

Community Assessment 2011 Van Buren County, Tennessee

I. Introduction

A variety of information was obtained in 2011 through a network of data sources and data gathering techniques and utilized for assessment of the Van Buren County community. The percentage of surveys returned was at 90% and the sources used are as listed: UCHRA, KidsCount, Van Buren County Government, Community Representatives, Van Buren County School system, Van Buren County Sheriff's Department, Mountain View Newspaper, Van Buren Board of Education, Tennessee Highway Patrol and other sources (see Additional Sources). The collected data also includes: In-house demographics of enrolled children and families, census reports, Tennessee economic reports, "Kids Count" data and statistics, county-wide employment data, as well as other information from agencies serving children and families. This information will serve as a basis for targeting needs of children and families, choosing program options and determining eligibility for enrollment into the program.

The information contained in the UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start Community Assessment will serve as a basis for targeting the needs of the children and families, choosing program options, and planning for short and long term goals.

Mission Statement

Van Buren County Head Start's overall mission statement is to foster individual development for children, families and staff to sustain positive transitions into the future.

Van Buren County Head Start, recognizing parents as the primary educators of their children, will partner with parents and the community to enrich the lives of children and families by utilizing program outcomes for planning and providing quality comprehensive child development services.

Our grantee, Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency, mission is to promote a strong sense of community and family values by administering programs designed to provide tools, knowledge and resources to improve the

quality of life, promote a positive sense of individual self-worth, encourage responsible decision making and provide opportunities for individuals to become productive and independent while giving first priority to the elderly, handicapped and severely economically disadvantaged. We also strive to increase the assistance provided in the region through growth in funding available through the agency and by becoming better known in the community. Additionally, the agency desires to improve its effectiveness in administering its programs through technological advancements to improve its business systems and through staff development.

Philosophy:

Our philosophy, expressed in our mission statement, incorporates these ideals we feel to be critical in maintaining a successful program:

1. We believe that children benefit from an individualized program which increases growth and development by offering a planned educational curriculum focusing on health/nutrition, art, science, math, communication/social skills, fine/gross motor skills, numeric/literacy recognition and self help skills.
2. We believe that parents, staff and communities must function as a team in fulfilling the potential of every child by: 1.) encouraging parents to participate in the program as volunteers and to help make decisions 2.) forming partnerships with the community and the family to provide services. This partnership will allow us to enrich the lives of eligible families, children with disabilities, children with mental and physical health problems and families who need to be involved in a literacy program.

Based on the program philosophy, UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start's objectives will emphasize the integration of all areas in the program in order to meet the following initiatives for conducting a successful program:

1. Improve children's health and physical abilities by conducting and monitoring needed screenings, follow up visits and link families to a source of continuous health care that is available even after the child leaves Head Start.
2. Provide all children with a safe, nurturing, engaging, enjoyable and secure learning environment that promotes the continuance of their growth and development, to include: 1) physical, 2) social, 3) emotional and 4) cognitive.
3. Supply a variety of materials and planned activities that promote conceptual and communication skills designed to promote individual and group play.
4. Provide continuous opportunities both developmentally and linguistically appropriate for each child's abilities, interests, cultural background, language skills and learning styles.
5. Provide continuous trainings and workshops for staff and parents.

6. Encourage volunteering from Head Start families, community members, grandparents and any other interested community members.
7. Increase community awareness of the Head Start program, of services provided and benefits to the local community, by hosting advisory meetings, joining community child and health councils, participating in community events, and posting articles in the local newspapers and internet venues.
8. Encourage parents to complete and/or continue education and job skills.
9. Partner with other agencies, community members, organizations, businesses, and public schools to meet the needs of the families without any duplication of services.

II. Overview of Services Provided by UCHRA

UCHRA serves 14 counties in the Middle Tennessee region. UCHRA provides essential resources to the counties such as U-Card transportation for our families and the community, LI-Heap Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Weatherization Assistance Program, Emergency Services Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, Child Care Broker Program, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, Cumberland Career Center, Families First Employment Program, Dislocated Workers Program and Savings For Us, which is a plan designed to assist the families in saving money for the purpose of buying a home, opening a business or going to school. UCHRA provides:

- **The Homemaker Aide Program and Elderly Chore Service** provides aid to elderly or handicapped people
- **Personal Care Services** which provides bathing, dressing and other personal services to the elderly and handicapped
- **Statewide Home and Community Based Waiver-Home Modifications for the Elderly and Disabled** provides and installs ramps, rails, non-skid surfaces, grab rails and home modifications for the elderly and handicapped.
- **LIHEAP** (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is a program that provides assistance to low income families that need help with utility bills, exhausted their fuel supply or have received cut off notices.
- **Commodities** (Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program) which distributes surplus foods to the low income.
- **Information and Referral Services** which helps people in accessing services and resources in the community.
- **Weatherization Assistance Program** provides insulation or other weatherization services to low income families.

- **Emergency Services Program** provides emergency food, shelter, energy, prescribed drugs, and homeless prevention to eligible households.
- **Child and Adult Care Food Program** supplements the costs of food for children enrolled in licensed or registered daycare homes.
- **Child Care Development Fund** helps to meet child care expenses for working low income parents and teen parents that are in school.
- **Information and Referral Services** helps families and individuals access services and referrals in their community.
- **Social Service Block Grant** helps to meet child care expenses for parents in secondary training and/or parents of children with developmental delays.
- **Social Service Block Grant (Custody)** helps to meet child care expenses for children who are in State custody.
- **Social Service Block Grant (Non- Custody)** helps to meet child care expenses for foster children.
- **Adult Protective Service (APS) Homemaker**, which assists adults who have been abused, neglected or exploited with household chores, errands, budgeting, etc., to live on their own without fear of further abuse.
- **Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)**, a network of volunteers appointed by a judge to determine the best possible outcome for abused or neglected children. Many of these children have no voice of their own, and these advocates become their voice so that the children do not get trapped in the maze of the court system, child welfare and temporary shelter.
- **Housing Opportunity for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)** assists people in all aspects of obtaining and maintaining a home to prevent homelessness and provides many other services.
- **Ryan White Community AIDS Partnership** provides case management and transportation for clients so they can access health care or other support services.

As stated previously, all of these services are available in 14 counties in Middle Tennessee. These counties are: Cannon, Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Smith, Van Buren, Warren and White. UCHRA is mandated to keep in constant contact with the changing needs of the residents in each area.

UCHRA is funded through a combination of funds from federal, state and local organizations.

III. Community Assessment

With a small population in Van Buren County of 5,548, of which 1,181 are under the age of 18, one Head Start facility is sufficient in addressing the needs within our service area for preschool children. We have no funding to address the urgent need for care for infants from 0-3 years old. There is no child care for children 0-3 years old in Van Buren County.

In 1991, the inception of Head Start within this county, the location of the center was based on structure availability, which was across the mountain from the main town. Our region is a rural farming area and services are not readily available to the entire community, so transportation is a dire need and is very limited. One of the long range goals is the relocation of the center to a more centralized location within the Spencer city limits, as funding is available. This will enable our services to be more easily available to the entire service content area. The county and its seat are geographically isolated and job-destitute. The data below easily reveals an inclusive correlation with regards to economic stability, child and teen health and community safety, education, and medical and family stability. The geographic location of our area still continues to be a concern to our community with no new employment opportunities to date and a resurgence of drug manufacture with the area.

A. Head Start Eligible Children and Families

The Van Buren County Head Start is state licensed to serve 40 children and federally funded for 37, age ranging from three to five years old. As stated by the 2008 Kids Count profile for Van Buren County, there are one thousand one hundred and eighty one children under the age of eighteen, with 5.2% of the total population as children aged zero to five, as estimated from the U.S. Census Bureau. The USDA stated in the 2008 Poverty Rate Report that 29.4% of children living in Van Buren County live in poverty, which climbed to 32.3% in 2009, indicating the need for the Head Start program and its continuation of services. The information in this report reflects services needed in the community and is used in determining long range plans and objectives for these children by providing them with essential services needed to produce a better quality of life.

B. Existing Child Care Programs

The only existing child care in Van Buren County consists of UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start with 40 child care spaces available and Van Buren County Board of Education's Early Bird Preschool with 45 child care spaces available. These existing programs allow for a total of just 85 regulated child care spaces. There is no daycare in the

county for any children from 0-3 years old, which is a concern and needed desperately.

C. Children with Disabilities

The percentage of children with disabilities enrolled in Van Buren County Head Start during the 2010-2011 school term equaled 13.5%. Past years have shown percentages as high as 34%. The Head Start program has never fallen below the required 10%. The current percentage is projected to increase due to many unknown health effects and factors related to methamphetamines, its use by pregnant mothers and used in homes with small children. The Van Buren County School System provides disability services to 15.97% of their currently enrolled children as of March 2011, information provided by the Director of Special Education in Van Buren Co. school system. These children are considered to be learning disabled with speech and language being the main focus at the elementary school level.

