



Education

2008 STATE OF CHATTANOOGA REGION REPORT

Dr. Eileen Robertson-Rehberg
November 2008

the **Ochs Center**
for metropolitan studies

November 2008

Dear Reader:

I am happy to introduce the third of the Ochs Center for Metropolitan Studies series of reports leading up to the publication of the 2008 State of Chattanooga Region Report, this one on Education.

In this report – and upcoming reports on Housing, Public Safety, Health and the Economy – Ochs Center staff rely on a combination of administrative data (usually collected by government agencies) and survey data (from an April 2008 telephone survey of one thousand Hamilton County residents) to describe current conditions in the Chattanooga region. As we did two years ago, we will provide information at the neighborhood level and also provide comparisons between our region and other midsize regions across the county.

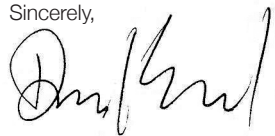
For those of you who have read or used the State of Chattanooga Region Report, I wanted to highlight a series of changes this year – which were the result of feedback on the 2006 report.

By releasing a series of reports instead of a single, 360 page volume, we hope to better highlight key findings in each of the different topic areas that we cover. Because – in most cases – we have data from prior years, we will be able to provide trend analysis: in other words, we will be able to speak to changes in conditions, as well as current conditions. We will do a better job discussing the region, not just Hamilton County and Chattanooga. Each of the reports will begin with a description of conditions in the six county metropolitan statistical area (Hamilton, Marion and Sequatchie counties in Tennessee and Catoosa, Dade and Walker counties in Georgia). Finally, we will make access to information about specific neighborhoods or subregions much more accessible.

While we have made some changes, the goal of the State of Chattanooga Region Report remains the same – to provide information to the community that helps elected officials, policymakers, civic leaders and the public make better decisions about our community's future.

Please let us know what you think. If you have comments or questions, feel free to email me at deichenthal@ochscenter.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Eichenthal', is written over a light gray rectangular background.

David Eichenthal
President and CEO

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Among 1000 respondents to a 2008 countywide survey, 84% indicated quality schools was very important to the quality of life in Hamilton County: 90.3% of respondents ranked quality public schools as either the most important factor or very important in creating or retaining jobs in the County.

In the Chattanooga Metro Area, half of total student enrollment (2005-2006; pre-K to 12th grade) were educated in Hamilton County public schools; 36% were in five other public school systems and 14% of students were enrolled in private schools.

In 2007, 53.9% of Metro Area students were eligible for free or reduced lunch. Marion County and Walker County public schools (63.4% and 61.0% respectively) had the highest percentages of children eligible for free or reduced lunch.

Every school in the Catoosa County public school system met Adequate Yearly Progress Standards in 2007. In Hamilton County, 84% of public schools – the second highest percentage in the region – met AYP. In both Marion and Sequatchie Counties, one-third of schools failed to meet AYP.

Graduation rates (2006-2007) were highest in Marion County (87%) and lowest in Walker County, Georgia with only 55.4% graduating from public high schools. Hamilton County has the second highest graduation rate in the Metro Area -- 75.1%.

While 80% of parents of children in Hamilton County public schools rated their child's school as good or excellent, parents of children in private and parochial schools were three times as likely to rate their child's school as excellent (91%) as public school parents (31%).

In Hamilton County, 28.1% of students failed to attend school at least 93% of the time: more than one-third of high school students failed to meet the systemwide attendance goal.

An increasing percentage of Hamilton County students are scoring advanced on third grade reading TCAPs – up from 38.2% in 2004-2005 to 42% in 2007-2008: the increase was greatest among economically disadvantaged students – a 4.7 percentage point increase. Still, white students were more than two and a half times as likely to score advanced on the third grade reading test and economically disadvantaged students scored below proficient at a rate more than four times higher than those without an economic disadvantage.

On third grade math TCAPs, the percentage of students scoring advanced increased from a low of 37.5% in 2005-2006 to 43.4% in 2007-2008: the greatest increase was among non-economically disadvantaged students – up 8.1 percentage points.

Overall, the percentage of students scoring advanced on the Algebra I Gateway increased from 25.9% to 32.5% in 2007-2008: while the percentage of both African American and White students scoring advanced increased, the performance gap

based on student race grew as well.

Students performed better on the English II Gateway: the percentage scoring advanced increased from 66.1% in 2006-2007 to 72% in 2007-2008: the percentage of both African American and White students scoring advanced increased while the performance gap closed.

Dallas Bay/Lakesite had the fastest growth in student enrollment -- up 28% since 2005. Six other subregions also experienced double digit growth during this period. Public school enrollment declined in 14 out of 36 subregions. Downtown's student population declined 26.6% going from 757 in the 2004-2005 school to 556 by 2007-2008.

Among public school students from Amnicola/East Chattanooga, more than four in ten students were absent at least thirteen days out of the school year.

In 17 subregions, more than half of all children attending public school are eligible for reduced or free lunch based on their household income. Six subregions accounted for 32% of all eligible students in the County and just 19% of the overall student population.

Performance on the third grade reading TCAP varied by subregion: for example, while 79.7% of Signal Mountain Children scored advanced on the reading TCAP, just 11.5% in South Chattanooga did. In six Chattanooga neighborhoods -- Bushtown/Highland Park, Glenwood/Eastdale, South Chattanooga, Amnicola/East Chattanooga, Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills, and Woodmore/Dalewood -- less than 20% of children scored advanced in reading

Overall, the percentage of children scoring advanced on the third grade reading TCAP increased in 25 out of 36 subregions: there were significant percentage point declines in Lookout Valley/Lookout Mountain (-14.7%), Lupton City/Norcross (-12.2%) and Signal Mountain (-12%).

On the third grade math TCAP, the percentage of students scoring advanced in math in Signal Mountain was eight times the percentage of students scoring advanced from Amnicola/East Chattanooga. In three neighborhoods, less than one in five students scored advanced. The percentage of students scoring advanced on the math TCAP increased in 21 subregions.

While there were differences in performance by subregion on the Gateway exams, the degrees varied by exam topic. Among students living in Signal Mountain, 89.8% scored advanced on the English II exam -- more than double the percentage scoring advanced from Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills. On the Math exam, however, 73.4% of students from Signal Mountain scored advanced -- eight times the percentage of students scoring advanced in Amnicola/East Chattanooga.

EDUCATION AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE CHATTANOOGA REGION

Most Hamilton County residents believe that education is important to their own quality of life. Among 1000 respondents to a 2008 countywide survey, 83% indicated quality schools was very important, even though many surveyed did not have school-age children. In 2006, a similar survey asked the same question and results were somewhat lower (79%).

One reason that all residents value quality public schools is because they view it as important to the County's economic future. Asked to indicate the importance of schools to the local economy nine out of ten survey respondents cited quality public schools as either the most important or a very important factor – no other factor ranked higher.

Percentage Rating “Very Important” In Determining Their Quality of Life

IMPORTANCE TO QUALITY OF LIFE	VERY IMPORTANT 2008	VERY IMPORTANT 2006
Safety from crime	90.1	87.3
Quality health care and hospitals	88.5	85.9
Quality schools	82.9	78.7
Clean air	82.7	77.5
Availability of jobs that pay a living wage	80.5	76.9
Clean streets and neighborhoods	79.5	76.4
Affordability of housing	74.1	71.5
A place where people of all backgrounds are welcome	71.6	66.3
A strong sense of community	64.4	63.2
A strong religious community	62.6	57.6
Parks and other recreational opportunities	61	56.4
Short commuting time	51.8	46.5
Arts and cultural opportunities	45.9	37.9

Source: Ochs Center survey of 1,000 Hamilton County Residents – 2006 and 2008

The Importance of Factors for Job Creation in Hamilton County

FACTORS	MOST IMPORTANT VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT TOO IMPORTANT/ NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT
Quality public schools	90.3%	8.8%	0.9%
Good quality of life	89.5%	9.8%	0.8%
Public safety	87.6%	11.4%	1.0%
An effective government that is free of corruption	86.8%	11.6%	1.6%
A well-educated workforce	85.2%	13.2%	1.6%
Affordable cost of living	84.7%	14.7%	0.7%
Quality colleges and universities	78.7%	19.6%	1.7%
Low taxes	76.3%	20.9%	2.9%
Infrastructure such as roads and airports	73.1%	24.7%	2.3%
Availability of investment capital	60.9%	34.3%	4.8%

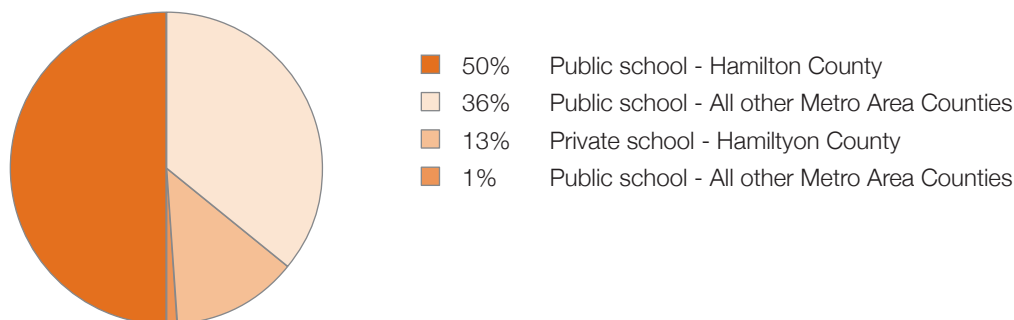
Sources: SOCRR 2008 Survey of Hamilton County residents

EDUCATION IN THE CHATTANOOGA METRO AREA

More often than not, when policymakers, the press and area residents think about public education, they think about their local school or local school system. But, to the extent that people in Hamilton County consider public education important to job creation and economic development, it is useful to also consider a more metropolitan or regional perspective on public education.¹ After all, when prospective employers think about workforce issues, they consider the entire local labor market.

In the Chattanooga Metro Area, half of total student enrollment (2005-2006; pre-K to 12th grade) were educated in Hamilton County public schools. Another 36% of students in the Metro Area were in the five other public school systems. The remaining 14% of students were enrolled in private schools, heavily concentrated in Hamilton County: 95.4% of all private school students in the Metro Area attended school in Hamilton County. One in five students in Hamilton County attended private school.²

Metro Area: School Statistics (2005-2006)



Enrollment in Metro Area Schools

	NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL (PK-12)	NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN PRIVATE SCHOOL (PK-12)	TOTAL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (PUBLIC AND PRIVATE)	%ENROLLMENT IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS	%OF TOTAL PRIVATE
Hamilton	39,020	10,087	49,107	20.5%	95.4%
Marion	4,050	51	4,101	1.2%	0.5%
Sequatchie	2,086	83	2,169	3.8%	0.8%
Catoosa	10,448	127	10,575	1.2%	1.2%
Dade	2,456	8	2,464	0.3%	0.1%
Walker	9,033	212	9,245	2.3%	2.0%
Total	67,093	10,568	77,661	13.6%	100.0%

Sources: Tennessee Department of Education Report Card 2007; Georgia Department of Education Report Card 2006-2007; National Center for Education Statistics' Private School Universe Survey 2005-2006

¹ The general concept of a Metro Area is that of a core area containing a substantial population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of social and economic integration with that core. U.S Census Bureau URL <http://www.census.gov/population/www/metroareas/aboutmetro.html> accessed September 10, 2008

² In some cases, children that are counted as Hamilton County students and in private schools are residents of other counties.

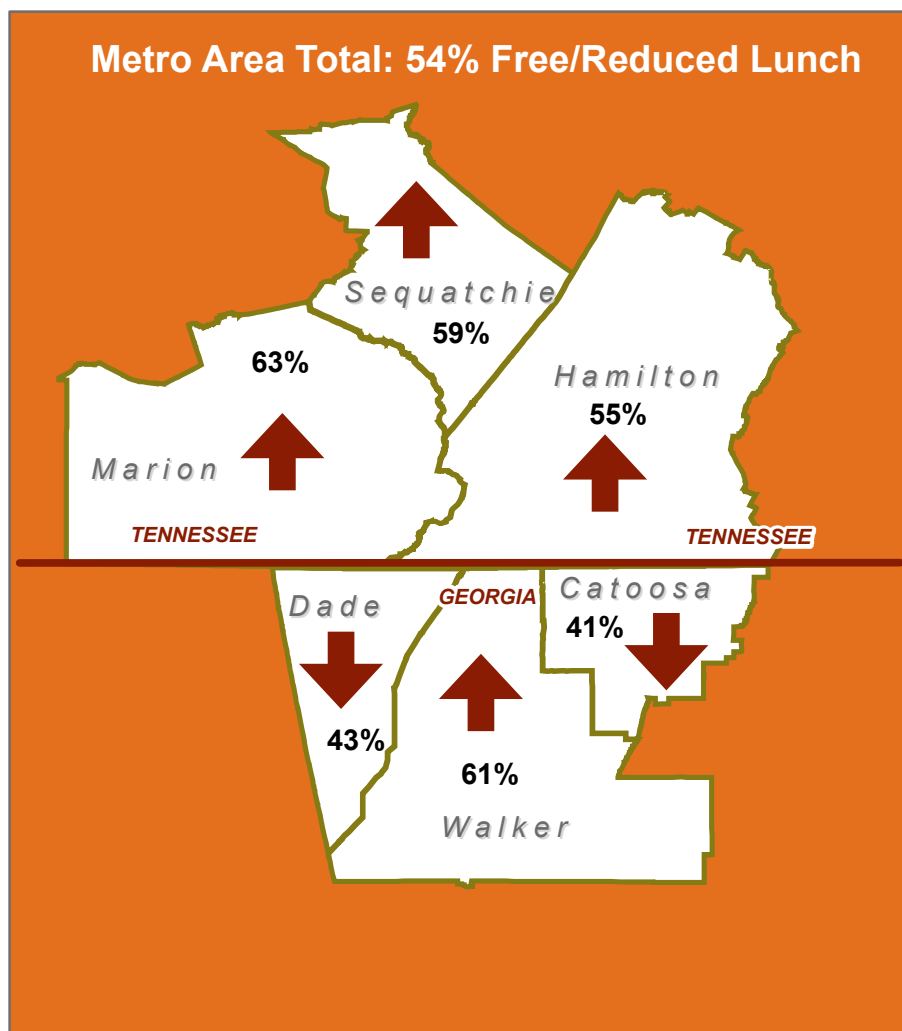
CHARACTERISTICS OF COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEMS

While there are no publicly available sources of data for private school student performance, data on the different public school systems in the region suggest significant differences among counties – just as there are differences in performance from school to school within systems.

