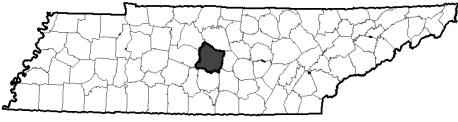
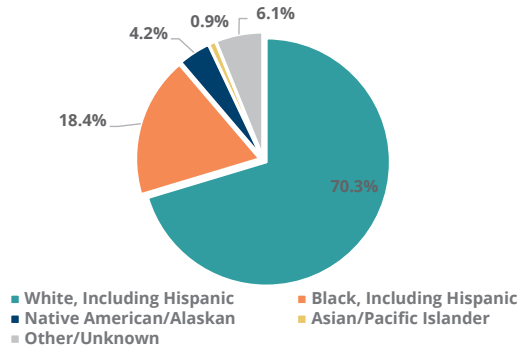


8th RUTHERFORD

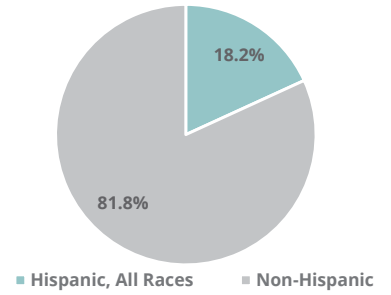
Population Under 18: 24.5%



Child Population by Race



Child Population by Hispanic Ethnicity



Published July 2024

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING 20TH

Metric	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children living in poverty 10.7% <small>2022</small>	4th	10.6%	4th
Severe housing cost burden 10.5% <small>2018-2022</small>	72nd	10.9%	73rd
Child care cost burden 29.4% <small>FY2022-23</small>	54th	25.6%	47th

EDUCATION 10TH

Metric	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
3rd to 8th grade reading proficiency 44.3% <small>2023-24</small>	8th	43.3%	8th
3rd to 8th grade math proficiency 48.1% <small>2023-24</small>	16th	47.6%	13th
Youth graduating high school on time 96.2% <small>2022-23</small>	24th	95.4%	29th

HEALTH 30TH

Metric	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Kindergarten full immunization series 94.1% <small>2022-23</small>	48th	94.5%	52nd
Children who lack health insurance 4.2% <small>2021</small>	21st	5.5%	23rd
Babies born at a low birth weight 8.6% <small>2020-2022</small>	50th	8.5%	45th

FAMILY & COMMUNITY 17TH

Metric	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Youth Crime Rate Per 1,000 59.4 <small>2022</small>	82nd	49	80th
Children who are chronically absent 12.1% <small>2022-23</small>	10th	10.4%	7th
Victims of abuse or neglect per 1,000 5.1 <small>FY2022-23</small>	7th	4.6	6th

Rutherford County

	Number	Rate	Tennessee Rate	County Rank	Year
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Demographics

Total population (state value is number not rate)	367,101	NA	7,126,489	5	2023
Population under 18 years of age (percent of total population)	89,903	24.5%	22.0%	7	2023

Economic Well-Being

Median Household Income	\$77,320	NA	\$65,231.00	8	2022
Youth unemployment	793	8.4%	9.8%	43	2023
Per capita personal income (state value is dollars not rate)	\$51,672	NA	\$58,292	18	2022
Median home sales price (state value is dollars not rate)	\$437,856	NA	\$325,000	6	2022
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	594	0.7%	1.5%	5	FY23
Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)	11,968	13.3%	22.4%	5	FY23
Fair market rent (percent of monthly median household income)	\$1,758	27.3%	21.4%	77	FY23
WIC participation (percent of children under 5)	4745	21.6%	29.0%	10	FY23

Education

School age special education services (age 3 to 21)	5,629	5.8%	8.0%	3	2022-23
TEIS participation (percent of children age 0 to 4)	1,116	5.1%	4.4%	67	2022-23
Economically disadvantaged students	11,516	19.5%	30.2%	5	2022-23
School suspensions	2,664	4.5%	4.6%	60	2022-23
Graduating seniors scoring 21 or better on the ACT at least once	1,482	37.1%	35.4%	23	2022-23
Young adult college enrollment (percent of graduating seniors)	NA	56.1%	54.3%	25	2022

Health

Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	26	5.72	7.1	21	2022
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	189	4.4%	9.1%	4	2021
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	45,733	44.1%	53.1%	7	Dec-23
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	71,103	19.4%	23.0%	11	Dec-23
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	2,247	49.4%	54.5%	13	2022
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	2,583	6.6%	6.1%	68	2021
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	32	7.48	6.2	26	2021
Neonatal death (per 1,000 live births)	14	3.27	3.2	42	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)	14	54.4	69.7	31	2021
Adequate prenatal care	3,245	76.3%	73.9%	56	2021
Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children)	33	36.7	76.1	31	2022-23
Children who are food insecure	11,280	13.5%	17.9%	91	2022
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 youth age 15 to 17)	205	13.6	16.1	37	2022
Confirmed elevated blood lead level (per 1,000 screened)	52	2.6%	4.7%	12	2019-23
Breastfeeding initiation at birth	4,206	92.7%	83.3%	1	2022
Individuals scoring for severe depression (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	538	40.4	44.8	51	2020-23
Individuals reporting frequent suicidal ideation (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	532	40.0	43.6	64	2020-23
Individuals scoring positive for PTSD (all ages) PTSD Screen (per 100K)	297	22.3	22.1	44	2020-23
Individuals scoring at risk for psychotic-like experiences PQ-B (per 100K)	333	25.0	27.7	35	2020-23

Family & Community

Reported child abuse cases	2,782	3.1%	4.2%	5	FY23
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	140	1.4	2.5	14	FY23
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	255	2.5	5.1	13	FY23
Juvenile court referrals	1,088	1.3%	1.8%	34	2022
Child restraint use in crashes (age 0 -12)	NA	94.5%	NA	52	2023
Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12)	18,019	29.4%	29.8%	27	FY23

Rutherford

Overall

At 8th, Rutherford County is in the top ten of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Education.

Strengths

Rutherford's strongest indicator is the percent of children living below the federal poverty line, where the county ranks 4th. The county also performs well in the number of children who were victims of abuse or neglect at 7th.

Opportunities

The county's biggest challenge is the rate of youth crime per 1,000, where it ranks 82nd. 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).