Income, Employment, and Poverty

Income

In the most recently available data (2022), the U.S. Census Bureau found the State median household income (MHI) to have been $65,254. Counties in ETDD ranged from well below that state value to significantly above that mark, with a geography of higher incomes being located in and around the Knoxville metro area and in more urbanized counties.[5] Loudon ($75,008), Knox ($69,999) and Blount ($69,746) counties had the highest MHIs, while Grainger ($47,098), Cocke ($45,110), and Scott ($39,744) counties had the lowest.

In the fourth quarter of 2023, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics found the average weekly wage in Tennessee to be $1,285.[6] Within ETDD's region, only two counties (Roane and Anderson) surpassed this, while the rest of the district averaged approximately $1,055 per week.[6]

Tennessee Socioeconomic Data from East Tennessee Development District

Employment

According to tracking by the Tennessee State Department of Labor and Workforce [No Title] Development, ETDD in June 2024 had an average unemployment rate of 3.99%, slightly above the state average of 3 percent. Scott (5.4%), Cocke & Union (4.5%), and Campbell & Morgan (4.4%) had the highest rates, while Sevier (2.7%), Knox (3.2%), and Blount (3.4%) had the lowest. Nearly all District counties saw decreases in unemployment from June 2023 to June 2024, apart from Loudon County which saw no change.[7]

Tennessee Socioeconomic Data from East Tennessee Development District

Poverty

The poverty rate for the State of Tennessee is 13.3%, slightly above the national rate of 12.6%.[8] Nine ETDD counties are at or above the state poverty rate. Scott (25.7%), Morgan (20.9%), and Cocke (20.1%) counties experience the highest rates of poverty in their communities, while Blount (9.1%), Jefferson (11.1%), and Sevier (11.2%) experience the lowest.[8]

Tennessee Socioeconomic Data from East Tennessee Development District

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), a federal organization focused on economic and infrastructure development in the multi-state Appalachian region, designates the economic classification of all counties within its region. These classifications are defined as the following:

- **Distressed:** Distressed counties are the most economically depressed counties. They rank in the worst 10 percent of the nation's counties.
- **At-Risk:** At-Risk counties are those at risk of becoming economically distressed. They rank between the worst 10 percent and 25 percent of the nation's counties
- **Transitional:** Transitional counties are those transitioning between strong and weak economies. They make up the largest economic status designation. Transitional counties rank between the worst 25 percent and the best 25 percent of the nation's counties.
- **Competitive:** Competitive counties are those that are able to compete in the national economy but are not in the highest 10 percent of the nation's counties. Counties ranking between the best 10 percent and 25 percent of the nation's counties are classified competitive.
- **Attainment:** Attainment counties are the economically strongest counties. Counties ranking in the best 10 percent of the nation's counties are classified attainment.

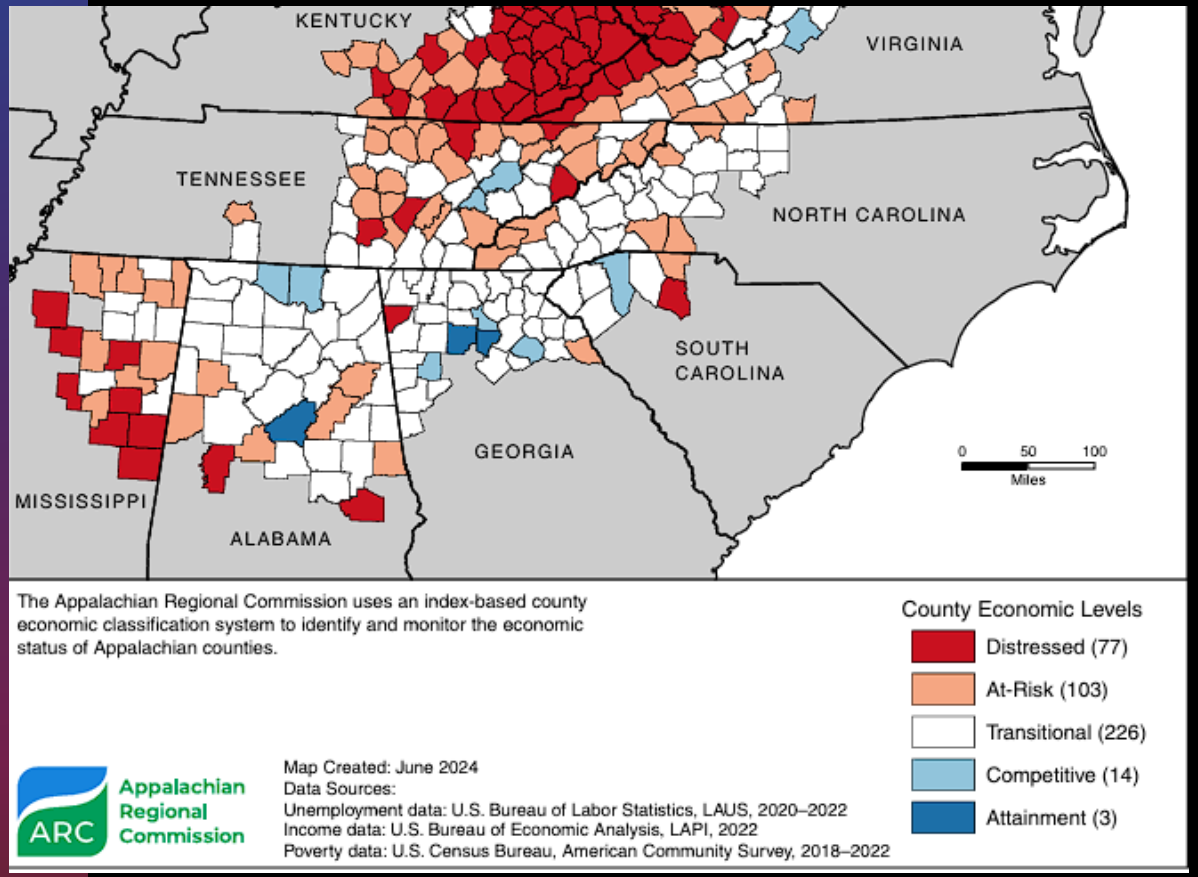
Tennessee Socioeconomic Data from East Tennessee Development District

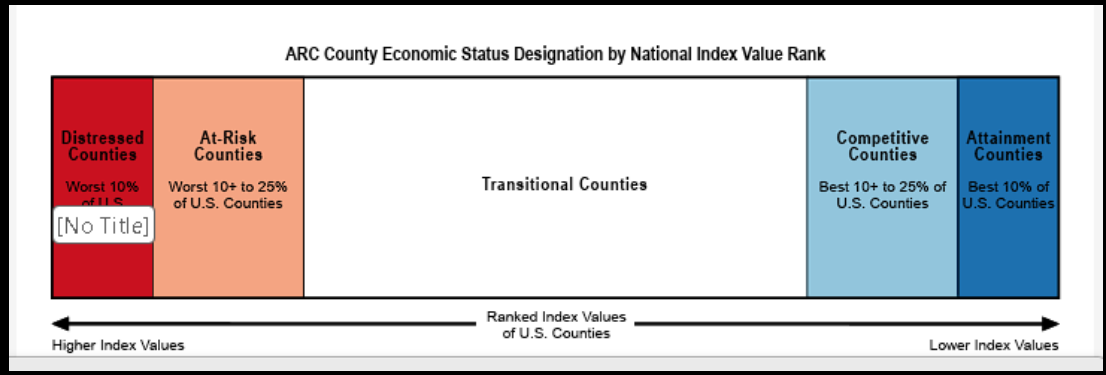
Tennessee Socioeconomic Data from East Tennessee Development District

The current fiscal year 2025 designations hold that, of the 16 ETDD counties, two (Loudon and Knox) are Competitive, seven are Transitional, five are At-Risk, and two (Scott and Cocke) are Distressed. [9] Here again there is evident an economic geography centered around the Knoxville Metro Area and its historical southwest development orientation. This geography highlights the need for investment in rural communities as well as regional-scale coordination of goals and long-term planning.

Tennessee Socioeconomic Data from East Tennessee Development District

https://www.arc.gov/classifying-economic-distress-in-appalachian-counties/





Tennessee Socioeconomic Data from East Tennessee Development District

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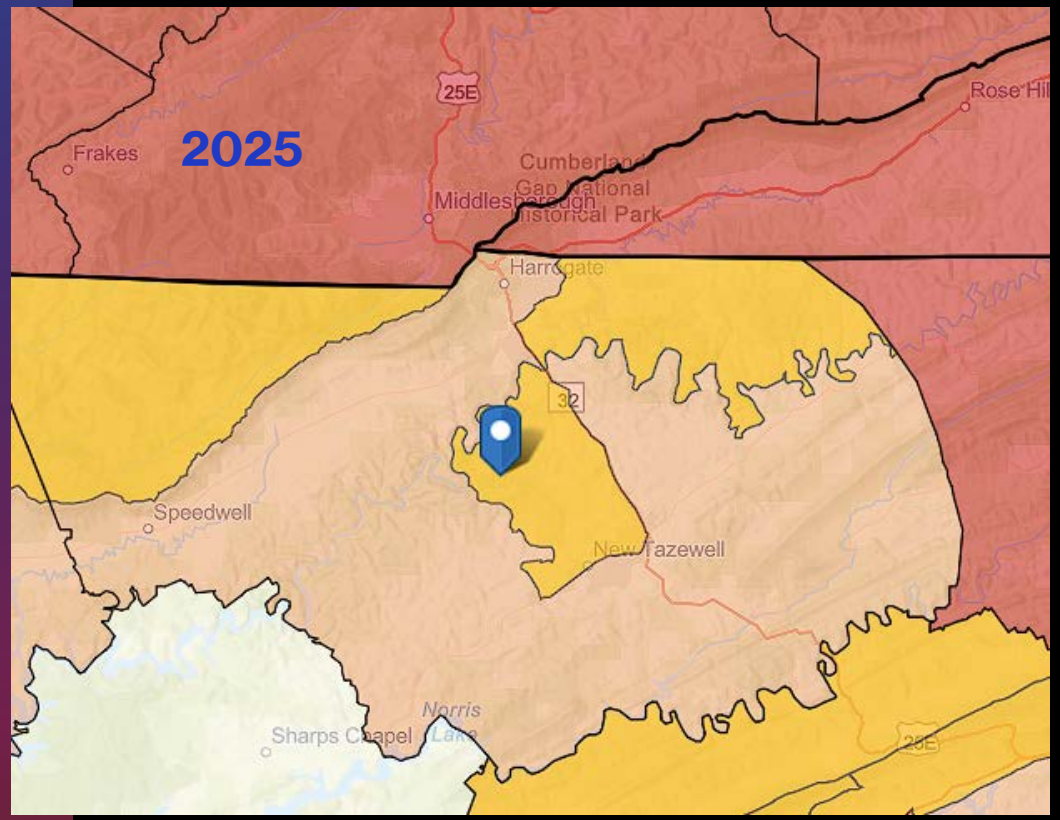