D. Family Needs Data

1. Needs of Children and Families

UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start's 2009-2010 Program

Information Report shows data that reflects its services provided and the need thereof. PIR data is as follows: 40 families were served last year including those enrolled that withdrew. 33 children were eligible, 7 were 100-130% above the poverty level and 4 were over the income guidelines. Children were prioritized according to eligibility, disability and family problems/needs. 31 received Medicaid (TennCare), 6 enrolled in CHIP (Cover Kids) and 7 had private insurance. 15 children

were served

for the second year and 29 were new enrollees. Income ranged from \$0 to \$50,972 with a median of \$11,066.

Children from two parent homes:

- 16 had one parent working
- 4 had both parents working
- 8 had no parents working

Children from one parent homes:

- 3 had a working parent
- 9 did not have a working parent

The educational status of the family members enrolled is as follows:

- 3 had less than high school education
- 29 had high school diploma or GED
- 7 associates degree, vocational or some college degree
- 1 had advanced degree

Enrollment by ethnicity was as follows:

- 43 non Hispanic
- 1 Hispanic

Forty one (41) children completed medical screenings and forty two (42) dental examinations. Three children were in the program for less than 45 days. Seven (7) children were determined to have disabilities.

Profile of Population/General/Social Demographic Characteristics (Based on 2009-2010 Census Data as available)

Geographic Area: Van Buren County
Total Population: 5548 (2010 data)

Sex/Age/Number/Percent:

Male: 2734	49.9
Female: 2746	50.1
Under 5: 285	5.2
Age 65 and up: 856	15.6

Race/Number/Percent:

White: 5409	98.1
Black: 25	0.5
Hispanic: 18	0.6
American Indian: 10	0.2
Asian: 4	0.1
Two or more races: 32	0.6

Relationships by Percent (2000):

Total Households: 2180	100.0
Householder: 2160	39.6
Spouse: 1297	23.5
Child: 1541	28.0
Own Child Under 18: 1117	20.3
Other Relatives: 235	4.3

Households/Type/Percent:

Families:	74.3
Married Couple Family	59.5
Female Householder	11.0

Personal Income:

Per Capita (2008)	\$26,534
Median Family (2000)	\$34,949
Median Household (2008)	\$33,211
Median Head Start Families (2010)	\$11,066

Per Capita Money Income (1999)	\$17,497
Poverty Rate (2009) Tennessee	17.2%
Poverty Rate (2009) Van Buren Co.	20.8%
-Related Children under 18	29.4%
-Children aged 0-17	32.3%

Education:

Less than HS education	28.9%
High school grad or GED	47.5%
Some college, no degree	14.1%
Bachelor's degree	9.5%
High school dropout rate (2009)	14.5%

Employment and Labor Force: Unemployed:

Dec. 2009 unemployment rate:	14.1%
Nov. 2010 unemployment rate:	10.8%
Dec. 2010 unemployment rate:	10.9%
Youth Unemployment Rate (2008-2009)	68.0%

Infant/Child/Teen Health by Subject and Percent:

Age 6 and under on WIC (2008)	43.3%
Adequate prenatal care (2008)	69.7%
Birth rate per 1000 ages 13-17 (2008)	10.1%
Percent of live births to unmarried women (2008)	37.9%
TennCare enrollees under 21 (2008)	49.2%

Child/Teen Well Being:

State custody for children under 18 (2008)	10.5%
Children remaining in state custody (2008)	6.0%

Child Care Services/ Ages/Available Slots:

Van Buren County Head Start (ages 3-5)	40
Van Buren Public School System (ages 3-5)	45

Primary Indicators that Affect Children by Percent (2008):

Low birth weight babies:	10.6%
Infant mortality rate per 1000:	0%
Child deaths ages 1-14:	0.0%
Teen deaths:	0.0%
Substantiated child abuse per 1000	5.9 %
Children under 18 receiving TANF (2008)	4.3%
Children under 18 receiving food stamps (2008)	32.6%

Percentage of children participating in free/reduced lunch program (2009) : 53.3 %

Health Care Facilities:

Van Buren County Health Department
Cumberland Family Care

Medical Professionals:

Dr. Ty Webb
Laurie Shelton P.A.

Van Buren County Health Council Priorities:

Tobacco use/smoking
Teen pregnancy
Heart conditions
Diabetes
Obesity
Cancer
Dental health
Teen alcohol and drug abuse
Adult alcohol and drug abuse

Living Conditions in Van Buren County (2009 census):

Total housing units:	2601	100.0%
Units in Structure:		
1 unit, detached:	1711	68.8%
1 unit, attached:	20	.8%
2 units:	12	.5%
3 or 4 units:	23	.9%
5 to 9 units:	30	1.2%
10 to 19 units:	7	.3%
Mobile home:	639	26.0%
Boat, RV, van, etc.	11	.4%
 Total Occupied Housing Units	 2180	 100.0%
Lacking complete plumbing facilities:	52	2.4%
Lacking complete kitchen facilities:	36	1.7%
No telephone service:	157	7.2%
 Housing Units by Heating Fuel		
Utility gas	443	20.3%
Bottled, tank or LP gas	473	21.7%
Electricity	936	42.9%

Fuel oil, kerosene, etc.	45	2.1%
Wood	283	13.0%

Specified Owner Occupied Housing Units by Value (2000)

Less than \$50,000	437	42.1%
\$50,000-\$99,999	493	47.5%
\$100,000-\$149,999	55	6.4%
\$150,000-\$199,999	26	2.5%
\$200,000-299,999	8	0.8%
\$300,000-\$999,999	0	.0%
\$1,000,000 or more	8	.8%
Median:		\$55,600

Child Poverty Data by Living Arrangement:

All poverty households w/ related children (2005):	27.1%
Poverty level w/female head of house w/related children under 18 (2000):	45.0%
children under 5 (2000):	39.4%
Children under 18 receiving food stamps (2008):	32.6%
Grandparents as caregivers	132

Household/Family Income Data (2000):

	<u>Households</u>	<u>Families</u>
Less than \$10,000	15.0%	9.3%
\$10,000-\$14,999	11.4%	9.7%
\$15,000-\$24,999	17.4%	15.2%
\$25,000-\$34,999	15.5%	15.9%
\$35,000-\$49,999	17.9%	22.3%
\$50,000-\$74,999	17.6%	21.6%
\$75,000-\$99,999	2.1%	2.4%
\$100,000-\$199,000	1.6%	1.5%
\$200,000 or more	1.5%	2.1%

The gap between rural and urban economics in America is growing. While the last few years have been very difficult for the nation, rural areas have been hit even harder. Fewer and fewer jobs, with much of them lower paying as is, and rising cost of living, such as food, housing, utilities and gasoline continue to wreak havoc on rural areas of the country. Rural workers earn lower wages than their urban counterparts. The same holds true for females workers, who earn less than males, and many of the children live in single parent families with women as head of household. With so few jobs in Van Buren

County, workers have to travel farther to work, and the rising cost of gasoline is having a devastating impact on the family income. Of the poorest 200 counties in the US, 189 are rural (Poverty In America, 2006). People that work with children in rural areas must struggle with the same issues that urban providers do: abuse and neglect, education, health, crime, unemployed families, and all the while struggling with the complexities of rural situations: a shortage of funding and resources and isolation. With the dramatically rising cost of goods, food, gasoline and utilities, the situation is only getting worse for people who are already struggling. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate for Tennessee in December 2010 was 12.0% with Van Buren County coming in at 14.1% as of January, 2011.

Poverty has a terrible impact on children and families. It effects the economic security, health, education and general well being of children. Compared to children living above the poverty line, children living below the poverty line are more likely to have difficulty in school, become delinquent, are more likely to become teen parents, and as adults, earn less and be unemployed more often.

The statistics shown in this assessment point out that children living in households headed by a female are living in poverty more than children in 2 parent homes (Kids Count). The statistics indicate that too many children in Van Buren County are disadvantaged when it comes to income.

2010 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and DC

Family Size	Poverty Guideline
1	\$10,830
2	\$14,570
3	\$18,310
4	\$22,050
5	\$25,790
6	\$29,530
7	\$33,270
8	\$37,010

For families with more than 8 persons, add \$3,740 for each additional person.

IV. Issues of the Community as Defined By Community Leaders and Institutions in Van Buren County

Issues defined as a result of a community wide survey:

1. Lack of affordable health insurance
2. Youth drug abuse
3. Adult unemployment
4. Lack of affordable and accessible medical care
5. Youth unemployment
6. Underemployment
7. Youth alcohol abuse
8. Adult drug abuse
9. Shortage of affordable housing for families
10. Shortage of recreational programs

Other significant information regarding community statistics includes data from Van Buren County General Sessions court dockets and information. From June 4, 2010 through March 18, 2011, these cases were heard in the Van Buren County Court proceedings:

Falling under Group A offenses (as determined by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation) are offenses such as assault, homicide, sexual offenses, kidnapping and drug/narcotics arrests. Group B offenses include bad checks, DUI, domestic disputes, etc.

