

Knoxville Area Facts & Figures 2017



POPULATION & HOUSING

Population - 2016

City of Knoxville	186,239
Knox County (including city).....	456,132
Metropolitan Area*.....	868,546

Dwelling Units - 2016

Knox County	203,730
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Residential Building Activity - 2016

Knox County	
New Housing Units	3,070
New Construction Value	\$446.9 million

Median Home Sales Price - 2017

Knox County	\$177,000
Metropolitan Area	\$164,300
U.S.	\$232,200

Median Monthly Rent - 2015

Knox County	\$805
Metropolitan Area	\$756
U.S.	\$959

** Metropolitan Area refers to Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Grainger, Knox, Loudon, Morgan, Roane, and Union counties.*



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 square miles of the 526-square mile total for Knox County. Knoxville is the urban heart of the metropolitan statistical area, which consists of nine counties – Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Grainger, Knox, Loudon, Morgan, Roane, and Union.

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



LIVABILITY

Quality of life in Knoxville gets high marks. It is touted among the nation's best places to live, to raise a family, to bicycle, and to own a business, among its many accolades. It is also one of the most affordable cities in the U.S.

The American

Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association reports a 2016 cost-of-living score of 83.8, much lower than the national average of 100.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Knoxville Symphony, Knoxville Opera Company, and Dogwood Arts are among the many exceptional local arts organizations. Several performance venues, including the Tennessee and Bijou Theaters, bring live entertainment to the city each year, like touring Broadway productions, ice shows, and concerts. Local radio station WDVX hosts "The Blue Plate Special" throughout the week, offering live performances from local, national, and international musicians.

Knoxville Museum of Art and Emporium Center for Arts and Culture feature changing exhibits throughout the year, while the area's libraries, historic sites, and museums, such as East Tennessee History Center,

C I V I C

Local Government

City of Knoxville

Mayor/9 Council Members (4-year terms)

Knox County

Mayor/11 Commissioners (4-year terms)

Schools

College Enrollment - 2017-18

University of Tennessee 28,321

Pellissippi State Community College ... 11,168

Business/Vocational Schools20

Knox County Population with

Bachelor's Degree or Higher - 2015 36.2%

Knox County Elementary - High Schools - 2017

Public Schools91

Enrollment.....60,313

Teachers3,663

Per Pupil Expenditures \$9,098

Graduation Rate 90.3%

Average ACT (Composite)21.1

Private Schools49

Libraries - 2017

Knox County Public Library System

Main Library and Branches 18

Special Collections: Knox County Archives,
McClung Historical Collection

Hospitals - 2017

Knox County

General 8

Children's 1

Licensed Beds 2,418

Parks and Recreation - 2017

Knoxville and Knox County

Park Area6,217 acres

Greenways/Walking Trails 175 miles

Recreation/Community Centers 19

Senior Centers 4

Skateparks 3

Dog Parks 6

Public Golf Courses 10

Newspapers - 2017

Anderson County: *Oak Ridger*

Blount County: *Daily Times*

Knox County: *Knoxville News-Sentinel,*

Knoxville Focus, Farragut Press,
Shopper News

Loudon County: *News Herald*

Sevier County: *Mountain Press*

Union County: *Union News Leader*

Radio and Television - 2017

Radio Stations49

Television Stations 10

Theaters - 2017

Knox County

Movie Screens93

Live Performance Theaters 10

McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture, Museum of Appalachia, and Beck Cultural Exchange Center, celebrate regional heritage.

Special seasonal events include spring's Big Ears Music Festival and Dogwood Arts, Kuumba Festival

and the International Biscuit Festival in the summer, Hola Festival and Brewers Jam in the fall, and December's Christmas in the City.



RECREATION AND TOURISM

Knoxville is gaining an international reputation as an outdoor adventure destination. Just three miles from downtown are 1,000 forested acres and 50 miles of multi-use trails in Knoxville's Urban Wilderness. Ijams Nature Center and Zoo Knoxville attract visitors both young and old. And residents and tourists alike enjoy Knox County's parks, rec centers, golf courses, and greenways. The region also is home to Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the country's most visited, with 11.3 million guests in 2016.



For sports fans, Knoxville has much to offer. The University of Tennessee's NCAA Division 1 football, basketball, and other teams draw hundreds of thousands of enthusiasts to games each year. Tennessee Smokies, the AA affiliate of the Chicago Cubs, provide minor league professional baseball in neighboring Sevier County, while the Knoxville Ice Bears bring minor league hockey to local fans. The city also is host to the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

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 and UT's 22,000-seat Thompson Boling Arena.