Free/Reduced Lunch

In 2007, more than half of Metro Area students were eligible for free or reduced lunch. Marion County and Walker County public schools (63.4% and 61.0% respectively) had the highest percentages of children eligible for free or reduced lunch.³ Two of the three Metro Area Counties in Georgia – Catoosa and Dade Counties -- had the lowest percentages.

³ The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools, and residential child care institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches each school day. Eligibility requirements are linked to federal poverty guidelines with those below 130% of the poverty status eligible for free lunch and those families at less than 185% eligible for reduced price lunch. Student eligibility for free or reduced lunch is a measure of family income below 185% the poverty threshold.



No Child Left Behind

The No Child Left Behind Act holds each local school district and each individual school accountable for the academic success of students. Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is an annual measure of student participation and achievement on statewide assessments and other academic indicators.⁴ Every school in the Catoosa County public school system met AYP in 2007. In Hamilton County, 84% of public schools – the second highest percentage in the region – met AYP. In both Marion and Sequatchie Counties, one-third of schools failed to meet AYP.

Metro Area: AYP (2006-2007)

	Students: Free/Reduced lunch			Schools: AYP results		
	Total students	Eligible for free/reduced lunch	% Eligible for free/reduced lunch	Total schools	Total number meeting AYP	%Public schools meeting AYP
Hamilton TN	39,020	21,500	55.1%	75	63	84.0%
Marion TN	4,050	2,568	63.4%	9	6	66.6%
Sequatchie TN	2,086	1,220	58.5%	3	2	66.6%
Catoosa GA	10,448	4,284	41.0%	15	15	100.0%
Dade GA	2,456	1,056	43.0%	4	3	75.0%
Walker GA	9,033	5,510	61.0%	14	10	71.4%
Total	67,093	36,138	53.9%	120	99	82.5%

Sources: Tennessee Department of Education Report Card 2007; Georgia Department of Education Report Card 2006-2007;

⁴ AYP requires schools to meet standards in three areas: test participation (for both mathematics and reading/English language arts), academic performance (for both mathematics and reading/English language arts), and a second indicator, attendance for grades 3-8 and graduation rates for grades 9-12.

Graduation Rates

Graduation rates (2006-2007) were highest in Marion County (87%) and lowest in Walker County Georgia with only 55.4% graduating from public high schools. Hamilton County has the second highest graduation rate in the Metro Area -- 75.1%.⁵

College Entry Exams

Standardized achievement tests are taken by students wishing to go to college. Most Tennessee students take the ACT and most Georgia students take the SAT.⁶ While the scoring for these tests is different, it is possible to compare performance to a national average on both tests. In 2007, average SAT scores in the three Georgia counties in the MSA ranged from 94.7% to 99.1% of the national SAT average. Tennessee ACT scores were lower, ranging from 92% to 93.9% of the national ACT average scores. Not all high school students, however, take a college entry exam.

College entry tests and graduation statistics: Student and county populations

COUNTY	PUBLIC SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE (2006-2007)	ACT/SAT SCORES (%NATIONAL AVERAGE)
Hamilton TN	75.1%	92.9%
Marion TN	87.0%	92.0%
Sequatchie TN	71.2%	93.9%
Dade GA	69.9%	99.1%
Walker GA	73.7%	97.0%
Catoosa GA	55.4%	94.7%

⁵The graduation rate in both Tennessee and Georgia meets guidelines set under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) which defines a graduate as a student who leaves high school with a Regular Diploma (this does not include Certificates of Attendance or Special Education Diplomas) in the standard time (i.e., 4 years). The graduation rate is then calculated using a formula that takes the number of students who graduated with regular diplomas and divides it by the sum of dropouts in 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades, graduates, and other completers.

⁶ The Tennessee Department of Education reports student ACT statistics only in its annual statewide Report Card (<http://edu.reportcard.state.tn>) . Georgia's Department of Education reports both ACT and SAT scores. However based on numbers in the 2007 Report Card, a majority of Georgia's graduating students take the SAT (<http://www.doe.k12.ga.us>)

Third Grade TCAP/CRCT Scores

Although Tennessee and Georgia public school systems use different tests and proficiency standards for student assessments of third graders, it is still useful to compare the respective systems.⁷

In the Metro Area, Marion County TN and Catoosa County GA had the highest percentages of students scoring advanced in third grade math scores at 42% and 40% respectively. Hamilton and Sequatchie Counties tied for third highest, each with 38% scoring advanced. Dade and Walker counties had the lowest percentages.

Hamilton County had the second highest percentage of students advanced in reading. With 38% scoring advanced in Hamilton County, only Marion County was higher with 43% advanced in third grade reading. Dade and Walker schools, the two counties with the lowest percentages advanced in math, also had the lowest percentages of students advanced in reading.

Gateway/EOCT Scores

High school standardized tests are used to evaluate student performance in Algebra and English. Those students advanced in Algebra were highest in two Tennessee counties --Marion (48%) and Sequatchie (46%). In comparison, Hamilton County’s percentage of advanced students ranked fourth highest in the Metro Area at 26%. Only 1% of Dade County students were advanced.⁸

Compared to Georgia counties, the three Tennessee counties had much higher percentages of students scoring advanced in English II. Marion, Sequatchie and Hamilton percentages proficient or advance ranged from highest 80% in Sequatchie County to 66% in Hamilton. Georgia Metro Area counties ranged from a high of 36% in Walker to the lowest percentage in Dade County with 21% advanced.

⁷ Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program Achievement Tests (TCAP); Georgia law requires that all students in grades one through eight take Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT).

⁸ Tennessee Board of Education conducts Gateway tests in Mathematics, Language Arts and Science as required for high school graduation; End of Course Test (EOCT) is an academic assessment conducted by the State Board of Education. Georgia,

Metro Area school statistics: Proficiency scores by county

	3rd grade TCAP/CRCT scores		Gateway/EOCT scores	
	Math (% advanced)	Reading (%advanced)	Algebra I (% proficient or above)	English II (% proficient or above)
Hamilton TN	38%	38%	26%	66%
Marion TN	42%	43%	48%	78%
Sequatchie TN	38%	35%	46%	80%
Catoosa GA	40%	27%	31%	24%
Dade GA	34%	17%	1%	21%
Walker GA	26%	19%	23%	36%

Sources: Tennessee Department of Education Report Card 2007; Georgia Department of Education Report Card 2006-2007

EDUCATION IN HAMILTON COUNTY

According to the 2006 American Community Survey (ACS), there were 50,694 children in Kindergarten through 12th grade in Hamilton County. According to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), a total of 49,005 children were enrolled in public or private schools in 2006, a total that does not include those children homeschooled. NCES reported that there were 9,213 children attending Hamilton County private schools and 39,792 children attending public schools in grades K-12.

Survey Results: Education Quality

Respondents to the county-wide survey were asked to rate the quality of their child’s school where they had one or more school age children.

⁹ Income was not the sole determinant of school quality. Those in the higher income category were nearly three times more likely to have a child in private or parochial school when compared to those in the lower income category and higher percentages in both income categories rated private/parochial schools as excellent.

Quality education by school choice and household income

	ALL N=464	PUBLIC N=356	PRIVATE/ PAROCHIAL N=93	<\$50,000 N=215	>\$50,000 N=197
Excellent	43%	31%	91%	35%	53%
Good	39%	49%	8%	47%	35%
Fair	9%	12%	1%	10%	8%
Poor	9%	8%	0%	8%	4%

Source: 2008 SOCRR Survey
Note: Percentages include all those children for whom school choice, income and quality of education questions were answered

Among all respondents, 43% rated the quality of their child’s school as excellent and 39% rated quality as good. Parents of children attending private school were nearly three times as likely to rate their child’s school as excellent. Those with incomes at or above \$50,000 were one and a half times more likely to rate their child’s school as excellent.⁹

Student Attendance

The Federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) recognizes that there is a relationship between public school attendance and student performance. Students who fail to regularly attend school are less likely to perform well in school. The State of Tennessee has established an attendance goal of 93%: in other words, on average, students should be in school 93% of the time. While the goal is for the entire district, it can also be applied to individual students: those students who attend school 93% or more of the time would meet the standard.

Excluding pre-K, percentages of students that did not meet minimum state attendance requirements were highest in high school years. From grades nine to twelve nearly 4000 students or 35% of the high school population did not meet minimum state attendance.

Hamilton County Department of Education: Required attendance by grade 2008

Grade	GOAL NOT MET		MET GOAL	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Pre-K	391	35.5%	709	64.5%
Kindergarten	908	27.7%	2,370	72.3%
01	792	23.3%	2,603	76.7%
02	691	21.0%	2,592	79.0%
03	653	21.1%	2,439	78.9%
04	616	20.5%	2,394	79.5%
05	601	19.9%	2,420	80.1%
06	791	27.7%	2,061	72.3%
07	973	31.3%	2,136	68.7%
08	1,015	33.4%	2,020	66.6%
09	1,234	37.5%	2,054	62.5%
10	976	34.4%	1,865	65.6%
11	826	33.5%	1,636	66.5%
12	835	34.9%	1,559	65.1%
Total	11,302	28.1%	28,858	71.9%

Source: Pearson School System SASI Student Information System
 Note: The attendance goal is 93% of the total school days in the year

Student Performance

As noted earlier, public school students are tested at various grade levels in different subjects. Among Hamilton County students, performance on these tests frequently vary by race, gender and household income.

An increasing percentage of Hamilton County students are scoring advanced on third grade reading TCAPs – up from 38.2% in 2004-2005 to 42% in 2007-2008. These gains occurred among students of all races, ethnicities, gender and income status. Notably, the increase was greatest among economically disadvantaged students –a 4.7 percentage point increase.

Still disparities in performance exist. In 2007-2008, white students were more than two and a half times as likely to score advanced on the third grade reading test. And, economically disadvantaged students scored below proficient at a rate more than four times higher than those without an economic disadvantage.

Hamilton County Department of Education TCAP results: Third grade Reading/Language by proficiency

	2004-05			2005-2006		
	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
All	11.9%	50.0%	38.2%	11.2%	53.5%	35.3%
White	5.8%	44.1%	50.1%	5.6%	47.3%	47.0%
African American	21.4%	62.7%	15.9%	20.8%	64.4%	14.8%
Latino	38.1%	39.3%	22.6%	21.1%	61.0%	17.9%
Male	14.2%	51.3%	34.6%	13.2%	55.4%	31.4%
Female	9.4%	48.4%	42.2%	8.9%	51.5%	39.6%
Economically disadvantaged	19.1%	60.6%	20.3%	17.5%	63.0%	19.6%
Not Economically disadvantaged	4.3%	38.9%	56.8%	4.1%	42.7%	53.2%

	2006-2007			2007-2008		
	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
All	8.6%	53.8%	37.7%	9.2%	48.8%	42.0%
White	4.6%	46.8%	48.7%	5.0%	41.3%	53.7%
African American	14.5%	67.1%	18.4%	16.6%	64.2%	19.2%
Latino	16.9%	57.7%	25.4%	17.3%	58.3%	24.4%
Male	11.1%	56.6%	32.3%	11.5%	49.2%	39.3%
Female	6.0%	50.9%	43.1%	6.8%	48.5%	44.8%
Economically disadvantaged	13.0%	64.4%	22.7%	14.3%	60.7%	25.0%
Not Economically disadvantaged	3.3%	41.2%	55.5%	2.9%	34.3%	62.8%

Sources: Tennessee Department of Education and Hamilton County Department of Education

On third grade math TCAPs, the percentage of students scoring advanced increased from a low of 37.5% in 2005-2006 to 43.4% in 2007-2008. Again, gains occurred across all categories of students although, in the case of math, the greatest increase was among non-economically disadvantaged students – up 8.1 percentage points.

Differences in performance by race and income mirror differences in reading performance. Interestingly, while girls outpaced boys in reading, the opposite was true in math.

