

# *my***FUTURE**NC

## JLEOC PROGRESS REPORT

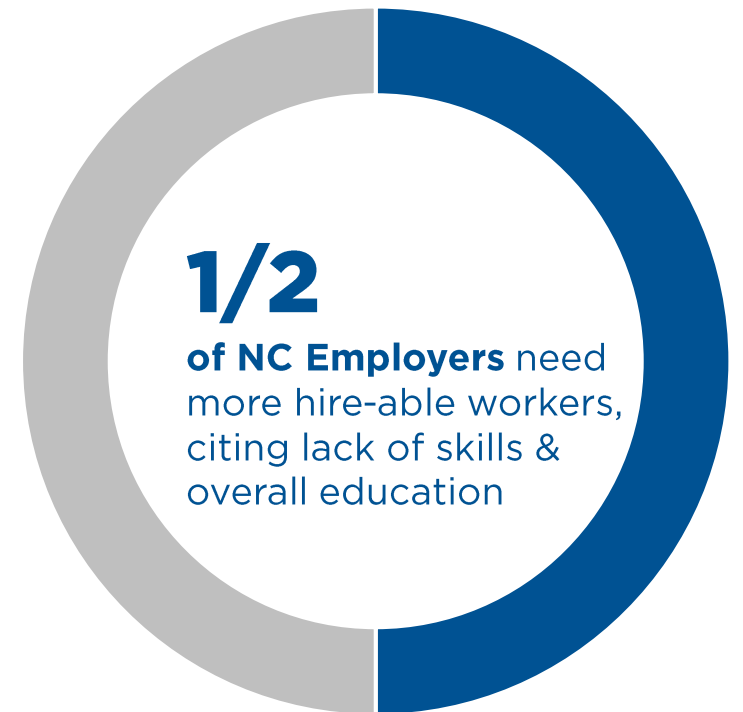
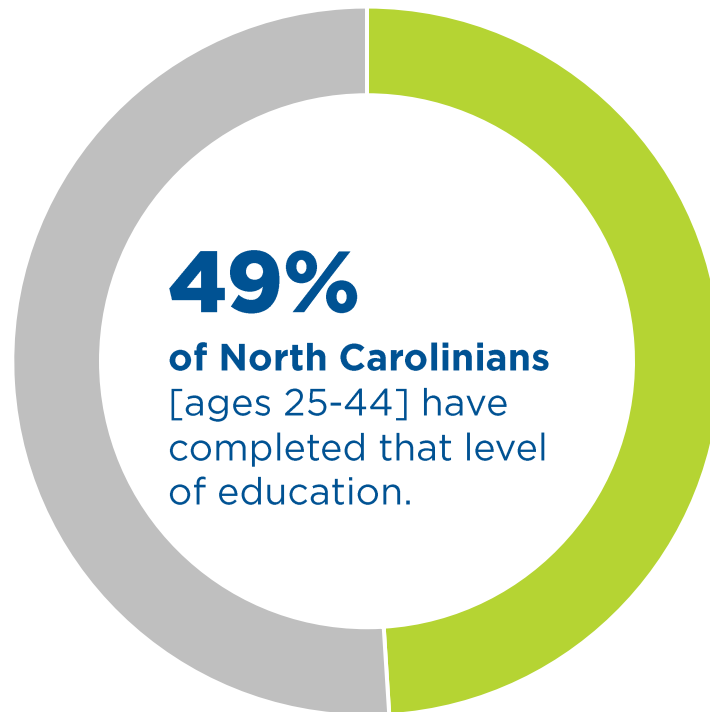
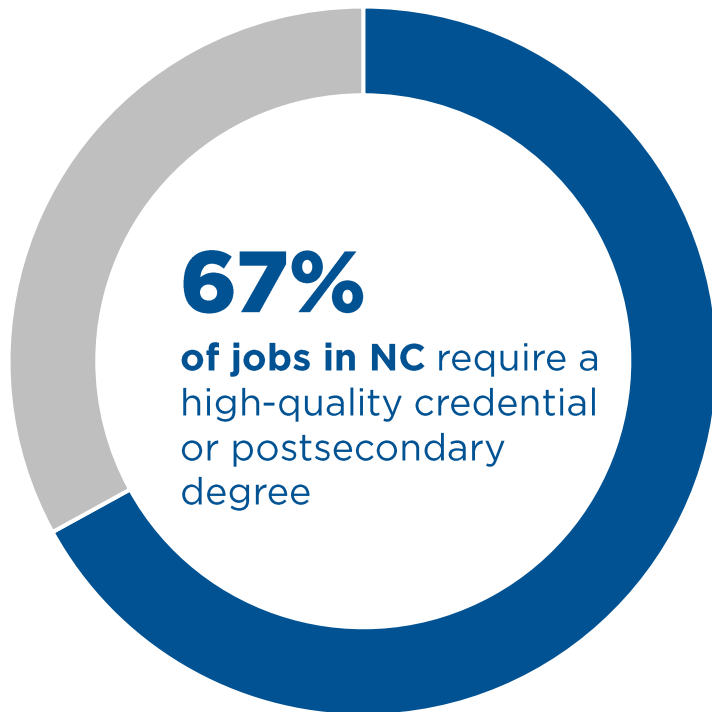
September 1, 2020