Group A offenses during this time in Van Buren County reflected the following: There were 50 drug related cases, an increase from 26 cases from the previous assessment. This pattern is reflected across the Cumberland Plateau. UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start prioritizes drug awareness education in our community by incorporating information in parent classes, networking with the Middle Tennessee Meth Task Force which brings a portable display to Head Start activities and events, and informational flyers and brochures provided to families. Within this time frame, there were 11 cases of sexual assaults, several being the sexual assault of children. This is an increase from 0 (zero) from the previous assessment. There was one (1) murder case.

Group B offenses include mostly cases of public drunkenness, DUI, worthless checks, speeding and domestic violence. During this time frame, there were 24 cases of domestic violence, up nearly double from the previous assessment which was 13 cases. There were 41 cases of DUI.

The Assessment clearly shows how dire the situation is within our community. With the loss of jobs and the cost of day to day living rising continually, families and individuals are battling many stressors, which contribute to these statistics. The UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start is continually striving to assist our families and the community and help with the concerns of people we serve. While we have had a Job Fair in the past, the employment situation has become

so dire that we were unable to get any participants. Many of the employment agencies that had previously participated in the Job Fair were no longer in existence. The few still open were unable to attend as there were little jobs available. We will continue to provide this service to the community annually, as circumstances improve and allow. We do send out job listings from resources outside of the county, but again, these jobs are miles away from where our families live, making travel difficult and expensive. Head Start continues to seek other assistance for families, such as the LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program), which helps people to pay high utility bills and the commodity program, which offers supplemental food to people in need. But while these programs do help people to survive, they are still temporary and are only available as funds are available; people need better paying jobs to plan for their future.

Addressing the health care situation, CoverKids (provides free health care for children under 18, with low co pay for medical services) did return to accepting applications in March 2010. UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start will continue to advocate for health and dental care not only for our families but the community as well. We did host a RAM (Rural Area Medical) clinic in 2009. This organization brings in volunteers of professionals in areas of primary medicine, vision and dentistry to provide free services to people in the community. Citizens received free eye screenings and glasses on site, and dental services such as cleanings, fillings and extractions. There is a tentative date in 2012 to host another RAM clinic (more information as it becomes available).

To address the drug and alcohol problems, we have a partnership with the Meth Task Force, which organizes classes and provides literature. The Meth Task Force also provides a portable, educational trailer which they bring to events so that people can become educated about the drug and alcohol problems plaguing our county.

Concerned about the lack of recreational programs, we work in conjunction with other organizations to provide low cost activities.

The shortage of affordable housing is a real problem locally, and the UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start keeps in contact with, and has a partnership with, the local housing authority who keeps us informed of housing openings that become available.

Very familiar with the illiteracy problem in our community, Head Start advocates for reading programs. We have 17 literacy programs at Head Start. Through these programs, we emphasize the importance of reading to the families and strive to get the whole family involved. We have a partnership with the local Adult Education to get parents enrolled to obtain their GED. UCHRA not only values the education of the children we serve, we also value it for the parents and community where they live, and include local state colleges and trade schools to

further the education of citizens so they can get better jobs. This also addresses the issue of underemployment, which is also a concern of the community.

Head Start continually strives to accommodate the needs of any culture, making us more accessible to our community. We introduce different cultures into the classroom with activities, stories and food in order to increase cultural awareness.

V. Community Resources

Besides the services offered through our grantee, the Upper Cumberland Resource Agency, there are some other resources which our parents can access:

TennCare: The number one provider of insurance to our area is TennCare, which is the State of Tennessee's Medicaid program. After cuts in previous years, TennCare began accepting applications again for low income and provides health coverage for 1.2 million people. The annual budget has skyrocketed from \$2.64 billion dollars in the start of the program to a proposed budget in 2011 of \$8.69 billion, which is 32% of the general fund. Gov. Haslam is calling for a \$120.5 million dollar cut to the program. Beginning on April 1, 2007 TennCare incorporated assistance from two managed care organizations, AmeriChoice and AmeriGroup, which serve approximately 1.2 million Tennesseans. TennCare enrollees in the entire region now have a choice between MCOs to manage their care rather than only one plan for almost all of Tennessee, according to the State of Tennessee Bureau of TennCare. Tennessee developed Cover Tennessee which has three components:

- AccessTennessee: health insurance plan for seriously ill adults who have been turned down by other insurance companies. This program is not currently offering premium assistance .
- CoverTN: guarantees affordable basic health coverage for eligible employees of small businesses.
- CoverRx: offers affordable medication to low income, uninsured Tennesseans. Does not cover doctor visits or hospitalizations.

Although TennCare has been revised, and will be revised again with President Obama's health care plan, there are still issues at hand regarding insurance for the unemployed and for people whose jobs do not include health insurance. Many people in Tennessee and in Van Buren County still have no health insurance coverage, and the state programs are still financially out of reach for many of these citizens. There is no plan at all for adult dental or vision care.

Tennessee Department of Children's Services: Provides case management and social services to children adjudicated dependant/neglect, unruly or placed on Juvenile Justice Probation. In 2008, 8200 children in Tennessee were remanded to State custody. Fourteen (14) of these children were from Van Buren County, up from ten in 2006. Eight (8) children remained in state custody. In the same year, there were 47 reports of child abuse and 7 substantiated both down from the previous year (46 reports, 2 substantiated). There were 64 cases referred to Juvenile Court, up from 55 in 2006.

Tennessee Department of Human Services: Provides services including Families First, Food Stamps, TennCare and Emergency Services. Although these services are provided as a resource to the families and community, Head Start has become a liaison for resources needed and used.

Cumberland Family Care Clinic: A newly opened facility that offers one private physician, Dr. Chris Rayala. Physician's Assistant, Cameron Heady, is there on Wednesdays. These providers accept TennCare and Medicaid.

Employment

Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development stated the unemployment rate for the state was 4.9% in January 2008. By December 2008, the rate had jumped to 10.6% and by December 2009, the unemployment skyrocketed to 14.1%. In November 2010, the rate dropped to 10.8%. January 2011 spiked to 14.1%, up from 12.0% in December 2010. Forming a partnership with the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and employment opportunities will be easily accessible in the form of postings located at the Head Start Center and through requested information, all readily available for the parents/guardians and the community. Unfortunately, as you can see from the statistics, there is little opportunity for jobs in this area. This causes difficulty as any jobs that become available are out of county, so people must commute some distance to work. Transportation costs are still an issue as fuel costs continue to escalate, making travel difficult.

Southeastern Tennessee Regional Correctional Facility: Employs 321 people with 25% being from Van Buren County. Salaries range from approximately \$1,777 to almost \$4,000 monthly. Men mostly occupy the position of correctional officers with salaries averaging almost \$2,300 monthly.

Accument Global Technology: Employs 155 people, which is down 31.11%

(job loss) since the last assessment. These are mostly machine operating jobs. Hourly pay rates are approximately \$14.12 per hour. Approximately 80% of employees are from Van Buren County.

Taft Youth Development Center: Employs 241 people with both hourly and salary positions. These pay rates range from approximately \$1500 per month to \$5500 per month. Men and women equally occupy jobs here. Positions include administration, cooks, janitors and guards. A little over 11% (27) of the employees are from Van Buren County.

Fall Creek Falls State Resort Park: Employs 194 people with hourly and salary positions. Pay rates range from hourly positions such as housekeeping, food service and maintenance at \$7 per hour to salaried staff and management positions up to \$20 per hour. Approximately one-third of these are only seasonal or 6-9 month positions and one-half of totals are held by Van Buren County residents.

Van Buren County School System: Employs 194 people. These include 78 certified personnel with teaching degrees. Of the 194, 134 are regularly scheduled employees with the balance being substitute cooks, teachers, bus drivers, janitors and custodians. 80%+ of the staff is Van Buren County residents.

Generations of Spencer: Employs 90 people with approximately 75% of staff from Van Buren County. Hourly rates of pay are \$7.25 to \$8 per hour. Others are comparable rates of LPN and RN staff. Most positions are hourly.

VI. Other Information

According to Annie E. Casey Foundation's Kids Count National Data Book 2010, Tennessee ranked 46 of all states in regard to overall child well being. In 2009, 24% of children in Tennessee lived in poverty; 20% (up 2% from 2008) in the United States overall lived in poverty. Children being raised in single parent households rose 6% over the state, ranking at 41(41%, up 3% from 2008). In Tennessee, as of 2009, 58% of children lived below 250% of the Federal poverty level (up 2% over 2008). In Tennessee, of children under 6, 28% live in poverty, up 2% from 2008; 23% of those under 6 in the United States lived in poverty (also up 2% from 2008). These statistics are shocking. Nationally, Tennessee ranks in the bottom 10 of five of the top indicators for child well being. For Van Buren County, the situation is even worse: 30.9% of families live in

poverty. The Van Buren County Head Start has a definite impact on the nutritional needs of the children by providing a well balanced breakfast, lunch and snack daily. Van Buren County Head Start also offers a free food bin and commodities (provided by our grantee, UCHRA) information provided on a continual basis to the families and the community. In the last year, UCHRA opened a local office on the grounds at Head Start, making access to their programs easier for not only Head Start families but also for the community that lives in a very isolated area. Our program maintains the Lending House which accepts donations of clothing and household items. The Lending House is open to the entire community and is free.

