

In Giles County, 40% of the students participate in the school lunch program receiving lunch at free or reduced prices. This is only slightly above the state rate of 33.5%.

### **MORBIDITY & MORTALITY**

The Giles County Health Council was presented with statistics concerning reportable diseases and causes of death within the county. The Health Council also reviewed the number of teen pregnancies that had occurred in Giles County over a ten-year time frame. The Community Development staff provided comparisons of similar data with other counties in the region, and across the state to enable the Health Council to recognize significant problems in their own community.

In addition to specific health problems, the council was provided a comprehensive view of the status of children and youth within Giles County.

#### **Five Leading Causes of Death:**

The Giles County Health Council members were provided with county specific data from 1994 concerning the leading causes of death. The list is as follows:

1. Diseases of the Heart
2. Malignant Neoplasms
3. Cerebrovascular Disease
4. Accidents and Adverse Effects  
(Includes Motor Vehicle Accidents)
5. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases  
(Includes Bronchitis, Emphysema, and Asthma)

These are consistent with the leading causes of death across the state of Tennessee, as well as the United States.

#### **Teen Pregnancy**

Teen pregnancy in Giles County increased from 1992-1993 and then decreased significantly in 1994 and 1995. The rate per 1,000 females aged 10-17 years increased from 17.1 (25 pregnancies) in 1992 to 25.9 (38 pregnancies) in 1993. The 1994 rate for the county decreased to 17.0 (25 pregnancies). In 1995 the rate further decreased to 12.2 (18 pregnancies). Eighty-nine percent of the teen births occurred in the white race. The teen pregnancy rate in the county is higher than the rates in the state and the region. Those rates for the last three years are as follows: State- 1993 (23.3), 1994 (22.8) and 1995 (22.8); region - 1993 (21.6), 1994 (21.2), and 1995 (19.8).