Claiborne County, Tennessee

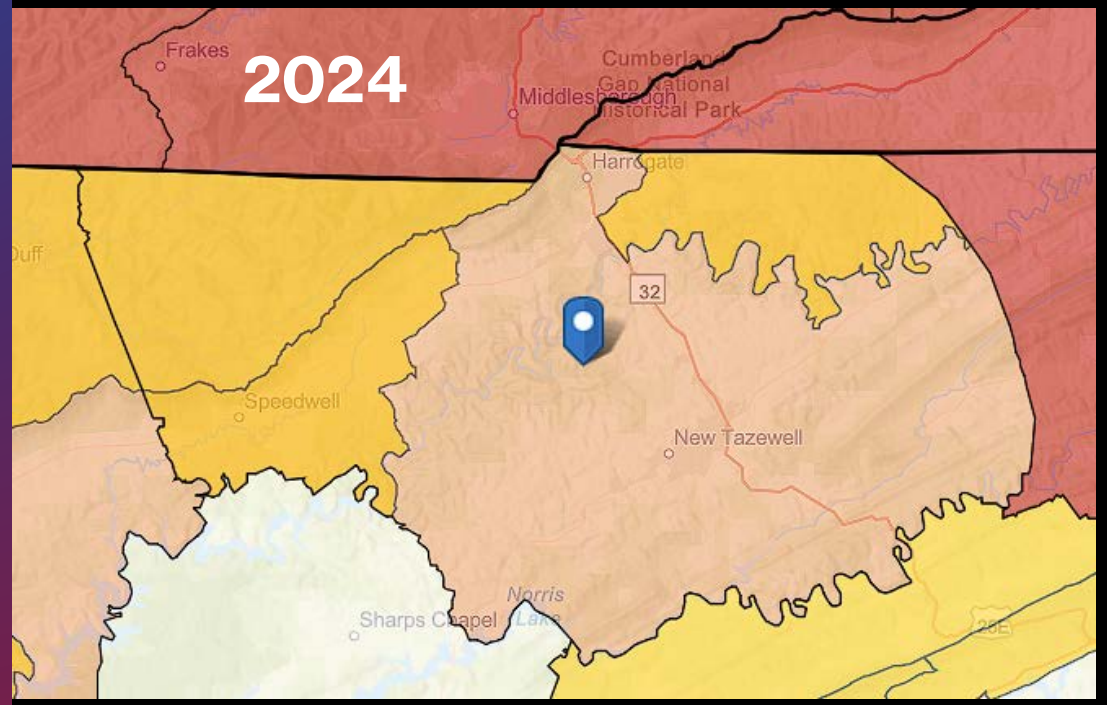
Claiborne County, Tennessee is designated as an **at-risk county** in fiscal year 2025. The maximum ARC share for projects funded in this county is **70%**. This county has **3 distressed areas** in fiscal year 2025.

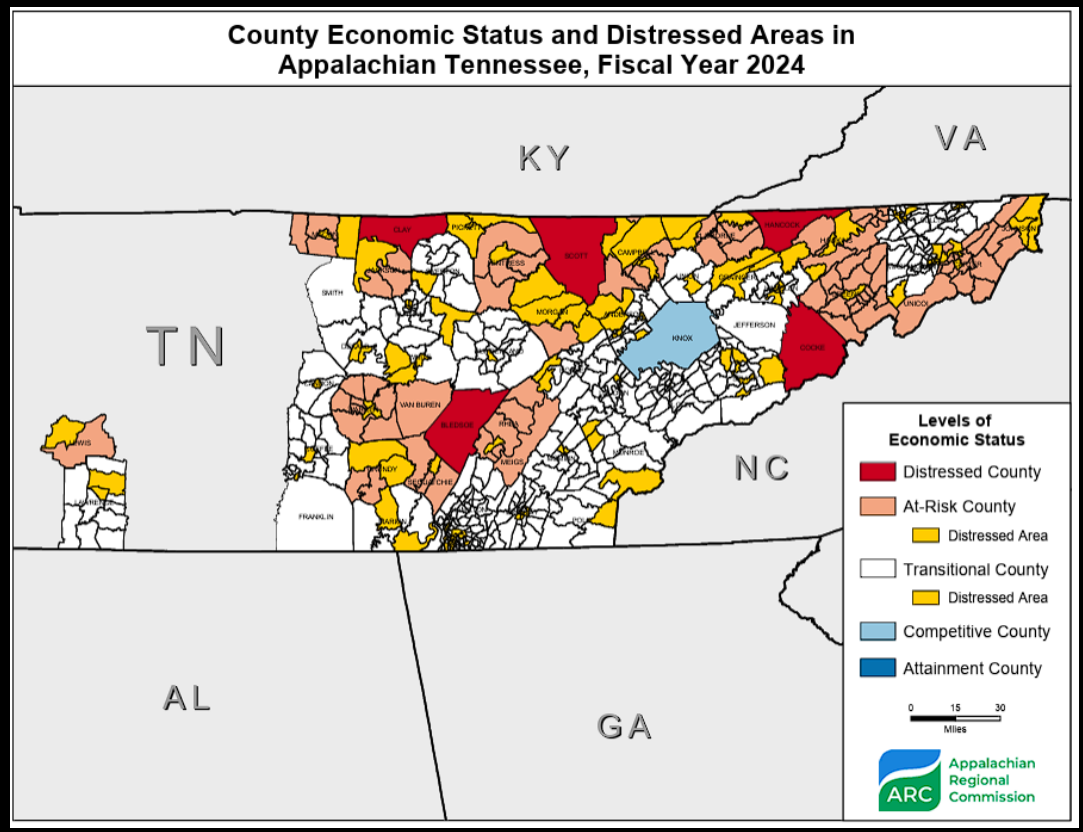
Note: distressed areas (census tracts) are designated only in at-risk and transitional counties.

Data sources and methodology:
County Economic Status
Distressed Areas

Tennessee Socioeconomic Data from East Tennessee Development District

https://www.arc.gov/classifying-economic-distress-in-appalachian-counties/



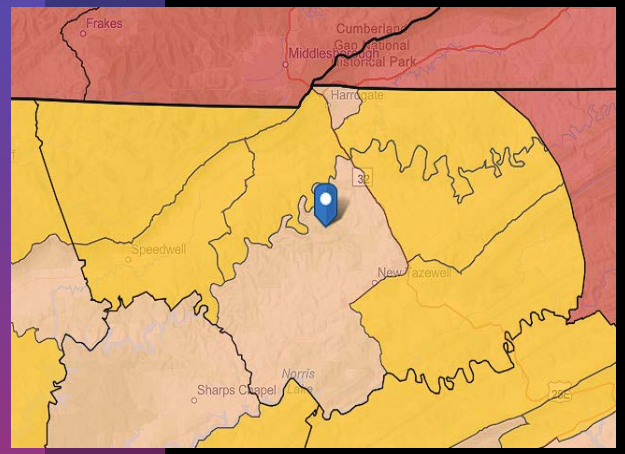


Claiborne County INCREASED distressed areas 2024 to 2025

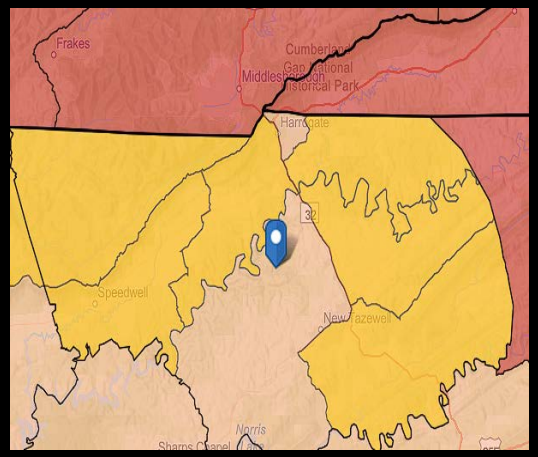
Tennessee Socioeconomic Data from East Tennessee Development District

