

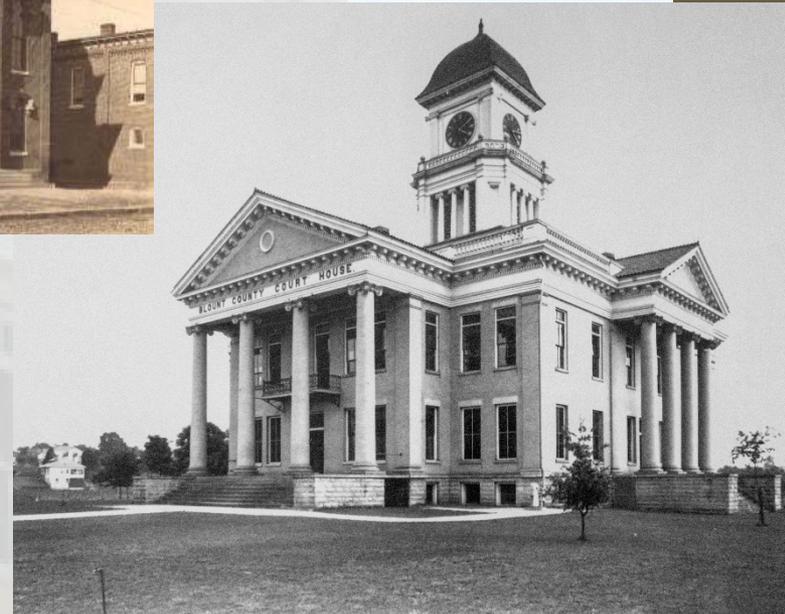
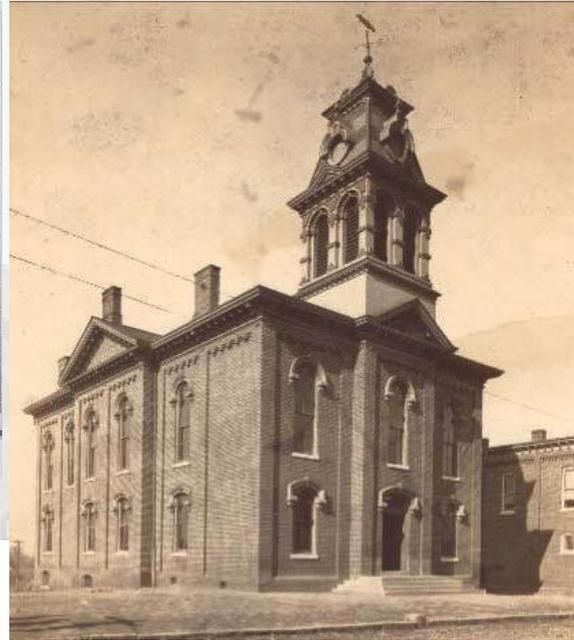


