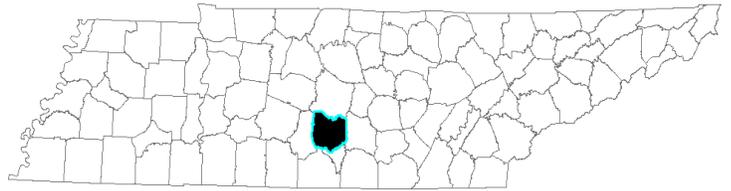
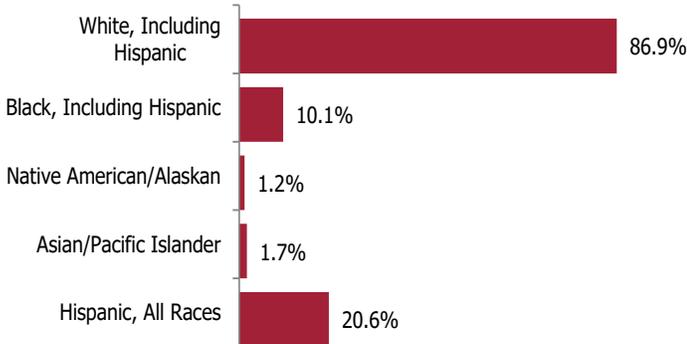


Bedford

TCCY Index Rank 71



Child Population by Race/Ethnicity



HEALTH



Low birth-weight babies

8.3%

Rank: 67 Rank: 37

Children without health insurance

5.4%

Rank: 89

Child and teen deaths

23.6 per 100,000

Rank: 31

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Rank: 38

Child Poverty

22.9%

Rank: 37

Median Household Income

\$50,904

Rank: 19

Fair Market Rent

\$977

Rank: 71

FAMILY and COMMUNITY

Rank: 65

School suspension rate

2.0%

Rank: 36

Teen pregnancy

21.7 per 1,000

Rank: 89

Substantiated Abuse and Neglect

4.5 per 1,000

Rank: 23

EDUCATION

Rank: 80

25.1%

Third to eighth grade reading proficiency

Rank: 82

28.2%

Third to eighth grade math proficiency

Rank: 75

91.3%

High school graduation rate

Rank: 71



Bedford County

Published 10/2019

Demographics 	Bedford County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Total population (state comparison is number not rate)	48,117	NA	6,715,862	0.7%	33
Population under 18 years of age	12,114	25.2%	22.4%	112.6%	3
Economic Well-Being 	Bedford County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Youth unemployment	150	16.7%	12.0%	139.2%	63
Per capita personal income (state is dollars not rate)	\$36,427	NA	\$45,517	80.0%	47
Children receiving Families First grants (TANF)	466	3.8%	3.2%	120.5%	63
Children receiving SNAP	4,810	39.7%	31.8%	124.9%	64
Children under five receiving WIC	960	29.5%	29.6%	99.8%	22
Education 	Bedford County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
School age special education services	768	9.1%	11.9%	76.5%	3
TEIS participation (per 1,000 in age group)	43	22.15	23.4	94.6%	39
Cohort high school dropouts	30	5.3%	5.5%	96.4%	72
Event high school dropouts	48	1.7%	2.6%	65.4%	67
Economically disadvantaged students	2,848	33.5%	34.7%	96.5%	33
School expulsions (per 1,000 students)	0	0.0	2.0	0.0%	1
Chronic absenteeism	1,088	12.8%	13.6%	94.1%	46
Health 	Bedford County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Neonatal abstinence syndrome (per 1,000 live births)	17	25.34	13.5	187.5%	69
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	134	20.0%	12.7%	157.5%	46
Children on TennCare (Medicaid)	8,242	59.0%	48.4%	122.0%	70
Total TennCare (Medicaid) enrollees	12,855	26.7%	21.8%	122.6%	73
Births covered by TennCare (Medicaid)	407	60.7%	52.3%	116.0%	34
Children qualified for Medicaid/CHIP but uninsured	510	6.1%	5.5%	110.9%	85
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	3	4.50	7.4	60.8%	33
Neonatal death (per 1,000 live births)	1	1.50	4.6	32.6%	29
Child deaths (per 100,000 children age 1 to 14)	2	21.00	22.4	93.8%	47
Teen violent deaths (per 100,000 children age 15 to 19)	1	31.20	52.5	59.4%	40
Adequate prenatal care	310	46.2%	57.4%	80.5%	88
Children under age six screened for lead poisoning	1,069	27.3%	17.7%	154.7%	7
Public school students measured as overweight/obese	NA	43.4%	39.2%	110.7%	54
Teens with STDs (per 1,000 children age 15 to 17)	32	16.4	17.3	94.4%	61
Medical doctors by county (per 100,000 residents)	28	58.2	239.2	24.3%	44
Dentists by county (per 100,000 residents)	10	20.8	49.0	42.4%	58
Family & Community 	Bedford County		Tennessee Rate	County Rate as a percentage of State Rate	County Rank
	Number	Rate			
Reported child abuse cases	668	5.5%	4.9%	113.6%	47
Commitment to state custody (per 1,000 children)	44	3.3	3.9	84.5%	26
Remaining in state custody (per 1,000 children)	63	4.7	5.1	92.6%	32
Juvenile court referrals	513	4.2%	4.3%	99.4%	43
Recorded marriages (per 1,000 residents)	375	7.8	8.2	95.1%	23
Recorded divorces (per 1,000 residents)	187	3.9	3.6	108.3%	53
Births to unmarried females	359	53.5%	43.6%	122.7%	86
Regulated child care spaces (state is number not rate)	6,245	NA	307,218	2.0%	10

Bedford County

At 71st, Bedford County is at the lower end of Tennessee counties in child well-being. Some of the county's strongest rankings include that the rate of substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect is relatively low and median household income is relatively high. The county's biggest challenges are its above average percentage of children who lack health insurance and the above average rate of pregnancy among girls age 15 to 17.

Additional strengths include relatively low rates of child and teen deaths, of child poverty (22.9 percent is still too high, but better than most Tennessee counties) and of babies born at a low birthweight.

Additional opportunities for improvement include the low percentage of 3rd to 8th grade students who demonstrated proficiency on TNReady reading and math tests.

Policy/Practice/Program Options to Improve Outcomes. Many of these policies have multiple models for delivery, including public-private partnership and non-profit leadership.

- Most uninsured children in Tennessee qualify for either TennCare or CoverKids, so high rates of uninsured children can be improved with outreach to make sure that families are aware of these insurance opportunities. According to Census Bureau estimates, Bedford County has over 500 children who qualify for these health insurance programs but who nonetheless lack insurance.
- Comprehensive sex education classes that include both encouragement of abstinence and information on birth control have been shown to reduce the number of teen pregnancies.
- Increased access to pre-K can help both math and reading proficiency in later grades. Early assessment of reading skills coupled with appropriate interventions where needed can improve reading proficiency, while increasing STEM opportunities in elementary and middle schools can help improve 3rd to 8th grade math proficiency.