

# Tennessee Baby Diaper Facts

Compiled by the National Diaper Bank Network

Diapers are as essential to a baby's healthy development as a mother's love. Keeping infants and toddlers clean, dry, and healthy is key to building a solid foundation for all children to reach their full potential. But many babies don't have the clean diapers they need.

## Tennessee's Children Need Diapers

### Tennessee

**244,118**

Total population under  
age 3

**16%**

of children under  
age 18 are infants  
or toddlers

**30%**

Live in families  
earning less than  
100% of FPL

**23%**

Live in families  
earning  
100% to 200%  
of FPL

### United States

**11,957,307**

Total population under  
age 3

**16%**

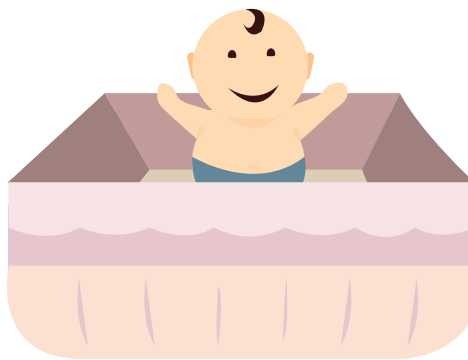
of children under  
age 18 are  
infants or  
toddlers

**20%**

Live in families  
earning less than  
100% of FPL

**21%**

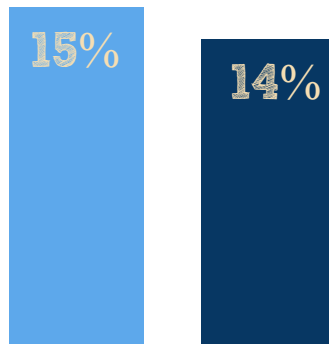
Live in families  
earning  
100% to 200%  
of FPL



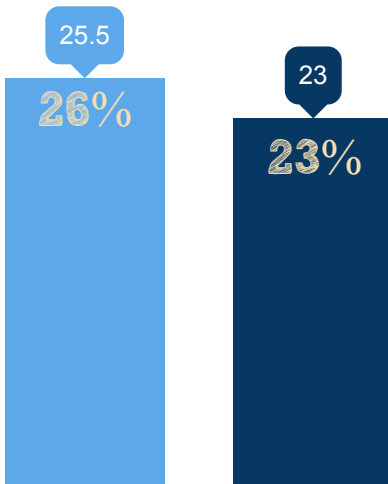
# Tennessee's Babies Need Strong Foundations

Children in low-income families are at greatest risk of suffering the effects of diaper need because many families can't afford diapers. Current public support programs help some, but young children have additional needs necessary to build a strong foundation for healthy growth and to reach their fullest potential.

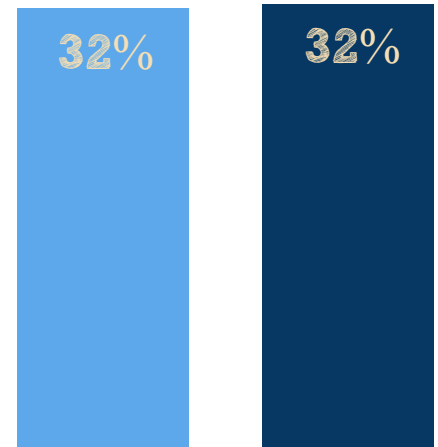
Percentage of SNAP Recipients Under Age 5



Percentage of WIC Recipients that are Infants



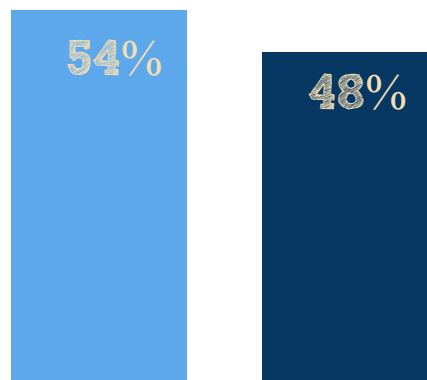
Percentage of TANF Families with at least one child under age 3



Percentage of Births Covered by Medicaid

Tennessee United States

Tennessee United States



Tennessee United States

# Diapers Are Essential to the Well-Being of Tennessee's Families



60%

Tennessee

63%

United States

Mothers in the workforce with infants

Most working parents rely on child care. Most child care facilities require parents to provide diapers for their child. Without child care, parents can't work or attend school.

