



A YEAR IN REVIEW

2019-2020

Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee of the North Carolina General Assembly pursuant to Session Law 2019-55 House Bill 664 Section 1.(c) as provided by G.S. 120-29.5

September 1, 2020

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INTRODUCTION

This section highlights the workforce talent crisis North Carolina is facing and the importance of postsecondary education for the post-COVID-19 recovery of the State's economy. It further highlights the efforts of myFutureNC that led to the State's educational attainment goal for 2 million North Carolinians to hold a high-quality credential or college degree by 2030.

Over the past 30 years, our state has experienced unprecedented surges in skilled service jobs such as finance or healthcare that require a credential or postsecondary degree. This trend is projected to continue, yet North Carolina's talent supply is not keeping pace. To meet projected demands of North Carolina businesses, at least 60% of workers will need a nondegree credential or postsecondary degree by 2030¹; however, fewer than half of North Carolinians have achieved that level of education. In response to the State's workforce requirements and the need for all North Carolinians to earn family-supporting wages, in February 2019 the myFutureNC Commission established a goal to have **2 million North Carolinians between the ages of 25-44 to hold a high-quality credential or postsecondary degree by the year 2030**, representing one of the highest educational attainment targets in the nation.

The most recent pre-COVID-19 estimates available project the state will **fall short by 300,000 individuals** with the skills necessary to meet the workforce demands by the year 2030, and the ongoing coronavirus pandemic only heightens the importance of meeting this goal. The full impacts of COVID-19 will not be understood for some time, and while it is too early to tell the long-term repercussions and outcomes of the pandemic, it has unquestionably had a profound impact on the North Carolina workforce and education systems. Equally, the reckoning of the pandemic has cemented the importance of alleviating challenges on economic mobility for underrepresented groups in our population.

Educational attainment is the key to the short-term recovery and long-term resiliency of North Carolina's economy. It is the **path to upward mobility** for our underserved and underrepresented citizens. Yet, people who have proven to be most vulnerable in this pandemic are those with lower levels of education and low-income populations wherein racial minorities are disproportionately represented.

THE GOAL

Increasing statewide postsecondary educational attainment to 2 million high-quality credentials or degrees by 2030

"Upward mobility does not happen overnight. But a postsecondary degree has the potential for doubling and even tripling one's income in a lifetime. Education is the critical path out of poverty."

Cecilia Holden

President and CEO, myFutureNC

¹ North Carolina's Leaky Educational Pipeline & Pathways to 60% Postsecondary Attainment available [here](#)

North Carolina's Opportunity

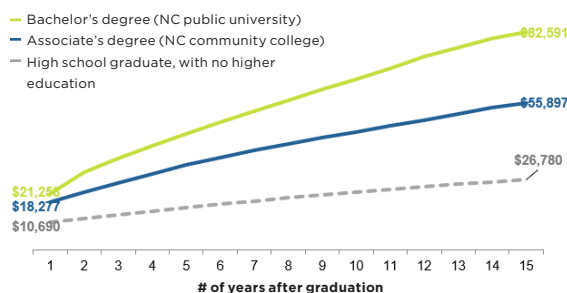
To ensure the State remains economically competitive now and into the future, increasing the levels of education after high school of all individuals, but especially first-generation, low-income, and minority populations, is essential. The rapidly changing demographic makeup of North Carolina will further elevate this need by the year 2030.

In addition to meeting the needs of businesses, the long-term return on the investment for individuals is invaluable. As the first exhibit demonstrates, individuals with a high school degree or less will make on average \$27,000 15 years after high school graduation. However, those with a 2-year degree can double their earnings and those with a 4-year degree can triple their annual income. Higher wages also equate to a higher tax base and money to feed back into our local economies. In addition to higher levels of income, the next exhibit demonstrates that people with a college education are significantly more likely to remain employed during economic crises, benefiting not only the individual but also the government systems which would otherwise support them.

Exhibit 1

Degrees = Dollars: Higher Education is Associated with Higher Earnings

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



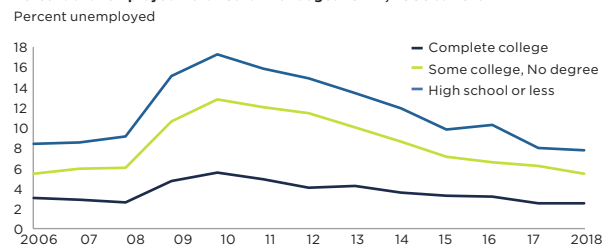
NC Department of Commerce, Labor & Economic Analysis Division (LEAD)

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

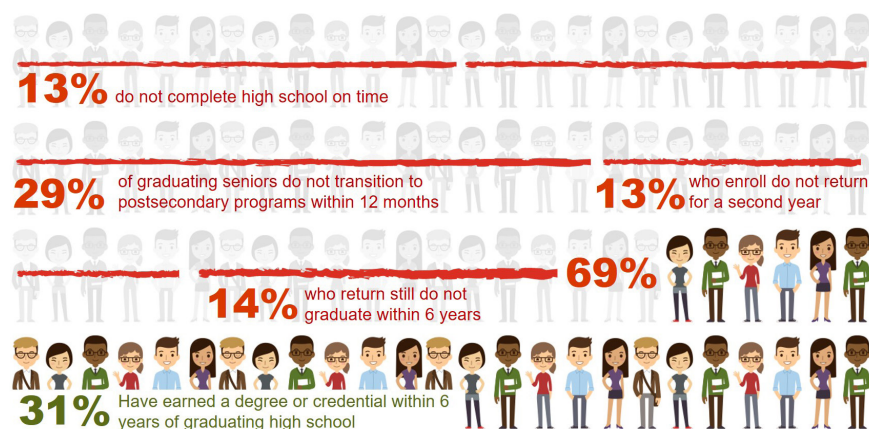


Source: American Community Survey and IPUMS, 2006-19. People with postsecondary certificates but no associate or higher degree are classified as having "some college, no degree" in this figure and source data

In response to the State's workforce needs, on June 26, 2019, with bipartisan support and a signature from the Governor, the North Carolina General Assembly codified the goal into law through [HB664/S.L.2015-55](#). **As part of the statute, legislators also gave a specific directive that myFutureNC is responsible for reporting annually to the General Assembly on the progress of the State reaching the postsecondary attainment goal, and activities of the Commission to further North Carolina towards the goal.**

To understand where to best focus efforts to address the problem areas, myFutureNC commissioned research to identify where students fall out along the education pathway. As a result of this research, the "[Leaky Pipeline Report](#)", which highlights the leaks in the North Carolina education continuum, was published. A more in depth longitudinal analysis, performed by Carolina Demography, found that only 31% of students who begin 9th grade in North Carolina will go on to complete a 2- or 4-year college degree within six years of graduating high school. The resultant leaks are detailed in the exhibit below. Increasing postsecondary attainment is a significant challenge, but to position our State for success, this must be resolved. The full implications of this pandemic on our students and ultimately our workforce will be long-lasting and are yet to be seen but can reasonably be expected to exacerbate North Carolina's already leaky pipeline.

The Leaky education pipeline: Only 31% of 9th grade students will go on to complete a 2- or 4-year college degree within six years of graduating high school



[Education Leaky Pipeline Video \(Link\)](#)

The gap in workforce talent presents a significant opportunity to improve postsecondary readiness, access, and completions in North Carolina. This gap also increases the urgency for the State to drive alignment between our education systems and the needs of our businesses and industries. The General Assembly, executive branch, and local leaders have made significant investments in North Carolina's education infrastructure, one of the most robust in the nation (see Appendix for map of NC's education infrastructure). However, our K-12 schools, community colleges, 4-year colleges and universities, and our workforce boards all operate under separate umbrellas, without a shared vision for attainment. **myFutureNC is the only organization focused across the entire education and workforce continuum** – from preschool through to a credential or postsecondary degree that aligns with workforce needs. Many strategic partner organizations are working to advance the State within specific channels and while they may all be doing good work separately - collectively and through alignment - the outcomes can be so much stronger. myFutureNC's work to advance North Carolina's attainment in postsecondary education through a system-wide approach will be required to build resiliency coming out of the crisis.

In response to the pandemic, myFutureNC and the education and workforce sectors compiled a list of legislative priorities for consideration. Additional details can be found starting on page 17.

Policy Recommendations. There are several ways that legislators can support progress towards postsecondary educational attainment in NC

A Shared Vision for Educational Attainment: myFutureNC champions the connection between postsecondary attainment and broadband by supporting and encouraging efforts to expand access, affordability, and adoption throughout North Carolina.

Postsecondary Readiness, Access, and Completion	Education & Labor Market Alignment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase commitment and support for CCRG - community college/K12 partnership that provides access to high quality competency-based online remedial courses while still in high school • Improve student participation in federal financial aid through shifts in staffing, communications, data, and incentives • Expand capacity of NC Career Coaches and College Advising Corps statewide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define, standardize, and incentivize non-degree NC Workforce Credentials to align with in-demand living wage jobs for providers and students
<p>Interested in learning more about our policy recommendations? Additional detail is available on our website at myfuturenc.org</p>	

HISTORY OF MYFUTURENC

myFutureNC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, working effectively across the business, education, and workforce sectors to support the realization of the ambitious statewide goal of 2 million high-quality credentials or postsecondary degrees to be held by individuals ages 25-44 by 2030. myFutureNC originated as a Commission and was conceived in 2017 when MC Belk Pilon, President and Board Chair of the John M. Belk Endowment, and Margaret Spellings, then-President of the North Carolina University System, realized their common goals around educational access and attainment in North Carolina. Their focus also included increased education for the underserved and underrepresented populations, providing opportunity for upward mobility.

Recognizing the business demands were outpacing the talent supply coming from our education systems and that no one system or organization can tackle this crisis alone, President Spellings and MC Belk Pilon brought together thought leaders from across North Carolina to collaborate and solve challenges around postsecondary education in an unprecedented way. Following years of research and conversation, the [myFutureNC Commission Call to Action](#) outlined a plan to build a stronger, more economically competitive and prosperous North Carolina.

This effort led to the State's 2 million by 2030 goal and in November 2019, the work of the Commission transformed officially into myFutureNC, an IRS approved 501(c)(3) nonprofit now working to move the goal into action.

The myFutureNC Board of Directors is a distinctive cross-sector Board consisting of the heads of all education sectors, including the Presidents of the Community College System, UNC System, and NC Independent Colleges and Universities, and the Chair of the State Board of Education and State Superintendent. The President of the NC Chamber, other business leaders and philanthropists also serve on the Board, as well as a designee from the Governor and North Carolina General Assembly Senate Pro Tempore and Speaker of the House. This uniquely positions myFutureNC as a unified cross-sector collaborative ranging from early childhood to the workforce continuum, to create and implement a "shared vision for attainment" for the State of North Carolina.

Jan 2017

Margaret Spellings and MC Belk Pilon found the myFutureNC commission.

Feb 2019

myFutureNC Commission announces postsecondary attainment goal for North Carolina.

May 2019

myFutureNC receives public charity status as a 501(c)(3) organization.

Jun 2019

With bipartisan support, House Bill 664 signed into law, codifying one of the highest educational attainment targets in the nation.

Aug 2019

myFutureNC holds its first board meeting, bringing together a cross-sector representation of leaders from education, business, government & philanthropy.

Dec 2019

myFutureNC hires its first President & CEO, Cecilia Holden.

Feb 2020

Meeting of over 300 cross-sector stakeholders in Greensboro, NC and launch of the attainment dashboard.

May 2020

A draft Strategic Plan is presented to board of directors centering around five strategic responsibilities for the organization.

Jun 2020

Launch of FAFSA Frenzy NC campaign to increase FAFSA completions by NC High School seniors.

Aug 2020

Rollout of all 100 county attainment profiles, a resource for communities to assess key metrics across the local education continuum.

MEASURING OUR PROGRESS TOWARDS THE GOAL

This section introduces the key performance indicators that will be used over the next 10 years to measure progress against the 2030 goal.

Data Dashboards and Tracking Key Indicators

In service of the 2 million by 2030 goal, myFutureNC has partnered with Carolina Demography to set the baseline for progress. Through the work of the myFutureNC Commission, a series of listening sessions were held with education experts, business leaders, and legislators across the state, and a dynamic, repeatable set of evaluation criteria was developed at the state and county-level. The result is an 18-indicator [State Attainment Dashboard](#) and an accompanying set of [100 County Attainment Profiles](#) with data unique to each county to **empower and support** educational attainment efforts at the local level. Research demonstrates that if improved, these indicators will ultimately lead to increases in postsecondary attainment.

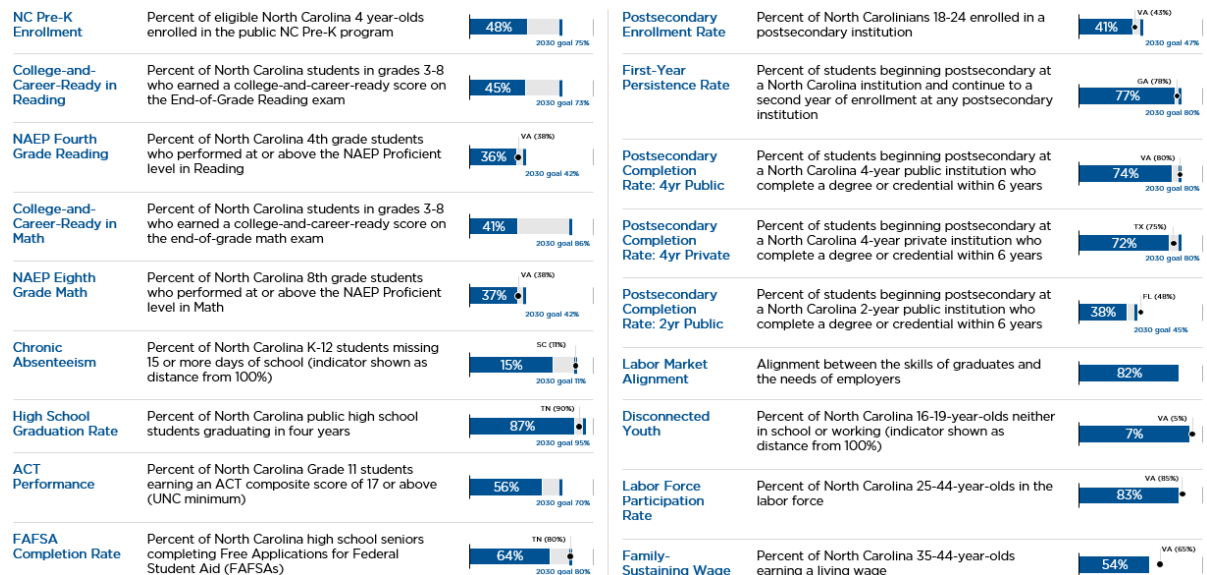
As this is the first year myFutureNC is reporting on these indicators, this report contextualizes them relative to the 2030 individual indicator goals – and highlights the states in the South that are doing exceptionally well that may inspire action in North Carolina. The State Attainment Dashboard is listed below and the detailed descriptions for each indicator can be found [on our website](#). These indicators will help not only shine a light on opportunity for improvement but will also serve as leading indicators of North Carolina's progress towards the goal of 2 million by 2030.

Exhibit 4

The NC State Attainment Dashboard allows us to track progress toward the sub-goals tied to the State's 2 million by 2030 goal

Data can tell us where we are and help us to drive local communities to act.

These indicators represent key transition points along the continuum and are tied to the State's goal of 2 million by 2030. myFutureNC is working to establish 2030 goals for each indicator and uses top performing peer Southern States for comparative purposes where data is available. You can find details about each performance indicator [here](#).



The dashboard helps answer questions such as:

Which areas of the education continuum are working well?
Where do we need to focus the most energy and attention?
How is North Carolina doing compared to other states?

[County profiles](#) will help you understand how your county is performing on key indicators and where there are opportunities to improve attainment.

