48th HANDLED Population Under 18: 21.1%	Child Population b 2.7% 1.2% - 4.9% 20.9%	ild Population by Hispanic Ethnicity			
		Black, Including Hispanic Asian/Pacific Islander	 Hispanic, All Races Non-Hispanic Published July 2024 		
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING 48TH		Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank	
Children living in poverty 1	6.8%	20th	16.8%	17th	
Severe housing cost burden	82nd	12.1%	86th		
Child care cost burden 26.1 FY2022-23	%	33rd	24.5%	34th	
EDUCATION 59TH		Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank	
3rd to 8th grade reading pro 2023-24	oficiency 37.1%	32nd	37.3%	32nd	
3rd to 8th grade math profi	42nd	39.9%	38th		
Youth graduating high scho	83rd	88.7%	83rd		
HEALTH 9TH		Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank	
Kindergarten full immuniza	ition series 90.4%	87th	89.2%	92nd	
Children who lack health ins	25th	5.6%	28th		
Babies born at a low birth w	eight 8.8 %	59th	8.8%	53rd	
FAMILY & COMMUNITY 74TH		Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank	
Youth Crime Rate Per 1,000	63.2	85th	58.5	86th	
Children who are chronically	y absent 21.1%	72nd	20.9%	66th	
Victims of abuse or neglect	per 1,000 9.9	29th	8.5	21st	

Hamilton County			Tennessee	County			
	Number	Rate	Rate	Rank	Year		
Demographics							
Total population (state value is number not rate)	379,864	NA	7,126,489	4	2023		
Population under 18 years of age (percent of total population)	80,074	21.1%	22.0%	42	2023		
Economic Well-Being							
Median Household Income	\$75,127	NA	\$65,231.00	9	2022		
Youth unemployment	749	9.9%	9.8%	55	2023		
Per capita personal income (state value is dollars not rate)	\$60,691	NA	\$58,292	8	2022		
Median home sales price (state value is dollars not rate)	\$373,294	NA	\$325,000	13	2022		
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	1,207	1.5%	1.5%	41	FY23		
Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)	17,990	22.5%	22.4%	35	FY23		
Fair market rent (percent of monthly median household income)	\$1,372	21.9%	21.4%	25	FY23		
WIC participation (percent of children under 5)	6462	30.0%	29.0%	32	FY23		
Education							
School age special education services (age 3 to 21)	6,143	7.5%	8.0%	17	2022-23		
TEIS participation (percent of children age 0 to 4)	799	3.7%	4.4%	29	2022-23		
Economically disadvantaged students	16,593	37.0%	30.2%	67	2022-23		
School suspensions	2,004	4.5%	4.6%	59	2022-23		
Graduating seniors scoring 21 or better on the ACT at least once	896	32.3%	35.4%	43	2022-23		
Young adult college enrollment (percent of graduating seniors)	NA	54.8%	54.3%	29	2022		
Health							
Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	13	2.95	7.1	19	2022		
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	252	5.6%	9.1%	5	2022		
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	44,513	49.1%	53.1%	17	Dec-23		
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	75,523	19.9%	23.0%	13	Dec-23		
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	2,116	48.1%	54.5%	12	2022		
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	2,147	6.0%	6.1%	53	2021		
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	21	4.60	6.2	25	2021		
Neonatal death (per 1,000 live births)	13	2.85	3.2	40	2021		
Child deaths (per 100,000 children age 1 to 14)	11	18.48	20.7	31	2021		
Teen violent deaths (per 100,000 youth age 15 to 19)	*	*	69.7	*	2021		
Adequate prenatal care	2,673	69.7%	73.9%	76	2021		
Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children)	101	126.1	76.1	4	2022-23		
Children who are food insecure	13,420	17.6%	17.9%	92	2022		
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 youth age 15 to 17)	249	19.1	16.1	44	2022		
Confirmed elevated blood lead level (per 1,000 screened)	106	4.9%	4.7%	47	2019-23		
Breastfeeding initiation at birth	3,348	78.9%	83.3%	50	2022		
Individuals scoring for severe depression (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	509	37.3	44.8	42	2020-23		
Individuals reporting frequent suicidal ideation (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	513	37.6	43.6	60	2020-23		
Individuals scoring positive for PTSD (all ages) PTSD Screeen (per 100K)	280	20.5	22.1	31	2020-23		
Individals scoring at risk for psychotic-like experiences PQ-B (per 100K)	312	22.8	27.7	24	2020-23		

Family & Community

Reported child abuse cases	3,000	3.7%	4.2%	16	FY23
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	183	2.1	2.5	30	FY23
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	333	3.7	5.1	26	FY23
Juvenile court referrals	1,565	2.0%	1.8%	54	2022
Child restriant use in crashes (age 0 -12)	NA	91.2%	NA	66	2023
Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12)	20,360	36.6%	29.8%	8	FY23

Hamilton

Overall

At 48th, Hamilton County is in the bottom half of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Health.

Strengths

Hamilton's strongest indicator is the percent of chlidren living below the federal poverty line, where the county ranks 20th. The county also performs well in the percent of children without health insurance at 25th.

Opportunities

The county's biggest challenge is the percent of public school kindergartenders with the full immunization series, where it ranks 87th. There are opportunities for improvement in the rate of youth crime per 1,000 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.

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 vaccinepreventable 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.

Addressing youth crime at a community level requires a comprehensive approach combining prevention, early intervention, targeted intensive services and re-entry planning. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OIIDP) communities implement prevention programs such as:

- Classroom and behavior management programs
- Multi-component classroom-based programs
- Social competence promotion curriculums
- Conflict resolution and violence prevention curriculums

- Bullying prevention programs
- Afterschool recreation programs
- Mentoring programs
- School organization programs
- Comprehensive community interventions

For more targeted interventions OIIDP provides a Model Programs Guide with research and evaluations for various topics in youth behavior and the justice system. The Model Programs Guide can be found here: https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/model-programs-guide/literature-reviews. In counties with a Juvenile Detention Center, working with the LEA to reduce the time between a child coming into custody and receiving education should be a priority. Additionally, these counties can partner with community programs to engage youth while they are in detention, providing additional educational or developmental support.

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).