# Blount County Legislative Briefing

October 21, 2022



# Then and Now

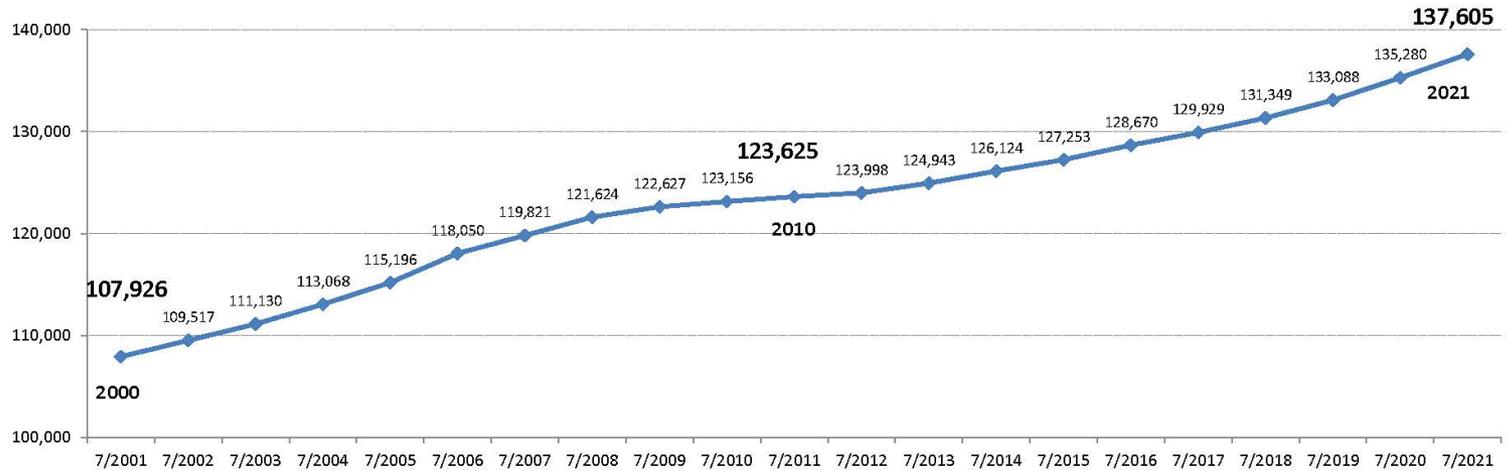


# Blount County Courthouse



# Our Population

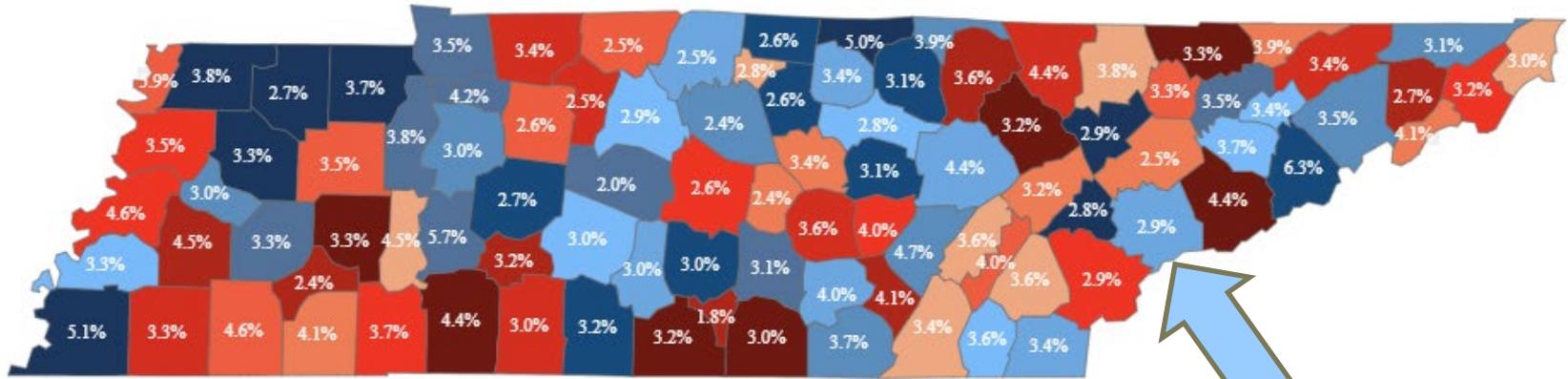
**Blount County Population Estimates 2000 to 2021**



US Census Bureau: All figures are estimates July of each year. Graphic by Blount County Planning Department.