There were 47 cases of child abuse reported in 2008 in Van Buren County. Van Buren County Head Start monitors children for signs of abuse. We are obligated by law to report suspected cases of abuse. We actively participate in child abuse awareness and education by holding seminars and community projects.

VII. Program Decision Making

Philosophy

Five Objectives of Head Start defined in the Program Performance Standards are:

Objective 1: Enhance children's growth and development.

Objective 2: Strengthen families as the primary nurturers of their children.

Objective 3: Provide children with educational, health, and nutritional services.

Objective 4: Link children and their families to needed community services.

Objective 5: Ensure well-managed programs that involve parents in decision making.

The UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start program is based on the premise that all children share certain needs. Our approach is based on the philosophy that:

1. We believe that children benefit from an individualized program which increases growth and development by offering a planned educational curriculum focusing on health/nutrition, art, science, math, communication/social skills, fine/gross motor skills, numeric/literacy recognition and self help skills.
2. We believe that parents, staff and communities must function as a team in fulfilling the potential of every child by: 1.) encouraging parents to participate in the program as volunteers and to help make decisions 2.) forming partnerships with the community and the family to provide services. This partnership will allow us to enrich the lives of eligible families, children with disabilities, children with mental and physical health problems and families who need to be involved in a literacy program.

There are other factors that enable a developmental approach, which helps children achieve social competencies. The performance standards program, the child's entire family and the community must be involved. The program should maximize the strengths and unique experience of each child. The family, which is perceived as the principal influence in the child's development, is invited and encouraged to be a direct participant in the program.

Recruitment has become more efficient for our center by distributing new door hangers, flyers, newspaper articles, monthly newsletter (enabling enrolled families to dispense program information), program informational sign, online advertising, word of mouth and the knowledge of current and former clients to the benefit our program is to their children and families. Head Start is beneficial not only to the children's educational needs but to the stability of the family as well. Head Start provides important resources and numerous services to families in servicing through the selection criteria process the families with the highest risk factors. All factors are considered when determining eligibility of a child. The selection process begins with our families. Our program takes into consideration the number of people in the home, the amount of income, the need for child care and any other concerns the family might have in which Head Start would be beneficial in providing services. We look at other facets of the child and family: is this a foster child or are they homeless? Is the family receiving public assistance? Once we take a closer look at the family, we then observe the needs of the child. Eligibility of the children enrolled is determined by the number of parents in the home, whether the child has a handicap, income status at the time of enrollment, age of the child and other current needs the families may have.

Reinstating a five day operational schedule instead of the current six hour, four day weekly schedule would be beneficial to families for numerous reasons: many of these families work, want to work, go to school, but have no other child care available for their children. Unfortunately, at this time, there is a severe lack of funding that does not allow for a full week long program. The community also has

a lack of child care for children under the age of 3: there are no regulated child care providers in Van Buren County for children aged 0-3. Two year old children cannot come into the Program unless they will be three before October 1. This leaves many families with infants without childcare so they can pursue work or school.

VIII. Summary

The statistics, demographics, and needs defined are endless with regard to the necessity of UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start and its services. Head Start services encompass many areas of need in the family and community. From health services to educational and family resources, Van Buren County Head Start is one of the few actual obtainable resources for people in the community. Van Buren Co. Head Start has and continues to participate in many partnerships contributing to maintaining Health, Employment, Education and assists in providing services for maintaining a stable family environment. This is a support system not only for the children that attend but their families and the community as a whole. With true, established partnerships revolving around Health Care, Educational, Nutritional as well as the Social and Emotional aspects, Head Start can serve as a foundation and building blocks for continuous child and family growth, success and well-being.

We take pride in the fact that we are dedicated and devoted to the maximum outcome of the families and community. The Van Buren County Head Start continually:

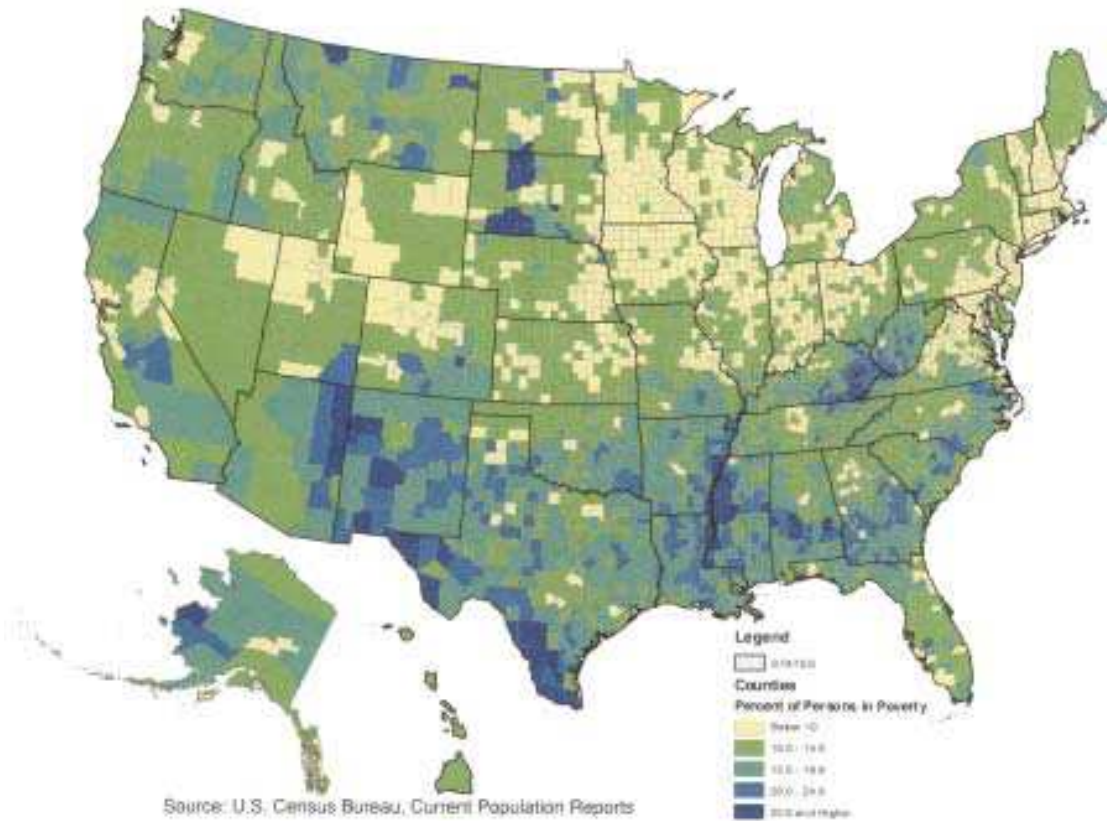
- revises our community resources
- seeks and creates new resources
- performs additional home visits, above the mandate
- develops fun and educational classroom activities (letters of the week, word boxes)
- provides 17 additional literacy programs (BSK program, home activities, book swap, first book program, journals, book fairs)
- encourages Male Involvement, which is very important in the life of a child. Children that have no positive male influence are more apt to incur more life problems such as delinquency, suicide, drug and alcohol abuse, and a high drop out rate.
- strives to achieve a stable and productive lifestyle by offering additional trainings on concerns within the community (domestic violence, stress management, parenting)
- offers transportation (medical, dental or events involving the children and parents which require travel)
- maintains Lending House (provides free clothing, household items to anyone that needs assistance in the community)

