

## KNOXVILLE AREA STATISTICS

\*The Knoxville Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) refers to Anderson, Blount, Knox, Loudon, and Union counties.

**Airlines** .....9  
 American Eagle, ComAir, Continental Express, Delta, Independence Air, Northwest/Northwest AirLink, United Express, USAirways Express  
 Daily flights ..... 120

**Air Services**  
 Cargo services .....5  
 Freight (tons) 2004 ..... 38,209

**Air Passengers** ..... 1,606,816

**Building Permits - 2004** (city/county)  
 Total Number ..... 4,671  
 Total Value ..... \$767,749,361

**Bus Terminals**  
 Greyhound/Trailways .....1

**Businesses** - (2002 Census)  
 Knox County ..... 11,075  
 MSA\* ..... 15,988

**Churches** ..... 430

**Cost of Living**  
 (U.S. Average = 100) .....88.0

**Dwelling Units** (city/county)  
 2000 Census ..... 171,439  
 2004 estimate ..... 185,207

**Earnings - 2004 MSA\***  
 Average All Production Workers  
 Per Hour ..... \$14.25  
 Per Week ..... \$567  
 Average Annual Pay ..... \$33,073

**Education**  
 College Graduates  
 (percent of population) ..... 29  
 College/University Enrollment 2004-05  
 University of Tennessee ..... 26,000  
 Pellissippi State Technical  
 Community College ..... 7,600  
 Schools  
 Public ..... 88  
 Private/Parochial ..... 33  
 Business/Vocational ..... 20

**Employment - 2004 MSA\***  
 Annual Average ..... 322,300  
 Labor Force ..... 335,770  
 Unemployment ..... 4.0%

**Golf Courses**  
 Public - Knox County ..... 10  
 (Weekday Fees = \$30; Weekend Fees = \$45)  
 Country Clubs ..... 6

**Government**  
 City of Knoxville:  
 Mayor; 9 Council members (4-year terms)  
 Knox County:  
 County Mayor; Board of 19 Commissioners  
 (4-year terms)

**Historic Districts** ..... 17

**Hospital Systems** (Knox County)  
 General Use ..... 5  
 Children's Hospital ..... 1  
 Beds, approximate number ..... 2,516

**Hotel/Motel Rooms**  
 Number ..... 7,500  
 Average Room Rate ..... \$80.00  
 Occupancy Rate ..... 57.2%

**Housing—2004 Median Sales Price**  
 Knox County ..... \$132,200  
 U.S. .... \$184,100  
 Apartment Rent ..... \$567

**Industrial Properties - 2003**  
 Number of Buildings ..... 624  
 Total Square Feet (in millions) ..... 33.2  
 Vacancy Rate ..... 9.3%

**Libraries**  
 Knox County Public Library  
 Size of Collection ..... 1,050,610  
 Branches ..... 17

**Manufacturing Establishments** - 2002 Census  
 Knox County ..... 446  
 MSA\* ..... 754

**Newspapers - circulation**  
 The Knoxville News-Sentinel  
 Daily ..... 120,572  
 Sunday ..... 154,799  
 Weeklies, Biweeklies, and Monthlies  
 Total Number ..... 12

**Office Properties - 2004**  
 Buildings ..... 516  
 Total sq. ft. (in millions) ..... 19.4  
 Vacancy Rate ..... 9.2%  
 Average Rent (sq ft) ..... \$13.93

**Park Area** (approximate public acreage)  
 Knox County ..... 5,723

**Population** - (2000 Census)  
 City of Knoxville ..... 173,890  
 (2003) ..... 173,278  
 Knox County (including city) ..... 382,032  
 (2004) ..... 400,061  
 MSA\* ..... 616,079  
 (2004) ..... 647,170  
 Knox County Median Age ..... 36

**Radio and Television**  
 Radio Stations ..... 26  
 Television Stations ..... 11

**Railroad Lines**  
 CSX/Seaboard, Norfolk Southern ..... 2  
 Miles of Lines ..... 170

**Retail Establishments** - 2002 Census  
 Knox County ..... 1,887  
 MSA\* ..... 2,772

**Retail Sales (thousands) - 2004**  
 Knox County ..... \$8,819,935  
 Sales Per Capita ..... \$22,317  
 MSA\* ..... \$12,100,434

**Service Establishments** - 2002 Census  
 Knox County ..... 5,356  
 MSA\* ..... 7,673

**Shopping Centers - 2004**  
 Number ..... 154  
 Total sq. ft. (in millions) ..... 14.9  
 Vacancy Rate ..... 6.9%

**Temperature**  
 (average yearly) ..... 58°F

**Theaters**  
 Movie Screens ..... 104  
 Performance Theaters ..... 9  
 Dinner Theaters ..... 1

**Water Transportation - 2004**  
 Port of Knoxville (tons) ..... 602,147  
 Barges Per Year ..... 568

**Wholesale Establishments** - 2002 Census  
 Knox County ..... 875  
 MSA\* ..... 1,087

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# 2005 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 and ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> statewide with its metropolitan population of over 647,000. It is located in a broad valley between the Cumberland Mountains to the northwest and the Great Smoky Mountains to the southeast. These two mountain ranges afford an attractive natural setting and provide a moderate, four-season climate, with average monthly temperatures ranging from 38 degrees in January to 78 degrees in July. The City of Knoxville comprises 102.8 square miles of the 526-square mile total for Knox County. Downtown Knoxville is 936 feet above sea level.

