

# KNOXVILLE AREA Facts & Figures 2019



## LIVABILITY

Knoxville ranks among the nation's best places to live, raise a family, and own a business. In 2019, it was ranked 14th "Least Expensive City" by Yahoo Finance and, in 2018, 49th "Best Bike Cities in America" by Bicycling magazine.

## COST OF LIVING (2019)

Metropolitan Area 83.2

U.S. Average 100

## LOCATION AND CLIMATE

Founded in 1791 where the French Broad and Holston Rivers meet to form the Tennessee River, Knoxville is the largest city in East Tennessee. Its corporate limits comprise 104 of the 526-square mile total for Knox County. Knoxville is the urban heart of the metropolitan area, which consists of nine counties – Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Grainger, Knox, Loudon, Morgan, Roane, and Union. Knoxville is located in a valley between the Cumberland and Great Smoky Mountains. This location offers a moderate, four-season

climate, with normal daytime temperatures of 88 degrees in July and 48 degrees in January. Downtown Knoxville is 936 feet above sea level.



# POPULATION AND HOUSING



## POPULATION (2018)

187,500	City of Knoxville
465,289	Knox County (includes city)
883,309	Metro Area

## MEDIAN SINGLE-FAMILY HOME SALES PRICE (2019)

\$207,000	Knox County
\$206,700	Metro Area
\$279,600	U.S.

## MEDIAN MONTHLY RENT (2017)

\$880	Knox County
\$803	Metro Area
\$1,012	U.S.

## RESIDENTIAL UNITS (2018)

Knox County.....	206,043
New units added.....	2,688
Value of new construction (\$ million).....	\$491.1

# ARTS AND CULTURE

**ORGANIZATIONS:** Knoxville Symphony, Knoxville Opera Company, Dogwood Arts, the Arts & Culture Alliance, and the Joy of Music School, are a few of many in the area.



**VENUES:** Tennessee and Bijou Theaters, Clayton Center for the Arts, Clarence Brown Theatre, the Mill & Mine, and WDVX radio station are among the most visited entertainment venues in the City.

**MUSEUMS AND CENTERS:** Knoxville Museum of Art, Emporium Center for Arts and Culture, East Tennessee History Center, McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture, Museum of Appalachia, and Beck Cultural Exchange Center showcase art and regional heritage. Muse Knoxville is an

experiential children’s science museum. Neighboring Gatlinburg is home to the renowned Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts.





**EVENTS:** Hundreds of special events take place each year. Some of the most well-known and well-attended include Big Ears Music Festival, Mardi Growl, Dogwood Arts, Children’s Festival of Reading, Covenant Health Marathon, Kuumba Festival, Concerts on the Square, Rossini Festival, Hola Festival, Brewers Jam, Tour de Lights, and Christmas in the City.

**RADIO AND TELEVISION**

Radio Stations.....	51
Television stations.....	18

**THEATERS**

<b>Knox County</b>	
Movie theaters/screens.....	11/102
Live performance theaters.....	13



**NEWSPAPERS**

**Knox County:**  
Knoxville News Sentinel,  
Farragut Press, Knoxville  
Focus, Shopper News,  
Compass (online only)

**Region:**  
Oak Ridger (Anderson  
County), Daily Times  
(Blount County), News-  
Herald (Loudon County),  
Mountain Press (Sevier  
County), Union News  
Leader (Union County)



## RECREATION AND TOURISM

Knoxville has an international reputation as an outdoor adventure destination. Just three miles from downtown is Knoxville’s Urban Wilderness with 50 miles of multi-use trails. Concord, I.C. King, and Sharp’s Ridge Veterans Memorial parks provide 24 more miles of trails, and Loyston Point in neighboring Anderson County adds another 12.

Other adventures can be found at Ijams Nature Center and Navitat Treetop Adventure Park, Outdoor Knoxville, Seven Islands State Birding Park, and House Mountain State Natural Area. Zoo Knoxville, a family favorite, celebrated record-breaking attendance in 2018 with more than 500,000 visitors. The region is also home to the country’s most visited national park, the Great Smoky Mountains, which had a record year in 2018 with more than 11.4 million guests.



### PARKS AND RECREATION (2019) Knoxville and Knox County

Parks (acres).....	6,317
Greenways/hiking/biking trails (miles).....	184
Recreation/community centers.....	20
Senior centers.....	4
Skate parks.....	4
Dog parks.....	8
Public golf courses.....	10

**SPORTS:** Residents are proud of The University of Tennessee’s NCAA Division 1 football, basketball, and other teams. Tennessee Smokies, the AA affiliate of the Chicago Cubs in neighboring Sevier County, Knoxville Ice Bears minor league hockey, and the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame all have devoted fans.

**TOURISM:** A 500,000-square foot convention center, large civic coliseum and auditorium, and UT’s 22,000-seat Thompson Boling Arena draw visitors to the area.