https://www.arc.gov/classifying-economic-distress-in-appalachian-counties/

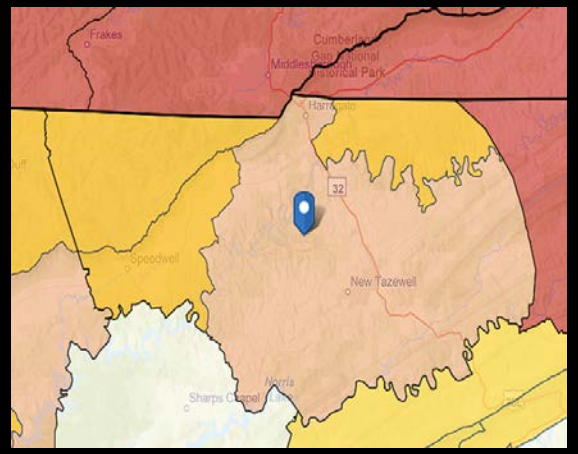
2022



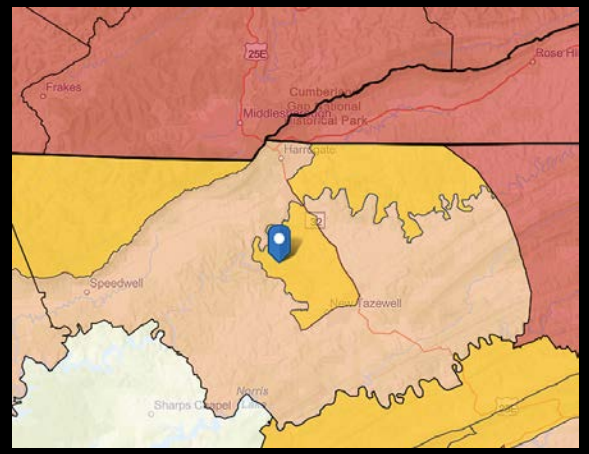
2023



2024



2025



Claiborne County INCREASED distressed areas 2024 to 2025

Tennessee Socioeconomic Data from East Tennessee Development District

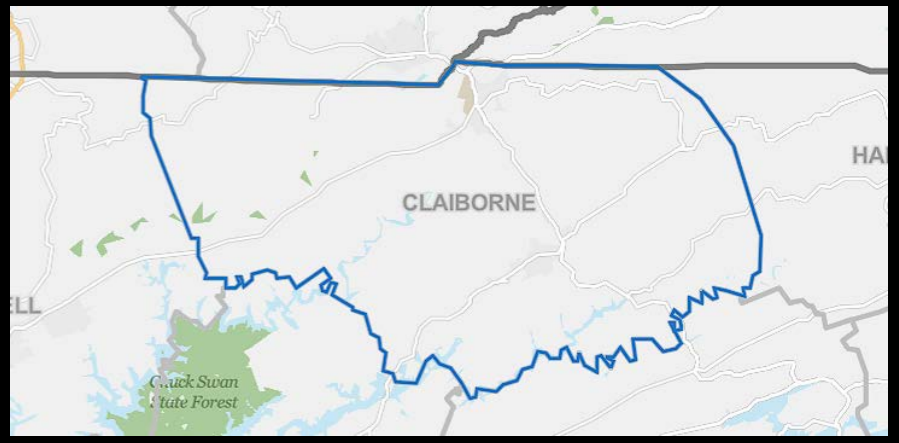
https://www.arc.gov/classifying-economic-distress-in-appalachian-counties/

opy section link

Community Health and Healthcare

In Tennessee, 9.3% of the residents are without health insurance. Over 60% of the ETDD service counties have residents at or above this state rate. Hamblen (13.9%) has the highest rate of residents without health coverage, with Cocke (12.8%), Scott (12%), and Sevier (11.9%) following.[10] Seventy-five percent of ETDD counties have a higher percentage of residents under the age of 65 with a disability than the state average of 11%. Scott (22%), Campbell (21%), and Grainger (20%) have the highest rates of residents in this category. Knox (8%), Loudon (9%) and Blount (9%) have the lowest rates of reported disabilities.[11]

United States® Census Bureau



https://data.census.gov/profile/Claiborne_County,_Tennessee?g=050XX00US47025

Populations and People
Total Population
32,043
P1 | *2020 Decennial Census*

Income and Poverty
Median Household Income
$46,587
S1901 | *2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Education
Bachelor's Degree or Higher
17.3%
S1501 | *2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Employment
Employment Rate
49.7%
DP03 | *2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Housing
Total Housing Units
15,321
H1 | *2020 Decennial Census*

Health
Without Health Care Coverage
9.9%
S2701 | *2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Business and Economy
Total Employer Establishments
451
CB2100CBP | *2021 Economic Surveys Business Patterns*

Families and Living Arrangements
Total Households
13,456
DP02 | *2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Race and Ethnicity
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
490
P9 | *2020 Decennial Census*

https://data.census.gov/profile/Claiborne_County,_Tennessee?g=050XX00US47025

Income and Earnings

$46,587 ± $2,995
Median Household Income in Claiborne County, Tennessee

$67,631 ± $865
Median Household Income in Tennessee

S1901 | *2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

Poverty

18.2% ± 2.8%
Poverty, All people in Claiborne County, Tennessee

14.0% ± 0.4%
Poverty, All people in Tennessee

S1701 | *2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

United States® Census Bureau

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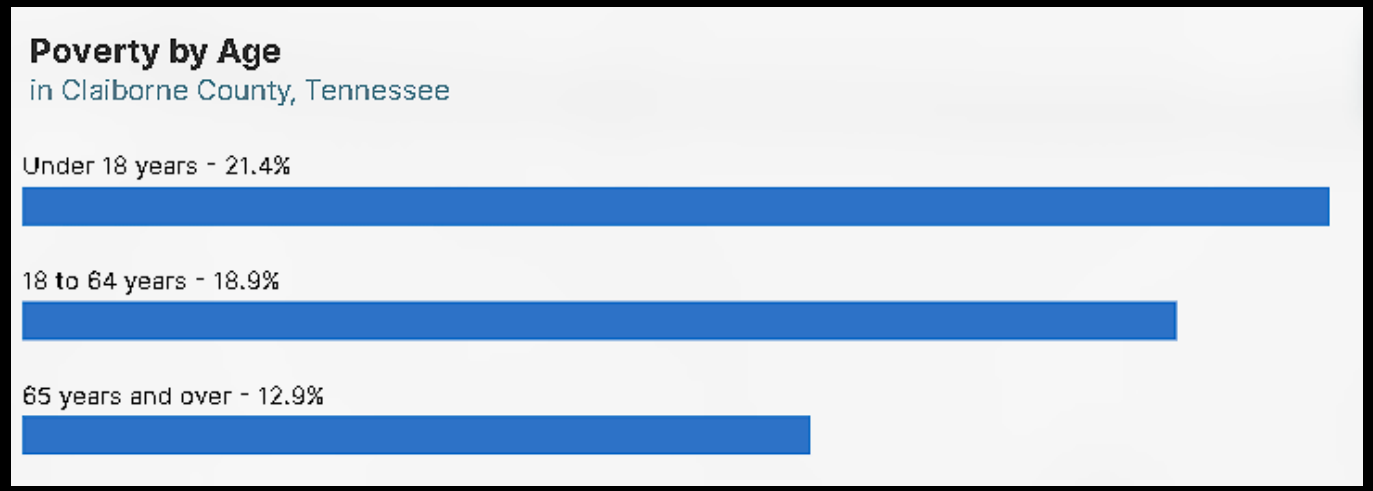


https://data.census.gov/profile/Claiborne_County,_Tennessee?g=050XX00US47025

Disability

24.3% ± 2.1%
Disabled Population in Claiborne County, Tennessee

14.5% ± 0.3%
Disabled Population in Tennessee

S1810 | *2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

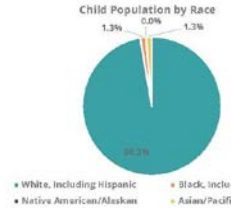
Claiborne County, Tennessee has a higher poverty rate than the state and national averages. In 2023, 24.5% of children in Claiborne County lived in poverty.

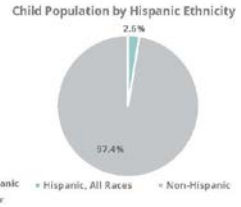
In November 2024, the poverty rate in Claiborne County, Tennessee was **22.6%** of the population. This included 27.7% of people under 18 and 19.9% of people 65 or older.

- **Claiborne County Youth Statistics -2023 (most recent available)**

65th CLAIBORNE

Population Under 18: 19.3%





Published May 2023

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING 72ND	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children living in poverty 24.5%	71st	22.0%	57th
Severe housing cost burden 9.8%	56th	13.3%	89th
Child care cost burden 27.1%	80th	24.4%	72nd

EDUCATION 62ND	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
3rd to 8th grade reading proficiency 30.1%	63rd	25.1%	59th
3rd to 8th grade math proficiency 27.3%	66th	26.1%	55th
Youth graduating high school on time 92.3%	57th	94.0%	30th

HEALTH 16TH	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children who are food insecure 15.5%	72nd	19.9%	73rd
Children who lack health insurance 4.7%	5th	4.4%	12th
Babies born at a low birthweight 7.9%	25th	7.1%	14th

FAMILY & COMMUNITY 70TH	Rank	Previous Percent/Rate	Previous Rank
Children living in single parent families 27.6%	22nd	23.9%	39th
Children who are chronically absent 26.7%	78th	21.8%	86th
Victims of abuse or neglect per 1,000 17.9	72nd	15.3	63rd

Claiborne County	Number	Rate	Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
Demographics					
Total population (state value is number not rate)	32,277	NA	6,975,170	0.5%	47
Population under 18 years of age (percent of total population)	6,242	19.3%	22.0%	87.9%	75
Economic Well-Being					
Youth unemployment	23	3.9%	12.9%	30.2%	8
Per capita personal income (state value is dollars not rate)	$42,542	NA	$56,560	75.2%	55
Median home sales price (state value is dollars not rate)	$168,500	NA	$283,410	59.5%	65
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	198	3.2%	1.5%	213.2%	88
Children receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)	1,854	29.7%	24.0%	123.7%	71
Fair market rent (percent of monthly median household income)	$850	23.5%	21.1%	111.7%	49
Education					
School age special education services	560	14.2%	12.2%	116.8%	62
TEIS participation (percent of children age 0 to 2)	39	4.0%	3.8%	105.4%	75
Cohort high school dropouts (percent of class cohort)	5	1.6%	6.7%	23.4%	11
Event high school dropouts (percent of students grade 9 to 12)	22	1.7%	4.0%	43.7%	45
Economically disadvantaged students	1,378	35.0%	30.0%	116.7%	60
School suspensions	161	4.2%	5.1%	82.0%	52
Graduating seniors scoring 21 or better on the ACT at least once	80	28.0%	35.3%	79.2%	61
Young adult college enrollment (percent of graduating seniors)	676	50.7%	52.8%	96.0%	44
Health					
Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	13	41.27	6.6	625.6%	41
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	65	20.8%	9.1%	228.9%	80
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	5,032	67.5%	55.3%	122.0%	76
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	10,345	32.1%	24.9%	128.7%	84
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	214	67.9%	55.1%	123.4%	59
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	168	4.4%	7.6%	57.9%	5
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)	0	0.00	20.7	0.0%	1
Teen violent deaths (per 100,000 youth age 15 to 19)	0	0.0	69.7	0.0%	1
Adequate prenatal care	252	81.0%	73.9%	109.6%	25
Pediatric physicians (per 100,000 children)	3	48.1	76.5	62.9%	22
Public school students measured as overweight/obese	NA	44.6%	42.8%	104.2%	51
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 youth age 15 to 17)	<5	*	16.6	*	*
WIC participation (percent of children under 5)	760	46.1%	31.7%	145.6%	64
Dentists by county (per 100,000 residents)	9	27.9	41.4	67.3%	34
Family & Community					
Reported child abuse cases	360	5.8%	4.6%	125.7%	63
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	39	5.5	2.8	197.0%	73
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	80	11.3	5.3	214.1%	82
Juvenile court referrals	195	3.1%	1.8%	174.4%	76
Recorded marriages (per 1,000 residents)	232	7.2	6.6	109.8%	24
Recorded divorces (per 1,000 residents)	143	4.5	3.2	139.6%	87
Young driver accidents (percent of age 15-24 driver's licenses)	163	5.6%	12.3%	45.8%	13
Regulated child care spaces (percent of children age 0 to 12)	1,452	33.5%	28.9%	115.8%	14
Child care assistance (per 1,000 children age 0 to 12)	49	11.3	24.9	45.3%	47

- **Claiborne County Youth Statistics -2023 (most recent available)**

Claiborne

Overall

At 65th, Claiborne County is in the bottom half of Tennessee counties in child well-being. The county's strongest area was Health.

