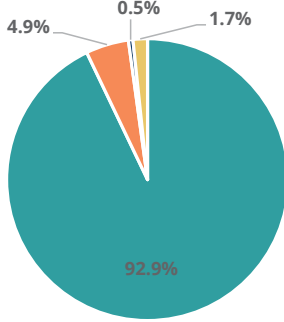


Family & Community

Rank: 31

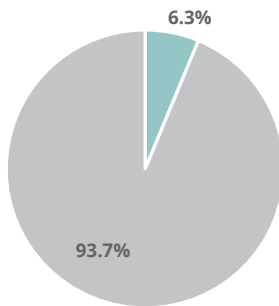
Blount Rank: 9

Child Population by Race

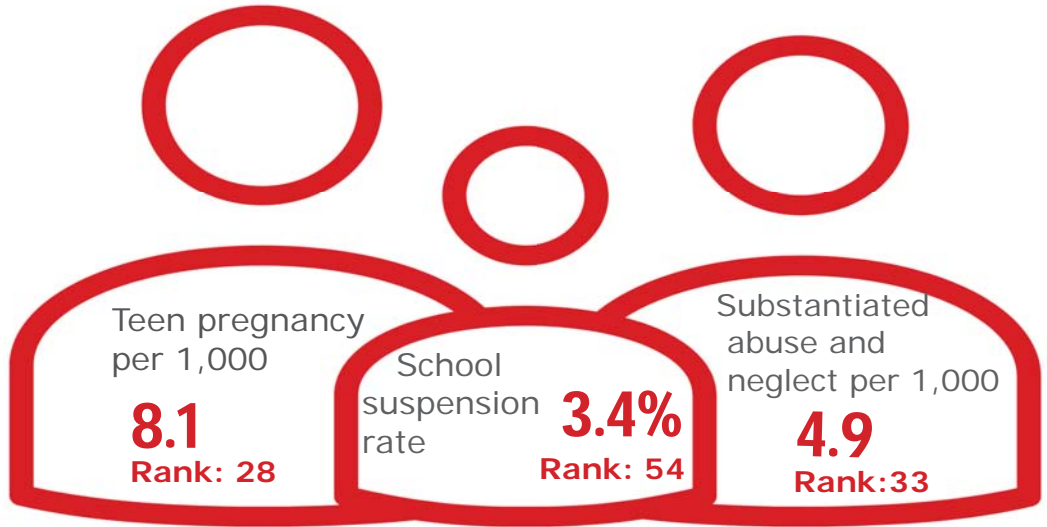


- White, Including Hispanic
- Black, Including Hispanic
- Native American/Alaskan
- Asian/Pacific Islander