North Carolina's progress towards the goal

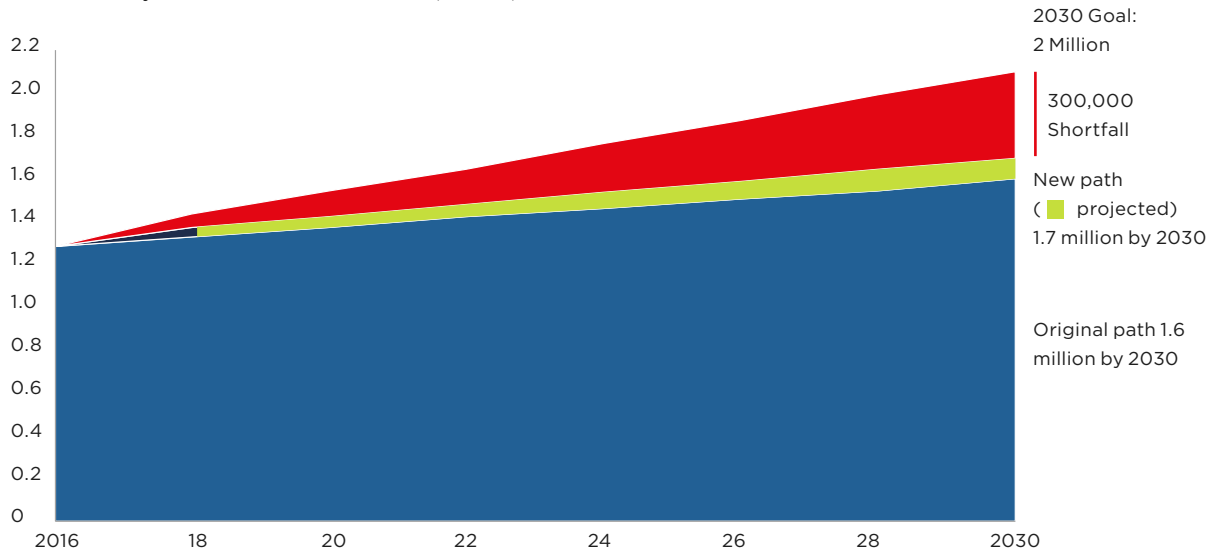
Updated projections using the most recent data (2018) indicate the projected gap has closed by 100,000. This puts North Carolina projections at 1.7 million towards the 2 million goal, or a shortfall of 300,000. This updated trajectory accounts for two factors: projected increases in educational attainment and projected growth in the size of the 25-44 population, both of which help push the state closer to the 2030 goal.

Exhibit 5

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)

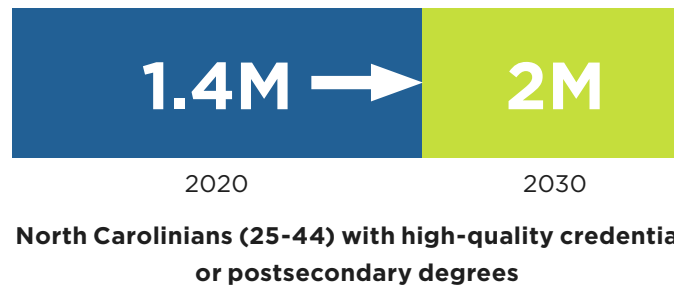


While the progress towards the goal may appear to indicate that North Carolina is well on track to enable tremendous momentum against the 2 million by 2030 goal, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the North Carolina workforce and education systems. Although data is not yet available and the long-term implications of the pandemic are not yet known, significant work remains to be done to build a sustainable future for all North Carolinians. myFutureNC's role as advocate, convener, collaborator, and consensus-builder is even more critical in a post-COVID-19 North Carolina.

SUPPORTING NORTH CAROLINA'S ATTAINMENT GOAL

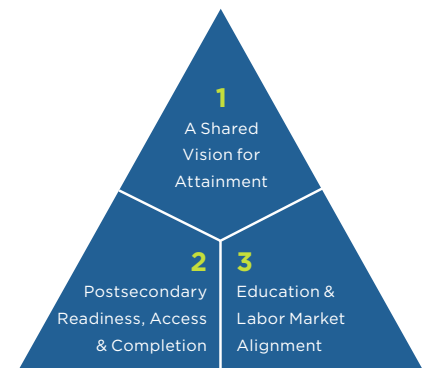
North Carolina will not reach this goal without the help of all critical partners at the state and local levels. The ability to convene and coordinate across multiple partners and stakeholders - including all education and workforce sectors - is crucial to advancing the conversation and enabling progress for North Carolina. myFutureNC is at the center of a **vast network of cross-sector stakeholders**, driving collaboration statewide and serving as a critical impetus in achieving this goal. myFutureNC is uniquely positioned to unite the business community with strategic partners and key stakeholders from the nonprofit and public sectors, through a cohesive approach to address the challenges and make a significant positive impact for North Carolina.

NORTH CAROLINA'S STATE ATTAINMENT GOAL



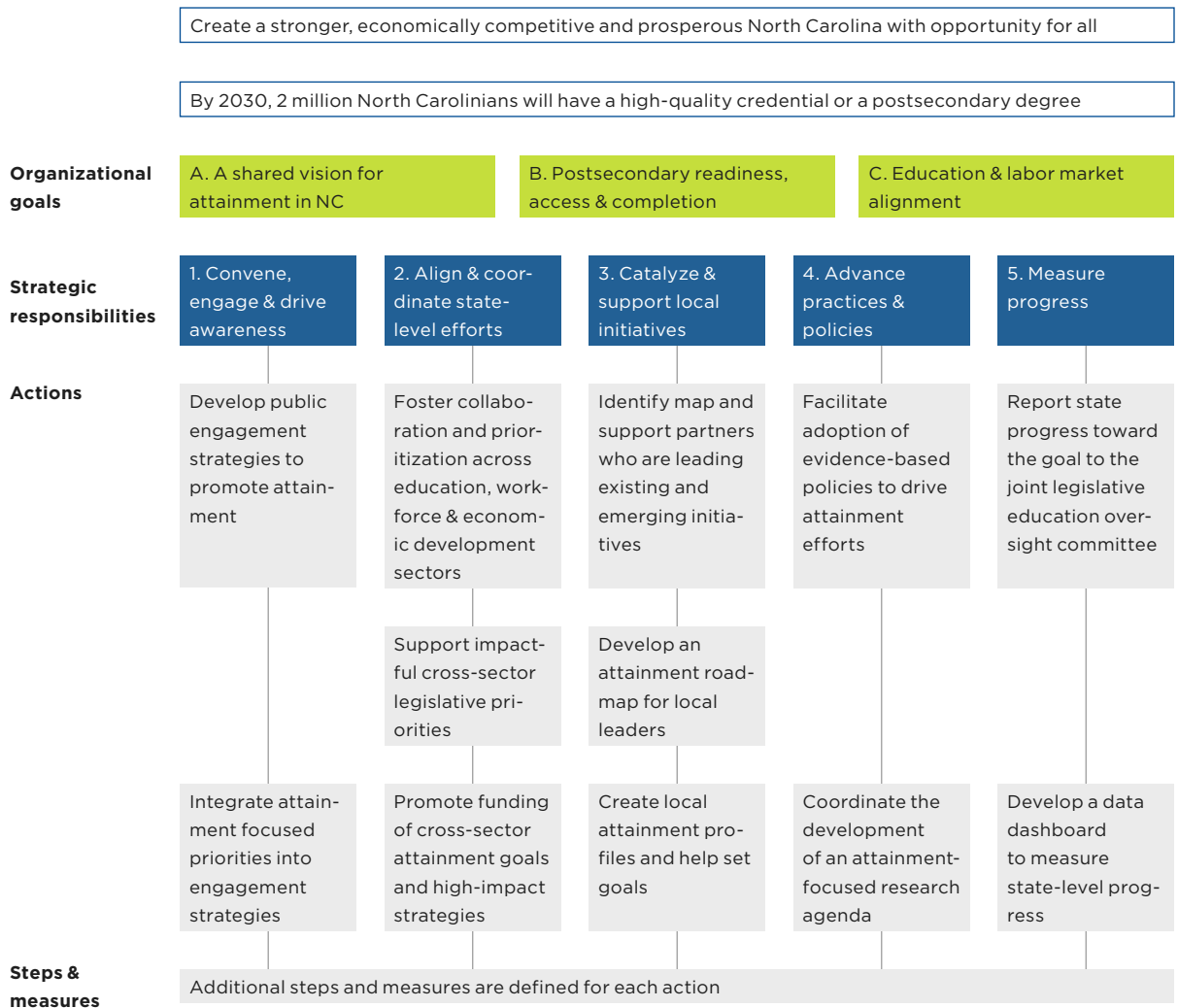
In service of 2 million by 2030, myFutureNC has established three organizational goals in its [Strategic Plan](#) to guide its work and to provide opportunity for economic prosperity for all North Carolinians. All three serve the purpose of advancing North Carolina's progress towards the postsecondary attainment goal.

1. **A Shared Vision for Attainment:** All stakeholders share a vision for collective ownership of, and accountability for, education across North Carolina - from early childhood through adulthood.
2. **Postsecondary Readiness, Access & Completion:** There is alignment across local, regional, and state actions that will dramatically increase attainment of valuable credentials and postsecondary degrees.
3. **Education & Labor Market Alignment:** North Carolina's educational attainment efforts align directly with North Carolina's talent needs and industry trends.



To further support delivery on the state attainment goal and to remain true to the organizational vision and values, myFutureNC's three-year Strategic Plan centers around five strategic responsibilities and provides details on actions, specific steps, measures, and strategic partners.

myFutureNC's work towards the state attainment target is organized around its three Organizational Goals which are supported by five Strategic Responsibilities



EFFORTS TO DATE

This section introduces myFutureNC's 2019-2020 initiatives in support of the 2 million by 2030 goal. It highlights myFutureNC's critical role as convener for the broader North Carolina education continuum and efforts to date such as State and County Attainment profiles, the FAFSA Frenzy Campaign, and NC Workforce Credentials.

Since its inception in 2019, myFutureNC has begun catalyzing positive change in North Carolina's education system, positioning the state to make progress against the 2030 goal. myFutureNC's integral role across sectors and its ability to innovate and mobilize rapidly have elevated the conversation around educational attainment at state and local levels more than ever before. In this first year, myFutureNC has led and partnered around multiple initiatives under the three organizational pillars:

1. A Shared Vision for Attainment
2. Postsecondary Readiness, Access, & Completion
3. Education & Labor Market Alignment

"To achieve this ambitious goal, we must make higher education more affordable and accessible for more North Carolinians, recognizing that there are many paths to success. We cannot succeed unless we extend opportunity to all"

Peter Hans

UNC System president and former president of the North Carolina Community College System



Members of the North Carolina A&T State University drumline assist myFutureNC with a drumbeat for the state's educational attainment goal. On Feb. 10, 2020, hundreds of stakeholders from business, workforce and education convened in Greensboro for an update on the attainment goal and a discussion of how to increase postsecondary attainment at the local level.

A Shared Vision for Attainment

Cross-Sector Engagement

The myFutureNC Inaugural Celebration was held in February 2020, convening more than 800 cross-sector stakeholders in person and virtually. This included representatives from the General Assembly, NC Chamber of Commerce, NC Commerce, NC State Board of Education and Department of Public Instruction, NC community colleges, NC public and private colleges and universities, local school districts and charters, North Carolina business leaders and philanthropists, and national organization leaders focused on postsecondary attainment, among other strategic partners in this work. These cross-sector leaders demonstrated their support for myFutureNC's role as convener, facilitator, and trusted partner, all aligning behind a sense of urgency for a common goal and shared vision for attainment.

State Attainment Dashboard & County Attainment Profiles

As outlined in the Appendix of this report, access to timely high-quality data across the education to workforce continuum is critical. To help local North Carolina communities develop action plans grounded in data across the continuum, myFutureNC also launched the State Attainment Dashboard and County Attainment Profiles in partnership with Carolina Demography. This established an unprecedented level playing field across the state through the provision of relevant and consistent data and performance indicators uniquely developed for each of the 100 counties. Every county in the state will have access to key attainment metrics that clarify paths to success for each local community. These County Attainment Profiles include three "Opportunities for Growth" uniquely identified for each specific county, to highlight where that county can best focus their efforts.

800+

cross-sector stakeholders, including representatives from:

- The General Assembly
- NC Chamber of Commerce
- NC Commerce
- NC State Board of Education and Department of Public Instruction
- NC community colleges
- NC public and private colleges and universities
- Local school districts and charters
- North Carolina businesses and philanthropies
- National organizations focused on postsecondary attainment
- Other strategic partners

Similarly, myFutureNC leveraged these County Attainment profiles and aggregated the data into a single State Attainment Profile which can be seen in the Exhibit below.

North Carolina

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 State Attainment Profile



Local Education Agencies: 231

Updated: Jul 30 2020

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.

STATE OVERVIEW

Overall, 12% of 25-44-year-olds in North Carolina have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 24% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 22% have some college, no degree; 22% have a high school diploma; and 10% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	10,389,148
2030 Population	11,836,070
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,410,673
Charter/Private/Home	347,681
Median Household Income	\$53,922
Child Poverty Rate	20%
Households with Broadband	78%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



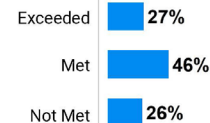
North Carolina has 2,306 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 439 or 19% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in North Carolina traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, North Carolina needs:

- **17,628 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 48%).
- **200,802 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 45%).
- **325,546 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 41%).

Percent of North Carolina 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, North Carolina needs:

- **10,368 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 86%).
- **17,575 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 64%).
- **62,972 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 15%).



73,490 students took at least one AP course (17%).



54,344 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (13%).

Students in North Carolina completed **55,835 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Hospitality & Tourism.

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 North Carolina at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



North Carolina has a student-to-guidance counselor ratio of 356:1.

Among North Carolina high school graduates:

- **61% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months.
- **78% of students** who enroll persist to their second year.
- **54% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years.

In North Carolina, 2018-19:

11,399	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
67,228	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
385,475	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



7.1% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school.

In North Carolina:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **87,155 students per year**. After 5 years, 68% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$43,260.

82% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **5,211,216 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) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

These three areas represent the biggest opportunities for North Carolina to improve future attainment outcomes.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

Increasing the number of 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K is one of the three biggest opportunity areas for 45 counties.



Low-Performing Schools

Decreasing the number of low-performing schools is one of the three biggest opportunity areas for 33 counties.



FAFSA Completion

Increasing the number of high school seniors completing the FAFSA is one of the three biggest opportunity areas for 27 counties.

CAROLINA
DEMOGRAPHY

myFUTURENC
2 million by 2030.

John M Belk
Endowment
FUTURE LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

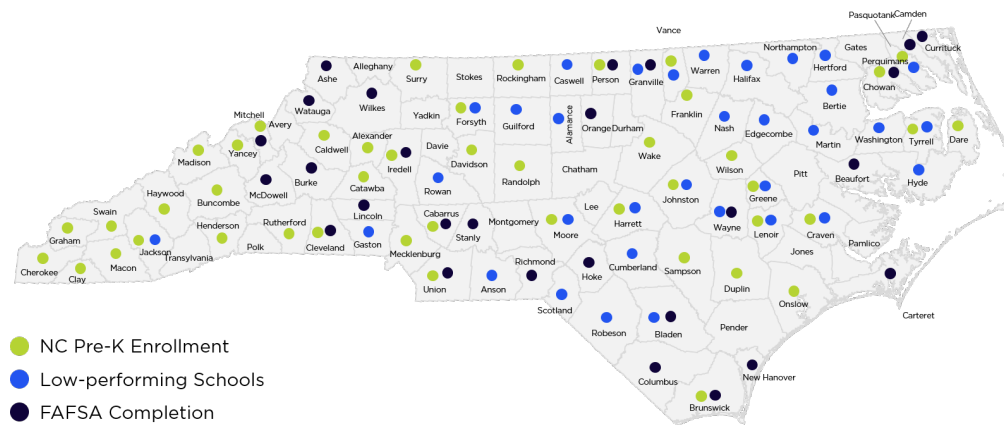
UNC CAROLINA
POPULATION CENTER

Separate from the State Attainment Dashboard on myFutureNC's website, the State Attainment Profile calls out three specific "Opportunities for Growth" where North Carolina and its counties can focus to achieve maximum impact on progress towards increased postsecondary attainment. Based on analysis of data compiled for the 2020 County Attainment Profiles, the areas where the most North Carolina counties have opportunities for improvement include: (1) increasing NC Pre-K enrollment, (2) decreasing the number of low performing schools and (3) increasing FAFSA completion.

