

Accountability Through Data.

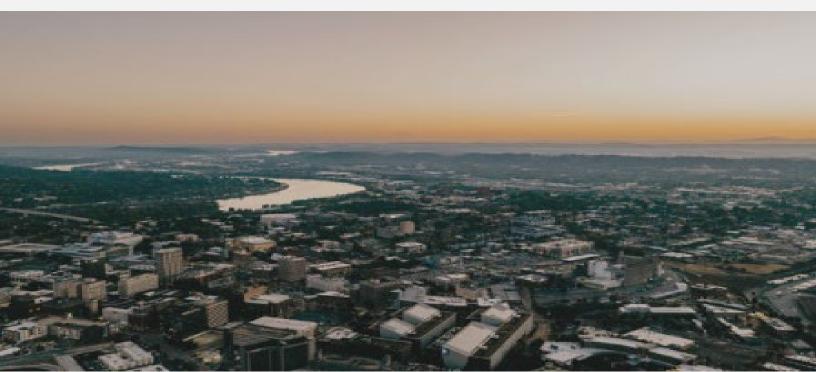
2023 Year End Report





Table of Contents

- 3 A Message from Mayor Wamp
- 4-5 Crime in Hamilton County
- 6-7 Victim Services
- 8-10 Substance Misuse and Overdoses
- 11 Homelessness and Health
- 12-13 Social Services
- 14-15 Sources







A Message from Mayor Wamp

Every statistic in this report represents an individual and family whose lives have been changed forever due to violence, drug abuse, or poverty. Informed by a full year of data, we now have a comprehensive and up-to-date picture of many core challenges facing Hamilton County. It provides some sobering statistics, but there are also reasons to be hopeful for the future.

Overall, crime is down across Hamilton County, but violent crime remains steady year-over-year. While Hamilton County's numbers are in line with state trends, our crime rate per capita continues to be significantly higher than the national average.

The opioid epidemic is an unprecedented crisis. Fatal overdoses are down for the first time since 2017, but nonfatal overdoses continue to rise based on hospital data. Understanding local trends has helped my office make critical decisions about how to spend millions of dollars in funding coming from the state's Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund.

Homelessness is, without a doubt, one of the most pressing challenges our community faces. We have seen an increase in "street" patients utilizing services at our Homeless Health Care Center. Acknowledging the difficult reality that homelessness is not improving is the first step in finding long-term solutions to this complex issue, especially in the city of Chattanooga.

The first step to forging a community in which all people can thrive–black or white, old or young–is being honest about our challenges. As we look to the rest of 2024, we will be transitioning Hamilton Counted to quarterly reports, allowing more in-depth analysis of the most pressing issues facing Hamilton County.

Let's make it our shared mission to use this data to spur action towards building a safer, healthier, more resilient community.

was wy





Crime in Hamilton County



Hamilton County Crime Rates

Per Capita is number of crimes per 10,000 residents.

East Ridge data is not available for 2022; therefore, it has been subtracted from the 2023 data and the population has been adjusted to accurately compare per capita rates.

| JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31 2022 AND 2023 | | | | COUNTY 2,746 ^{[1][3]} | |
|--|------|------------|------|--|----------|
| CRIME ^[2] | 2022 | Per Capita | 2023 | Per Capita | % Change |
| AGGRAVATED ASSAULT | 1701 | 48.22 | 1674 | 47.5 | -1.59% |
| AUTO BURGLARY | 3285 | 93.13 | 2582 | 73.2 | -21.40% |
| AUTO THEFT | 1469 | 41.64 | 1429 | 40.5 | -2.72% |
| BURGLARY | 1400 | 39.69 | 1218 | 34.5 | -13.00% |
| MURDER | 32 | 0.91 | 32 | 0.9 | 0.00% |
| RAPE | 158 | 4.48 | 151 | 4.3 | -4.43% |
| ROBBERY | 240 | 6.80 | 208 | 5.9 | -13.33% |

| Hamilton County | 20 | 23 |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Non-Fatal Shootings ^[2] | Incidents | Victims |
| COLLEGEDALE | 0 | 0 |
| CITY OF CHATTANOOGA | 85 | 97 |
| EAST RIDGE | 4 | 4 |
| HAMILTON COUNTY | 3 | 4 |
| LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN | 0 | 0 |
| RED BANK | 1 | 1 |
| SODDY DAISY | 0 | 0 |
| SIGNAL MOUNTAIN | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 93 | 106 |

| Hamilton County Crime Rates ^[1] 2022 and 2023 | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|--------|-------|--------|---------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 2022 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023 | | | | | | |
| Crime | Crime | Per | Crime | Per | % | | | | | |
| Category | Count | Capita | Count | Capita | Change | | | | | |
| Violent Crime | 2,131 | 60.4 | 2,065 | 58.5 | -3.10% | | | | | |
| Property Crime | 6,154 | 174.5 | 5,229 | 148.2 | -15.03% | | | | | |

