

Snapshot of health system climate vulnerability and performance in...

Tennessee

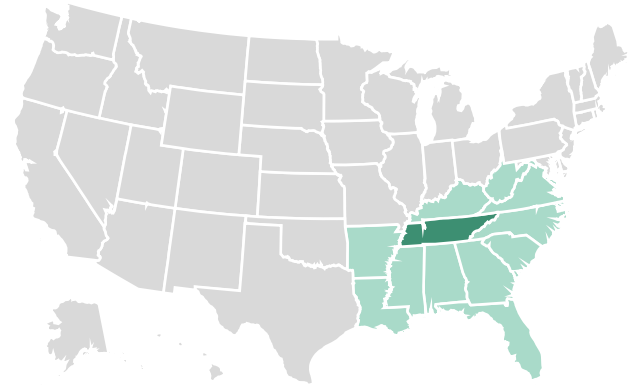


The
Commonwealth
Fund

Tennessee ranks #28 overall.

	National Rank	Rank Among Southeastern States*
Average Annual Air Quality Index	11 of 51	3 of 12
Health Risk from Extreme Heat	28	7
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards	31	6
Health Care Facility Flood Risk	32	4
State Energy Efficiency Policy	28	3
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact	19	5
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions	8	3
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions	38	3

Tennessee ranks #4 in the Southeast region.



*Note: Southeast region includes AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV.

How Tennessee Compares to All States

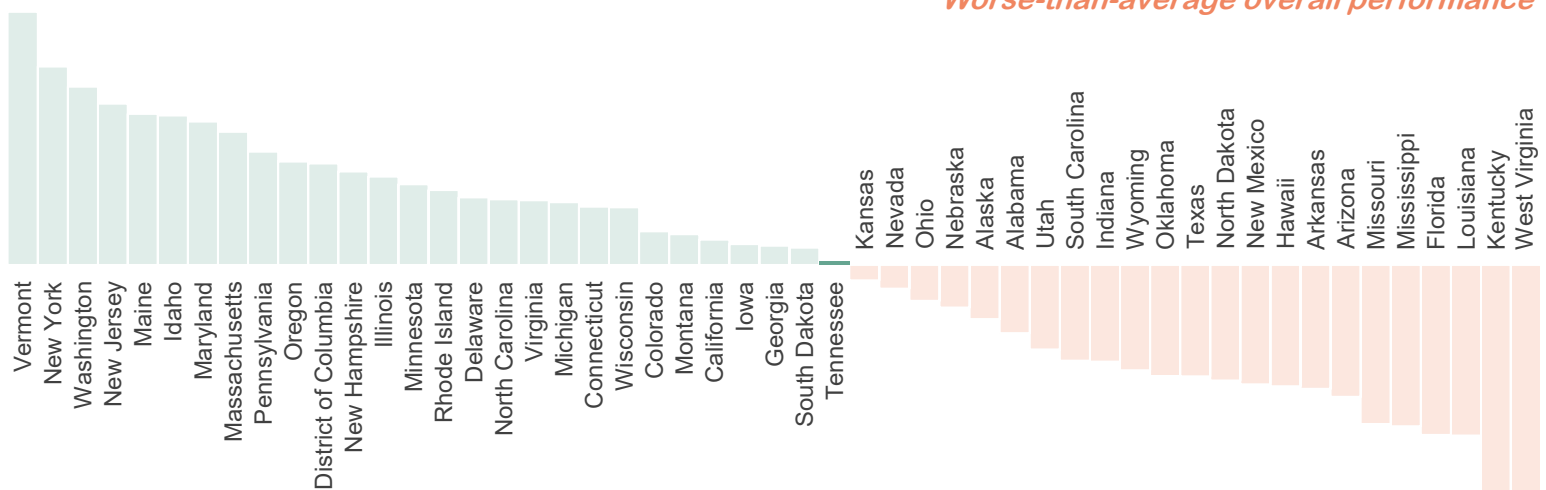


Table 1. Indicators of State Health System Climate Vulnerability and Performance

Indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	State rank
Average Annual Air Quality Index Scale of 0–500, with values below 100 generally considered good/moderate air quality	2022	38	42	11
Health Risk from Extreme Heat CDC/ATSDR ^a Heat and Health Index (0–1), with 1 indicating greatest risk	2024	0.52	0.51	28
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards FEMA ^b National Risk Index (0–100), with 100 indicating greatest risk	2023	61	54	31
Health Care Facility Flood Risk Percent of inpatient facility beds in high-hazard flood zones	2023	2.1%	2.5%	32
State Energy Efficiency Policy ACEEE ^c Energy Efficiency Scorecard (0–50), with 50 indicating best performance	2022	11	17	28
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact Health impact per unit of electricity generated, ^d where lower values indicate less health impact from emissions	2021	0.352	0.464	19
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent (kg CO ₂ e) ^e	2020	1,040	1,362	8
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions Transportation-related GHG emissions from health care facility employee commuting (kg CO ₂ e per employee)	2022	2,411	2,169	38



Tennessee ranked best on:

Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

The Tennessee health sector produces fewer greenhouse gas emissions per capita than in other states. This indicator helps gauge the sector's role in driving climate change at the state level.



Tennessee ranked worst on:

Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions

On average, health care facilities in Tennessee have higher annual commuting emissions per employee than in other states. Health care facilities in the state are more often located in lower-density areas with limited access to public transit or pedestrian infrastructure, requiring longer trips.

Notes: (–) Indicates missing data. (a) Centers for Disease Control/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR). (b) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (c) American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). (d) Measured in Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) per gigawatt-hour (GWh) of electricity generated; DALYs are a common measure of the burden of disease, representing years of healthy life lost. (e) Kilograms of CO₂e stands for “carbon dioxide equivalent,” a standard measure of the warming effect of greenhouse gases.