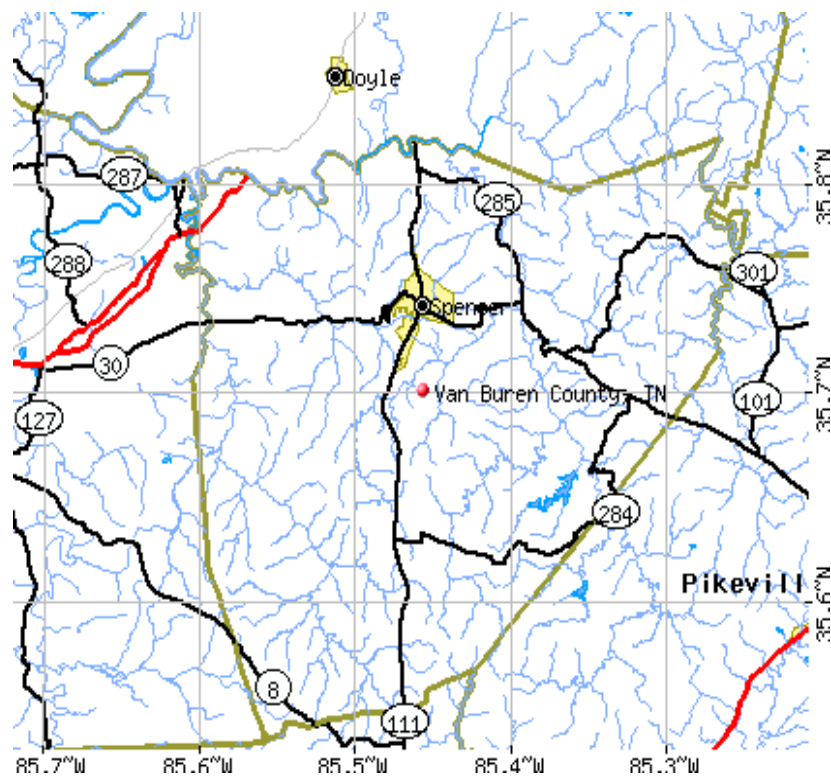
- help to prepare mothers for school/job interviews and increase self esteem by incorporating a Mother's Day event.
- cultivates additional areas of health consisting of onsite health services (dental, vision, hearing and speech screenings)
- assists families and others in the community with job training and procurement through providing information and contacts with educational opportunities and job services
- develops additional committees providing information (i.e. Pandemic Flu, Community Advisory Board which preserves family life and enhances the welfare of children)
- requires staff to frequently attend trainings to enhance their job performance which enables our program to offer better services
- seek innovative ways to become more efficient. We have implemented a website for parents to get information concerning the program while reducing printing costs. There is a section for the Board of Directors to access information and documents. We now have a calling system which allows us to instantly phone parents and staff about activities or alerts such as closing for inclement weather. We have even added a Facebook page for instant updates in our program. All of these measures not only help to cut costs and allow us to divert finances to more beneficial aspects of the program, but we can get information to parents and guardians quickly.

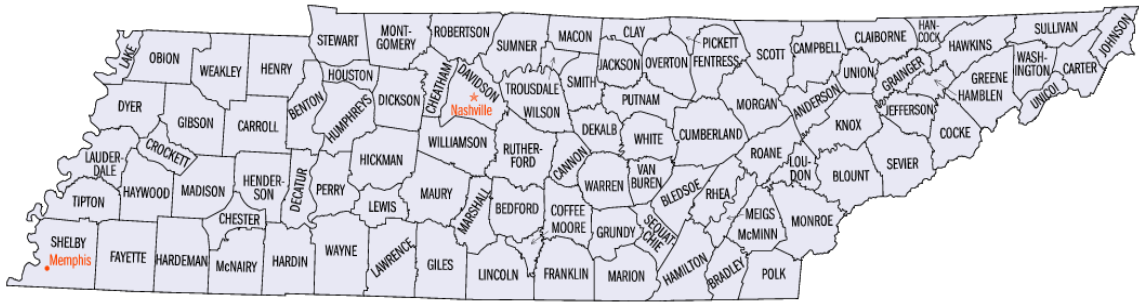
UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start strives to provide a healthy, safe environment and a support system which will strengthen families and to produce successful children by providing resources to resolve issues and concerns. The Van Buren County Head Start has an impact on the families and community, but the most important aspect of our program is to work diligently toward bestowing our children with a caring, positive start to life.

IX. Maps, Charts, Appendices as Required

Poverty by County, 2003










































KIDS COUNT overall rank (Number) – 2010

Data Provided by: National KIDS COUNT Program

Scale: 1 - 50

United States	N.A.	
Alabama	48	
Alaska	35	
Arizona	40	
Arkansas	47	
California	20	
Colorado	22	
Connecticut	4	
Delaware	29	
Florida	36	
Georgia	42	
Hawaii	18	
Idaho	26	
Illinois	24	
Indiana	31	
Iowa	6	

Kansas	13	
Kentucky	41	
Louisiana	49	
Maine	12	
Maryland	25	
Massachusetts	5	
Michigan	27	
Minnesota	2	
Mississippi	50	
Missouri	33	
Montana	30	
Nebraska	11	
Nevada	39	
New Hampshire	1	
New Jersey	9	
New Mexico	43	
New York	17	
North Carolina	37	
North Dakota	7	
Ohio	28	

Oklahoma	44	
Oregon	19	
Pennsylvania	23	
Rhode Island	15	
South Carolina	45	
South Dakota	21	
Tennessee	46	
Texas	34	
Utah	3	
Vermont	8	
Virginia	16	
Washington	14	
West Virginia	38	
Wisconsin	10	
Wyoming	32	
District of Columbia	N.A.	
Puerto Rico	N.A.	
Virgin Islands	N.A.	

Children in poverty by age group (Percent) – 2009

Data Provided by: National KIDS COUNT Program

Scale: 10% - 34%

United States		
0 to 5	23%	
6 to 17	18%	
less than 18	20%	


Scale: 10% - 34%

Alabama		
0 to 5	28%	■
6 to 17	23%	■
less than 18	25%	■


Scale: 10% - 34%

Alaska		
0 to 5	16%	■
6 to 17	11%	■
less than 18	13%	■


Scale: 10% - 34%

Arizona		
0 to 5	26%	■
6 to 17	22%	■
less than 18	23%	■


Scale: 10% - 34%

Arkansas		
0 to 5	31%	■
6 to 17	25%	■
less than 18	27%	■

Scale: 10% - 34%

California		
0 to 5	22%	■
6 to 17	19%	■
less than 18	20%	■

Scale: 10% - 34%

Colorado		
0 to 5	21%	■
6 to 17	15%	■
less than 18	17%	■

Scale: 10% - 34%

Connecticut		
0 to 5	15%	
6 to 17	11%	
less than 18	12%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Delaware		
0 to 5	19%	
6 to 17	15%	
less than 18	16%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Florida		
0 to 5	24%	
6 to 17	20%	
less than 18	21%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Georgia		
0 to 5	26%	
6 to 17	21%	
less than 18	22%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Hawaii		
0 to 5	14%	
6 to 17	14%	
less than 18	14%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Idaho		
0 to 5	21%	
6 to 17	16%	
less than 18	18%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Illinois		
0 to 5	21%	
6 to 17	18%	
less than 18	19%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Indiana		
0 to 5	25%	
6 to 17	18%	
less than 18	20%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Iowa		
0 to 5	20%	
6 to 17	14%	
less than 18	16%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Kansas		
0 to 5	22%	
6 to 17	15%	
less than 18	18%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Kentucky		
0 to 5	30%	
6 to 17	24%	
less than 18	26%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Louisiana		
0 to 5	29%	
6 to 17	22%	
less than 18	24%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Maine		
0 to 5	20%	
6 to 17	16%	
less than 18	17%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Maryland		
0 to 5	14%	
6 to 17	10%	
less than 18	12%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Massachusetts		
0 to 5	14%	
6 to 17	12%	
less than 18	13%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Michigan		
0 to 5	27%	
6 to 17	21%	
less than 18	23%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Minnesota		
0 to 5	16%	
6 to 17	13%	
less than 18	14%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Mississippi		
0 to 5	34%	
6 to 17	30%	
less than 18	31%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Missouri		
0 to 5	25%	
6 to 17	19%	
less than 18	21%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Montana		
0 to 5	28%	
6 to 17	18%	
less than 18	21%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Nebraska		
0 to 5	18%	
6 to 17	14%	
less than 18	15%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Nevada		
0 to 5	20%	
6 to 17	16%	
less than 18	18%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

New Hampshire		
0 to 5	13%	
6 to 17	10%	
less than 18	11%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

New Jersey		
0 to 5	15%	
6 to 17	12%	
less than 18	13%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

New Mexico		
0 to 5	28%	
6 to 17	24%	
less than 18	25%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

New York		
0 to 5	22%	
6 to 17	19%	
less than 18	20%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

North Carolina		
0 to 5	26%	
6 to 17	21%	
less than 18	23%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

North Dakota		
0 to 5	16%	
6 to 17	12%	
less than 18	13%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Ohio		
0 to 5	26%	
6 to 17	20%	
less than 18	22%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Oklahoma		
0 to 5	24%	
6 to 17	21%	
less than 18	22%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Oregon		
0 to 5	22%	
6 to 17	18%	
less than 18	19%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Pennsylvania		
0 to 5	20%	
6 to 17	16%	
less than 18	17%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Rhode Island		
0 to 5	16%	
6 to 17	17%	
less than 18	17%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

South Carolina		
0 to 5	29%	
6 to 17	22%	
less than 18	24%	





Scale: 10% - 34%

South Dakota		
0 to 5	21%	
6 to 17	17%	
less than 18	19%	





Scale: 10% - 34%

Tennessee		
0 to 5	28%	
6 to 17	22%	
less than 18	24%	





Scale: 10% - 34%

Texas		
0 to 5	28%	
6 to 17	23%	
less than 18	24%	





Scale: 10% - 34%

Utah		
0 to 5	13%	
6 to 17	12%	
less than 18	12%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Vermont		
0 to 5	19%	
6 to 17	11%	
less than 18	13%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Virginia		
0 to 5	16%	
6 to 17	13%	
less than 18	14%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Washington		
0 to 5	18%	
6 to 17	15%	
less than 18	16%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

West Virginia		
0 to 5	27%	
6 to 17	22%	
less than 18	24%	


Scale: 10% - 34%

Wisconsin		
0 to 5	19%	
6 to 17	15%	
less than 18	17%	


Scale: 10% - 34%

Wyoming		
0 to 5	13%	
6 to 17	12%	
less than 18	13%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Puerto Rico		
0 to 5	60%	
6 to 17	56%	
less than 18	57%	

Scale: 10% - 34%

Virgin Islands		
0 to 5	N.A.	
6 to 17	N.A.	
less than 18	N.A.	

