



POPULAR ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR END JUNE 30,2023



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A Note from the Mayor

I'm excited to share with you some of the things that make this area the best place to live, work, and a raise a family.

Aside from our genuine southern hospitality and volunteer spirit, we put an emphasis on jobs, education, and recreation, and we are committed to creating opportunities for everyone to thrive in an engaged and vibrant community.

What people love most about Knox County – what brings and keeps them here – is that we support business and economic development, provide high-quality educational opportunities for all, and actively promote the outdoor tourism and recreation assets for which we are known.

We offer a close proximity to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the University of Tennessee and Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

We feature great local shops, restaurants, and breweries – and not just the ones downtown, but those at the far ends of the county as well. We also are home to the Blount Mansion – widely recognized as the "Birthplace of Tennessee" – where we recently celebrated the state's 225th birthday.

Knox County also boasts many great entertainment venues, including the Historic Bijou and Tennessee theatres. No matter what you're into, there's something for you here in Knox County.

Whether you're looking for health, business, economic or educational benefits, Knox County has it all.

Sincerely,

Glenn Jacobs 🐧 Knox County Mayor



Mayor Glenn Jacobs



The Knox County Department of Finance is proud to present this Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR). This report provides summarized information about the County's financial activities and is intended to give readers an overview of the County and its finances.

Although the PAFR is not audited, the financial information reported is based on the audited 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). The Department of Finance is responsible for the preparation of the ACFR.

The ACFR contains three basic sections: The Introductory section, which provides general information on the government's structure, personnel, economic situation and finances; The Financial section, which includes information on fund types, individual funds, and account groups; The Statistical section, which provides a broad range of trend data covering key financial indicators from the past ten fiscal years. The report also contains demographic and miscellaneous data useful in assessing the County's financial situation.

The governmental funds presented in this report are in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The County also maintains other smaller funds that are not presented here. See the ACFR for complete details on all County funds. The 2023 ACFR is available online at https:// knoxcounty.org/finance/annual_reports.php



The Government Finance Officer Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Knox County Government for its annual comprehensive financial report, from which the information on pages 16-21 has been drawn, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. This was the 27th consecutive year that our government has achieved this prestigious award. To be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized, annual comprehensive financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

> The County has also received, for the 28th consecutive time, the GFOA Award for Distinguished Budget Presentation for its 2023 Annual Operating Budget. In qualifying for this award, the County's budget document was judged to be proficient in several categories, including policy documentation, financial planning, and organization.

> The County received the GFOA's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting (PAFR award) for the fiscal year ended June 30,2022. The award represents a significant achievement by the County. Each eligible report is reviewed by judges who evaluate the report based on the following categories: reader appeal, understandability, distribution methods, creativity, and other elements.



Government Finance Officers Association

Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting

Presented to

Knox County Tennessee

For its Annual Financial Report For the Fiscal Year Ended

June 30, 2022

Christophen P. Morrill

Executive Director/CEO

KNOX COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Knox County is governed by an eleven-member board of commissioners. elected by district and at-large in partisan countywide elections held in August of even-numbered years. Commissioners serve four-year terms.



The board's primary duties are to adopt ordinances, emergency ordinances, and resolutions governing the operation of government or to regulate the conduct and affairs of the residents of Knox County. Each member of the Knox County Commission serves all Knox Countians eagerly and are happy to be of assistance to you

Mission & Vision

Knox County's mission is to provide superior public service and support in an efficient and fiscally responsible way so that all residents can improve their quality of life while enjoying the benefits of a vibrant community. We believe that if we focus on transparency, invest in education and partner with our stakeholders, we will be able to create a pervasive culture of community vitality that guides us to becoming the workforce development center of East Tennessee.