The map below color codes which counties across North Carolina also include these in their top 3 "Opportunities for Growth".

Exhibit 7

North Carolina counties where NC Pre-K enrollment, low-performing schools, or FAFSA completion are among the top three "Opportunities for Growth"



Postsecondary Readiness, Access & Completion

FAFSA Campaign

In line with this priority and in response to the pandemic, myFutureNC developed and executed a **FAFSA campaign** to increase the number of completed Free Applications for Federal Student Aid (FAFSAs). With 88% of students who complete a FAFSA attending college, as compared with 49% of those who do not, this is a critical building block for the overall attainment goal. In addition, North Carolina left an estimated \$89M on the table in 2019 in federal Pell grants for students who did not submit a FAFSA.

As a result, myFutureNC, alongside the College Foundation of North Carolina and other critical partners, rapidly mobilized to address the decline when FAFSA completion rates for 2020 had fallen 3% below the 2019 rates, potentially leading to another 3,000 students who wouldn't go to college as a result of disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic. Within two weeks, all education sectors, the business community, and nonprofit organizations aligned efforts for outreach to students and parents to urge completion of the FAFSA. In addition, Governor Roy Cooper signed a proclamation designating June as FAFSA Frenzy month and many legislators supported our efforts through op-eds and advocacy efforts in their home communities. During the month, there were more than 30 media stories that explained the FAFSA and shared the stories of students whose path to higher education was made possible by completing the FAFSA. The FAFSA Frenzy NC website received almost 19,000 unique visits, with nearly 2,500 clicks through to the FAFSA application itself. More than 100 partners tweeted, posted, and shared highlights from the campaign on social media. The efforts resulted in 67 districts and 25 charter schools increasing their FAFSA completion rates between 1-14 percentage points overall.

As a critical convener in the network of education and commerce in North Carolina, myFutureNC, alongside strategic partners, acted, adjusted and aligned efforts to address challenges in the education system. This FAFSA campaign also laid the groundwork for an upcoming campaign in the Fall and advanced the message around the importance of FAFSA completions and the importance of education after high school. These efforts elevated the conversation for students to recognize college as a free or affordable opportunity and ultimately, to take the necessary steps to attain a credential or postsecondary degree.

“Our organizational goals may be state-led, but they must be locally-owned and driven. We will equip local communities by connecting practitioners to state leaders, and by providing the tools necessary for them to set goals and establish a framework for attainment success.”

Dr. Jeni Corn

myFutureNC Director of Strategic Initiatives

Education & Labor Market Alignment

NC Workforce Credentials

NC workforce credentials are high-quality, non-degree credentials recognized by employers that help workers in North Carolina obtain in-demand living wage jobs. In partnership and through facilitation by myFutureNC, North Carolina leaders have participated in a cross-sector initiative to more reliably determine the non-degree credentials that lead to high-growth, high-demand occupations that pay a living wage.

This effort is being led out of the NC Community College System, in partnership with myFutureNC, NC Business Committee for Education, NC Department of Commerce, NC Works Commission, NC Department of Public Instruction, and the local NC Workforce Development Boards, all working to define the list of credentials and to identify work-based learning models to support employer needs and employee development across the state. The partners are working through a research-based process wherein they:

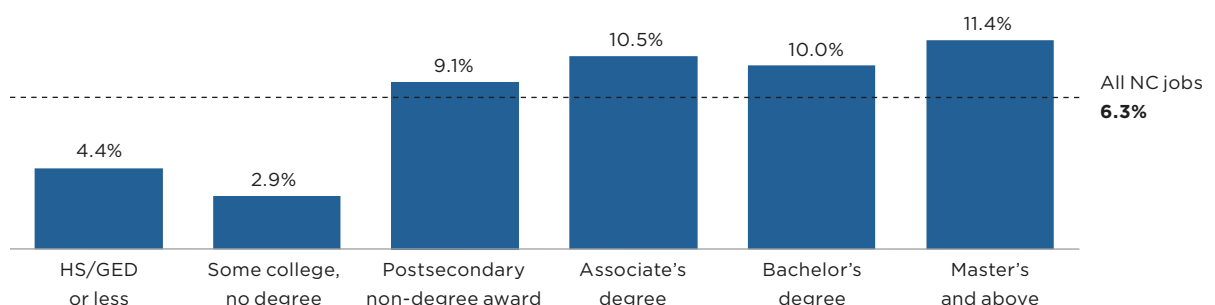
1. Identify high-value non-degree credentials using data.
2. Validate preliminary list of priority non-degree credentials with industry.
3. Incentivize priority non-degree credentials.
4. Report on attainment of priority non-degree credentials.

The report is targeted for presentation to the myFutureNC Board of Directors and/or sector governing bodies in December 2020.

As shown in the chart below, the state is projected to see >9% percent growth in occupations requiring a high-quality non-degree credential by the year 2028.

Exhibit 8

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



Source: NC Department of Commerce, Labor, and Economic Analysis Division, 2020
Minimum education requirement produced by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics

MOVING FORWARD

This section outlines myFutureNC's work priorities for the coming year.

The organization's Strategic Plan builds upon existing efforts to accelerate progress towards the goal of 2 million by 2030. myFutureNC has identified strands of work for the coming year in support of the Plan and ultimately the State's goal, including state and local-level efforts. While this work is state-led, it must be locally driven. To make progress towards the bigger goal, strategic partnerships and local cross-sector collaboratives will be critical to ensuring students are getting to and through college, and into jobs that align with the workforce needs and pay a living wage. myFutureNC and Carolina Demography will continue to collaborate to expand the state-level data dashboard to make it more interactive and to optimize user experience and understanding. Potential updates and iterations include disaggregated state-level data by race/sex and other characteristics; development of value-added data resources, such as trackers and toolkits, for local leaders; introduction of website functions that allow exploration of "High Impact Strategies;" and partnerships with state and local stakeholders to set and monitor local goals.

In addition to elevating existing, and catalyzing new local initiatives, myFutureNC has identified the following 2020-2021 themes of work.

Exhibit 9

2020-2021 Work Themes

Advocacy efforts include communications and outreach in support of myFutureNC's goal of a shared vision for education across North Carolina - from early childhood through adulthood.

- **Public awareness:** Increase communications, outreach, and messaging to expand public awareness of the value of postsecondary degrees and valuable credential pathways; make presentations and seek endorsements from key state-and local-level stakeholders.
- **FAFSA campaigns:** Launch short-and long-term FAFSA campaigns to increase the number of students leveraging federal student assistance.
- **Legislative Engagement:** Formalize myFutureNC legislative policy and investment recommendations.

Strategic Partnerships include efforts to align local, regional and state actions to increase attainment of valuable credential and postsecondary degrees and to ensure that educational attainment efforts align directly with talent needs and industry trends. These efforts support myFutureNC's goals of Postsecondary Readiness, Access & Completion and Educations & Labor Market Alignment.

- **County Attainment Profiles:** Roll out the 100 county attainment profiles and leverage the Board's data working group to map out the next phase of our data strategy.
- **NC Workforce Credentials:** Define and incentivize high-quality, non-degree credentials recognized by employers that help workers in North Carolina obtain in-demand living wage jobs. Identify the list of credentials that will count toward our goal, and work with our education partners to align with these.
- **College and Career Ready Graduates (CCRG):** Partner with K-12 and the community colleges on a college readiness initiative to ensure any needed remediation occurs in high school.



The work centered around the Career and College Ready Graduates (CCRG) program is in support of the requirements outlined in S.L. 2015-241. This legislation mandates remediation for high school students to ensure they are prepared to enter college in credit-bearing courses. Based on criteria established by the Community College System, 18,000 high school seniors have been identified to require remediation in the 2020-2021 school year. myFutureNC has been and will continue partnering with the Community College System and Department of Public Instruction to enable the successful rollout of this work. Continued focus on cross-sector approaches to enhance attainment such as this, will not only drive progress on the leading indicators in the State Attainment Dashboard and County Attainment Profiles but will also directly serve to meet the State's 2 million goal by 2030.

"We have the potential to put people on the ground to build networks, coalitions and partnerships that could reduce income disparities and decrease socio-economic rungs."

Dale Jenkins

CEO, Curi and MFNC Board Chair

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

This section outlines the cross-sector legislative priorities agreed upon by state level education and workforce entities

Annually, each of the education and workforce sectors prepare a separate legislative agenda for the Governor and ultimately the General Assembly. In alignment with myFutureNC's first organizational goal - **a Shared Vision for Attainment** - myFutureNC partnered with all sectors to identify **a list of cross-sector policy recommendations focused around the State's attainment goal**. This list represents the priorities identified and approved by all sectors, separate and apart from each sector's individual priorities. Alongside these efforts, myFutureNC will continue to advocate for legislative and non-legislative policy changes that enable progress towards the goal.

To ensure that amid crisis, students have the information, resources, and opportunities they need to enroll and succeed in college and beyond, recommendations are organized under two of myFutureNC's organizational goals: **Postsecondary Readiness, Access & Completion, and Education & Labor Market Alignment, plus an overarching commitment to broadband access**

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

- Champion connection between attainment and broadband by supporting and encouraging efforts to expand access, affordability, and adoption throughout North Carolina.

"We need to smooth pathways and make them easier to navigate while not compromising content"

NC State Senator Deanna Ballard

22%

of North Carolina households **do not have** broadband internet in the home.

Postsecondary Readiness, Access, and Completion

READINESS: Increased commitment to [Career & College Ready Graduates \(S.L. 2015-241\)](#)

- **CCRG Remediation Resources:** Provide necessary supports for staff, professional development, and an annual subscription for the online course platform that allows for student access to remedial math and English/ Language Arts courses.

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

- **NC Community College Career Coaches:** Expand access for students to NC Career Coaches, community college employees who are embedded in high schools. Career coaches assist high school students with determining career goals and identifying community college programs that align with those goals.
- **College Advising Corps:** Increase current capacity in existing counties and expand to remaining 17 counties, to focus on college enrollment among low-income, first-generation college, and underrepresented high school students by offering guidance on college admission, financial aid/FAFSA, and enrollment.
- **NCSEAA/CFNC staffing funding model:** Ensure adequate staffing capacity for a focus on FAFSA completions.
- **FAFSA communication campaign and tracking tool:** Support awareness campaign, including virtual advising and nudging; and, a tracking tool for real time data on FAFSA submissions, completions, and verifications.
- **FAFSA Incentives:** Provide incentives for schools/ districts to increase FAFSA participation rates.

COMPLETION: Reform Public Need-Based Financial Aid Programs

- **Public Student Aid Programs:** Simplify public student aid programs to incentivize student progress and completion, guided by the [UNC-NCCCS task force report](#) and national models.
- **Part-Way Home Student Aid:** Target student aid for “some college, no degree” adult students with eligibility available to North Carolina’s two and four-year public and private, non-profit sectors’ state financial aid

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 credential or degree within 6 years

programs.

- **College Advisors:** Increase training and capacity of college success coaches and advisors to encourage student retention and on-time graduation.
- **COVID-19 Student Supports:** Identify and support students impacted by COVID-19 who have withdrawn or at risk for withdrawing from school. Prioritize recruitment and retention efforts to help them complete a credential or degree through targeted financial aid and advising.

Education and Labor Market Alignment

1. **ALIGNMENT:** Define, standardize, and incentivize non-degree NC Workforce Credentials to align with in-demand living wage jobs
 - **Workforce Training and Pathways:** Provide resources to providers to support short-term training programs and pathways (e.g., develop new courses, update/modernize existing courses, support instructors, purchase equipment, reserve space) to address identified gaps.
 - **Enrollment and Completion Incentives:** Incentivize enrollment and completion of programs and high-value pathways through student supports (e.g., financial aid, exam fees, advising) and other education-related costs.

50%

of North Carolina employers report
difficulty hiring qualified staff

The educational community in North Carolina is making great strides towards the 2030 goal and transforming North Carolina into a leader in the nation around postsecondary attainment. Even in the most challenging times, there are **reasons for hope**. The extra work underway and the many lessons being learned during the pandemic can also serve as an inspiration that **the post-COVID school experience for our students can be made better** as a result. Recognizing significant work remains to be done, myFutureNC will continue to support North Carolina's progress towards 2 million high-quality credentials or postsecondary degrees by 2030, thereby positioning our State with a foundation for **a sustainable future for all North Carolinians**.

APPENDIX

ACCESS TO TIMELY HIGH-QUALITY DATA IS ESSENTIAL

The Importance of Data Towards the Goal

Quality data generally lags in being released; it can be released a year or more after the reference period, coming off as “out of date” for state and local stakeholders. The lack of up-to-date data can make it difficult to make up-to-date predictions and to identify where the biggest opportunities are to drive action across the state. For example, in partnership with Carolina Demography, they highlighted the multiple “leaks” in the pipeline to education, underscoring the importance of a comprehensive plan that works at multiple points of intervention. Similarly, they also found that some of the regions of the state with the best overall outcomes also showed the largest racial inequalities in these outcomes, suggesting opportunities for improvement that would not otherwise be visible.

Additionally, lack of consistency in data availability year-to-year – including differences in data collected and measured across sectors – can result to additional challenges. The use of longitudinal data, such as the NC Department of Public Instruction data when matched with the National Student Clearinghouse, mitigates some of these challenges.

North Carolina's Attainment Goal - Original Calculation

In addition to the leading indicators from the Dashboard, myFutureNC will continue to report on progress against the 2 million goal itself. For the benefit of this initial annual report, the formula and original calculations are being provided.

By 2030, the State's jobs are expected to require 67% of individuals between the ages of 25-44 to hold a high-quality credential or college degree by 2030¹. When applied to the estimated population of that age by 2030, this resulted in the goal of 2 Million. If North Carolina residents between the ages of 25-44 attain a degree from an out-of-state university and move back to North Carolina, they will be captured in the data set.

Original projections used 2016 U.S. Census Bureau data and showed 1.6 million individuals with college degrees, including high-quality degrees. This left an estimated 400,000 shortfall of individuals still needing credentials or degrees by 2030. Updated projections now estimate a shortfall of 300,000 individuals.

¹ The Lumina Foundation

Impacts of COVID-19

On April 30, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education (USED) published a four-factor state coronavirus burden index. North Carolina was placed in the highest impact quintile based on the assessed factors: percentage of population without broadband access (13.2%), percentage of students living in poverty (18.6%), state percent share of confirmed COVID-19 cases per capita (0.65%), and percent of students in rural school districts (35.34%). Although broadband access, poverty, and rurality are slower to change statistics, COVID-19 cases per capita change daily. The NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) publishes daily data, and as of August 5, the state has reported few positive trends in the fight against COVID-19. NC reported the number of lab-confirmed cases 129,288. More than 2,050 North Carolinians have died. In August 2020, the UN Secretary-General warned that the world is facing a “generational catastrophe” because of school closures amid the coronavirus pandemic.

While the progress towards the goal may appear to indicate that North Carolina is well on track to enable tremendous momentum against the 2 million by 2030 goal, there is still 75% of the 400,000 person gap left to achieve, and the COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the North Carolina workforce and education systems. Equally, the reckoning of the pandemic has cemented the importance of alleviating challenges on economic mobility for underrepresented groups in our population.

It is too early to tell the long-term repercussions and outcomes of the pandemic. While the next update from the Census will include 2019 data to be released later this fall, it will not reflect the impacts of COVID-19. Nonetheless, recessions may increase the number of individuals going back to school, as occurred during the Great Recession.

The full implications of this pandemic on our students and ultimately our workforce will be long-lasting and are yet to be seen but can reasonably be expected to exacerbate North Carolina’s already leaky pipeline. Maintaining a laser focus and further reinforcing efforts towards the goal is more important now than ever. myFutureNC’s work to advance North Carolina’s attainment in postsecondary education through a system-wide approach will be required to build resiliency coming out of the crisis.

MYFUTURENC PUBLIC ENDORSEMENTS

Additional information on all endorsers can be found by clicking on the relevant logo on the myFutureNC website [here](#).

