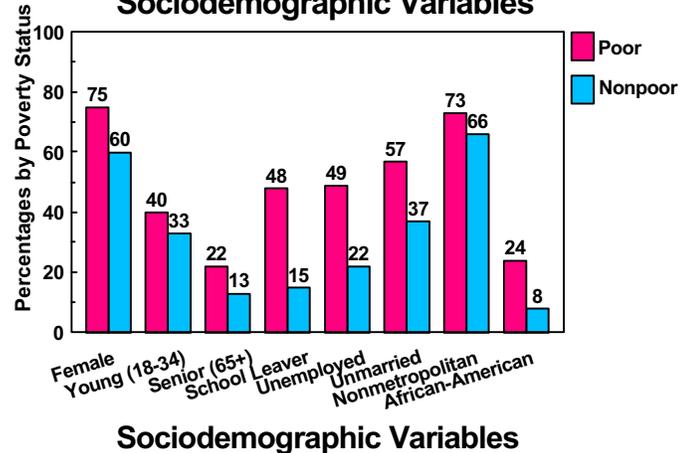


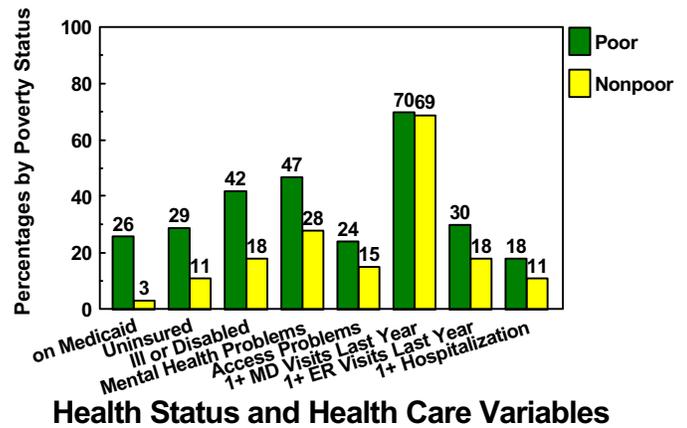
POVERTY AND HEALTH IN TENNESSEE, 1992-1993

- 15% of Tennessee adults aged 18 and over were below Federal poverty guidelines as of 1993. This represented more than 550,000 adults.
- The poor in Tennessee, compared with the non-poor, were more likely to be
 - females;
 - 65 years of age and over;
 - high school dropouts;
 - unemployed;
 - unmarried;
 - nonmetropolitan and rural residents; and
 - blacks.
- The poor in Tennessee were much more likely than the non-poor to be
 - in fair or poor health or disabled;
 - on Medicaid or uninsured and therefore eligible for TennCare; and
 - beset by mental health symptoms such as anxiety and depression.
- The poor were more likely to have no regular source of medical care and to have foregone or postponed needed health care because of access problems.
- The poor were more likely to have used emergency rooms and to have been hospitalized in the year prior to the survey.
- The uninsured in Tennessee, most of whom were poor, reported reasons for using ERs as:
 - needing care after hours, on weekends, or late at night (39%);
 - being severely ill or injured (25%);
 - having no insurance, no regular doctor, no provider affiliation and other access problems (16%);
 - being referred by an MD (12%); and
 - finding it more convenient to go to an ER, having a shorter wait or being able to get there easier (4%).

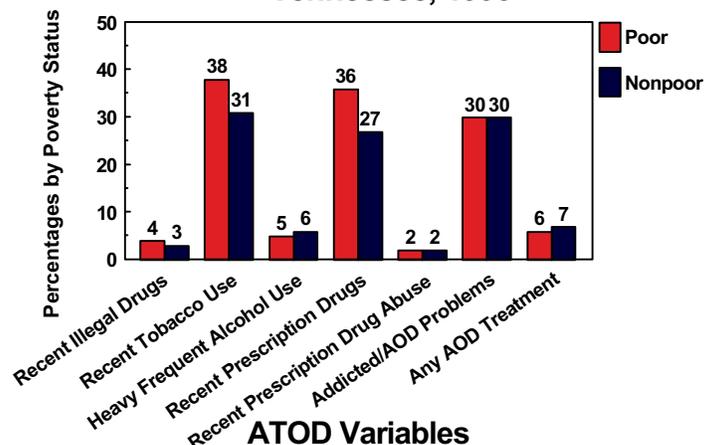
Differences Between the Poor and Nonpoor in Tennessee among Adults in 1993, Sociodemographic Variables



Differences Between the Poor and Nonpoor in Tennessee among Adults in 1993, Health Status and Health Care Variables



Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use/Abuse among Poor and Nonpoor Adults Tennessee, 1993



SOURCE: TN AOD Needs Assessment Survey, 1993, Sponsored by Bureau of A&D Abuse Services, TDH Conducted by BY UTK Community Health Research Group