# KNOX COUNTY ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOLS

## Demographics (2018-19)

Public schools.....	88
Enrollment.....	60,752
Teachers.....	3,927

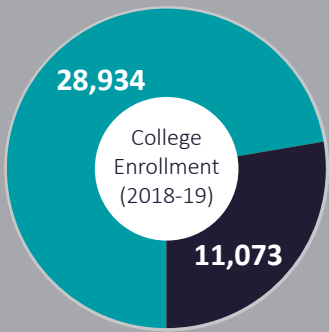
## Metrics (2017-18)

Per pupil expenditures.....	\$9,555
Graduation rate.....	89.6%
Average ACT (composite).....	21.1

Private schools.....	33
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# EDUCATION

Included in Knox County's public schools are several magnet, STEM, and International Baccalaureate programs.



- The University of Tennessee
- Pellissippi State Community College

**37.3%**

Knox County population with bachelor's degree or higher

## POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION:

Four two-year colleges and 10 four-year universities are located in Knox County and surrounding area. The University of Tennessee was ranked 52nd among the nation's top public schools in 2019 by U.S. News and World Report.

# CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

The Knoxville Chamber has more than 2,200 members. United Way, Community Shares, and Community Action Committee support many youth, family, and social service programs. More than 250 neighborhood associations and many civic groups are active throughout the city and county.





**LOCAL GOVERNMENT**  
**City of Knoxville**  
Mayor and 9 council members  
(4-year terms)

**Knox County**  
Mayor and 11 commissioners  
(4-year terms)

**LIBRARIES (2019)**  
**Knox County Public Library System**  
Main library and branches.....18  
*Special Collections:* Knox County Archives &  
Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection

**HOSPITALS (2019)**  
**Knox County**  
General.....8  
Children’s.....1

**COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**  
Denso Manufacturing, Discovery Communications, Jewelry Television, Regal Entertainment Group, The Dollywood Company, Pilot Flying J, Clayton Homes, and Bush Brothers all call the Knoxville area home. The area also hosts Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the largest U.S. Department of Energy research facility and site of the world’s fastest supercomputer, employing 4,750 with an annual operating budget of \$1.4 billion.

Knox County has eight business parks and a Technology Corridor, and the area is marketed by the Development Corporation of Knox County and Knoxville-Oak Ridge Innovation Valley Inc., a regional economic development partnership.



**EARNINGS (2018)**  
Knox County  
Weekly (all industries average)...\$955



**MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (2017)**

55,266	Knox County
51,848	Metro Area
60,336	U.S.

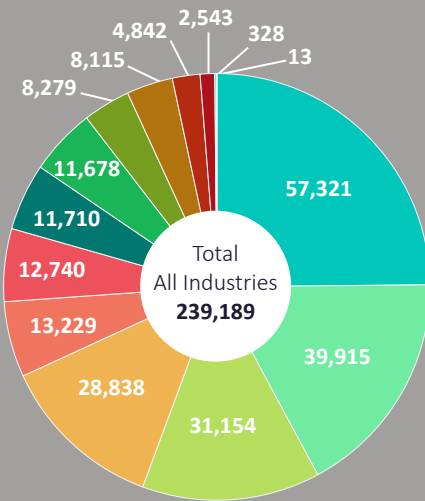
**EMPLOYMENT (2019)**  
Labor Force

251,703	Knox County
442,384	Metro Area

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (2019)**

3.6%	Knox County
3.9%	Metro Area
4.0%	Tennessee
3.8%	U.S.

## KNOX COUNTY EMPLOYMENT (2018)



### INDUSTRIES

- Education and Health Services
- Professional and Business Services
- Retail Trade
- Leisure and Hospitality
- Financial Activities
- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Wholesale Trade
- Public Administration
- Other Services
- Information
- Transportation and Utilities
- Natural Resources and Mining
- Unclassified Establishments

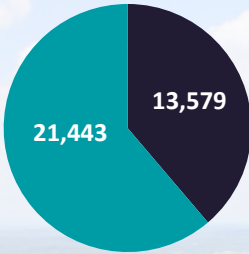
*Note: Due to disclosure requirements, the sum of the individual category counts will not match the All Industries total.*



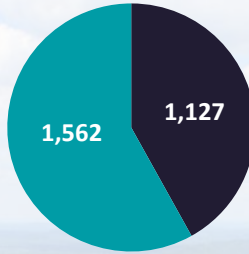
## ESTABLISHMENTS (2018)

■ Knox County ■ Metro Area

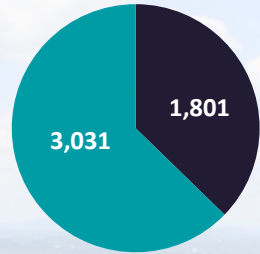
**All Industries**



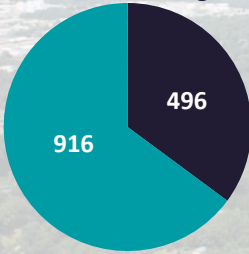
**Wholesale**



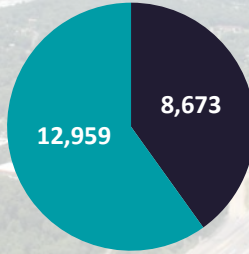
**Retail**



**Manufacturing**



**Service**



### RETAIL SALES (2018)

Knox County

#### Total Sales

\$10,181,607,924

#### Sales Per Capita

\$21,882

## TAXES

### Residential Property

- 25% of appraised value
- Taxes are levied on each \$100 of assessed value

### Commercial/Industrial Property

- 40% of appraised value

### Knox County Tax Rate

- \$2.12 per \$100 assessment

### Knoxville Tax Rate

(Knoxville property owners pay both city and county taxes.)