Hamilton County Department of Education TCAP results: Third grade Math by proficiency

	2004-05			2005-2006		
	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
All	17.2%	41.2%	41.6%	15.3%	47.2%	37.5%
White	9.4%	36.4%	54.2%	8.5%	42.4%	49.2%
African American	31.6%	50.4%	18.0%	28.7%	55.1%	16.1%
Latino	31.4%	41.9%	26.7%	15.7%	61.4%	22.8%
Male	18.0%	40.2%	41.8%	16.8%	45.4%	37.8%
Female	16.4%	42.0%	41.6%	13.8%	49.1%	37.1%
Economically disadvantaged	26.4%	48.9%	24.6%	23.4%	54.4%	22.2%
Not Economically disadvantaged	7.6%	33.0%	59.4%	6.2%	39.0%	54.8%

	2006-2007			2007-2008		
	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
All	12.7%	49.1%	38.2%	13.6%	43.0%	43.4%
White	7.4%	41.8%	50.8%	7.6%	37.8%	54.6%
African American	22.4%	60.6%	17.1%	25.8%	53.4%	20.8%
Latino	12.9%	63.3%	23.8%	17.9%	51.9%	30.1%
Male	14.4%	47.0%	38.6%	13.9%	42.1%	44.0%
Female	11.0%	51.1%	37.8%	13.2%	44.0%	42.7%
Economically disadvantaged	18.6%	57.5%	23.9%	20.5%	52.0%	27.4%
Not Economically disadvantaged	5.7%	39.0%	55.3%	5.0%	32.0%	62.9%

Sources: Tennessee Department of Education and Hamilton County Department of Education

English language ability may have the greatest impact on third grade test performance. Compared to all other students, Hamilton County's public school students with limited English proficiency (LEP) are nearly five times more likely to score below proficient on the third grade reading TCAP and more than twice as likely to be below proficient in math in 2006-2007. Still, test scores among LEP students improved significantly between 2004-2005 and 2006-2007, when the percentage of LEP students proficient in reading and math more than doubled.¹⁰

¹⁰ At the time this report was written, 2008 data on LEP students was not available.

**Hamilton County Department of Education TCAP results:
Third grade children with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)**

2004-05				
		% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
READING	All	11.9%	50.0%	38.2%
	LEP	72.3%	27.7%	0.0%
	Not LEP	10.9%	50.3%	38.8%
		% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
MATH	All	17.2%	41.2%	41.6%
	LEP	52.7%	32.7%	14.5%
	Not LEP	16.6%	41.3%	42.1%
2005-06				
		% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
READING	All	8.6%	53.8%	37.7%
	LEP	38.9%	57.4%	3.7%
	Not LEP	10.9%	50.3%	38.8%
		% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
MATH	All	15.3%	47.2%	37.5%
	LEP	27.6%	51.7%	20.7%
	Not LEP	15.1%	47.1%	37.8%
2006-07				
		% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
READING	All	8.6%	53.8%	37.7%
	LEP	36.2%	62.3%	1.4%
	Not LEP	7.9%	53.6%	38.5%
		% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
MATH	All	12.7%	49.1%	38.2%
	LEP	26.3%	69.7%	3.9%
	Not LEP	12.4%	48.5%	39.1%

Sources: Tennessee Department of Education and Hamilton County Department of Education

In 2001, the Tennessee State Board of Education mandated that students must successfully pass examinations in three subject areas - Mathematics, Science, and Language Arts - in order to earn a high school diploma. Similar to the TCAP exams administered to 3rd through 8th grade students, the scores from Gateway exams are grouped into below proficient, proficient, and advanced categories.¹¹

Overall, the percentage of students scoring advanced on the Algebra I Gateway increased from 25.9% to 32.5% in 2007-2008. Disparities based on student race and income persist: while the percentage of both African American and White students scoring advanced increased, the performance gap based on student race grew as well.

Students performed better on the English II Gateway. Again, the percentage scoring advanced increased from 66.1% in 2006-2007 to 72% in 2007-2008. On the English II exam, the percentage of both African American and White students scoring advanced increased while the performance gap closed.

¹¹ These tests are administered once the student finishes the course and, therefore, are not confined to a single grade. Generally, students take the Gateway tests in 9th through 12th grade, but the Algebra I and Biology tests are open to 7th and 8th graders who have completed the appropriate coursework.

Hamilton County Department of Education Gateway exam: Algebra I by proficiency

	2006-2007			2007-2008		
	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
All	31.2%	42.9%	25.9%	28.1%	39.4%	32.5%
White	23.3%	41.9%	34.8%	20.3%	38.2%	41.5%
African American	43.4%	45.7%	10.9%	42.8%	41.8%	15.4%
Latino	34.2%	39.0%	26.7%	21.3%	43.8%	34.9%
Male	31.7%	41.1%	26.9%	NA	NA	NA
Female	30.7%	44.3%	24.9%	NA	NA	NA
Economically disadvantaged	40.6%	44.4%	15.1%	NA	NA	NA
Not Economically disadvantaged	22.1%	41.4%	36.5%	NA	NA	NA

Sources: Tennessee Department of Education and Hamilton County Department of Education

Hamilton County Department of Education Gateway exam: English II by proficiency

	2006-2007			2007-2008		
	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
All	5.9%	28.0%	66.1%	4.3%	23.7%	72.0%
White	3.7%	18.7%	77.6%	1.8%	15.4%	82.8%
African American	10.2%	42.9%	46.8%	8.4%	38.1%	53.5%
Male	7.3%	27.7%	65.0%	NA	NA	NA
Female	4.5%	28.2%	67.2%	NA	NA	NA
Economically disadvantaged	9.8%	41.0%	49.2%	NA	NA	NA
Not Economically disadvantaged	2.9%	17.7%	79.5%	NA	NA	NA

Based on 2006-2007 Gateway exam results in five additional tests, the performance gap is clearest for economically disadvantaged students on the math and writing exams -- two skills that are essential for higher wage employment and future educational opportunity. On both exams, more than three out of ten low-income students tested below proficient – more than double the rate for those students not economically disadvantaged.

The data suggest the existence of performance gaps based on gender as well. Although male and females percentages of proficient and advanced scores are similar in both Algebra I and English II, the 2006-2007 Gateway Exams reveal real differences in Math and Writing – compared to boys, percentages of girls scoring advanced were higher.

Hamilton County Department of Education Gateway exams: Math and Sciences by proficiency (2007)

	MATH FOUNDATION			PHYSICAL SCIENCES		
	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
All	21%	51%	28%	14%	50%	36%
White	17%	53%	30%	7%	44%	49%
African American	38%	38%	25%	25%	58%	17%
Latino	NA	NA	NA	18%	57%	25%
Male	26%	52%	22%	15%	47%	37%
Female	8%	50%	42%	13%	52%	35%
Economically disadvantaged	31%	31%	38%	23%	58%	20%
Not Economically disadvantaged	13%	65%	22%	5%	41%	53%

	BIOLOGY I		
	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
All	7.9%	42.5%	49.5%
White	4.0%	31.8%	64.2%
African American	13.4%	58.2%	28.4%
Latino	7.7%	40.7%	51.6%
Male	9.1%	39.0%	51.9%
Female	6.7%	46.3%	47.0%
Economically disadvantaged	12.6%	54.8%	32.7%
Not Economically disadvantaged	3.8%	31.7%	64.5%

Sources: Tennessee Department of Education and Hamilton County Department of Education

Hamilton County Department of Education Gateway exam: Social Sciences by proficiency (2007)

	UNITED STATES HISTORY			HIGH SCHOOL WRITING		
	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
All	7.8%	55.9%	36.3%	18.7%	49.5%	31.8%
White	3.4%	49.8%	46.8%	12.4%	49.8%	37.8%
African American	16.3%	68.6%	15.1%	29.8%	50.0%	20.2%
Latino	5.8%	47.8%	46.4%	29.0%	46.8%	24.2%
Male	7.7%	50.5%	41.9%	24.3%	48.1%	27.5%
Female	7.9%	61.3%	30.7%	13.1%	50.9%	36.0%
Economically disadvantaged	15.8%	65.7%	18.5%	30.2%	50.4%	19.4%
Not Economically disadvantaged	3.2%	50.4%	46.4%	12.9%	49.1%	38.0%

Sources: Tennessee Department of Education and Hamilton County Department of Education

Finally, student performance can also be examined on the basis of the ACT® test (American College Test), which assesses high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work. The test consists of multiple-choice tests in four skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science. The maximum score possible is 36.

Nationally, in 2007, the average ACT score was 21.2 with differences based on race and ethnicity. The Asian population of ACT test-takers averaged a score of 22.7; African American students had the lowest average scores – 17.0.

Based on three year averages, the average score for students in Hamilton County public schools remained stable even as the number of students taking the exam increased.¹²

ACT® mean scores

	2003*	2004*	2005*	2006*	2007
Composite	20.1	19.8	19.9	20	19.7
English	20.1	19.6	19.7	19.9	19.6
Math	19.4	19.3	19.4	19.4	19.1
Reading	20.6	20	20	20.1	20
Science/Reasoning	20	19.8	19.9	20	19.7

Sources: Tennessee Department of Education Report Card; Hamilton County Department of Education

*Annual scores are described as 3-year averages

Differences in scores were evident based on student race and – to a lesser extent – student gender.

ACT® Scores: Mean scores by race and gender (2007)

	ACT COMPOSITE	ACT ENGLISH	ACT MATH	ACT READING	ACT SCIENCE/ REASONING
All	19.7	19.6	19.1	20	19.7
White	21.2	21.5	20.2	21.7	21
African-American	16.3	15.4	16.4	16.2	16.6
Male	19.9	19.3	19.7	19.9	20
Female	19.6	19.9	18.6	20.1	19.4

Source: Hamilton County Department of Education

In 2007, Hamilton County ACT scores were below the national average for every subgroup.

College Entry Exams: National and HCDE Statistics by Race/Ethnicity

	NATIONAL	HCDE
All	21.2	19.7
White	22.1	21.2
African-American	17	16.3
Latino	18.7	20
Male	21.2	19.9
Female	21	19.6

Source: Hamilton County Department of Education

¹² National ACT statistics reflect scores from 43% of graduating classes, generally the best performing students who are often college-bound. Eighty-three percent (83%) of HCDE graduating students take the ACT, including students who may not be college-bound. HCDE scores for the top 40% of the graduating class range from 21 to 24 and are a more accurate comparison to the national statistic.

Private School Enrollment

In Hamilton County, private school enrollment varied by grade. The percentage of children in private school for grades Kindergarten to fifth grade ranged from 14% to 16%; whereas middle school/high school percentages were higher – ranging from 19% to 26%.¹³ The ten largest private schools account for 65% of the total private school enrollment in Hamilton County.¹⁴

Hamilton County public/private school enrollment by grade

GRADE	PUBLIC	PRIVATE	TOTAL	% PRIVATE
Kindergarten	3,375	554	3,929	14.1%
First	3,190	562	3,752	15.0%
Second	3,019	513	3,532	14.5%
Third	3,039	572	3,611	15.8%
Fourth	3,024	552	3,576	15.4%
Fifth	3,226	555	3,781	14.7%
Sixth	3,089	730	3,819	19.1%
Seventh	3,035	729	3,764	19.4%
Eighth	3,056	763	3,819	20.0%
Ninth	3,562	948	4,510	21.0%
Tenth	3,122	966	4,088	23.6%
Eleventh	2,673	938	3,611	26.0%
Twelfth	2,382	831	3,213	25.9%
TOTAL K-12	39,792	9,213	49,005	18.8%

Source: National Center for Education Statistics' Private School Universe Survey 2005-06 and Common Core of Data for Public Schools 2005-06

¹³ The earlier multi-county enrollment analysis reflected PreK to 12th grade data: this analysis narrows the data to K to 12th grade.

¹⁴ With regard to private school enrollment, however, an unspecified number of students enrolled in Hamilton County private schools may be from other counties.

Hamilton County private schools

SCHOOL	GRADES	ENROLLMENT
Chattanooga Christian School*	K to 12	1,100
Baylor School	6 to 12	1,077
Boyd-Buchanan School	PreK to 12	977
McCallie School	6 to 12	907
Silverdale Baptist Academy	PreK to 12	823
Grace Baptist Academy	PreK to 13	756
Girls Preparatory School	6 to 12	725
Notre Dame High School	9 to 12	569
AW Spalding SDA Elementary	K to 8	460
St. Jude Elementary	PreK to 8	438

Source: National Center for Education Statistics' Private School Survey 2005-2006

* Enrollment for 2007 collected from www.ccsk12.com.

College Attendance

Most graduates of Hamilton County public schools enroll at two public colleges – the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) or Chattanooga State Technical Community College. In 2006, 70% of all Hamilton County public high school graduates went on to college. Of those, 39% went to Chattanooga State and 24% went to UTC. In 2007 nearly three-fourths (73%) of public school graduates enrolled in either a two-year or four-year college – 57.3% at UTC or Chattanooga State.¹⁵

In the 2007-2008 academic year, UTC had 8,194 undergraduate students – including 1,089 part-time students -- and a first time freshman class of 1,947 degree seeking students. Among all undergraduates, 56.2% were women, 76.5% were white and non-Latino, 19% were African American, 2.4% were Asian American, and 1.6% were Latino. Based on Fall 2007 enrollment, there were 4,257 UTC students from Hamilton County – 44.5% of the total university enrollment.

Since 2005, undergraduate enrollment at UTC is up 12.6%, but enrollment by Hamilton County students has increased only 1.4%. Consequently, Hamilton County students as a percent of total UTC enrollment are down from 48% in 2005 to 44.5%. The population of African American students has also declined from 22.2% of total undergraduate enrollment to 19% in 2007.

For its 2006 term, Chattanooga State had 8,060 students, including 1,349 first time freshmen. Among all students at Chattanooga State, 78.8% were white, 17.5% were African American, 1.5% was Asian American, and 1.3% was Hispanic. In 2006, 751 students graduated from Chattanooga State.