[Link to Leaky Pipeline Video](#)



# North Carolina's Skills Gap Problem

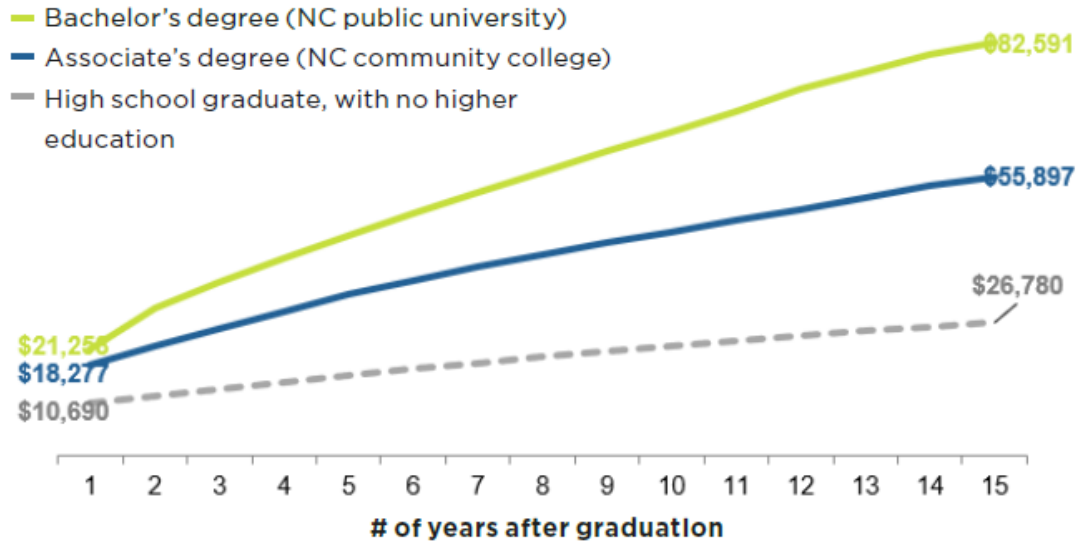
Projected growth in NC occupations requiring a postsecondary credential or above is expected to outpace growth in occupations requiring only a High School degree by 2x between 2018 and 2028.



# The Value of Postsecondary Education

## Degrees = Dollars: Higher Education is Associated with Higher Earnings

Projected median wage of workers in North Carolina, by educational attainment

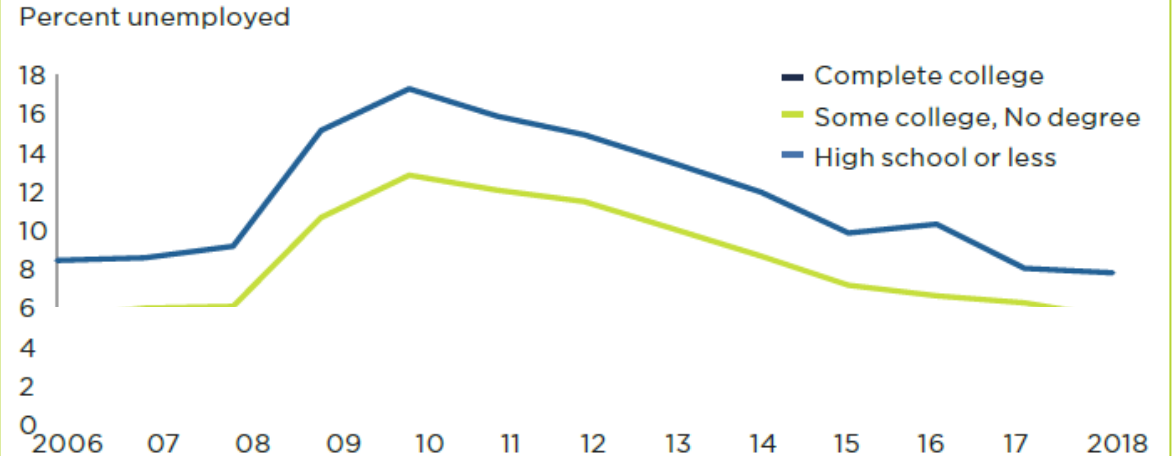


NC Department of Commerce, Labor & Economic Analysis Division (LEAD)  
Source: analysis of data from the NC Common Follow-UP System (solid lines) and US Census Bureau