Non-fatal shooting incidents are usually categorized under the Aggravated Assault crime category for law enforcement agencies. Most agencies are required to manually extract, read, and classify shooting incidents separately, which are shown in the chart above. $\ensuremath{^{[2]}}\xspace{4]}$

| | 5 | State and National State and National | Violent Crime Rates | 5 [5] | |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------|
| | 2021 | 2021 | 2022 | 2022 | |
| | Crime | Per | Crime | Per | % |
| Violent Crime | Count | Capita | Count | Capita | Change |
| | | | | | |
| Hamilton County | N/A | N/A | 2,131 | 60.4 | N/A |
| | | | | | |
| Tennessee | 46,813 | 67.2 | 43,829 | 62.2 | -6.37% |
| | | | | | |
| United States | 1,284,885 | 38.7 | 1,268,880 | 38.1 | -1.24% |





Crime in Hamilton County



Breakdown of Crime by Municipality^{[2][3]}

Per Capita is number of crimes per 10,000 residents.

Below is the month-over-month breakdown of crime statistics for Chattanooga, the largest municipality within Hamilton County.

| Chattanooga Police Department | | N | FI | EB | M | AR | AF | PR | M | AY | JU | IN | JL | JL | AL | JG | SE | P | 0 | ст | N | JV | D | EC | то | TAL |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| CRIME | 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 | 2022 | 2023 |
| AGG. ASSAULT | 92 | 111 | 93 | 94 | 112 | 126 | 107 | 122 | 143 | 151 | 144 | 131 | 132 | 111 | 131 | 122 | 137 | 107 | 126 | 100 | 113 | 98 | 81 | 88 | 1411 | 1361 |
| AUTO BURGLARY | 287 | 209 | 259 | 169 | 247 | 129 | 247 | 163 | 283 | 159 | 252 | 183 | 267 | 203 | 216 | 230 | 234 | 243 | 232 | 242 | 196 | 186 | 199 | 180 | 2919 | 2296 |
| AUTO THEFT | 153 | 98 | 116 | 91 | 122 | 87 | 101 | 82 | 102 | 73 | 122 | 87 | 121 | 120 | 83 | 121 | 105 | 127 | 93 | 125 | 86 | 123 | 85 | 126 | 1289 | 1260 |
| BURGLARY | 96 | 71 | 121 | 71 | 95 | 74 | 82 | 96 | 89 | 68 | 85 | 74 | 84 | 90 | 98 | 98 | 97 | 102 | 87 | 81 | 93 | 84 | 72 | 67 | 1099 | 976 |
| MURDER | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 26 | 28 |
| RAPE | 10 | 10 | 12 | 10 | 15 | 12 | 6 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 7 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 10 | 6 | 16 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 116 | 127 |
| ROBBERY | 35 | 12 | 22 | 13 | 22 | 19 | 16 | 18 | 20 | 13 | 18 | 22 | 11 | 21 | 16 | 13 | 17 | 14 | 20 | 23 | 16 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 225 | 196 |

| JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31 2022 AND 2023 | ł | HAMILT udes Lak | ORPORATE ON COUNT esite and Wa 121,334 | ſγ | | | T ANOOGA . 184,086 | | | |)LLEGEDAL Pop. 11,255 | E | | | AST RIDGE op. 21,936 | [3] |
|--|------|--------------------|---|----------|------|------|------------------------------|----------|------|------|--------------------------|----------|------|------|-------------------------|----------|
| CRIME | 2022 | 2023 | Per Capita | % Change | 2022 | 2023 | Per Capita | % Change | 2022 | 2023 | Per Capita | % Change | 2022 | 2023 | Per Capita | % Change |
| AGGRAVATED ASSAULT | 200 | 217 | 17.9 | 8.50% | 1411 | 1361 | 73.9 | -3.54% | 20 | 23 | 20.4 | 15.00% | - | 75 | | 0.00% |
| AUTO BURGLARY | 236 | 178 | 14.7 | -24.58% | 2919 | 2296 | 124.7 | -21.34% | 44 | 28 | 24.9 | -36.36% | - | 106 | | 0.00% |
| AUTO THEFT | 127 | 115 | 9.5 | -9.45% | 1289 | 1260 | 68.4 | -2.25% | 15 | 5 | 4.4 | -66.67% | - | 54 | | 0.00% |
| BURGLARY | 200 | 146 | 12.0 | -27.00% | 1099 | 976 | 53.0 | -11.19% | 31 | 30 | 26.7 | -3.23% | - | 51 | | 0.00% |
| MURDER | 3 | 2 | 0.2 | -33.33% | 26 | 28 | 1.5 | 7.69% | 2 | 2 | 1.8 | 0.00% | - | 1 | | N/A |
| RAPE | 34 | 14 | 1.2 | -58.82% | 116 | 127 | 6.9 | 9.48% | 6 | 3 | 2.7 | -50.00% | - | 12 | | 0.00% |
| ROBBERY | 8 | 9 | 0.7 | 12.50% | 225 | 196 | 10.6 | -12.89% | 2 | 1 | 0.9 | -50.00% | - | 5 | | 0.00% |
| TOTALS: | 808 | 681 | 56.1 | -15.72% | 7085 | 6244 | 339.2 | -11.87% | 120 | 92 | 81.7 | -23.33% | - | 304 | | - |

| JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31 2022 AND 2023 | | LO | OKOUT MT Pop. 2,070 | N | | | RED BANK Pop. 11,959 | | | S | IGNAL MTN Pop. 8,883 | J | | S | DDDY DAIS Pop. 13,159 | Y |
|--|------|------|------------------------|----------|------|------|-------------------------|----------|------|------|-------------------------|----------|------|------|--------------------------|----------|
| CRIME | 2022 | 2023 | Per Capita | % Change | 2022 | 2023 | Per Capita | % Change | 2022 | 2023 | Per Capita | % Change | 2022 | 2023 | Per Capita | % Change |
| AGGRAVATED ASSAULT | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00% | 43 | 46 | 38.5 | 6.98% | 1 | 1 | 1.1 | N/A | 26 | 26 | 19.8 | 0.00% |
| AUTO BURGLARY | 1 | 13 | 62.8 | 1200.00% | 41 | 33 | 27.6 | -19.51% | 10 | 6 | 6.8 | -40.00% | 34 | 28 | 21.3 | -17.65% |
| AUTO THEFT | 1 | 1 | 4.8 | 0.00% | 18 | 33 | 27.6 | 83.33% | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | -100.00% | 18 | 15 | 11.4 | -16.67% |
| BURGLARY | 3 | 1 | 4.8 | -66.67% | 34 | 24 | 20.1 | -29.41% | 2 | 4 | 4.5 | 100.00% | 31 | 37 | 28.1 | 19.35% |
| MURDER | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00% | 1 | 0 | 0.0 | -100.00% |
| RAPE | 0 | 1 | 4.8 | N/A | 1 | 2 | 1.7 | 100.00% | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00% | 1 | 4 | 3.0 | 300.00% |
| ROBBERY | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00% | 5 | 2 | 1.7 | -60.00% | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00% |
| TOTALS: | 5 | 16 | 77.3 | 220.00% | 142 | 140 | 117.1 | -1.41% | 14 | 11 | 12.4 | -21.43% | 111 | 110 | 83.6 | -0.90% |









24/7 Crisis Hotline 423-755-2700 Crisis Text Line 423-356-3620

for Families, Children and Adults

Sexual Assault exams are reflective of assaults that occurred in Hamilton County.

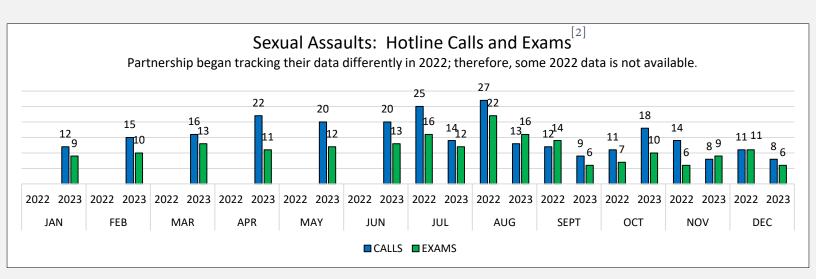
Hotline calls for Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence came from Hamilton County residents.

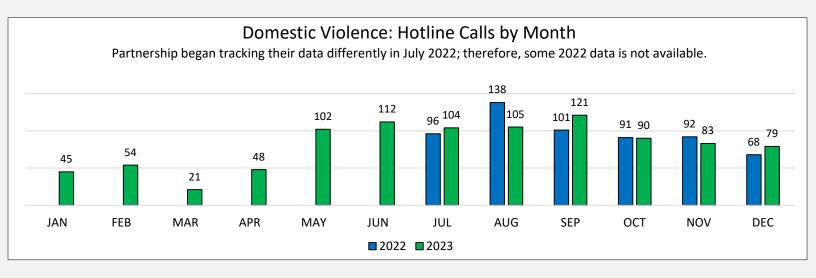
Partnership served 7,831 total clients during their fiscal 2023 year. $^{\left[1\right] }$

Partnership's 24/7 Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Crisis Hotline is completely confidential.

| 2023 | Totals |
|------------------|--------|
| DV Hotline Calls | 964 |
| SA Hotline Calls | 175 |
| SA Exams | 127 |

| Calls and Exams | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|------|------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| July - December | 2022 | 2023 | % Change | | | | | | | |
| DV Hotline Calls | 586 | 582 | -1% | | | | | | | |
| SA Hotline Calls | 100 | 70 | -30% | | | | | | | |
| SA Exams | 76 | 59 | -22% | | | | | | | |