Strengths

Claiborne's strongest indicator is the percent of children without health insurance, where the county ranks 4th. The county also performs well in the percent of children in the county who live in a single parent household at 27.6%.

Opportunities

The county's biggest challenge is the child care cost burden, where it ranks 80th. 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, non-profit partners and community engagement.

Reducing the cost of child care is a difficult project for many local governments to launch. The best option may be to encourage unlicensed local child care businesses to pursue licensure by the Tennessee Department of Human Resources, as they have multiple programs supporting child care businesses, educators and client families associated with licensed facilities. Beyond that, providing supervised recreation activities for older children during out-of-school hours and developing parent-led afterschool care programs can provide lower cost alternatives for families. Businesses interested in supporting families with child care cost burden can offer Dependent Flexible Spending Accounts. Businesses that provide on-site child care, partner with a third party to provide care or facilitate employees finding care are eligible for a federal tax credit of up to $150,000 per year.

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.

Business Characteristics

2,653 Companies Employ Your Workers

Online profiles for your workers mention 2,653 companies as employers, with the top 10 appearing below. In the last 12 months, 230 companies in Claiborne County, TN posted job postings, with the top 10 appearing below.

Top Companies	Profiles
Lincoln Memorial University	381
Claiborne Medical Center	56
England Furniture	50
Deroyal	42
Claiborne County Schools	38
Commercial Bank	35
Walmart	35
Amedisys	28
Smithfield Foods	23
Dtr Tennessee	18

Top Companies Posting	Unique Postings
Lincoln Memorial University	494
Covenant Health	92
Claiborne Medical Center	87
K-Va-T Food Stores	79
Dish	64
Fast Pace Health	57
Walmart	52
Exceptional Living Centers	47
Compass Group	31
Amedisys	29

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Laborshed Information

Laborshed County Statistics

County	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Rate
Claiborne County	12,924	12,428	496	3.8%
Bell County, KY	8,610	8,052	558	6.5%
Campbell County	15,254	14,632	622	4.1%
Grainger County	9,923	9,542	381	3.8%
Hancock County	2,378	2,270	108	4.5%
Harlan County, KY	6,718	6,095	623	9.3%
Lee County, VA	8,203	7,898	305	3.7%
Union County	8,015	7,687	328	4.1%
Whitley County, KY	14,080	13,309	771	5.5%
Laborshed	**86,105**	**81,913**	**4,192**	**4.9%**

ESTIMATED WORKING AGE POPULATION IN LABOR SHED: 143,508

Monthly Labor Statistics

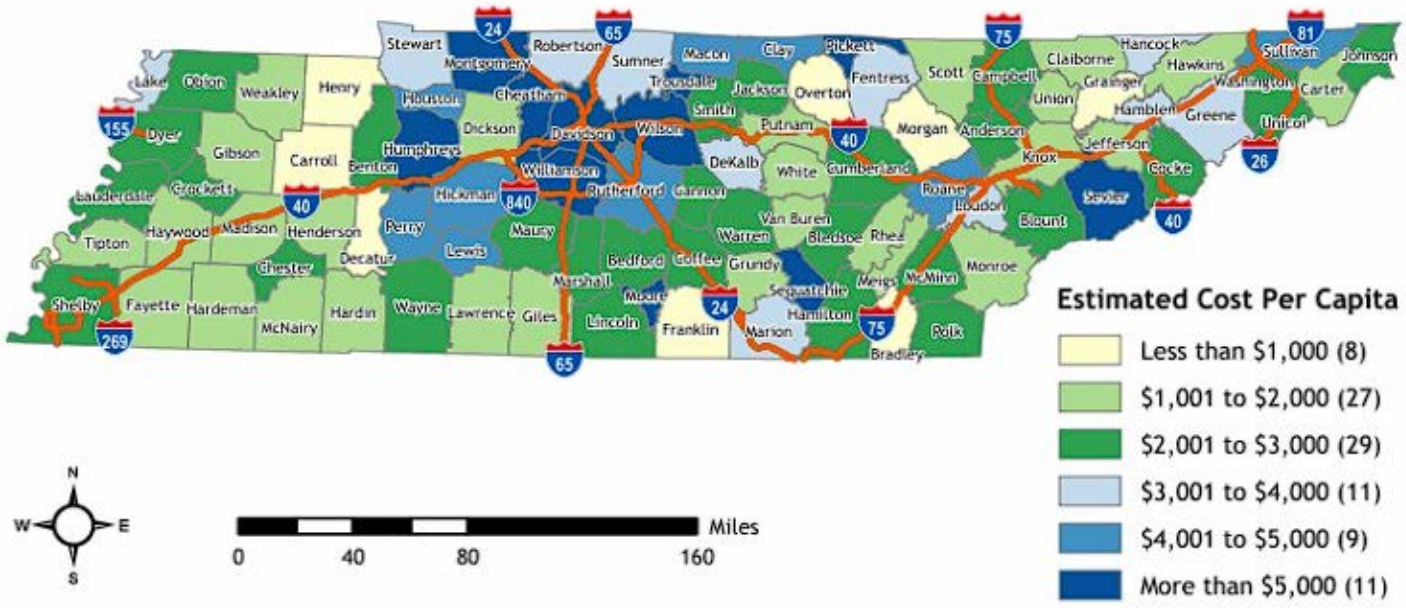
Year	Period	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Rate
2024	November	12,924	12,428	496	3.8%
2024	October	12,912	12,411	501	3.9%
2024	September	12,857	12,327	530	4.1%
2024	August	12,840	12,321	519	4.0%
2024	July	12,829	12,272	557	4.3%
2024	June	12,852	12,274	578	4.5%
2024	May	12,835	12,417	418	3.3%
2024	April	12,906	12,509	397	3.1%
2024	March	13,049	12,578	471	3.6%
2024	February	12,905	12,457	448	3.5%
2024	January	12,780	12,233	547	4.3%
2023	December	12,858	12,408	450	3.5%
2023	November	12,930	12,424	506	3.9%

Source: TN Dept of Labor & Workforce Dev, Div Emp Sec, R & S; ETEDA *www.etedo.org*

