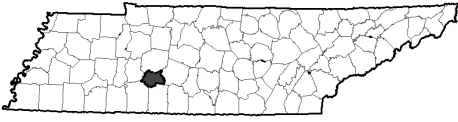
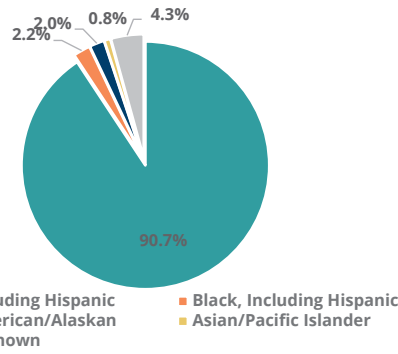


# 59th LEWIS

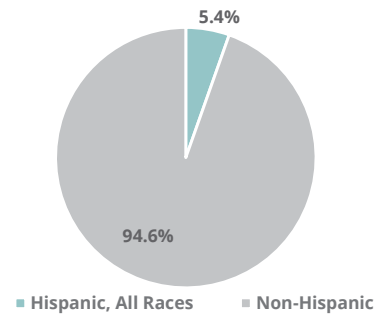
Population Under 18: 21.8%



Child Population by Race



Child Population by Hispanic Ethnicity



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## ECONOMIC WELL-BEING 72ND

Metric	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children living in poverty 19.0% <small>2022</small>	34th	22.0%	50th
Severe housing cost burden 10.2% <small>2018-2022</small>	68th	8.8%	25th
Child care cost burden 42.0% <small>FY2022-23</small>	87th	18.8%	3rd

## EDUCATION 75TH

Metric	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
3rd to 8th grade reading proficiency 28.2% <small>2023-24</small>	78th	36.7%	35th
3rd to 8th grade math proficiency 27.7% <small>2023-24</small>	80th	44.6%	19th
Youth graduating high school on time 93.2% <small>2022-23</small>	52nd	96.3%	20th

## HEALTH 71ST

Metric	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Kindergarten full immunization series 96.2% <small>2022-23</small>	12th	93.8%	68th
Children who lack health insurance 5.8% <small>2021</small>	74th	5.9%	38th
Babies born at a low birth weight 7.7% <small>2020-2022</small>	21th	7.9%	24th

## FAMILY & COMMUNITY 5TH

Metric	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Youth Crime Rate Per 1,000 22.4 <small>2022</small>	36th	23.1	48th
Children who are chronically absent 12.7% <small>2022-23</small>	13th	11.7%	10th
Victims of abuse or neglect per 1,000 4.6 <small>FY2022-23</small>	4th	8.9	22nd

# Lewis County

	Number	Rate	Tennessee Rate	County Rank	Year
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## Demographics

Total population (state value is number not rate)	13,066	NA	7,126,489	84	2023
Population under 18 years of age (percent of total population)	2,849	21.8%	22.0%	31	2023

## Economic Well-Being

Median Household Income	\$53,189	NA	\$65,231.00	59	2022
Youth unemployment	6	1.7%	9.8%	5	2023
Per capita personal income (state value is dollars not rate)	\$41,666	NA	\$58,292	64	2022
Median home sales price (state value is dollars not rate)	\$207,404	NA	\$325,000	70	2022
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	41	1.4%	1.5%	38	FY23
Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)	705	24.7%	22.4%	55	FY23
Fair market rent (percent of monthly median household income)	\$909	20.5%	21.4%	9	FY23
WIC participation (percent of children under 5)	266	37.4%	29.0%	58	FY23

## Education

School age special education services (age 3 to 21)	242	8.1%	8.0%	26	2022-23
TEIS participation (percent of children age 0 to 4)	12	1.7%	4.4%	2	2022-23
Economically disadvantaged students	403	25.0%	30.2%	13	2022-23
School suspensions	*	*	4.6%	*	2022-23
Graduating seniors scoring 21 or better on the ACT at least once	22	23.2%	35.4%	76	2022-23
Young adult college enrollment (percent of graduating seniors)	NA	61.8%	54.3%	10	2022

## Health

Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	*	*	7.1	*	2022
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	22	18.5%	9.1%	68	2021
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	1,928	59.2%	53.1%	47	Dec-23
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	3,455	26.4%	23.0%	57	Dec-23
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	105	71.4%	54.5%	75	2022
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	121	6.5%	6.1%	65	2021
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	*	*	6.2	*	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)	*	*	20.7	*	2021
Teen violent deaths (per 100,000 youth age 15 to 19)	*	*	69.7	*	2021
Adequate prenatal care	81	67.5%	73.9%	83	2021
Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children)	0	0.0	76.1	59	2022-23
Children who are food insecure	530	19.1%	17.9%	14	2022
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 youth age 15 to 17)	0	0.0	16.1	1	2022
Confirmed elevated blood lead level (per 1,000 screened)	2	3.0%	4.7%	18	2019-23
Breastfeeding initiation at birth	119	81.5%	83.3%	34	2022
Individuals scoring for severe depression (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	14	30.4	44.8	19	2020-23
Individuals reporting frequent suicidal ideation (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	16	34.7	43.6	51	2020-23
Individuals scoring positive for PTSD (all ages) PTSD Screen (per 100K)	8	17.4	22.1	16	2020-23
Individuals scoring at risk for psychotic-like experiences PQ-B (per 100K)	18	39.1	27.7	84	2020-23

## Family & Community

Reported child abuse cases	131	4.6%	4.2%	36	FY23
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	5	1.6	2.5	21	FY23
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	6	1.9	5.1	6	FY23
Juvenile court referrals	7	0.2%	1.8%	15	2022
Child restraint use in crashes (age 0 -12)	NA	93.3%	NA	57	2023
Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12)	387	19.4%	29.8%	60	FY23

# Lewis

## Overall

At 59th, Lewis County is in the bottom half of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Family & Community.

## Strengths

Lewis's strongest indicator is the number of children who were victims of abuse or neglect, where the county ranks 4th. The county also performs well in the percent of public school kindergarteners with the full immunization series at 12th.

## Opportunities

The county's biggest challenge is child care cost burden, where it ranks 87th. 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.

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.

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 "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).