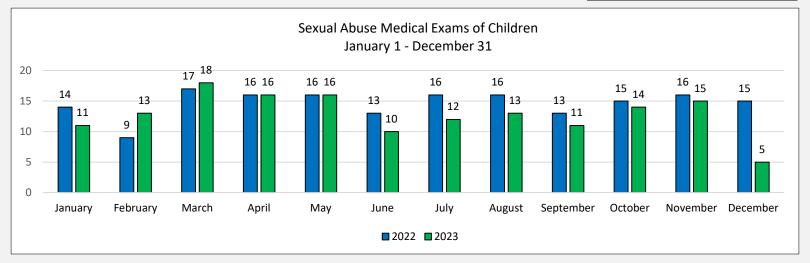


Child Abuse Reporting Hotline 877-237-0004 All referrals received by the CAC come from the Department of Children's Services or law enforcement through Hamilton County.

Every child with an allegation is forensically interviewed, but not all are recommended for a medical exam. Sometimes, the child may not be dealing with acute abuse, but an incident that occurred years ago, which might not qualify for an exam. All services are provided at no cost to clients for as long as services are needed.

In the chart below, sexual abuse medical exams of children are shown per month for 2022 and 2023, while the chart to the right shows full calendar year totals.

| Total Sexual Abuse Exams | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Jan 1 - Dec 31 | | | | | | | | | |
| 2022 | 2023 | % Change | | | | | | | | |
| 176 | 154 | -12.50% | | | | | | | | |



Children who may have experienced child abuse or neglect receive a comprehensive medical exam performed on-site by a pediatric nurse practitioner specializing in pediatric sexual assault evaluations. The medical exam can identify any medical issues or forensic findings that need attention. All medical exams are non-invasive.

Tennessee had a 5.5% decrease in reported child abuse cases from 2022 to 2023, while Hamilton County showed a 7% increase.^[4]

| | Reported Chi | d Abuse Cases |
|------|--------------|-----------------|
| Year | Tennessee | Hamilton County |
| 2022 | 70,350 | 2,801 |
| 2023 | 66,497 | 3,000 |

Of the 66,497 reported child abuse cases in Tennessee in 2023, 4.5% of those cases came from Hamilton County.

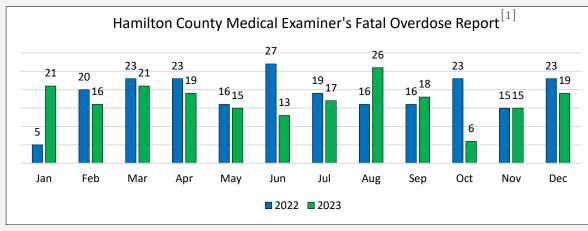
Reasons children are forensically interviewed include:^[5]

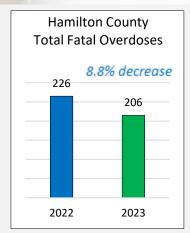
- Drug Exposure
- Physical Abuse
- Severe Lack of Supervision
- Sexual Abuse
- Severe Medical Maltreatment
- Witness to Violence

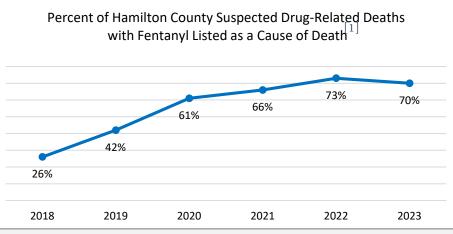




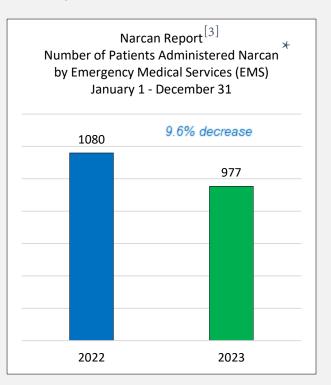
Substance Misuse and Overdose Trends

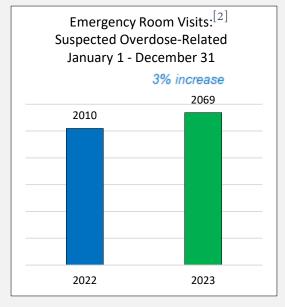












DID YOU KNOW?

2 milligrams of Fentanyl equate to a potentially deadly dose, enough to fit [4] on the tip of a pencil.

