

SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION - TENNESSEE AND THE U.S.

- Compared to the U.S., Tennessee has:
 - a higher population density (persons per square mile) (1993);
 - the same percentage of seniors (ages 65+) (1993);
 - almost 1/3 more people and nearly 50% more school-age children below poverty level (1993);
 - a higher adolescent birth rate (% of live births to mothers aged 10-17) (1993);
 - a much more rural population (1990);
 - a similar share of whites in the population but 30% more blacks, and 5 times fewer Asians, 4 times fewer Native Americans and 14 times fewer Hispanics (1992); and
 - a less well-educated population (a higher percentage of persons aged 25 and older with less than a high school education) (1994).

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Tennessee Health Profile, 1996.

POPULATION GROWTH AND POVERTY IN TENNESSEE

- The population of Tennessee is growing. Between 1980 and 1990, the total Tennessee population grew by 6% to 4,877,185 million. From 1990 to 1996, the population is estimated to have increased by another 4% to over 5 million.
- In 1993, more than 900,000 persons in Tennessee (20% of the population) lived in poverty including nearly 1/3 of school-age children. In the U.S., 15% of persons and 21% of children were below poverty in 1993.
- The poverty rates among black and Native American children are 2 to 3 times those for white children in Tennessee.

Source: U.S. Census, 1990. Tennessee Commission of Children and Youth, Tennessee KIDS COUNT, 1995.