¹⁵ Public Education Foundation

Comparing Hamilton County to Other Midsize Regions¹⁶

Among thirteen benchmark counties, Hamilton County had the second highest percentage of students in private school -- 20%. Private school attendance ranged from a low of 6% in Ada County Idaho and Marion County Oregon to a high of 22% in Allen County Indiana, (2005-2006).

In the area of education, because of state by state differences in measuring performance, the number of indicators that can be used for comparison is limited. Moreover, even where cross state comparisons are possible, it is difficult to compile countywide data for those counties with multiple school districts.

¹⁶ As part of the 2006 State of Chattanooga Region Report, the OCHS Center identified 13 other mid-size cities and benchmarks based on population size and included only those mid-size cities that were the major urban areas of their respective counties.

Benchmark Counties: Public/private school enrollment

COUNTY	PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (PK-12)	PRIVATE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (PK-12)	TOTAL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (PK-12)	% PUBLIC	% PRIVATE
Hamilton, TN	40,800	10,087	50,887	80%	20%
Madison, AL	49,165	6,374	55,539	89%	11%
Ada, ID	62,955	3,942	66,897	94%	6%
Winnebago, IL	47,940	9,562	57,502	83%	17%
Allen, IN	54,415	15,530	69,945	78%	22%
Washtenaw, MI	48,754	2,976	51,730	94%	6%
Ingham, MI	49,117	5,672	54,789	90%	10%
Washoe, NV	64,246	5,848	70,094	92%	8%
Cumberland, NC	53,276	4,083	57,359	93%	7%
Forsyth, NC	52,040	5,317	57,357	91%	9%
Lane, OR	45,283	3,547	48,830	93%	7%
Marion, OR	54,575	3,593	58,168	94%	6%
Lehigh, PA	50,446	7,866	58,312	87%	13%
Richland, SC	48,362	7,119	55,481	87%	13%

Source: National Center for Education Statistics' Common Core of Data for Public Schools 2005-06 and the Private School Universe Study 2005-06.

Note: Statistics for all counties, including Hamilton County, are reported for 2005-2006 school year.

Among the benchmark counties with countywide school districts, Hamilton County was tied for having the highest high school graduation rate calculated under NCLB standards. Hamilton County also had the highest percentage of schools meeting AYP standards. Despite this, Hamilton County trailed all but one other county in ACT and SAT test performance.¹⁷

¹⁷ For the ACT/SAT score comparisons among the 5 counties, the scores from the test that the majority of students in the state took were used.

Benchmark Counties: Public/private school enrollment

COUNTY	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE (BASED ON NCLB STANDARDS)	% SCHOOLS MEETING AYP STANDARDS	% STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE/REDUCED LUNCH	ACT/SAT AVERAGE SCORES AS PERCENT OF NATIONAL AVERAGE
Hamilton, TN	75.1%	84.0%	50.0%	92.9%
Washoe, NV	75.1%	63.6%	33.0%	102.2%
Cumberland, NC	67.4%	28.4%	52.0%	92.6%
Forsyth, NC	70.7%	24.7%	44.0%	99.4%
Richland, SC*	71.1%	28.6%	49.5%	93.8%

EDUCATION IN HAMILTON COUNTY SUBREGIONS

Enrollment and student attendance varies by subregion. East Ridge, with a total student population of nearly 2500, is the subcounty region with most students. Dallas Bay/Lakesite and Ooltewah/ Summit had the next highest student population, each with nearly 2000 students enrolled. Dallas Bay/Lakesite also had the fastest growth in student enrollment -- up 28% since 2005. Six other subregions also experienced double digit growth during this period. Public school enrollment declined in 14 out of 36 subregions. Downtown's student population declined 26.6% going from 757 in the 2004-2005 school to 556 by 2007-2008.

Overall, more than 11,000 students or 28% of the total student population did not meet the minimum required attendance for the school year. Percentages were highest in Amnicola/East Chattanooga, where more than four in ten students were absent at least thirteen days out of the school year. More than one-third of students failed to meet the State minimum in five additional neighborhoods -- Downtown, South Chattanooga, Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills, Bushtown/Highland Park, and Glenwood/Eastdale.

The percentage of public school students living in or near poverty differs greatly from neighborhood to neighborhood. In 17 neighborhoods, more than half of all children attending public school are eligible for reduced or free lunch based on their household income. The six neighborhoods with the highest rates of eligibility - all with more than 87% of public school students eligible -- accounted for 32% of all eligible students in the County and they accounted for just 19% of the overall student population. These six neighborhoods with the highest percentages of students with lowest attendance rates -- Amnicola/East Chattanooga, Downtown, South Chattanooga, Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills, Bushtown/Highland Park, and Glenwood/Eastdale -- are also neighborhoods with highest percentages of students on free or reduced lunch.

School enrollment by subcounty region

SUBCOUNTY REGION	2004-2005		2007-2008		2004-2005 & 2007-2008	
	ENROLLMENT	RANK	ENROLLMENT	RANK	CHANGE	%CHANGE
East Ridge	2,325	1	2,486	1	161	6.9%
Dallas Bay/Lakesite	1,563	5	1,999	2	436	27.9%
Ooltewah/Summit	1,720	2	1,937	3	217	12.6%
South Chattanooga	1,673	3	1,822	4	149	8.9%
Woodmore/Dalewood	1,663	4	1,706	5	43	2.6%
Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills	1,479	6	1,596	6	117	7.9%
Hixson	1,441	8	1,528	7	87	6.0%
Amnicola/East Chattanooga	1,475	7	1,444	8	-31	-2.1%
Middle Valley	1,133	14	1,351	9	218	19.2%
Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place	1,149	12	1,326	10	177	15.4%
Collegedale	1,323	9	1,288	11	-35	-2.6%
Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn	1,251	10	1,259	12	8	0.6%
Tyner/Greenwood	1,134	13	1,186	13	52	4.6%
Soddy Daisy	1,190	11	1,173	14	-17	-1.4%
Red Bank	1,122	16	1,131	15	9	0.8%
Bushtown/Highland Park	1,122	15	1,085	16	-37	-3.3%
Harrison	1,052	18	1,058	17	6	0.6%
Westview/Mountain Shadows	959	23	1,040	18	81	8.4%
East Brainerd	860	25	1,017	19	157	18.3%
Glenwood/Eastdale	1,092	17	999	20	-93	-8.5%
Bonny Oaks/Highway 58	997	19	951	21	-46	-4.6%
Bakewell	982	20	943	22	-39	-4.0%
Birchwood	975	22	929	23	-46	-4.7%
Dupont/Murray Hills	977	21	924	24	-53	-5.4%
Harrison Bay	843	26	881	25	38	4.5%
Brainerd	885	24	813	26	-72	-8.1%
Signal Mtn (Town Area)	734	30	809	27	75	10.2%
Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn	823	27	803	28	-20	-2.4%
Apison	722	31	793	29	71	9.8%
Falling Water/Browntown	756	29	767	30	11	1.5%
Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend	664	32	700	31	36	5.4%
Lupton City/Norcross	608	33	608	32	0	0.0%
Downtown	757	28	556	33	-201	-26.6%
Northgate/Big Ridge	562	34	549	34	-13	-2.3%
Riverview/Stuart Heights	337	36	375	35	38	11.3%
North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC	408	35	367	36	-41	-10.0%

Source: Hamilton County Department of Education

Highlighted subcounty regions had a decline in school enrollment from 2004-2005 to 2007-2008.

Student population: Not meeting attendance requirement and economic disadvantage

COUNTY SUBREGION	TOTAL	NOT MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS			ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE		
		FREQUENCY	PERCENT	RANK	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	RANK
Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills	1,596	586	36.7%	4	1,480	92.7%	1
South Chattanooga	1,822	679	37.3%	3	1,670	91.7%	2
Downtown	556	216	38.8%	2	508	91.4%	3
Amnicola/East Chattanooga	1,444	613	42.5%	1	1,316	91.1%	4
Bushtown/Highland Park	1,085	395	36.4%	5	982	90.5%	5
Glenwood/Eastdale	999	361	36.1%	6	871	87.2%	6
Woodmore/Dalewood	1,706	449	26.3%	20	1,309	76.7%	7
Tyner/Greenwood	1186	312	26.3%	21	877	73.9%	8
Bonny Oaks/Highway 58	951	246	25.9%	23	663	69.7%	9
Brainerd	813	238	29.3%	15	559	68.8%	10
North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC	367	114	31.1%	9	230	62.7%	11
Dupont/Murray Hills	924	298	32.3%	8	579	62.7%	12
Red Bank	1,131	342	30.2%	12	707	62.5%	13
East Ridge	2,486	808	32.5%	7	1,477	59.4%	14
Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend	700	204	29.1%	17	403	57.6%	15
Lupton City/Norcross	608	181	29.8%	14	321	52.8%	16
Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place	1,326	302	22.8%	30	679	51.2%	17
Riverview/Stuart Heights	375	114	30.4%	11	187	49.9%	18
Harrison	1,058	259	24.5%	27	504	47.6%	19
Falling Water/Browntown	767	238	31.0%	10	355	46.3%	20
Collegedale	1,288	365	28.3%	18	596	46.3%	21
Soddy Daisy	1,173	353	30.1%	13	539	46.0%	22
Birchwood	929	271	29.2%	16	366	39.4%	23
Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn	803	221	27.5%	19	316	39.4%	24
Hixson	1,528	399	26.1%	22	565	37.0%	25
Bakewell	943	239	25.3%	26	344	36.5%	26
Apison	793	191	24.1%	29	256	32.3%	27
East Brainerd	1,017	223	21.9%	31	317	31.2%	28
Westview/Mountain Shadows	1,040	185	17.8%	35	301	28.9%	29
Harrison Bay	881	224	25.4%	24	250	28.4%	30
Dallas Bay/Lakesite	1,999	507	25.4%	25	546	27.3%	31
Middle Valley	1,351	330	24.4%	28	333	24.6%	32
Northgate/Big Ridge	549	103	18.8%	33	118	21.5%	33
Ooltewah/Summit	1,937	373	19.3%	32	381	19.7%	34
Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn	1,259	230	18.3%	34	216	17.2%	35
Signal Mtn (Town Area)	809	113	14.0%	36	65	8.0%	36
Total	40,199	11,282	0.280654	NA	21,186	52.7%	NA

Source: Hamilton County Department of Education

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Students in grades 3 to 8 take the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) Achievement Test each Spring in four subject areas: Math, Reading/Language Arts, Science and Social Studies. TCAP achievement is measured by composite scores that combine results for each grade (3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th).

Based on composite scores for each of the county subregions, the highest percentages of children with scores below proficiency in each of the four subject areas are in five Chattanooga neighborhoods –Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills, Downtown, South Chattanooga, Bushtown/Highland Park and Amnicola/East Chattanooga. In these five subregions approximately one in five students scored below proficiency in math and reading and half are below proficiency in science and social studies. At the same time, more than nine in ten children in these four neighborhoods are eligible for free or reduced lunch – rates that are higher than all other subregions in the county.

By comparison, less than 2% of Signal Mountain Township children in grades 3 to 8 scored below proficiency in any of the four subjects and only 7% qualified for free or reduced lunch.

¹⁸ <http://www.tennessee.gov/education/assessment/tsachhome.shtml>

TCAP scores 2007: Grade 3 to grade 8 by proficiency and subcounty region

	MATH			READING		
	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
East Ridge	9.8%	50.1%	40.0%	7.7%	54.9%	37.3%
Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place	9.4%	47.9%	42.8%	6.8%	53.0%	40.2%
North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC	23.2%	50.0%	26.8%	20.1%	54.3%	25.6%
Woodmore/Dalewood	14.0%	61.4%	24.6%	12.8%	64.7%	22.6%
Riverview/Stuart Heights	10.9%	41.5%	47.6%	6.1%	52.4%	41.5%
Lupton City/Norcross	12.9%	43.8%	43.4%	6.0%	51.8%	42.2%
Westview/Mountain Shadows	5.0%	39.1%	56.0%	4.3%	40.6%	55.1%
Bonny Oaks/Highway 58	13.2%	60.0%	26.9%	9.7%	65.2%	25.1%
Tyner/Greenwood	16.6%	59.8%	23.6%	9.3%	66.0%	24.7%
Harrison Bay	7.0%	50.4%	42.5%	4.3%	46.9%	48.8%
Birchwood	9.8%	52.5%	37.7%	6.3%	51.5%	42.3%
Apison	8.8%	39.1%	52.1%	5.9%	44.0%	50.2%
East Brainerd	4.8%	40.9%	54.3%	5.2%	40.7%	54.1%
Dallas Bay/Lakesite	4.8%	40.3%	55.0%	3.8%	43.5%	52.7%
Hixson	8.5%	39.9%	51.5%	5.9%	47.3%	46.8%
Northgate/Big Ridge	5.3%	36.3%	58.4%	4.0%	40.3%	55.8%
Harrison	9.6%	51.4%	39.0%	6.8%	56.2%	37.1%
Soddy Daisy	10.4%	50.8%	38.8%	7.3%	54.6%	38.0%
Bakewell	7.9%	50.6%	41.5%	4.0%	48.9%	47.2%
Falling Water/Browntown	10.0%	44.7%	45.3%	6.3%	49.0%	44.7%
Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn	2.5%	25.7%	71.8%	1.3%	27.6%	71.1%
Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend	10.8%	45.6%	43.6%	6.8%	53.0%	40.2%
Signal Mtn (Town Area)	1.3%	12.5%	86.2%	0.5%	13.1%	86.4%
Glenwood/Eastdale	18.3%	59.6%	22.1%	18.5%	66.6%	14.9%
Collegedale	9.0%	43.2%	47.7%	6.5%	49.2%	44.3%
Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills	19.9%	61.6%	18.5%	21.0%	64.4%	14.6%
Downtown	23.8%	62.9%	13.3%	21.3%	67.9%	10.8%
Dupont/Murray Hills	14.8%	50.8%	34.4%	8.3%	56.0%	35.7%
South Chattanooga	22.3%	61.3%	16.4%	18.3%	68.8%	12.9%
Red Bank	11.6%	51.1%	37.3%	7.5%	56.6%	35.9%
Brainerd	16.9%	49.5%	33.6%	12.2%	56.6%	31.2%
Bushtown/Highland Park	21.3%	62.7%	16.0%	24.8%	61.4%	13.7%
Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn	8.4%	38.3%	53.3%	6.9%	39.5%	53.6%
Ooltewah/Summit	3.7%	41.4%	54.9%	2.8%	42.1%	55.1%
Middle Valley	4.5%	33.6%	61.9%	3.4%	37.0%	59.7%
Amnicola/East Chattanooga	22.5%	61.6%	16.0%	20.1%	65.6%	14.3%

