# 49th GILES 

Population Under 18: 20.5\%



| ECONOMIG WELLBENG 30TH | Rank | Previous Percent/Rate | Previous Rank |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Children living in poverty 22.3\% 2022 | 58th | 19.9\% | 32nd |
| Severe housing cost burden 8.4\% 2018-2022 | 31st | 9.0\% | $31 s t$ |
| Child care cost burden 21.4\% FY2022-23 | 6th | 48.2\% | 95th |
| EDUCATION 52ND | Rank | Previous Percent/Rate | Previous Rank |

3rd to 8th grade reading proficiency $33.2 \% \quad$ 53rd $32.5 \% \quad$ 58thRankPreviousPreviousKindergarten full immunization series $\mathbf{9 2 . 8 \%}$69th94.3\%57th
2022-23

| Children who lack health insurance 4.5\% | 29th | 6.3\% | 52nd |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Babies born at a low birth weight 10.5\% | 86th | 11.3\% | 91st |

Previous
Previous

Youth Crime Rate Per 1,000 32.3
2022
Children who are chronically absent $18.1 \%$
2022-23
Victims of abuse or neglect per 1,000 15.6
FY2022-23

52nd
35.2

65th
45th
18.5\%

57th
63rd
11.2

37th


## Health

| Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births) | $*$ | $*$ | 7.1 | $*$ | 2022 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy | 59 | $19.6 \%$ | $9.1 \%$ | 77 | 2021 |
| Children on TennCare (Medicaid) | 3,967 | $52.9 \%$ | $53.1 \%$ | 24 | Dec-23 |
| Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees | 7,209 | $23.5 \%$ | $23.0 \%$ | 30 | Dec-23 |
| Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid) | 213 | $62.6 \%$ | $54.5 \%$ | 42 | 2022 |
| Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured | 191 | $5.1 \%$ | $6.1 \%$ | 23 | 2021 |
| Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births) | $*$ | $*$ | 6.2 | $*$ | 2021 |
| Neonatal death (per 1,000 live births) | $*$ | $*$ | 3.2 | $*$ | 2021 |
| Child deaths (per 100,000 children age 1 to 14) | $*$ | $*$ | 20.7 | $*$ | 2021 |
| Teen violent deaths (per 100,000 youth age 15 to 19) | $*$ | $*$ | 69.7 | $*$ | 2021 |
| Adequate prenatal care | 224 | $75.2 \%$ | $73.9 \%$ | 64 | 2021 |
| Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children) | 0 | 0.0 | 76.1 | 59 | $2022-23$ |
| Children who are food insecure | 1,070 | $17.3 \%$ | $17.9 \%$ | 39 | 2022 |
| Teens with STDs (per 1,000 youth age 15 to 17) | 12 | 10.5 | 16.1 | 28 | 2022 |
| Confirmed elevated blood lead level (per 1,000 screened) | 5 | $5.3 \%$ | $4.7 \%$ | 53 | $2019-23$ |
| Breastfeeding initiation at birth | 261 | $77.0 \%$ | $83.3 \%$ | 62 | 2022 |
| Individuals scoring for severe depression (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K) | 41 | 37.7 | 44.8 | 44 | $2020-23$ |
| Individuals reporting frequent suicidal ideation (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K) | 31 | 28.5 | 43.6 | 20 | $2020-23$ |
| Individuals scoring positive for PTSD (all ages) PTSD Screeen (per 100K) | 24 | 22.0 | 22.1 | 40 | $2020-23$ |
| Individals scoring at risk for psychotic-like experiences PQ-B (per 100K) | 12 | 11.0 | 27.7 | 1 | $2020-23$ |

## Family \& Community

| Reported child abuse cases | 356 | $5.6 \%$ | $4.2 \%$ | 75 | FY23 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children) | 65 | 9.2 | 2.5 | 88 | FY23 |
| Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children) | 71 | 10.1 | 5.1 | 74 | FY23 |
| Juvenile court referrals | 158 | $2.5 \%$ | $1.8 \%$ | 67 | 2022 |
| Child restriant use in crashes (age 0-12) | NA | $100.0 \%$ | NA | 1 | 2023 |
| Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12) | 1,208 | $27.0 \%$ | $29.8 \%$ | 33 | FY23 |

## Giles

## Overall

At 49th, Giles County is in the bottom half of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Economic Well-Being.

## Strengths

Giles's strongest indicator is child care cost burden, where the county ranks 6th. The county also performs well in the percent of children without health insurance at 29th.

## Opportunities

The county's biggest challenge is the percent of babies who were born at a low birthweight, where it ranks 86th. There are opportunities for improvement in the percent of public school kindergartenders with the full immunization series 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.

Babies are born at a low birthweight either because they are born too early or they did not grow as much as they should. Ensuring women of childbearing age have access to treatment for chronic physical and mental health and substance abuse conditions creates an environment for healthy pregnancies. While the state has not expanded TennCare to close some of these access gaps, improving outreach to ensure those who do qualify are aware of those benefits, as well as others such as SNAP, WIC and TANF, contributes to general good health prior to pregnancy. Once a woman is pregnant, access to regular prenatal care is key. Preexisting risks are properly managed and unexpected complications are found and treated early when pregnant women receive regular care. Community-based doulas have been shown to improve health outcomes for babies, including reducing the number of babies born at a low birthweight.

Schools and counties with an under vaccinated kindergarten community are at risk for highly infectious and sometimes fatal outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases. For a community to remain low-risk for vaccine-preventable outbreaks, the percent of fully immunized kindergarten students should be above 95 percent. Maintaining an above 95 percent immunization rate provides protection to the 0.1 percent of Tennessee's public-school kindergarteners with a medical exception making them unable to receive the immunization themselves. The Department of Health recommends for Tennessee to reduce the risk of vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks, awareness and action are needed to increase childhood immunization. These efforts are critical to ensuring safe environments in schools. Medical providers who deliver health care to children are encouraged to review immunization records and provide catch-up immunizations at every opportunity.

## 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 "ontrack" 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 (202022).

> 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).

