



How Vols' men's hoops roster is shaping up

SPORTS, 6A

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America sees major shifts over 5 decades

Report details country's demographic changes

Marc Ramirez
USA TODAY

As the United States approaches its 250th anniversary, its population is larger, older, more racially and ethnically diverse and likelier to be foreign-born than it was at the time of the nation's bicentennial, according to a report compiled by the Pew Research Center.

The population has grown to 340 million over the past 50 years, an increase of more than 120 million people, the center said.

Much of that growth, it said, has been driven by immigrants, longer life spans and an increase in Asian and Hispanic Americans.

As the 1970s got under way, the baby boom generation was still between 6 and 24 years old, noted Ken Johnson, a professor of sociology at the University of New Hampshire who was not involved in the report.

"It was the first generation where many women went to college," Johnson said. "Older generations were relatively small, having been born during the war and Great Depression. And immigration was picking up, but it had been modest for decades before."

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TCAP TESTS

What to know about the third grade reading law

Rachel Wegner
USA TODAY NETWORK - TENNESSEE

The widespread effects of Tennessee's third grade reading and retention law will be felt again this year for thousands of public school students and their families.

Students in grades 3-5 statewide will take their annual Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program, or TCAP, tests starting in mid-April. Dates for the standardized test, also known as TNReady, vary by district. The Tennessee Department of Education will then release third grade results on the English language arts portion on May 20.

That will set off a fast-moving timeline to ultimately determine if third graders who fall short on the test will move on to fourth grade or be held back. Thousands of fourth graders who opted for yearlong tutoring to avoid retention last year are also affected by the law.

Here's what parents need to know about navigating the implications of the law.

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2026 OAK RIDGE COMMUNITY EGG HUNT



Scenes from the 2026 Oak Ridge Community Egg Hunt, followed by Art in the Park on March 28. PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CITY OF OAK RIDGE

The Oak Ridger | USA TODAY NETWORK - TENNESSEE

The annual Oak Ridge Community Egg Hunt was held last Saturday, March 28, with children from age 4 to fourth grade showing up at A.K. Bissell Park with their adults to hunt eggs and hug a big bunny. It was followed by the third annual Art in the Park event. The events were sponsored by the city's Recreation and Parks Department and the Youth Advisory Board.



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