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		k, Including Hispanic n/Pacific Islander	Publishe	d July 2024
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING 7TH		Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children living in poverty 16.2%		17th	18.6%	23rd
Severe housing cost burden 8.3%		29th	9.2%	37th
Child care cost burden 19.6%		1st	19.6%	4th
EDUCATION 94TH		Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
3rd to 8th grade reading proficiency 19.5%		94th	18.3%	94th
3rd to 8th grade math profi	92nd	14.2%	94th	
Youth graduating high scho	90th	86.9%	88th	
HEALTH 92ND		Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Kindergarten full immuniza	ation series 94.6%	40th	96.6%	23rd
Children who lack health insurance 6.0%		80th	6.7%	66th
Babies born at a low birth weight 10.1%		83th	9.4%	70th
FAMILY & COMMUNITY 32ND		Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Youth Crime Rate Per 1,000	17.5	29th	13.7	26th
Children who are chronicall	81st	29.1%	84th	
Victims of abuse or neglect	9th	6.4	10th	

Fayette County			Tennessee	County				
	Number	Rate	Rate	Rank	Year			
Demographics								
Total population (state value is number not rate)	44,175	NA	7,126,489	37	2023			
Population under 18 years of age (percent of total population)	7,925	17.9%	22.0%	87	2023			
Economic Well-Being								
Median Household Income	\$84,328	NA	\$65,231.00	4	2022			
Youth unemployment	60	12.8%	9.8%	64	2023			
Per capita personal income (state value is dollars not rate)	\$73,510	NA	\$58,292	3	2022			
Median home sales price (state value is dollars not rate)	\$372,682	NA	\$325,000	14	2022			
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	88	1.1%	1.5%	20	FY23			
Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)	1,707	21.5%	22.4%	29	FY23			
Fair market rent (percent of monthly median household income)	\$1,365	19.4%	21.4%	5	FY23			
WIC participation (percent of children under 5)	502	23.8%	29.0%	12	FY23			
Education								
School age special education services (age 3 to 21)	432	5.3%	8.0%	1	2022-23			
TEIS participation (percent of children age 0 to 4)	81	3.8%	4.4%	33	2022-23			
Economically disadvantaged students	1,232	41.0%	30.2%	82	2022-23			
School suspensions	191	6.4%	4.6%	73	2022-23			
Graduating seniors scoring 21 or better on the ACT at least once	22	13.7%	35.4%	94	2022-23			
Young adult college enrollment (percent of graduating seniors)	NA	43.7%	54.3%	83	2022			
Health								
Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	*	*	7.1	*	2022			
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	28	6.3%	9.1%	6	2021			
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	4,284	48.1%	53.1%	14	Dec-23			
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	7,583	17.2%	23.0%	5	Dec-23			
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	181	42.8%	54.5%	4	2022			
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	305	8.7%	6.1%	94	2021			
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	0	0.00	6.2	1	2021			
Neonatal death (per 1,000 live births)	0	0.00	3.2	1	2021			
Child deaths (per 100,000 children age 1 to 14)	0	0.00	20.7	1	2021			
Teen violent deaths (per 100,000 youth age 15 to 19)	*	*	69.7	*	2021			
Adequate prenatal care	304	68.8%	73.9%	80	2021			
Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children)	3	37.9	76.1	29	2022-23			
Children who are food insecure	1,530	19.7%	17.9%	54	2022			
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 youth age 15 to 17)	30	22.5	16.1	50	2022			
Confirmed elevated blood lead level (per 1,000 screened)	8	7.3%	4.7%	76	2019-23			
Breastfeeding initiation at birth	357	84.6%	83.3%	16	2022			
Individuals scoring for severe depression (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	33	19.9	44.8	3	2020-23			
Individuals reporting frequent suicidal ideation (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	29	17.5	43.6	2	2020-23			
Individuals scoring positive for PTSD (all ages) PTSD Screeen (per 100K)	17	10.2	22.1	3	2020-23			
Individals scoring at risk for psychotic-like experiences PQ-B (per 100K)	19	11.4	27.7	2	2020-23			

Family & Community

Reported child abuse cases	208	2.6%	4.2%	4	FY23
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	18	2.1	2.5	31	FY23
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	28	3.2	5.1	20	FY23
Juvenile court referrals	110	1.5%	1.8%	39	2022
Child restriant use in crashes (age 0 -12)	NA	79.3%	NA	88	2023
Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12)	1,403	26.2%	29.8%	36	FY23

Fayette

Overall

At 82nd, Fayette County is in the bottom half of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Economic Well-Being.

