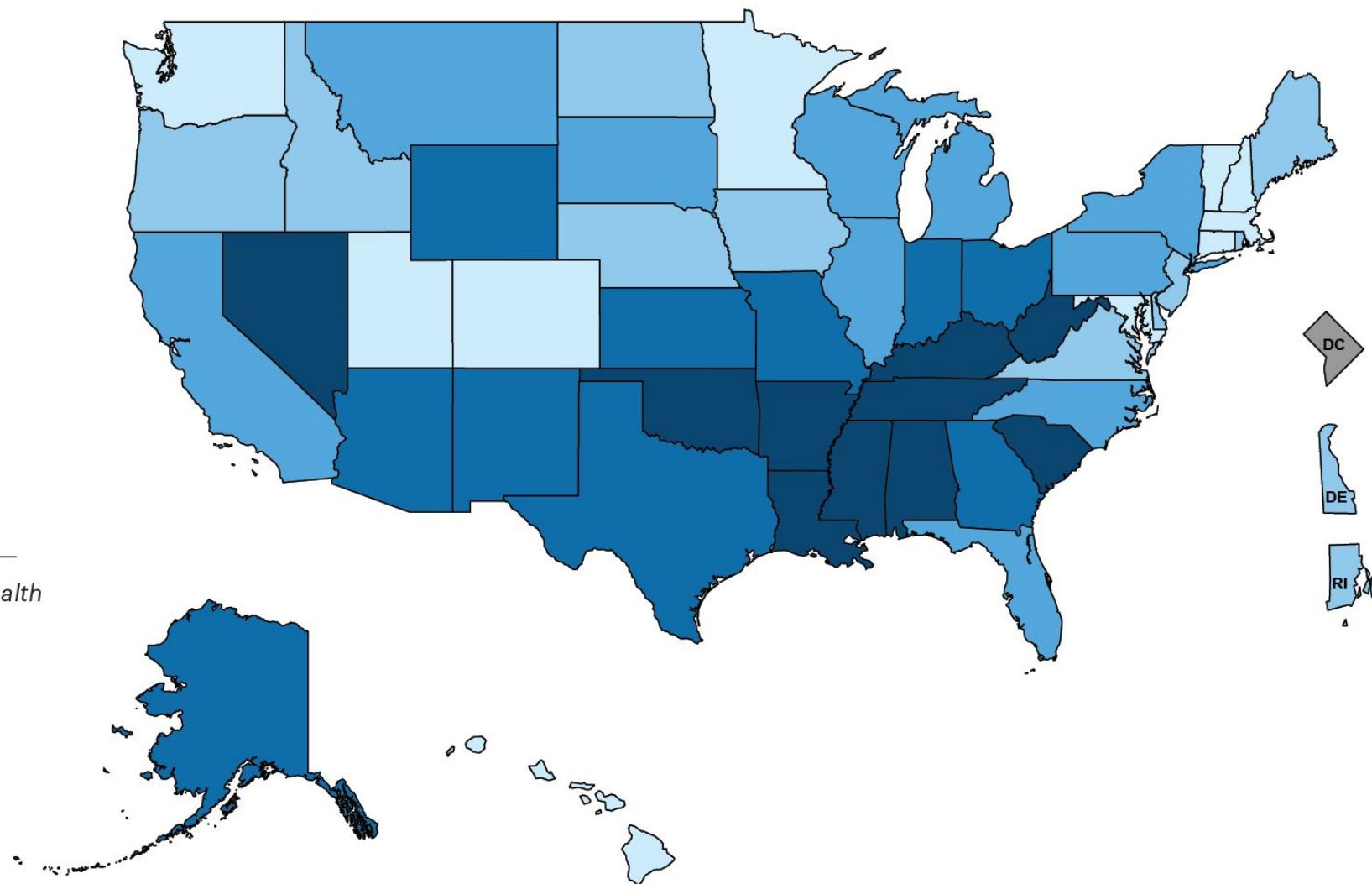
Chronic Disease

2022 Annual Report State Rankings

Ranking



Source: *America's Health Rankings* composite measure, 2022.



Causes of Death

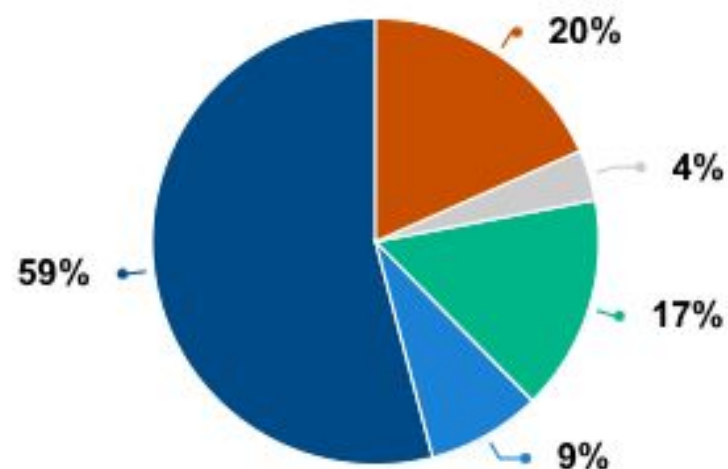
- Heart Disease
- Cancer
- Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases
- Stroke
- Alzheimer's Disease