Local Community Colleges



Local K-12 School Districts



Local and Regional



UNC System



Local Workforce Development Boards



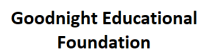
NCICU



Partners



Philanthropies

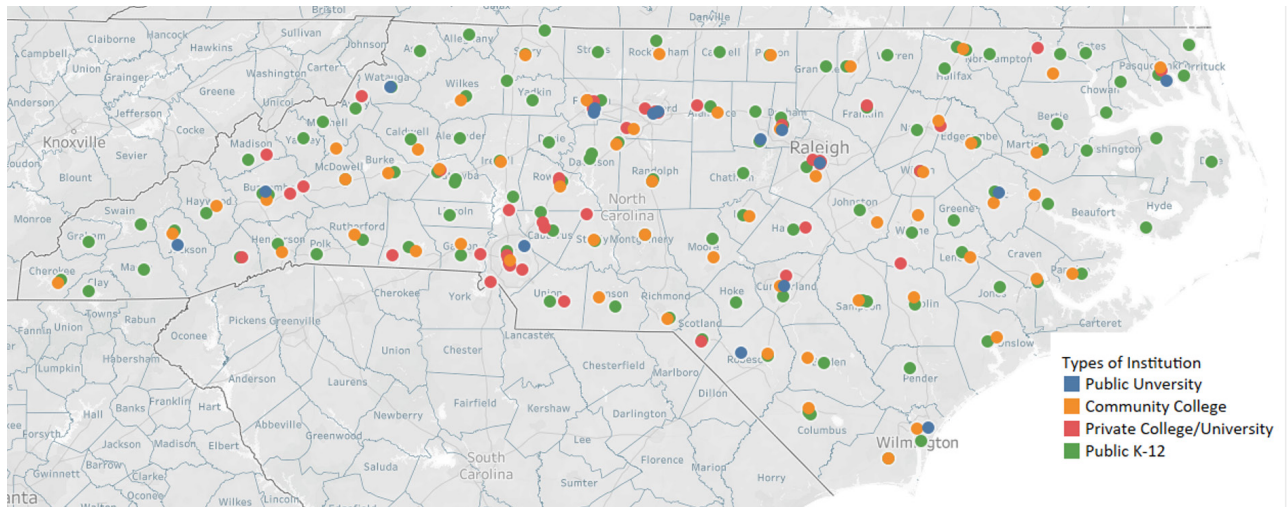


State level



MAP OF NC'S EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE

The following map outlines the locations of various types of education institutions within North Carolina, with a focus on postsecondary institutions like public universities, community colleges, and private colleges and universities.



STATE & COUNTY ATTAINMENT PROFILES

The following pages contain the 2020 State Attainment Profile and all 100 North Carolina County Attainment Profiles. You can also find the profiles on our website or by clicking [here](#).

North Carolina

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 State Attainment Profile



Local Education Agencies: 231

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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.

STATE OVERVIEW

Overall, 12% of 25-44-year-olds in North Carolina have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 24% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 22% have some college, no degree; 22% have a high school diploma; and 10% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	10,389,148
2030 Population	11,836,070
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,410,673
Charter/Private/Home	347,681
Median Household Income	\$53,922
Child Poverty Rate	20%
Households with Broadband	78%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



North Carolina has 2,306 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 439 or 19% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in North Carolina traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, North Carolina needs:

- **17,628 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 48%).
- **200,802 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 45%).
- **325,546 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 41%).

Percent of North Carolina schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	27%
Met	46%
Not Met	26%

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, North Carolina needs:

- **10,368 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 86%).
- **17,575 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 64%).
- **62,972 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 15%).

Students in North Carolina completed **55,835 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Hospitality & Tourism.



73,490 students took at least one AP course (17%).



54,344 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (13%).

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 North Carolina at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.

Among North Carolina high school graduates:

- **61% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months.
- **78% of students** who enroll persist to their second year.
- **54% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years.

In North Carolina, 2018-19:

11,399	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
67,228	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
385,475	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

In North Carolina:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **87,155 students per year**. After 5 years, 68% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$43,260.

82% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **5,211,216 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) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

These three areas represent the biggest opportunities for North Carolina to improve future attainment outcomes.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

Increasing the number of 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K is one of the three biggest opportunity areas for 45 counties.



Low-Performing Schools

Decreasing the number of low-performing schools is one of the three biggest opportunity areas for 33 counties.



FAFSA Completion

Increasing the number of high school seniors completing the FAFSA is one of the three biggest opportunity areas for 27 counties.

Largest postsecondary institutions North Carolina

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	613,711	66%
Central Piedmont Community College	29,552	47%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	27,078	85%
East Carolina University	25,427	90%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Fayetteville Technical Community College	18,684	43%
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	18,374	83%
Appalachian State University	18,135	91%
University of North Carolina Wilmington	16,604	93%
Guilford Technical Community College	14,735	57%
Cape Fear Community College	12,293	62%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

WE NEED TO CLOSE THE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT GAP IN NORTH CAROLINA.

That starts with an ambitious goal: ensuring that by 2030, 2 million North Carolinians ages 25-44 have a high-quality postsecondary degree or credential.

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/

ABOUT CAROLINA DEMOGRAPHY

Located within the Carolina Population Center at UNC-Chapel Hill, we use data and other available research to help you put a face or a story on the population-level changes facing your community. Our analysts provide a full array of demographic data and research services to inform decision making, evaluation, and policy across North Carolina, where we serve organizations and people in all 100 counties.

 ncdemography.org

 demography@unc.edu

 [@ncdemography](https://twitter.com/ncdemography)

ABOUT MYFUTURENC

MyFutureNC is a statewide nonprofit organization focused on educational attainment and is the result of cross-sector collaboration between North Carolina leaders in education, business, and government. Our mission is to prepare North Carolina for the future by empowering individuals, strengthening communities, and ensuring our economic viability in a global economy.

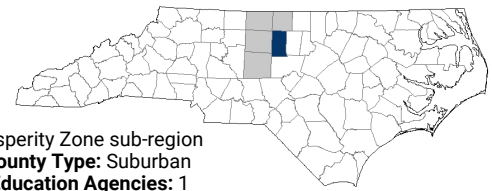
 myfuturenc.org

 facebook.com/myfuturenc

 [@myFutureNC](https://twitter.com/myFutureNC)

Alamance County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Alamance County is in the **Greensboro** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 7% of 25-44-year-olds in Alamance County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 18% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 23% have a high school diploma; and 15% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	166,638
2030 Population	192,656
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	22,579
Charter/Private/Home	5,708
Median Household Income	\$50,480
Child Poverty Rate	20%
Households with Broadband	76%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Alamance County has 34 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 13 or 38% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Alamance County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Alamance County needs:

- **361 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 42%).
- **3,807 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 37%).
- **5,523 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 34%).

Percent of Alamance County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	17%
Met	57%
Not Met	26%

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, Alamance County needs:

- **229 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 83%).
- **367 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 55%).
- **2,072 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 20%).



1,162 students took at least one AP course (17%) versus 17% of peer counties.



868 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (13%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Alamance County completed **1,043 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Architecture and Construction.

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 Alamance County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Alamance County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 426:1.

Among Alamance County high school graduates:

- **57% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **74% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **53% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

739	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
6,843	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
34,670	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **8,688 students per year**. After 5 years, 71% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$41,392.

84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); **Health Science** (above bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **469,667 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) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Alamance County to improve future attainment outcomes.



Low-Performing Schools

38% of Alamance County schools are low-performing, above the suburban county average of 17%.



Reading Performance

37% of Alamance County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the suburban county average of 46%.



Math Performance

34% of Alamance County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the suburban county average of 42%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	70,185	72%
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	18,374	83%
Guilford Technical Community College	14,735	57%
North Carolina A & T State University	11,370	79%
Elon University	6,187	98%
Alamance Community College	5,651	53%
High Point University	4,631	95%
Randolph Community College	3,475	55%
Rockingham Community College	2,379	57%
Guilford College	1,824	83%
Greensboro College	1,018	89%
Bennett College	541	93%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Alamance Career Accelerator

This apprenticeship program allows students to earn money on the job while also taking college classes at Alamance Community College at no cost. The program is available to eligible juniors and seniors in high school and focuses on several technical industry sectors with an emphasis on advanced manufacturing.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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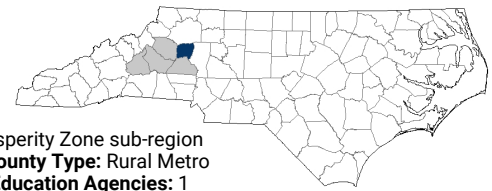
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Alexander County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Alexander County is in the **Hickory** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Alexander County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 9% have a bachelor's degree; 13% have an associate degree; 19% have some college, no degree; 40% have a high school diploma; and 15% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	38,303
2030 Population	41,021
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	4,746
Charter/Private/Home	927
Median Household Income	\$49,138
Child Poverty Rate	20%
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.



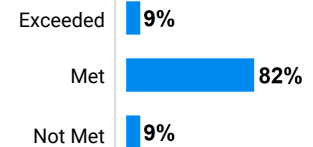
Alexander County has 11 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Alexander County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Alexander County needs:

- **47 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 45%).
- **562 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 48%).
- **901 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 46%).

Percent of Alexander 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, Alexander County needs:

- **43 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 83%).
- **78 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 55%).
- **Alexander County has met the goal for students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 10%).



157 students took at least one AP course (11%) versus 10% of peer counties.



287 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (21%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Alexander County completed **260 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; and Health Science.

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 Alexander County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Alexander County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 297:1.

Among Alexander County high school graduates:

- **60% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **81% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **54% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

300	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,422	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
22,503	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



10.6% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **2,073 students per year**. After 5 years, 82% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$33,373.

64% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); **Health Science** (above and below bachelor's); and **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's).

There are **188,511 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers**; 3) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

45% of Alexander County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



High School Graduation

83% of Alexander County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural metro county average of 86%.



Disconnected Youth

11% of Alexander County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural metro county average of 9%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	16,315	52%
Catawba Valley Community College	6,125	62%
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute	4,636	53%
Western Piedmont Community College	2,306	36%
Lenoir-Rhyne University	1,830	70%
McDowell Technical Community College	1,418	44%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Alexander Furniture Academy

The Alexander County Furniture Academy is an industry driven training program designed by local furniture manufacturers and Catawba Valley Community College to prepare students for the skilled positions that are in high demand by some of the largest employers in our area.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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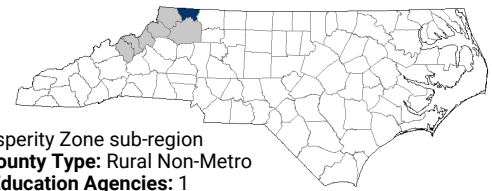
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Alleghany County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Alleghany County is in the **Boone-Wilkesboro** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 3% of 25-44-year-olds in Alleghany County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 9% have a bachelor's degree; 7% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 29% have a high school diploma; and 28% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	11,422
2030 Population	11,948
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,332
Charter/Private/Home	139
Median Household Income	\$39,735
Child Poverty Rate	30%
Households with Broadband	71%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Alleghany County has 4 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Alleghany County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Alleghany County needs:

- **Alleghany County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 81%).
- **190 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 42%).
- **255 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 45%).

Percent of Alleghany County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	50%
Met	50%
Not Met	0%

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, Alleghany County needs:

- **7 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 89%).
- **26 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 57%).
- **61 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).



0 students took at least one AP course (0%) versus 9% of peer counties.



108 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (26%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Alleghany County completed **159 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; and Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics.

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 Alleghany County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Alleghany County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 333:1.

Among Alleghany County high school graduates:

- **54% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **76% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **51% 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:

12 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

1,740 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

8,809 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



12.7% 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 **5,225 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$41,744.

72% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **84,705 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



AP Participation

0% of Alleghany County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural non-metro county average of 9%.



Disconnected Youth

13% of Alleghany County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural non-metro county average of 9%.



Transition to Postsecondary

54% of Alleghany County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 57%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	24,025	81%
Appalachian State University	18,135	91%
Wilkes Community College	3,416	54%
Mayland Community College	1,455	55%
Lees-McRae College	1,019	66%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: WCC Tuition Free Guarantee MOU

The WCC Tuition-Free Guarantee initiative is an innovative program developed through a unique partnership between Wilkes Community College, Alleghany County Schools and the Alleghany County Educational Foundation. The purpose of this program is to guarantee all students in Alleghany County Schools have access to an Associate Degree from Wilkes Community College tuition-free.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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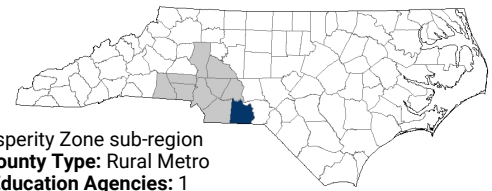
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Anson County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Anson County is in the **Charlotte** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 1% of 25-44-year-olds in Anson County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 8% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 36% have a high school diploma; and 17% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	25,288
2030 Population	25,288
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	3,148
Charter/Private/Home	296
Median Household Income	\$38,023
Child Poverty Rate	31%
Households with Broadband	69%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



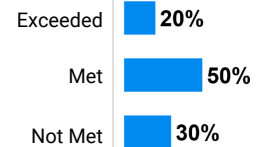
Anson County has 9 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 4 or 44% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Anson County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Anson County needs:

- **Anson County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 103%).
- **562 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 34%).
- **859 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 26%).

Percent of Anson 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, Anson County needs:

- **32 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 83%).
- **73 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 45%).
- **553 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 28%).

Students in Anson County completed **185 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Information Technology; and Health Science.



1 students took at least one AP course (0%) versus 10% of peer counties.



355 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (37%) versus 18% of peer counties.

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 Anson County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Anson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 350:1.

Among Anson County high school graduates:

- **43% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **70% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **46% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

3,322	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,019	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



4.9% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **12,162 students per year**. After 5 years, 74% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$43,374.

79% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Information Technology** (bachelor's).

There are **1,361,336 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 2) **General and Operations Managers**; 3) **Registered Nurses**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

44% of Anson County schools are low-performing, above the rural metro county average of 16%.



Transition to Postsecondary

43% of Anson County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural metro county average of 57%.



Chronic Absenteeism

28% of Anson County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural metro county average of 16%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	107,538	64%
Central Piedmont Community College	29,552	47%
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	27,078	85%
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College	7,939	28%
Gaston College	7,333	69%
Mitchell Community College	4,188	55%
South Piedmont Community College	3,935	54%
Cleveland Community College	3,883	55%
Stanly Community College	3,837	61%
Wingate University	2,729	93%
Gardner-Webb University	2,454	71%
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte	2,080	79%
Queens University of Charlotte	2,010	91%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: SPCC Anson Advantage

South Piedmont Community College offers a number of courses for individuals that are seeking to complete their career in less than a year. Schedules are flexible, which include weekend and evening classes. Classes range from 4 weeks to 12 months.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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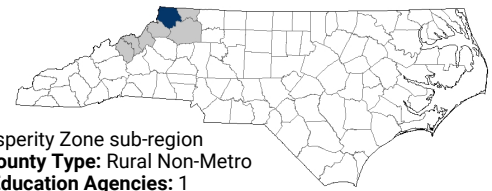
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Ashe County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Ashe County is in the **Boone-Wilkesboro** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC. Overall, 6% of 25-44-year-olds in Ashe County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 14% have a bachelor's degree; 14% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 27% have a high school diploma; and 13% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	27,606
2030 Population	30,906
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	2,946
Charter/Private/Home	617
Median Household Income	\$41,864
Child Poverty Rate	26%
Households with Broadband	69%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



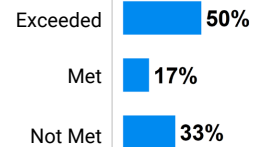
Ashe County has 6 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Ashe County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Ashe County needs:

- **Ashe County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 99%).
- **244 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 56%).
- **474 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 53%).

Percent of Ashe 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, Ashe County needs:

- **22 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 86%).
- **51 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 56%).
- **Ashe County has met the goal for students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 10%).



109 students took at least one AP course (12%) versus 9% of peer counties.