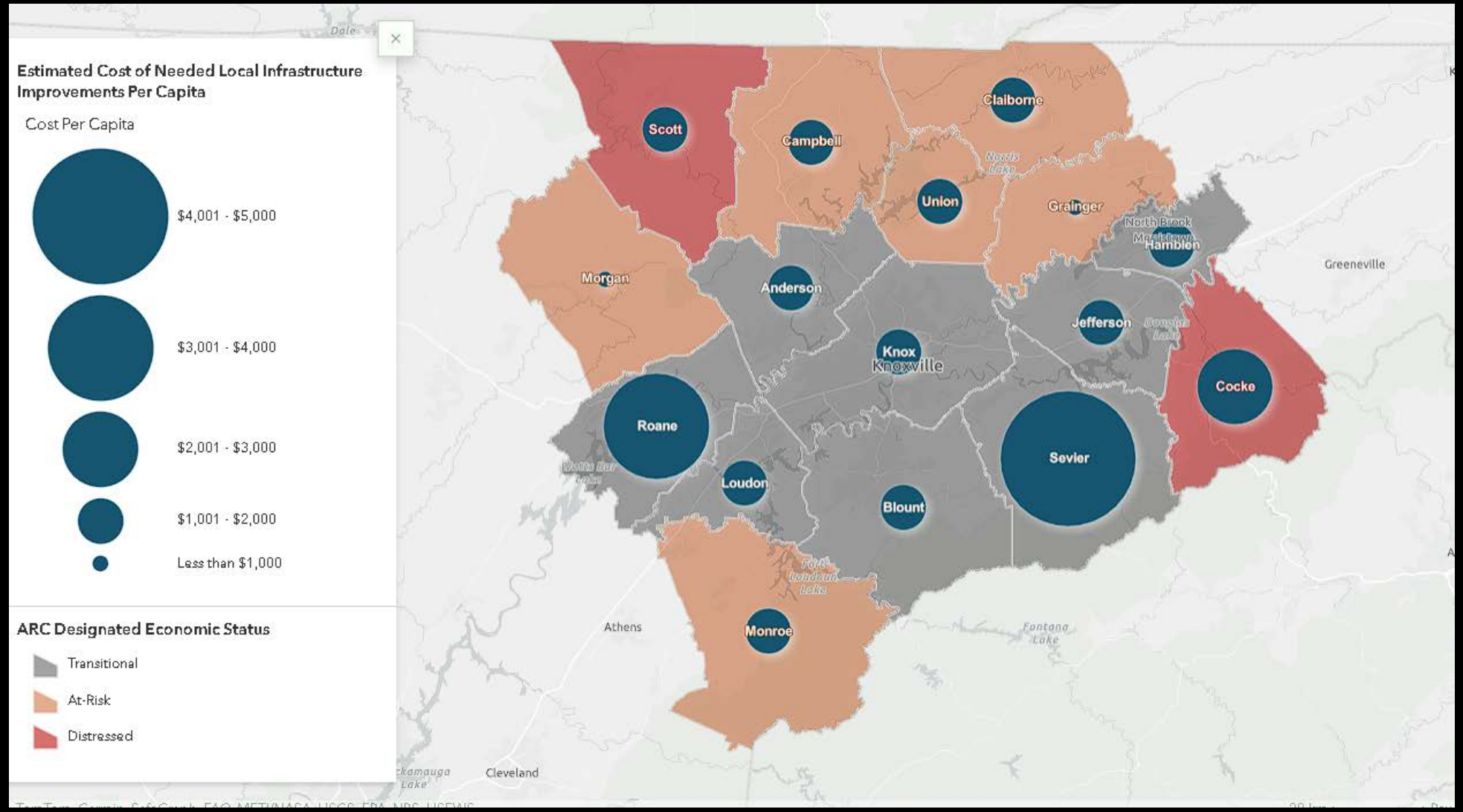
On the POSITIVE

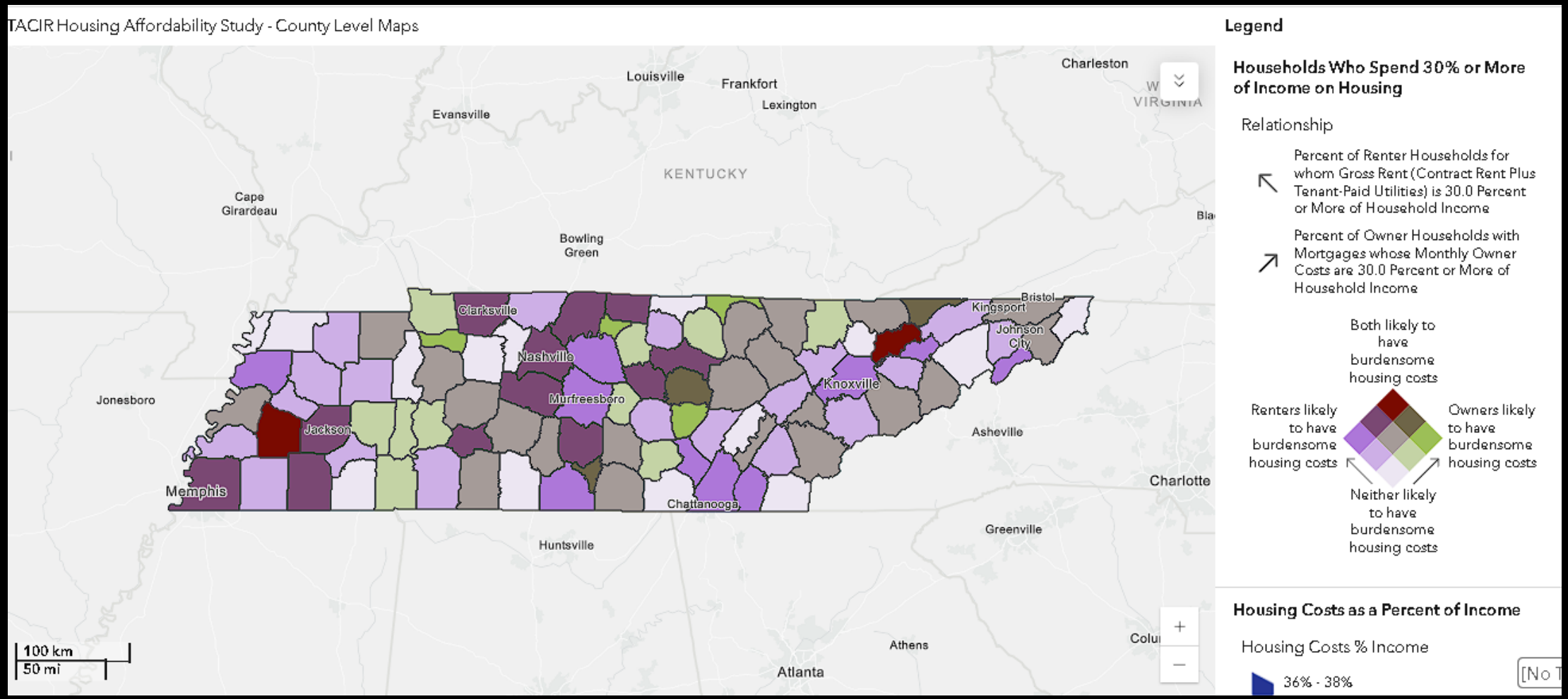
Map 2. Estimated Cost Per Capita of Needed Local Infrastructure Improvements

Five-year Period July 2022 through June 2027



Tennessee Advisor Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, 2024 [38]

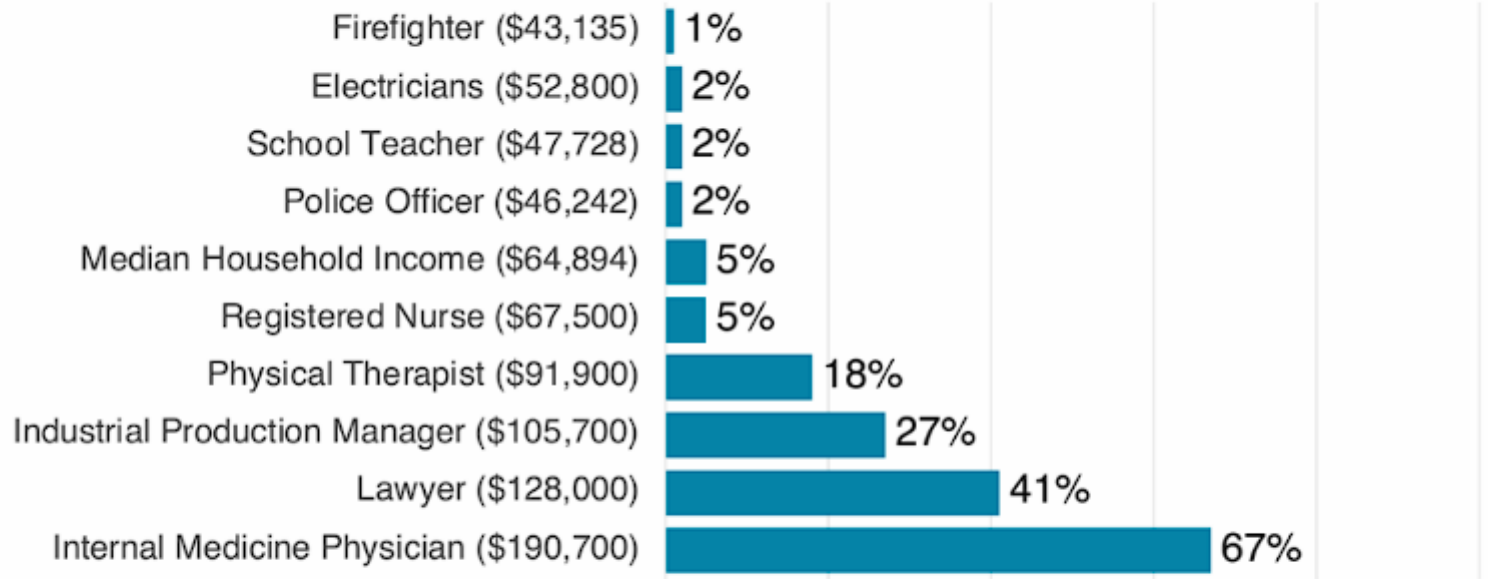

Estimated Cost of Needed Local Infrastructure Improvements Per Capita
Cost Per Capita
$4,001 - $5,000
$3,001 - $4,000
$2,001 - $3,000
$1,001 - $2,000
Less than $1,000
ARC Designated Economic Status
Transitional
At-Risk
Distressed
Scott
Campbell
Claiborne
Union
Grainger
Hamblen
Morgan
Anderson
Jefferson
Knox
Knoxville
Cocke
Roane
Loudon
Blount
Sevier
Monroe
Greeneville
Athens
Cleveland


TACIR Housing Affordability Study - County Level Maps
Louisville
Frankfort
Lexington
Charleston
Evansville
KENTUCKY
Cape Girardeau
Bowling Green
Clarksville
Nashville
Murfreesboro
Jackson
Memphis
Jonesboro
Knoxville
Chattanooga
Kingsport
Bristol
Johnson City
Asheville
Charlotte
Greenville
Huntsville
Athens
Atlanta
100 km
50 mi
Legend
Households Who Spend 30% or More of Income on Housing
Relationship
Percent of Renter Households for whom Gross Rent (Contract Rent Plus Tenant-Paid Utilities) is 30.0 Percent or More of Household Income
Percent of Owner Households with Mortgages whose Monthly Owner Costs are 30.0 Percent or More of Household Income
Both likely to have burdensome housing costs
Renters likely to have burdensome housing costs
Owners likely to have burdensome housing costs
Neither likely to have burdensome housing costs
Housing Costs as a Percent of Income
Housing Costs % Income
36% - 38%

Stable, affordable housing supports physical, mental, social, and financial health. Unattainably high housing costs have negative impacts on communities and local economies, causing issues with workforce recruitment and retainment.[45] Longer commutes, driven by workers seeking more affordable living conditions further away from their place of employment, cause mental strain and contribute to burnout.[46] Additionally, overburdening of costs by housing creates a community opportunity cost where local economies lose out on potential profit, as households spend more of their budgets on rent or mortgages and less on other expenses.[45] **As housing costs have increased in recent years, median household income has not kept pace, meaning it is more difficult for bedrock citizens to be able to afford stable housing.** Nurses, teachers, and firefighters are imperative to communities but are being priced out of the very places they serve.

Housing Affordability Lowest Among "Essential Workers"

Share of Listings That Are Affordable By Occupation



Source: East Tennessee REALTORS®; JobsEQ; Job Postings
Note: Data as of August 2023. Assumes a 5% downpayment on a 30-year fixed-rate loan (7%) with zero points, 0.5% property taxes, 0.4% property insurance, 0.558% private mortgage insurance, and a maximum 30% debt-to-income ratio.

ETRA KAPA State of Housing Report 2022 [47]

Strengths:

- Education
- Collaboration Opportunities
- Natural Resources
- Quality of Life / Cost of Living
- Industry

Education - Tennessee prides itself on providing access to all types of higher education institutions and programs. The state of Tennessee has 12 public universities, 13 community colleges, and 27 Colleges of Applied Technology that focus on technical skills. [48] For the 2020-2021 academic year, the East Tennessee Development District had 55,753 students enrolled in public higher education which includes the state's flagship public university, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. [49] Additionally, the ETDD is home to four private universities as well as the Oak Ridge National Laboratory which works closely with many schools in the area to provide further education opportunities.

Collaboration Opportunities - The East Tennessee Development District boasts a 16-county region that strives to achieve an inclusive regional image reflective in the workforce, economic development, and grant awards received. This large region shares a vision for conscious economic development, while preserving the abundant natural resources. The central location and vision of ETDD creates a communication network between county, municipality, and regional leaders that would otherwise not exist. Comprehensive plans highlight what is working and what aspects of the region need to be further addressed via collaborative meetups and quarterly reports. Revisiting the region's vision will ensure goals are being met and ideally exceeded. Recent regional and development district re-branding will encourage collaborative projects and funding.

