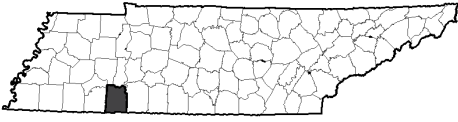
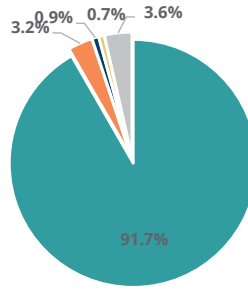


92nd HARDIN

Population Under 18: 20.1%

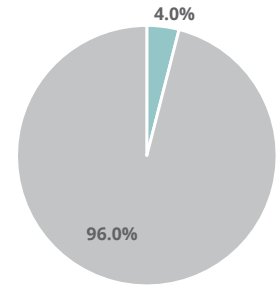


Child Population by Race



■ White, Including Hispanic
■ Black, Including Hispanic
■ Native American/Alaskan
■ Other/Unknown
■ Asian/Pacific Islander

Child Population by Hispanic Ethnicity



■ Hispanic, All Races
■ Non-Hispanic

Published July 2024

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING 95TH

	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
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Children living in poverty 31.1% 2022	89th	26.2%	80th
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Severe housing cost burden 10.3% 2018-2022	69th	10.2%	62nd
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Child care cost burden 105.7% FY2022-23	95th	21.3%	10th
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EDUCATION 69TH

	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
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3rd to 8th grade reading proficiency 31.2% 2023-24	65th	32.9%	56th
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3rd to 8th grade math proficiency 31.4% 2023-24	69th	32.7%	59th
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Youth graduating high school on time 91.7% 2022-23	66th	89.3%	81st
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HEALTH 31ST

	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
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Kindergarten full immunization series 92.7% 2022-23	71st	94.3%	56th
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Children who lack health insurance 5.0% 2021	54th	6.0%	42nd
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Babies born at a low birth weight 8.0% 2020-2022	26th	7.8%	22nd
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FAMILY & COMMUNITY 80TH

	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
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Youth Crime Rate Per 1,000 37.6 2022	61st	33.2	62nd
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Children who are chronically absent 19.4% 2022-23	60th	16.7%	43rd
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Victims of abuse or neglect per 1,000 19.7 FY2022-23	83rd	14.6	58th
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Hardin County

	Number	Rate	Tennessee Rate	County Rank	Year
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Demographics

Total population (state value is number not rate)	27,229	NA	7,126,489	55	2023
Population under 18 years of age (percent of total population)	5,470	20.1%	22.0%	65	2023

Economic Well-Being

Median Household Income	\$42,573	NA	\$65,231.00	91	2022
Youth unemployment	59	17.1%	9.8%	83	2023
Per capita personal income (state value is dollars not rate)	\$44,281	NA	\$58,292	50	2022
Median home sales price (state value is dollars not rate)	\$268,388	NA	\$325,000	41	2022
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	127	2.3%	1.5%	76	FY23
Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)	1,604	29.3%	22.4%	76	FY23
Fair market rent (percent of monthly median household income)	\$1,000	28.2%	21.4%	83	FY23
WIC participation (percent of children under 5)	585	45.5%	29.0%	78	FY23

Education

School age special education services (age 3 to 21)	521	9.1%	8.0%	43	2022-23
TEIS participation (percent of children age 0 to 4)	81	6.3%	4.4%	84	2022-23
Economically disadvantaged students	1,292	40.0%	30.2%	77	2022-23
School suspensions	14	0.4%	4.6%	5	2022-23
Graduating seniors scoring 21 or better on the ACT at least once	64	34.0%	35.4%	34	2022-23
Young adult college enrollment (percent of graduating seniors)	NA	61.5%	54.3%	11	2022

Health

Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	*	*	7.1	*	2022
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	52	19.5%	9.1%	74	2021
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	3,966	63.8%	53.1%	66	Dec-23
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	7,729	28.4%	23.0%	74	Dec-23
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	197	73.5%	54.5%	81	2022
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	186	5.4%	6.1%	36	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	223	83.5%	73.9%	13	2021
Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children)	2	36.6	76.1	32	2022-23
Children who are food insecure	1,130	21.0%	17.9%	40	2022
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 youth age 15 to 17)	*	*	16.1	*	2022
Confirmed elevated blood lead level (per 1,000 screened)	12	7.0%	4.7%	71	2019-23
Breastfeeding initiation at birth	211	78.7%	83.3%	53	2022
Individuals scoring for severe depression (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	34	34.8	44.8	31	2020-23
Individuals reporting frequent suicidal ideation (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	32	32.7	43.6	40	2020-23
Individuals scoring positive for PTSD (all ages) PTSD Screen (per 100K)	18	18.4	22.1	22	2020-23
Individuals scoring at risk for psychotic-like experiences PQ-B (per 100K)	25	25.6	27.7	38	2020-23

Family & Community

Reported child abuse cases	330	6.0%	4.2%	80	FY23
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	22	3.7	2.5	54	FY23
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	40	6.7	5.1	49	FY23
Juvenile court referrals	141	2.6%	1.8%	69	2022
Child restraint use in crashes (age 0 -12)	NA	100.0%	NA	1	2023
Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12)	524	14.1%	29.8%	80	FY23

Hardin

Overall

At 92nd, Hardin County is in the near the bottom of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Health.

Strengths

Hardin's strongest indicator is the percent of babies who were born at a low birthweight, where the county ranks 26th. The county also performs well in the percent of children without health insurance at 54th.

Opportunities

The county's biggest challenge is child care cost burden, where it ranks 95th. There are opportunities for improvement in the percent of children living below the federal poverty line 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.

Reducing the cost of child care is a difficult project for many local governments to launch. The best option may be to encourage unlicensed local child care businesses to pursue licensure by the Tennessee Department of Human Resources, as they have multiple programs supporting child care businesses, educators and client families associated with licensed facilities. Additionally, many individuals may be aware they are eligible for Smart Steps. Community events to provide education about the program and assist in enrollment can help reduce some of the cost burden. Beyond that, providing supervised recreation activities for older children during out-of-school hours and developing parent-led afterschool care programs can provide lower cost alternatives for families. Businesses interested in supporting families with child care cost burden can offer Dependent Flexible Spending Accounts. Businesses that provide on-site child care, partner with a third party to provide care or facilitate employees finding care are eligible for a federal tax credit of up to \$150,000 per year.

With a high rate of child poverty, improving outreach to those who may qualify to receive SNAP and WIC benefits to be sure they are aware of these services can help ensure basic needs are met. Additionally, nutrition programs that provide food for school-age children to take home can contribute to food security. Expanding services through Family Resource Centers can also help reach these vulnerable populations. Making parents aware of opportunities to receive education and training through Tennessee Reconnect can also boost household incomes over the longer term. Many neighborhoods with a high concentration of poverty are also food deserts, lacking access to affordable healthy options. Community gardens can provide fresh produce and help mitigate some of the negative health implications of child poverty.

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 "on-track" 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).