237 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (26%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Ashe County completed **126 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics.

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 Ashe County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.

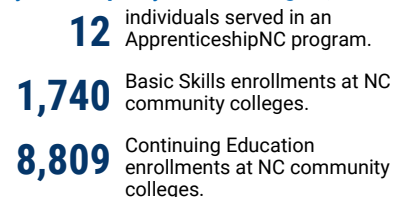


Ashe County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 327:1.

Among Ashe County high school graduates:

- **67% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **76% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **61% 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.



5.3% 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 **5,225 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$41,744.

72% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **84,705 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Adult Learners

26% of Ashe County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural non-metro county average of 25%.



FAFSA Completion

56% of Ashe County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the state average of 64%.



AP Participation

12% of Ashe County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the state average of 17%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	24,025	81%
Appalachian State University	18,135	91%
Wilkes Community College	3,416	54%
Mayland Community College	1,455	55%
Lees-McRae College	1,019	66%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Early Childhood and Education Program

Our Early Childhood and Education Program improves quality or maintains high quality child care in our county through teacher education. We provide onsite technical assistance, peer mentors, group and onsite training to child care facilities to increase or maintain their star ratings.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:


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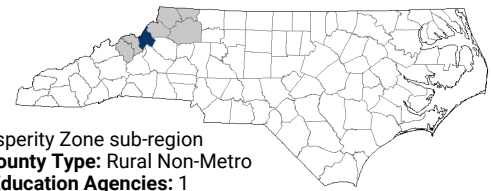
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Avery County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Avery County is in the **Boone-Wilkesboro** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Avery County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 10% have a bachelor's degree; 9% have an associate degree; 32% have some college, no degree; 29% have a high school diploma; and 16% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	18,057
2030 Population	18,031
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,910
Charter/Private/Home	527
Median Household Income	\$41,701
Child Poverty Rate	25%
Households with Broadband	67%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



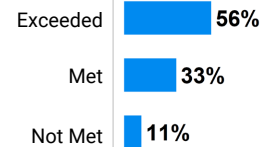
Avery County has 9 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 11% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Avery County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Avery County needs:

- **Avery County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 163%).
- **195 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 51%).
- **333 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 49%).

Percent of Avery 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, Avery County needs:

- **9 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 90%).
- **17 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 67%).
- **136 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 18%).



77 students took at least one AP course (14%) versus 9% of peer counties.



164 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (29%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Avery County completed **85 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Manufacturing; Health Science; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

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 Avery County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.

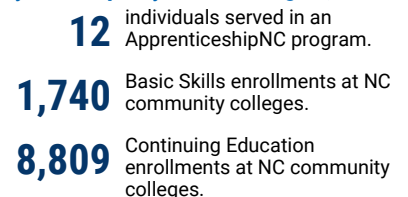


Avery County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 273:1.

Among Avery County high school graduates:

- **54% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **75% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **60% 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.



1.1% 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 **5,225 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$41,744.

72% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **84,705 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Adult Learners

32% of Avery County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural non-metro county average of 25%.



Transition to Postsecondary

54% of Avery County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 57%.



Chronic Absenteeism

18% of Avery County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural non-metro county average of 17%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	24,025	81%
Appalachian State University	18,135	91%
Wilkes Community College	3,416	54%
Mayland Community College	1,455	55%
Lees-McRae College	1,019	66%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Avery Learning Center

The Avery Learning Center offers a variety of classes including pre-college programs, ESL, personal enrichment courses, short term certifications, and some curriculum classes. These courses help individuals train for a new career, enhance current job skills, or develop a hobby.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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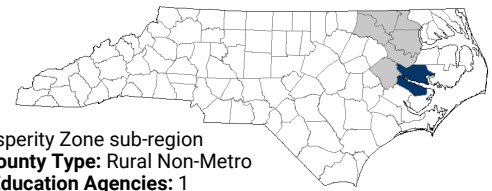
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Beaufort County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Beaufort County is in the **Greenville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC. Overall, 7% of 25-44-year-olds in Beaufort County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 11% have a bachelor's degree; 15% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 12% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	47,475
2030 Population	47,575
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	6,370
Charter/Private/Home	1,447
Median Household Income	\$46,411
Child Poverty Rate	27%
Households with Broadband	65%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



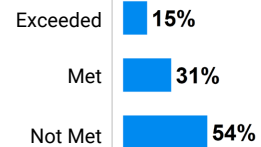
Beaufort County has 12 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Beaufort County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Beaufort County needs:

- **38 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 62%).
- **990 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 40%).
- **1,425 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 38%).

Percent of Beaufort 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, Beaufort County needs:

- **69 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 83%).
- **180 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 40%).
- **438 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 18%).



153 students took at least one AP course (8%) versus 9% of peer counties.



434 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (22%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Beaufort County completed **266 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Architecture and Construction.

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 Beaufort County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Beaufort County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 375:1.

Among Beaufort County high school graduates:

- **54% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **75% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **44% 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:

347 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

2,779 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

19,098 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



4.5% 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 **8,237 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$47,838.

84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources** (bachelor's) and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (bachelor's).

There are **154,964 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



FAFSA Completion

40% of Beaufort County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural non-metro county average of 55%.



Postsecondary Completion

44% of Beaufort 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%.



Transition to Postsecondary

54% of Beaufort County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 57%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,903	70%
East Carolina University	25,427	90%
Pitt Community College	12,206	65%
Beaufort County Community College	1,994	41%
Halifax Community College	1,626	38%
Chowan University	1,582	81%
Roanoke-Chowan Community College	1,067	52%
Martin Community College	1,001	55%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Beaufort builds skilled boatbuilders workforce

Beaufort Co. Schools and Beaufort Co. Community College offer boatbuilding courses to supply the county's 9 boatbuilders with a skilled workforce.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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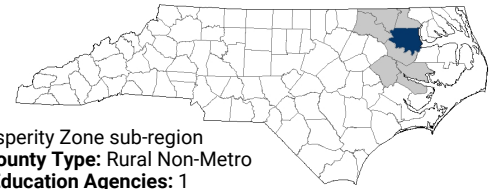
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Bertie County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Bertie County is in the **Greenville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC. Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Bertie County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 9% have a bachelor's degree; 7% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 35% have a high school diploma; and 18% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	19,709
2030 Population	19,601
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	2,078
Charter/Private/Home	590
Median Household Income	\$35,433
Child Poverty Rate	32%
Households with Broadband	56%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Bertie County has 7 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 3 or 43% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Bertie County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Bertie County needs:

- **Bertie County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 93%).
- **395 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 33%).
- **603 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 24%).

Percent of Bertie County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	43%
Met	29%
Not Met	29%

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, Bertie County needs:

- **34 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 78%).
- **39 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 56%).
- **166 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).

Students in Bertie County completed **90 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Information Technology; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications.



0 students took at least one AP course (0%) versus 9% of peer counties.



187 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (28%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Bertie County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Bertie County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 346:1.

Among Bertie County high school graduates:

- **53% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **74% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **40% 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:

347	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
2,779	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
19,098	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



6.2% 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 **8,237 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$47,838.

84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources** (bachelor's) and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (bachelor's).

There are **154,964 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

43% of Bertie County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Math Performance

24% of Bertie County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.



AP Participation

0% of Bertie County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural non-metro county average of 9%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,903	70%
East Carolina University	25,427	90%
Pitt Community College	12,206	65%
Beaufort County Community College	1,994	41%
Halifax Community College	1,626	38%
Chowan University	1,582	81%
Roanoke-Chowan Community College	1,067	52%
Martin Community College	1,001	55%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Bertie THRIVES: Teachers Raising Instructional Voice and Excellence

Bertie County Schools is one of the four LEAs in the state to receive grant funding to transform North Carolina's teacher compensation models and to develop advanced teaching roles. Partners include RTI International, Elizabeth City State University, Hope Street Group, Best NC, and the National Center for Teacher Residencies.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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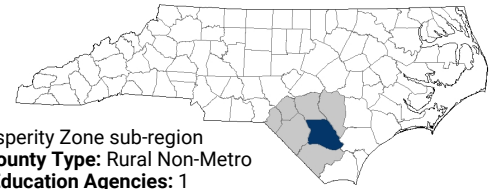
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Bladen County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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.

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Bladen County has 13 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 6 or 46% were classified as low performing in 2019.

COUNTY OVERVIEW

Bladen County is in the **Fayetteville-Lumberton** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 3% of 25-44-year-olds in Bladen County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 12% have a bachelor's degree; 12% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 33% have a high school diploma; and 17% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	34,566
2030 Population	33,912
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	4,120
Charter/Private/Home	1,132
Median Household Income	\$36,976
Child Poverty Rate	44%
Households with Broadband	65%

How students in Bladen County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Bladen County needs:

- **Bladen County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 88%).
- **751 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 34%).
- **1,171 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 25%).

Percent of Bladen County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	0%
Met	69%
Not Met	31%

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, Bladen County needs:

- **13 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 92%).
- **108 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 47%).
- **202 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).

Students in Bladen County completed **422 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Manufacturing.



48 students took at least one AP course (4%) versus 9% of peer counties.



345 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (25%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Bladen County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.

Among Bladen County high school graduates:

- **51% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **69% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **41% 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:

1,621	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
6,792	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
32,293	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **5,110 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$36,969.

75% 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); **Information Technology** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **258,519 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) **Business Operations Specialists, All Other**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

46% of Bladen County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Math Performance

25% of Bladen County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.



FAFSA Completion

47% of Bladen County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural non-metro county average of 55%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,488	56%
Fayetteville Technical Community College	18,684	43%
Fayetteville State University	6,522	77%
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	6,252	79%
Robeson Community College	2,631	60%
Methodist University	2,149	83%
Sampson Community College	2,049	27%
Southeastern Community College	1,887	54%
Bladen Community College	1,643	51%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Fayetteville	1,504	43%
St. Andrews University	756	68%
Carolina College of Biblical Studies	257	10%
Grace College of Divinity	154	21%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Bladen Community College-University of Mount Olive Transfer Partnership

Bladen Community College and the University of Mount Olive partner to enhance and expand options for community college students. BCC students who have earned an associate of applied science degree can transfer seamlessly into an array of programs at UMO. BCC students become eligible to apply for all state and federal financial aid.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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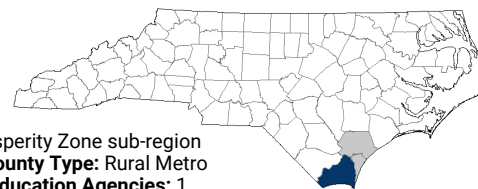
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Brunswick County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Rural Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Brunswick County is in the **Wilmington** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 6% of 25-44-year-olds in Brunswick County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 16% have a bachelor's degree; 14% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 25% have a high school diploma; and 13% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	137,103
2030 Population	179,854
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	12,383
Charter/Private/Home	3,500
Median Household Income	\$60,163
Child Poverty Rate	20%
Households with Broadband	81%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Brunswick County has 18 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 2 or 11% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Brunswick County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Brunswick County needs:

- **247 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 38%).
- **1,857 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 41%).
- **2,760 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 39%).

Percent of Brunswick County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	33%
Met	44%
Not Met	22%

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, Brunswick County needs:

- **115 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 85%).
- **256 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 51%).
- **931 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 18%).

Students in Brunswick County completed **508 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; and Health Science.



291 students took at least one AP course (7%) versus 10% of peer counties.



504 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (13%) versus 18% of peer counties.

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 Brunswick County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Brunswick County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 399:1.

Among Brunswick County high school graduates:

- **53% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **71% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **47% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

254	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,943	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,610	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



6.2% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **6,301 students per year**. After 5 years, 66% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$40,372.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Finance** (bachelor's); **Health Science** (above bachelor's); and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **207,875 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

38% of Brunswick County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



CCP Enrollment

13% of Brunswick County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the rural metro county average of 18%.



FAFSA Completion

51% of Brunswick County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural metro county average of 54%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	35,429	69%
University of North Carolina Wilmington	16,604	93%
Cape Fear Community College	12,293	62%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Wilmington	4,672	35%
Brunswick Community College	1,860	57%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Pathways to Purpose

Brunswick Community College and the Cape Fear Workforce Development Board were recently awarded a \$400,000 grant to build a talent pipeline into the area's construction industry. The initiative, Pathways to Purpose, will support innovative recruitment, accelerated construction training, credential attainment and soft skills instruction.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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Buncombe County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Suburban
Local Education Agencies: 2

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Buncombe County is in the **Asheville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 13% of 25-44-year-olds in Buncombe County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 28% have a bachelor's degree; 9% have an associate degree; 21% have some college, no degree; 20% have a high school diploma; and 9% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	261,065
2030 Population	296,961
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	27,741
Charter/Private/Home	10,541
Median Household Income	\$53,960
Child Poverty Rate	17%
Households with Broadband	81%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Buncombe County has 50 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 4 or 8% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Buncombe County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Buncombe County needs:

- **473 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 35%).
- **3,154 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 48%).
- **5,356 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 44%).

Percent of Buncombe County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	20%
Met	55%
Not Met	25%

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, Buncombe County needs:

- **181 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 87%).
- **454 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 57%).
- **767 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 14%).



1,635 students took at least one AP course (19%) versus 17% of peer counties.



1,838 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (21%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Buncombe County completed **1,280 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Architecture and Construction.

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 Buncombe County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Buncombe County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 292:1.

Among Buncombe County high school graduates:

- **58% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **79% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **58% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

553 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

3,207 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

22,514 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



6.9% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **2,836 students per year**. After 5 years, 69% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$33,116.

71% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **255,306 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 suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Buncombe County to improve future attainment outcomes.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

35% of Buncombe County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 44%.



Transition to Postsecondary

58% of Buncombe County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the suburban county average of 62%.



High School Graduation

87% of Buncombe County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the suburban county average of 88%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	23,862	65%
Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College	10,492	53%
University of North Carolina at Asheville	4,366	89%
Blue Ridge Community College	2,812	48%
Isothermal Community College	2,662	58%
Mars Hill University	1,343	82%
Montreat College	845	71%
Brevard College	698	87%
Warren Wilson College	644	84%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Community Schools

Working with Asheville City Schools, Buncombe County Schools and a network of more than 50 local service providers, United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County is organizing resources that will support the health, education and financial stability of the whole family and neighboring community. By using our local middle schools as a district-wide hub for services, we can find new ways to address the needs of the community.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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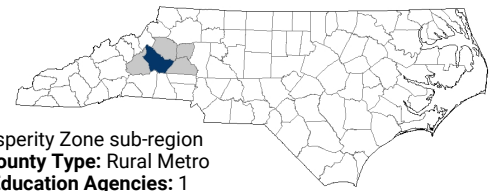
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Burke County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Burke County is in the **Hickory** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Burke 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; 31% have a high school diploma; and 18% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	91,402
2030 Population	95,263
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	11,820
Charter/Private/Home	2,074
Median Household Income	\$44,946
Child Poverty Rate	21%
Households with Broadband	68%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



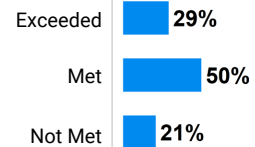
Burke County has 23 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 4% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Burke County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Burke County needs:

- **46 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 67%).
- **1,522 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 46%).
- **2,456 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 42%).

Percent of Burke 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, Burke County needs:

- **54 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 90%).
- **261 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 49%).
- **Burke County has met the goal for students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 11%).



547 students took at least one AP course (15%) versus 10% of peer counties.



521 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (14%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Burke County completed **375 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Hospitality & Tourism.

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 Burke County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Burke County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 358:1.

Among Burke County high school graduates:

- **53% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **73% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **54% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

300	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,422	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
22,503	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



14.7% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **2,073 students per year**. After 5 years, 82% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$33,373.

64% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); **Health Science** (above and below bachelor's); and **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's).

There are **188,511 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers**; 3) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Disconnected Youth

15% of Burke County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural metro county average of 9%.