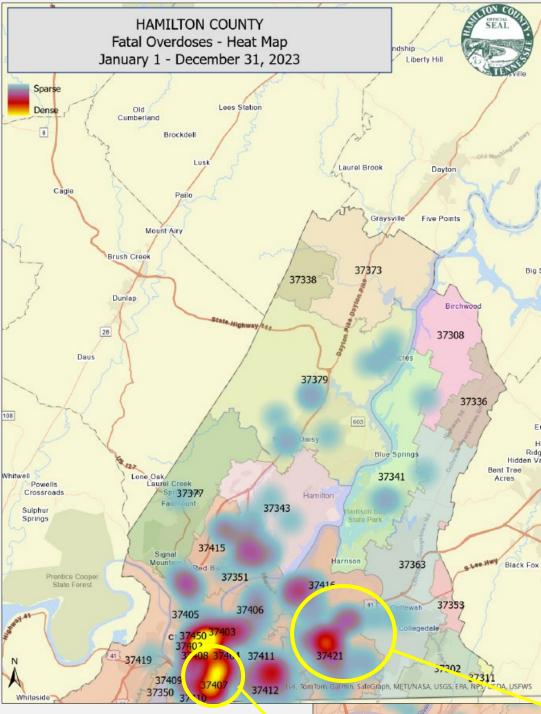
Local organizations, such as Chattanooga Harm Reduction and Cempa Community Care, have contributed to overdose reversals across Hamilton County.^[5]

| 22 | 2023 |
|-----|------|
| 402 | 1078 |
| 989 | 685 |
| | |

In 2023, there were 1,390 total Naloxone administrations by EMS in Hamilton County. Total administrations are not equal to the total number of patients, as some patients might need more than one dose.

8

Substance Misuse and Overdose Trends



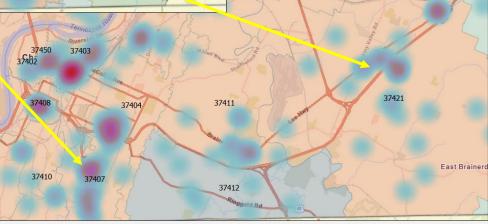
Heat maps are used to show concentration of geographical patterns rather than quantity.

The fatal overdoses mapped here reflect the location where the overdose incident occurred, not necessarily where the person died. For example, a person might overdose at their house but ultimately die at the hospital. For data collection purposes, tracking where the overdose occurred is most important.

The zip code 37407, commonly known as the East Lake area, had the highest concentration of fatal overdose incidents, the majority occurring in a residence.

The zip code 37421, commonly known as the East Brainerd and Hickory Valley areas, had the highest quantity of overdose incidents, the majority occurring either in a residence or at an extendedstay hotel.

In 2023, there were **206 fatal overdoses** in Hamilton County. That's averaging **55 deaths per 100,000 people.**^[6]





Substance Misuse and Overdose Resources

1 Hamilton County Coalition

The Hamilton County Coalition works to prevent overdose deaths, promote addiction recovery, and reduce underage drinking and tobacco use. They have a number of community partners who stand ready to connect individuals and families with resources, training, and recovery programs to combat the opioid epidemic.

2 Tennessee REDLINE

Tennessee REDLINE serves as a 24/7/365 referral service to addiction treatment that connects individuals and their families looking for help with substance use disorder. Anyone can call or text 800-889-9789 for confidential referrals. The service is provided by the Tennessee Association for Alcohol, Drug, and other Addiction Services (TAADAS) through a contract with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS).

3 <u>SAMHSA</u>

SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) offers a free, confidential, 24/7/365 treatment referral and information service in English and Spanish for individuals and families facing mental and/or substance use disorders. This service provides referrals to local treatment facilities, support groups, and community-based organizations. Anyone can call their national helpline at 1-800-662-4357.

4 <u>988 Lifeline</u>

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline provides 24/7/365, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for individuals and their loved ones, and best practices for professionals in the United States.

5 <u>Find Help Now</u>

FindHelpNowTN.org features a near real-time treatment opening locator for substance misuse that guides individuals to available treatment opening based on factors such as the type of treatment needed, insurance programs and payment methods, gender identity, in-or-out-patient treatment options, and location. Facilities on the site are asked to update the availability of their residential, in-patient, and out-patient services regularly to ensure the most current information is available.

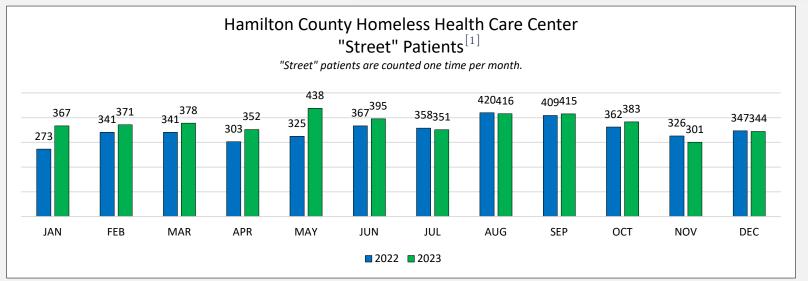
6 United Way Chattanooga

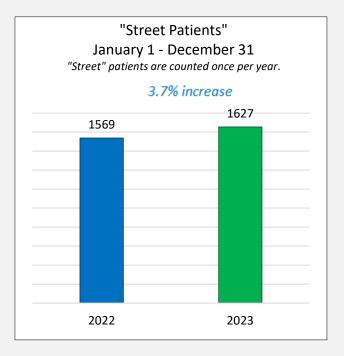
United Way of Greater Chattanooga unites individuals and families with resources allowing people to reach their full potential through education, stability, and health and well-being. Individuals with a 423 area code can call or text 211 for support during a crisis Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Homelessness and Health







The highest number of clinic visits in 2023 are due to:

- Tobacco Use Disorder / Smoke and Tobacco Use Cessation
- Hypertension
- Depression

DID YOU KNOW?