Terry Hill

6th District Commissioner Madam Chair 1st Term: 2020-2024



Gina Oster

3rd District Commissioner Vice-Chair 1st Term: 2022-2026



Dasha Lundy 1st District Commissioner 1st Term: 2020-2024



Courtney Durrett 2nd District Commissioner 1st Term: 2020-2024





4th District Commissioner 1st Term: 2020-2024

Kyle Ward

John Schoonmaker

5th District Commissioner 2nd Term: 2020-2024

Richie Beeler

8th District Commissioner 1st Term: 2020-2024

Rhonda Lee

7th District Commissioner 1st Term: 2022-2026



Carson Dailey

9th District Commissioner 2nd Term: 2020-2024

Larsen Jay

At Large Seat 10 Commissioner 2nd Term: 2022-2026

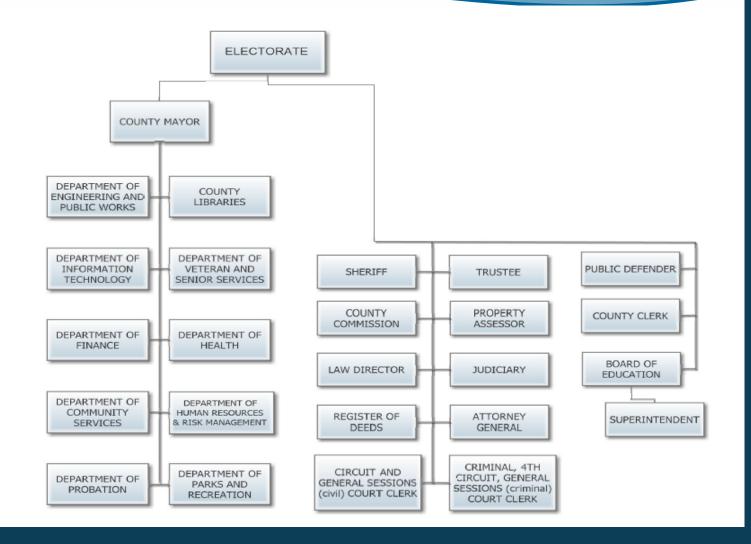
Kim Frazier

At Large Seat 11 Commissioner 1st Term: 2022-2026





ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





History

Knox County was created on June 11, 1792, by Governor William Blount from parts of Greene and Hawkins counties, and has the distinction of being one of only eight counties created during territorial administration. It is one of nine United States counties named for American Revolutionary War general and first United States Secretary of War Henry Knox. Parts of Knox County later became Blount (1795), Anderson (1801), Roane (1801), and Union (1850) counties.





LIVABILITY

Knoxville ranks among the nation's best places to live, raise a family, and own a business. In 2023, it was ranked 10th "Most Affordable Place to Live" in the nation and the #1 "Best Places to Live in Tennessee" by U.S. News. In addition, USA Today ranked Knoxville the 4th best arts district in the country in 2023, outshining several major cities like Chicago and Denver.

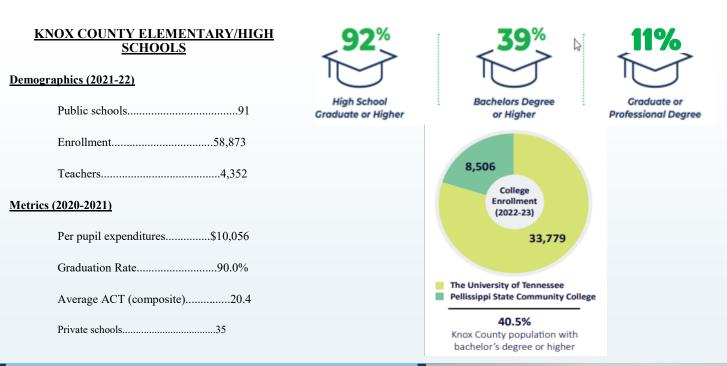
Civic Organizations

The Knoxville Chamber has more than 2,200 members. United Way, Community Shares, and Community Action Committee support many youth, family, and social service programs. More than 250 neighborhood associations and many civic groups are active throughout the city and county.

KNOX COUNTY AT- A- GLANCE

EDUCATION

Included in Knox County's public schools are several Magnet, STEM, and International Baccalaureate programs. Knox County is also home to Tennessee School for the Deaf, serving toddlers through age 22 in both residential and day programs.