## The education-employment gap widened during The Great Recession

North Carolinians ages 25-44 without any college education were more than 3.5x likely to be unemployed during The Great Recession than those with college degrees, (17.3% versus 5.6% in 2010 at the peak of the crisis)

### Percent of unemployed North Carolinians ages 25-44, 2006 to 2018



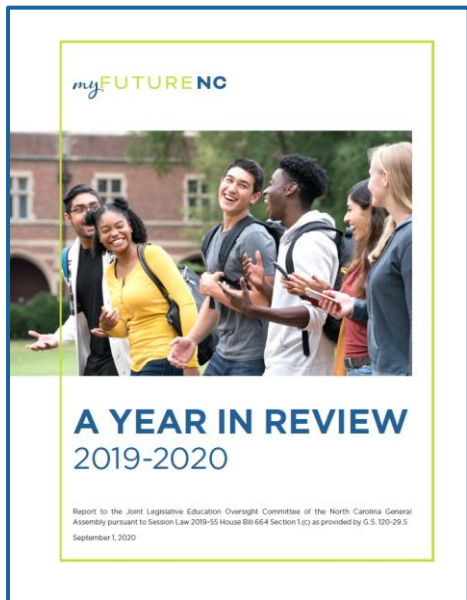
Source: American Community Survey and IPUMS, 2006-19. People with postsecondary certificates but no associate or higher degree are classified as having "some college, no degree" in this figure and source data.

# House Bill 664

To ensure that the State remains economically competitive, the State shall ensure that by the year 2030:

# 2 MILLION

**25- to 44-year-olds will have completed a high-quality credential or postsecondary degree**



## Progress Report

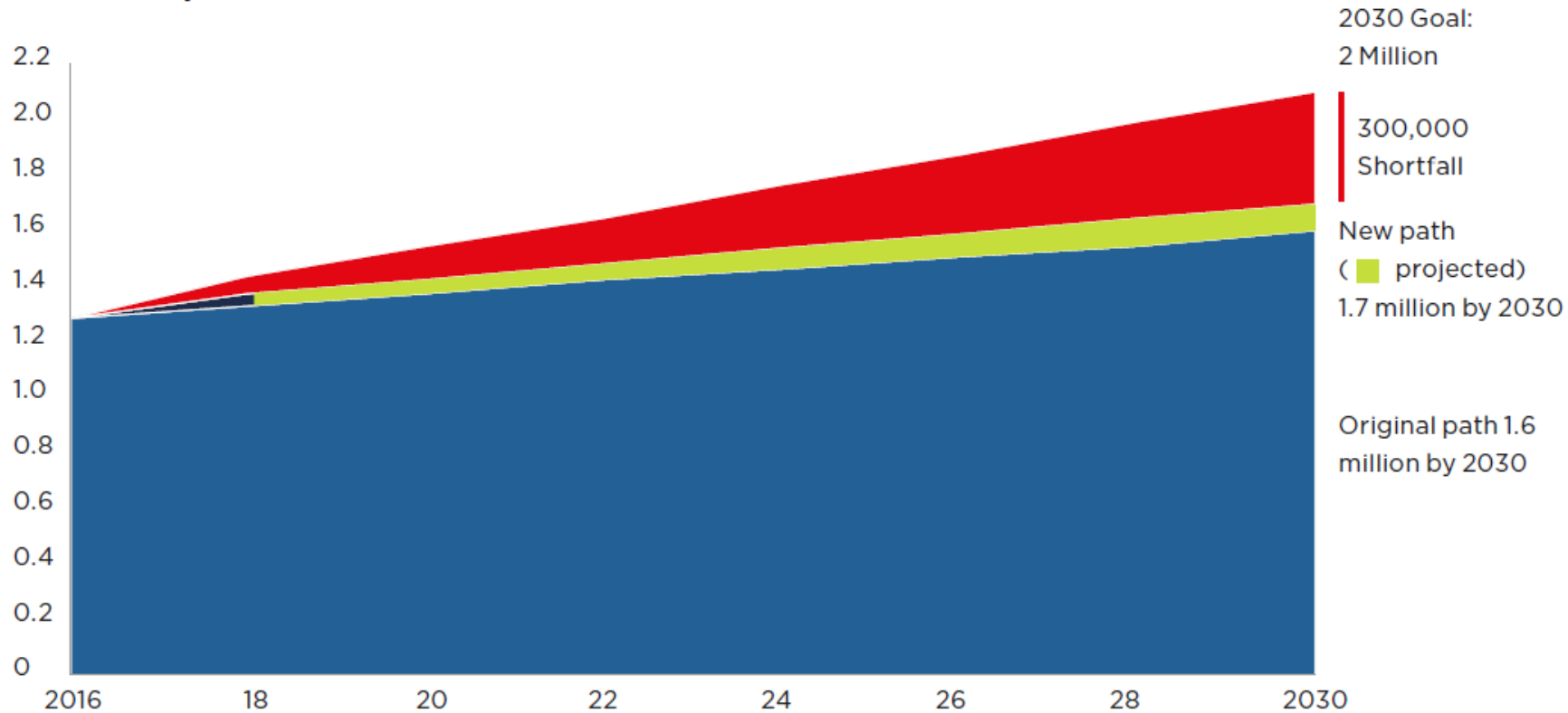
In addition, SECTION 1.(c) states that beginning September 1, 2020, and every September 1 thereafter, the myFutureNC Commission **shall report** to the General Assembly on the **progress** of the State reaching the postsecondary attainment goal **and activities** by the Commission to further North Carolina towards the postsecondary attainment goal.

