

**ECONOMIC WELL-BEING 60TH** Previous Previous Rank Percent/Rate Rank Children living in poverty 19.2% 66th 25th 22.9% Severe housing cost burden 10.4% **68th** 7.1% 4th 24.5% Child care cost burden 25.6% 73rd **59th** 

EDUCATION 39TH	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
<b>3rd to 8th grade reading proficiency 34.5</b> %	38th	27.5%	42nd
<b>3rd to 8th grade math proficiency 31.4%</b>	50th	29.0%	44th
Youth graduating high school on time 94.6%	38th	90.5%	65th

HEALTH 23RD	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children who are food insecure 11.8%	31st	16.5%	38th
Children who lack health insurance 6.4%	55th	5.5%	68th
Babies born at a low birthweight 7.6%	16th	6.8%	11th
FAMILY & COMMUNITY 48TH	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children living in single parent families 28.8%	<b>28th</b>	30.8%	74th
Children who are chronically absent <b>21.1%</b>	67th	15.4%	66th
Victims of abuse or neglect per 1,000 15.4	62nd	18.5	78th

	County Pate as a				
Overton County			Tennessee	County Rate as a percentage of	County
	Number	Rate	Rate	State Rate	Rank
Demo	ographic	S			
Total population (state value is number not rate)	22,856	NA	6,975,170	0.3%	62
Population under 18 years of age (percent of total population)	4,813	21.1%	22.0%	95.7%	44
Econom	ic Well-B	leing			
Youth unemployment	13	3.5%	12.9%	27.1%	7
Per capita personal income (state value is dollars not rate)	\$40,959	NA	\$56,560	72.4%	69
Median home sales price (state value is dollars not rate)	\$177,000	NA	\$283,410	62.5%	53
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	68	1.4%	1.5%	95.2%	34
Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)	1,006	20.9%	24.0%	87.0%	21
Fair market rent (percent of monthly median household income)	\$913	23.9%	21.1%	113.6%	57
Ed	ucation				
School age special education services	402	13.4%	12.2%	110.4%	50
TEIS participation (percent of children age 0 to 2)	23	3.1%	3.8%	83.4%	60
Cohort high school dropouts (percent of class cohort)	16	6.9%	6.7%	103.4%	74
Event high school dropouts (percent of students grade 9 to 12)	22	2.4%	4.0%	58.9%	63
Economically disadvantaged students	628	21.0%	30.0%	70.0%	7
School suspensions	40	1.4%	5.1%	26.6%	15
Graduating seniors scoring 21 or better on the ACT at least once	72	35.5%	35.3%	100.5%	32
Young adult college enrollment (percent of graduating seniors)	1,033	51.7%	52.8%	97.9%	37
F	lealth				
Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	*	*	6.6	*	*
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	29	12.2%	9.1%	134.5%	28
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	3,181	56.7%	55.3%	102.6%	29
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	5,997	26.2%	24.9%	105.4%	40
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	139	58.6%	55.1%	106.5%	29
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	200	6.9%	7.6%	90.8%	41
nfant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	*	*	6.2	*	*

0

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\*

201

1

NA

8

515

6

Neonatal death (per 1,000 live births)

Adequate prenatal care

Child deaths (per 100,000 children age 1 to 14)

Teens with STDs (per 1,000 youth age 15 to 17)

WIC participation (percent of children under 5)

Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children)

Dentists by county (per 100,000 residents)

Teen violent deaths (per 100,000 youth age 15 to 19)

Public school students measured as overweight/obese

3.2

20.7

69.7

73.9%

76.5

42.8%

16.6

31.7%

41.4

0.0%

\*

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115.7%

27.2%

91.1%

56.5%

132.9%

63.3%

0.00

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85.5%

20.8

39.0%

9.4

42.1%

26.3

1

\*

\*

4

48

13

26

52

41

Reported child abuse cases	253	5.3%	4.6%	114.5%	52
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	30	5.6	2.8	199.8%	74
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	54	10.1	5.3	190.5%	75
Juvenile court referrals	152	3.2%	1.8%	176.3%	77
Recorded marriages (per 1,000 residents)	153	6.8	6.6	102.7%	42
Recorded divorces (per 1,000 residents)	75	3.3	3.2	103.9%	50
Young driver accidents (percent of age 15-24 driver's licenses)	159	7.7%	12.3%	62.3%	44
Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12)	1,236	36.7%	28.9%	126.9%	9
Child care assistance (per 1,000 children age 0 to 12)	43	12.8	24.9	51.2%	53

# Overton

### Overall

At 38th, Overton County is in the top half of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Health.

### Strengths

Overton's strongest indicator is the percent of babies who were born at a low birthweight, where the county ranks 16th. The county also performs well in the number of children living below the federal poverty line compared to other counties at 19.2%.

### **Opportunities**

The county's biggest challenge is the percent of households in the county experiencing a severe housing cost burden, where it ranks 68th. There are opportunities for improvement in the percent of chronic absenteeism among public school students as well.

## Policy/Practice/Program Options to Improve Outcomes

Many of these policies have multiple models for delivery, including public-private partnership, nonprofit partners and community engagement.

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.

Evidence-based strategies to address chronic absenteeism begin with early warning prevention and intervention systems, identifying students before their absences hit chronic levels and looking for underlying causes. Implementing positive and supportive engagement strategies to improve students' attendance at, connection to and success in school can help, while counselors who address individual students' challenges with regular attendance improve outcomes. Disciplinary measures that take students out of the classroom are a contributor to chronic absenteeism and not a solution.

#### **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.