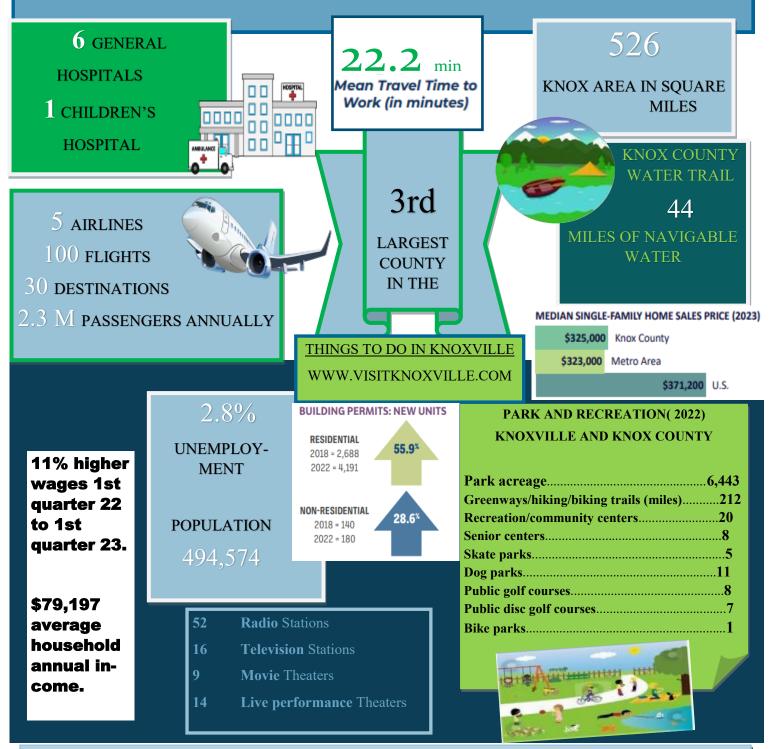


POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION:

Four two-year colleges and 10 four-year universities are located in Knox County and surrounding area. The University of Tennessee is ranked 46th among the nation's top public schools by U.S. News and World Report.



THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF KNOX COUNTY IS INSPIRED BY THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE ADOPTED IN 1801, HIGHLIGHTING THE FACT THAT *KNOXVILLE* (AND KNOX COUNTY) WAS THE *FIRST CAPITAL OF TENNESSEE*. IN 1843 NASHVILLE BECAME THE PER-MANENT CAPITAL OF TENNESSEE.



Oak Ridge National Laboratory,

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the site of the world's fastest supercomputer and the largest U.S. Department of Energy research facility, employing 5,700 with an annual operating budget of \$2.4 billion.



Trucking Companies

250

HIGHWAY (2022) Interstates 40, 75, 81, 140, 275, and 640

BUS (2021) **Knoxville Area Transit** 23 routes/1,129 stops

KAT Passengers and Vehicles 1.7 million passengers/94 vehicles

Long-distance Greyhound, Trailways

211,587

Average Daily Trips

(I-40/75 in Knox County)

RAIL (2023) Systems (Knox County) CSX, Norfolk Southern, KXHR-Gulf & Ohio

Miles of Lines (Knox County) 270

WATER (2022) **Cargo through Fort** Loudoun Lock 637,230 tons

For the Seventh year, Knoxville hosted the USA Cycling Professional Road National Championships in June 2023, attracting biking enthusiasts of all ages

AIR (2021-22) Airlines Allegiant, American, Delta, Frontier, United

Daily Flights and Non-stop Destinations 100 flights/30 destinations

Passengers (annual) 2,343,910

Cargo Services and Freight 2 services/85,823,544 pounds





Knoxville Museum of Art, Emporium Center for Arts and Culture, East Tennessee History Center, McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture, Museum of Appalachia, and Beck Cultural Exchange Center showcase art and regional heritage.

use is an experiential children's science museum





MAJOR INITIATIVES





• Knox County will also see major road and safety improvements throughout the area and at heavily traveled interchanges.



Creating a Comprehensive Land Use and Transportation

Plan for the county and a specific Master Plan for Parks and Recreation.

- Wrapping up work at McBee Ferry Park, a 3-acre site along the upper Holston that will feature river access.
- Knox County is in the process of establishing a mental health court in Knox County. The hope is, this new court model will improve public safety, connect offenders with mental illness to the help they need, and reduce court costs and recidivism.
- Continuing to work through our Advance Knox initiative that looks for ways to make housing more affordable by updating our zoning regulations while still maintaining our hometown charm.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

