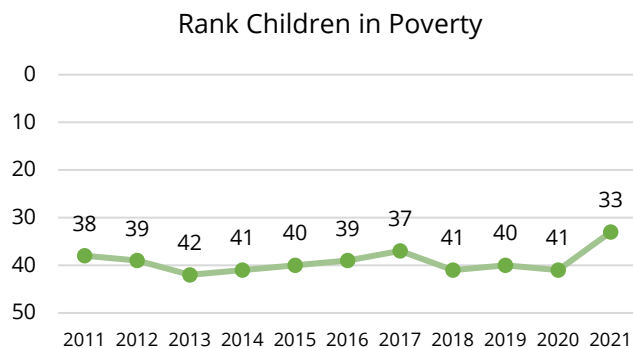
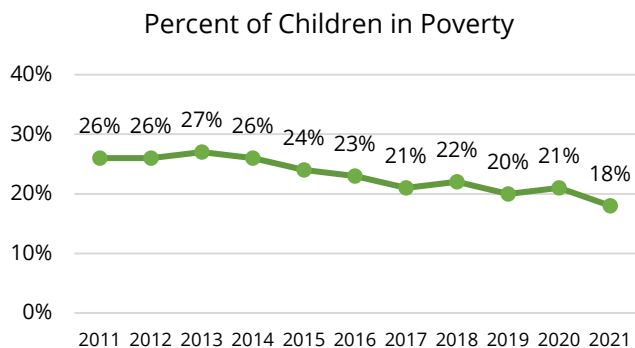
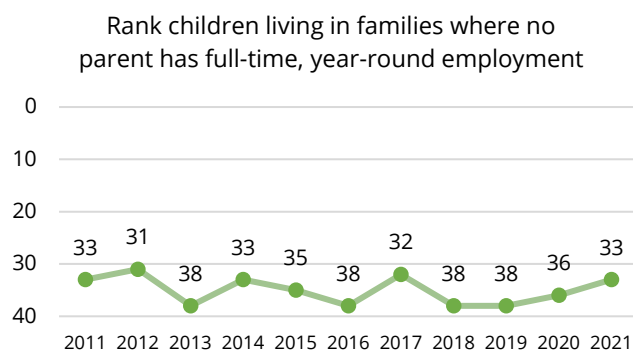
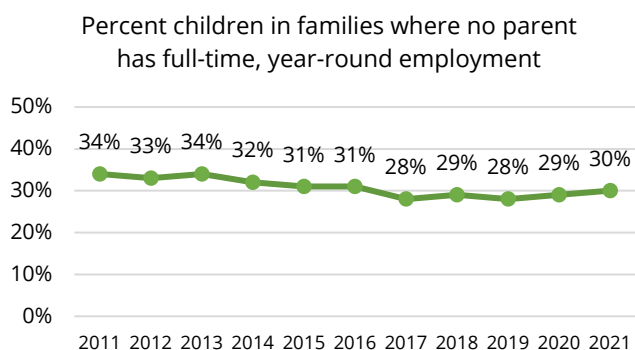


Economic Well-Being

The four indicators that make up the Economic Well-Being domain are the percentage of children living in poverty, the percentage of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment, the percentage of children in households with a high housing cost burden and the percentage of teens age 16 to 19 not attending school and not working.

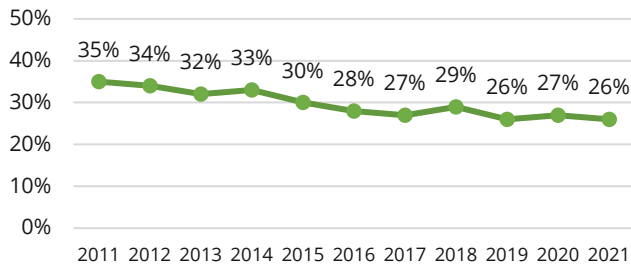


- The percent of children living in poverty has declined over the last decade, a national trend and had left Tennessee children in roughly the same rank position until 2021, when Tennessee's rank noticeably improved. At the same time, the percentage of children living in extreme poverty (half the income levels of the poverty definition) remain stubbornly steady.
- Poverty among Tennessee's children is disproportionate by race with about a third of black children and a fourth of Latino children living in poverty, while just 13 percent of white children are similarly situated.
- Poverty elevates a child's risk of experiencing behavioral, social emotional and health challenges, as well as reducing skill-building opportunities and academic outcomes.

