

FAMILY & COMMUNITY 71ST	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children living in single parent families 34.0%	<b>61st</b>	25.9%	53rd
Children who are chronically absent 15.8%	35th	9.1%	23rd
Victims of abuse or neglect per 1,000 22.6	86th	17.6	74th

Warren County	Northau	Data	Tennessee	County Rate as a percentage of	County
Demo	Number Ographic	Rate	Rate	State Rate	Rank
Denn	-9-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-				
Total population (state value is number not rate)	41,522	NA	6,975,170	0.6%	39
Population under 18 years of age (percent of total population)	9,495	22.9%	22.0%	103.9%	19
Economi	ic Well-E	Being			
Youth unemployment	119	12.4%	12.9%	96.1%	51
Per capita personal income (state value is dollars not rate)	\$41,296	NA	\$56,560	73.0%	67
Median home sales price (state value is dollars not rate)	\$189,900	NA	\$283,410	67.0%	45
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	135	1.4%	1.5%	95.2%	33
Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)	2,777	29.2%	24.0%	121.8%	66
Fair market rent (percent of monthly median household income)	\$895	22.2%	21.1%	105.2%	25
Edu	ucation				
School age special education services	749	12.3%	12.2%	100.9%	24
TEIS participation (percent of children age 0 to 2)	27	1.8%	3.8%	49.0%	22
Cohort high school dropouts (percent of class cohort)	22	4.3%	6.7%	64.6%	51
Event high school dropouts (percent of students grade 9 to 12)	39	2.1%	4.0%	51.4%	54
Economically disadvantaged students	2,196	36.0%	30.0%	120.0%	68
School suspensions	*	0.9%	5.1%	18.3%	6
Graduating seniors scoring 21 or better on the ACT at least once	84	22.8%	35.3%	64.5%	80
Young adult college enrollment (percent of graduating seniors)	1,518	52.6%	52.8%	99.6%	33
H	lealth				
Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	0	0.00	6.6	0.0%	1
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	101	18.3%	9.1%	201.1%	66
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	7,323	66.5%	55.3%	120.2%	70
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	13,473	32.4%	24.9%	130.3%	86
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	387	70.1%	55.1%	127.3%	69
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	435	6.8%	7.6%	89.5%	38
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	420	76.6%	73.9%	103.7%	54
Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children)	4	42.1	76.5	55.1%	27
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4	42.1	70.5	55.1%
NA	46.1%	42.8%	107.8%
11	6.8	16.6	40.9%
1,172	47.6%	31.7%	150.0%
8	19.3	41.4	46.5%
	NA 11	NA 46.1%   11 6.8   ,172 47.6%	11 6.8 16.6   ,172 47.6% 31.7%

## Family & Community

Reported child abuse cases	656	6.9%	4.6%	150.5%	84
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	61	5.8	2.8	206.7%	76
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	118	11.2	5.3	211.8%	80
Juvenile court referrals	365	3.8%	1.8%	214.6%	85
Recorded marriages (per 1,000 residents)	236	5.7	6.6	86.0%	71
Recorded divorces (per 1,000 residents)	195	4.7	3.2	146.5%	89
Young driver accidents (percent of age 15-24 driver's licenses)	270	6.9%	12.3%	56.3%	32
Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12)	859	12.7%	28.9%	44.0%	85
Child care assistance (per 1,000 children age 0 to 12)	79	11.7	24.9	46.9%	49

# Warren

### Overall

At 75th, Warren County is in the bottom half of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Economic Well-Being.

### Strengths

Warren's strongest indicator is the percent of chronic absenteeism among public school students, where the county ranks 35th. The county also performs well in child care cost burden at 24.2% of Median Household Income.

## **Opportunities**

The county's biggest challenge is the number of children who were victims of abuse or neglect, where it ranks 86th. There are opportunities for improvement in the percent of children in the county who are food insecure 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.

Two-generation programs such as evidence-based home visiting have been shown to reduce instances of child abuse and neglect. Ensuring quality child care and offering preschool programs with family enrichment continues this support. Helping families access services for addiction and mental health challenges may also reduce stresses that can cause family dysfunction, as will strengthening economic supports through family-friendly work policies. Changing social norms to promote positive parenting through public engagement and education campaigns can help parents find alternatives to physical discipline that can go too far. Taking corporal punishment out of schools may contribute to a changing mindset. When abuse and neglect do occur, intervention through enhanced primary care, behavioral parent training programs and treatment is important. Programs in schools and communities aimed at creating positive childhood experiences and improving resiliency also help mitigate effects.

Household food insecurity is driven by both cost and lack of access. It can carry a certain stigma, sometimes preventing individuals from accessing available resources. For those qualified, enrollment in programs such as SNAP, WIC, and TANF is essential. Food pantries play an important role, with some models allowing families to choose just items they need, both reducing waste and improving clients' sense of control over their situation. School breakfast and lunch are important tools as well. Providing free breakfast and lunch for all students reduces administrative burdens associated with finding and serving only those qualified and reduces the stigma students can experience. Community food drives always provide welcome resources, but food banks are often able to make money donations go farther. They work with retailers to pay reduced prices, allowing them to purchase what is most needed with cost efficiency.

#### **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.