FAFSA Completion

49% of Burke County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



CCP Enrollment

14% of Burke County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the rural metro county average of 18%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	16,315	52%
Catawba Valley Community College	6,125	62%
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute	4,636	53%
Western Piedmont Community College	2,306	36%
Lenoir-Rhyne University	1,830	70%
McDowell Technical Community College	1,418	44%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Work in Burke

Work in Burke educates students and their parents about the job opportunities available in Burke County and the training required to pursue a career in those fields.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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Cabarrus County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Cabarrus County is in the **Charlotte** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 11% of 25-44-year-olds in Cabarrus County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 25% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 20% have a high school diploma; and 8% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	209,150
2030 Population	259,075
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	37,190
Charter/Private/Home	8,185
Median Household Income	\$69,297
Child Poverty Rate	13%
Households with Broadband	88%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



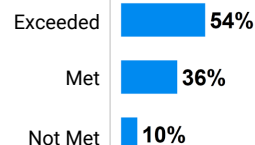
Cabarrus County has 42 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 6 or 15% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Cabarrus County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Cabarrus County needs:

- **317 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 42%).
- **4,183 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 50%).
- **7,000 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 47%).

Percent of Cabarrus 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, Cabarrus County needs:

- **208 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%).
- **689 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 54%).
- **498 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%).



1,835 students took at least one AP course (16%) versus 17% of peer counties.



1,309 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (11%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Cabarrus County completed **1,798 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Hospitality & Tourism.

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 Cabarrus County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Cabarrus County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 403:1.

Among Cabarrus County high school graduates:

- **64% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **79% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **54% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

3,322 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

12,019 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

64,398 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



6.2% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **12,162 students per year**. After 5 years, 74% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$43,374.

79% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Information Technology** (bachelor's).

There are **1,361,336 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 2) **General and Operations Managers**; 3) **Registered Nurses**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Cabarrus County to improve future attainment outcomes.



School Counselors

Cabarrus County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 404:1, above the suburban county average of 363:1.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

42% of Cabarrus County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 44%.



FAFSA Completion

54% of Cabarrus County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the suburban county average of 56%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	107,538	64%
Central Piedmont Community College	29,552	47%
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	27,078	85%
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College	7,939	28%
Gaston College	7,333	69%
Mitchell Community College	4,188	55%
South Piedmont Community College	3,935	54%
Cleveland Community College	3,883	55%
Stanly Community College	3,837	61%
Wingate University	2,729	93%
Gardner-Webb University	2,454	71%
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte	2,080	79%
Queens University of Charlotte	2,010	91%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Go Bold

GO BOLD! Bold Women in Bold Careers exists to encourage women in Cabarrus County to learn about challenging and rewarding career opportunities that they may not have considered. Local employers have job openings and are looking for diversity in their workplace. They want to hire talented women in full-time roles, offering good wages and benefit packages with potential for advancement.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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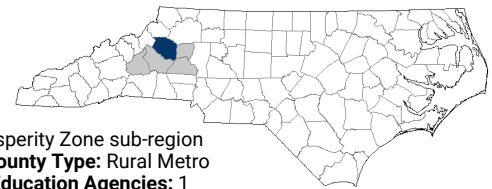
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Caldwell County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Caldwell County is in the **Hickory** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Caldwell County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 12% have a bachelor's degree; 12% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 17% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	83,291
2030 Population	87,711
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	11,236
Charter/Private/Home	1,386
Median Household Income	\$43,328
Child Poverty Rate	22%
Households with Broadband	75%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



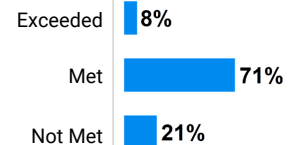
Caldwell County has 23 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 4% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Caldwell County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Caldwell County needs:

- **134 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 46%).
- **1,424 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 46%).
- **2,645 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 35%).

Percent of Caldwell 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, Caldwell County needs:

- **69 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%).
- **118 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 65%).
- **659 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 17%).



223 students took at least one AP course (6%) versus 10% of peer counties.



1,084 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (30%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Caldwell County completed **471 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Architecture and Construction.

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 Caldwell County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Caldwell County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 312:1.

Among Caldwell County high school graduates:

- **57% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **70% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **49% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

300	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,422	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
22,503	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



12% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **2,073 students per year**. After 5 years, 82% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$33,373.

64% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); **Health Science** (above and below bachelor's); and **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's).

There are **188,511 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers**; 3) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

46% of Caldwell County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



AP Participation

6% of Caldwell County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural metro county average of 10%.



First-Year Persistence

70% of Caldwell County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural metro county average of 73%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	16,315	52%
Catawba Valley Community College	6,125	62%
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute	4,636	53%
Western Piedmont Community College	2,306	36%
Lenoir-Rhyne University	1,830	70%
McDowell Technical Community College	1,418	44%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Caldwell is Hiring

Caldwell is Hiring offers an opportunity for those seeking employment to meet directly with companies that have immediate or soon-to-fill job openings.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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Camden County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Camden County is in the **Elizabeth City** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Camden County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 14% have a bachelor's degree; 22% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 25% have a high school diploma; and 10% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	10,490
2030 Population	11,266
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,854
Charter/Private/Home	180
Median Household Income	\$65,955
Child Poverty Rate	10%
Households with Broadband	84%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Camden County has 5 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Camden County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Camden County needs:

- **Camden County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 187%).
- **103 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 61%).
- **339 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 47%).

Percent of Camden County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	0%
Met	80%
Not Met	20%

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, Camden County needs:

- **6 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 91%).
- **36 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 53%).
- **20 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%).



38 students took at least one AP course (6%) versus 10% of peer counties.



194 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (32%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Camden County completed **76 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics.

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 Camden County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Camden County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 464:1.

Among Camden County high school graduates:

- **73% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **84% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **58% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

8 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



3.9% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **580 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,932.

60% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **67,624 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **General and Operations Managers**; 2) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**; 3) **Accountants and Auditors**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



School Counselors

Camden County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 464:1, above the rural metro county average of 378:1.



AP Participation

6% of Camden County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural metro county average of 10%.



FAFSA Completion

53% of Camden County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural metro county average of 54%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	5,015	63%
College of the Albemarle	3,263	57%
Elizabeth City State University	1,538	74%
Mid-Atlantic Christian University	214	35%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Albemarle Alliance for Children and Families

Albemarle Alliance for Children and Families supports programs and services designed to enhance the quality of early care and education, to assist parents in finding and selecting quality programs for their children, to provide strength based programs to support families parenting young children and children with special needs, and to support teen parents and teen pregnancy prevention.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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Carteret 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 2020

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

Carteret County is in the **Jacksonville-New Bern** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 9% of 25-44-year-olds in Carteret County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 20% have a bachelor's degree; 13% have an associate degree; 29% have some college, no degree; 20% have a high school diploma; and 9% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	70,696
2030 Population	76,536
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	7,986
Charter/Private/Home	1,938
Median Household Income	\$55,052
Child Poverty Rate	16%
Households with Broadband	82%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Carteret County has 17 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Carteret County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Carteret County needs:

- **Carteret County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 83%).
- **555 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 58%).
- **1,296 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 52%).

Percent of Carteret County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	53%
Met	35%
Not Met	12%

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, Carteret County needs:

- **78 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 84%).
- **156 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 52%).
- **302 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 15%).



237 students took at least one AP course (10%) versus 9% of peer counties.



504 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (21%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Carteret County completed **365 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics.

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 Carteret County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Carteret County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 275:1.

Among Carteret County high school graduates:

- **67% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **82% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **51% 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:

143	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
2,183	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,913	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



12.4% 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 **2,013 students per year**. After 5 years, 60% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,995.

56% 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); **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); and **Education & Training** (bachelor's).

There are **143,212 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) **Business Operations Specialists, All Other**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Adult Learners

29% of Carteret County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural non-metro county average of 25%.



Disconnected Youth

12% of Carteret County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural non-metro county average of 9%.



FAFSA Completion

52% of Carteret County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural non-metro county average of 55%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	14,670	63%
Coastal Carolina Community College	6,255	73%
Craven Community College	4,599	63%
Carteret Community College	2,077	63%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Jacksonville	1,046	32%
Pamlico Community College	693	52%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: NC Martec

NC Martec prepares students for employment in the manufacture and service of boats. Students learn the basics of boat design and how to design various components and/or complete boats or yachts.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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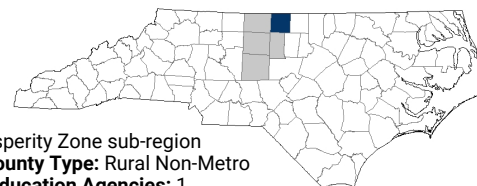
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Caswell County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Caswell County is in the **Greensboro** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC. Overall, 3% of 25-44-year-olds in Caswell County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 12% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 27% have some college, no degree; 34% have a high school diploma; and 14% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	23,679
2030 Population	23,665
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	2,425
Charter/Private/Home	462
Median Household Income	\$45,517
Child Poverty Rate	28%
Households with Broadband	63%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



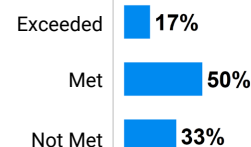
Caswell County has 6 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 2 or 33% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Caswell County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Caswell County needs:

- **20 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 60%).
- **439 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 35%).
- **692 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 26%).

Percent of Caswell 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, Caswell County needs:

- **37 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 79%).
- **49 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 53%).
- **281 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 22%).

Students in Caswell County completed **163 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Manufacturing; and Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics.



74 students took at least one AP course (10%) versus 9% of peer counties.



109 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (15%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Caswell County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Caswell County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 303:1.

Among Caswell County high school graduates:

- **59% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **70% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **43% 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:

739	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
6,843	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
34,670	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.1% 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 **8,688 students per year**. After 5 years, 71% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$41,392.

84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); **Health Science** (above bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **469,667 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) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

33% of Caswell County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Math Performance

26% of Caswell County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.



CCP Enrollment

15% of Caswell County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the rural non-metro county average of 22%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	70,185	72%
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	18,374	83%
Guilford Technical Community College	14,735	57%
North Carolina A & T State University	11,370	79%
Elon University	6,187	98%
Alamance Community College	5,651	53%
High Point University	4,631	95%
Randolph Community College	3,475	55%
Rockingham Community College	2,379	57%
Guilford College	1,824	83%
Greensboro College	1,018	89%
Bennett College	541	93%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Gunn Memorial Public Library

The library was expanded and renovated with a \$995,000 zero-interest loan facilitated by Piedmont Electric which funded through the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant program at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The library contributes to economic development in the county by helping job applicants build resumes and growing a competitive workforce. The expansion also allows for increased educational opportunities, providing STEM labs, tutoring and after school activities.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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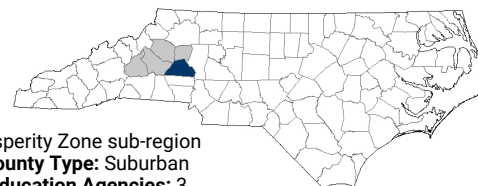
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Catawba County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Catawba County is in the **Hickory** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 7% of 25-44-year-olds in Catawba County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 17% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 11% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	158,483
2030 Population	170,616
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	22,705
Charter/Private/Home	3,867
Median Household Income	\$53,738
Child Poverty Rate	20%
Households with Broadband	79%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Catawba County has 41 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 2% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Catawba County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Catawba County needs:

- **305 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 42%).
- **2,903 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 46%).
- **4,686 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 42%).

Percent of Catawba County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	29%
Met	49%
Not Met	22%

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, Catawba County needs:

- **109 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 89%).
- **372 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 57%).
- **849 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 15%).

Students in Catawba County completed **800 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Hospitality & Tourism.



1,019 students took at least one AP course (15%) versus 17% of peer counties.



1,144 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (16%) versus 12% of peer counties.

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 Catawba County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Catawba County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 355:1.

Among Catawba County high school graduates:

- **63% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **82% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **57% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

300	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,422	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
22,503	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



5.7% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **2,073 students per year**. After 5 years, 82% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$33,373.

64% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); **Health Science** (above and below bachelor's); and **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's).

There are **188,511 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers**; 3) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Catawba County to improve future attainment outcomes.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

42% of Catawba County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 44%.



AP Participation

15% of Catawba County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the suburban county average of 17%.



Chronic Absenteeism

15% of Catawba County students are chronically absent from school, above the suburban county average of 14%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	16,315	52%
Catawba Valley Community College	6,125	62%
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute	4,636	53%
Western Piedmont Community College	2,306	36%
Lenoir-Rhyne University	1,830	70%
McDowell Technical Community College	1,418	44%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: K-64

K-64 is a systemic approach to shaping future careers and meeting workforce demands by connecting students and employers throughout the educational curriculum. K-64 increases student and employer engagement in educational programs proven to prepare a qualified workforce by: collaborating with employers to align courses of study with workforce needs; connecting students to real-world careers and related curriculum choices from early on; and empowering adults to enhance employability in a dynamic work environment.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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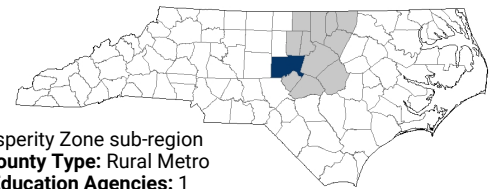
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Chatham County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Chatham County is in the **Raleigh-Durham** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 17% of 25-44-year-olds in Chatham County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 22% have a bachelor's degree; 9% have an associate degree; 17% have some college, no degree; 19% have a high school diploma; and 16% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	74,264
2030 Population	94,920
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	8,809
Charter/Private/Home	2,496
Median Household Income	\$73,703
Child Poverty Rate	14%
Households with Broadband	77%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



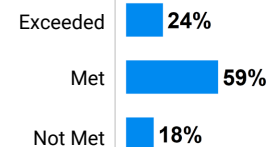
Chatham County has 17 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 6% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Chatham County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Chatham County needs:

- **Chatham County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 114%).
- **1,022 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 49%).
- **1,728 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 45%).

Percent of Chatham 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, Chatham County needs:

- **46 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%).
- **63 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 69%).
- **Chatham County has met the goal for students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 9%).



486 students took at least one AP course (18%) versus 10% of peer counties.



637 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (24%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Chatham County completed **346 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Architecture and Construction.

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 Chatham County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Chatham County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 400:1.

Among Chatham County high school graduates:

- **67% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **81% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **57% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

2,661	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,867	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



11% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **22,190 students per year**. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$52,133.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Marketing** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **1,166,888 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) **Software Developers, Applications**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Disconnected Youth

11% of Chatham County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural metro county average of 9%.



School Counselors

Chatham County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 400:1, above the rural metro county average of 378:1.



Math Performance

45% of Chatham County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the state goal of 86%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	139,487	73%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Durham Technical Community College	8,049	58%
Duke University	7,504	95%
North Carolina Central University	7,165	80%
Strayer University-North Carolina	6,998	53%
Central Carolina Community College	6,811	58%
Johnston Community College	5,343	55%
Campbell University	5,183	89%
Vance-Granville Community College	4,014	60%
Meredith College	1,900	92%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Chatham County Promise

All eligible Chatham County residents who graduate from a public high school, private school, or homeschool for the years 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 will be guaranteed up to two years of FREE in-state tuition and required fees at Central Carolina Community College.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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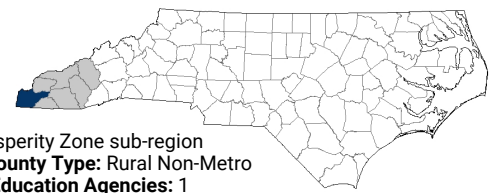
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Cherokee County

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 2020

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

Cherokee County is in the **Waynesville-Franklin** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 9% of 25-44-year-olds in Cherokee County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 13% have a bachelor's degree; 17% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 33% have a high school diploma; and 5% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	29,275
2030 Population	32,681
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	3,113
Charter/Private/Home	737
Median Household Income	\$41,262
Child Poverty Rate	28%
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.



Cherokee County has 12 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Cherokee County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Cherokee County needs:

- **29 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 53%).
- **358 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 49%).
- **652 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 42%).

Percent of Cherokee County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	23%
Met	54%
Not Met	23%

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, Cherokee County needs:

- **8 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 93%).
- **64 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 55%).
- **236 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 18%).

Students in Cherokee County completed **174 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Hospitality & Tourism.