E C O N O M Y

Cost of Living - 2016

Metropolitan Area 83.8
 U.S. Average 100.0

Earnings - Average All Industries - 2017

Knox County
 Hourly \$23.53
 Weekly \$941
 Annually \$48,932

Employment - 2017

Knox County
 Labor Force 235,280
 Unemployment Rate 3.7%
 Metropolitan Area
 Labor Force 415,290
 Unemployment Rate 4.1%

METRO AREA NON-FARM EMPLOYMENT - 2017	
Industry	Employment
Natural Resources, Mining, Construction	17,200
Manufacturing	38,800
Wholesale Trade	17,200
Retail Trade	48,500
Transportation, Warehousing, Utilities	15,000
Information	5,600
Finance	19,600
Professional and Business Services	61,200
Educational and Health Services	51,900
Leisure and Hospitality	43,400
Other Services	15,100
Government	56,800
TOTAL NON-FARM EMPLOYMENT	390,300

Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, June 2017

Total Establishments - All Industries - 2017

Knox County 12,013
 Metropolitan Area 19,139

Service Establishments - 2017

Knox County 6,105
 Metropolitan Area 9,240

Wholesale Establishments - 2017

Knox County 1,025
 Metropolitan Area 1,403

Manufacturing Establishments - 2017

Knox County 433
 Metropolitan Area 818

Retail Establishments - 2017

Knox County 1,521
 Metropolitan Area 2,511

Retail Sales - 2016

Knox County \$9,928,871,229
 Sales Per Capita \$21,767

EDUCATION

Knox County Schools operates 91 elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as non-traditional/adult education centers. Included are five magnet schools offering enhanced arts and science curriculum and a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Academy. There are an additional 49 private schools offering elementary and secondary instruction in Knox County.

Post-secondary education is available at 11 public and private four-year institutions in Knox County and surrounding area. Largest among them, The University of Tennessee was ranked 46th among the nation's best public universities in 2017 by U.S. News and World Report. Three community colleges offer two-year associate degree programs, and several vocational and technical institutions also serve the area.

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

The Knoxville Chamber has over 2,200 members who participate in economic development, general commerce, and community affairs. United Way, Community Shares, Community Action Committee, and Helen Ross McNabb Center, support many youth, family, and social service programs. More than 250 neighborhood associations and many civic groups are active throughout the city and county.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Economic diversity characterizes Knoxville's commerce and industry, with companies like media giants Regal Entertainment Group (the largest movie theater chain in America) and Scripps Networks Interactive (HGTV, Food, Travel, DIY, Cooking, and GAC) calling the area home. Also here are national and global leaders Clayton Homes, Brunswick Corporation, Keurig Green Mountain, Bush Brothers, Pilot Flying J, and Ruby Tuesday.



The area hosts Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the largest U.S. Department of Energy research facility, employing more than 4,300 scientists and engineers in 100 disciplines, with an annual operating budget of \$1.25 billion.

Knox County has seven business parks and a Technology Corridor to meet a wide range of corporate facility needs, and the area is promoted by Knoxville-Oak Ridge Innovation Valley Inc., an economic development partnership for regional business growth.

TAXES

Residential property in Tennessee is assessed at 25 percent of appraised value, and taxes are levied on each \$100 of assessed value. Commercial/industrial property is assessed at 40 percent. The current tax rate for Knox County is \$2.32 per \$100 assessment. Knoxville's rate is \$2.7257 per \$100. Knoxville property owners pay both city and county taxes.

The state sales tax rate is 4.0 percent on food and 7.0 percent on all other tangible personal property. The local rate, applicable countywide, is 2.25 percent, bringing the total sales tax rate in Knox County to 9.25 percent.



TRANSPORTATION

Air - 2016

Airlines: Allegiant, American, Delta, Frontier, and United
 Daily Flights..... 120
 Passengers..... 1,827,989
 Cargo Services.....2
 Cargo Freight.....42,415 tons

Bus - 2017

Knoxville Area Transit (KAT)
 Routes.....23
 Vehicles.....95
 Passengers..... 3 million +
 Long-distance : Greyhound, Trailways, and .
 Megabus

Highway - 2016

Interstates 40, 75, 81, 140, 275, and 640
 Average Daily Trips (I-40/75 within Knox County)
 196,707
 Trucking Companies..... 125

Rail - 2017

Systems: CSX and Norfolk Southern
 Miles of Track (within Knox County)..... 170

Water - 2015

Cargo through East Tennessee Locks
 5,030,500 tons

TRANSPORTATION

A multi-modal transportation network connects Knoxville to the U.S. marketplace. Nearly half of the nation's population is within a day's drive of Knoxville via six Interstate Highways which transect the area. For air travel, five airlines fly to 20 non-stop destinations out of Knoxville's McGhee Tyson Airport (TYS), located 12 miles from downtown. Also serving the area are two railroads and a barge shipping network, the latter directly linked to the Great Lakes and Gulf of Mexico.

Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) operates the city's public transit system with more than 20 routes and a fleet of full-sized buses, neighborhood service buses, and paratransit vans. KAT's downtown Knoxville Station Transit Center serves as the intermodal public transportation hub for metropolitan Knoxville.



COMMUNICATIONS

Knoxville businesses and residents have access to leading-edge communications technology. Comcast, WOW, Charter, TDS, and AT&T offer cable, high-speed Internet, and telephone service. The advanced communications network has attracted the telemarketing divisions of several large corporations to Knoxville.

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, six of which also provide wastewater treatment.

KNOXVILLE KNOX COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

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