

KNOXVILLE AREA

Facts & Figures



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 in a valley between the Cumberland Plateau and Great Smoky Mountains. This location offers a moderate, four-season climate, with average high temperatures of 88 degrees in July and 48 degrees in January. Downtown Knoxville is 936 feet above sea level.

LIVABILITY

Knoxville consistently ranks among the nation’s best places to live, visit, raise a family, and own a business. According to moving and storage company PODS, Knoxville ranked 8th in the nation for move-ins in 2025. In addition, USA Today recognized the Knoxville Arts District as one of the ten best in the country.



COST OF LIVING (2025)

Metropolitan Area	86.4
U.S. Average	100

POPULATION AND HOUSING



POPULATION (2024)

198,722	City of Knoxville
506,748	Knox County (includes city)
957,608	Metro Area

MEDIAN SALES PRICE OF SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES (2024)

\$364,400	Metro Area
\$412,500	U.S.

MEDIAN MONTHLY RENT (2023)

\$1,180	Knox County
\$1,080	Metro Area
\$1,348	U.S.



RESIDENTIAL UNITS (2024)

New units added.....5,597 Knox County.....227,235
Value of new construction.....\$1,547 million

ARTS AND CULTURE

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

VENUES: Tennessee and Bijou Theatres, Clayton Center for the Arts, Knoxville Civic Coliseum, Clarence Brown Theatre, the Mill & Mine, and WDVX radio station are among the most visited live entertainment venues in the area. Additionally, the Pilot Light supports independent artists and experimental performances as a non-profit venue.

MUSEUMS AND CENTERS: Knoxville offers a variety of cultural centers focused on the arts and regional history, such as the Knoxville Museum of Art, Emporium Center for Arts and Culture, East Tennessee History Center, McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture, Museum of Appalachia, Museum of Infinite Outcomes, and Beck Cultural Exchange Center. Muse Knoxville is an experiential children’s science museum and provides outreach programs in schools across the region.



EVENTS: Hundreds of special events take place each year. Some of the most well-known and well-attended include Big Ears Music Festival, Dogwood Arts Festival, Rhinestone Fest, Knoxville Marathon, Kill the Lights Beer Festival, Greek Fest, Asian Festival, Holleroo, SoKno Pride, Tour de Lights, Big Kahuna Wing Festival, Mardi Growl Dog Parade, Southern Skies Music Festival, and the Tennessee Valley Fair. The Children’s Festival of Reading was recognized this year as the best children’s event by the Southeastern Festival and Events Association. In addition to these special events, Knoxville hosts a variety of beloved regular events that draw locals and visitors alike. These include the Market Square Farmer’s Market, Concerts on the Square, First Friday Artwalk, and the Old City Market.

RADIO AND TELEVISION (2024)

Radio stations.....52
Television stations.....16

THEATERS (2025)

Movie theaters....5 theaters; 44 screens
Live performance theaters.....8

NEWS OUTLETS (2024)

Knox County:

Knoxville News Sentinel, Farragut Press, Knoxville Focus, Shopper News, Compass (online only), Knoxville Daily Sun (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 over 65 miles of multi-use trails and 1,000 acres of recreation space. The entrance to the Urban Wilderness is Baker Creek Bike Park, offering more than eight miles of unpaved hiking and biking. In addition to exploring greenways and

trails, Knoxville residents and visitors enjoy our blueways – the Tennessee River and its tributaries are popular destinations for boaters, kayakers, and paddle-boarders. Other adventures can be found at Ijams Nature Center, Outdoor Knoxville, Seven Islands State Birding Park, and House Mountain State Natural Area.

The region is also home to the country’s most visited national park, the Great Smoky Mountains, which had 12.2 million visits in 2024. In 2025, Dollywood in nearby Pigeon Forge was recognized as the country’s favorite theme park, even edging out Disney World.

PARKS AND RECREATION (2025)	
Knoxville and Knox County	
Park acreage.....	6,477
Greenways/hiking/biking trails (miles).....	227
Recreation/community centers.....	17
Senior centers.....	8
Skate parks.....	5
Dog parks.....	17
Public golf courses.....	6
Bike parks.....	1



SPORTS: Residents are proud of The University of Tennessee’s NCAA Division 1 football, basketball, baseball, and other teams. Knoxville is also home to several popular professional and semi-professional teams. In 2025, Knoxville celebrated the grand opening of a new multi-use stadium downtown which hosts home games for the Knoxville Smokies, an AA affiliate of the Chicago Cubs, and One Knoxville SC, the city’s professional soccer team. The Knoxville Ice Bears minor league hockey team also enjoys devoted fans. Meanwhile, the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame continues to draw visitors from across the country.