# Measuring Our Progress

**Updated projections indicate that North Carolina's new projected path puts the state 300,000 short of the 2 million by 2030 target**

## Progress Against the Deficit of Postsecondary Credentials in North Carolina

Postsecondary credentials in North Carolina (millions)



Pictured: Catawba College

# myFutureNC Board of Directors

myFutureNC is governed by a **cross-sector** board of directors composed of North Carolina education sector heads as well as business, philanthropic, legislative and executive branch leadership.

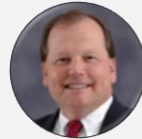
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Vice-Chair:	Peter Hans
Secretary-Treasurer:	MC Belk Pilon
President & CEO:	Cecilia Holden



**Senator Deanna Ballard**  
Senate President Pro Tem  
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**Kathryn Black**  
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NC Community College  
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**Anna Spangler Nelson**  
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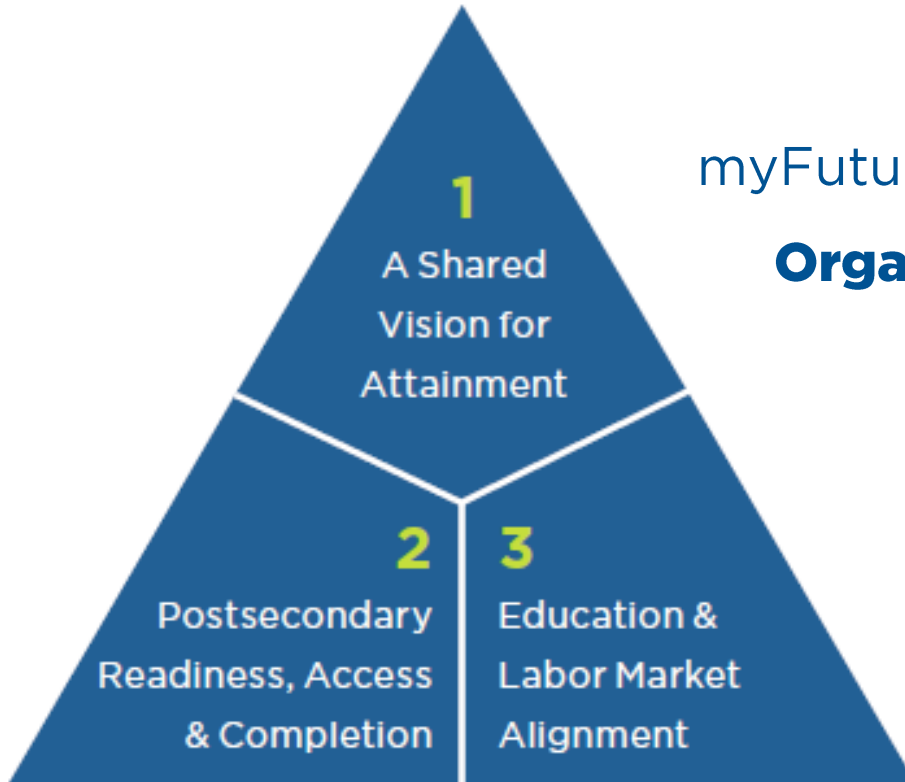
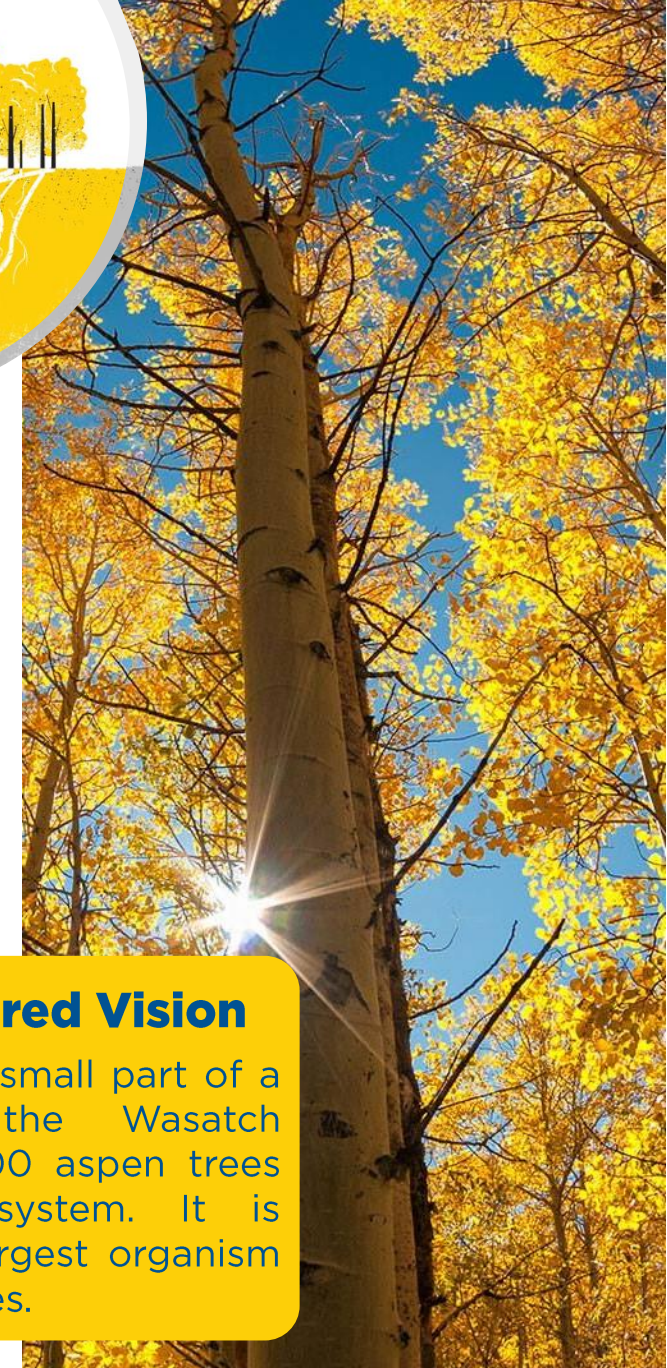