# Our Unemployment Rate

## TN County Rates



**Blount County**  
**June 2022 – 2.9%**

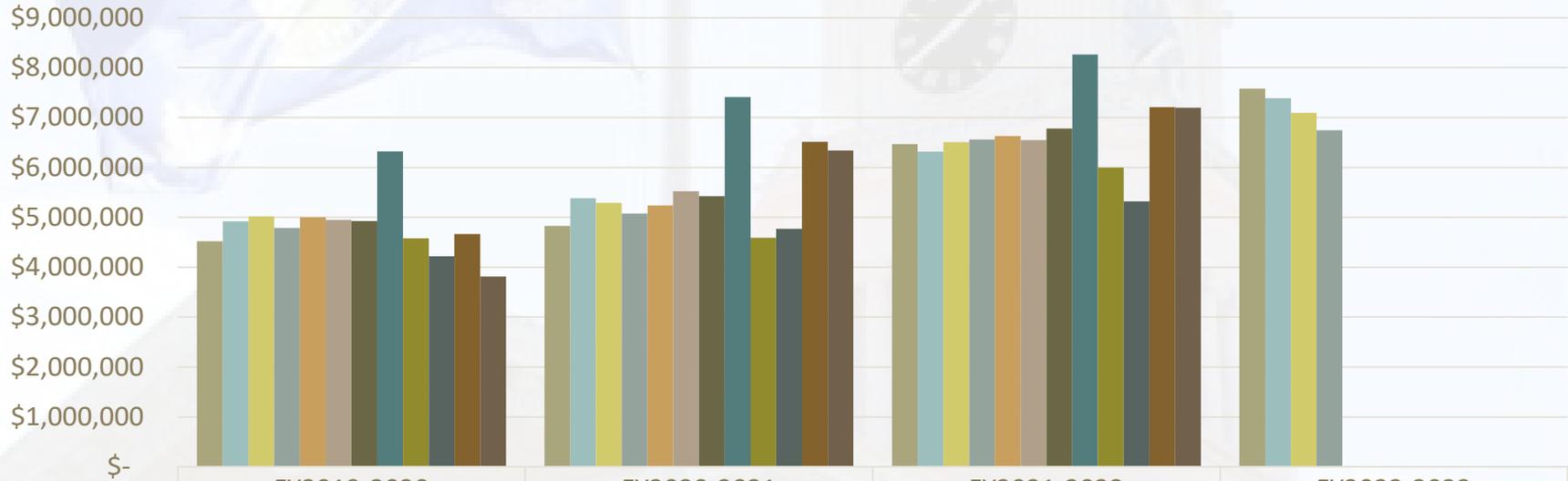
# Property Tax Penny Breakdown

❖ Same for the 8th year in a row

|                                 | FY22-23 |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| General County                  | \$0.98  |
