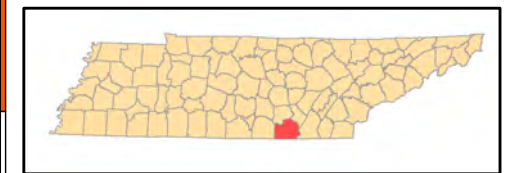


Marion County Geological Formation



Marion County is at the extreme southwest corner of East Tennessee and bordered on the south by the Alabama and Georgia State lines. Although the county is part of the Cumberland Plateau, it also encompasses a large part of Sequatchie Valley and part of the north side of the valley of Tennessee River. Throughout the county, relatively level rock strata form the plateau and crop out in the valleys cut into its surface. Pennsylvanian- age sandstones, shales, and conglomerates, along with several minable coal seams, cap the Cumberland Plateau tableland, Walden Ridge, the regional name of the plateau east of Sequatchie Valley, and the crest of Raccoon Mountain. Ordovician- and Mississippian- age limestones underlie the valley floors of Tennessee and Sequatchie Rivers. The walls of the valleys and their tributaries are composed of Mississippian-age limestones, sandstones, and shales. Sequatchie Valley, the most prominent topographic feature in Marion County, runs northeast to southwest through its center. Linear in appearance as a result of the geologic processes that formed it, the valley covers a little over one-fourth of the county's total area.

"Tennessee Topology"
by David D. Starnes
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Period	Formation	Color
Pennsylvanian Period	01 Alluvial Deposits	Red
	02 Crab Orchard Mountains & Gizzard Groups	Light Green
	03 Crab Orchard Mountains Group	Green
	04 Crooked Fork Group	Light Green
	05 Cross Mountain Formation	Light Green
	06 Fentress Formation	Light Green
	07 Gizzard Group	Light Green
	08 Groves Gap Formation	Light Green
	09 Indian Bluff Formation	Light Green
	10 Redoak Mountain Formation	Light Green
	11 Rockcastle Conglomerate	Light Green
	12 Slatestone Formation	Light Green
	13 Vowell Mountain Formation	Light Green
	14 Bangor Limestone	Light Green
Ordovician Period	15 Fort Payne Formation	Light Green
	16 Grainger Formation	Light Green
	17 Monteagle Limestone	Light Green
	18 Newman Limestone	Light Green
	19 Pennington Formation	Light Green
	20 St. Louis Limestone	Light Green
	21 Chattanooga Shale	Light Green
	22 Sneedville Limestone	Light Green
	23 Brassfield Formation	Light Green
	24 Clinch Sandstone	Light Green
	25 Rockwood Formation	Light Green
	26 Bigby-Cannon Limestone	Light Green
	27 Carters Limestone	Light Green
	28 Chepultepec Dolomite	Light Green
29 Chickamauga Group	Light Green	
30 Copper Ridge Dolomite	Light Green	
31 Juniata Formation	Light Green	
32 Knox Group	Light Green	
33 Lebanon Limestone	Light Green	
34 Longview Dolomite	Light Green	
35 Middle and Lower Parts of Chickamauga Group	Light Green	
36 Newala Formation, Mascot Dolomite	Light Green	
37 Pierce and Murfreesboro Limestones	Light Green	
38 Ridley Limestone	Light Green	
39 Sequatchie Formation	Light Green	
40 Wells Creek Formation	Light Green	
Mississippian Period	41 Conasauga Group	Light Green
	42 Maryville Limestone	Light Green
	43 Maynardville Limestone	Light Green
	44 Nolichucky Shale	Light Green
Cambrian Period	45 Pumpkin Valley Shale	Light Green
	46 Rome Foundation	Light Green