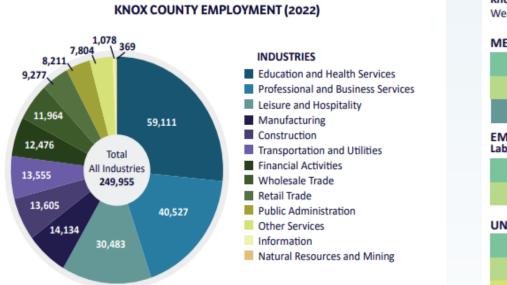
• NO TAX INCREASES

- INCREASED DEPUTY PAY BY 16 PERCENT AND CORRECTIONS OFFICER BY 28 PERCENT
- HOSTED THE FIFTH DRIVE THRU SCHOOL MANIA, WHICH PROVIDED SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO KNOX COUNTY STUDENTS
- INVESTING AN ADDITIONAL \$3 MILLION TOWARD SCHOOL SECURITY UPGRADES
- WRAPPING UP CONSTRUCTION OF THE SKILLED TRADES ACADEMY AND REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER (START), WHICH HAS BEEN A MAJOR PRIORITY BECAUSE IT WILL HELP US ATTRACT, TRAIN, AND RETAIN A STRONG WORKFORCE IN THE TRADES. THE CENTER, WHICH IS LOCATED ON CENTRAL AVENUE, WILL COVER A VARIETY OF TRADES DEPENDING ON DEMAMD, FRAMING, MASONRY, ELECTRICAL, WELDING, AND MECHANICAL, JUST TO NAME A FEW
- 4 PERCENT RAISE FOR CERTIFIED AND CLASSIFIED SCHOOL EMPLOYEES, AND 8 PER-CENT RAISE FOR CUSTODIA, EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT, AND SCHOOL CLERICAL

EMPLOYMENT

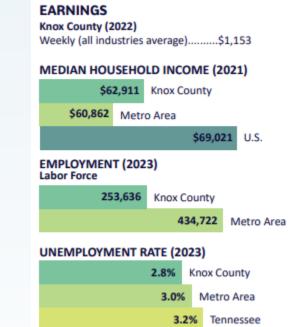


The County is within the Knoxville Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) which is home to the U.S. Department of Energy and Covenant Health, which are major employers. The County's primary occupations are in educational services, health care, hospitality, and retail trade sectors. Industry sectors such as agriculture, utilities, and management of companies and enterprises comprise small portions of the Knox County Industry Structure. The largest employers by number of employees have remained relatively consistent through the years.



Note: Due to disclosure requirements, the sum of the individual category counts will not match the All industries total.

POPUI



3.7%

U.S.

TOP 10 KNOX COUNTY EMPLOYERS 2023

	EMPLOYER	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	PERCENTAGE OF KNOX CO WORK- FORCE
1	COVENANT HEALTH	11,913	4.75%
2	KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS	10,047	4.00%
3	THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE	9,299	3.70%
4	WALMART	6,863	2.73%
5	UNIVERSITY HEALTH SYSTEMS	5,387	2.15%
6	K-VA-T FOOD STORES	4,302	1.71%
7	STATE OF TENNESSEE	3,122	1.24%
8	TENNOVA HEALTH CARE	2,927	1.17%
9	KNOX COUNTY GOVERNMENT	2941	1.06%
10	MCDONALDS	2663	1.06%
AR AN	NUAL FINANCIAL REPORT		

COUNTY'S GENERAL FUND

2023

REVENUE– GENERAL FUND

				22/23
Category	2021	2022	2023	VARIANCE
County Property Taxes	\$ 129,930,136	\$ 132,426,950	\$ 137,163,697	\$ 4,736,747
Local Option Sales Taxes	9,773,736	11,214,507	11,756,501	541,994
Business Taxes	11,541,602	13,635,096	15,755,440	2,120,344
Wheel Taxes	595,939	602,007	627,552	25,545
Other Local Taxes	1,715,029	1,819,730	2,117,563	297,833
Licenses & Permits	3,270,600	3,018,879	3,000,164	(18,715)
Fines, Forfeitures & Penalties	1,444,113	2,189,472	2,516,936	327,464
Charges for Current Services	8,081,856	8,916,204	9,594,349	678,145
Other Local Revenues	5,610,525	5,009,027	10,193,474	5,184,447
State of Tennessee	12,865,323	9,915,925	12,707,618	2,791,693
Federal Government	3,009,348	2,157,751	1,835,077	(322,674)
Other Governments & Citizen Groups	448,113	884,112	459,464	(424,648)
Increase in Equity Interest in Joint Venture	930,016	1,270,769	1,010,759	(260,010)
Total Revenues	\$ 189,216,336	\$ 193,060,429	\$ 208,738,594	\$ 15,678,165

Notes:

*Property taxes and business taxes continue to out perform projections. The County is improving financially as a whole. The County is experiencing a robust economy. Other local revenues include investment income which increased due to higher interest rates.