Definitions: The share of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The federal poverty definition consists of a series of thresholds based on family size and composition. In calendar year 2009, a family of two adults and two children fell in the “poverty” category if their annual income fell below \$21,756. Poverty status is not determined for people in military barracks, institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children). The data are based on income received in the 12 months prior to the survey. [More...](#)

Data Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2009 American Community Survey. The data for this measure come from the 2000 and 2001 Supplementary Survey and the 2002 through 2009 American Community Survey (ACS). The 2000 through 2004 ACS surveyed approximately 700,000 households monthly during each calendar year. In general but particularly for these years, use caution when interpreting estimates for less populous states or indicators representing small sub-populations, where the sample size is relatively small. Beginning in January 2005, the U.S. Census Bureau expanded the ACS sample to 3 million households (full implementation), and in January 2006 the ACS included group quarters. The ACS, fully implemented, is designed to provide annually updated social, economic, and housing data for states and communities. (Such local-area data have traditionally been collected once every ten years in the long form of the decennial census.) [More...](#)

Footnotes: Updated August 2010.
















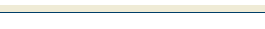




S - Estimates suppressed when the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points. N.A. – Data not available. A 90 percent confidence interval for each estimate can be found at [Children in poverty by age group](#).

Children in extreme poverty (Percent) – 2009

Data Provided by: National KIDS COUNT Program

Scale: 3% - 14%

United States	9%	
Alabama	11%	
Alaska	5%	
Arizona	11%	
Arkansas	12%	
California	8%	
Colorado	8%	
Connecticut	6%	
Delaware	7%	
Florida	9%	
Georgia	10%	
Hawaii	5%	
Idaho	7%	
Illinois	9%	
Indiana	9%	
Iowa	6%	

Kansas	7%	
Kentucky	12%	
Louisiana	11%	
Maine	7%	
Maryland	5%	
Massachusetts	6%	
Michigan	11%	
Minnesota	6%	
Mississippi	14%	
Missouri	10%	
Montana	11%	
Nebraska	6%	
Nevada	8%	
New Hampshire	4%	
New Jersey	6%	
New Mexico	10%	
New York	10%	
North Carolina	10%	
North Dakota	6%	
Ohio	10%	

Oklahoma	10%	
Oregon	8%	
Pennsylvania	8%	
Rhode Island	8%	
South Carolina	12%	
South Dakota	8%	
Tennessee	11%	
Texas	11%	
Utah	5%	
Vermont	6%	
Virginia	7%	
Washington	7%	
West Virginia	11%	
Wisconsin	7%	
Wyoming	3%	
Puerto Rico	36%	
Virgin Islands	N.A.	

Definitions: The share of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes less than 50 percent of the federal poverty level, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The federal poverty definition consists of a series of thresholds based on family size and composition. In 2009, a 50% poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$10,878. Poverty status is not determined for people in military barracks, institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children). [More...](#)

Data Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2009 American

Community Survey. The data for this measure come from the 2000 and 2001 Supplementary Survey and the 2002 through 2009 American Community Survey (ACS). The 2000 through 2004 ACS surveyed approximately 700,000 households monthly during each calendar year. In general but particularly for these years, use caution when interpreting estimates for less populous states or indicators representing small sub-populations, where the sample size is relatively small. Beginning in January 2005, the U.S. Census Bureau expanded the ACS sample to 3 million households (full implementation), and in January 2006 the ACS included group quarters. The ACS, fully implemented, is designed to provide annually updated social, economic, and housing data for states and communities. (Such local-area data have traditionally been collected once every ten years in the long form of the decennial census.)

[More...](#)

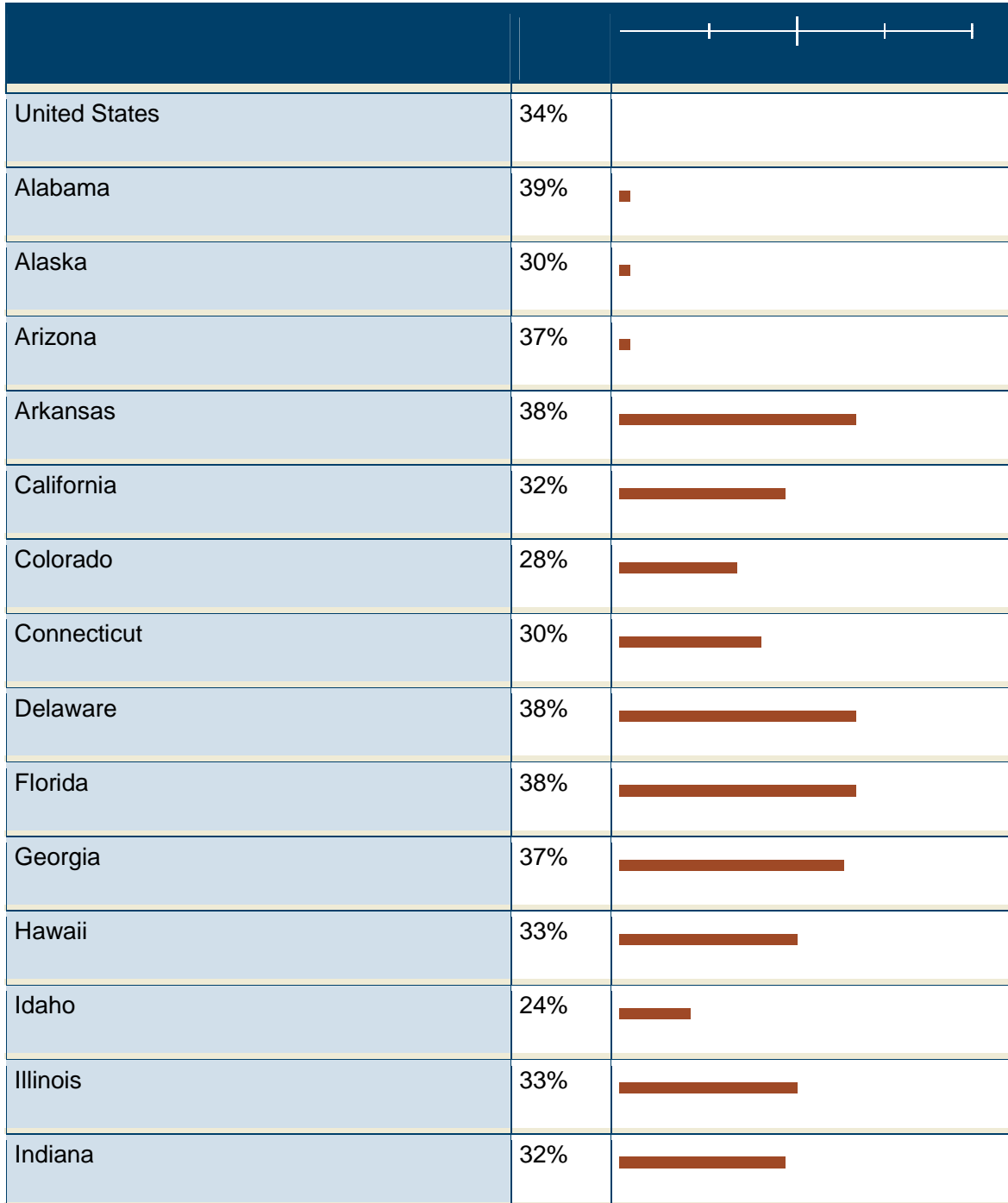
Footnotes: Updated October 2010.





















S - Estimates suppressed when the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points. N.A. – Data not available. A 90 percent confidence interval for each estimate can be found at [Children in extreme poverty](#).
