## LIVABILITY

The 7th annual "Quality of Life Quotient" ranking of 362 metropolitan statistical areas by Expansion Management magazine gave the Knoxville-Oak Ridge metro area a five-star rating. Knoxville was the only city in Tennessee and one of 50 nationwide to receive the magazine's top rating. The rankings are based on crime, affordable housing, public schools, access to air service, continuing education and standard of living. Knoxville was also selected by Pinnacle Living magazine as one of the ideal locales in the southern highlands for people seeking to relocate, retire, or establish a second home.

## EDUCATION

Knox County operates 88 public schools, including 51 elementary, 14 middle, and 12 high schools, two vocational schools, and 10 special/adult education centers. Included in the total are five magnet schools offering an enhanced arts and science curriculum. Public school enrollment in 2004 was 52,637. The system employs 3,447 teachers with an average classroom ratio of one teacher for every 15 students. In addition to public schools, there are 33 active private and parochial schools offering elementary and secondary instruction in Knox County.

Post-secondary education is available at 10 public and private four-year institutions in Knox County and the surrounding area. The University of Tennessee is the largest, with an average enrollment of 26,000 students at its main campus in Knoxville. Four community colleges offer two-year programs for associate degrees, and several vocational and technical institutions also serve the area.

## ARTS AND CULTURE

The Knoxville Symphony, the Knoxville Opera Company, and the East Tennessee Children's Dance Ensemble are among the many exceptional arts organizations in Knoxville. Additional dance companies, civic choral groups, touring Broadway productions, ice shows, and concerts also help celebrate the arts. The newly renovated historic Tennessee Theater, with its original Wurlitzer organ, serves as a performing arts center for live entertainment. The Knoxville Museum of Art features changing exhibits throughout the year. The Beck Cultural Center, the Museum of Appalachia, and many historic sites celebrate the cultural heritage of the area.

## RECREATION AND TOURISM

Knoxville/Knox County has approximately 5,723 acres of park and recreation space, including 27 recreation centers, six senior citizen centers,

144 playgrounds and parks, 103 tennis courts, 10 public golf courses, and over 60 miles of greenways and walking trails. Two major attractions for both young and old are the Knoxville Zoological Gardens and Ijams Nature Center. The Tennessee Smokies provide class AA professional baseball for East Tennesseans, while the Knoxville Ice Bears bring minor league hockey to local fans. National championship UT sports teams draw thousands of enthusiasts to games each year. Special seasonal events include the Dogwood Arts Festival in the spring, Sundown in the City in the summer, Boomsday in the fall, and Christmas In The City in December. The nearby Great Smoky Mountains National Park is the country's most visited national park with over 9.2 million visitors in 2004. Knoxvilleans and visitors alike enjoy the beauty and leisure activities that can be found there and at the numerous state parks, lakes, and resorts which dot the area.

Knoxville supports an active tourism and convention trade. A new 500,000 square foot convention center on the World's Fair Park site opened in 2002. The center includes spacious meeting rooms and a 500-seat lecture hall. Other local facilities are a large civic coliseum/auditorium, two exhibition halls, and a 25,000-seat arena. In 2003, travelers spent more than \$599 million in Knox County, ranking it fourth in the state for visitor expenditures. Almost 9,000 people are employed in travel-related jobs in Knox County.

## CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

The Knoxville Area Chamber Partnership has 2,047 members who participate in economic development, general commerce, and civic affairs. Around 150 civic groups and 270 neighborhood associations are active in the city and county. United Way and Community Shares support youth, family, and social service programs. Organizations such as the Community Action Committee and Child and Family Tennessee also offer local assistance. More than 430 churches, serving many faiths and denominations, meet the religious needs of the community.

## COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

The January 2005 edition of Expansion Management magazine ranked Knoxville 14<sup>th</sup> in their "America's 50 Hottest Cities" while Inc. Magazine ranked Knoxville 18<sup>th</sup> in their "Best Places for Doing Business in America" for 2005. These rankings are based on cost of doing business, job growth, educational attainment, and population. Knoxville's favorable business climate has fostered an economy driven by health and education services, retail trade, government, and manufacturing operations. Many local companies are recognized as national and global business leaders, including Clayton Homes, Brunswick Corporation, Goody's Family Clothing, Bush Beans, Pilot Corporation, and Ruby Tuesday.

Knox County offers 11 business parks and a Technology Corridor to meet a wide range of corporate facility needs. Investment in new or expanded industrial operations in the county in 2004 totaled \$159 million and created 1,338 jobs. Across the metro area, new investment reached \$463 million, netting 4,025 jobs.

