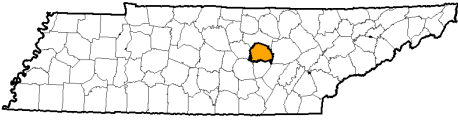
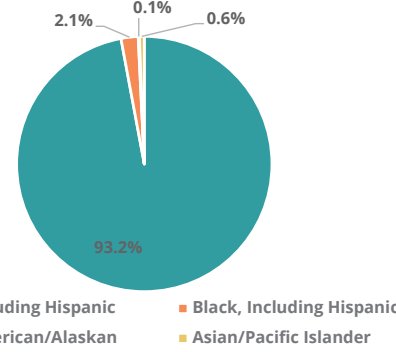


# 35th WHITE

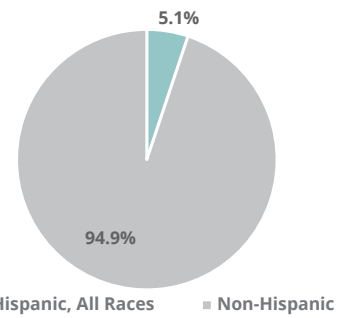
Population Under 18: 21.4%



Child Population by Race



Child Population by Hispanic Ethnicity



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## ECONOMIC WELL-BEING 69TH

	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
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Children living in poverty 23.0% **61st** 19.4% 33rd

Severe housing cost burden 10.4% **66th** 9.0% 25th

Child care cost burden 25.9% **64th** 22.7% 53rd

## EDUCATION 16TH

	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
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3rd to 8th grade reading proficiency 36.8% **22nd** 28.8% 34th

3rd to 8th grade math proficiency 39.4% **22nd** 34.6% 21st

Youth graduating high school on time 97.0% **13th** 92.5% 47th

## HEALTH 33RD

	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
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Children who are food insecure 10.6% **19th** 14.4% 20th

Children who lack health insurance 6.1% **43rd** 4.8% 30th

Babies born at a low birthweight 8.9% **56th** 8.4% 42nd

## FAMILY & COMMUNITY 54TH

	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
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Children living in single parent families 33.0% **52nd** 22.5% 29th

Children who are chronically absent 10.5% **8th** 7.9% 16th

Victims of abuse or neglect per 1,000 22.8 **87th** 18.6 80th

# White 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)	27,662	NA	6,975,170	0.4%	54
Population under 18 years of age (percent of total population)	5,914	21.4%	22.0%	97.2%	35

## Economic Well-Being

Youth unemployment	65	17.0%	12.9%	131.8%	77
Per capita personal income (state value is dollars not rate)	\$40,770	NA	\$56,560	72.1%	70
Median home sales price (state value is dollars not rate)	\$189,000	NA	\$283,410	66.7%	46
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	88	1.5%	1.5%	100.3%	39
Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)	1,492	25.2%	24.0%	105.0%	42
Fair market rent (percent of monthly median household income)	\$890	23.6%	21.1%	112.1%	50

## Education

School age special education services	630	17.2%	12.2%	141.3%	87
TEIS participation (percent of children age 0 to 2)	13	1.5%	3.8%	39.1%	15
Cohort high school dropouts (percent of class cohort)	13	4.9%	6.7%	72.9%	57
Event high school dropouts (percent of students grade 9 to 12)	12	1.1%	4.0%	26.4%	21
Economically disadvantaged students	1,282	35.0%	30.0%	116.7%	60
School suspensions	*	*	5.1%	*	*
Graduating seniors scoring 21 or better on the ACT at least once	93	36.9%	35.3%	104.4%	24
Young adult college enrollment (percent of graduating seniors)	996	40.5%	52.8%	76.7%	89

## Health

Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	*	*	6.6	*	*
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	50	17.6%	9.1%	193.5%	62
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	4,551	66.5%	55.3%	120.3%	71
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	8,504	30.7%	24.9%	123.5%	75
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	190	66.7%	55.1%	121.1%	53
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	243	6.3%	7.6%	82.9%	32
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)	0	0.0	69.7	0.0%	1
Adequate prenatal care	240	84.2%	73.9%	114.0%	9
Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children)	0	0.0	76.5	0.0%	57
Public school students measured as overweight/obese	NA	39.8%	42.8%	93.2%	17
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 youth age 15 to 17)	5	5.1	16.6	30.6%	8
WIC participation (percent of children under 5)	671	44.3%	31.7%	139.9%	60
Dentists by county (per 100,000 residents)	8	28.9	41.4	69.8%	31

## Family & Community

Reported child abuse cases	446	7.5%	4.6%	164.3%	94
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	51	7.8	2.8	278.0%	88
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	76	11.6	5.3	219.4%	84
Juvenile court referrals	56	0.9%	1.8%	52.9%	25
Recorded marriages (per 1,000 residents)	210	7.6	6.6	114.8%	17
Recorded divorces (per 1,000 residents)	86	3.1	3.2	96.9%	41
Young driver accidents (percent of age 15-24 driver's licenses)	159	6.5%	12.3%	52.9%	24
Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12)	500	11.8%	28.9%	40.8%	87
Child care assistance (per 1,000 children age 0 to 12)	20	4.7	24.9	18.9%	20

# White

## Overall

At 35th, White County is in the top half of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Education.

## Strengths

White's strongest indicator is the percent of chronic absenteeism among public school students, where the county ranks 8th. The county also performs well in the percent of high school students who graduated on time at 97.0%.

## Opportunities

The county's biggest challenge is the number of children who were victims of abuse or neglect, where it ranks 87th. There are opportunities for improvement in the percent of households in the county experiencing a severe housing cost burden 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 to lessen harms and prevent future risk 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.

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.

## 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.