**Dr. A. Hope Williams**  
President, NC  
Independent Colleges  
and Universities

## Funders



# Supporting North Carolina's Attainment Goal



myFutureNC Strategic Plan

## Organizational Goals

### The Value of A Shared Vision

One aspen tree is only a small part of a larger organism. In the Wasatch Mountains of Utah, 47,000 aspen trees share a single root system. It is considered the world's largest organism by mass, covering 106 acres.



# Efforts to Date

## A Shared Vision for Attainment

- Cross-Sector Convenings & Engagement
- State-Level Attainment Dashboard
- 100 County Attainment Profiles

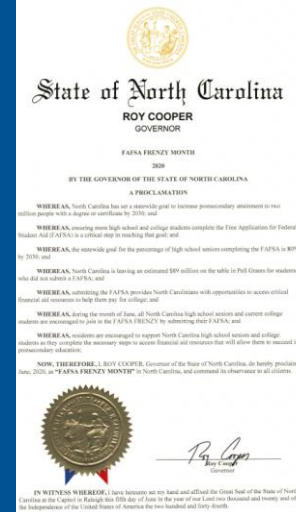
## Postsecondary Readiness, Access & Completion

- FAFSA Campaign

## Education & Labor Market Alignment

- Credentials of Value

Members of the North Carolina A&T State University drumline assist myFutureNC with a drumbeat for the state's educational attainment goal in February 2020.



Governor's Proclamation and a green lit Capitol Building help support FAFSA Frenzy month in June 2020.

# State Attainment Dashboard

NC Pre-K Enrollment



College-and-Career-Ready in Reading



NAEP Fourth Grade Reading



College-and-Career-Ready in Math



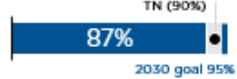
NAEP Eighth Grade Math



Chronic Absenteeism



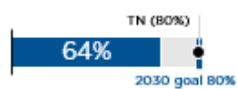
High School Graduation Rate



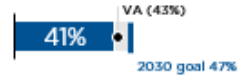
ACT Performance



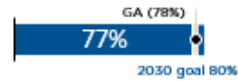
FAFSA Completion Rate



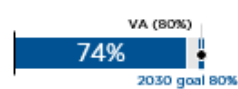
Postsecondary Enrollment Rate



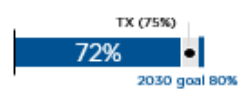
First-Year Persistence Rate



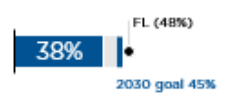
Postsecondary Completion Rate: 4yr Public



Postsecondary Completion Rate: 4yr Private



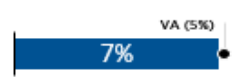
Postsecondary Completion Rate: 2yr Public



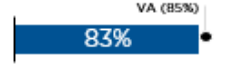
Labor Market Alignment



Disconnected Youth



Labor Force Participation Rate



Family-Sustaining Wage



Pictured: Western Carolina University

# County Attainment Profiles

- Data unique to each of NC's 100 counties
- Highlights county and regional performance on key indicators
- Lists specific opportunities for improvement that will ultimately lead to increased attainment
- Facilitates decision-making on LOCAL priorities
- Uses data to identify three actionable opportunity areas to improve future attainment outcomes

## Opportunities for Growth



### FAFSA Completion

43% of Richmond County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural non-metro county average of 55%.