Four regional malls and more than 150 shopping centers and factory outlets comprise the retail landscape of the Knoxville area. Total retail sales hit \$8.8 billion in Knox County in 2004, up 26% from the previous year. The Knoxville MSA grossed over \$12.1 billion, a 6% gain over 2003

figures. The Knoxville metro area is ranked 53<sup>rd</sup> nationwide in total retail sales according to Sales and Marketing Management.

## INCOME

In 2003, Knoxville/Knox County per capita personal income was \$30,901, a 2.9% increase from 2002. The 2002-03 state and national increase was 3.5% or \$28,641 and 2.2% or \$31,472 respectively. Between 1993 and 2003, the average annual growth rate of per capita income in Knox County was 3.8%. Knoxville/Knox County ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in the state in per capita income in 2003.

## LABOR FORCE

The 2004 civilian labor force in the Knoxville MSA was 335,770, with an average unemployment rate of 4.1%. Knox County reported a total labor force of 212,450 and 3.9% unemployment. Rates for both Knox County and the MSA were lower than the statewide average of 5.0% and the national level of 5.4%.

## EMPLOYMENT

2004 non-farm employment by industry for the Knoxville MSA:

INDUSTRY	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Natural Resources, Mining, Construction	16,500	5.1
Manufacturing	38,500	12.0
Durable goods	27,900	8.7
Nondurable goods	10,600	3.3
Wholesale Trade	16,400	5.0
Retail Trade	42,100	13.0
Transportation, Utilities	10,300	3.2
Information	6,200	1.9
Financial Activities	16,700	5.2
Professional, Business Services	37,900	12.0
Educational, Health Services	37,700	11.7
Leisure and Hospitality	32,600	10.2
Other Services	13,800	4.3
Government	53,200	16.3
TOTAL	321,900	

Source: Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, January 2005

A diversified economy is credited for the stability of local employment and wages. Total MSA employment in 2004 was 322,300 and includes all full and part-time non-farm wage and salary employees. The metropolitan area hopes to gain 35,000 new jobs over the next 5 years (2003-2007) through the economic development initiative Jobs Now. Over 11,320 jobs have been created since 2003.

## TAXES

Under Tennessee Constitutional law, residential property is assessed at 25% of appraised value, and commercial/industrial property is assessed at 40% of appraised value. The current property tax rate for Knox County residents is \$2.96 per \$100 assessed value. The rate for the City of Knoxville is \$3.05 per \$100 assessed value. Residents in the city are subject to both city and county property taxes.

The state sales tax is 6% on food and food ingredients and 7% on all other tangible personal property. The local rate, applicable countywide, is 2.25%, bringing the total sales tax in Knox County to 8.25-9.25%. About 72% of the local portion goes to the Knox County School system, and the remainder is dedicated to the general funds of Knoxville and Knox County.

There is no personal income tax in Tennessee, however, the state does levy a tax of 6% on stock dividends and bond interest over \$1,250 for single-filers. Called the Hall Income Tax, it applies to both individuals and partnerships.

All businesses in Knox County must have an operating license. Establishments within the City of Knoxville must have both a city and county license. Business taxes are calculated on gross receipts and are assessed within 1 of 4 classes of operation. Assessments range from 1/40 of 1% to 3/16 of 1%, depending on type of business. Many professional services and manufacturers are exempt from local business taxes but are responsible for the state's Professional Privilege Tax or Franchise and Excise Taxes. More information can be obtained from the business tax offices of the city at 865-215-2083 and the county at 865-215-2392. State tax information is available from the Department of Revenue, 615-253-0600.

## TRANSPORTATION

An extensive transportation network connects Knoxville to the U.S. marketplace. Forty percent of the nation's population is within 600 miles of Knoxville via I-40, I-75, and I-81 which intersect the metro area. The city is directly linked to the Great Lakes by the Interconnected Inland Water System and to the Gulf of Mexico by the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. Barge shipping is facilitated by 3 local river terminals. Also serving the area are 125 truck lines, 3 railroads, and 9 airlines. Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) serves the city with 28 public bus routes, operating 80 vehicles and carrying 3.2 million passengers a year. In 2004, KAT garnered the prestigious American Public Transportation Association's Outstanding Achievement Award for systems that carry between one million and four million passengers. A trolley system also serves the downtown and university areas.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Knoxville businesses and residents have access to services that are on the leading edge of communications technology. Downtown Knoxville and other local sites are served by BellSouth's high capacity fiber optic network. Comcast, Knology, and Charter offer digital cable and high speed internet access. Knoxville ranks 52nd in the country in Intel's 2005 ranking of cities with the greatest wireless Internet accessibility. The advanced communications network has attracted the telemarketing divisions of several large corporations to Knoxville.

## UTILITIES

In much of Knox County, the Knoxville Utilities Board (KUB) provides natural gas, water, and wastewater services and distributes electric power generated by the Tennessee Valley Authority. Beyond KUB's service area, portions of the county receive electricity from 2 local power companies, and water is supplied by 6 utility districts, 5 of which also provide wastewater treatment service.