2023 Higher Education County Profile, Knox County


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2023 Higher Education County Profile
Knox County

Community Education Snapshot

- Public High School Graduation Rate: County 90.0%, Tennessee 88.7%
- College-Going Rate: County 59.5%, Tennessee 52.8%
- First-Time Freshman TELS Recipient Rate: County 71.2%, Tennessee 66.3%
- ACT Scores: County 20.4, Tennessee 19.2

Note: 2021 Public High School Graduation Rate and 2021 Average ACT Scores provided by TDOE. 2021 College-Going Rate and TELS Recipient Rate for Fall 2021 provided by THEC.

Education Attainment Rate (age 25-64)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>County</th>
<th>TN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults with HS+</td>
<td>93.0%</td>
<td>89.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults with Some College, No Degree</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
<td>21.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults with Associate or higher</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults with Bachelor's or higher</td>
<td>40.8%</td>
<td>29.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Socioeconomic Profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>County</th>
<th>TN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share of Population in Poverty</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Ages 25-64</td>
<td>239,072</td>
<td>3,542,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate of Population Growth (2020-2022)</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Projections (2022-2032)</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Household Income</td>
<td>$59,250</td>
<td>$54,833</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Colleges Selected by 2021 High School Graduates
1. Pellissippi State Community College - 855
2. UT Knoxville - 597
3. East Tennessee State University - 90
4. Roane State Community College - 85
5. Middle Tennessee State University - 56

Public High School Graduation Rate: 88.7%
College-Going Rate: 52.8%
First-Time Freshman TELS Recipient Rate: 66.3%
ACT Scores: 19.2

Note: 2021 Public High School Graduation Rate and 2021 Average ACT Scores provided by TDOE. 2021 College-Going Rate and TELS Recipient Rate for Fall 2021 provided by THEC.

Note: Overall filing rate for the 2021-22 FAFSA.
73.7% of the class of 2021 in the county enrolled in college immediately following high school, compared to 64.9% of the class of 2016.

199 additional students must enroll in college to increase the college-going rate by 5 percentage points.

153.5 financial aid outreach hours spent in 2021-22 with 1,966 attendees. An additional 25 hours were invested statewide serving an additional 1,733 Tennesseans.

Top 5 In-Demand Occupations by Highest Median Earnings and Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA)
1. Nurse Anesthetists
2. Physicists
3. Sales Managers
4. Purchasing Managers
5. Editors

Note: 2022 Top Occupations are identified annually in the THEC Supply and Demand Report using data provided by TN Department of Labor and Workforce Development and TN Department of Economic and Community Development. This list represents top five occupations ordered by median mid-career wage. Additional in-demand occupations in the LWDA can be found on THEC’s website. For more information on these careers, see O*NET Code Connector.
The TSAA is a state-funded grant program. This scholarship provides non-repayable need-based financial assistance to undergraduate students who are residents of Tennessee. TSAA Awardees must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment, at least part-time, at a public or an eligible non-public postsecondary institution in Tennessee and have an Expected Family Contribution below the eligibility threshold.

Total awarded during 2021-22 academic year.

### Tennessee Student Assistance Award

- **27,298** FAFSAs Filed
- **4,459** Awards
- **$7,195,396** Awarded

The Tennessee Student Assistance Award (TSAA) is a state-funded grant program. This scholarship provides non-repayable need-based financial assistance to undergraduate students who are residents of Tennessee. TSAA Awardees must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment, at least part-time, at a public or an eligible non-public postsecondary institution in Tennessee and have an Expected Family Contribution below the eligibility threshold.

Total awarded during 2021-22 academic year.

### Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Recipients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HOPE Scholarship</td>
<td>4,075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOPE with GAMS</td>
<td>1,078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOPE with Aspire</td>
<td>1,058</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access Award</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual Enrollment Grant</td>
<td>1,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOPE Foster Care Grant</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Traditional Student Scholarship</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilder-Naifeh Technical Skills Grant</td>
<td>497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Amount Awarded</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,383,235</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Tennessee Promise

- **4,294** public high school seniors applied for Tennessee Promise in the 2020-21 school year. 
  - **28.7%** of those applicants enrolled as part of the Tennessee Promise program in the 2021-22 school year.

### Tennessee Reconnect

- **1,473** grant applications for Tennessee Reconnect were received for the 2021-22 school year. 
  - A total of **428** Reconnectors were served by Tennessee Reconnect Communities.

### Grant Programs in Knox County

**Advise Tennessee** - Austin East Magnet High School and Fulton High School - 761 Students Served

*Advise TN is a college advising and capacity-building program that aims to increase the number of Tennesseans accessing higher education by partnering with high schools and providing college advising services to juniors and seniors across Tennessee.*

**Diversity in Teaching** - University of Tennessee, Knoxville - $84,800

*Diversity in Teaching grants are competitive, two-year grants to support educator preparation programs in using diversity as a teaching tool for future teachers in Tennessee.*

**Doctoral Scholars** - University of Tennessee, Knoxville - $61,875

*In partnership with participating institutions, the Doctoral Scholars grant provides tuition assistance, academic support funds, and professional mentoring for minority students pursuing doctoral research degrees, in order to increase the number of minority faculty members at Tennessee colleges and universities.*

**GIVE 2.0 Community Grants** - Pellissippi State Community College - Information Technology College to Career Collaborative (ITC3) - $994,164; Advanced Manufacturing College to Career Collaborative (AMCC3) - $786,284

*GIVE 2.0 Community Grants - TCTA Knoxville - TCTA Knoxville’s Industrial Development Lab for Anderson County - $998,737; TCTA Knoxville’s Union County Distress Relief Plan - $999,858 The Governor’s Investment in Vocational Education (GIVE) is designed to foster long-term regional partnerships between Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology (TCATs), community colleges, industry, economic development/workforce agencies, and K-12 to identify and address “skills gaps” in local workforce pools. Through a competitive grant process, grants of up to $1 million were made available to local collaboratives for periods of up to thirty (30) months to facilitate the development and implementation of employer-driven career pathways that include both K-12 local education agencies (LEAs) and higher education institutions.*

**SPARC Grants** - $95,158

*Supporting Postsecondary Access in Rural Communities (SPARC) grants provide funds for K-12 Career and Technical Education Departments to align program offerings to industry needs and postsecondary education, increase early postsecondary opportunities, and increase work-based learning opportunities.*

**Veterans Reconnect Grant** - University of Tennessee, Knoxville - $200,000 - 1,567 Students Served

*The FY 2023-25 competitive Veteran Reconnect Grant allowed institutions to propose research measures supporting Student Veterans and military families in higher education. Research can include analyzing peer mentor programs or tutoring services, veterans resource centers, and the transition out of the military life onto campus.*