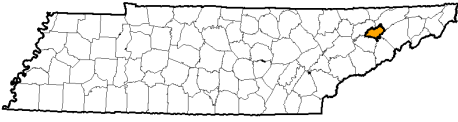
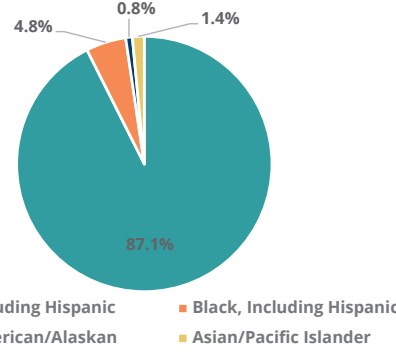


56th HAMBLEN

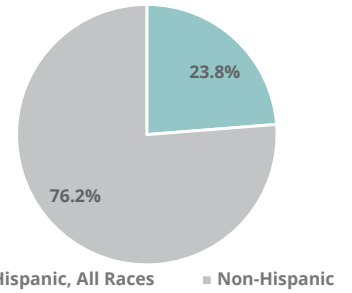
Population Under 18: 22.8%



Child Population by Race



Child Population by Hispanic Ethnicity



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ECONOMIC WELL-BEING 64TH

Metric	Value	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children living in poverty	25.2%	76th	21.1%	53rd
Severe housing cost burden	9.8%	52nd	11.8%	86th
Child care cost burden	24.2%	50th	22.0%	42nd

EDUCATION 45TH

Metric	Value	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
3rd to 8th grade reading proficiency	33.6%	46th	28.2%	38th
3rd to 8th grade math proficiency	34.1%	41st	32.1%	32nd
Youth graduating high school on time	92.7%	52nd	90.6%	64th

HEALTH 64TH

Metric	Value	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children who are food insecure	13.9%	55th	17.8%	49th
Children who lack health insurance	6.7%	64th	5.6%	70th
Babies born at a low birthweight	8.8%	54th	9.4%	68th

FAMILY & COMMUNITY 39TH

Metric	Value	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children living in single parent families	33.9%	57th	30.4%	73rd
Children who are chronically absent	13.9%	22nd	11.8%	38th
Victims of abuse or neglect per 1,000	14.7	58th	10.3	36th

Hamblen County

	Number	Rate	Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
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Demographics

Total population (state value is number not rate)	64,475	NA	6,975,170	0.9%	21
Population under 18 years of age (percent of total population)	14,686	22.8%	22.0%	103.5%	20

Economic Well-Being

Youth unemployment	153	11.0%	12.9%	85.3%	42
Per capita personal income (state value is dollars not rate)	\$45,234	NA	\$56,560	80.0%	44
Median home sales price (state value is dollars not rate)	\$190,000	NA	\$283,410	67.0%	44
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	254	1.7%	1.5%	116.0%	53
Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)	3,823	26.0%	24.0%	108.4%	52
Fair market rent (percent of monthly median household income)	\$1,054	26.1%	21.1%	123.8%	76

Education

School age special education services	1,279	13.0%	12.2%	106.6%	37
TEIS participation (percent of children age 0 to 2)	85	3.7%	3.8%	99.3%	72
Cohort high school dropouts (percent of class cohort)	45	6.3%	6.7%	94.6%	72
Event high school dropouts (percent of students grade 9 to 12)	69	2.2%	4.0%	55.9%	61
Economically disadvantaged students	2,760	28.0%	30.0%	93.3%	28
School suspensions	114	1.2%	5.1%	22.7%	11
Graduating seniors scoring 21 or better on the ACT at least once	215	31.8%	35.3%	90.0%	44
Young adult college enrollment (percent of graduating seniors)	2,187	51.0%	52.8%	96.6%	41

Health

Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	21	27.45	6.6	416.1%	35
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	95	12.6%	9.1%	138.3%	29
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	11,855	69.5%	55.3%	125.7%	81
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	19,651	30.5%	24.9%	122.4%	72
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	565	73.9%	55.1%	134.1%	82
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	666	7.5%	7.6%	98.7%	56
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	*	*	6.2	*	*
Neonatal death (per 1,000 live births)	*	*	3.2	*	*
Child deaths (per 100,000 children age 1 to 14)	*	*	20.7	*	*
Teen violent deaths (per 100,000 youth age 15 to 19)	*	*	69.7	*	*
Adequate prenatal care	606	80.5%	73.9%	108.9%	32
Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children)	8	54.5	76.5	71.2%	18
Public school students measured as overweight/obese	NA	46.9%	42.8%	109.7%	62
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 youth age 15 to 17)	22	8.8	16.6	52.9%	25
WIC participation (percent of children under 5)	2,121	55.5%	31.7%	175.2%	81
Dentists by county (per 100,000 residents)	24	37.2	41.4	89.8%	20