Sources: Hamilton County Department of Education

TCAP scores 2007: Grade 3 to grade 8 by proficiency and subcounty region

	SCIENCE			SOCIAL STUDIES		
	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Below Proficient	% Proficient	% Advanced
East Ridge	22.5%	53.9%	23.5%	25.0%	57.3%	17.7%
Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place	20.9%	47.0%	32.1%	19.6%	56.1%	24.2%
North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC	36.6%	42.7%	20.7%	41.5%	39.6%	18.9%
Woodmore/Dalewood	38.6%	50.4%	11.0%	37.5%	53.3%	9.2%
Riverview/Stuart Heights	13.6%	53.1%	33.3%	19.7%	53.1%	27.2%
Lupton City/Norcross	19.7%	44.2%	36.1%	21.7%	49.0%	29.3%
Westview/Mountain Shadows	9.7%	49.0%	41.3%	11.7%	53.0%	35.2%
Bonny Oaks/Highway 58	25.9%	55.7%	18.4%	31.3%	56.0%	12.7%
Tyner/Greenwood	32.5%	51.0%	16.6%	33.3%	54.5%	12.1%
Harrison Bay	11.7%	43.9%	44.4%	17.1%	50.4%	32.5%
Birchwood	13.4%	48.1%	38.5%	21.1%	53.3%	25.5%
Apison	13.0%	46.6%	40.4%	16.6%	47.9%	35.5%
East Brainerd	11.5%	48.7%	39.8%	14.9%	48.7%	36.4%
Dallas Bay/Lakesite	11.8%	49.8%	38.4%	13.9%	54.0%	32.1%
Hixson	17.9%	45.5%	36.6%	18.2%	49.6%	32.2%
Northgate/Big Ridge	9.3%	42.0%	48.7%	12.4%	46.9%	40.7%
Harrison	19.5%	50.0%	30.5%	20.5%	59.0%	20.5%
Soddy Daisy	18.7%	47.3%	34.0%	26.4%	53.3%	20.3%
Bakewell	11.1%	57.0%	31.9%	19.3%	58.0%	22.7%
Falling Water/Browntown	17.0%	52.0%	31.0%	15.7%	57.7%	26.7%
Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn	4.0%	34.5%	61.5%	5.9%	34.1%	60.0%
Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend	12.8%	53.0%	34.1%	19.3%	53.7%	27.0%
Signal Mtn (Town Area)	1.0%	21.7%	77.3%	1.6%	20.4%	78.1%
Glenwood/Eastdale	39.1%	54.2%	6.8%	46.7%	47.9%	5.4%
Collegedale	15.1%	49.2%	35.7%	18.7%	52.3%	29.0%
Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills	48.7%	44.5%	6.8%	51.5%	43.5%	5.0%
Downtown	54.2%	40.4%	5.4%	52.5%	43.3%	4.2%
Dupont/Murray Hills	23.9%	51.3%	24.9%	23.9%	58.3%	17.8%
South Chattanooga	51.9%	42.0%	6.1%	49.4%	47.1%	3.5%
Red Bank	17.0%	52.7%	30.2%	22.3%	55.2%	22.5%
Brainerd	36.8%	45.0%	18.3%	32.0%	51.9%	16.1%
Bushtown/Highland Park	55.0%	41.5%	3.5%	55.0%	42.8%	2.2%
Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn	14.5%	49.7%	35.8%	17.8%	46.4%	35.8%
Ooltewah/Summit	9.5%	49.1%	41.4%	10.2%	52.5%	37.3%
Middle Valley	9.6%	41.3%	49.1%	11.8%	48.3%	39.8%
Amnicola/East Chattanooga	40.4%	50.4%	9.2%	49.6%	45.3%	5.2%

Sources: Hamilton County Department of Education

TCAP scores 2007: Grade 3 to grade 8 by proficiency and subcounty region

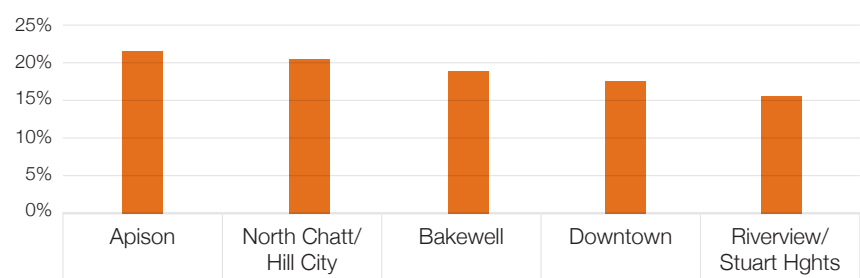
	RACE/ETHNICITY				
	% Economically disadvantaged	White	African American	Latino	Other
East Ridge	58.4%	76.3%	18.6%	3.0%	2.2%
Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place	52.5%	42.2%	47.2%	3.3%	7.3%
North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC	74.4%	43.3%	53.7%	1.2%	1.8%
Woodmore/Dalewood	76.5%	16.8%	79.9%	2.6%	0.7%
Riverview/Stuart Heights	55.8%	63.3%	31.3%	4.8%	0.7%
Lupton City/Norcross	47.8%	73.9%	13.7%	6.8%	5.6%
Westview/Mountain Shadows	26.6%	67.9%	24.2%	2.5%	5.4%
Bonny Oaks/Highway 58	68.9%	13.7%	85.3%	0.5%	0.5%
Tyner/Greenwood	72.8%	15.7%	79.2%	2.9%	2.2%
Harrison Bay	26.8%	92.7%	4.1%	1.1%	2.2%
Birchwood	37.2%	97.1%	0.8%	1.3%	0.8%
Apison	32.2%	90.6%	2.0%	5.5%	2.0%
East Brainerd	26.4%	68.8%	19.5%	4.3%	7.4%
Dallas Bay/Lakesite	28.6%	96.7%	1.5%	1.2%	0.6%
Hixson	38.0%	79.6%	12.8%	4.7%	2.9%
Northgate/Big Ridge	25.2%	83.6%	8.4%	4.9%	3.1%
Harrison	46.0%	60.0%	37.1%	1.6%	1.4%
Soddy Daisy	47.1%	98.1%	0.2%	1.0%	0.8%
Bakewell	31.4%	96.3%	3.5%	0.0%	0.2%
Falling Water/Browntown	46.3%	86.0%	9.7%	2.7%	1.7%
Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn	17.8%	97.6%	0.5%	1.2%	0.7%
Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend	58.4%	74.3%	19.6%	2.4%	3.7%
Signal Mtn (Town Area)	7.0%	96.1%	0.5%	1.3%	2.1%
Glenwood/Eastdale	87.4%	3.6%	95.7%	0.5%	0.2%
Collegedale	43.2%	67.6%	22.9%	5.9%	3.6%
Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills	92.7%	11.8%	81.2%	6.8%	0.2%
Downtown	92.5%	2.9%	95.0%	2.1%	0.0%
Dupont/Murray Hills	65.1%	50.8%	43.5%	4.3%	1.5%
South Chattanooga	90.5%	19.1%	76.8%	4.0%	0.1%
Red Bank	64.1%	73.0%	20.1%	5.7%	1.2%
Brainerd	68.3%	30.7%	65.6%	2.9%	0.8%
Bushtown/Highland Park	91.6%	2.0%	96.2%	1.3%	0.4%
Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn	35.2%	97.3%	1.2%	0.6%	0.9%
Ooltewah/Summit	19.8%	83.4%	8.7%	6.3%	1.6%
Middle Valley	24.8%	93.9%	3.4%	1.3%	1.4%
Amnicola/East Chattanooga	92.5%	8.0%	91.7%	0.2%	0.2%

Sources: Hamilton County Department of Education

Performance on the third grade TCAP varied by subregion: for example, while 79.7% of Signal Mountain Children scored advanced on the reading TCAP, just 11.5% in South Chattanooga did. In six Chattanooga neighborhoods – Bushtown/Highland Park, Glenwood/Eastdale, South Chattanooga, Amnicola/East Chattanooga, Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills, and Woodmore/Dalewood – less than 20% of children scored advanced in reading. In five of the six neighborhoods with the lowest percentage of third graders scoring advanced, approximately 90% of third graders met thresholds for free or reduced lunch eligibility.

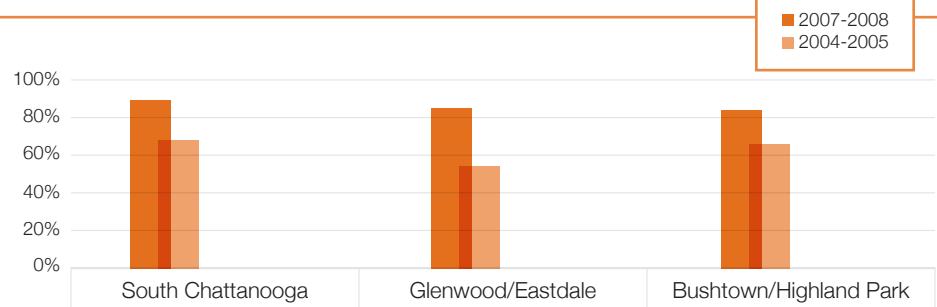
Overall, the percentage of children scoring advanced on the third grade reading TCAP increased in 25 out of 36 subregions: the greatest increases were in Apison, North Chattanooga/Hill City, Bakewell, Downtown and Riverview/Stuart Heights. On the other hand, there were significant percentage point declines in Lookout Valley/Lookout Mountain (-14.7%), Lupton City/Norcross (-12.2%) and Signal Mountain (-12%).

Third Grade TCAP 2005 and 2008: County Subregions With Highest Percentage Point Gains in Advanced Reading



Three of the six neighborhoods with lowest rates of advanced performance, however, had impressive overall gains in the percentage of children proficient in reading -- Bushtown/Highland Park, Glenwood/Eastdale and South Chattanooga.

Reading TCAP by Subregion: Percentage Advanced and Proficient



Third Grade TACP: Reading proficiency by subcounty region: 2007-2008 school year and percentage point change (2005 to 2008)

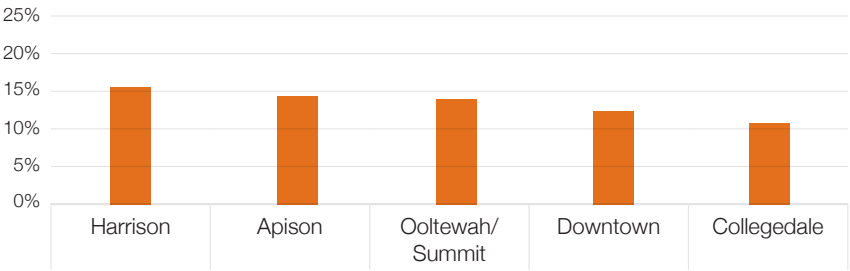
County subregion	%Below proficient	%Change 2005 and 2008	%Advanced	Advanced %Change 2005 and 2008	Rank order increase % advanced proficiency (2005 and 2008)	%Economic Disadvantage
Apison	1.6%	-9.9%	60.7%	22.2%	1	32.3%
North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC	5.4%	-17.2%	43.2%	20.3%	2	62.7%
Bakewell	4.5%	3.1%	56.1%	19.0%	3	36.5%
Downtown	28.6%	3.6%	23.8%	18.0%	4	91.4%
Riverview/Stuart Heights	3.6%	3.6%	50.0%	16.7%	5	49.9%
Harrison Bay	6.3%	4.8%	56.3%	12.2%	6	28.4%
Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place	8.5%	-5.6%	42.7%	11.9%	7	51.2%
Middle Valley	2.2%	1.1%	73.0%	11.5%	8	24.6%
Collegedale	6.7%	-2.6%	42.7%	10.7%	9	46.3%
Red Bank	5.6%	-6.9%	44.9%	9.9%	10	62.5%
East Brainerd	3.4%	1.7%	59.8%	9.8%	11	31.2%
Northgate/Big Ridge	4.5%	4.5%	68.2%	8.2%	12	21.5%
Harrison	6.7%	-7.8%	42.7%	6.5%	13	47.6%
Falling Water/Browntown	0.0%	-9.1%	49.2%	6.0%	14	46.3%
Dallas Bay/Lakesite	2.9%	-0.5%	54.7%	5.7%	15	27.3%
Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend	11.3%	1.9%	43.4%	5.7%	16	57.6%
Westview/Mountain Shadows	5.2%	2.4%	59.7%	5.5%	17	28.9%
Brainerd	8.5%	-12.0%	39.0%	4.8%	18	68.8%
Ooltewah/Summit	4.6%	-0.7%	57.3%	4.7%	19	19.7%
Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn	0.9%	-1.7%	74.1%	3.7%	20	17.2%
Bushtown/Highland Park	17.5%	-5.6%	16.3%	2.5%	21	90.5%
Glenwood/Eastdale	21.0%	-13.2%	12.9%	2.4%	22	87.2%
South Chattanooga	17.7%	-2.5%	11.5%	1.9%	23	91.7%
East Ridge	8.4%	-3.5%	38.2%	1.8%	24	59.4%
Soddy Daisy	1.2%	-4.4%	38.6%	0.8%	25	46.0%
Amnicola/East Chattanooga	18.6%	-4.9%	17.4%	0.0%	26	91.1%
Birchwood	6.8%	2.3%	34.2%	-0.6%	27	39.4%
Hixson	1.8%	-4.2%	49.6%	-0.8%	28	37.0%
Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills	26.2%	6.2%	15.1%	-1.2%	29	92.7%
Tyner/Greenwood	19.6%	2.5%	20.7%	-1.9%	30	73.9%
Dupont/Murray Hills	13.2%	8.1%	26.3%	-5.3%	31	62.7%
Woodmore/Dalewood	14.8%	-4.0%	18.9%	-9.2%	32	76.7%
Bonny Oaks/Highway 58	8.7%	4.6%	21.7%	-9.4%	33	69.7%
Signal Mtn (Town Area)	0.0%	0.0%	79.7%	-12.0%	34	8.0%
Lupton City/Norcross	7.8%	-5.4%	43.1%	-12.2%	35	52.8%
Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn	22.1%	14.6%	46.5%	-14.7%	36	39.4%

