

- In the 1993 CHRGT-DH statewide adult household survey, 29% of Tennessee adults reported being bothered by anxiety or depression within the past 30 days. This figure rose to 48% for adults living in poverty. Fifty-one percent of poor adult females reported being bothered by anxiety or depression within 30 days compared with 40% of poor adult males. Corresponding figures for black adult females and males were 41% and 35%, respectively.
- White males ages 65 years and older were at very high risk for suicide. Their 1994-1996 rate of 44.9 per 100,000 was ten times higher than the corresponding rate for white females, and 57% higher than that for the overall Tennessee population (19.1). But their rate declined 12% between 1990-1992 and 1994-1996 from 50.9 to 44.9 per 100,000.
- The suicide rate for white males 65 years and older in metropolitan areas of Tennessee declined 31% to 37.2 per 100,000 from 1990-1992 to 1994-1996. By contrast, the corresponding decline in nonmetropolitan areas was less than 1%. The nonmetropolitan rate for the period 1994-1996 was 49 per 100,000. Compared to the National Year 2000 target rate for elderly white males of 39.2 suicides per 100,000 or lower, Tennessee's rate was about 15% higher in 1994-1996 at 44.9 per 100,000.

Source: Tennessee Mortality Data, TDH. Tennessee ATOD High School Survey, 1995/1997, CHRGT-DH. Tennessee Alcohol and Other Drug Needs Assessment Survey of Adults, 1993, CHRGT-DH.