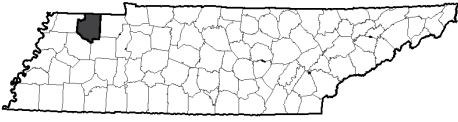
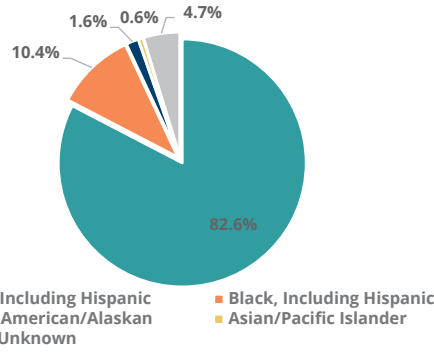


6th WEAKLEY

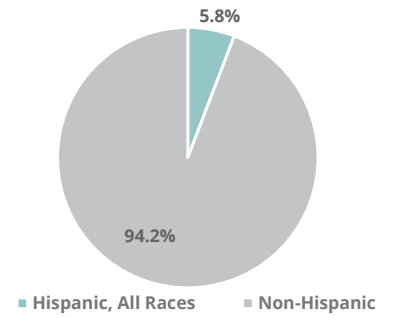
Population Under 18: 18.8%



Child Population by Race



Child Population by Hispanic Ethnicity



Published July 2024

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING 32ND

Metric	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children living in poverty 22.9% <small>2022</small>	61st	21.4%	46th
Severe housing cost burden 7.9% <small>2018-2022</small>	22nd	7.7%	11th
Child care cost burden 23.6% <small>FY2022-23</small>	16th	27.4%	66th

EDUCATION 6TH

Metric	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
3rd to 8th grade reading proficiency 45.4% <small>2023-24</small>	6th	42.9%	9th
3rd to 8th grade math proficiency 49.5% <small>2023-24</small>	10th	47.9%	12th
Youth graduating high school on time 96.6% <small>2022-23</small>	20th	93.8%	44th

HEALTH 11TH

Metric	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Kindergarten full immunization series 94.4% <small>2022-23</small>	42nd	96.9%	18th
Children who lack health insurance 4.1% <small>2021</small>	17th	5.4%	19th
Babies born at a low birth weight 7.1% <small>2020-2022</small>	13th	6.2%	2nd

FAMILY & COMMUNITY 11TH

Metric	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Youth Crime Rate Per 1,000 24.4 <small>2022</small>	38th	17.1	32nd
Children who are chronically absent 14.7% <small>2022-23</small>	22nd	15.1%	31st
Victims of abuse or neglect per 1,000 8.1 <small>FY2022-23</small>	23rd	12.7	49th

Weakley County

	Number	Rate	Tennessee Rate	County Rank	Year
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Demographics

Total population (state value is number not rate)	33,084	NA	7,126,489	46	2023
Population under 18 years of age (percent of total population)	6,214	18.8%	22.0%	82	2023

Economic Well-Being

Median Household Income	\$49,815	NA	\$65,231.00	73	2022
Youth unemployment	111	12.6%	9.8%	62	2023
Per capita personal income (state value is dollars not rate)	\$45,738	NA	\$58,292	45	2022
Median home sales price (state value is dollars not rate)	\$158,892	NA	\$325,000	85	2022
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	127	2.0%	1.5%	65	FY23
Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)	1,583	25.5%	22.4%	60	FY23
Fair market rent (percent of monthly median household income)	\$909	21.9%	21.4%	24	FY23
WIC participation (percent of children under 5)	526	32.8%	29.0%	45	FY23

Education

School age special education services (age 3 to 21)	569	6.7%	8.0%	6	2022-23
TEIS participation (percent of children age 0 to 4)	85	5.3%	4.4%	71	2022-23
Economically disadvantaged students	1,277	33.0%	30.2%	49	2022-23
School suspensions	113	2.9%	4.6%	40	2022-23
Graduating seniors scoring 21 or better on the ACT at least once	108	43.5%	35.4%	8	2022-23
Young adult college enrollment (percent of graduating seniors)	NA	57.9%	54.3%	17	2022

Health

Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	*	*	7.1	*	2022
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	44	13.2%	9.1%	32	2021
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	4,483	52.3%	53.1%	23	Dec-23
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	8,023	24.3%	23.0%	42	Dec-23
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	210	62.5%	54.5%	40	2022
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	187	4.8%	6.1%	20	2021
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	0	0.00	6.2	1	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	268	80.7%	73.9%	30	2021
Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children)	3	48.3	76.1	22	2022-23
Children who are food insecure	1,290	21.0%	17.9%	46	2022
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 youth age 15 to 17)	13	8.9	16.1	24	2022
Confirmed elevated blood lead level (per 1,000 screened)	9	6.0%	4.7%	62	2019-23
Breastfeeding initiation at birth	261	77.9%	83.3%	59	2022
Individuals scoring for severe depression (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	48	38.7	44.8	45	2020-23
Individuals reporting frequent suicidal ideation (all ages) PHQ-9 (per 100K)	35	28.2	43.6	18	2020-23
Individuals scoring positive for PTSD (all ages) PTSD Screen (per 100K)	27	21.8	22.1	38	2020-23
Individuals scoring at risk for psychotic-like experiences PQ-B (per 100K)	33	26.6	27.7	39	2020-23

Family & Community

Reported child abuse cases	300	4.8%	4.2%	42	FY23
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	26	3.3	2.5	51	FY23
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	27	3.4	5.1	22	FY23
Juvenile court referrals	109	1.7%	1.8%	44	2022
Child restraint use in crashes (age 0 -12)	NA	91.5%	NA	64	2023
Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12)	1,337	31.2%	29.8%	20	FY23

Overall

At 6th, Weakley County is in the top ten of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Education.

Strengths

Weakley's strongest indicator is the percent of students who scored "On Track" or "Mastered" in TCAP English Language Arts, where the county ranks 6th. The county also performs well in the percent of students who scored "On Track" or "Mastered" in TCAP Math at 10th.

Opportunities

The county's biggest challenge is the percent of children living below the federal poverty line, where it ranks 61st. There are opportunities for improvement in the percent of public school kindergarteners with the full immunization series 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.

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. In the last year, the Community Eligibility Provision threshold expanded making more LEAs eligible for providing free school lunch and breakfast for all. Providing free breakfast and lunch at school can assure children are fed, reduce household expense, and streamlines the administrative process ensuring no child falls through the cracks. Expanding services through Family Resource Centers can also help reach families living in poverty. 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.

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 vaccine-preventable 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.

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).