Source: Hamilton County Department of Education 2004-2005 and 2006-2007 TCAP scores

Regional variances in math were similar to the reading TCAP results. On the third grade math TCAP, the percentage of students scoring advanced in math in Signal Mountain was eight times the percentage of students scoring advanced from Amnicola/East Chattanooga. In three neighborhoods, less than one in five students scored advanced. In all three subregions where more than 90% of students were economically disadvantaged, more than one in five students scored below proficient.

The percentage of students scoring advanced on the math TCAP increased in 21 subregions. The greatest increases were in Harrison, Apison, Ooltewah/Summit, Downtown and Collegedale. By comparison, the percentage of students scoring advanced on the third grade math test declined in Lookout Valley/Lookout Mountain by 20 percentage points.

Third Grade TCAP 2005 and 2008: County Subregions With Highest Percentage Point Gains in Advanced Math



Third Grade TACP: Math proficiency by subcounty region: 2007-2008 school year and percentage point change (2005 to 2008)

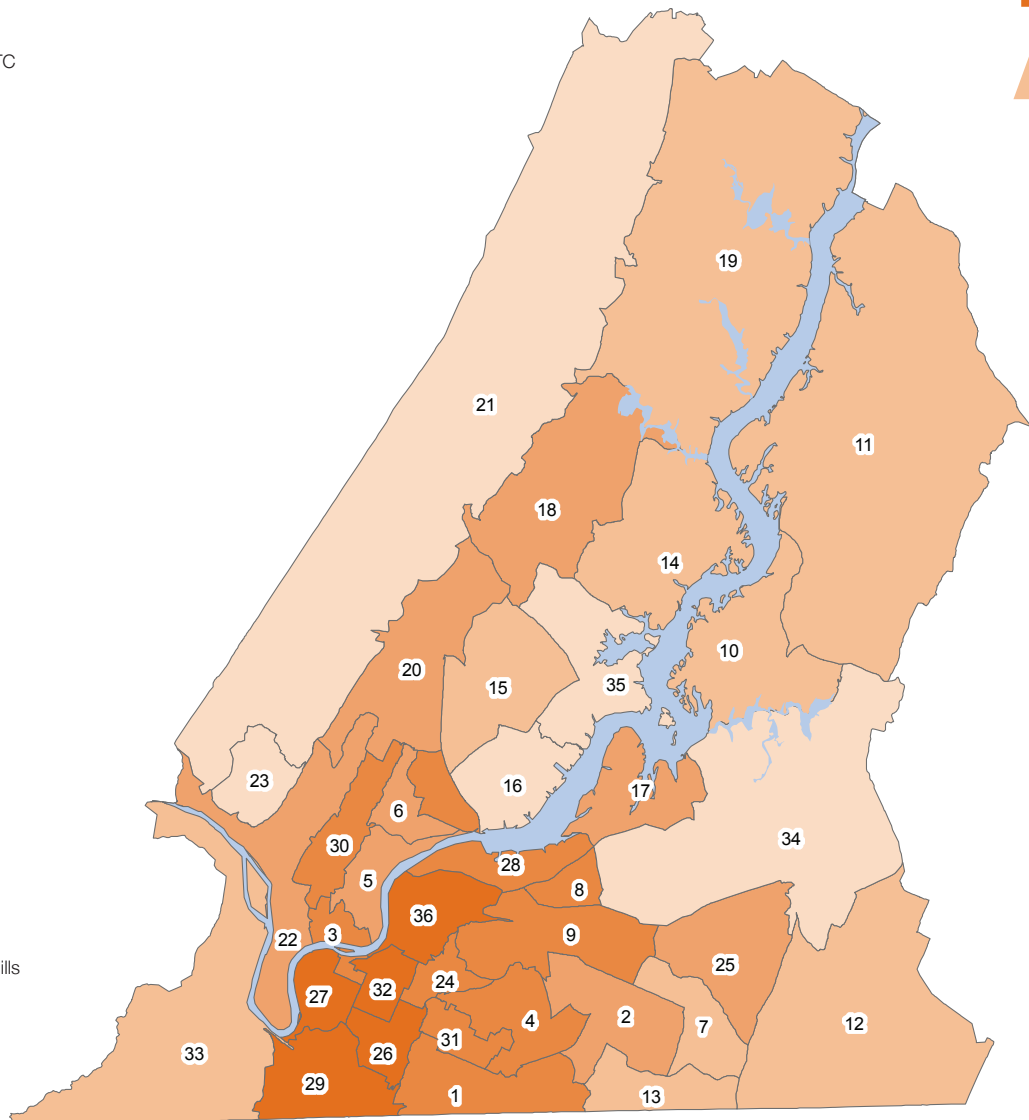
County subregion	%Below proficient	%Change 2005 and 2008	%Advanced	Advanced %Change 2005 and 2008	Rank order increase % advanced proficiency (2005 and 2008)	%Economic Disadvantage
Harrison	12.7%	-2.8%	53.3%	15.3%	1	47.6%
Apison	3.6%	-11.5%	63.9%	14.8%	2	32.3%
Ooltewah/Summit	21.4%	11.0%	58.8%	14.5%	3	19.7%
Downtown	33.7%	-12.5%	20.5%	12.8%	4	91.4%
Collegedale	10.6%	-10.9%	48.3%	10.3%	5	46.3%
Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn	3.3%	-1.0%	75.9%	8.9%	6	17.2%
South Chattanooga	29.3%	-4.3%	20.4%	7.5%	7	91.7%
Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place	11.6%	-17.2%	39.8%	7.3%	8	51.2%
Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills	25.7%	-5.0%	23.8%	6.8%	9	92.7%
Bushtown/Highland Park	24.6%	-0.4%	30.0%	6.5%	10	90.5%
Brainerd	22.1%	-9.0%	37.3%	6.2%	11	68.8%
North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC	17.8%	-11.2%	35.1%	6.1%	12	62.7%
Dallas Bay/Lakesite	7.8%	-0.9%	57.7%	6.0%	13	27.3%
Soddy Daisy	9.4%	0.5%	50.6%	5.0%	14	46.0%
East Ridge	15.3%	3.7%	40.8%	3.4%	15	59.4%
East Brainerd	4.6%	-10.2%	60.9%	1.9%	16	31.2%
Bakewell	7.6%	1.9%	57.6%	1.9%	17	36.5%
Middle Valley	0.0%	-3.3%	69.7%	1.6%	18	24.6%
Red Bank	13.2%	0.9%	42.7%	0.7%	19	62.5%
Glenwood/Eastdale	36.4%	-8.3%	17.7%	0.6%	20	87.2%
Westview/Mountain Shadows	2.9%	-4.0%	55.8%	0.2%	21	28.9%
Signal Mtn (Town Area)	0.0%	0.0%	89.9%	-0.6%	22	8.0%
Harrison Bay	16.9%	5.3%	45.3%	-1.1%	23	28.4%
Falling Water/Browntown	6.1%	-4.5%	54.0%	-1.3%	24	46.3%
Tyner/Greenwood	32.3%	3.1%	15.2%	-1.5%	25	73.9%
Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend	23.3%	8.5%	41.5%	-2.9%	26	57.6%
Bonny Oaks/Highway 58	3.9%	-12.3%	33.3%	-3.2%	27	69.7%
Woodmore/Dalewood	18.9%	-6.1%	27.9%	-5.7%	28	76.7%
Amnicola/East Chattanooga	23.7%	-12.8%	11.6%	-5.8%	29	91.1%
Lupton City/Norcross	11.0%	-3.6%	35.3%	-6.2%	30	52.8%
Riverview/Stuart Heights	9.3%	-2.2%	42.9%	-7.1%	31	49.9%
Dupont/Murray Hills	21.3%	6.8%	23.7%	-7.6%	32	62.7%
Northgate/Big Ridge	2.7%	-2.3%	63.6%	-8.9%	33	21.5%
Hixson	4.8%	-5.6%	38.9%	-12.2%	34	37.0%
Birchwood	11.2%	-2.4%	27.4%	-15.0%	35	39.4%
Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn	9.1%	0.1%	44.2%	-20.0%	36	39.4%

Source: Hamilton County Department of Education 2004-2005 and 2006-2007 TCAP scores

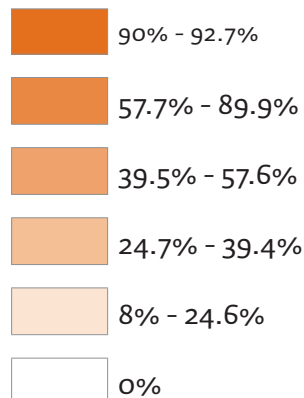
Economically Disadvantaged* Children In Hamilton County Department of Education Schools (2007-08)

SUBREGION

- 1 East Ridge
- 2 Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place
- 3 North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC
- 4 Woodmore/Dalewood
- 5 Riverview/Stuart Heights
- 6 Lupton City/Norcross
- 7 Westview/Mountain Shadows
- 8 Bonny Oaks/Highway 58
- 9 Tyner/Greenwood
- 10 Harrison Bay
- 11 Birchwood
- 12 Apison
- 13 East Brainerd
- 14 Dallas Bay/Lakesite
- 15 Hixson
- 16 Northgate/Big Ridge
- 17 Harrison
- 18 Soddy Daisy
- 19 Bakewell
- 20 Falling Water/Browntown
- 21 Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn
- 22 Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend
- 23 Signal Mtn (Town Area)
- 24 Glenwood/Eastdale
- 25 Collegedale
- 26 Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills
- 27 Downtown
- 28 Dupont/Murray Hills
- 29 South Chattanooga
- 30 Red Bank
- 31 Brainerd
- 32 Bushtown/Highland Park
- 33 Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn
- 34 Ooltewah/Summit
- 35 Middle Valley
- 36 Amnicola/East Chattanooga



Third Grade Children: % Economically Disadvantaged



Tennessee River

Source: Hamilton County Department of Education

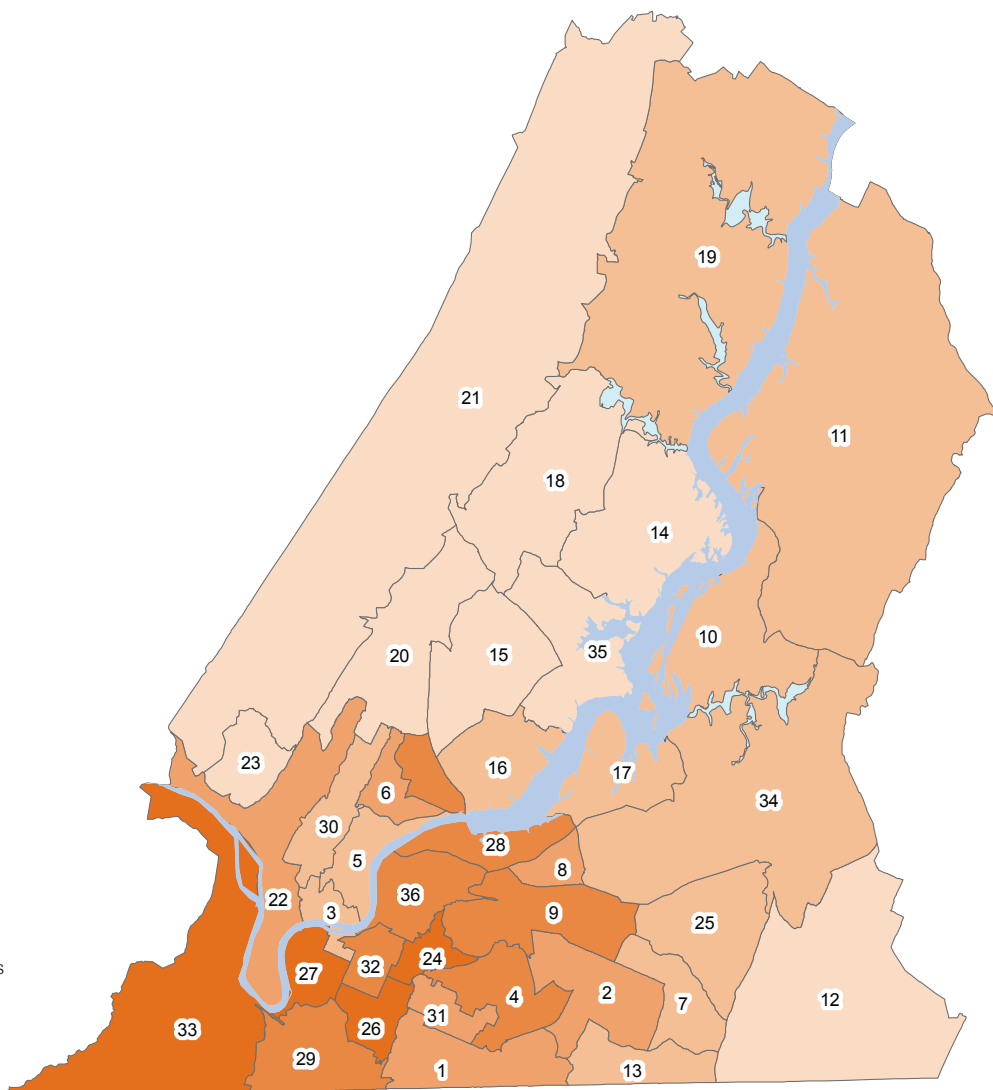
*Economic Disadvantage is determined by the number of children receiving free or reduced lunch. Eligibility requirements are linked to federal poverty guidelines, with those below 130% of poverty eligible for free lunch and those at less than 185% poverty eligible for the reduced price lunch.

