

# HPV Data Profile:

## Memphis and Shelby County, Tennessee



HPV is a very common virus linked to six types of cancer. These cancers can affect anyone. Four out of five people in the United States (U.S.) will get HPV during their lifetime. Every year, more than 40,000 people are found to have cancer caused by HPV in the U.S.

**The good news is on-time HPV vaccination can prevent 90% of HPV cancer cases.**

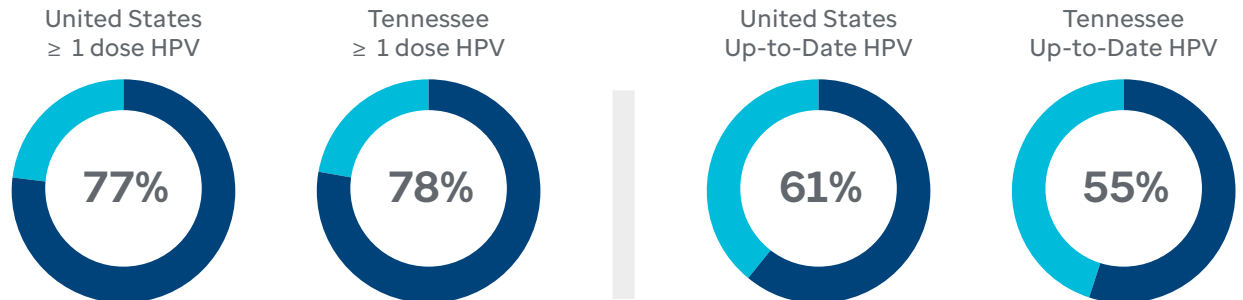
On-time HPV vaccination protects best. HPV vaccination can be given starting at age 9. It works best when given before age 13. It is routinely recommended for everyone ages 9-26. Two doses are needed before age 15, and three doses are needed after age 15, and for people with weakened immune systems, three doses are needed regardless of age. People ages 27-45 are strongly encouraged to talk with a health care provider to see if HPV vaccination is right for them.

## HPV Vaccination Coverage

### *National Comparisons using NIS-Teen Data*

Based on National Immunization Survey (NIS)-Teen data, Tennessee has increased HPV vaccination coverage of  $\geq 1$  dose by 22% and up-to-date (UTD) by 19% since 2016. However, coverage remains lower than the U.S. average and below the Healthy People 2030 goal of 80% UTD. Tennessee currently ranks 39th in the U.S. for HPV vaccination as of 2023 data.

## HPV Vaccination Rates for 13-17-year-olds (2023)



*NIS-Teen data, 2023*

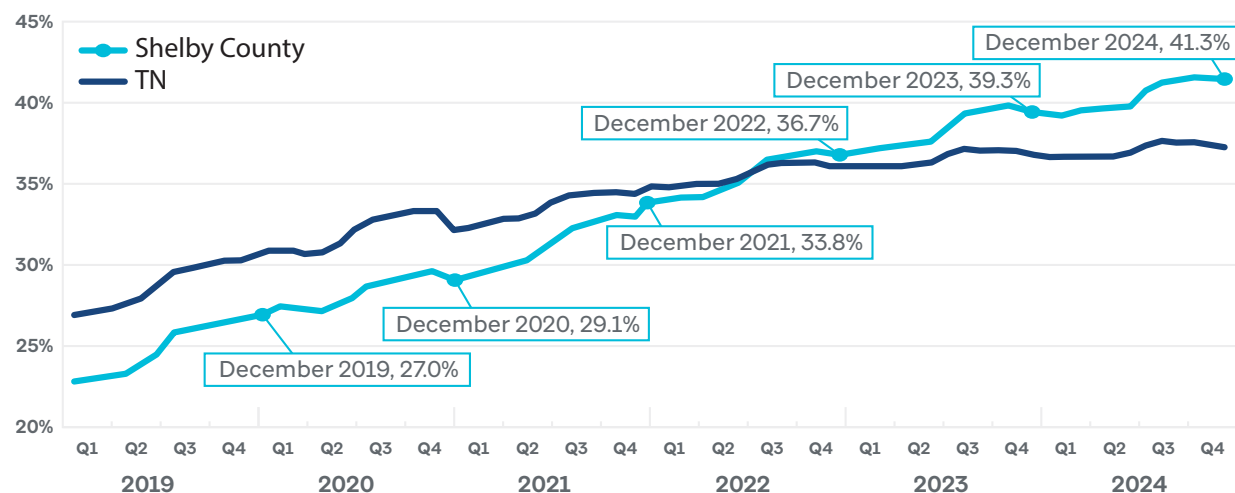
Compared to meningitis and whooping cough (Tdap) vaccines routinely recommended for adolescents, HPV vaccination coverage lags. Tennessee vaccination rates among 13-17-year-olds were 86% for meningitis vaccine and 93% for Tdap vaccine in 2023.

