

Cherokee County Quick Facts 2019

Demographics

- Cherokee County's percent of population growth (3.4%) is slightly lower than Region 4 (3.8%). In comparison, the state (14.1 %) and the U.S. (6.0%) had significantly higher population growth rates.
- The majority of Cherokee County's population (25.5%) is between the ages of 0 - 17 followed by the ages of 25 - 44 (24.7%).

Socioeconomics

- Cherokee County's per capita income (\$20,961) is lower than Region 4 (\$24,028), Texas (\$28,583), and the United States (\$31,039).
- Cherokee County's percent of single-parent households (34%) is higher than the region (33%) and the state (33%).
- Cherokee County has a lower number of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/Food Stamp recipients per a population of 1,000 (143.9) compared to Region 4 (135.5) and the state (124.7).
- Cherokee County's percent of children under the age of 18 living in poverty (29.0%) is higher than the region (24.6%) and the state (22.9%).

Education

- Cherokee County's dropout rate (7.3%) is the highest in Region 4. It is higher than the state (5.9%) and the region (2.9%).
- Cherokee County's rate of homeless students per 1,000 students (4.63) is lower than that of the state (13.37) and the region (10.22).
- Cherokee County's rate of high school to college enrollment per 100 students (48.3) is lower than that of the state (48.9) and the region (51.3).

Family Violence

- Cherokee County has the 9th highest rate of confirmed victims of child abuse/neglect per 1,000 children (15.2) in the region which is significantly higher than that of the state (9.0) and the region (13.3).
- In 2018, Texas had 205,215 reported victims of family violence and 200,062 reported offenders. These numbers are significantly lower than last year with 212,529 reported victims and 207,422 reported offenders. Family violence offenses include assault, murder, robbery, rape, and kidnapping/abduction.
- Cherokee County reported 545 incidents of family violence in 2016.

Alcohol & Drug-Related Crimes

- Cherokee County has a lower rate of DUI fatalities per 100,000 people (1.1) compared to Region 4 (7.6) and the state (3.9).
- Cherokee County has a lower rate of alcohol and drug-related incarcerations per 100,000 people (146.4) than that of the region (228.1). It is, however, higher than the state (108.6).



Texas School Survey- Youth Regional Consumption

- *Marijuana*: Students in Regions 4&5 have lower rates than the state for current, school year use, and lifetime use for all grades (Grades 7-12).
- *Prescription Drugs*: Students in Regions 4&5 have higher numbers for prescription drug use. Regions 4&5 have the highest reported current (30-day) use, school year use, and lifetime use for all grades and for the 12th grade in the state.
- *Prescription Drugs*: Students in Regions 4&5 have higher reported rates than the state for the two opioid categories ('Codeine Cough Syrup' and 'OxyContin, Percodan, Percocet, Oxycodone, Vicodin, Lortab, Lorcet, Hydrocodone').
- *Alcohol*: Students in Regions 4&5 report substantially higher usage of alcohol in every category compared to the state.

Mental Health

- Cherokee County's rate of mental health providers available per 10,000 people (7.4) is lower than that of the state (9.6) and higher than Region 4 (6.4).
- Of the percentage of the Medicare population that report depression, Cherokee County's (19.9%) rate is higher than the state (17.9%) and the region (19.1%).
- Cherokee County's crude suicide rate (16.3) is higher than the state (12.4) and lower than the region (17.8).

ETCADA Substance Abuse Screenings

- Cherokee County's rate of ETCADA substance abuse screening calls per 100,000 people (167.3) is lower than that of the region (221.7).
- Cherokee County's substance abuse screening callers reported the top three addictive substances they were seeking help with are methamphetamine, marijuana, and alcohol.

Health Factors

- Cherokee County ranks 213 out of the 242 Texas counties that were ranked for social determinants of health, which include health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and physical environment.
- Cherokee County has a Chronic Disease Combined Average Rate (521.4) which is higher than the state (416.6) and Region 4 (516.3).
- Cherokee County has one of the highest adult smoking rates (18%) in the entire state compared to Texas (14.3%).
- Cherokee County reports a lower rate of prescriptions per 100 people (132) than both the state (133) and the region (199).
- Cherokee County's percent of teen pregnancies (12.3%) is significantly higher than that of the state (8.1%) and Region 4 (10.3%).

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