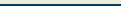
Children in single-parent families (Percent) – 2009

Data Provided by: National KIDS COUNT Program

Scale: 18% - 48%



Iowa	29%	
Kansas	30%	
Kentucky	34%	
Louisiana	42%	
Maine	33%	
Maryland	34%	
Massachusetts	29%	
Michigan	34%	
Minnesota	26%	
Mississippi	48%	
Missouri	35%	
Montana	31%	
Nebraska	26%	
Nevada	35%	
New Hampshire	25%	
New Jersey	30%	
New Mexico	41%	
New York	35%	
North Carolina	36%	
North Dakota	25%	

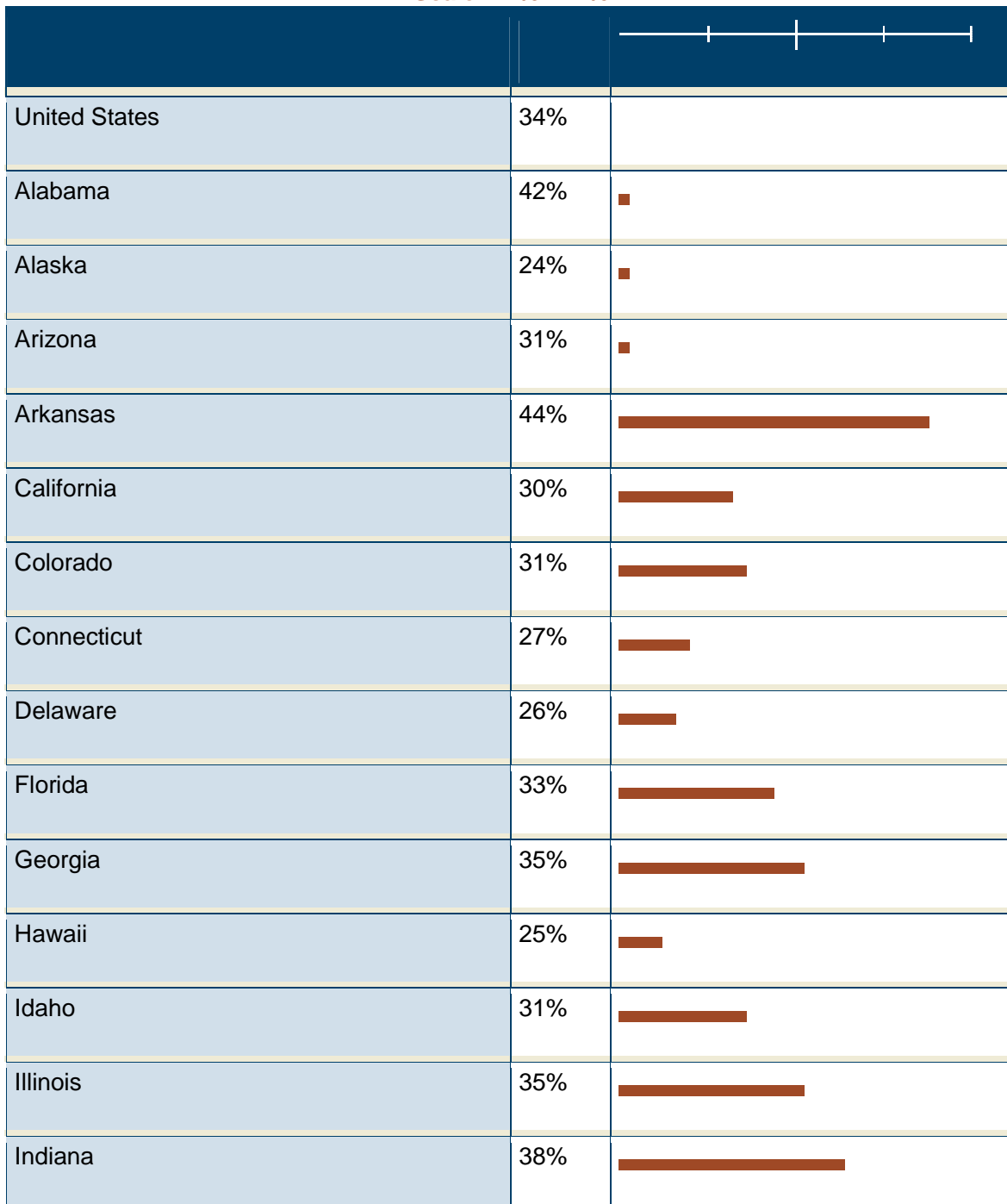
Ohio	35%	
Oklahoma	35%	
Oregon	31%	
Pennsylvania	32%	
Rhode Island	36%	
South Carolina	40%	
South Dakota	28%	
Tennessee	36%	
Texas	35%	
Utah	18%	
Vermont	30%	
Virginia	31%	
Washington	30%	
West Virginia	32%	
Wisconsin	30%	
Wyoming	26%	
Puerto Rico	54%	
Virgin Islands	N.A.	



















Definitions: Children under age 18 who live with their own single parent either in a family or subfamily. In this definition, single-parent families may include cohabiting couples and do not include children living with married stepparents. Children who live in group quarters (for example, institutions, dormitories, or group homes) are not included in this calculation. [More...](#)














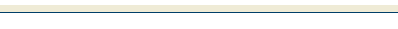


Single-parent families with related children that are below poverty (Percent) – 2009

Data Provided by: National KIDS COUNT Program

Scale: 22% - 47%



Iowa	33%	
Kansas	33%	
Kentucky	45%	
Louisiana	40%	
Maine	32%	
Maryland	22%	
Massachusetts	29%	
Michigan	39%	
Minnesota	29%	
Mississippi	47%	
Missouri	38%	
Montana	S	
Nebraska	34%	
Nevada	26%	
New Hampshire	26%	
New Jersey	27%	
New Mexico	36%	
New York	33%	
North Carolina	38%	
North Dakota	S	

Ohio	40%	
Oklahoma	38%	
Oregon	35%	
Pennsylvania	33%	
Rhode Island	31%	
South Carolina	39%	
South Dakota	34%	
Tennessee	41%	
Texas	37%	
Utah	26%	
Vermont	30%	
Virginia	28%	
Washington	29%	
West Virginia	46%	
Wisconsin	34%	
Wyoming	24%	
Puerto Rico	68%	
Virgin Islands	N.A.	

Definitions: The share of single-parent families with related children under age 18 that have incomes below the federal poverty level, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The federal poverty definition consists of a series of thresholds based on family size and composition. In 2000, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was

\$17,463. Poverty status is not determined for people in military barracks, institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children). [More...](#)

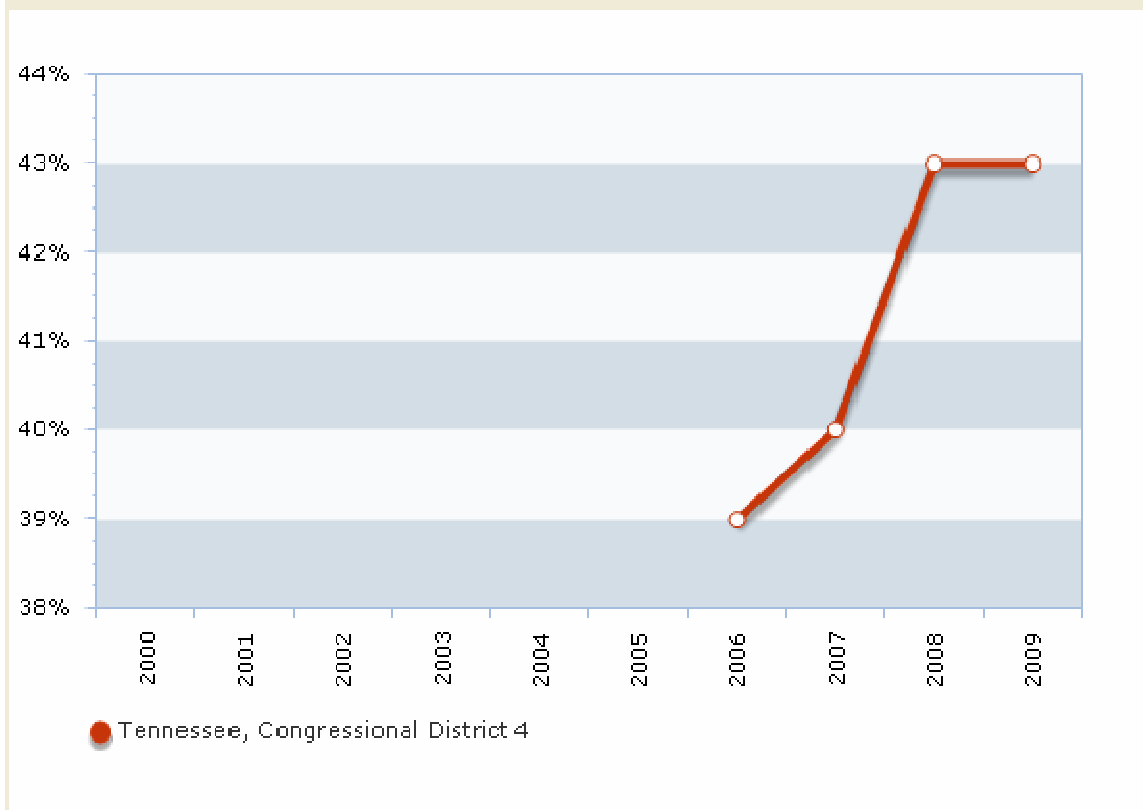
Data Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2009 American Community Survey. The data for this measure come from the 2000 and 2001 Supplementary Survey and the 2002 through 2009 American Community Survey (ACS). The 2000 through 2004 ACS surveyed approximately 700,000 households monthly during each calendar year. In general but particularly for these years, use caution when interpreting estimates for less populous states or indicators representing small sub-populations, where the sample size is relatively small. Beginning in January 2005, the U.S. Census Bureau expanded the ACS sample to 3 million households (full implementation), and in January 2006 the ACS included group quarters. The ACS, fully implemented, is designed to provide annually updated social, economic, and housing data for states and communities. (Such local-area data have traditionally been collected once every ten years in the long form of the decennial census.) [More...](#)

Footnotes: Updated September 2010.