The most reliable, single data source for HPV vaccination in Shelby County is from the Tennessee Department of Health through the Tennessee Immunization Information System (TennIIS). TennIIS data estimates for HPV vaccination differ from NIS-Teen data estimates due to different methods for adding data, different age groups, and also different denominators for who is represented in the data source.

In 2024, according to TennIIS, HPV UTD vaccination coverage for 11- to 17-year-olds in Shelby County was low at 42%. However, between 2019 and 2024, HPV vaccination coverage increased from 28% to 42%, an increase of 14%. In comparison, Tennessee saw an increase of 8% during this same time period, jumping from 30% to 38%. In summer 2022, Shelby County's gains in HPV vaccination surpassed the Tennessee state average. Continued growth is visible throughout the time period. These more pronounced upward trends in Shelby County highlight the impact of local efforts to protect individuals from HPV cancers through timely vaccination.

## Tennessee and Shelby County HPV Vaccine Coverage 2019 to 2024

Data from TennIIS through the Tennessee Department of Health, for Teens aged 11-17



TennIIS data, 2024

## HPV Cancers in Tennessee

National Comparisons using U.S. Cancer Statistics Data

Incidence rates of HPV cancers overall and oropharyngeal cancer are higher in Tennessee than the U.S. averages. Incidence rates of cervical cancer are slightly lower in Tennessee compared to the U.S. averages.

## Rate of New HPV Cancers by Cancer Type, Male and Female, 2021

	New Cases		
	All HPV Cancers	Oropharyngeal Cancer	Cervical Cancer
United States Overall	12.5	5.2	7.1
Tennessee Overall	13.2	5.7	6.6
United States	Male: 11.2, Female: 13.9	Male: 9.1, Female: 1.6	Tennessee ranks in the <b>Top 30 Nationally</b> in cervical cancer incidence rates.
Tennessee	Male: 11.9, Female: 14.5	Male: 10.0, Female: 1.9	

U.S. Cancer Statistics, 2021; Rate per 100,000 people

## Tennessee and Shelby County Comparisons using Tennessee Cancer Registry Data

Overall HPV cancer incidence in Shelby County is slightly lower than the Tennessee average, but higher than the U.S. overall. According to the most recently available data from the Tennessee Cancer Registry of the Tennessee Department of Health, incidence rates of all HPV cancers and oropharyngeal cancer were slightly lower in Shelby County compared to the state average. However, the incidence of cervical cancer was higher in Shelby County than in Tennessee overall. The Shelby County incidence rate of cervical cancer from 2011-2020 would place Shelby County equivalent to the rates of the top 10 states in the U.S. during a similar time period. HPV vaccination, regular cervical cancer screening as recommended, and timely follow-up care and treatment are key to reducing new cases of cervical cancer.

### Rate of New HPV Cancers by Cancer Type, Male and Female, Shelby County, Tennessee, 2011-2020

	All HPV Cancers	Oropharyngeal Cancer	Cervical Cancer
Tennessee	13.5	5.1	7.8
Shelby County	12.9	4.4	9.1

*Tennessee Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, Tennessee Department of Health, 2024; Rate per 100,000*

## About the Memphis and Shelby County HPV Cancer Prevention Roundtable

The Memphis and Shelby County HPV Cancer Prevention Roundtable is a collaboration of health care, community, and advocacy partners with a mission to measurably increase HPV vaccination coverage in Memphis and Shelby County, Tennessee. Support for the Memphis Roundtable is provided by the St. Jude HPV Cancer Prevention Program.

The Memphis and Shelby County HPV Cancer Prevention Roundtable is actively contributing to these efforts by focusing on priorities related to membership and engagement, communication, provider education, and data, all aimed at increasing vaccination rates and reducing HPV cancer cases in the community. We invite you to join us in these efforts by becoming a member.

#### Sources:

Pingali C, Yankey D, Chen M, et al. National Vaccination Coverage Among Adolescents Aged 13-17 Years – National Immunization Survey-Teen, United States, 2023. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2024;73:708-714. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7333a1>

Tennessee Immunization Coverage Rate Dashboard. Tennessee Department of Health; <https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/immunization-program/ip/immunization-fact-sheet/coverage-rate-dashboard.html>, released in February 2025.

HPV-associated Cancer Rates in Tennessee, 2011-2020. Tennessee Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, Tennessee Department of Health, data provided in September 2024.

U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Visualizations Tool. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Cancer Institute; <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/dataviz>, released in June 2024.

Ziegenhorn W. Exploring Determinants of HPV Vaccination in the Memphis MSA. Unpublished student research study. St. Jude Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences; 2025.

Learn more at [stjude.org/memphis-roundtable](https://stjude.org/memphis-roundtable)

Questions? Email [PreventHPV@stjude.org](mailto:PreventHPV@stjude.org)

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The Memphis and Shelby County HPV Cancer Prevention Roundtable invites you to become a member.