According to the 2022 Annual Homeless Assessment Report, 15.1 in every 10,000 people experienced homelessness in Tennessee.

"Street patients" matches the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) definition of "unsheltered."

An unsheltered person would meet the requirements to be considered "Category 1 – Literally Homeless." In general, for purposes of the Point-in-Time (PIT) count, HUD considers individuals and families sleeping in a place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (e.g., abandoned buildings, train stations, or camping grounds) as "unsheltered" homeless.^[2]

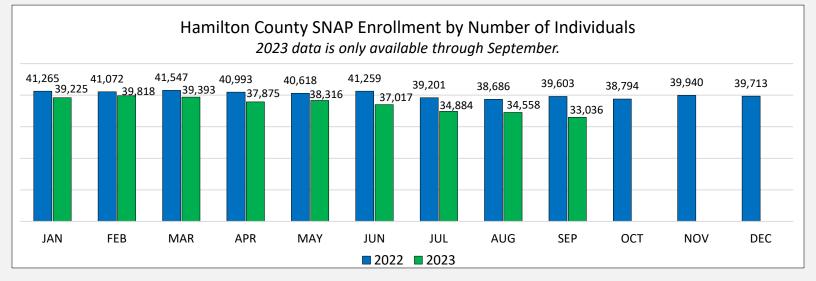


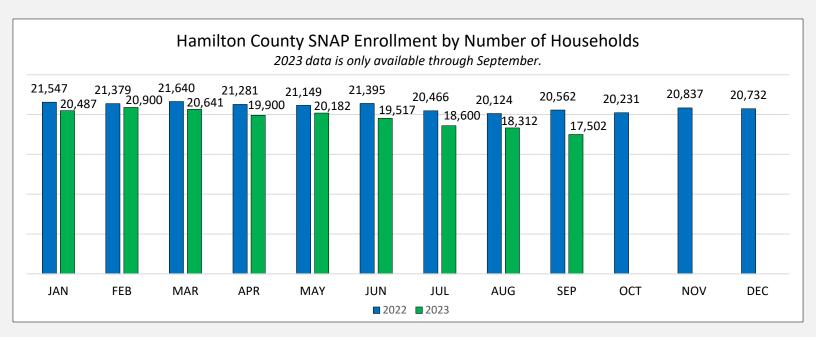




Social Services

SNAP is a low-income assistance program run by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and its benefits are fully funded by the federal government. Considerations for SNAP eligibility include income, age and relationship, citizenship, work, and other considerations.^[1]





DID YOU KNOW?

In 2023, 17,990 children received SNAP benefits in Hamilton County. 352,059 children received SNAP benefits in Tennessee. There are no specific age limits to receive SNAP benefits. Parents and their children 21 years old or younger living together are considered one household.

Minors who apply on their own must be living without their parents.

Individuals living together and who purchase and prepare food together are treated as one household.





 WIC Participants –

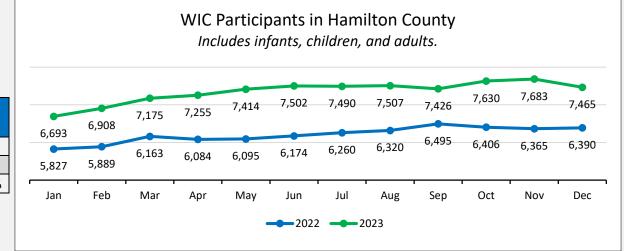
 Average Per Month

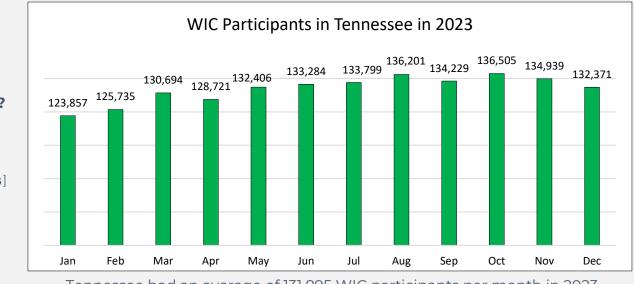
 Jan 1 - Dec 31

 2022
 2023
 % Change

 6,206
 7,346
 18.4%

The WIC program is funded through the USDA. WIC services are provided through the Tennessee Department of Health in 126 entities across the state, including county health departments, stand-alone clinics, and hospital sites. The program is designed to provide supplemental food assistance and nutrition education to low-income pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants, and children until age five.