S - Estimates suppressed when the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points. N.A. – Data not available. A 90 percent confidence interval for each estimate can be found at [Single-parent families with related children that are below poverty](#).

Single-parent families with related children that are below poverty (Percent) – 2000 to 2009

Data Provided by: National KIDS COUNT Program



	Tennessee, Congressional District 4
2005	S
2006	39%
2007	40%
2008	43%
2009	43%

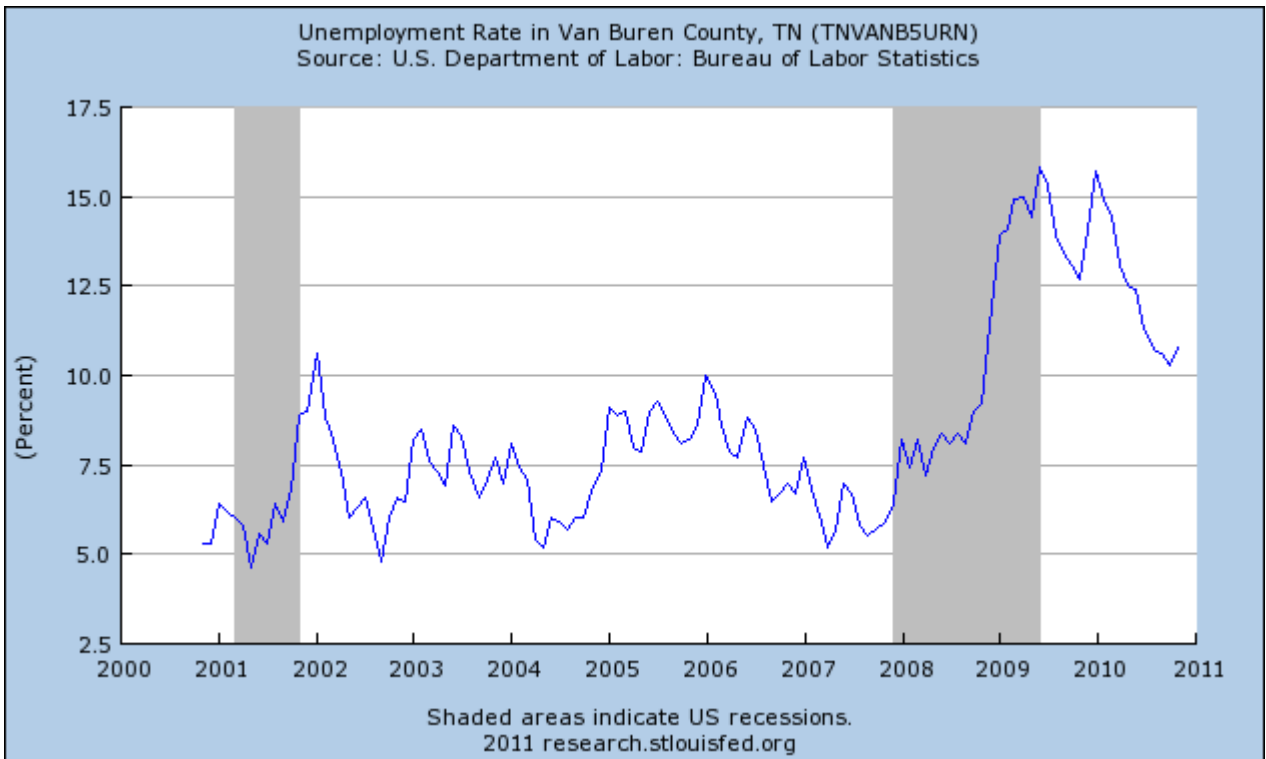
Definitions: The share of single-parent families with related children under age 18 that have incomes below the federal poverty level, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The federal poverty definition consists of a series of thresholds based on family size and composition. In 2000, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$17,463. Poverty status is not determined for people in military barracks, institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children). [More...](#)

Data Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2009 American Community Survey. The data for this measure come from the 2000 and 2001 Supplementary Survey and the 2002 through 2009 American Community Survey (ACS). The 2000 through 2004

ACS surveyed approximately 700,000 households monthly during each calendar year. In general but particularly for these years, use caution when interpreting estimates for less populous states or indicators representing small sub-populations, where the sample size is relatively small. Beginning in January 2005, the U.S. Census Bureau expanded the ACS sample to 3 million households (full implementation), and in January 2006 the ACS included group quarters. The ACS, fully implemented, is designed to provide annually updated social, economic, and housing data for states and communities. (Such local-area data have traditionally been collected once every ten years in the long form of the decennial census.) [More...](#)

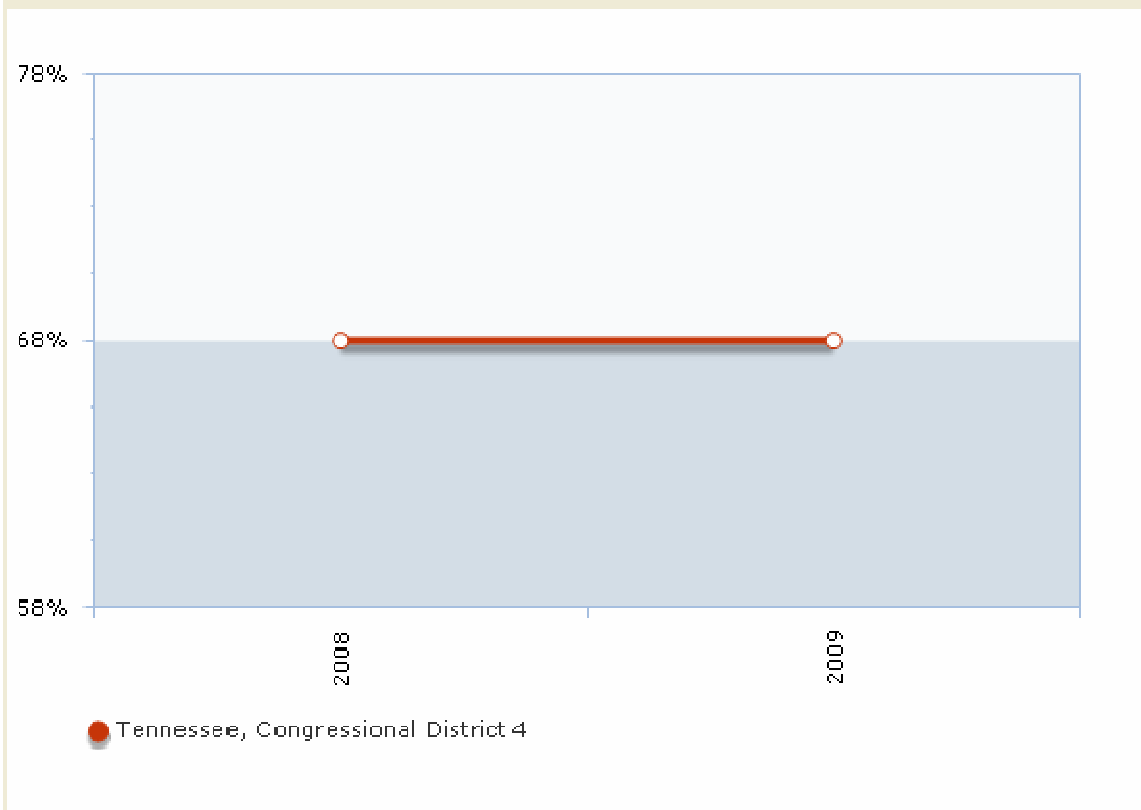
Footnotes: Updated September 2010.

S - Estimates suppressed when the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points. N.A. – Data not available. A 90 percent confidence interval for each estimate can be found at [Single-parent families with related children that are below poverty](#).



Unemployed teens age 16 to 19 (Percent) – 2008 to 2009

Data Provided by: National KIDS COUNT Program



	Tennessee, Congressional District 4
2008	68%
2009	68%

Definitions: Population ages 16 to 19 who are unemployed or not in the labor force. The civilian labor force includes persons who are employed and those who are unemployed but looking for work. [More...](#)

Data Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 and 2009 American Community Survey.

Footnotes: Updated October 2010.

S - Estimates suppressed when the confidence interval around the percentage is greater than or equal to 10 percentage points. N.A. – Data not available. A 90 percent confidence interval for each estimate can be found at

[Unemployed teens age 16 to 19.](#)

Additional Sources

Accument Global Technology
Cumberland Family Care Clinic
Fall Creek Falls State Resort Park
Mountain View Newspaper
Generations of Spencer
Southeastern Tennessee Regional Correctional Facility
Taft Youth Development Center
The Tennessean
USDA Data Poverty Rate
Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
Tennessee Department of Children's Services
Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Tennessee Department of Human Services
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