**KNOX COUNTY
ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOLS**

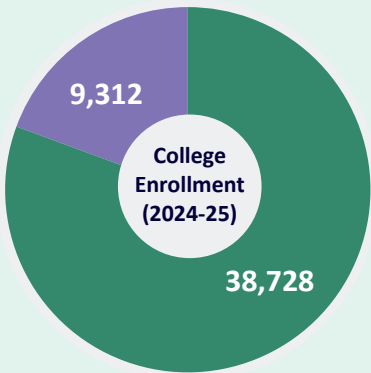
Demographics (2023-24)

Public schools.....	94
Enrollment.....	58,838
Teachers.....	3,690
Student / Educator Ratio.....	16

Metrics

Per pupil expenditures.....	\$12,471
Graduation rate.....	91.9%
Average ACT (composite).....	20.1

Private schools.....	40
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- **The University of Tennessee**
- **Pellissippi State Community College**

42.0%

Knox County population with bachelor's degree or higher

EDUCATION

Included in Knox County's public schools are several magnet, STEM, and International Baccalaureate programs. Knox County is also home to Tennessee School for the Deaf, serving toddlers through age 22 in both residential and day programs.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION:

Four two-year colleges and 10 four-year universities are located in Knox County and surrounding area. The University of Tennessee is ranked 51st among the nation's top public schools by U.S. News and World Report, and Pellissippi State is the largest community college in Tennessee.



CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

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

Knox County Public Library System (2025)

Main library and branches.....18
Special Collections: Knox County Archives &
Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection

HOSPITALS

Knox County (2025)

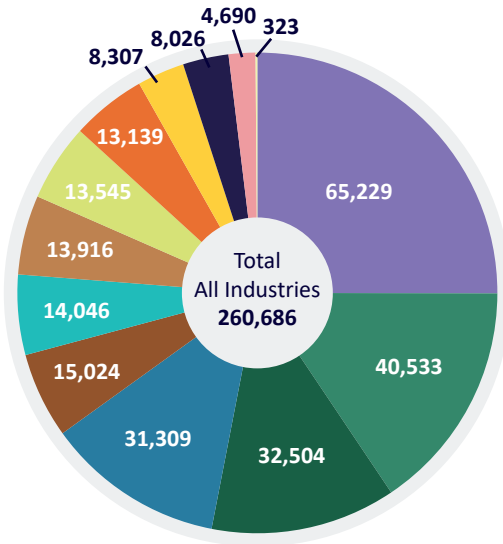
General.....5	Beds.....2,216
Children's.....1	Beds.....152



**COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY**

Jewelry Television, Regal Entertainment Group, The Dollywood Company, Pilot Flying J, Clayton Homes, Ruby Tuesday, Brunswick Boat Group, and Bush Brothers call the Knoxville area home. The area also hosts Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the largest U.S. Department of Energy research facility, employing 6,000 people with an annual operating budget of \$2.4 billion. Knox County has five business parks and a Technology Corridor, and the area is marketed by the Knoxville Chamber, which has more than 1,200 investors.

KNOX COUNTY EMPLOYMENT (Q3 2024)



INDUSTRIES

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

Note: Due to disclosure requirements, the sum of the individual category counts will not match the All Industries total. Industries are labeled in clockwise order.

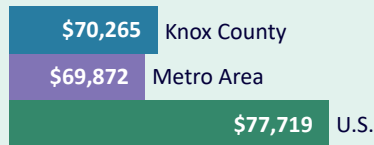


EARNINGS

Knox County (Q3 2024)

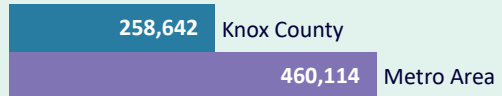
Weekly (all industries average).....\$1,211

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (2023)

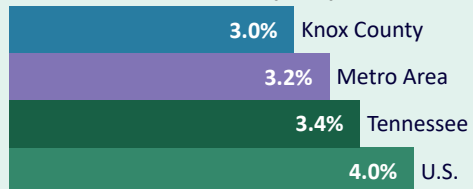


EMPLOYMENT (2025)

Labor Force



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (2024)

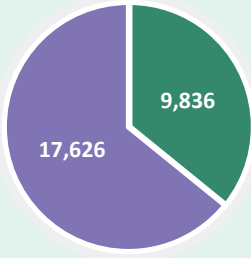


ESTABLISHMENTS (Q3 2024)