EXPENDITURES- GENERAL FUND

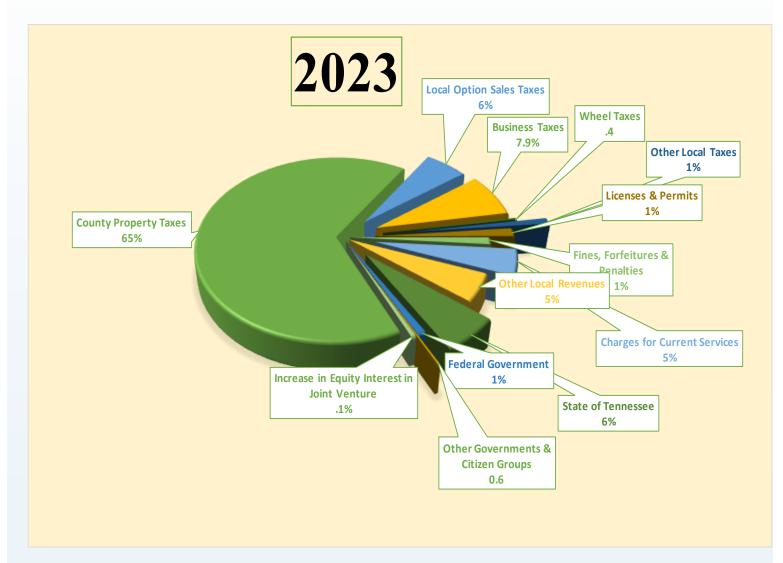
					22/23
Category	2021	2022	2023	VA	RIANCE
Finance & Administration	\$ 32,904,296	\$ 33,360,541 \$	33,156,329	\$	(204,212)
Administration of Justice (Court System)	20,127,356	20,834,245	22,007,307		1,173,062
Public Safety	87,953,708	92,458,510	95,773,968		3,315,458
Public Health & Welfare	17,650,112	20,379,310	20,515,117		135,807
Social & Cultural Services	5,484,322	5,883,753	7,273,673		1,389,920
Agricultural & Natural Resources	391,064	487,814	491,522		3,708
Other General Government	19,066,276	24,400,349	22,554,039		(1,846,310)
Total Expenditures	\$ 183,577,134	\$ 197,804,522 \$	201,771,955	\$	3,967,433

Notes:

*The increase in administration of justice, public safety, and social and cultural services is mainly due to increased salaries and benefits. The decrease in other general government is due to higher contributions to local non-profits in FY22.

COUNTY'S GENERAL FUND

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

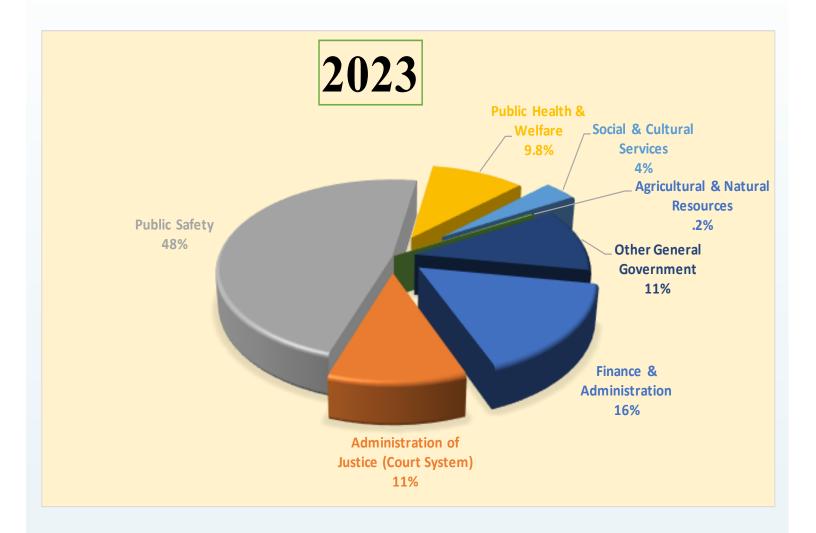


The General Fund accounts for resources traditionally associated with governments that are not required legally or by financial management to be accounted for in another fund. The General Fund accounts for the normal recurring activities of the County (i.e., public safety, recreation, health and welfare, general government, etc.). These activities are funded principally by property taxes on individuals and businesses.