Natural Resources - East Tennessee is home to some of the most visited natural sights in the state of Tennessee. The Great Smoky Mountain National Park is the most visited national park in the United States and is located in Sevier County in the East Tennessee Development District. A large portion of East Tennessee's economy comes from tourists visiting from all over the country to see the many lakes and rivers and hike the Appalachian Mountain trails. In addition to the natural beauty of the landscape, East Tennessee also houses a strong agricultural industry with a large number of cattle farms located within the district.

Strengths:

- **Education**
- **Collaboration Opportunities**
- **Natural Resources**
- **Quality of Life / Cost of Living**
- **Industry**

Quality of Life / Cost of Living - The State of Tennessee is one of the few states in the country to have no state income tax. Therefore, the taxation rate of residents in Tennessee is relatively low compared to the rates in other states. The low cost of living combined with multitude of cheap recreational activities in East Tennessee provide for a high quality of life within the district.

Industry - The region has existing industry that is diverse and groundbreaking. The growing out-ofstate population has the potential to include a more diverse workforce. The new and existing population continues to include innovative industry and organizations. Regional economic development is centered around attracting modern and employee focused industries and concepts. Production industries continue to make up the majority of employers in the region, but modern employment practices and benefits continue to be competitive for both the region and industry itself. Industry growth in the region signifies an increase in job opportunities and is reflective of workforce availability

Weaknesses:

- **Diversity**
- **Available Workforce**
- **Lack of Trained Workforce**
- **Collaboration and Leadership**
- **Poverty/Lack of Resources**

Diversity - Tennessee is one of the least diverse states in the country with over 78% of its population being white. [50] This statistic is further exaggerated in rural counties many of which are located in the ETDD. The district could improve on ensuring that minority voices are amplified and not drowned out by the vast majority.

Available Work Force - With the Baby Boomer generation entering retirement age, Tennessee is wrestling with the issue of losing a large portion of their talented workforce. Additionally, many counties in the ETDD have a lower labor participation rate than the state average. The combination of these conditions has created a strain on many of the local businesses' ability to retain enough qualified employees. To compound the issue, many places do not have housing options to entice new workers into the area.

Lack of Trained Workforce - While Tennessee has invested heavily in technical schools, the enrollment numbers are very small. Potential college-goers in Tennessee are not convinced that technical schools are a viable option to increase earnings in the future. For years, the trend has been that bachelor's degrees are necessary for jumpstarting careers. This narrative has created an oversaturation in undergrad related markets while other technical and blue collar labor force markets are suffering from a lack of certified workers.

Collaboration and Leadership - Many economic development plans and programs in East Tennessee, and in particular small business programs, are enacted by municipal and county governments without consultation or collaboration with other local governments. This results in disconnected and often duplicative plans which limit the economic development potential for the entire region. The region lacks a single point of contact to spearhead collaboration on regional economic development plans.

Poverty/Lack of Resources - Tennessee has consistently had a higher poverty level than the national average. Anderson, Knox, and Sevier counties have some of the highest poverty rates in the state which are all located in the ETDD region. These high poverty levels are brought on by a lack of affordable housing and low wages. Many of these counties with high poverty rates are also experiencing a high homelessness rate.

Claiborne County Crime Stats from Multiple Sources

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE • FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION • CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION

2018 CRIME in the UNITED STATES

Criminal Justice Information Services Division Feedback | Contact Us | Data Quality Guidelines | UCR Home

Home | Offenses Known to Law Enforcement | Violent Crime | Property Crime | Clearances | Persons Arrested | Police Employee Data

Table 10

TENNESSEE

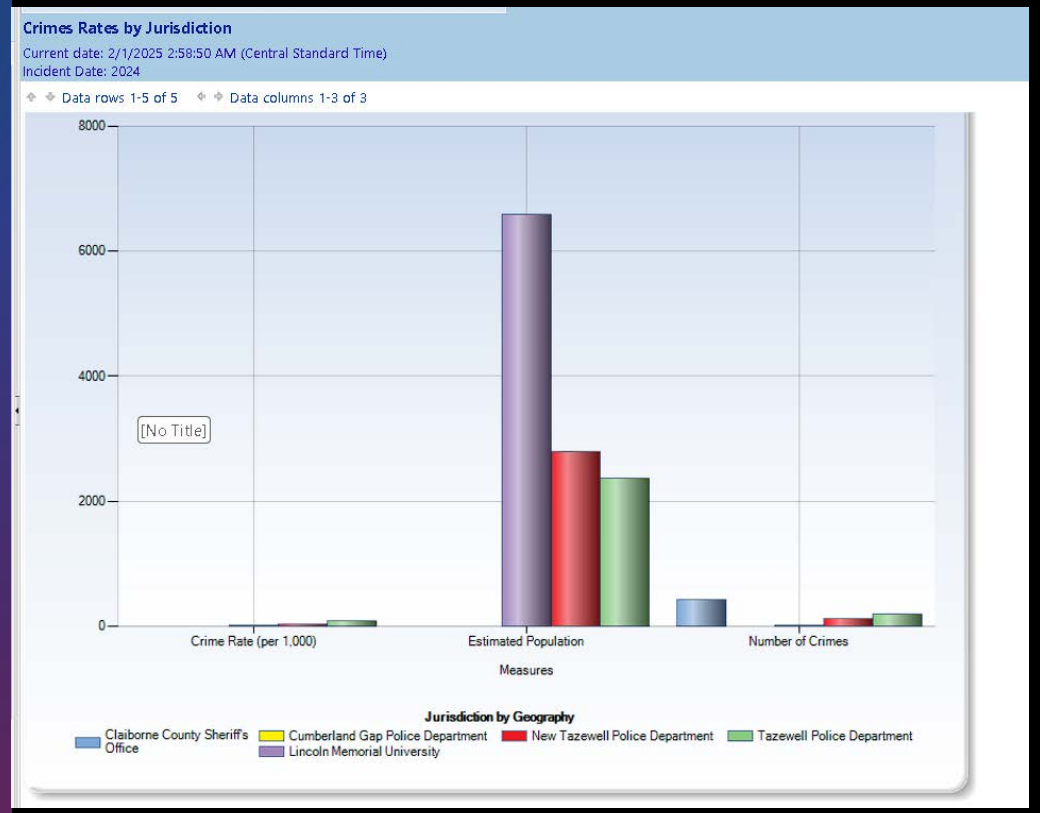
Offenses Known to Law Enforcement

by Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Counties, 2018

[The data shown in this table do not reflect county totals but are the number of offenses reported by the sheriff's office or county police department.]

Data Declaration Download Excel Table 10 State Listing

Metropolitan/Nonmetropolitan	County	Violent crime	Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter	Rape[1]	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Property crime	Burglary	Larceny-theft	Motor vehicle theft	Arson
	Carroll	27	1	1	1	24	188	77	85	26	1
	Claiborne	49	0	5	3	41	321	97	171	53	1
	Clay	13	0	2	0	11	27	10	13	4	0
	Cocke	81	0	7	0	74	436	146	201	89	3



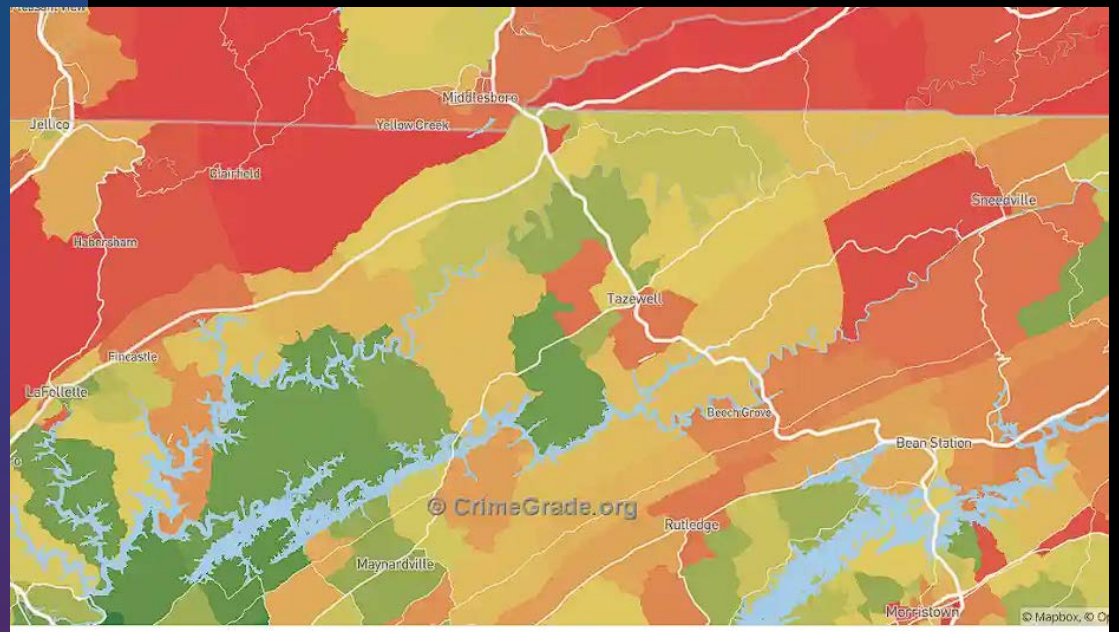
Crimes Rates by Jurisdiction

Current date: 2/1/2025 3:00:31 AM (Central Standard Time)
Incident Date: 2024

Rows 1-5 of 5 Columns 1-3 of 3

Measures / Jurisdiction by Geography	Crime Rate (per 1,000)	Estimated Population	Number of Crimes
Claiborne County Sheriff'...			432
Cumberland Gap Police Dep...			
Lincoln Memorial Universi...	1.06	6,587	7
New Tazewell Police Depar...	44.66	2,799	125
Tazewell Police Departmen...	83.76	2,364	198

https://crimeinsight.tbi.tn.gov/public/View/dispview.aspx



D

Overall Crime Grade™

Violent Crime Grade	D+
Property Crime Grade	D
Other Crime Grade	B+

Which crimes are included?

Fact — A crime occurs every 5 hours 31 minutes (on average) in Claiborne County.

300% — Your home is 300% more likely to be robbed with no home security system.