Obesity Epidemic

- 42% of women in Tennessee are considered obese
- Limited coverage for obesity treatments and preventive services
- Increase healthcare expenditures
- Decreased economic productivity
- Previously considered pre-existing condition



Health Insurance Coverage of Women Ages 19-64, 2023, Tennessee



● Employer ● Non-Group ● Medicaid ● Other
● Uninsured

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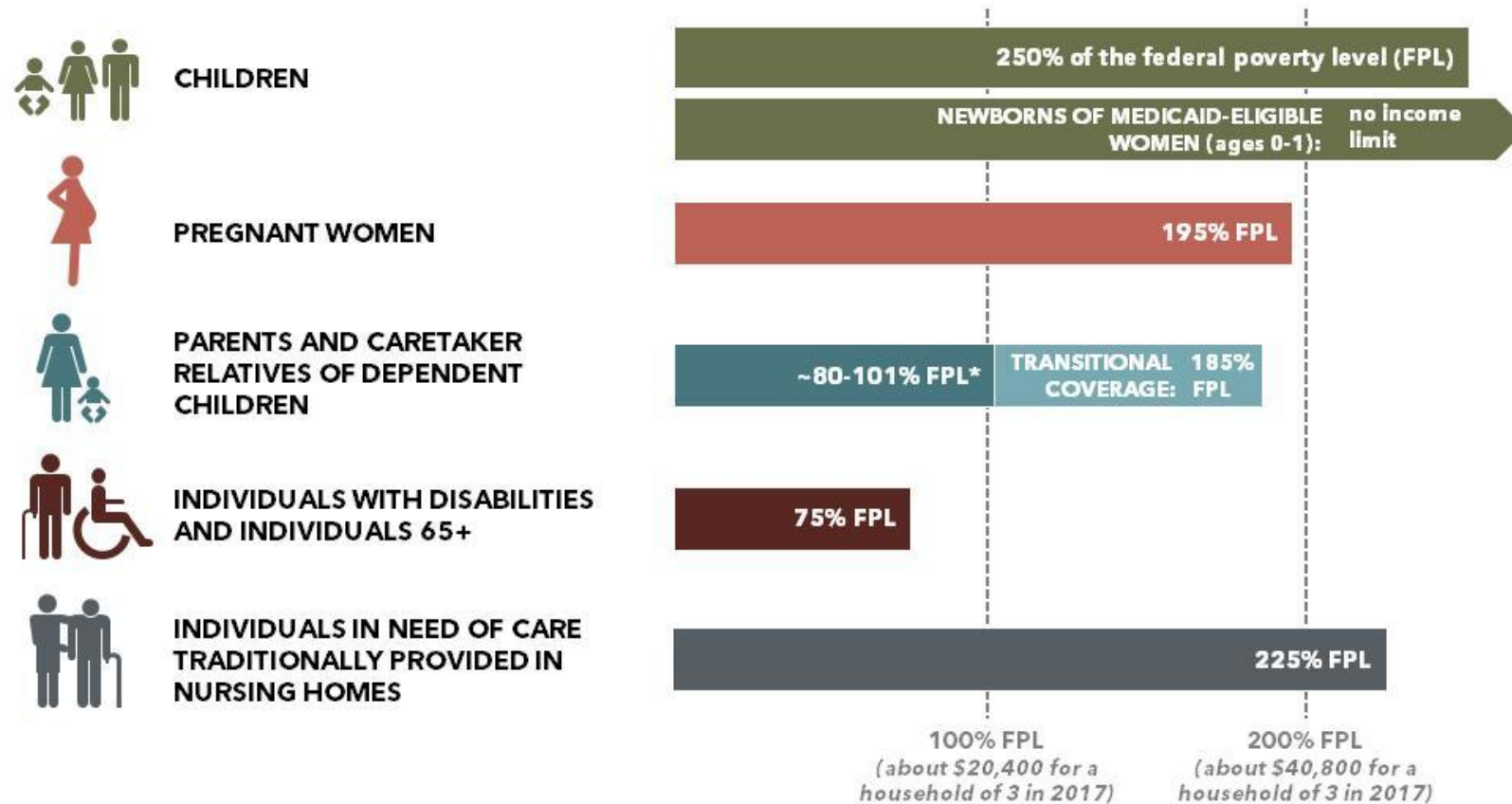
Note: Other includes Medicare, TRICARE, and other sources of coverage. Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

TENNCARE ELIGIBILITY 101

WHAT DETERMINES WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAID IN TENNESSEE?

First, an individual must fall into one of the categories covered by TennCare.

Next, an individual must then meet household income limits specific to that category.



*Parent/caretaker eligibility depends on monthly income and family size.

Note: This information is not all-inclusive. Consult the Tennessee Division of Health Care Finance and Administration for comprehensive eligibility information.

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Affordable Care Act

As of the 2024
Open Enrollment
Period, a record
555,103
Tennesseans
had enrolled in
health insurance
plans through the
Affordable Care
Act (ACA)
marketplace.





Physician Shortage

- Streamline licensing for international medical graduates
- Expand rural family medicine
- Enhanced telehealth services
- Midwifery

"The health of a nation is not measured by its wealth, but by the care it provides to its most vulnerable."

-Unknown