WHERE THE MONEY GOES

COUNTY'S GENERAL FUND



SCHOOL'S GENERAL FUND

2023

REVENUE– GENERAL FUND

					22/23
Category	2021	2022	2023	V	ARIANCE
Property Taxes	\$ 106,153,334	\$ 108,418,760	\$ 113,152,627	\$	4,733,867
Local Option Sales Taxes	186,716,867	215,237,167	231,296,010		16,058,843
Wheel Tax	1,790,760	1,808,993	1,885,756		76,763
Other Local Taxes	673,680	709,767	819,734		109,967
Licenses & Permits	34,999	37,427	43,524		6,097
Charges for Current Services	410,389	413,939	469,485		55,546
Other Local Revenues	3,819,895	7,335,126	6,376,743		(958,383)
State o Tennessee	242,268,770	247,760,383	256,036,805		8,276,422
Federal Government	615,460	678,572	725,050		46,478
Other Governments & Citizen Groups	215,335	5,318	19,069		13,751
Interest Earned	940,434	211,830	4,111,567		3,899,737
Payments from Primary Government	1,932,000	1,932,000	-		(1,932,000)
Total Revenues	\$ 545,571,923	\$ 584,549,282	\$ 614,936,370	\$	30,387,088

Note: School's revenues have increased over the last three years through a continued robust economy. Local sales tax continues to out perform projections. Interest earned also increased due to favorable rates on investments. Certain funding sources changed for programs so the schools no longer receive payments from the primary government.

EXPENDITURES- GENERAL FUND

					22/23
Category	2021	2022	2023	VA	RIANCE
Personal Services	\$ 340,169,080	\$ 358,145,785 \$	380,369,592	\$	22,223,807
Employee Benefits	94,427,585	98,233,273	102,406,555		4,173,282
Contracted Services	28,660,108	34,040,136	38,166,001		4,125,865
Supplies & Materials	22,807,460	22,326,541	28,064,443		5,737,902
Other Charges	12,068,215	19,862,443	14,594,663		(5,267,780)
Capital Outlay	2,073,915	1,309,594	1,023,614		(285,980)
Payments to Primary Government	11,449,356	14,931,933	18,186,683		3,254,750
Total Expenditures	\$ 511,655,719	\$ 548,849,705 \$	582,811,551	\$	33,961,846

Note:

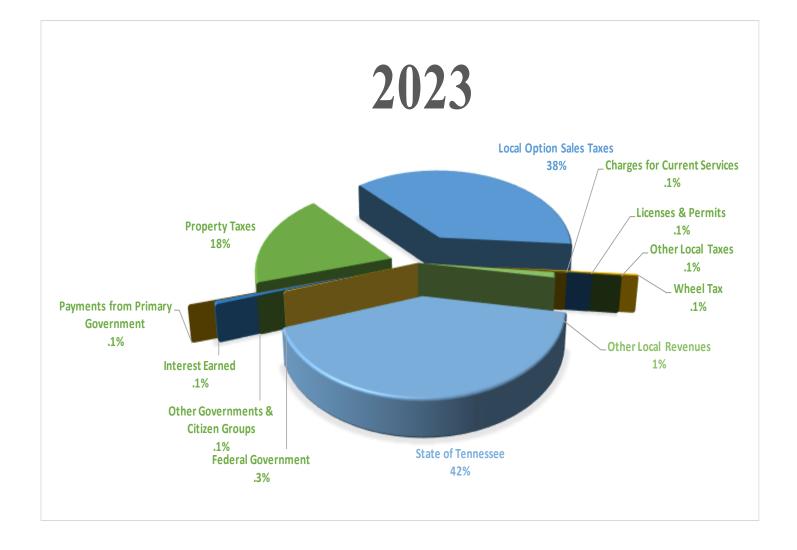
Expenditures within the School's General Fund is made up of thousands of accounts and can fluctuate greatly from year to year. The largest increase is due to salaries and benefits for teachers and support staff.

