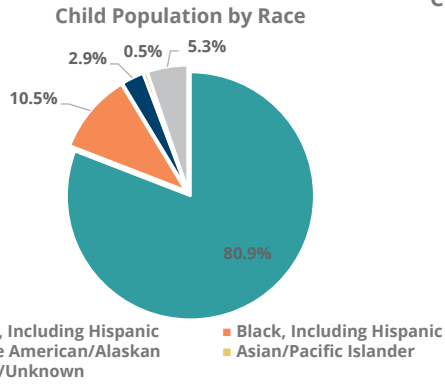
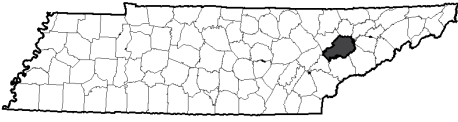
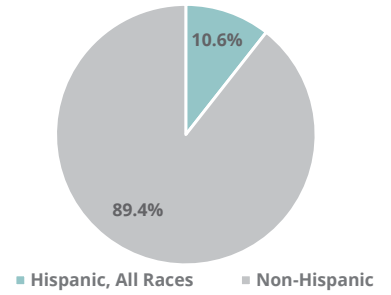


# 31st KNOX

Population Under 18: 20.8%



Child Population by Hispanic Ethnicity



Published July 2024

## ECONOMIC WELL-BEING 36TH

	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
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<b>Children living in poverty</b> 12.1% 2022	<b>7th</b>	12.6%	5th
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<b>Severe housing cost burden</b> 10.8% 2018-2022	<b>76th</b>	11.4%	79th
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<b>Child care cost burden</b> 30.3% FY2022-23	<b>60th</b>	25.8%	50th
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## EDUCATION 36TH

	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
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<b>3rd to 8th grade reading proficiency</b> 41.2% 2023-24	<b>13th</b>	40.1%	16th
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<b>3rd to 8th grade math proficiency</b> 40.3% 2023-24	<b>38th</b>	38.1%	46th
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<b>Youth graduating high school on time</b> 91.9% 2022-23	<b>64th</b>	89.7%	79th
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## HEALTH 10TH

	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
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<b>Kindergarten full immunization series</b> 93.4% 2022-23	<b>61st</b>	94.6%	50th
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<b>Children who lack health insurance</b> 3.6% 2021	<b>5th</b>	4.3%	3rd
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<b>Babies born at a low birth weight</b> 8.4% 2020-2022	<b>41th</b>	8.3%	37th
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## FAMILY & COMMUNITY 75TH

	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
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<b>Youth Crime Rate Per 1,000</b> 55.7 2022	<b>77th</b>	48.7	79th
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<b>Children who are chronically absent</b> 21.0% 2022-23	<b>70th</b>	27.0%	80th
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<b>Victims of abuse or neglect per 1,000</b> 12.1 FY2022-23	<b>42nd</b>	11.6	40th
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# Knox County

	Number	Rate	Tennessee Rate	County Rank	Year
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## Demographics

Total population (state value is number not rate)	500,669	NA	7,126,489	3	2023
Population under 18 years of age (percent of total population)	104,121	20.8%	22.0%	49	2023

## Economic Well-Being

Median Household Income	\$70,013	NA	\$65,231.00	14	2022
Youth unemployment	937	8.4%	9.8%	43	2023
Per capita personal income (state value is dollars not rate)	\$63,494	NA	\$58,292	6	2022
Median home sales price (state value is dollars not rate)	\$385,841	NA	\$325,000	9	2022
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	1,531	1.5%	1.5%	39	FY23
Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)	17,281	16.6%	22.4%	10	FY23
Fair market rent (percent of monthly median household income)	\$1,507	25.8%	21.4%	67	FY23
WIC participation (percent of children under 5)	8953	33.6%	29.0%	48	FY23

## Education

School age special education services (age 3 to 21)	8,547	7.2%	8.0%	12	2022-23
TEIS participation (percent of children age 0 to 4)	1,294	4.9%	4.4%	62	2022-23
Economically disadvantaged students	12,365	21.0%	30.2%	8	2022-23
School suspensions	4,119	7.0%	4.6%	75	2022-23
Graduating seniors scoring 21 or better on the ACT at least once	1,726	44.1%	35.4%	7	2022-23
Young adult college enrollment (percent of graduating seniors)	NA	64.3%	54.3%	6	2022

## Health

Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	65	12.02	7.1	25	2022
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	441	8.2%	9.1%	11	2021
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	51,699	41.2%	53.1%	5	Dec-23
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	89,074	17.8%	23.0%	9	Dec-23
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	2,536	46.9%	54.5%	10	2022
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	2,369	5.4%	6.1%	36	2021
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	24	4.45	6.2	24	2021
Neonatal death (per 1,000 live births)	17	3.16	3.2	41	2021
Child deaths (per 100,000 children age 1 to 14)	13	16.57	20.7	29	2021
Teen violent deaths (per 100,000 youth age 15 to 19)	22	67.8	69.7	32	2021
Adequate prenatal care	4,491	83.7%	73.9%	12	2021
Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children)	105	100.8	76.1	6	2022-23
Children who are food insecure	13,550	13.6%	17.9%	93	2022
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 youth age 15 to 17)	295	15.5	16.1	40	2022
Confirmed elevated blood lead level (per 1,000 screened)	138	4.6%	4.7%	44	2019-23
Breastfeeding initiation at birth	4,743	88.0%	83.3%	8	2022
Individuals scoring for severe depression (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	800	41.2	44.8	59	2020-23
Individuals reporting frequent suicidal ideation (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	771	39.7	43.6	63	2020-23
Individuals scoring positive for PTSD (all ages) PTSD Screen (per 100K)	450	23.2	22.1	51	2020-23
Individuals scoring at risk for psychotic-like experiences PQ-B (per 100K)	533	27.4	27.7	51	2020-23

## Family & Community

Reported child abuse cases	4,464	4.3%	4.2%	25	FY23
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	273	2.3	2.5	33	FY23
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	588	4.9	5.1	35	FY23
Juvenile court referrals	0	0.0%	1.8%	1	2022
Child restraint use in crashes (age 0 -12)	NA	94.7%	NA	49	2023
Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12)	24,436	34.2%	29.8%	16	FY23

## Overall

At 31st, Knox County is in the top half of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Health.

## Strengths

Knox's strongest indicator is the percent of children without health insurance, where the county ranks 5th. The county also performs well in the percent of children living below the federal poverty line at 7th.

## Opportunities

The county's biggest challenge is the rate of youth crime per 1,000, where it ranks 77th. There are opportunities for improvement in the percent of households in the county experiencing a severe housing cost burden 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.

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 (OJJDP) 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 OJJDP 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.

Pro-active housing policy that helps ensure affordable housing is available for people to live where they work can improve negative outcomes related to high housing costs. These policies might include approving more apartment construction and allowing rental of accessory dwelling units, creating a standard zoning approval process and applying for affordable housing trust fund competitive grants. Improving ease of usage and communication with landlords and renters using Housing Choice Vouchers can increase the number of landlords willing to accept vouchers.

## 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).