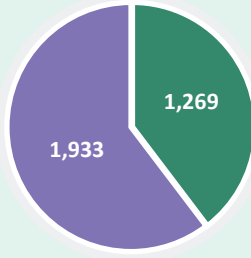
■ Knox County

■ Surrounding Counties

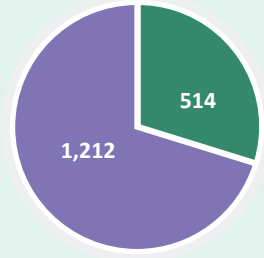
All Industries



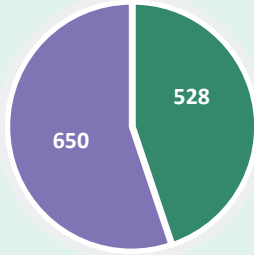
Retail



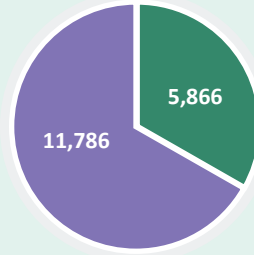
Wholesale



Manufacturing



Service



RETAIL SALES (2024)
Knox County

Sales Per Capita:
\$29,079

Total Sales:
\$14,735,765,431



TAXES

Residential Property

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

Commercial/Industrial Property

- 40% of appraised value

Personal Property

- 30% of appraised value

Knox County Tax Rate

- \$1.55 per \$100 assessment

Knoxville Tax Rate

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

- \$2.16 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%

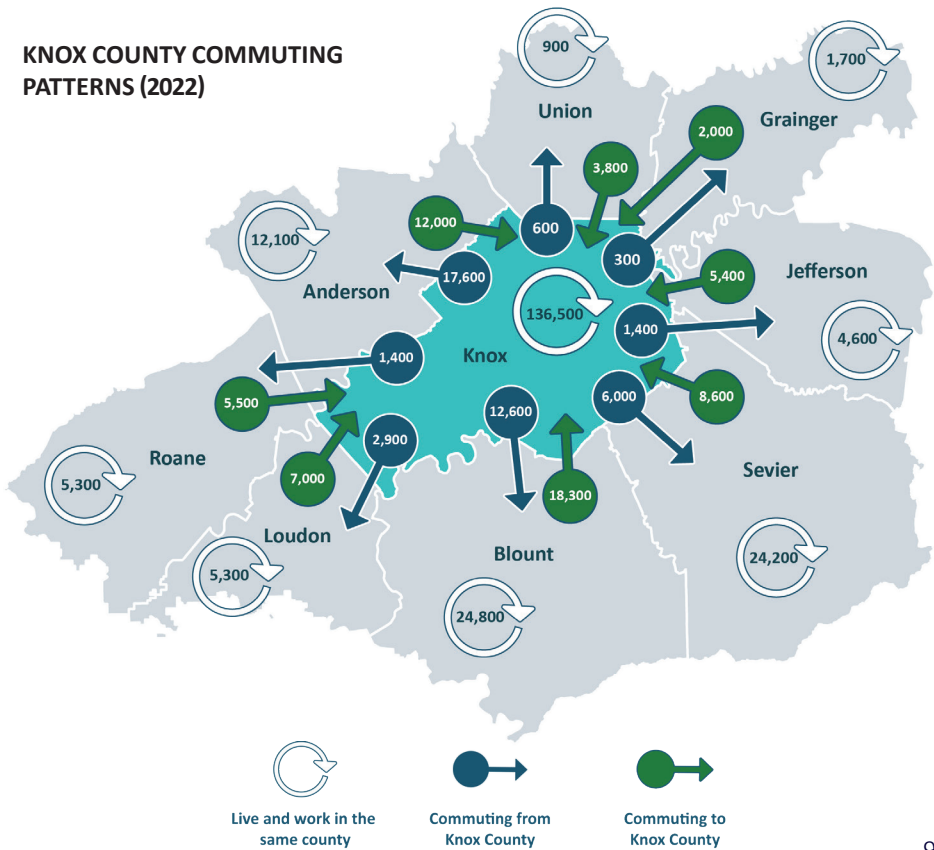
TRANSPORTATION

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

HIGHWAY (2023) Interstates	Average Daily Trips (I-40/75 in Knox County)	Trucking Companies
40, 75, 81, 140, 275, and 640	203,236	250+



KNOX COUNTY COMMUTING PATTERNS (2022)



AIR (2023-24)

Airlines

Allegiant, American, Avelo,
Delta, Frontier, United

Daily Flights and Non-stop Destinations

90 flights/31 destinations

Passengers (annual)

3,030,494

Cargo Services and Freight

2 services/75,088,531 pounds



McGhee Tyson Airport (TYS) was the fastest-growing major U.S. airport in 2024, based on passenger traffic. Located only 15 miles from downtown, the airport offers non-stop flights to 31 destinations. Also serving the area are three rail systems and a barge shipping network.



RAIL (2025)

Systems (Knox County)

CSX, Norfolk Southern,
KXHR, KXCG

Miles of Lines (Knox County)

168

WATER (2024)

Cargo through Fort Loudoun Lock

630,480 tons



TRANSIT

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

BUS (2024)
Knoxville Area Transit
20 routes/859 stops

KAT Passengers and Vehicles
2.5 million passengers/73 vehicles
(12 electric buses, 28 hybrids)

Long-distance
Greyhound, Trailways



COMMUNICATIONS

AT&T, Charter/Spectrum, Comcast/Xfinity, Mediacom, TDS, and WOW offer cable, high-speed Internet, and telephone service. Knoxville Utilities Board offers gig-speed fiber internet for homes and businesses.

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
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