2023 Higher Education County Profile, Bradley County


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2023 Higher Education County Profile

Bradley County

Community Education Snapshot

![Bar chart showing education attainment rates in Bradley County and Tennessee.](chart)

- **Public High School Graduation Rate**: Bradley County 94.1%, Tennessee 88.7%
- **College-Going Rate**: Bradley County 59.1%, Tennessee 52.8%
- **First-Time Freshman TELS Recipient Rate**: Bradley County 66.9%, Tennessee 66.3%
- **ACT Scores**: Bradley County 18.9, 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.

**Top Colleges Selected by 2021 High School Graduates**
1. Cleveland State Community College - 283
2. Lee University - 63
3. Chattanooga State Community College - 59
4. UT Chattanooga - 45
5. UT Knoxville - 40

**Top 5 In-Demand Occupations by Highest Median Earnings and Local Workforce Development Area (LWDA)**
1. Physician Assistants
2. Education Administrators, Postsecondary
3. Financial Managers
4. Nurse Practitioners
5. Purchasing Managers

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 on-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></th>
<th>County</th>
<th>TN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults with HS+</td>
<td>88.8%</td>
<td>89.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults with Some College, No Degree</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>21.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults with Associate or higher</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults with Bachelor's or higher</td>
<td>25.0%</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>15.6%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Ages 25-64</td>
<td>54,929</td>
<td>3,542,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate of Population Growth (2020-2022)</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Projections (2022-2032)</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Household Income</td>
<td>$51,872</td>
<td>$54,833</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**77.6%**

filed the FAFSA in 2021-22 as compared to **77.9%** overall in Tennessee.

Note: Overall filing rate for the 2021-22 FAFSA.

**59.1%**

of the class of 2021 in the county enrolled in college immediately following high school, compared to **65.9%** of the class of 2016.

**56**

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

**1**

designated VETS Campuses serve the county: Cleveland State Community College

**31.5**

financial aid outreach hours spent in 2021-22 with **655** attendees. An additional 25 hours were invested statewide serving an additional 1,733 Tennesseans.

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**Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation (TSAC) Outreach Specialist**

Rita Turchetta
ritaturchetta@tn.gov

**Tennessee Reconnect Navigator**

Whitney McLaughlin
whitney.mclaughlin@tn.gov
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.

### Grant Programs in Bradley County

**GEAR UP - Bradley Central High School - $214,500 - 383 Students Served**
Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a federally-funded program that provides grants to K-12 schools for projects that aim to increase the number of low-income students who are accessing and succeeding in higher education.

**GIVE 2.0 Community Grants - Cleveland State Community College - Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing (MEP) with Major Concentration in HVAC and Refrigeration - $941,092**

**GIVE 2.0 Community Grants - Cleveland State Community College - Meeting the Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing (MEP) Demand in Southeast TN - A Rural Partnership between Business and Education - $877,800**
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 - Cleveland State Community College - $30,000 - 144 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.

**Data 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.**