



NEWS RELEASE

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Knox County's Center of Population Report Released

Knoxville, Tennessee – November 10, 2022 – Knoxville-Knox County Planning recently released the 2022 edition of Knox County's Center of Population report.

Every ten years, when the U.S. Census of Population and Housing is completed, the Census Bureau reports on geographic centers of population. A center of population is the mean center of gravity, or the point at which an imaginary map would balance perfectly if everyone weighed the same and were placed on the map exactly where they live. Measuring this point helps show general migration patterns and illustrates trends in investments and economic shifts over time.

The 2022 edition shows that the center of the county's population is now in Northwest Knoxville at the intersection of Hinton Drive and Third Creek Road. Much like the U.S. center, Knox County's has incrementally moved west over the past several decades. In 1980 it was in the Lonsdale community, followed by shifts to Pleasant Ridge Road, to Western Avenue at I-640, and, by 2010, to the intersection of Ball Camp Pike and Hazelwood Road. Each time, the center has been pulled farther from the city's center towards newer suburban developments.

This westward movement is no surprise considering the consistent growth in the Northwest and Southwest sectors over the past few decades. Despite that westward expansion, the center of population for the county is still relatively close to downtown Knoxville, indicating that public resources and opportunities located within the urban core are still positioned in a setting that best serves residents.

For more information on this topic, you can view the newly released [Knox County's Center of Population](#) report, as well as additional topics on local population and demographics, at knoxplanning.org/data/technical-reports.

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Knoxville-Knox County Planning

Knoxville-Knox County Planning (formerly Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission) was established in 1956 by Knoxville and Knox County as the agency responsible for comprehensive county-wide planning and administration of zoning and land subdivision regulations and remains so today (except for the town of Farragut). Funding comes primarily from city and county appropriations and from federal grants for specific studies. The agency prepares and adopts a general plan, reviews subdivision regulations and site plans, prepares and recommends zoning ordinances and maps to the Knox County Commission and Knoxville City Council, reviews proposed zoning amendments, and prepares a capital improvements plan for the City of Knoxville. For more information, visit our website at knoxplanning.org.