## Cost of Infant Care as a Percentage of Income

Tennessee

11%

Two-Parent Households

United States

12%

41%

Single-Parent Households

42%

## Early Education Supports Help Tennessee's Children

Early Head Start provides child and family development services for infants, toddlers, and pregnant women. Center-based EHS programs provide diapers for infants and toddlers. Other federally funded child care assistance programs don't. For families enrolled in the latter, not having access to diapers removes a key building block for strong families. Without diapers a parent can't go to work, and not working disqualifies a parent from vital child care resources.

Of the **149,986** infants, toddlers, and mothers who participate in Early Head Start, **2,307** are from Tennessee



Children Under Age 3 Receive Federal Child Care Support



36%

28%

Tennessee United States

# TANF & Diapers in Tennessee

An average monthly supply of diapers costs approximately \$80. The only federal assistance program that can be used for diapers is TANF, but TANF has to cover many other expenses, including heat, electric and water bills, rent, clothing, transportation, and other basic needs. Little if any money is available to purchase enough diapers to keep a baby clean, dry, and healthy.

## Max Benefit for Family of 1 Parent & 2 Children

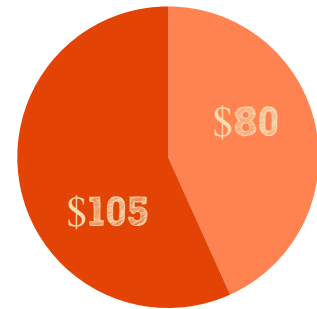
**\$185**

**\$457**

■ Tennessee ■ US Average

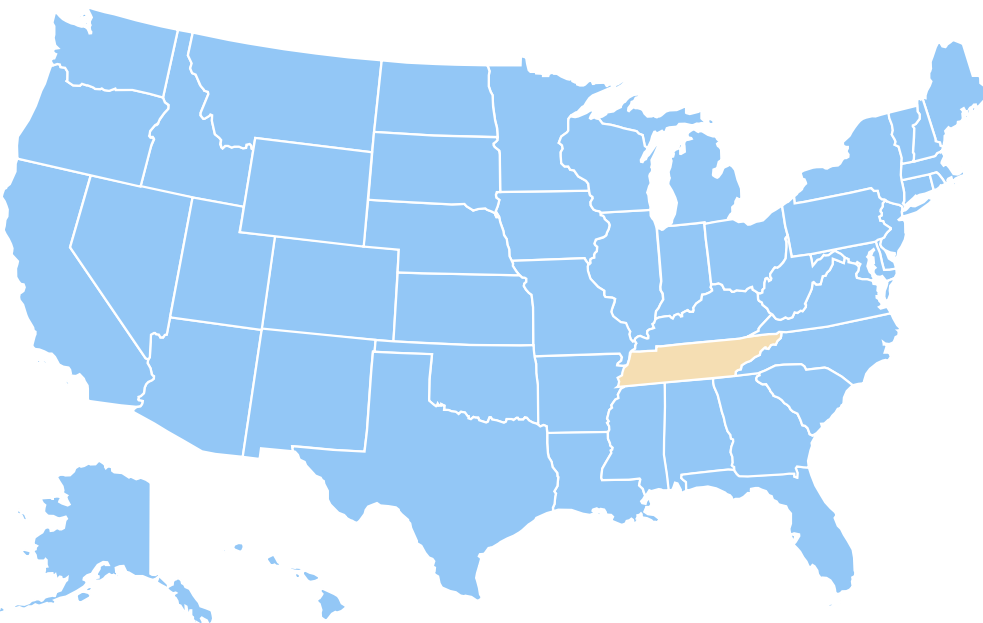
In Tennessee, there is a 12-month exemption from the work-related activity requirement after the birth of a child for single parent households receiving TANF payments.

## Diaper Costs Compared to Benefit



■ Diapers (43.24%) ■ Everything else (56.76%)

## Tennessee Diaper Banks Help Fill the Gap



Tennessee has

**5**

NDBN-member diaper banks distributing

**495,500**  
diapers annually!

The National Diaper Bank Network's goal is to ensure that every child in the United States has enough diapers to remain clean, dry, and healthy. Diaper banks across the country are working to eliminate diaper need by providing families with diapers.

Nationally there are **300+** NDBN-member diaper banks  
distributing over  
**52 million** diapers annually!

All diaper banks require community support and donations  
of diapers and dollars to allow them to serve their  
communities.



Learn how you can help at  
[NationalDiaperBankNetwork.org](http://NationalDiaperBankNetwork.org)



National  
Diaper Bank  
Network

155 East Street, Suite 101 • New Haven, CT • 06511 • 203.821.7348

