

KNOXVILLE AREA STATISTICS

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

CIVIC

Churches 430

Golf Courses

Public - Knox County 13
Country Clubs 5

Government

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

Historic Districts 25

Hospital Systems (Knox County)

General Use 8
Children's Hospital 1
Beds, approximate number 2,320

Libraries

Knox County Public Library
Size of Collection 1,033,785
Branches 19

Newspapers - circulation

The Knoxville News-Sentinel
Daily 119,172
Sunday 150,147
Weeklies, Biweeklies, and Monthlies
Total Number 12

Park Area (approximate public acreage)

Knox County 5,236

Radio and Television

Radio Stations 20
Television Stations 9

Theaters

Movie Screens 94
Performance Theaters 11
Dinner Theaters 1

DEMOGRAPHICS

Building Permits - 2006 (city/county)

Total Number 4,384
Total Value \$847,676,163

Dwelling Units (city/county)

2000 Census 171,439
2006 estimate 192,979

Education

College Graduates
(percent of population) 31
College/University Enrollment 2005-06
University of Tennessee 26,000
Pellissippi State Technical
Community College 7,600
Schools
Public 88
Private/Parochial 46
Business/Vocational 20

Housing—2006 Median Sales Price

Knox County \$164,900
U.S. \$221,900
Apartment Rent \$559

Population - (2000 Census)

City of Knoxville 173,890
(2005) 180,130
Knox County (including city) 382,032
(2006) 411,967
MSA* 616,079
(2006) 667,384
Knox County Median Age 38

ECONOMY

Businesses - 2006 Census

Knox County 10,572
MSA* 15,234

Cost of Living

(U.S. Average = 100) 88.1

Earnings - 2006 MSA*

Average All Industries
Per Hour \$17.51
Per Week \$700
Average Annual Pay \$36,421

Employment - 2006 MSA*

Annual Average 333,870
Labor Force 348,200
Unemployment 4.1%

Hotel/Motel Rooms

Number 8,073
Average Room Rate \$80
Occupancy Rate 62.4%

Industrial Properties - 2005

Number of Buildings 606
Total Square Feet (in millions) 33.2
Vacancy Rate 13.0%

Manufacturing Establishments- 2006

Knox County 503
MSA* 822

Office Properties - 2006

Buildings 543
Total sq. ft. (in millions) 20.2
Vacancy Rate 12.8%
Average Rent (sq ft) \$14.44

Retail Establishments - 2006

Knox County 1,595
MSA* 2,339

Retail Sales (thousands) - 2006

Knox County \$6,471,242
Sales Per Capita \$15,708
MSA* \$8,786,135

Service Establishments - 2006

Knox County 4,976
MSA* 6,961

Shopping Centers - 2006

Number 169
Total sq. ft. (in millions) 15.6
Vacancy Rate 6.5%

Wholesale Establishments - 2006

Knox County 912
MSA* 1,232

TRANSPORTATION

Airlines

..... 8
Allegiant Air, ComAir, Continental, Delta,
Northwest/Northwest AirLink, United Express,
USAirways Express
Daily flights 136

Air Services

Cargo services 5
Freight (tons) 2006 46,141

Air Passengers 1,674,877

Bus Terminals

Greyhound/Trailways 1

Railroad Lines

CSX/Seaboard, Norfolk Southern 2
Miles of Lines 170

Water Transportation - 2006

Port of Knoxville (tons) 572,295
Barges Per Year 552

KNOXVILLE-KNOX COUNTY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

Suite 403 City County Building

400 Main Street

Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

865-215-2500

www.knoxmpc.org

Facts & Figures
2007

KNOXVILLE AREA



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, ranking third statewide with a metropolitan population of 667,384. It is located in a broad valley between the Cumberland Mountains to the northwest and the Great Smoky Mountains to the southeast. These two 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 103.2 square miles of the 526-square mile total for Knox County. Downtown Knoxville is 936 feet above sea level.

LIVABILITY

Knoxville continually receives high honors for quality of life. As published in the 2007 Best Cities for Relocating Families, Knoxville is the best medium sized metropolitan area in the nation. Rankings are based on cost of living, housing cost, crime rate, education, climate, arts/culture, and diversity. According to Salary.com, Knoxville placed third among all markets in the U.S. regardless of size when it comes to good wages and low cost of living. The American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association (ACCRA) measures the relative price levels for consumer goods and services in metropolitan areas whose chambers agree to participate. The average of all participating cities equals 100.0. In 2006, Knoxville's composite index scored an 88.1, further solidifying it among the leading markets for low cost of living. CNN/Money.com also ranks Knoxville as one of the ten best places to retire.

EDUCATION

Knox County operates 88 public schools, including 51 elementary, 14 middle, and 12 high schools, two vocational schools, and several special/adult education centers. Included in the total are five magnet schools offering enhanced arts and science curriculum. Total enrollment in 2006 was 53,090. The system employs 3,679 teachers, with an average classroom ratio of one teacher for every 14 students. In addition to public education, there are 46 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. In 2006, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, with an average enrollment of 26,000 students, was listed in the top 40 public universities by U.S. News and World Report. Four community colleges offer two-year, associate degree programs, and several vocational and technical institutions also serve the area.

ARTS AND CULTURE

The Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, the Knoxville Opera Company, and the Tennessee Children's Dance Ensemble are among the many exceptional arts organizations in the city. Choral groups, dance companies, and 10 theatres, including the renovated Tennessee and Bijou Theaters, also promote the arts. Live entertainment includes touring Broadway productions, ice shows, concerts, and circuses. The Knoxville Museum of Art and the Emporium Center for Arts and Culture feature changing exhibits throughout the year, while the area's libraries, historic sites, and museums, such as the Museum of Appalachia and the Beck Cultural Center, celebrate Knoxville's heritage.

