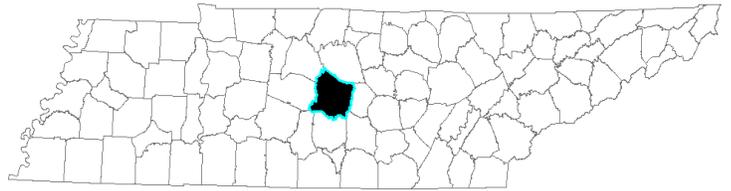
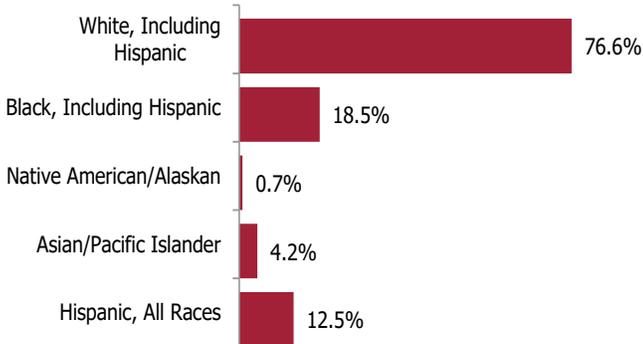


# Rutherford



## TCCY Index Rank 8

### Child Population by Race/Ethnicity



### HEALTH

- Low birth-weight babies: 8.9% (Rank: 45)
- Children without health insurance: 4.2% (Rank: 37)
- Child and teen deaths: 35.8 per 100,000 (Rank: 54)

### ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Rank: 6

- Child Poverty: 12.6% (Rank: 4)
- Median Household Income: \$68,082 (Rank: 3)
- Fair Market Rent: \$1,274 (Rank: 86)

### FAMILY and COMMUNITY

Rank: 24

- School suspension rate: 4.6% (Rank: 79)
- Teen pregnancy: 9.2 per 1,000 (Rank: 28)
- Substantiated Abuse and Neglect: 3.4 per 1,000 (Rank: 9)

### EDUCATION

Rank: 10

- Third to eighth grade reading proficiency: 39.2% (Rank: 9)
- Third to eighth grade math proficiency: 44.8% (Rank: 16)
- High school graduation rate: 95.6% (Rank: 20)

# Rutherford County

Published 10/2019

Demographics 	Rutherford County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Total population (state comparison is number not rate)	317,165	NA	6,715,862	4.7%	5
Population under 18 years of age	78,292	24.7%	22.4%	110.4%	6
Economic Well-Being 	Rutherford County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Youth unemployment	770	11.0%	12.0%	91.7%	34
Per capita personal income (state is dollars not rate)	\$39,968	NA	\$45,517	87.8%	22
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	1,130	1.4%	3.2%	45.2%	2
Children receiving SNAP	14,687	18.8%	31.8%	59.0%	3
Children under five receiving WIC	4,287	20.3%	29.6%	68.6%	7
Education 	Rutherford County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
School age special education services	4,689	9.3%	11.9%	78.2%	4
TEIS participation (per 1,000 in age group)	294	23.30	23.4	99.4%	44
Cohort high school dropouts	95	2.7%	5.5%	49.1%	35
Event high school dropouts	212	1.2%	2.6%	46.2%	45
Economically disadvantaged students	11,838	23.5%	34.7%	67.7%	6
School expulsions (per 1,000 students)	121	3.0	2.0	150.0%	90
Chronic absenteeism	5,237	11.1%	13.6%	81.6%	36
Health 	Rutherford County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	38	9.43	13.5	69.8%	39
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	352	8.7%	12.7%	68.5%	5
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	32,889	35.1%	48.4%	72.7%	4
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	52,181	16.5%	21.8%	75.5%	5
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	1,653	41.0%	52.3%	78.5%	5
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	2,367	6.3%	5.5%	114.5%	87
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	23	5.70	7.4	77.0%	40
Neonatal death (per 1,000 live births)	15	3.70	4.6	80.4%	48
Child deaths (per 100,000 children age 1 to 14)	15	24.60	22.4	109.8%	61
Teen violent deaths (per 100,000 children age 15 to 19)	10	43.70	52.5	83.2%	54
Adequate prenatal care	2,178	54.0%	57.4%	94.1%	75
Children under age six screened for lead poisoning	2,696	10.6%	17.7%	60.2%	88
Public school students measured as overweight/obese	NA	40.3%	39.2%	102.8%	34
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 children age 15 to 17)	143	10.8	17.3	62.4%	46
Medical doctors by county (per 100,000 residents)	337	106.3	239.2	44.4%	15
Dentists by county (per 100,000 residents)	127	40.0	49.0	81.7%	18
Family & Community 	Rutherford County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Reported child abuse cases	2,715	3.5%	4.9%	71.5%	6
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	119	1.4	3.9	34.7%	4
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	194	2.2	5.1	43.3%	7
Juvenile court referrals	926	1.2%	4.3%	27.7%	6
Recorded marriages (per 1,000 residents)	2,031	6.4	8.2	78.0%	51
Recorded divorces (per 1,000 residents)	1,167	3.7	3.6	102.8%	42
Births to unmarried females	1,510	37.5%	43.6%	86.0%	17
Regulated child care spaces (state is number not rate)	14,845	NA	307,218	4.8%	6

## Rutherford County

At 8<sup>th</sup>, Rutherford County ranks among the top Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's best rankings include a high median household income and a relatively low rate of child poverty (at 12.6 percent, Roane County's child poverty rate is still too high, but it is among the lowest in the state). The county's biggest opportunities for improvement include high housing costs and an above average child and teen death rate.

Additional strengths include a low rate of substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect and relatively high percentages of 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students demonstrating proficiency on TNReady reading and math tests.

An additional challenge is one of the state's higher rates of students suspended from school.

*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.
- 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.