Child Population by Hispanic Ethnicity

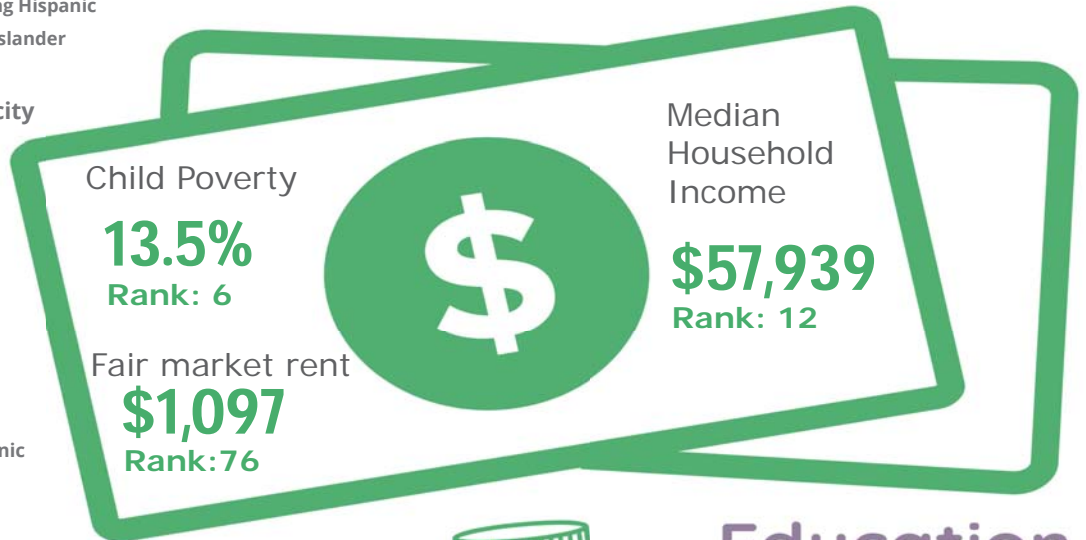


- Hispanic, All Races
- Non-Hispanic



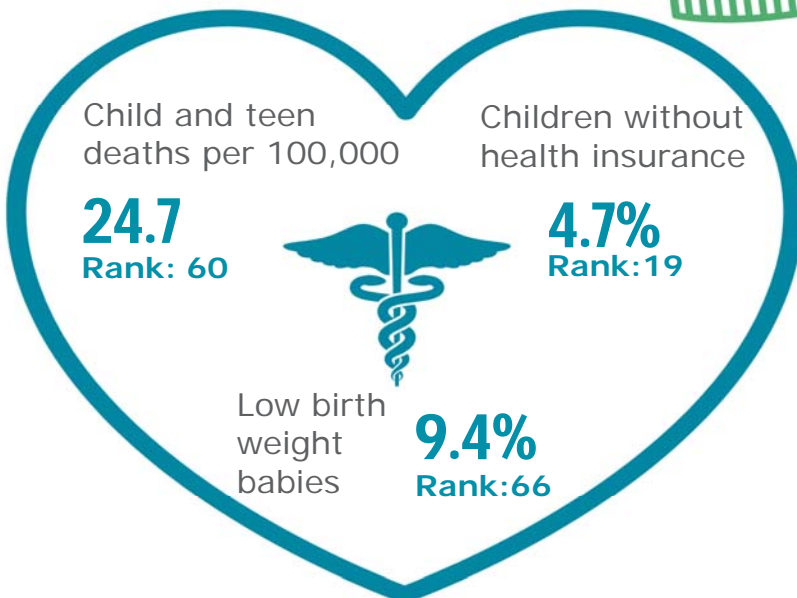
Economic Well-Being

Rank: 6



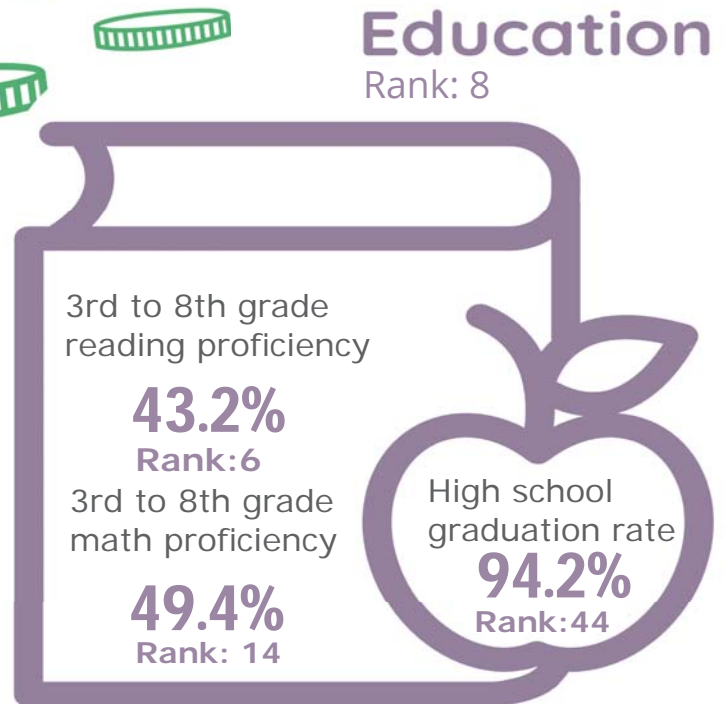
Health

Rank: 43








Education

Rank: 8



Blount County

Published 1/2021

Demographics 	Blount County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Total population (state comparison is number not rate)	131,341	NA	6,769,975	1.9%	11
Population under 18 years of age	26,328	20.0%	22.2%	90.3%	67
Economic Well-Being 	Blount County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Youth unemployment	252	9.5%	11.2%	84.8%	31
Per capita personal income (state is dollars not rate)	\$42,991	NA	\$46,900	91.7%	12
Median home sales price (state is dollars not rate)	\$205,000	NA	\$146,000	140.4%	11
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	526	2.0%	2.7%	73.7%	19
Children receiving SNAP	5,428	20.6%	28.2%	73.2%	7
Children under five receiving WIC	1,956	29.7%	30.6%	97.0%	16
Education 	Blount County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
School age special education services	2,040	11.4%	12.3%	92.9%	15
TEIS participation (per 1,000 in age group)	109	27.93	27.9	100.2%	41
Cohort high school dropouts	52	3.7%	8.3%	44.8%	37
Event high school dropouts	56	1.0%	2.2%	45.2%	58
Economically disadvantaged students	8,118	45.9%	65.1%	70.5%	4
School expulsions (per 1,000 students)	11	0.6	2.0	30.0%	64
Chronic absenteeism	1,236	6.9%	13.3%	51.9%	6
Young adult college enrollment/completion rate	NA	64.0%	62.5%	102.4%	29
Health 	Blount County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	17	13.03	11.5	113.5%	33
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	187	14.3%	12.1%	118.2%	18
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	11,821	38.2%	44.7%	85.4%	9
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	20,295	15.5%	19.9%	77.7%	6
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	872	66.8%	65.5%	102.1%	17
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	858	6.2%	6.5%	95.4%	49
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	6	4.60	6.9	66.7%	33
Neonatal death (per 1,000 live births)	3	2.30	4.4	52.3%	44
Child deaths (per 100,000 children age 1 to 14)	5	24.70	20.5	120.5%	60
Teen violent deaths (per 100,000 children age 15 to 19)	5	63.00	55.7	113.1%	63
Adequate prenatal care	911	69.8%	58.8%	118.7%	17
Children under age six screened for lead poisoning	1,326	16.7%	17.1%	97.3%	57
Public school students measured as overweight/obese	NA	38.9%	39.3%	99.0%	22
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 children age 15 to 17)	62	12.9	19.0	67.9%	43
Medical doctors by county (per 100,000 residents)	158	120.3	229.1	52.5%	11
Dentists by county (per 100,000 residents)	57	43.4	50.1	86.7%	13
Family & Community 	Blount County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Reported child abuse cases	1,108	4.2%	4.7%	90.2%	13