### Postsecondary Completion

42% of Richmond County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary earn a degree or credential within 6 years, below the rural non-metro county average of 49%.

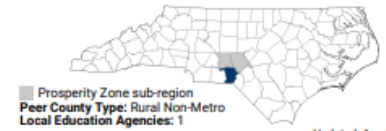


### First-Year Persistence

68% of Richmond County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural non-metro county average of 73%.



# Richmond County



NC goal: 2 million by 2030  
2020 County Attainment Profile

Prosperity Zone sub-region  
Peer County Type: Rural Non-Metro  
Local Education Agencies: 1  
Updated: Aug 12 2021

## INTRODUCTION

From birth to career, there are many opportunities to develop strategies and interventions to increase attainment and improve workforce alignment. Below are some key areas and indicators that highlight where interventions may be possible to improve overall educational attainment outcomes.

## COUNTY OVERVIEW

Richmond County is in the Pinehurst-Rockingham Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Richmond County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 9% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 32% have a high school diploma, and 18% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	45,199
2030 Population	44,123
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	7,045
Charter/Private/Home	679
Median Household Income	\$38,514
Child Poverty Rate	31%
Households with Broadband	70%

## Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

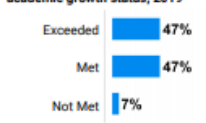
High-quality early learning and strong academic progress in early years helps prepare children for future success.

Richmond County has 14 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

## How students in Richmond County traditional public schools are currently doing:

- To meet state goals, Richmond County needs:
  - **40 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 64%).
  - **1,143 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 39%).
  - **1,615 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 38%).

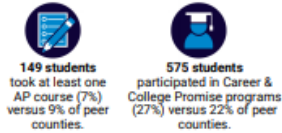
## Percent of Richmond County schools by academic growth status, 2019



## Ready for College & Career

High school completion is a crucial step on the pathway to postsecondary success or the beginnings of a career. Activities that prepare students to navigate the transition to postsecondary include gaining experience in college-level coursework and applying for financial assistance.

- To meet state goals, Richmond County needs:
  - **84 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 81%).
  - **171 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 43%).
  - **217 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 14%).



Students in Richmond County completed **411 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Hospitality & Tourism; and Business Management & Administration.

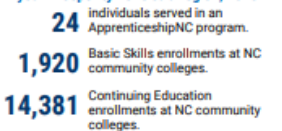
## Postsecondary Access and Success

These metrics capture student progression and educational attainment from high school graduation to postsecondary completion. They indicate relative strengths and weaknesses of Richmond County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.

Richmond County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 371:1.

- Among Richmond County high school graduates:
  - **60% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
  - **68% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
  - **42% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 49% of peer counties.

## In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:



## Labor Market Outcomes

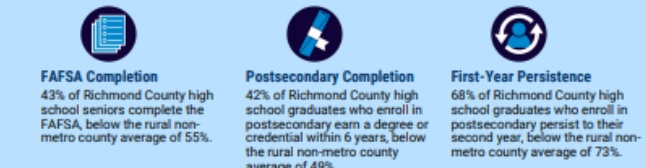
Lack of technical skills and lack of education are among the primary reasons why NC employers struggle to fill vacancies. These metrics capture labor market outcomes among recent graduates, the alignment between postsecondary degree production and labor market demand, and future job demands.

9.2% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 8.9% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:  
Public postsecondary institutions graduate **1,497 students per year**. After 5 years, 72% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$32,460.  
50% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (above and below bachelor's); **Education & Training** (bachelor's); and **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's).  
There are **69,044 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **Registered Nurses**; 2) **General and Operations Managers**; 3) **Sales Representatives, Services, All Other**.