- \$2.4638 per \$100 assessment

### State Sales Tax Rate

- 4% on food
- 7% on all other tangible personal property

### Local Sales Tax Rate

(applicable countywide)

- 2.25%

### Total Sales Tax Rate in Knox County

- 9.25%







## TRANSPORTATION

Nearly half of the nation's population is within a day's drive of Knoxville via six Interstate Highways which transect the area.

### HIGHWAY (2018)

#### Interstates

40, 75, 81, 140, 275, and 640

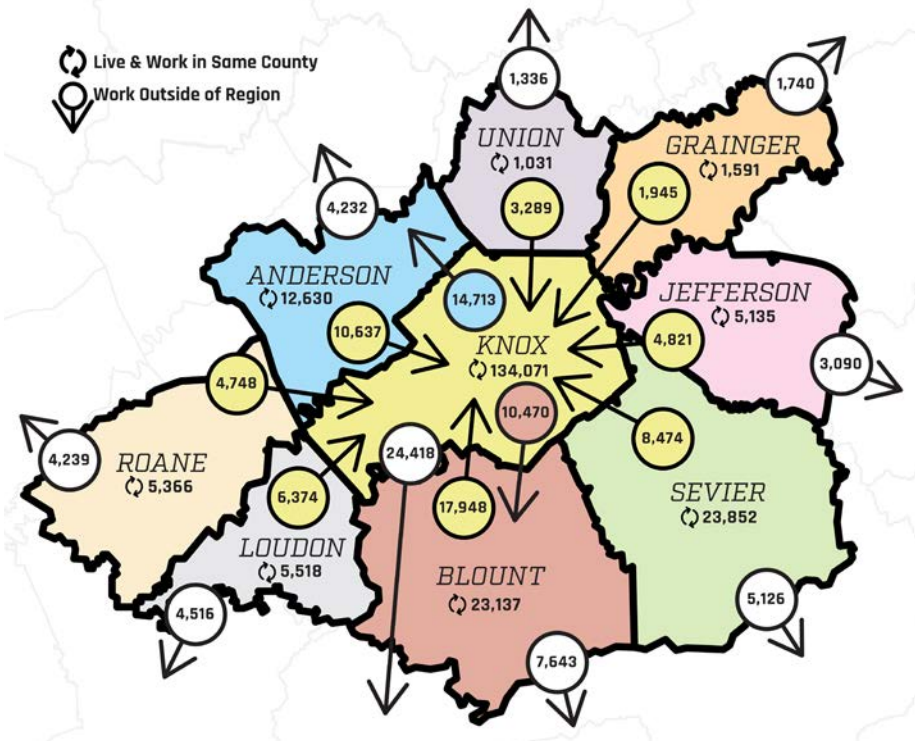
#### Average Daily Trips

(I-40/75 in Knox County)

212,690

#### Trucking Companies

250



Five airlines fly to 21 non-stop destinations out of Knoxville’s McGhee Tyson Airport (TYS), located 12 miles from downtown.

Also serving the area are three rail systems and a barge shipping network, the latter directly linked to the Great Lakes and Gulf of Mexico.



**AIR (2018-19)**  
Airlines  
Allegiant, American, Delta, Frontier, United

Daily Flights and Non-stop Destinations  
99 flights/21 destinations

Passengers (annual)  
2,221,137

Cargo Services and Freight  
2 services/81,363,507 tons

**RAIL (2019)**  
Systems (Knox County)  
CSX, Norfolk Southern, KXHR-Gulf & Ohio

Miles of Lines (Knox County)  
270

**WATER (2018)**  
Cargo through Fort Loudon Lock  
582,440 tons







## **BUS (2019)**

### **Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) Routes and Stops**

23 routes/1,160 stops

### **KAT Passengers and Vehicles**

2.8 million passengers/94 vehicles

### **Long-distance**

Greyhound, Trailways

Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) operates the city's public transit system with a fleet of full-sized buses, neighborhood service buses, and paratransit vans.







## COMMUNICATIONS

AT&T, Charter/Spectrum, Comcast/Xfinity, Mediacom, TDS, and WOW offer cable, high-speed Internet, and telephone service.



## UTILITIES

Knoxville Utilities Board (KUB) provides natural gas, water, and wastewater services and distributes electric power generated by the Tennessee Valley Authority throughout much of Knox County. Beyond KUB's service area, residents receive electricity from two local power companies, and water is supplied by seven utility districts.



City County Building  
400 Main Street • Suite 403  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

[knoxplanning.org](http://knoxplanning.org) | 865.215.2500