Note: Percents are grouped into categories using the "Jenks natural breaks" method. This is a statistical method that identifies "break points" in the data and selects classes of data point grouping those closest in values and at the same time maximizing the differences between groups.

Reading, Language Arts Third Grade TCAP Results: Below Proficient 2008

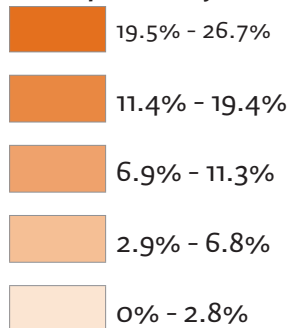
SUBREGION

- 1 East Ridge
- 2 Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place
- 3 North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC
- 4 Woodmore/Dalewood
- 5 Riverview/Stuart Heights
- 6 Lupton City/Norcross
- 7 Westview/Mountain Shadows
- 8 Bonny Oaks/Highway 58
- 9 Tyner/Greenwood
- 10 Harrison Bay
- 11 Birchwood
- 12 Apison
- 13 East Brainerd
- 14 Dallas Bay/Lakesite
- 15 Hixson
- 16 Northgate/Big Ridge
- 17 Harrison
- 18 Soddy Daisy
- 19 Bakewell
- 20 Falling Water/Browntown
- 21 Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn
- 22 Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend
- 23 Signal Mtn (Town Area)
- 24 Glenwood/Eastdale
- 25 Collegedale
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- 28 Dupont/Murray Hills
- 29 South Chattanooga
- 30 Red Bank
- 31 Brainerd
- 32 Bushtown/Highland Park
- 33 Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn
- 34 Ooltewah/Summit
- 35 Middle Valley
- 36 Amnicola/East Chattanooga



Reading proficiency by subcounty region

Below proficiency:



Tennessee River

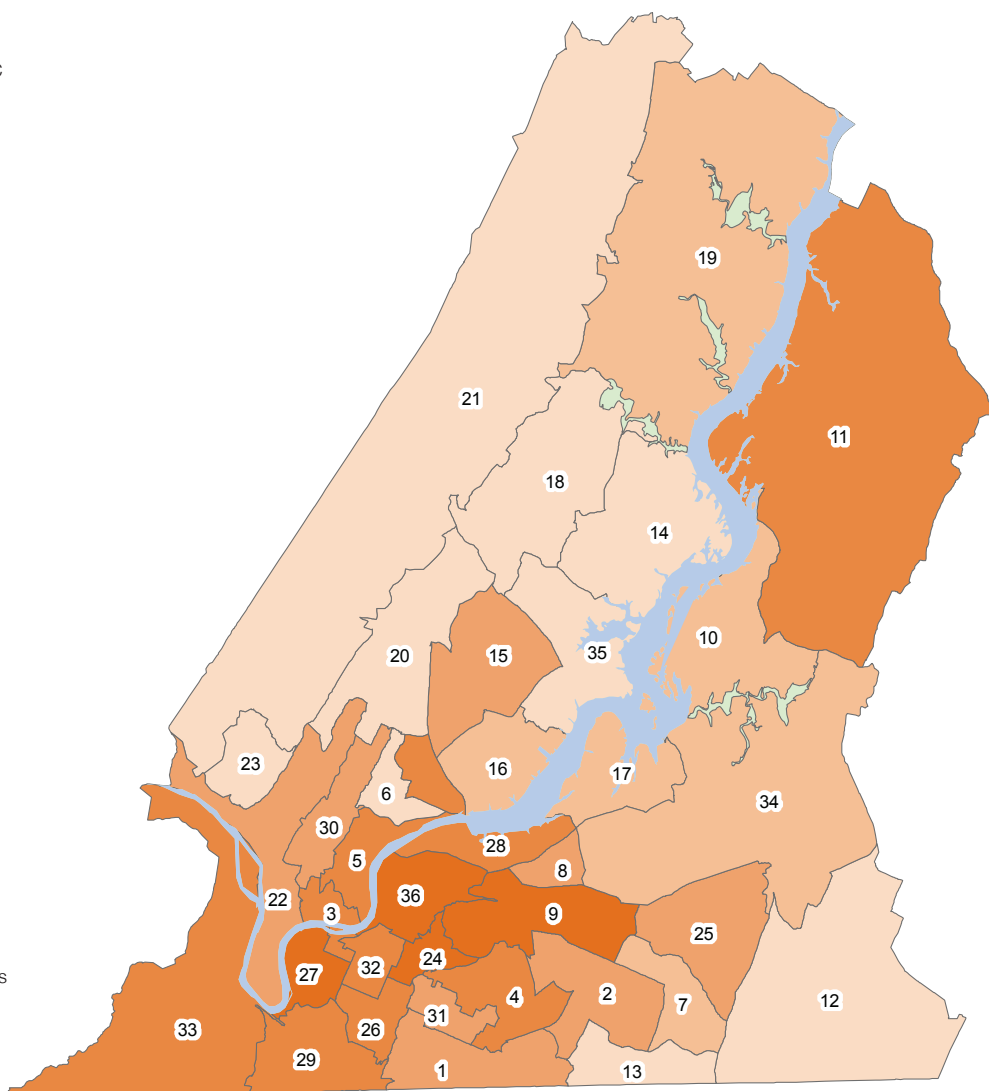
Source: Hamilton County Department of Education

Note: Percents are grouped into categories using the "Jenks natural breaks" method. This is a statistical method that identifies "break points" in the data and selects classes of data point grouping those closest in values and at the same time maximizing the differences between groups.

Math Third Grade Results: Below Proficient 2008

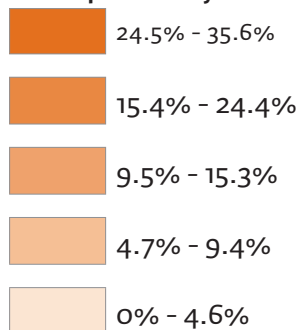
SUBREGION

- 1 East Ridge
- 2 Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place
- 3 North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC
- 4 Woodmore/Dalewood
- 5 Riverview/Stuart Heights
- 6 Lupton City/Norcross
- 7 Westview/Mountain Shadows
- 8 Bonny Oaks/Highway 58
- 9 Tyner/Greenwood
- 10 Harrison Bay
- 11 Birchwood
- 12 Apison
- 13 East Brainerd
- 14 Dallas Bay/Lakesite
- 15 Hixson
- 16 Northgate/Big Ridge
- 17 Harrison
- 18 Soddy Daisy
- 19 Bakewell
- 20 Falling Water/Browntown
- 21 Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn
- 22 Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend
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- 33 Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn
- 34 Ooltewah/Summit
- 35 Middle Valley
- 36 Amnicola/East Chattanooga



Math proficiency by subcounty region

Below proficiency:



 Tennessee River

Source: Hamilton County Department of Education

Note: Percents are grouped into categories using the "Jenks natural breaks" method. This is a statistical method that identifies "break points" in the data and selects classes of data point grouping those closest in values and at the same time maximizing the differences between groups.

GATEWAY EXAMS

While there were differences in performance by subregion on the Gateway¹⁹ exams, the degrees varied by exam topic. Among students living in Signal Mountain, 89.8% scored advanced on the English II exam – more than double the percentage scoring advanced from Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills. On the Math exam, however, 73.4% of students from Signal Mountain scored advanced -- eight times the percentage of students scoring advanced in Amnicola/East Chattanooga.²⁰

¹⁹“August, 2002, the State Board stipulated that beginning with students entering the 9th grade in 2001-2002, students must successfully pass examinations in three subject areas - Mathematics, Science, and Language Arts - in order to earn a high school diploma. These examinations, called Gateway Tests, were intended to raise the academic bar for all high school students and add accountability for students' academic performance. In the 2001-2002 school year, the Department of Education began to administer the Gateway Tests three times annually to accommodate students completing work in the fall, spring, and summer semesters.” URL: <http://www.tennessee.gov/education/assessment/tshseochome.shtml> accessed September 2008.

²⁰ Scores were compiled by HCDE on August 5th 2008; therefore the entire population of 2008 Gateway test takers are not included. Students may take the exams multiple times at different times in their high school years. Therefore comparisons between Gateway English II and Gateway Math exams do not indicate that the same group of individuals took both exams.

English II Gateway Exams: Results by proficiency level and subcounty region (2008)

Subcounty region	Total	ENGLISH		
		%Below proficient	%Proficient	%Advanced proficient
East Ridge	200	0.5%	29.5%	70.0%
Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place	119	3.4%	32.8%	63.9%
North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC	28	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%
Woodmore/Dalewood	116	7.8%	31.0%	61.2%
Riverview/Stuart Heights	18	11.1%	16.7%	72.2%
Lupton City/Norcross	40	0.0%	12.5%	87.5%
Westview/Mountain Shadows	80	3.8%	16.3%	80.0%
Bonny Oaks/Highway 58	87	4.6%	44.8%	50.6%
Tyner/Greenwood	104	8.7%	37.5%	53.8%
Harrison Bay	68	1.5%	17.6%	80.9%
Birchwood	65	1.5%	15.4%	83.1%
Apison	77	0.0%	19.5%	80.5%
East Brainerd	63	0.0%	14.3%	85.7%
Dallas Bay/Lakesite	157	1.9%	13.4%	84.7%
Hixson	124	5.6%	22.6%	71.8%
Northgate/Big Ridge	39	12.8%	12.8%	74.4%
Harrison	78	2.6%	25.6%	71.8%
Soddy Daisy	124	0.8%	13.7%	85.5%
Bakewell	90	0.0%	16.7%	83.3%
Falling Water/Browntown	81	8.6%	32.1%	59.3%
Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn	95	0.0%	12.6%	87.4%
Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend	58	5.2%	17.2%	77.6%
Signal Mtn (Town Area)	49	0.0%	10.2%	89.8%
Glenwood/Eastdale	63	3.2%	39.7%	57.1%
Collegedale	115	4.3%	25.2%	70.4%
Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills	94	10.6%	47.9%	41.5%
Downtown	43	16.3%	27.9%	55.8%
Dupont/Murray Hills	64	3.1%	26.6%	70.3%
South Chattanooga	116	6.9%	44.8%	48.3%
Red Bank	73	1.4%	28.8%	69.9%
Brainerd	66	10.6%	37.9%	51.5%
Bushtown/Highland Park	73	13.7%	41.1%	45.2%
Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn	61	3.3%	18.0%	78.7%
Ooltewah/Summit	161	0.0%	10.6%	89.4%
Middle Valley	124	1.6%	16.1%	82.3%
Amnicola/East Chattanooga	84	11.9%	33.3%	54.8%

Math Gateway Exams: Results by proficiency level and subcounty region (2008)