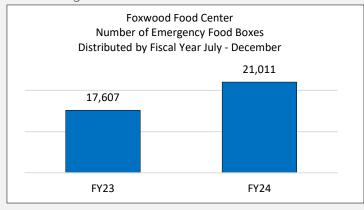
DID YOU KNOW?

A family of four qualifies if they earn \$4,625 per [3] month or less.

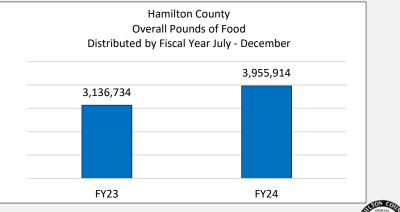
Tennessee had an average of 131,895 WIC participants per month in 2023.

CHATTANOOGA AREA FOOD BANK

Foxwood Food Center is Hamilton County's largest brick and mortar food pantry, and the only one operated by the Chattanooga Area Food Bank.



Hamilton County's food pounds include the food that is distributed by 63 hunger relief partners who also distribute the [4] food, such as churches, school pantries, senior home delivery, etc.



Sources

CRIME IN HAMILTON COUNTY

[1] - Population is a current estimate from <u>https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/hamiltoncountytennessee</u>. All populations are an estimation. Hamilton County population, less East Ridge (21,936), is 352,746.

[2] - All crime data is provided by the respective Hamilton County municipal agency using their Records Management System. 2023 data is considered "operational" and subject to change as each agency finalizes their data.

* Violent Crimes: The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program defines violent crimes as those offenses that involve force or threat of force and is composed of four offenses: murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Source: <u>https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/topic-pages/violent-crime</u>

** Property Crimes: The FBI's Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Program includes the offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. The object of the theft-type offenses is the taking of money or property, but there is no force or threat of force against the victims. *Source: <u>https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/topic-pages/property-</u>*

crime#:~:text=Definition,of%20force%20against%20the%20victims

Part 1 Crime is defined by the National Uniform Crime Reporting Program and refers to serious crime that occur with regularity in all areas of the country and are likely to be reported to police. Part 1 violent crimes include homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Part 1 property crimes include burglary, theft, and auto theft.

Source: https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/topic-pages/offense-definitions

[3] - East Ridge Police Department changed Records Management Systems in August 2022; therefore, 2022 data is not available and will not be included in crime rates.

[4] – Non-fatal shooting incident definition and information can be found here: <u>https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9187788/</u>
[5] – Tennessee and Nationwide crime found in the FBI's Crime Data Explorer page using the Data Discovery Tool found here:

<u>https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/explorer/crime/query</u> with 2021 and 2022 population estimates found on the Census site here: <u>https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2020s-national-total.html</u> and here: <u>https://www2.census.gov/programs-</u> <u>surveys/popest/datasets/2020-2023/state/totals/NST-EST2023-ALLDATA.csv</u>

VICTIM SERVICES

[1] - Partnership's 2022-2023 Annual Giving Report can be found here: https://www.partnershipfca.com/annual-report

[2] - Sexual assault exams are counted by the county in which the assault occurred, not necessarily where the victim lives.

[3] - The following child maltreatment data counts children as 18 years old and younger.

[4] - The Kids Count Data Center from the Annie E. Casey Foundation found here: <u>https://datacenter.aecf.org/data/tables/3023-reported-child-</u> abuse-cases?loc=44&loct=5#detailed/5/6452/false/2545,1095,2048,574/any/13283,12701

[5] - A child may disclose more than one type of violence but are categorized by the type of violence from their initial intake from the Department of Children's Services.

SUBSTANCE MISUSE AND OVERDOSES

[1] - Fatal overdose data provided by the Hamilton County Medical Examiner's Office and the Hamilton County Health Department's Epidemiologists. You can find the epidemiologists overdose surveillance reports here:

https://health.hamiltontn.org/en-us/communityhealth/overdoseprevention.aspx

There may be additional suspected drug-related death data reported over this time period in subsequent reports as data is finalized. Drug-related deaths are those deaths that the Hamilton County Health Department receives from the Hamilton County Medical Examiner's Office with a cause of death listed as an acute overdose or a death resulting from chronic drug abuse.

Acute overdose deaths are those deaths in which the Hamilton County Medical Examiner listed drugs (either an overdose or a toxicity) as a primary cause of death or contributing cause of death on the death certificate and in the medical examiner report. The Medical Examiner determines the cause of death and contributing cause of death following a thorough investigation, including (as appropriate): scene investigation, medical records review, external examination, autopsy, histology, and postmortem toxicology reports. Some deaths may have substances listed on the toxicology report in concentrations that are not high enough to result in or contribute to a death, and are therefore, not a cause of death; in these cases, these deaths do not count as an acute overdose death.