Strengths

Fayette's strongest indicator is child care cost burden, where the county ranks 1st. The county also performs well in the number of children who were victims of abuse or neglect at 9th.

Opportunities

The county's biggest challenge is the percent of students who scored "On Track" or "Mastered" in TCAP English Language Arts, where it ranks 94th. There are opportunities for improvement in the percent of students who scored "On Track" or "Mastered" in TCAP Math as well.

Policy/Practice/Program Options to Improve Outcomes

Many of these policies have multiple models for delivery, including public-private partnership, non-profit partners and community engagement.

Expanding pre-K access, allowing early assessment of reading skills coupled with appropriate interventions where needed, can improve reading proficiency in later grades. Pre-k access along with STEM opportunities in elementary and middle schools can improve math proficiency. Many local public libraries offer creative programming and contests to encourage children and youth to read more. The Tennessee State Library and Archives supports local libraries with training and materials for summer reading programs. The Tennessee STEM Innovation Network offers resources and support to help schools implement STEM programs locally. In addition, the Tennessee Department of Education supports summer learning camps for all students but especially to support those who have fallen behind.

Expanding pre-K access and increasing STEM opportunities in elementary and middle schools can help improve 3rd to 8th grade math proficiency. The Tennessee STEM Innovation Network offers resources and support to help schools implement STEM programs locally. Also, the Tennessee Department of Education supports summer learning camps for all students but especially to support those who have fallen behind.

Indicator Definitions and History

Children living in poverty - Percent of children living in a household below the federal poverty line. In 2022, the federal poverty level for a family of 3 was \$23,030. Source: US Census Bureau Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (2022).

Severe housing cost burden - Percent of households (including rented, owned and mortgaged) spending 50% or more of their income on housing. Source: American Community Survey, 5-year estimates (2018-2022). Table B25140.

Child care cost burden - Child care cost burden reflects the average estimate market-rate price for care for full-time care of an infant and 2+ year old but less than school age child as a percentage of the county's estimated median household income. The market-rate is calculated by taking an average of the median market-rate fee for licensed providers in the county. When available, this includes Child Care Centers, Group Homes, and Family Homes. In instances where the county does not have all three, the providers existing in the county averaged. In instances where there are no licensed providers providing care to that age group in the county, the statewide average of Tier 2 market-rates are used. This average rate for infant care and 2+ care is then combined to get the total cost of care. Source: Determining Child Care Market Rates in the State of Tennessee (FY2022-23).

3rd to 8th grade reading proficiency - Percent of third- to eighth-grade students who scored "on-track" or "mastered" on the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) reading and language test.

Source: Tennessee Department of Education (2023-24).

3rd to 8th grade math proficiency - Percent of third- to eighth-grade students who scored "ontrack" or "mastered" on the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment program (TCAP) math test. Source: Tennessee Department of Education (2023-24).

Youth graduating high school on time - Percent of ninth-grade cohort that graduates in four years. Source: Tennessee Department of Education (2022-23).

Kindergarten Immunization - Percent of public-school kindergarten students fully immunized for all required vaccine series at the time of survey completion. Required series includes: Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis vaccine (DTaP), Measles, Mumps, Rubella vaccine (MMR), Hepatitis A Virus vaccine (HAV)2 Hepatitis B Virus vaccine (HBV), Poliomyelitis vaccine (IPV or OPV), and Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine/credible history of disease. Source: Tennessee Department of Health Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Immunization Program. Kindergarten Immunization Compliance Assessment. (2022-23).

Children who lack health insurance - Percent of children who lack health insurance. Source: US Census Bureau Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (2021).

Babies born at a low birth weight - Percent of live births where baby weighs less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds), averaged over three years. Source: Tennessee Department of Health (2020-22).

Youth Crime Rate Per 1,000- Rate of reported crimes alleged to have been committed by someone under 18 to county population of youth 12 to 17. Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (2022). Accessed May 28, 2024.

Children who are chronically absent - Children who are absent 10 percent or more of school days for any reason, including excused/unexcused absences and out-of-school suspensions. Source: Tennessee Department of Education (2022-23).

Victims of abuse or neglect per 1,000 - Child victims of abuse or neglect. In cases with multiple children each child is counted individually. The total is the number of children associated with substantiated cases of severe abuse and of determinations of "Services Court Ordered" or "Services Needed" in cases of non-severe abuse or neglect. The rate is per 1,000 children. Source: Tennessee Department of Children's Services (FY2022-23).