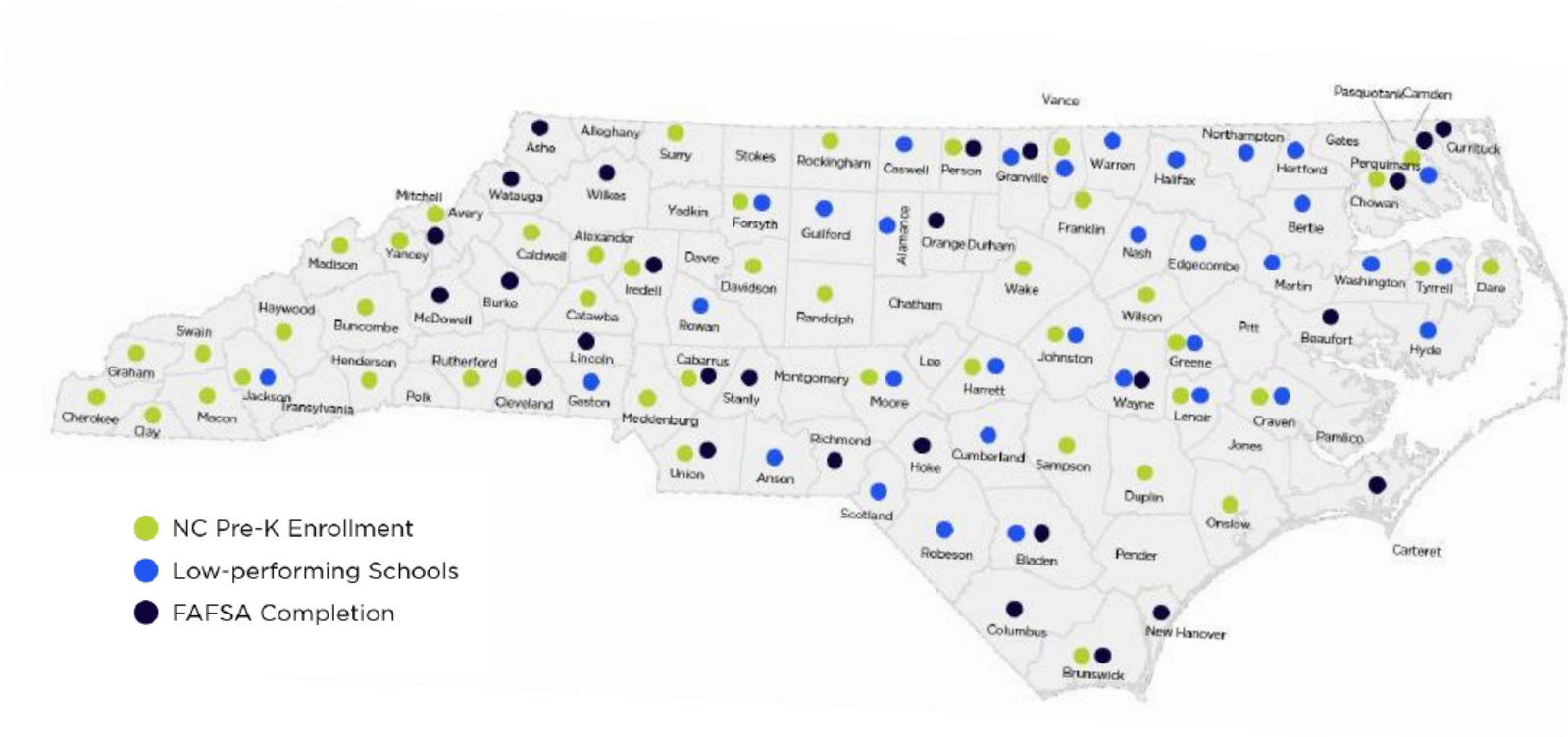
## Opportunities for Growth

Compared to rural non-metro counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Richmond County to improve future attainment outcomes.



# List of Opportunities for Growth

1. **NC Pre-K Enrollment**
2. **Low-Performing Schools**
3. **FAFSA Completion**
4. **College & Career-Ready in Math**
5. **Transition to Postsecondary**
6. **AP Participation**
7. **School Counselors**
8. **College & Career-Ready in Reading**
9. **Career & College Promise Enrollment**
10. **Disconnected Youth**
11. **Postsecondary Completion**
12. **Adult Learners**
13. **First-Year Persistence**
14. **Chronic Absenteeism**
15. **High School Graduation**



# FAFSA Campaign

**36%**

or **39,022** North Carolina high school seniors did not complete a FAFSA in 2019.

**2.7%**

or **1,553** fewer students in North Carolina had completed a FAFSA year-over-year at the start of the June Campaign.

**80%**



is our **statewide goal** for FAFSA completions by 2030.

Approximately 3,400 NC seniors completed their FAFSA in the month of June 2020.



**FAFSA FRENZY NC**  
YOUR FIRST STEP TO FREE OR AFFORDABLE COLLEGE



WBTV STUDIOS CHARLOTTE  
FAFSA FRENZY MONTH 9:30 | 76° 9C morning

**North Carolina students left**

**\$89 Million**

**In Pell Grants on the table because they didn't file a FAFSA last year.**



**DON'T MISS OUT!**  
Visit [www.FAFSAFrenzyNC.com](http://www.FAFSAFrenzyNC.com).

# Moving Forward

## A Shared Vision for Attainment

- Advocacy & Awareness
- Phase II: Data & County Attainment Profiles
- Legislative Engagement

## Postsecondary Readiness, Access & Completion

- FAFSA Campaign
- College & Career Ready Graduates: Remediation

## Education & Labor Market Alignment

- Finalize & Align Credentials of Value



# Policy Recommendations

Educational Attainment at North Carolina's Recovery Strategy

Readiness

Access

Completion

Alignment

Broadband: Access, Affordability & Adoption

**BROADBAND:** Access to broadband is the foundation for success for all initiatives and outcomes related to postsecondary readiness, access, completion, and alignment.