Chronic drug abuse deaths are those deaths in which the cause of death is due to chronic substance abuse and the individuals did not overdose at the time of death.

Jurisdiction: Currently, the Hamilton County Medical Examiner Office (which is also the Southeast Tennessee Regional Forensic Center) primarily handles deaths that occur within Hamilton County with occasional cases referred from adjoining counties. Those referred cases do not count in the Hamilton County statistics. Individuals who are injured or overdose in other counties, transported to a medical facility in Hamilton County and die in Hamilton County, will have their death certificate done by the Hamilton County Medical Examiner Office. Those cases are included in Hamilton County statistics. The converse also holds: an injury or overdose occurring in Hamilton County, with death in a different county or state, will be included in that jurisdiction's statistics, not Hamilton County.

[2] - Non-fatal data: All non-fatal overdose-related emergency department visits from Hamilton County hospitals were included in this data, regardless of the patient's county of residence. Data was pulled from ESSENCE - NSSP using the CDC All Drug Overdose (version 2) query, which includes relevant ICD-10-CM codes, ICD-9-CM codes, SNOMED codes, and relevant terms in the chief complaint free text field. There may be additional suspected nonfatal overdose-related emergency department visit data reported over this time period in subsequent reports as data is finalized.



Sources

[3] - Hamilton County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) NARCAN data provided by EsoSuite.

* "Narcan is the brand name for naloxone, the medication designed to reverse an opioid overdose. This means that it attaches to opioid receptors and reverses and blocks the effects of other opioids. Naloxone can quickly restore normal breathing to a person if their breathing has slowed or stopped because of an opioid overdose. But, naloxone has no effect on someone who does not have opioids in their system, and it is not a treatment for opioid use disorder. Examples of opioids include heroin, fentanyl, oxycodone (OxyContin[®]), hydrocodone (Vicodin[®]), codeine, and morphine." *Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse; National Institutes of Health; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. https://nida.nih.gov/publications/drugfacts/naloxone*

[4] - Fentanyl and seizure facts from the DEA can be found here: <u>https://www.dea.gov/onepill</u>

[5] - Overdose reversal data came from internal data kept by Cempa and Chattanooga Harm Reduction

[6] - Population is a current estimate from <u>https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/hamiltoncountytennessee</u>. All populations are an estimation.

HOMELESSNESS AND HEALTH

[1] - Hamilton County's Homeless Health Care Center data provided by eClinicalWorks from the Hamilton County Health Department.

* Homelessness Housing Status Definitions

Homeless Shelter – Patients who are living in an organized shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness. Shelters that generally provide meals and a place to sleep are regarded as temporary and often limit the number of days or the hours of the day that a resident may stay at the shelter.

Transitional Housing – Transitional housing units are generally small units (six people is common) where people transition from a shelter and are provided extended, but temporary, housing stays (generally between 6 months and 2 years).

Doubled Up – Patients who are living with others. The arrangement is considered to be temporary and unstable, though a patient may live in a succession of such arrangements over a protracted period.

Street – Patients who are living outdoors, in a vehicle, in an encampment, in makeshift housing/shelter, or in other places generally not deemed safe or fit for human occupancy.

Permanent Supportive Housing – Permanent supportive housing usually is in service-rich environments, does not have time limits, and may be restricted to people with some type of disabling condition.

Other – Patients who were housed when first seen during the year and were no longer homeless, but who were still eligible for the program because they experienced homelessness during the previous 12 months.

Unknown – Patients known to be experiencing homeless whose housing arrangements are unknown.

[2] - HUD's definitions and categories of homeless can be found here: <u>https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-</u> <u>binders/coc-esg-homeless-eligibility/four-categories/category-1/</u>

[3] - HUD'S 2022 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report can be found here: https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/2022-ahar-part-1.pdf

SOCIAL SERVICES

[1] - Tennessee's SNAP data can be found with the TN Department of Human Services here: <u>https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/for-families/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap/snap-statistical-information.html</u>

[2] - The Kids Count Data Center from the Annie E. Casey Foundation found here: <u>https://datacenter.aecf.org/data/tables/2985-children-</u> receiving-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-

benefits?loc=44&loct=2#detailed/2/any/false/2545,1095,2048,574,1729,37,871,870,573,869/any/13221,10113

[3] - All WIC data is provided by the Hamilton County Health Department and the TN Department of Health WIC Program.

[4] - All Food Bank data is provided by the Chattanooga Food Bank.

Table of Contents page McDonald Farm photo by photographer Robin Rudd / Chattanooga Times Free Press and Tennessee River photo by William Vest and Jay Buchanan.

A Message from Mayor Wamp page photos contributed by Hamilton County Press Secretary, Haley Burton.

Hamilton Counted report created by Senior Data Analyst Jennifer Baggett.