[No Title]

Best Home Security Systems in Claiborne County, TN

Claiborne County, TN Property Crime Rates and Non-Violent Crime Maps

https://crimegrade.org/property-crime-claiborne-county-tn/

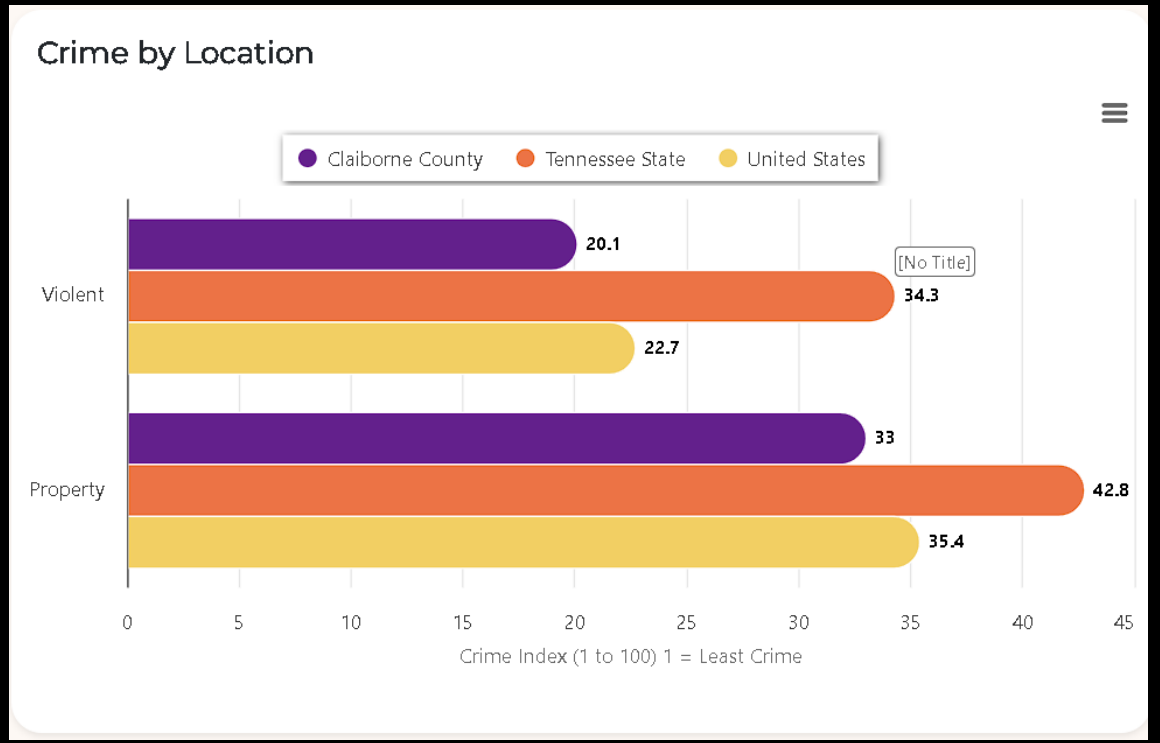
https://www.bestplaces.net/crime/county/tennessee/claiborne

Located in the northeastern region of Tennessee, Claiborne County has a lower rate of violent crime compared to the national average. According to recent data, violent crime in this county is at a rate of 20.1, while the US average is 22.7. This means that the community has a relatively safer environment when it comes to violent crimes such as murder, assault, and robbery. However, property crime in Claiborne County is slightly higher than the national average, with a rate of 33 compared to 35.4. This type of crime includes burglary, theft, and motor vehicle theft. Overall, while there is still a level of criminal activity present in Claiborne County, the county has a lower rate of violent crime, providing a sense of security for its residents.
Crime is ranked on a scale of 1 (low crime) to 100 (high crime)

Claiborne County violent crime is 20.1. (The US average is 22.7)

Claiborne County property crime is 33.0. (The US average is 35.4)

NOTE: The city of Claiborne, Tennessee does not have FBI Crime Statistics. The closest similar sized city with FBI crime data is the city of Morristown, Tennessee. The charts below are detailed crime statistics for the city of Morristown, Tennessee. Click links below to see charts for each crime category.



NICHE

https://www.niche.com/places-to-live/c/claiborne-county-tn/

Crime & Safety

Violent Crimes (Calculated annually per 100,000 residents)		National
Assault	396.4	282.7
Murder	0	6.1
Rape	59.5	40.7
Robbery	59.5	135.5

Property Crimes (Calculated annually per 100,000 residents)		National
Burglary	436.1	500.1
Theft	2,973.2	2,042.8
Motor Vehicle Theft	337	284

More About Claiborne County Crime >

C+

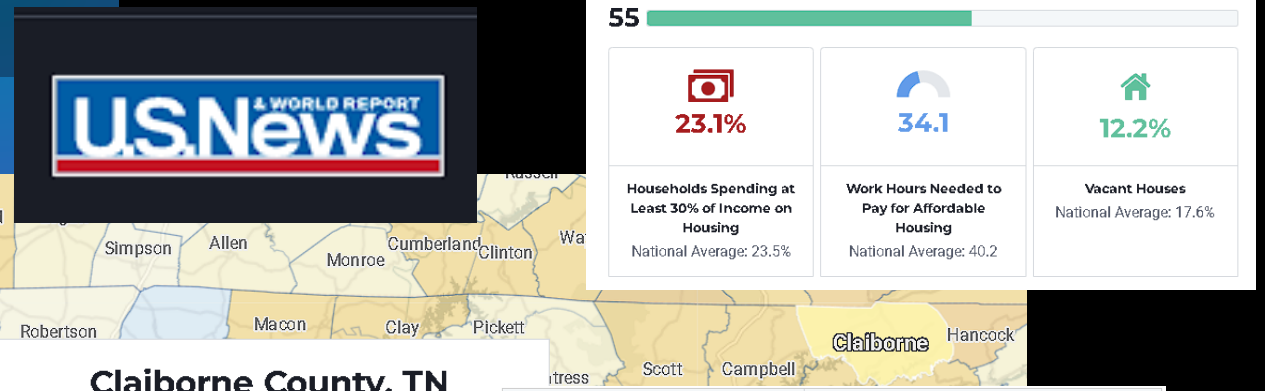
Overall Niche Grade

How are grades calculated?

Data Sources

C	Public Schools	B-	Housing
C	Nightlife	C+	Good for Families
C	Diversity	C+	Jobs
B-	Weather	A-	Cost of Living [No Title]
B	Health & Fitness	B+	Outdoor Activities
C+	Commute		

https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/tennessee/claiborne-county



Claiborne County, TN

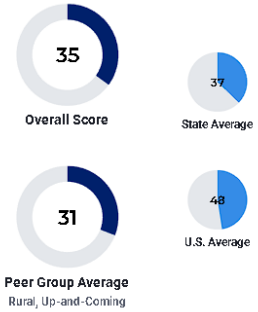
Peer Group: Rural, Up-and-Coming

Population
32,092
Land Area
435 SQ MI

OVERALL HOUSING SCORE
55

23.1%	34.1	12.2%
Households Spending at Least 30% of Income on Housing National Average: 23.5%	Work Hours Needed to Pay for Affordable Housing National Average: 40.2	Vacant Houses National Average: 17.6%

35/100 OVERALL SCORE



CATEGORY	SCORE
Population Health	32
Equity	81
Education	49
Economy	27
Housing	55
Food & Nutrition	49
Environment	40
Public Safety	42
Community Vitality	38
Infrastructure	50

See the top communities overall »

OVERALL POPULATION HEALTH SCORE
32

12.4%	24.7%	71.9 years
Population With No Health Insurance National Average: 11.5%	Smoking Rate National Average: 19.0%	Life Expectancy National Average: 75.8 years

OVERALL ECONOMY SCORE
27

3.9%	$49,800	18.3%
Unemployment Rate National Average: 3.6%	Median Household Income National Average: $69,434	[No Title] Poverty Rate National Average: 14.4%

OVERALL EQUITY SCORE
81

0.02	0.024	0.40
Racial Disparity in Educational Attainment National Average: 0.18	Premature Death Disparity Index Score National Average: 0.238	Segregation Index Score National Average: 0.39

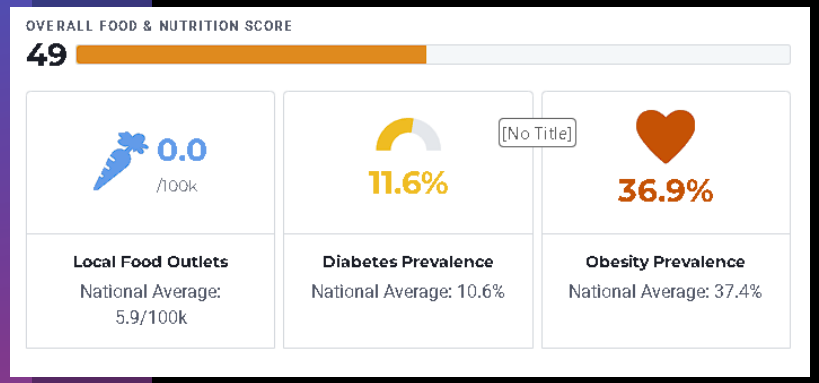
OVERALL EDUCATION SCORE
49

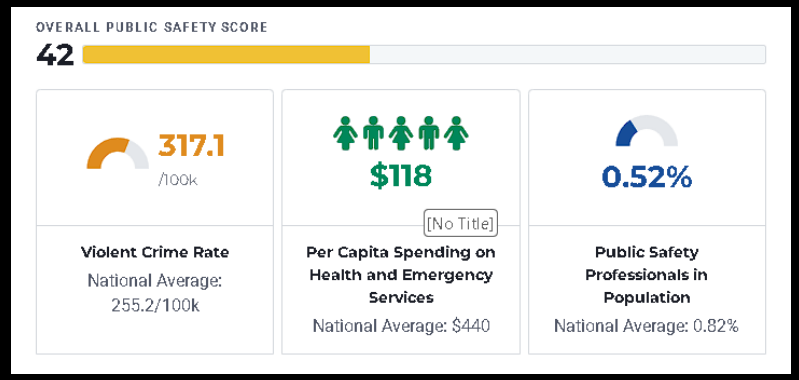
94.0%	27.6%	$11,369
High School Graduation Rate National Average: 88.0%	Population With Advanced Degree National Average: 33.1%	Per-Pupil Expenditures National Average: $16,485

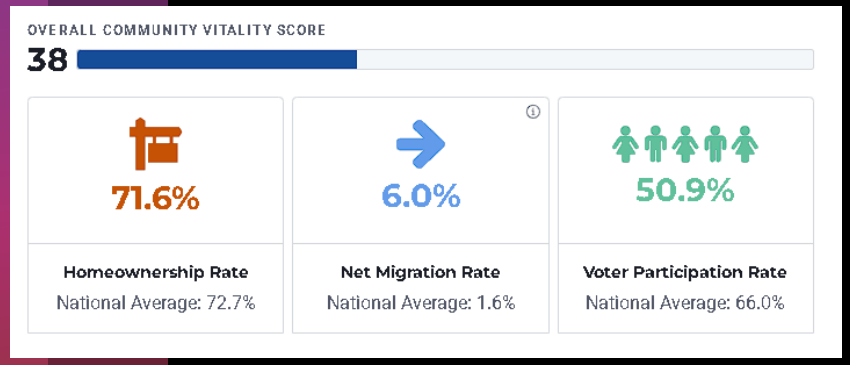
OVERALL ENVIRONMENT SCORE
40

0.00 /1k	8.3%	8.0
Drinking Water Violation Rate National Average: 5.76/1k	Population Within 0.5 Mile of a Park National Average: 31.7%	Extreme Heat Days per Year National Average: 11.2

https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/tennessee/claiborne-county







There isn't much information about crime statistics in Claiborne County, Tennessee for 2024 right now, but here's some information about crime in Tennessee in 2024.