Family & Community

Reported child abuse cases	811	5.5%	4.6%	120.3%	59
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	66	4.1	2.8	144.5%	54
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	131	8.0	5.3	151.9%	61
Juvenile court referrals	325	2.2%	1.8%	123.5%	62
Recorded marriages (per 1,000 residents)	447	6.9	6.6	104.0%	37
Recorded divorces (per 1,000 residents)	299	4.6	3.2	143.5%	88
Young driver accidents (percent of age 15-24 driver's licenses)	690	11.9%	12.3%	96.7%	83
Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12)	2,786	26.7%	28.9%	92.3%	34
Child care assistance (per 1,000 children age 0 to 12)	81	7.8	24.9	31.1%	32

Hamblen

Overall

At 56th, Hamblen County is in the bottom half of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Family & Community.

Strengths

Hamblen's strongest indicator is the percent of chronic absenteeism among public school students, where the county ranks 22nd. The county also performs well in the percent of students who scored "On Track" or "Mastered" in TCAP Math at 34.1%.

Opportunities

The county's biggest challenge is the percent of children living below the federal poverty line, where it ranks 76th. There are opportunities for improvement in the percent of children without health insurance 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. Expanding services through Family Resource Centers can also help reach these vulnerable populations. 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.

Most uninsured children in Tennessee qualify for either TennCare or CoverKids, so high rates of uninsured children can be improved with outreach to make sure families are aware of these insurance opportunities. According to Census Bureau estimates, Hamblen County has 666 children who qualify for these health insurance programs but who nonetheless lack insurance. Communities can utilize free outreach resources from the Connecting Kids to Coverage National Campaign at InsureKidsNow.Gov. Those insured by TennCare or CoverKids must keep current contact information with TennCare to prevent unnecessary breaks in coverage. Members can update information at tenncareconnect.tn.gov or by calling 855-259-0701.

Indicator Definitions and History

Children living in poverty - Percent of children living in a household below the federal poverty line. Source: US Census Bureau Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (2021).

Severe housing cost burden - Percent of households spending 50% or more of their income on housing. Source: American Community Survey, 5-year estimates (2017-2021). New to the county profiles, it replaces Fair Market Rent. It is more closely aligned to a KIDS COUNT national indicator, does not apply only to rental housing, and is a rate rather than a dollar value.

Child care cost burden - Child care costs for a household with two children as a percent of median household income. Source: Produced by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute using The Living Wage Calculator (2022) and Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (2021). This is new to the rankings and replaces Median Household Income (MHI). We wanted an indicator expressed as a percentage rather than a dollar amount as well as one that related to a common family expense. Income is already somewhat measured in poverty estimates. In addition, this indicator uses MHI in its calculation.

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 (2021-22).

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 (2021-22).

Youth graduating high school on time - Percent of ninth-grade cohort that graduates in four years. Source: Tennessee Department of Education (2021-22).

Children who are food insecure - Percent of children who sometimes lack access to adequate food. Source: Map the Meal Gap (2021). This is new to the rankings and replaces child and teen death rates, which, because the Department of Health has tightened its data suppression rules, is no longer available for all counties. We did not have an indicator for all counties to line up with overweight/obesity data in the national ranking, so we searched for an one related to nutrition and healthy eating.

Children who lack health insurance - Percent of children who lack health insurance. Source: US Census Bureau Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (2020).

Babies born at a low birthweight - Percent of live births where baby weighs less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds), averaged over three years. Source: Tennessee Department of Health (2019-21), with three counties estimated using American Community Survey 5-year data (2015-19, 2016-20, 2017-21). It has been in our county profiles from the beginning, though it was previously just one-year data. The Department of Health has tightened its data suppression rules, and dozens of counties' data were unavailable with one-year numbers. Three-year numbers still left three counties suppressed. Those were estimated from 5-year American Community Survey data.

Children living in single parent families - Single-parent households as a percent of all households with children. Source: American Community Survey, 5-year estimates (2017-2021). New to the county profiles, it replaces births to unmarried females, which in turn replaced teen births. As the Tennessee Department of Health tightened its data suppression rules, teen birth data was no longer available for all counties. Children born to unmarried females was always an attempt to roughly estimate teen births using different data. In moving from actual counts to ACS 5-year estimates, we decided to use this indicator over teen births as it affects families with parents of all ages.

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 (2021-22). New to the county profiles, it replaces school suspensions, which have suppressed data for many counties.

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. Children with multiple cases during the year are counted only once. The rate is per 1,000 children. Source: Tennessee Department of Children's Services (2021). This has been in our county rankings from the beginning, but we have moved to counting children rather than cases.