RECREATION AND TOURISM

Knox County has over 5,236 acres of park and recreation space, including 27 recreation centers, six senior citizen centers, 104 tennis courts, 13 golf courses open to the public, and more than 60 miles of greenway and walking trails. Knoxville's Zoological Gardens and Ijams Nature Center attract visitors both young and old. Nearby is the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the country's most visited, with over 9 million guests in 2006. Visitors enjoy the natural beauty and leisure activities that can be found there and at the numerous other state parks, lakes, and resorts which dot the area.

For sports fans, Knoxville has much to offer. Nationally-ranked University of Tennessee varsity teams draw thousands of enthusiasts to football, basketball, and many other NCAA events each year. The Tennessee Smokies provide AA minor league baseball in neighboring Sevier County, while the Knoxville Ice Bears bring minor league hockey to local fans. The city is also home to the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

Special seasonal events include the Dogwood Arts Festival and Rossini Festival in the spring, Sundown in the City during summer months, Boomsday in the fall, and December's celebration Christmas in the City. Knoxville supports an active tourism and convention trade with a 500,000-square foot convention center located downtown at World's Fair Park. Other local facilities are a large civic coliseum/auditorium, two exhibition halls, and a 25,000-seat arena. The Southeast Tourism Society selected Knoxville's Dogwood Arts Festival and Rossini Festival as "Top 20 Events" for the month of April and May, respectively.

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

The Knoxville Area Chamber Partnership has over 2,100 members who participate in economic development, general commerce, and community affairs. About 150 civic groups and 270 neighborhood associations are active in the city and county. United Way and Community Shares support many youth, family, and social service programs, and 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

Knoxville is recognized as one of the best places in the U.S. for business and careers according to this year's rankings by Forbes Magazine. The city placed fifth overall among 200 competitors, earning high marks in job growth, cost of living, income growth, and other community indicators. Two of the industries seeing success in the metro area are the media industry anchored by Scripps Television Networks (HGTV, DIY, Food Network, GAC, and Fine Living) and the nanotechnology industry with the newly constructed Spallation Neutron Source located in Oak Ridge, TN. In addition, many local companies are recognized as national and global leaders, including Clayton Homes, Brunswick Corporation, Goody's Family Clothing, Bush Brothers, Pilot Corporation, and Ruby Tuesday.

Knox County has 11 business parks and a Technology Corridor to meet a wide range of corporate facility needs. In 2006, over 1,041 new jobs were created in Knox County and over \$224 million in new business investment. Across the metro area, new investment totaled \$454 million and netted 3,240 jobs.

Four regional malls and 169 shopping centers and factory outlets comprise the retail landscape of the Knoxville area. Total retail sales hit \$6.4 billion in Knox County in 2006, while the Knoxville MSA grossed over \$8.7 billion. The average retail sale per capita was \$15,708.

INCOME

In 2005, Knox County's per capita personal income was sixth highest in the state at \$32,815, a 4.4% increase from 2004. State and national increases were 4.5%, or \$30,969, and 4.2%, or \$34,471, respectively, during the same period. The annual growth rate of per capita income in Knox County over the past 10 years averaged 3.9%.

LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

The 2006 civilian labor force (full and part-time, non-farm wage and salary employees, and self-employed persons) in the Knoxville MSA was 348,200, with an average unemployment rate of 4.1%. Knox County reported a total labor force of 220,540 and 3.9% unemployment. Local rates were lower than the statewide average of 5.2% and the national level of 4.6% .

A diversified economy is credited for the stability of local employment and wages. Employment by industry (excluding self-employed) for the Knoxville MSA in 2006:

INDUSTRY	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Government	52,200	15.7
Retail Trade	44,100	13.3
Educational, Health Services	40,600	12.2
Professional, Business Services	39,400	11.8
Manufacturing	38,700	11.6
<i>Durable goods</i>	<i>28,900</i>	<i>8.7</i>
<i>Nondurable goods</i>	<i>9,800</i>	<i>2.9</i>
Leisure and Hospitality	35,200	10.6
Natural Resources, Mining, Construction	18,000	5.4
Financial Activities	17,400	5.2
Wholesale Trade	15,800	4.8
Other Services	13,900	4.2
Transportation, Utilities	11,200	3.4
Information	6,100	1.8
TOTAL	332,600	

Source: Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development

TAXES

Under Tennessee Constitutional law, residential property is assessed at 25% of appraised value, and commercial/industrial property is assessed at 40%. The current property tax rate for Knox County residents is \$2.69 per \$100 assessed value. The assessment in the City of Knoxville is \$5.50 per \$100. City residents pay both 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, the remainder dedicated to the general funds of the city and county.

There is no personal income tax in Tennessee, but 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 one of four classes. 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 meet in 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 three local river terminals. Also serving the area are 125 truck lines, two railroads, and eight airlines. Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) provides 28 public bus routes, operating 80 vehicles and carrying 3.2 million passengers a year in the city. In 2004, KAT garnered the prestigious American Public Transportation Association's Outstanding Achievement Award. KAT is scheduled to break ground on its new downtown Knoxville Station Transit Center, with state-of-the-art customer amenities and serving as the major transportation hub for metropolitan Knoxville.

COMMUNICATIONS

Knoxville businesses and residents have access to leading-edge communications technology. Downtown 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 is 52nd in the country on Intel's list of cities with greatest wireless accessibility, offering over 25 wi-fi locations. 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, residents receive electricity from two local power companies, and water is supplied by six utility districts, five of which also provide wastewater treatment service.