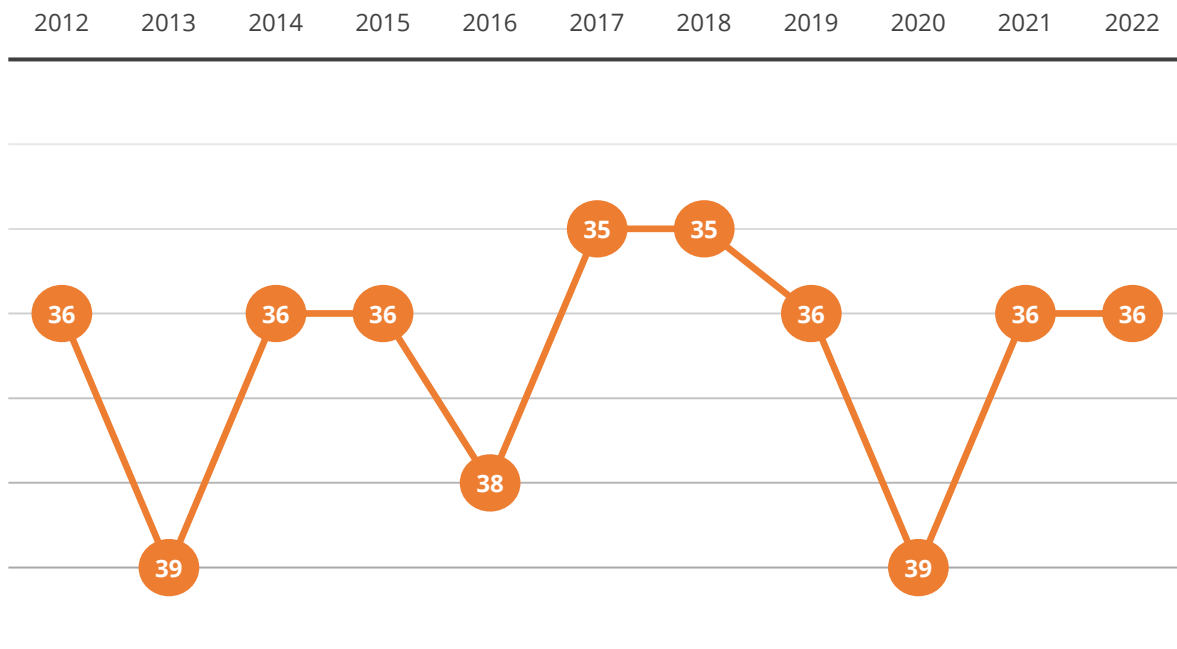


2022 KIDS COUNT National Data Book

This year's Data Book is the last set of data from before the pandemic, highlighting national and state-level data on child well-being from 2019. Despite its low rankings nationally, over the last decade Tennessee has seen an improvement in child well-being and has seen ranking improvements in some areas. As the pandemic ebbs, it is critical that Tennessee strengthens support for children to ensure positive trends continue.

Tennessee Overall Rank by Year



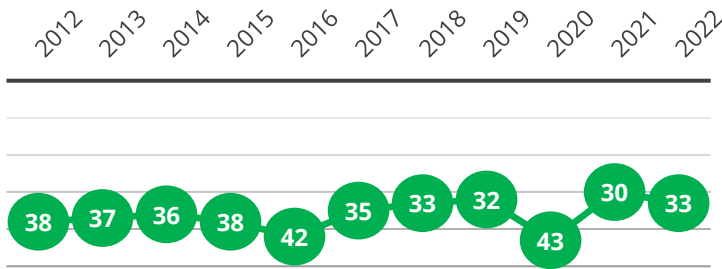
“This is a pivotal time for Tennessee and we need to invest in our children in a strong, equitable and sustainable way,” said Richard Kennedy, executive director of Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, Tennessee’s member of the KIDS COUNT network.

Tennessee has moved up and down in a small rank space over the last decade, landing between 35 and 39 every year. Tennessee has seen improvements in child well-being over this decade, but they have largely been national improvements that left Tennessee in roughly the same relative position.

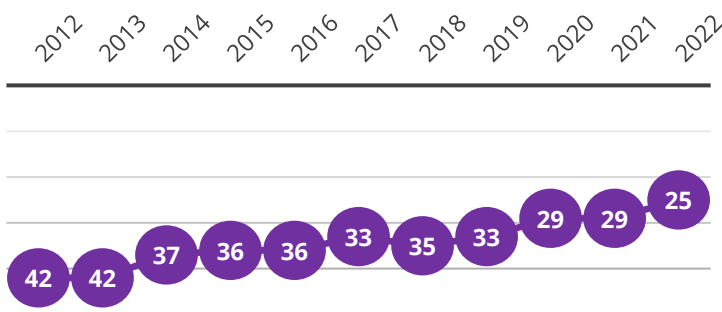
The Data Book shows simply returning to a pre-pandemic level of support for children and families would shortchange millions of kids and fail to address persistent geographic, racial and ethnic disparities.

2022 KIDS COUNT National Data Book

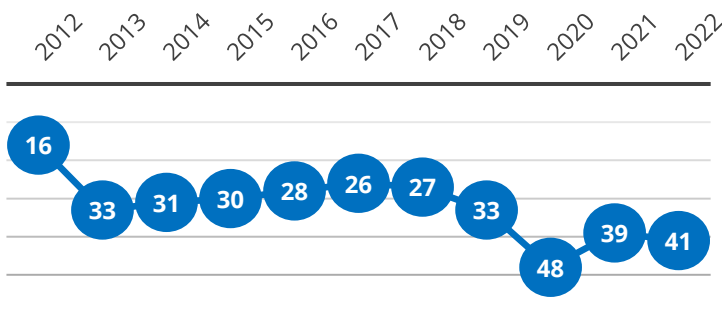
Tennessee Economic Well-Being Rank by Year



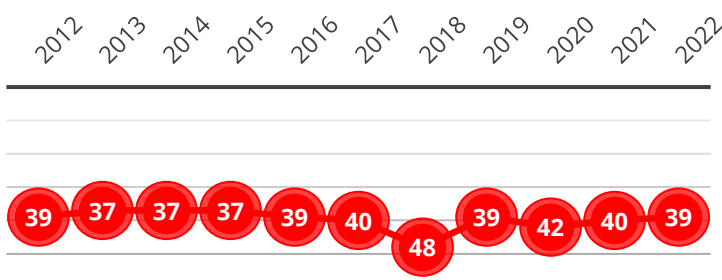
Tennessee Education Rank by Year



Tennessee Health Rank by Year



Tennessee Family & Community Context Rank by Year



Tennessee children’s economic well-being position has improved over the last decade. Despite a few years that muddy the overall picture (including a small drop this last year), the long-term trend is clear toward a median position in economic well-being.

Tennessee children have also improved steadily in education over the last decade. Moving from 42 in 2012 and 2013 to this year’s median position. While national advances have occurred in education, Tennessee has clearly improved more than average.

Tennessee children’s health rank has deteriorated over the last decade. Tennessee led in insuring children at one time but is now at the median. An indicator change in 2020 also led to a drop. A focus on health services in schools could drive improvement.

Tennessee children’s rank in Family and Community Context has stayed relatively flat over the last decade. This is an area where national improvement has occurred, and Tennessee has largely kept pace with that, but our state rank is low and has not seen any real change.