2023 Higher Education County Profile, Wilson County


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2023 Higher Education County Profile

Wilson County

Community Education Snapshot

- Public High School Graduation Rate: County 96.3% vs. Tennessee 88.7%
- College-Going Rate: County 62.5% vs. Tennessee 52.8%
- First-Time Freshman TELS Recipient Rate: County 74.4% vs. Tennessee 66.3%
- ACT Scores: County 19.2 vs. Tennessee 20.6

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.

Top Colleges Selected by 2021 High School Graduates
1. Cumberland University - 204
2. Volunteer State Community College - 129
3. Middle Tennessee State University - 101
4. Tennessee Technological University - 78
5. UT Knoxville - 72

Top 5 In-Demand Occupations by Highest Median Earnings and Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA)
1. Veterinarians
2. Physician Assistants
3. Training and Development Managers
4. Electrical Engineers
5. Computer Programmers

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.

Education Attainment Rate (age 25-64)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>TN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults with HS+</td>
<td>93.2%</td>
<td>89.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults with Some College, No Degree</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
<td>21.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults with Associate or higher</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults with Bachelor’s or higher</td>
<td>37.8%</td>
<td>29.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Socioeconomic Profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Socioeconomic Indicator</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>TN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share of Population in Poverty</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Ages 25-64</td>
<td>74,738</td>
<td>3,542,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate of Population Growth (2020-2022)</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Projections (2022-2032)</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Household Income</td>
<td>$78,962</td>
<td>$54,833</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

73.4% of the class of 2021 in the county enrolled in college immediately following high school, compared to 67.2% of the class of 2016.

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

1 designated VETS Campuses serve the county: Volunteer State Community College

27 financial aid outreach hours spent in 2021-22 with 391 attendees. An additional 25 hours were invested statewide serving an additional 1,733 Tennesseans.

Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation (TSAC)
Outreach Specialist
Dustin Rawls
dustin.rawls@tn.gov

Tennessee Reconnect Navigator
Emily Hill
emily.hill@tn.gov
TENNESSEE Promise

1,697 public high school seniors applied for Tennessee Promise in the 2020-21 school year. 13.9% of those applicants enrolled as part of the Tennessee Promise program in the 2021-22 school year.

TENNESSEE Reconnect

366 grant applications for Tennessee Reconnect were received for the 2021-22 school year. A total of 99 Reconnectors were served by Tennessee Reconnect Communities.

TN PATH TO COLLEGE EVENTS

13 schools participated in Path to College, which provides resources and information to students, building a college-going culture in their schools.

COLLEGE FOR TN

230 high school seniors in the 2020-21 school year received a Dual Enrollment Grant at a public college or university. 56.5% of those students enrolled in public postsecondary in the 2021-22 school year.

Grant Programs in Wilson County

GIVE 2.0 Community Grants - TCAT Hartsville - Tennessee Central Cooperative Manufacturing WBL Program - $975,000 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.

Veterans Reconnect Grant - Volunteer State Community College - $30,000 - 524 Students Served The FY 2021-23 competitive Veteran Reconnect Grant gave all Tennessee Board of Regent institutions the capability to provide Student Veterans and military family members a one-time Military Transition Grant of up to $300. The micro-grant will assist those students with a financial need in hopes that they persist in their academic studies. More opportunities to fund veteran education initiatives are currently being planned.

These graphs represent TCATs, public community colleges, and universities.

Date Completed 1/1/2023. Due to the unique nature of the 2021-2022 academic year, several data points may not be comparable with past profiles.