| Debt Service                    | \$0.34  |
| General Admin. Capital Projects | \$0.03  |
| General Purpose Schools         | \$0.98  |
| Education Capital Projects      | \$0.14  |
| TOTAL                           | \$2.47  |

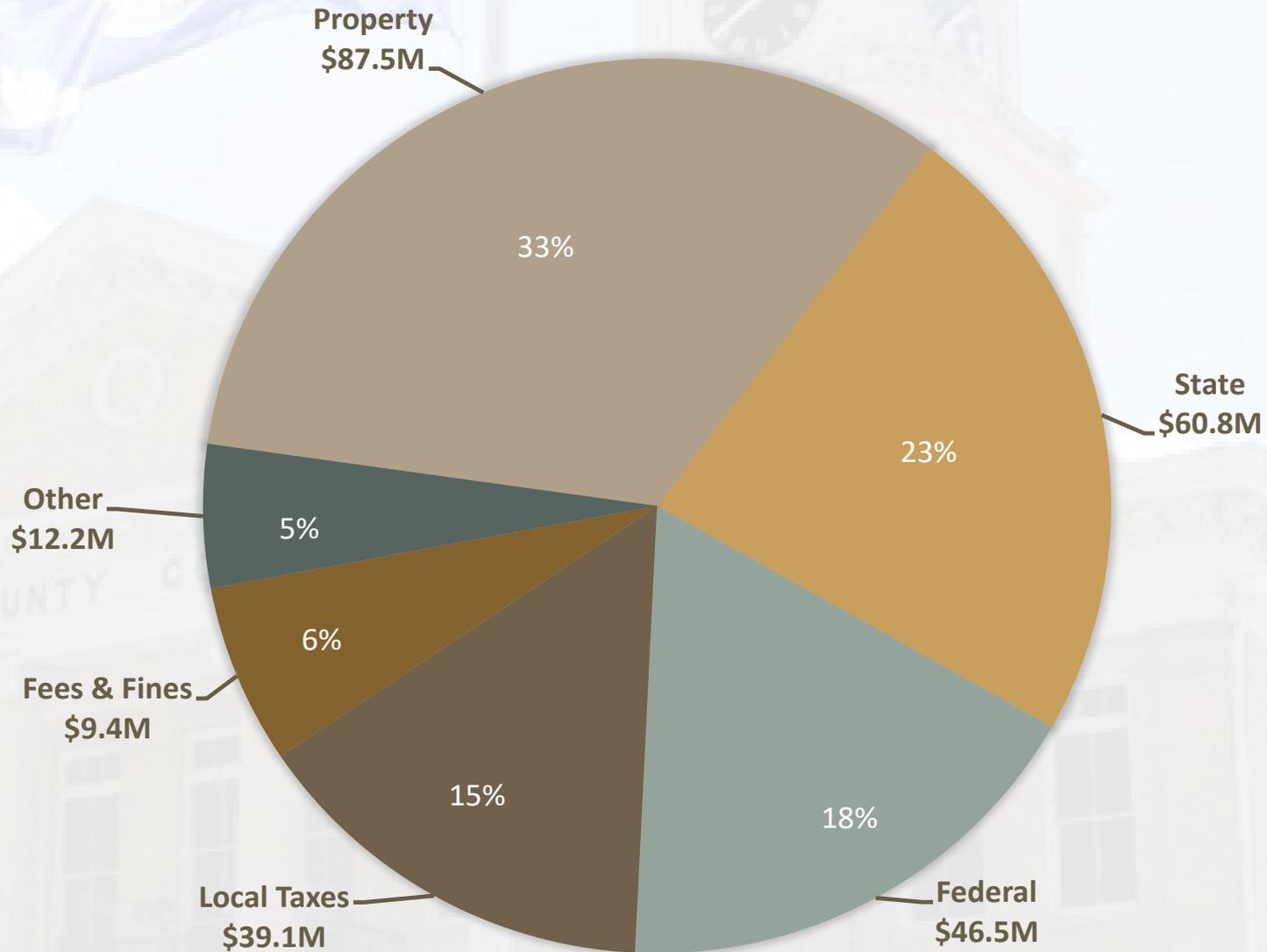
\*Property Tax revenue makes up approx. 33% of all revenue received by the County