**READINESS:** Increased commitment to Career & College Ready Graduates (S.L. 2015-241)

**ACCESS:** Increase awareness and access to advising on career and college pathways & federal financial aid

**COMPLETION:** Reform Public Need-Based Financial Aid Programs

**ALIGNMENT:** Define, standardize, and incentivize non-degree *NC Workforce Credentials* to align with in-demand living wage jobs

**22%** of North Carolina Households *do not have* broadband in the home.

**55%** or 396,000 North Carolina students in grades 3-8 *did not earn* a college and career ready score on the end-of grade Reading exam.

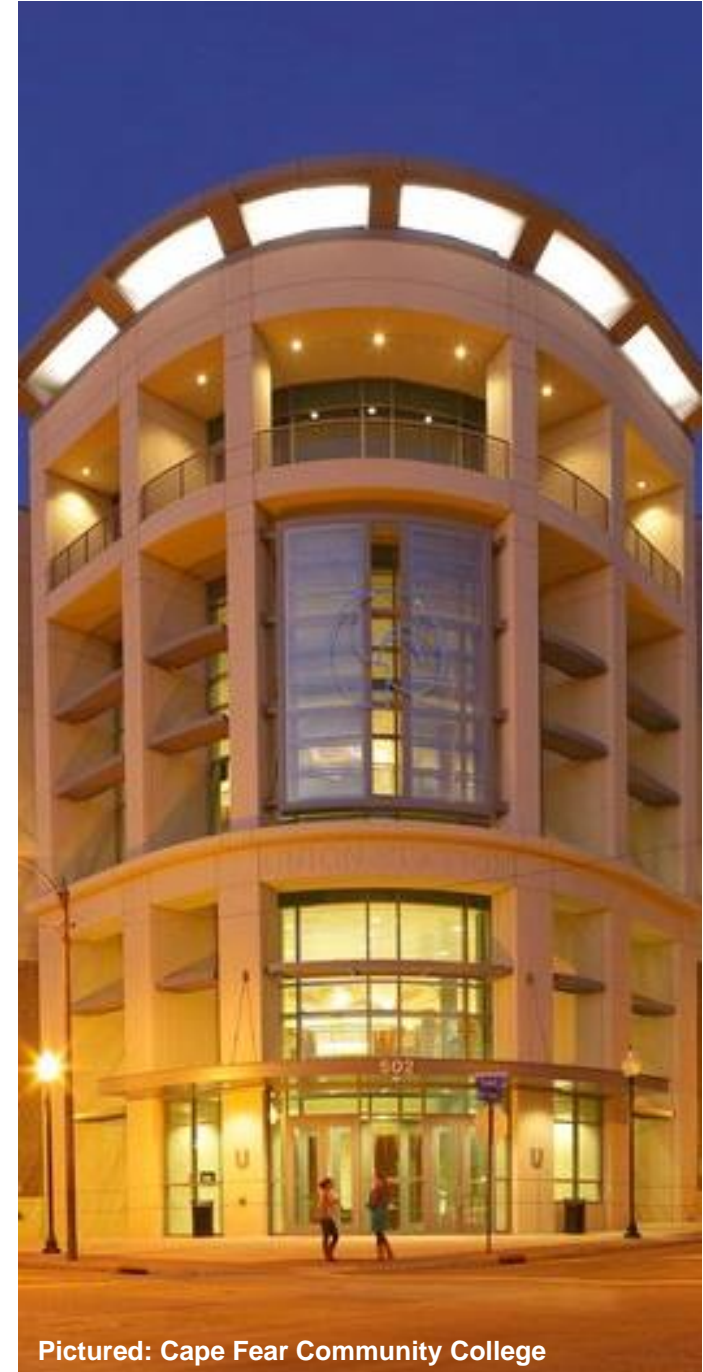
**36%** or ~39,000 North Carolina high school seniors *did not complete* a FAFSA, leaving an estimated **\$89M** in federal Pell grants untapped by North Carolina students in 2019.

**46%** of students in North Carolina who enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months of high school graduation *do not complete* a degree or credential within 6 years.

**50%** of North Carolina employers report *difficulty hiring* qualified staff.

# JLEOC Presentation: Key Takeaways for Legislators

- Educational attainment is the path to the short-term *recovery* and long-term resiliency of NC
- Now is *not the time* to lower investments in education but rather to focus on targeted spending.
- Leverage County Attainment Profiles to encourage cross-sector collaboratives in local communities.
- What's next for myFutureNC.



Pictured: Cape Fear Community College



# QUESTIONS

**Cecilia Holden**

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