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	144	4.9	4.1	120.2%	46
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	243	8.2	5.2	158.8%	68
Juvenile court referrals	2,630	10.0%	3.5%	282.7%	86
Recorded marriages (per 1,000 residents)	1,038	7.9	8.0	98.8%	19
Recorded divorces (per 1,000 residents)	580	4.4	3.5	125.7%	76

Blount County

At 9th, Blount County is among the top Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's highest ranking is in the percent of 3rd to 8th grade children demonstrating proficiency in reading and math on TNReady tests. With 43.2 percent proficient in reading and 49.4 percent proficient in math, Blount County is one of the few showing more than 40 percent on both measures. Its next highest ranking is based on a relatively low percentage of children living in poverty. Though it is still a higher number than one would hope, Blount County's 13.5 percent child poverty rate is among the lowest in the state. The county's biggest challenges are a high cost of housing and a high percentage of babies born at a low birth weight.

Additional strengths include a low percent of children without health insurance and a high median household income.

Additional opportunities for improvement include above-average rates of child and teen deaths and a relatively high rate of school suspensions.

Policy/Practice/Program Options to Improve Outcomes. Many of these policies have multiple models for delivery, including public-private partnership and non-profit leadership.

- 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.
- Low birth weight is a persistent and difficult problem, but improvements can occur when care is made available for chronic physical and mental health and substance abuse conditions for women of childbearing age, as well as improving outreach to those who may qualify to receive SNAP, WIC and/or TennCare benefits to be sure they are aware of these services. Additionally, nutrition programs that provide food for school-age children to take home can contribute to nutritionally sound diets for women in their childbearing years. Expanding services through Family Resource Centers can help reach these vulnerable populations.
- Child and teen deaths can be reduced with consistent enforcement of safety measures like proper car seat and seat belt use, bicycle helmet use and life preserver use around water. The fastest-growing cause of child and teen deaths in recent years has been homicide and suicide, often involving a firearm. Families who own firearms can reduce the risk to children and teens by following safe storage practices.
- Suspension rates can be reduced through clear definitions of what constitutes suspendable behavior and a focus on restorative discipline practices that aim to improve behavior while keeping children in school. These practices can also help boost high school graduation rates.