# Sales Tax Revenue



|           | FY2019-2020 | FY2020-2021 | FY2021-2022 | FY2022-2023 |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| July      | \$4,519,277 | \$4,828,121 | \$6,464,541 | \$7,579,517 |
| August    | \$4,922,442 | \$5,383,223 | \$6,316,163 | \$7,384,897 |
| September | \$5,017,276 | \$5,290,028 | \$6,505,502 | \$7,094,430 |
| October   | \$4,788,401 | \$5,077,677 | \$6,561,498 | \$6,743,125 |
| November  | \$5,002,604 | \$5,235,584 | \$6,627,393 |             |
| December  | \$4,947,369 | \$5,524,333 | \$6,548,123 |             |
| January   | \$4,928,125 | \$5,422,073 | \$6,779,590 |             |
| February  | \$6,322,208 | \$7,407,897 | \$8,263,655 |             |
| March     | \$4,579,129 | \$4,586,993 | \$5,997,619 |             |
| April     | \$4,221,064 | \$4,767,807 | \$5,316,719 |             |
| May       | \$4,666,703 | \$6,512,391 | \$7,209,118 |             |
| June      | \$3,811,136 | \$6,337,358 | \$7,195,017 |             |

# Blount County Revenues



# Financial Responsibility



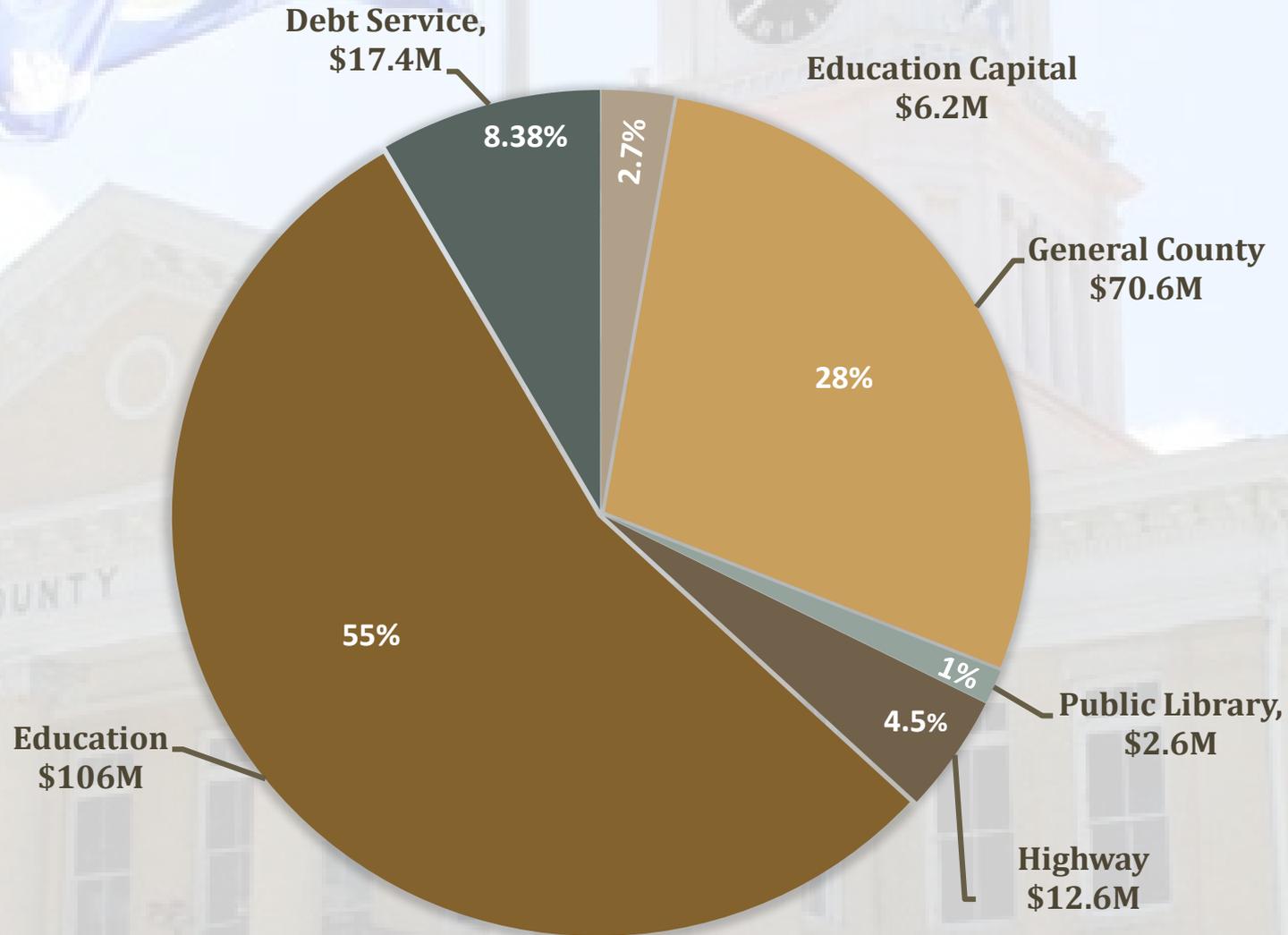
## Adopted Budget

2022-23

\$251,165,493

- ❖ AA+ Credit Rating
- ❖ 6 Clean Audits (out of the last 7)

# FY 22-22 Budgeted Appropriations/Expenses



# Debt Summary



| Year-Ending   | Total Debt |
|---------------|------------|
| June 30, 2011 | \$227M     |
| June 30, 2018 | \$157.7M   |
| June 30, 2022 | \$129.1M   |

- ❖ All Variable Rate Debt Eliminated
- ❖ **100% Fixed Rate Debt in 2017**

# Fund Balances



|                             | 2021    |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| General Fund                | \$35.7M |
| Debt Service                | \$22.5M |
| General Purpose School Fund | \$15.8M |

\*Source – FY 20-21 Audited Financial Report

# County Government



## Constitutional Form of Government

### ❖ Executive Branch - Elected Officials

- Mayor
- Register of Deeds
- Property Assessor
- Circuit Court Clerk
- Sheriff
- Trustee
- Highway Superintendent
- County Clerk

### ❖ Legislative Branch – 21 County Commissioners

### ❖ Judicial Branch

# Let's Be Blount

Work Hard, Work Honest & Work Together

## Mayor Departments



- Animal Center
- Adult Probation
- General Services
  - Records, Custodial, Maintenance & Risk Management
- Finance & Accounting
- Human Resources
- Emergency Management
- Purchasing
- Information Technology
- Recovery Court