22/23



SCHOOL'S GENERAL FUND

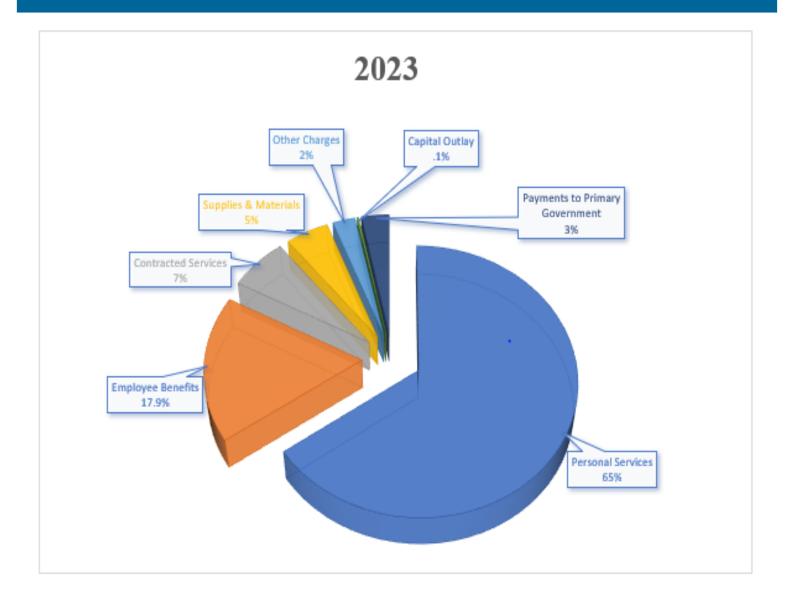
WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM



General Purpose School Fund: This fund is used to account for general operations of the Board of Education. Major funding is provided through local tax levies and state education funds.

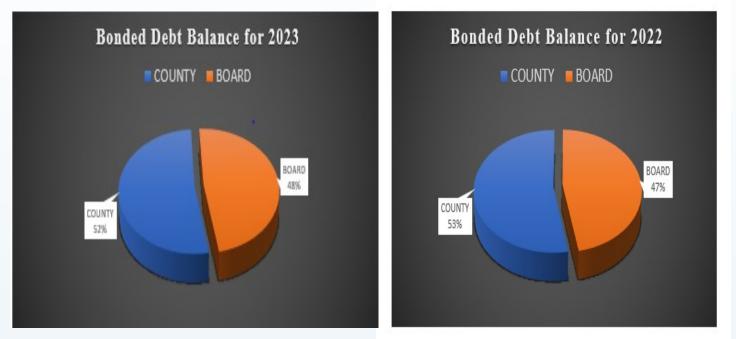
SCHOOL'S GENERAL FUND

WHERE THE MONEY GOES





Knox County's Total Bonded Debt Increased by \$25,515,719 or 3.6 % During the Current Fiscal Year. This was due to the Principal Bond Payments were less than the Debt Issuances as shown in the table below.



Comparing the Two Charts : During the Current Year The Bond Debt for the Board has an increase of 6.1% from last year and The Bond Debt for the County has an increase of 1.5% from the prior Year.

BONDED DEBT BALANCE OF 2023	COUNTY	BOARD	TOTAL
Beginning Balance	\$ 372,492,019	\$ 329,380,938	\$ 701,872,957
Principal Paid	(24,480,115)	(20,004,166)	(44,484,281)
Proceeds from Debt Issuances	29,878,000	40,122,000	70,000,000
Ending Balance- Bonds	\$ 377,889,904	\$ 349,498,772	\$ 727,388,676
BONDED DEBT BALANCE OF 2022	COUNTY	BOARD	TOTAL
Beginning Balance	\$ 367,943,321	\$ 290,193,916	\$ 658,137,237
D.:	(24 166 202)	(10 107 070)	(100 004 000)

Ending Balance- Bonds	\$	372,492,019	\$ 329,380,938	\$	701,872,957
Proceeds from Debt Issuances		28,715,000	58,325,000		87,040,000
Principal Paid		(24,166,302)	(19,137,978)		(43,304,280)
beginning balance	*	001,040,021	· 200,100,010	- 1	000,101,201

2023

Knox's County greatest revenue stream is from property taxes. The amount of property tax collected is established by the Property Assessor, followed by the County Commission approval based on the needs of the budget. The tax rate for 2023 was \$1.554 for every \$100 of assessed value. For every property tax dollar collected, 65 cents was used to support Knox County's general fund, 59 cents was allocated to the general-purpose school fund and 32 cents toward the debt service fund.

	Aı	nount	% Total Levy
General Fund	\$	0.6524	42%
General Purpose School Fund	\$	0.5864	38%
Debt Service Fund	\$	0.3152	20%
Total Tax Levy	\$	1.5540	100%







KNOX COUNTY FINANCE DEPARTMENT WWW. KNOX COUNTY.ORG