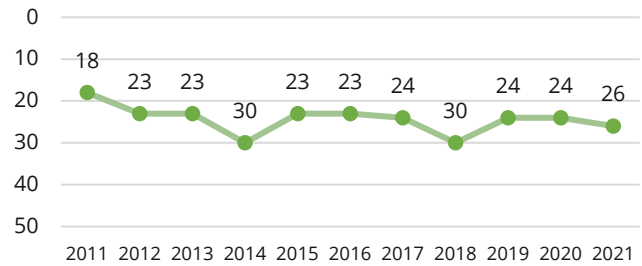


- A slight uptick in percent for this indicator nonetheless accompanied continued rank improvement.
- Parental employment security among Tennessee's children is also disproportionate by race. Black children fare worst at a little more than 4 in 10, while a little more than 1 in 3 Latino children and about 1 in 4 white children are similarly situated.
- Without at least one parent employed full time, children are more likely to fall into poverty. Too many parents who want full-time work are forced to piece together part-time or temporary jobs that do not provide sufficient or stable income; some lack the education and skills needed to secure a good job.

Percent of children in households that spend more than 30% of their income on housing

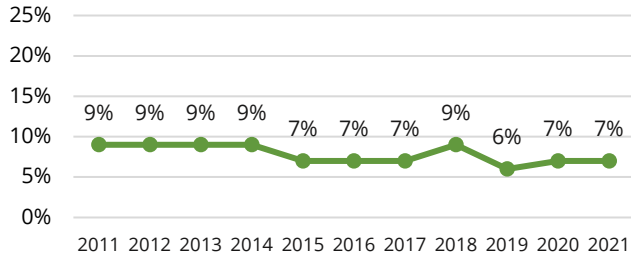


Rank children in households that spend more than 30% of their income on housing

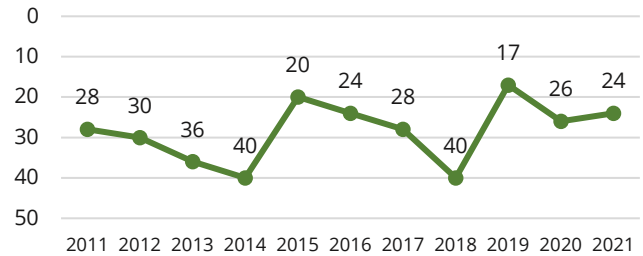


- This indicator shows a steady percentage decline over the last decade, but rank has remained fairly steady.
- High housing cost burden among Tennessee’s children is, again, disproportionate by race. About four in 10 black and Latino children live in families struggling with housing costs, while half as many, 2 in 10, white children do.
- Family income is only one factor of financial security; the cost of basic expenses also matters. Housing is typically one of the largest expenses that families face. Low-income families in particular are unlikely to be able to meet all of their basic needs if housing consumes nearly one-third or more of their income.

Percent of teens ages 16 to 19 not attending school and not working



Rank teens ages 16 to 19 not attending school and not working



- This indicator of teen engagement is the primary driver of changes in Tennessee’s position in the Economic Well-Being domain over the last several years. The jump in rank in 2015 data corresponded with the first class of Tennessee Promise. As other states copied our good public policy, Tennessee lost a bit of ground. We were never able to adequately explain 2018’s steep drop, but recovery since then suggests it was likely a statistical anomaly.
- There is disparity in this indicator by race. Black and Latino youth are more likely to be out of school and not working, at 10 percent, while white youth are at 6 percent.
- The percentage of teens not in school and not working is also known as “disconnected youth.” It is one of the few available indicators to measure successful transitions out of high school and into young adulthood. With its large base of youth in school, it is more stable than a similar measure of young adult engagement that looks at ages 19 to 24, but they tend to move together.