# Did You Know?



## ➤ Blount County Government Leads:

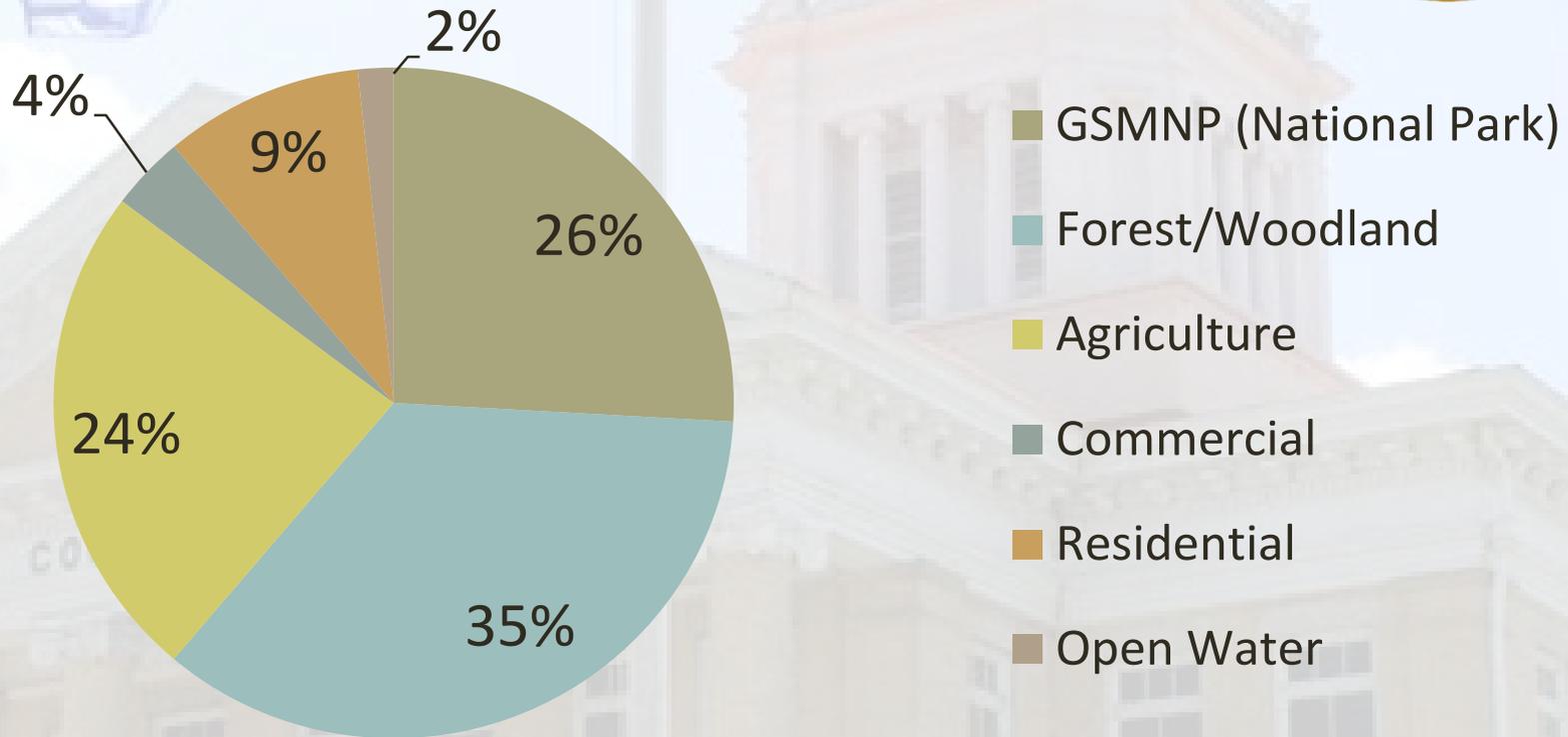
- Only County in the State with 5 CONSECUTIVE years – Clean Audit (6 out of the last 7)
- Received the TCSA 2022 Success Story Award
  - For the new Glass Mill at the Operations Center
  - 2021 Award Recipient for MACNet
    - Maryville Alcoa County Network
    - Consolidated Management of the Fiber Optic Network
- Only County with deputies who are also EMR certified
  - Currently over 60 officers

# Current Challenges



- Employee Retention
  - For businesses, County Government & Law Enforcement
- Affordable Housing
- Education System
  - 3 Great School Systems
- Growth and Development in Blount County

# Blount County Land Use



\*Source - Blount County Soil Conservation Report 2022

# County Development



## 2019

- 877 Permits issued (11% increase over 2018)
- 392 new single family homes (25% increase over 2018)
- \$139M reported construction value

## 2020

- 930 Building permits issued (6% increase over 2019)
- 521 new single family homes (6.5% increase over 2019)
- \$173M reported construction value (24.6% increase over 2019)

## 2021

- 962 Building permits issued (3% increase over 2020)
- 559 new single family homes (7.3% increase over 2020)
- \$191M reported construction value (10.2% increase over 2020)

## 2022 (through September)

- 675 Building permits issued
- 420 new dwelling units

# My Concerns



## ➤ Ongoing Epidemic

- Drug & Alcohol Addiction
- Mental Health issues

## ➤ Local Elections

- November 8<sup>th</sup> is General Election for State, Federal and some Local races
- 90,000 Registered Voters

# Let's Be Blount

Work Hard, Work Honest & Work Together



## What Makes Blount County Great?

### Partnerships!

- ✓ Throughout the Community
  - ✓ Schools
  - ✓ Non-Profits
  - ✓ Businesses
  - ✓ Faith Community
- ✓ Between Governments

# Let's Be Blount

Work Hard, Work Honest & Work Together



## How Can You Help?

- Get involved in Government
- Vote
- Know your Commissioners

It's YOUR Government!

# Questions?



\*Photo credits to Ed Young