Violent crime

In 2024, Tennessee saw about 672.7 violent crimes per 100,000 people, which is higher than the national average of 398 per 100,000.

Property crime

In 2024, Tennessee saw about 11,000 fewer property crime reports than in 2023.

Major crimes

In 2024, Tennessee saw more than 110,000 major crimes reported, which is down from 2023's record-breaking high of 124,000 reports.

DATA USA:

https://datausa.io/profile/geo/claiborne-county-tn

The income class divisions of people in Claiborne County, Tennessee are:

- **Under $50,000**: 53% of the population
- **$50,000–$100,000**: 30% of the population
- **$100,000–$200,000**: 14% of the population
- **Over $200,000**: 4% of the population

The median household income in Claiborne County was $37,954 in 2023.

Explanation

Claiborne County is located in upper East Tennessee. The county seat is Tazewell, and the largest city is Harrogate.

Living Wage Calculation for Claiborne County, Tennessee

The living wage shown is the hourly rate that an **individual** in a household must earn to support themselves and/or their family, working full-time, or 2080 hours per year. The tables below provide living wage estimates for individuals and households with one or two working adults and zero to three children. In households with two working adults, all hourly values reflect what one working adult requires to earn to meet their families' basic needs, assuming the other adult also earns the same.

The poverty wage and state minimum wage are for reference purposes. Poverty wage estimates come from the Department of Health and Human Services' Poverty Guidelines for 2024 and have been converted from an annual value to an hourly wage for ease of comparison. The state minimum wage data is sourced from the Labor Law Center and includes the minimum wage in a given state as of January of that year.

For further detail, please reference the Methodology page. The data on this page was last updated on February 14, 2024.

	1 ADULT				2 ADULTS (1 WORKING)				2 ADULTS (BOTH WORKING)			
	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children
Living Wage	$17.93	$29.01	$35.85	$44.15	$25.13	$29.54	$33.66	$35.34	$12.56	$16.60	$20.49	$22.23
Poverty Wage	$7.24	$9.83	$12.41	$15.00	$9.83	$12.41	$15.00	$17.59	$4.91	$6.21	$7.50	$8.79
Minimum Wage	$7.25	$7.25	$7.25	$7.25	$7.25	$7.25	$7.25	$7.25	$7.25	$7.25	$7.25	$7.25

https://rocket.com/homes/market-reports/tn/claiborne-county

Claiborne County Housing Market Report

[No Title]

December 2024 • Claiborne County, Tennessee

Median Sold Price

$255,000

$156/SqFt

+$29,166 **+12.9%**

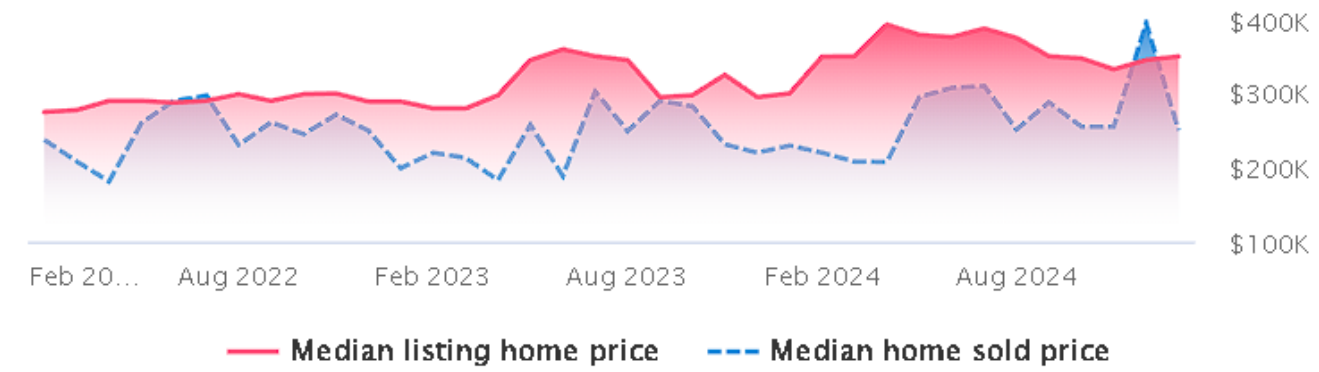
Based on all homes sold in the last 12 months

realtor.com®

Claiborne County, TN housing market

In December 2024, the median listing home price in Claiborne County, TN was $349.9K, trending up 16.7% year-over-year. The median listing home price per square foot was $183. The median home sold price was $250K.

Median listing home price vs. median home sold price



Connecting Communities

Transportation and infrastructure are core public sector responsibilities that impact everything from our daily commutes to shipping goods around the globe.

From building and maintaining roads and bridges to providing efficient transit options, counties are a driving force connecting communities and strengthening our economy. Counties play a major role in other essential community infrastructure like hospitals, jails, courthouses, parks, schools and water purification and sewage systems.

https://www.naco.org/page/county-roles-responsibilities#:~:text=This%20module%20explores%20the%20vital,and%20supporting%20our%20nation's%20veterans.

Counties invest heavily in local residents' health and well-being, often serving as a safety net for low-income and indigent residents.

County health departments protect our residents and communities by offering a wide range of services like administering flu shots, providing health information, and preventing and responding to public health emergencies.

From hospitals and emergency rooms to clinical care facilities, many counties operate the systems that keep us healthy from the time we are born to the time we grow old. Counties also often have significant responsibilities for behavioral and mental health services and care.

Counties are sources of innovation, exploring new opportunities to address challenges and piloting programs and initiatives that make residents' lives better.

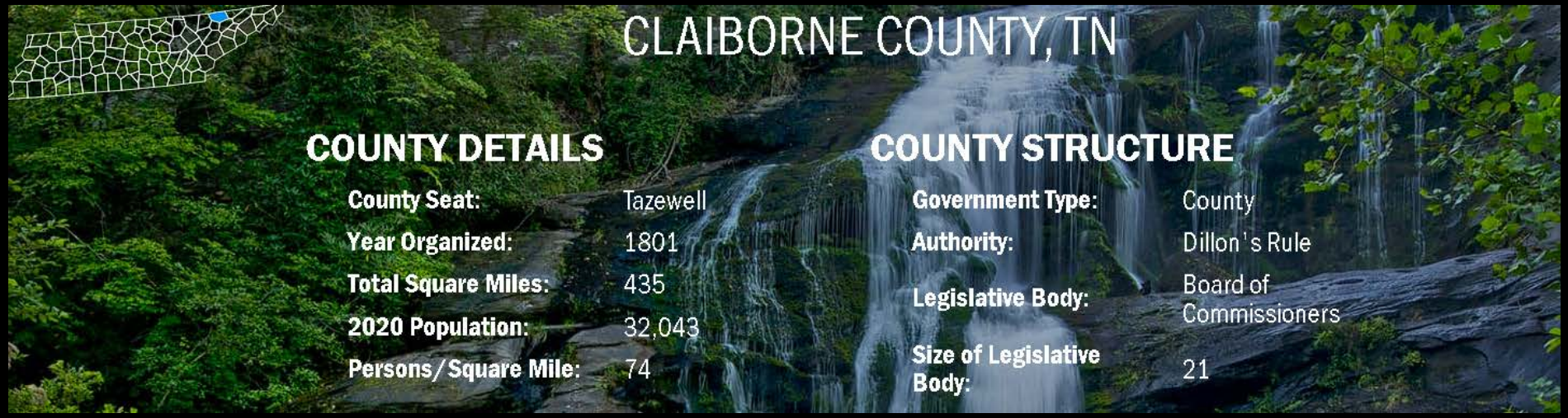
Counties employ over 3.6 million public servants, invest in our communities, and are key players in community planning, land use and zoning.

We implement local policies and intergovernmental initiatives that foster economic development, promote residential, commercial and industrial development, and support job creation and business retention

Counties play a major role in fostering safe communities: emergency response and preparedness and the criminal justice system.

From patrolling the streets, to operating and maintaining county detention and court facilities, to employing innovative approaches to safely reduce jail populations, county sheriffs and other law enforcement departments are on the front lines of justice and public safety.

Similarly, counties engage in all aspects and phases of emergency management: planning, preparation, mitigation, response and recovery.



Dillon's Rule is a principle of local government that limits the powers of local governments to those granted by the state. It applies to Claiborne County, Tennessee, unless the county has a home rule charter.

Explanation

What is Dillon's Rule?

Dillon's Rule is a cornerstone of American municipal law that defines the powers of local governments. It states that local governments can only exercise powers that are explicitly granted by the state.

How does Dillon's Rule apply to Claiborne County, Tennessee?

Dillon's Rule applies to Claiborne County, Tennessee, unless the county has a home rule charter.

How does Dillon's Rule limit local governments?

Dillon's Rule limits local governments by requiring them to act within the scope of the powers granted by the state. If a local government exceeds its authority, the state can modify or revoke its powers.

Who created Dillon's Rule?

Iowa Supreme Court Justice John F. Dillon created Dillon's Rule in 1868.