

- The percent of families with children headed by a single parent is increasing in Tennessee. From 1985 to 1993, there was a 36% increase in the percent of children living with single parents. In 1985, 22% of families with children were headed by a single parent compared to 30% in 1993. Nationally, Tennessee ranked 47th in the percent of families with children headed by a single parent.
- Divorce was the leading cause for the increase in single-parent families in Tennessee. The State's divorce rate in 1995 was 6.8 per 1,000, which was 48% higher than the 1994 U.S. divorce rate of 4.6 per 1,000.
- For all races, the State's unwed birth rate increased 247% from 1962 to 1995. The percent of all births to unmarried women of all ages, which was 9.5% in 1962, rose to 33% in 1995.
- Between 1985 and 1993, there was a 10% decrease in the percent of children living in poverty in Tennessee. In 1985, the prevalence of childhood poverty was 27%, and in 1993, it was 24%.
- There was also a 6.6% decrease in the percent of children who received AFDC between 1992 (14.4%) and 1996 (13.5%). However, Tennessee's child poverty rate in 1993 of 24% was somewhat higher than the national average of 21%. Tennessee ranked 40th nationally on this indicator.
- The Tennessee Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Survey, a 1995/1997 statewide survey of 102,000 high school students, revealed that 18.8% of the respondents said they had sex as a result of using alcohol or other drugs (Memphis students did not answer this question). The survey also reported that 11% of the respondents reported missing school or work due to alcohol or other drug use.
- Students revealed the average age for first AOD use was:
 - 13 years old for beer, wine, and inhalants; and
 - 14 years old for liquor, marijuana, cocaine, heroin, and hallucinogens.
- Other findings were: 68% of students drank alcoholic beverages; 62% smoked cigarettes; 43% were offered or given an illegal drug; 36% smoked marijuana; 9% used LSD; 8% used inhalants; and 6% used cocaine or crack.
- From school years 1982-83 to 1995-1996, there was a 3,450% increase in school expulsions for firearms and an increase of 1,943% in the number of school expulsions for possession of other weapons.