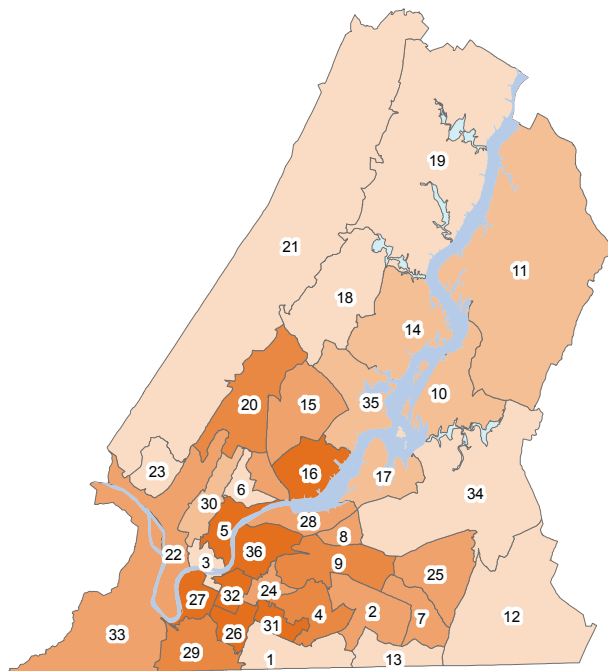
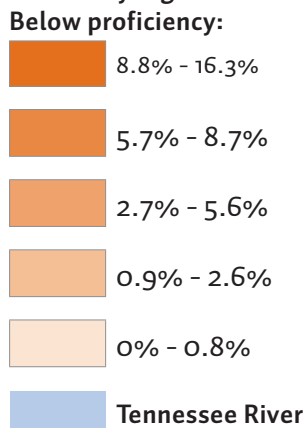
Subcounty region	Total	MATH		
		%Below proficient	%Proficient	%Advanced proficient
East Ridge	219	29.7%	46.6%	23.7%
Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place	188	32.4%	32.4%	35.1%
North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC	39	25.6%	43.6%	30.8%
Woodmore/Dalewood	131	23.7%	52.7%	23.7%
Riverview/Stuart Heights	37	32.4%	32.4%	35.1%
Lupton City/Norcross	52	44.2%	36.5%	19.2%
Westview/Mountain Shadows	120	18.3%	36.7%	45.0%
Bonny Oaks/Highway 58	102	16.7%	62.7%	20.6%
Tyner/Greenwood	116	49.1%	37.1%	13.8%
Harrison Bay	78	16.7%	37.2%	46.2%
Birchwood	104	18.3%	52.9%	28.8%
Apison	104	10.6%	38.5%	51.0%
East Brainerd	114	9.6%	43.9%	46.5%
Dallas Bay/Lakesite	201	22.9%	39.3%	37.8%
Hixson	187	29.4%	43.9%	26.7%
Northgate/Big Ridge	45	35.6%	26.7%	37.8%
Harrison	101	10.9%	49.5%	39.6%
Soddy Daisy	138	24.6%	43.5%	31.9%
Bakewell	106	30.2%	38.7%	31.1%
Falling Water/Browntown	75	38.7%	30.7%	30.7%
Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn	109	9.2%	25.7%	65.1%
Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend	65	13.8%	49.2%	36.9%
Signal Mtn (Town Area)	64	6.3%	20.3%	73.4%
Glenwood/Eastdale	76	38.2%	44.7%	17.1%
Collegedale	165	17.0%	52.7%	30.3%
Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills	150	41.3%	45.3%	13.3%
Downtown	53	50.9%	39.6%	9.4%
Dupont/Murray Hills	93	32.3%	41.9%	25.8%
South Chattanooga	166	41.0%	44.0%	15.1%
Red Bank	109	33.0%	38.5%	28.4%
Brainerd	75	37.3%	34.7%	28.0%
Bushtown/Highland Park	98	39.8%	41.8%	18.4%
Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn	75	10.7%	41.3%	48.0%
Ooltewah/Summit	215	7.9%	42.8%	49.3%
Middle Valley	126	13.5%	36.5%	50.0%
Amnicola/East Chattanooga	121	52.9%	38.0%	9.1%

Hamilton County Department of Education Statistics: 2007

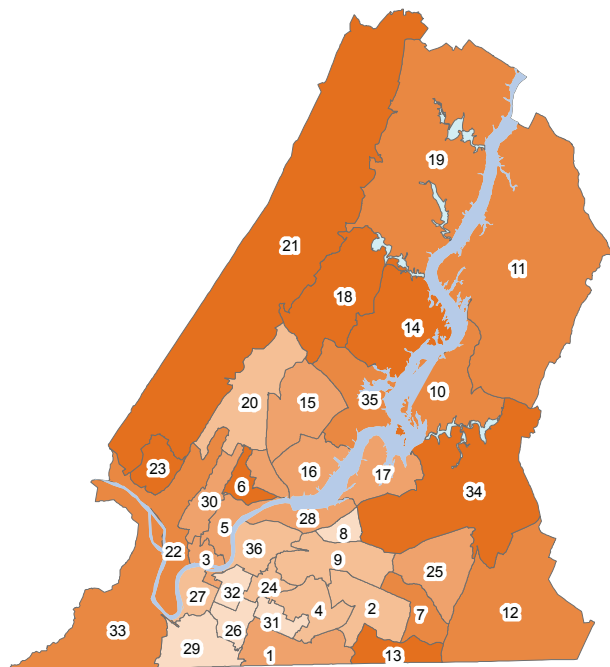
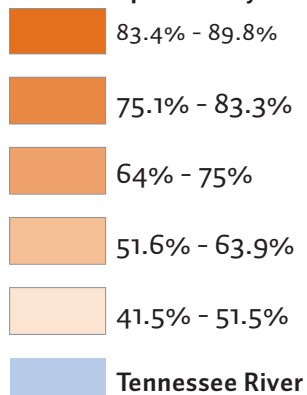
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English II proficiency by subcounty region. Below proficiency:



English II proficiency by subcounty region. Advanced proficiency:



Students must pass three Gateway tests -- Mathematics, Language Arts and Science -- before graduation to earn a high school diploma. These Gateway Tests are part of the End of Course series of tests that students take in high school.

Note: Percents are grouped into five categories using the "Jenks natural breaks" method. This is a statistical method that identifies "break points" in the data and selects classes of data that groups data points that are closest in values and at the same time maximizes the difference between groups.

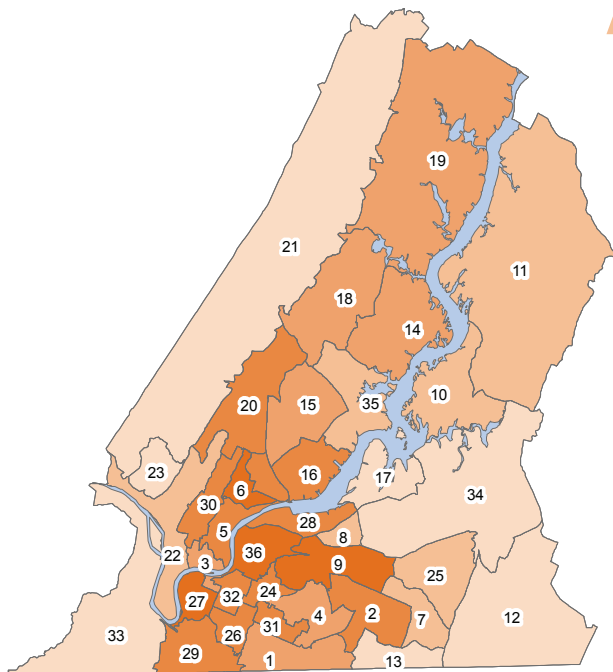
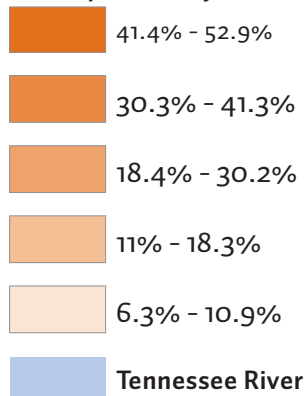
Hamilton County Department of Education Statistics: 2007

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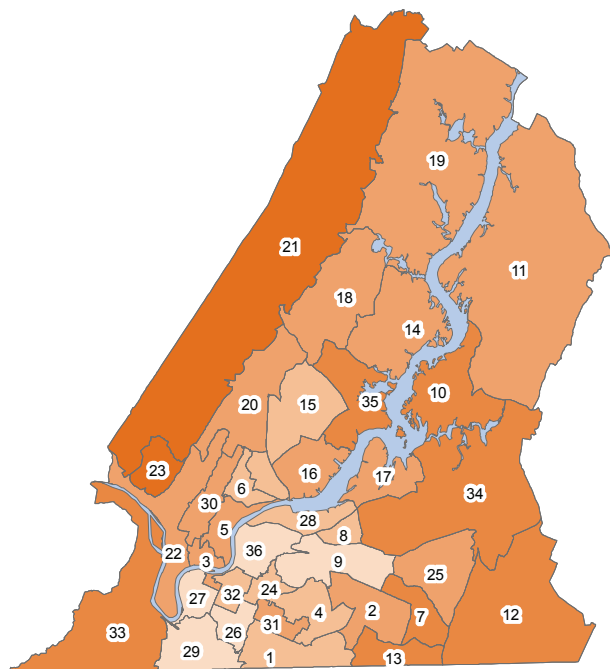
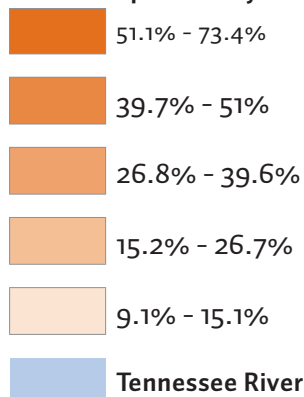
Math proficiency by subcounty region.

Below proficiency:



Math proficiency by subcounty region.

Advanced proficiency:



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Note: Percents are grouped into five categories using the "Jenks natural breaks" method. This is a statistical method that identifies "break points" in the data and selects classes of data that groups data points that are closest in values and at the same time maximizes the difference between groups.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Service hours for special education children can range from less than one hour to more than 24 hours a week dependent on the degree to which a child is learning disabled.²¹ Based on percentages, there was a slight decrease in the percentage of students with special education needs in Hamilton County public schools – from 12.9% in 2005 to 12.7% in 2008. Based on the numbers of students requiring services, there was an increase of 106 children with special needs -- from 4993 students in 2005 to 5099 students in 2008. In 2008, Bushtown/Highland Park had the highest percentage of students in special education -- one and a half times the county-wide average.

Although the county had an overall decrease in the percentage of the population with special needs, the distribution of the population meant that in some cases neighborhood populations of students with special needs increased while others decreased.

Northgate/Big Ridge had the largest increase, 4.4%, from 42 special education students in 2005 to 65 students in 2008. Middle Valley had the decrease (-3.8%), from 149 students in 2005 to 127 students in 2008.

²¹ The statistics in this section exclude those students classified as "gifted." Students classified as special education students are those that were assessed and meet the requirements for eligibility to receive services provided for students with disabilities in the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP). URL: <http://www.tennessee.gov/education/speced/seassessment.shtml#INITIAL> accessed September 2, 2008.

Special education by neighborhood

Subcounty region	2004-2005			2007-2008			%Change
	Total enrollment	Special education	%Special education	Total enrollment	Special education	%Special education	
East Ridge	2,325	224	9.6%	2,486	280	11.3%	1.6%
Hickory Valley/Hamilton Place	1,149	133	11.6%	1,326	156	11.8%	0.2%
North Chattanooga/Hill City/UTC	408	59	14.5%	367	54	14.7%	0.3%
Woodmore/Dalewood	1,663	187	11.2%	1,706	227	13.3%	2.1%
Riverview/Stuart Heights	337	53	15.7%	375	58	15.5%	-0.3%
Lupton City/Norcross	608	77	12.7%	608	91	15.0%	2.3%
Westview/Mountain Shadows	959	106	11.1%	1,040	98	9.4%	-1.6%
Bonny Oaks/Highway 58	997	131	13.1%	951	117	12.3%	-0.8%
Tyner/Greenwood	1,134	131	11.6%	1,186	162	13.7%	2.1%
Harrison Bay	843	104	12.3%	881	92	10.4%	-1.9%
Birchwood	975	165	16.9%	929	141	15.2%	-1.7%
Apison	722	70	9.7%	793	85	10.7%	1.0%
East Brainerd	860	87	10.1%	1,017	113	11.1%	1.0%
Dallas Bay/Lakesite	1,563	211	13.5%	1,999	234	11.7%	-1.8%
Hixson	1,441	177	12.3%	1,528	215	14.1%	1.8%
Northgate/Big Ridge	562	42	7.5%	549	65	11.8%	4.4%
Harrison	1,052	129	12.3%	1,058	121	11.4%	-0.8%
Soddy Daisy	1,190	195	16.4%	1,173	167	14.2%	-2.1%
Bakewell	982	166	16.9%	943	129	13.7%	-3.2%
Falling Water/Browntown	756	106	14.0%	767	106	13.8%	-0.2%
Walden/Mowbray/Flat Top Mtn	1,251	174	13.9%	1,259	172	13.7%	-0.2%
Mtn Creek/Moccasin Bend	664	98	14.8%	700	108	15.4%	0.7%
Signal Mtn (Town Area)	734	67	9.1%	809	75	9.3%	0.1%
Glenwood/Eastdale	1,092	140	12.8%	999	128	12.8%	0.0%
Collegedale	1,323	176	13.3%	1,288	177	13.7%	0.4%
Ridgedale/Oak Grove/Clifton Hills	1,479	203	13.7%	1,596	218	13.7%	-0.1%
Downtown	757	137	18.1%	556	90	16.2%	-1.9%
Dupont/Murray Hills	977	119	12.2%	924	132	14.3%	2.1%
South Chattanooga	1,673	264	15.8%	1,822	266	14.6%	-1.2%
Red Bank	1,122	165	14.7%	1,131	154	13.6%	-1.1%
Brainerd	885	110	12.4%	813	101	12.4%	0.0%
Bushtown/Highland Park	1,122	160	14.3%	1,085	182	16.8%	2.5%
Lookout Valley/Lookout Mtn	823	87	10.6%	803	87	10.8%	0.3%
Ooltewah/Summit	1,720	170	9.9%	1,937	164	8.5%	-1.4%
Middle Valley	1,133	149	13.2%	1,351	127	9.4%	-3.8%
Amnicola/East Chattanooga	1,475	221	15.0%	1,444	207	14.3%	-0.6%
Total	38,756	4,993	12.9%	40,199	5,099	12.7%	-0.2%

Source: Hamilton County Department of Education

The OCHS Center for Metropolitan Studies

P.O. BOX 4029

CHATTANOOGA TN 37405

www.ochscenter.org

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