33 students took at least one AP course (3%) versus 9% of peer counties.



368 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (35%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Cherokee County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Cherokee County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 208:1.

Among Cherokee County high school graduates:

- **63% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **79% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **50% 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:

18	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,489	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
10,302	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



9.4% 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 **3,691 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$39,941.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Health Science** (above bachelor's).

There are **81,375 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

53% of Cherokee County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



AP Participation

3% of Cherokee County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural non-metro county average of 9%.



Chronic Absenteeism

18% of Cherokee County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural non-metro county average of 17%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	17,345	74%
Western Carolina University	10,449	88%
Southwestern Community College	3,262	62%
Haywood Community College	2,223	56%
Tri-County Community College	1,411	56%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Tri-County Early College

Tri-County Early College focuses on Project-Based Learning, STEM-focused learning activities, competency-based assessment, experiential hands-on activities, college courses, 21st Century skills, Tony Wagner's Survival Skills, and college visitation experiences. Students are required to take responsibility for their own learning and must complete a Service Learning component comprised of 100 hours of volunteer work by the time they graduate from high school.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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Chowan 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 2020

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

Chowan County is in the **Elizabeth City** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Chowan County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 13% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 19% have some college, no degree; 38% have a high school diploma; and 15% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	14,173
2030 Population	13,592
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,935
Charter/Private/Home	173
Median Household Income	\$42,618
Child Poverty Rate	30%
Households with Broadband	67%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Chowan County has 3 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Chowan County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Chowan County needs:

- **7 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 69%).
- **307 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 40%).
- **419 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 41%).

Percent of Chowan County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	33%
Met	67%
Not Met	0%

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, Chowan County needs:

- **5 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 92%).
- **28 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 59%).
- **57 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 14%).



38 students took at least one AP course (7%) versus 9% of peer counties.



77 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (14%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Chowan County completed **134 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; and Health Science.

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 Chowan County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Chowan County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 387:1.

Among Chowan County high school graduates:

- **52% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **71% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **51% 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:

8 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



6.5% 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 **580 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,932.

60% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **67,624 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **General and Operations Managers**; 2) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**; 3) **Accountants and Auditors**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



CCP Enrollment

14% of Chowan County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the rural non-metro county average of 22%.



Transition to Postsecondary

52% of Chowan County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 57%.



School Counselors

Chowan County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 387:1, above the rural non-metro county average of 338:1.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	5,015	63%
College of the Albemarle	3,263	57%
Elizabeth City State University	1,538	74%
Mid-Atlantic Christian University	214	35%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Chowan Sea Grant

Support from North Carolina Sea Grant will provide field equipment and instrumentation for biological researchers, allowing their teams to conduct research useful for resource management activities. Students will be involved in the project through class activities, work-study, and capstone research projects that assume responsibility for a portion of the overall study.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

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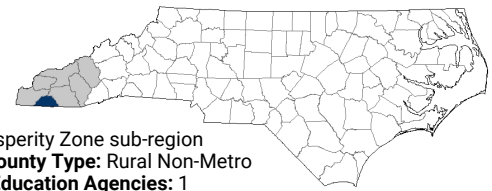
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Clay County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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.

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Clay County has 3 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

COUNTY OVERVIEW

Clay County is in the **Waynesville-Franklin** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Clay County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 17% have a bachelor's degree; 12% have an associate degree; 27% have some college, no degree; 31% have a high school diploma; and 9% have less than a high school diploma.

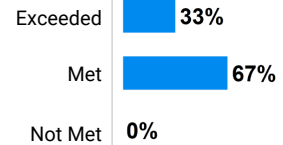
2018 Population	11,658
2030 Population	13,770
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,274
Charter/Private/Home	196
Median Household Income	\$42,878
Child Poverty Rate	24%
Households with Broadband	76%

How students in Clay County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Clay County needs:

- **14 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 52%).
- **205 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 40%).
- **277 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 41%).

Percent of Clay 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, Clay County needs:

- **1 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 94%).
- **15 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 61%).
- **41 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 14%).



4 students took at least one AP course (1%) versus 9% of peer counties.



59 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (16%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Clay County completed **90 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Hospitality & Tourism; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Health Science.

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 Clay County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Clay County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 1,274:1.

Among Clay County high school graduates:

- **59% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **79% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **49% 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:

18	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,489	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
10,302	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.1% 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 **3,691 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$39,941.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Health Science** (above bachelor's).

There are **81,375 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



School Counselors

Clay County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 1274:1, above the rural non-metro county average of 338:1.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

52% of Clay County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



AP Participation

1% of Clay County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural non-metro county average of 9%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	17,345	74%
Western Carolina University	10,449	88%
Southwestern Community College	3,262	62%
Haywood Community College	2,223	56%
Tri-County Community College	1,411	56%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Council for Collaborative Impact (CCI)

The Hinton Rural Life Center's Council for Collaborative Impact (CCI), a group formed to focus on seven areas that, if improved, could change the lives of county residents. Their work is concentrated on children's issues, economic development, education, housing, substance abuse, technology, and transportation. The council supports initiatives addressing these focus areas and uses community assets to their advantage.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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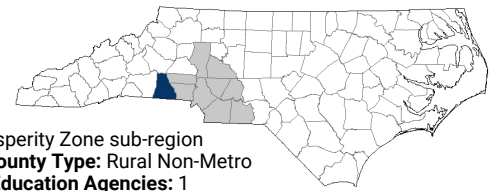
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Cleveland County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Cleveland County is in the **Charlotte** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 8% of 25-44-year-olds in Cleveland County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 12% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 15% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	99,140
2030 Population	102,157
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	14,216
Charter/Private/Home	2,563
Median Household Income	\$42,728
Child Poverty Rate	28%
Households with Broadband	63%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Cleveland County has 27 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 2 or 7% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Cleveland County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Cleveland County needs:

- **118 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 59%).
- **1,905 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 45%).
- **2,625 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 48%).

Percent of Cleveland County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	25%
Met	50%
Not Met	25%

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, Cleveland County needs:

- **92 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%).
- **321 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 48%).
- **751 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).

Students in Cleveland County completed **848 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Manufacturing.



705 students took at least one AP course (16%) versus 9% of peer counties.



849 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (19%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Cleveland County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Cleveland County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 338:1.

Among Cleveland County high school graduates:

- **58% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **74% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **52% 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:

3,322	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,019	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.3% 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 **12,162 students per year**. After 5 years, 74% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$43,374.

79% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Information Technology** (bachelor's).

There are **1,361,336 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 2) **General and Operations Managers**; 3) **Registered Nurses**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



FAFSA Completion

48% of Cleveland County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural non-metro county average of 55%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

59% of Cleveland County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



CCP Enrollment

19% of Cleveland County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the rural non-metro county average of 22%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	107,538	64%
Central Piedmont Community College	29,552	47%
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	27,078	85%
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College	7,939	28%
Gaston College	7,333	69%
Mitchell Community College	4,188	55%
South Piedmont Community College	3,935	54%
Cleveland Community College	3,883	55%
Stanly Community College	3,837	61%
Wingate University	2,729	93%
Gardner-Webb University	2,454	71%
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte	2,080	79%
Queens University of Charlotte	2,010	91%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Cleveland County Dual Enrollment Program

Career and College Promise (CCP) Program provides opportunities for eligible high school students to take tuition-free, college courses for dual credit (credit in the high school and college at the same time). Taking CCP courses accelerates completion of college certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees that provide entry-level job skills and/or lead to college transfer credit.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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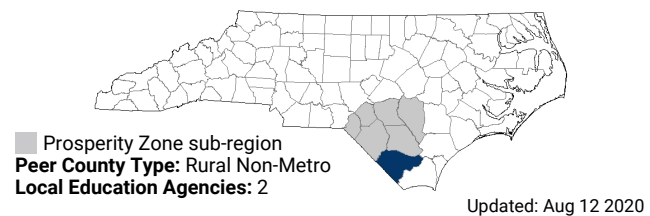
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Columbus County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



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

Columbus County is in the **Fayetteville-Lumberton** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Columbus County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 9% have a bachelor's degree; 9% have an associate degree; 31% have some college, no degree; 31% have a high school diploma; and 17% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	56,424
2030 Population	56,219
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	7,671
Charter/Private/Home	1,545
Median Household Income	\$36,862
Child Poverty Rate	36%
Households with Broadband	61%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



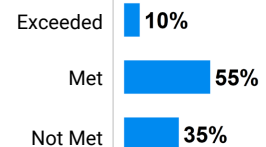
Columbus County has 20 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 5 or 25% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Columbus County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Columbus County needs:

- **Columbus County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 82%).
- **1,121 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 40%).
- **1,811 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 33%).

Percent of Columbus 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, Columbus County needs:

- **67 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 86%).
- **191 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 48%).
- **641 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).



128 students took at least one AP course (5%) versus 9% of peer counties.



630 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (24%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Columbus County completed **219 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Hospitality & Tourism.

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 Columbus County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Columbus County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 365:1.

Among Columbus County high school graduates:

- **56% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **75% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **41% 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:

1,621	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
6,792	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
32,293	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



15.4% 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 **5,110 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$36,969.

75% 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); **Information Technology** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **258,519 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) **Business Operations Specialists, All Other**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Postsecondary Completion

41% of Columbus 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%.



FAFSA Completion

48% of Columbus County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural non-metro county average of 55%.



Disconnected Youth

15% of Columbus County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural non-metro county average of 9%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,488	56%
Fayetteville Technical Community College	18,684	43%
Fayetteville State University	6,522	77%
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	6,252	79%
Robeson Community College	2,631	60%
Methodist University	2,149	83%
Sampson Community College	2,049	27%
Southeastern Community College	1,887	54%
Bladen Community College	1,643	51%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Fayetteville	1,504	43%
St. Andrews University	756	68%
Carolina College of Biblical Studies	257	10%
Grace College of Divinity	154	21%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Southeastern Community College Project PRIME

Project PRIME is designed to provide comprehensive training and employment assistance for individuals to fill new jobs in the polymer/plastics extrusion industry. Components include customized training, short-term occupational skills training, soft skills, health and safety training, articulation to associate degrees, transferable third-party credentials, on-the-job training, linkages with the Columbus Career and College Academy (CCA), and paid internships for high school and college students. This project serves unemployed, underemployed, and dislocated workers, as well as enrolled students.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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ABOUT CAROLINA DEMOGRAPHY

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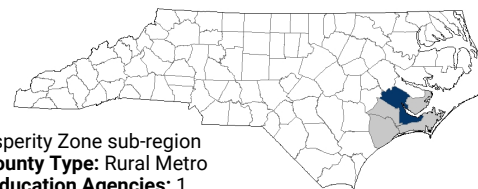
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Craven County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Rural Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Craven County is in the **Jacksonville-New Bern** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 8% of 25-44-year-olds in Craven County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 17% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 30% have some college, no degree; 22% have a high school diploma; and 11% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	103,594
2030 Population	104,846
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	13,329
Charter/Private/Home	2,652
Median Household Income	\$50,748
Child Poverty Rate	22%
Households with Broadband	81%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



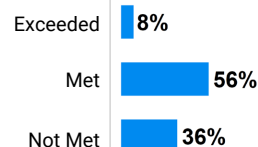
Craven County has 25 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 6 or 24% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Craven County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Craven County needs:

- **273 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 38%).
- **1,874 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 43%).
- **3,376 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 33%).

Percent of Craven 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, Craven County needs:

- **85 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 87%).
- **237 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 52%).
- **716 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).



373 students took at least one AP course (10%) versus 10% of peer counties.



667 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (17%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Craven County completed **366 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Hospitality & Tourism.

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 Craven County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Craven County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 370:1.

Among Craven County high school graduates:

- **59% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **73% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **48% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

143	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
2,183	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,913	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



5.4% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **2,013 students per year**. After 5 years, 60% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,995.

56% 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); **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); and **Education & Training** (bachelor's).

There are **143,212 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) **Business Operations Specialists, All Other**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

38% of Craven County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



Low-Performing Schools

24% of Craven County schools are low-performing, above the rural metro county average of 16%.



Adult Learners

30% of Craven County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural metro county average of 25%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	14,670	63%
Coastal Carolina Community College	6,255	73%
Craven Community College	4,599	63%
Carteret Community College	2,077	63%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Jacksonville	1,046	32%
Pamlico Community College	693	52%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: VOLT Center

Volt Center offers educational programs specializing in construction and manufacturing trades that are in high-demand across Eastern North Carolina. Many training programs include hands-on experience and certifications, and are available at no cost. Classes are offered at the Volt Center through Craven Community College's Workforce Development Program.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

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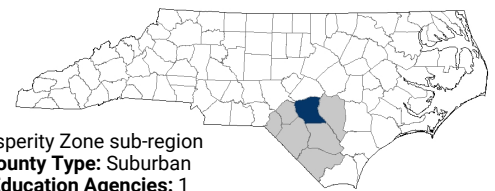
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Cumberland County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Cumberland County is in the **Fayetteville-Lumberton** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 8% of 25-44-year-olds in Cumberland County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 19% have a bachelor's degree; 12% have an associate degree; 34% have some college, no degree; 21% have a high school diploma; and 7% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	331,764
2030 Population	335,069
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	49,503
Charter/Private/Home	9,532
Median Household Income	\$46,779
Child Poverty Rate	24%
Households with Broadband	82%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Cumberland County has 80 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 23 or 29% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Cumberland County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Cumberland County needs:

- **560 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 57%).
- **7,285 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 41%).
- **12,352 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 32%).

Percent of Cumberland County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	19%
Met	45%
Not Met	36%

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, Cumberland County needs:

- **464 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 84%).
- **819 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 56%).
- **3,771 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).



1,728 students took at least one AP course (12%) versus 17% of peer counties.



1,767 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (12%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Cumberland County completed **1,996 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Hospitality & Tourism; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Information Technology.

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 Cumberland County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Cumberland County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 351:1.

Among Cumberland County high school graduates:

- **61% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **74% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **46% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

1,621	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
6,792	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
32,293	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.9% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **5,110 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$36,969.

75% 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); **Information Technology** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **258,519 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) **Business Operations Specialists, All Other**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Cumberland County to improve future attainment outcomes.



Low-Performing Schools

29% of Cumberland County schools are low-performing, above the suburban county average of 17%.



Math Performance

32% of Cumberland County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the suburban county average of 42%.



Postsecondary Completion

46% of Cumberland County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary earn a degree or credential within 6 years, below the suburban county average of 54%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,488	56%
Fayetteville Technical Community College	18,684	43%
Fayetteville State University	6,522	77%
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	6,252	79%
Robeson Community College	2,631	60%
Methodist University	2,149	83%
Sampson Community College	2,049	27%
Southeastern Community College	1,887	54%
Bladen Community College	1,643	51%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Fayetteville	1,504	43%
St. Andrews University	756	68%
Carolina College of Biblical Studies	257	10%
Grace College of Divinity	154	21%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Transition Tech for Veterans & Military

Transition Tech is a training program at Fayetteville Technical Community College for military service members preparing to enter the civilian workforce. It provides industry-focused certificates and credentials, resume assistance, and mock interview experience.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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Currituck County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Rural Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Currituck County is in the **Elizabeth City** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 6% of 25-44-year-olds in Currituck County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 19% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 35% have some college, no degree; 22% have a high school diploma; and 9% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	27,099
2030 Population	32,219
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	4,049
Charter/Private/Home	500
Median Household Income	\$64,426
Child Poverty Rate	14%
Households with Broadband	80%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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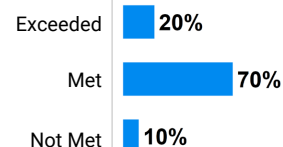
Currituck County has 10 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Currituck County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Currituck County needs:

- **22 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 51%).
- **514 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 46%).
- **824 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 42%).

Percent of Currituck 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, Currituck County needs:

- **29 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 87%).
- **108 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 44%).
- **50 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%).



110 students took at least one AP course (9%) versus 10% of peer counties.



281 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (23%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Currituck County completed **179 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics.

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 Currituck County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Currituck County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 337:1.

Among Currituck County high school graduates:

- **57% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **73% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **53% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

8 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



13% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **580 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,932.

60% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **67,624 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **General and Operations Managers**; 2) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**; 3) **Accountants and Auditors**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



FAFSA Completion

44% of Currituck County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



Adult Learners

35% of Currituck County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural metro county average of 25%.



Disconnected Youth

13% of Currituck County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural metro county average of 9%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	5,015	63%
College of the Albemarle	3,263	57%
Elizabeth City State University	1,538	74%
Mid-Atlantic Christian University	214	35%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Currituck CTE Expansion

The North Carolina Education and Workforce Innovation Commission, North Carolina State Board of Education, and the North Carolina Superintendent of Public Instruction developed the Career and Technical Education Grade Expansion Program. Established under G.S. 115C-64.17, the Career and Technical Education Grade Expansion Program will expand Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs by prioritizing the inclusion of students in sixth and seventh grade through grant awards provided to selected local school administrative units for up to seven years.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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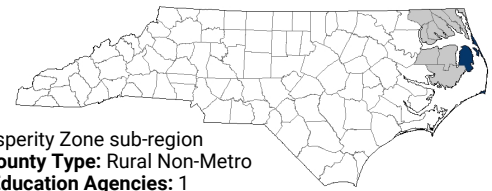
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Dare County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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.

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Dare County has 10 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

COUNTY OVERVIEW

Dare County is in the **Elizabeth City** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC. Overall, 9% of 25-44-year-olds in Dare County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 19% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 29% have some college, no degree; 23% have a high school diploma; and 9% have less than a high school diploma.

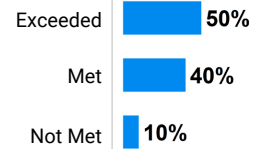
2018 Population	36,997
2030 Population	39,333
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	5,108
Charter/Private/Home	565
Median Household Income	\$64,768
Child Poverty Rate	14%
Households with Broadband	87%

How students in Dare County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Dare County needs:

- **30 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 60%).
- **448 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 55%).
- **953 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 47%).

Percent of Dare 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, Dare County needs:

- **18 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 91%).
- **21 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 74%).
- **456 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 20%).



348 students took at least one AP course (22%) versus 9% of peer counties.



217 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (14%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Dare County completed **90 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Architecture and Construction; Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; and Health Science.

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 Dare County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Dare County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 319:1.

Among Dare County high school graduates:

- **63% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **80% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **54% 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:

8 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



2.4% 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 **580 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,932.

60% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **67,624 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **General and Operations Managers**; 2) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**; 3) **Accountants and Auditors**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



CCP Enrollment

14% of Dare County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the rural non-metro county average of 22%.



Adult Learners

29% of Dare County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural non-metro county average of 25%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

60% of Dare County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	5,015	63%
College of the Albemarle	3,263	57%
Elizabeth City State University	1,538	74%
Mid-Atlantic Christian University	214	35%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Dare Education Foundation Teacher Housing Project

Dare County, located on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, is a popular tourist location and the home of several national historic attractions. Living costs within the county are extremely high compared to many neighboring counties, and new teachers struggle to find affordable housing. To attract new teachers to the area, the Dare Education Foundation's Board of Directors voted unanimously to accept the terms of a \$2.25 million interest-free loan from the State Employees Credit Union Foundation to build 24 affordable apartment units for teachers.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

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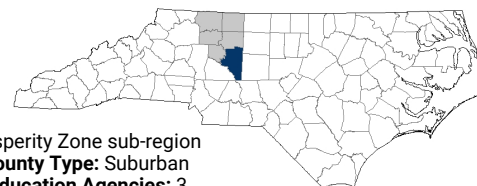
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Davidson County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Davidson County is in the **Winston-Salem Prosperity Zone** sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Davidson County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 16% have a bachelor's degree; 13% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 29% have a high school diploma; and 13% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	168,093
2030 Population	184,987
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	23,847
Charter/Private/Home	4,630
Median Household Income	\$47,758
Child Poverty Rate	23%
Households with Broadband	76%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Davidson County has 43 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 3 or 7% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Davidson County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Davidson County needs:

- **336 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 39%).
- **3,366 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 43%).
- **4,932 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 42%).

Percent of Davidson County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	32%
Met	52%
Not Met	16%

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, Davidson County needs:

- **187 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 86%).
- **385 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 56%).
- **Davidson County has met the goal for students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 10%).



997 students took at least one AP course (13%) versus 17% of peer counties.



826 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (11%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Davidson County completed **1,545 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Hospitality & Tourism.

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 Davidson County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Davidson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 356:1.

Among Davidson County high school graduates:

- **59% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **75% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **53% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

974	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
4,264	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
24,064	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.6% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **3,894 students per year**. After 5 years, 75% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$40,459.

81% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Finance** (bachelor's); **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); and **Marketing** (bachelor's).

There are **324,711 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, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Davidson County to improve future attainment outcomes.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

39% of Davidson County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 44%.



AP Participation

13% of Davidson County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the suburban county average of 17%.



First-Year Persistence

75% of Davidson County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the suburban county average of 78%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	33,211	58%
Forsyth Technical Community College	11,306	32%
Winston-Salem State University	5,408	82%
Wake Forest University	5,244	98%
Davidson County Community College	5,013	61%
Surry Community College	4,040	58%
University of North Carolina School of the Arts	889	85%
Salem College	869	81%
Piedmont International University	394	44%
Carolina Christian College	48	100%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Zoo and Aquarium Science Program 2+2 Davidson CC and WSSU

2+2 agreements provide opportunities for Davidson County Community College (DCCC) graduates to pursue a bachelor's degree from Winston-Salem State University (WSSU). Graduates of DCCC's Zoo & Aquarium Science program enter WSSU with junior status – 60 or more credit hours – to pursue a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Biology.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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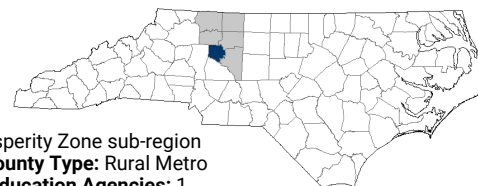
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Davie County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Davie County is in the **Winston-Salem** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 7% of 25-44-year-olds in Davie County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 15% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 27% have a high school diploma; and 13% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	42,976
2030 Population	49,615
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	6,100
Charter/Private/Home	860
Median Household Income	\$60,801
Child Poverty Rate	16%
Households with Broadband	81%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



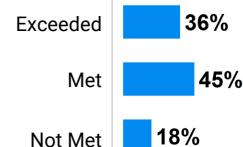
Davie County has 11 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Davie County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Davie County needs:

- **Davie County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 96%).
- **680 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 49%).
- **1,091 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 48%).

Percent of Davie 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, Davie County needs:

- **45 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 86%).
- **81 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 60%).
- **20 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 11%).



344 students took at least one AP course (18%) versus 10% of peer counties.



260 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (14%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Davie County completed **210 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed included Health Science; Architecture and Construction; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

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 Davie County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Davie County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 407:1.

Among Davie County high school graduates:

- **63% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **76% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **62% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

974	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
4,264	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
24,064	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



5.1% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **3,894 students per year**. After 5 years, 75% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$40,459.

81% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Finance** (bachelor's); **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); and **Marketing** (bachelor's).

There are **324,711 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, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



CCP Enrollment

14% of Davie County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the rural metro county average of 18%.



School Counselors

Davie County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 407:1, above the rural metro county average of 378:1.



Adult Learners

26% of Davie County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural metro county average of 25%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	33,211	58%
Forsyth Technical Community College	11,306	32%
Winston-Salem State University	5,408	82%
Wake Forest University	5,244	98%
Davidson County Community College	5,013	61%
Surry Community College	4,040	58%
University of North Carolina School of the Arts	889	85%
Salem College	869	81%
Piedmont International University	394	44%
Carolina Christian College	48	100%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: IgniteDavie

IgniteDavie is a college promise program that provides place-based last dollar scholarships to attend Davidson County Community College for residents of Davie County. The program is funded by community partners, including Davie County.




We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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Duplin County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Duplin County is in the **Goldsboro-Kinston** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 3% of 25-44-year-olds in Duplin County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 8% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 28% have a high school diploma; and 27% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	59,772
2030 Population	59,932
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	9,450
Charter/Private/Home	465
Median Household Income	\$42,725
Child Poverty Rate	31%
Households with Broadband	61%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Duplin County has 13 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 3 or 23% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Duplin County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Duplin County needs:

- **181 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 46%).
- **1,869 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 32%).
- **2,705 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 26%).

Percent of Duplin County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	38%
Met	46%
Not Met	15%

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, Duplin County needs:

- **80 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 84%).
- **101 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 63%).
- **354 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 15%).



123 students took at least one AP course (5%) versus 9% of peer counties.



513 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (19%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Duplin County completed **644 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; 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 Duplin County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Duplin County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 394:1.

Among Duplin County high school graduates:

- **57% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **77% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **51% 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:

96	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,446	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
17,300	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.1% 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 **1,581 students per year**. After 5 years, 75% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$32,495.

63% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (above bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Human Services** (above bachelor's).

There are **102,508 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, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

46% of Duplin County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



Math Performance

26% of Duplin County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.



Reading Performance

32% of Duplin County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural non-metro county average of 41%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	14,028	67%
Wayne Community College	4,392	62%
University of Mount Olive	4,197	79%
Lenoir Community College	3,843	60%
James Sprunt Community College	1,596	58%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Green Lamp WIOA Out of School Youth Program

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Out Of School Youth program is designed to help low-income out-of-school youth between 16-24 who are seeking assistance in achieving academic and/or employment success. Green Lamp provides service in Duplin, Craven, and Pamlico Counties.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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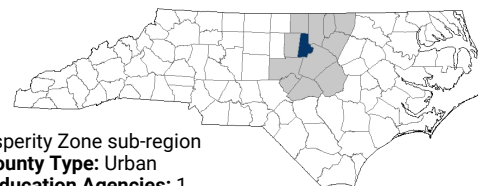
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Durham County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Durham County is in the **Raleigh-Durham** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 6 urban counties in NC.

Overall, 24% of 25-44-year-olds in Durham County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 28% have a bachelor's degree; 6% have an associate degree; 16% have some college, no degree; 14% have a high school diploma; and 12% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	311,163
2030 Population	366,111
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	32,256
Charter/Private/Home	14,017
Median Household Income	\$59,329
Child Poverty Rate	19%
Households with Broadband	85%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Durham County has 49 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 11 or 22% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Durham County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Durham County needs:

- **916 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 29%).
- **5,370 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 36%).
- **7,935 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 31%).

Percent of Durham County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	47%
Met	35%
Not Met	18%

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, Durham County needs:

- **340 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 83%).
- **472 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 59%).
- **2,552 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).



2,155 students took at least one AP course (21%) versus 25% of peer counties.



886 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (9%) versus 5% of peer counties.

Students in Durham County completed **699 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

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 Durham County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Durham County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 310:1.

Among Durham County high school graduates:

- **58% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 66% of peer counties.
- **76% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 81% of peer counties.
- **55% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 58% of peer counties.

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

2,661	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,867	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



5.1% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 5.3% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **22,190 students per year**. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$52,133.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Marketing** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **1,166,888 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) **Software Developers, Applications**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to urban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Durham County to improve future attainment outcomes.



Math Performance

31% of Durham County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the urban county average of 44%.



Reading Performance

36% of Durham County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the urban county average of 47%.



Transition to Postsecondary

58% of Durham County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the urban county average of 66%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	139,487	73%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Durham Technical Community College	8,049	58%
Duke University	7,504	95%
North Carolina Central University	7,165	80%
Strayer University-North Carolina	6,998	53%
Central Carolina Community College	6,811	58%
Johnston Community College	5,343	55%
Campbell University	5,183	89%
Vance-Granville Community College	4,014	60%
Meredith College	1,900	92%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Made in Durham

Made in Durham is a community partnership of educators, business, government, youth-serving nonprofits and young people mobilized around a shared vision that all of Durham's youth will complete high school and a post-secondary credential and begin a rewarding career by the age of 25.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

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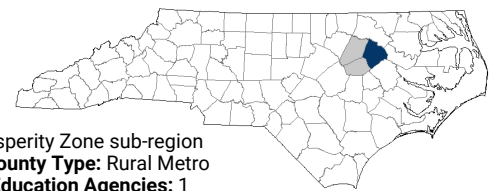
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Edgecombe County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Edgecombe County is in the **Rocky Mount-Wilson** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 3% of 25-44-year-olds in Edgecombe County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 8% have a bachelor's degree; 13% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 37% have a high school diploma; and 14% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	52,724
2030 Population	51,062
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	5,753
Charter/Private/Home	1,382
Median Household Income	\$38,818
Child Poverty Rate	37%
Households with Broadband	62%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Edgecombe County has 14 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 8 or 57% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Edgecombe County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Edgecombe County needs:

- **78 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 58%).
- **1,286 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 25%).
- **1,721 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 21%).

Percent of Edgecombe County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	43%
Met	36%
Not Met	21%

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, Edgecombe County needs:

- **78 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 79%).
- **103 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 54%).
- **613 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 21%).



108 students took at least one AP course (6%) versus 10% of peer counties.



447 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (25%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Edgecombe County completed **366 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; 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 Edgecombe County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Edgecombe County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 338:1.

Among Edgecombe County high school graduates:

- **54% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **70% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **37% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

327	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,711	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
13,104	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



15.9% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **1,058 students per year**. After 5 years, 82% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$35,382.

69% 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); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **99,203 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

57% of Edgecombe County schools are low-performing, above the rural metro county average of 16%.



Reading Performance

25% of Edgecombe County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural metro county average of 41%.



Math Performance

21% of Edgecombe County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural metro county average of 36%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	13,632	43%
Nash Community College	4,549	27%
Edgecombe Community College	2,967	15%
Wilson Community College	2,687	39%
North Carolina Wesleyan College	2,459	80%
Barton College	970	87%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: STEP

STEP is a cross-county partnership between Nash and Edgecombe counties and a venue for education and business leaders to collaborate on ways to improve education outcomes and career successes. STEP helps students understand what careers are available to them within their communities and how to pursue them. Their main focuses are on workforce awareness, workforce readiness, and strengthened communications amongst community leaders.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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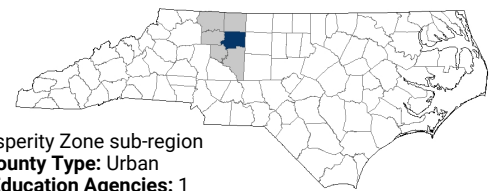
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Forsyth County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Forsyth County is in the **Winston-Salem** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 6 urban counties in NC.

Overall, 13% of 25-44-year-olds in Forsyth County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 23% have a bachelor's degree; 8% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 21% have a high school diploma; and 12% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	376,309
2030 Population	418,257
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	53,475
Charter/Private/Home	12,083
Median Household Income	\$50,112
Child Poverty Rate	25%
Households with Broadband	79%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Forsyth County has 70 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 21 or 30% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Forsyth County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Forsyth County needs:

- **1,320 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 26%).
- **7,562 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 43%).
- **11,995 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 38%).

Percent of Forsyth County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	38%
Met	43%
Not Met	19%

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, Forsyth County needs:

- **388 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 86%).
- **878 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 56%).
- **5,163 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 21%).



3,234 students took at least one AP course (20%) versus 25% of peer counties.



513 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (3%) versus 5% of peer counties.

Students in Forsyth County completed **1,153 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Hospitality & Tourism; and Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics.

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 Forsyth County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Forsyth County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 364:1.

Among Forsyth County high school graduates:

- **62% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 66% of peer counties.
- **78% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 81% of peer counties.
- **55% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 58% of peer counties.

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

974	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
4,264	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
24,064	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



6.3% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 5.3% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **3,894 students per year**. After 5 years, 75% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$40,459.

81% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Finance** (bachelor's); **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); and **Marketing** (bachelor's).

There are **324,711 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, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to urban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Forsyth County to improve future attainment outcomes.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

26% of Forsyth County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the urban county average of 38%.



Low-Performing Schools

30% of Forsyth County schools are low-performing, above the urban county average of 23%.



Math Performance

38% of Forsyth County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the urban county average of 44%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	33,211	58%
Forsyth Technical Community College	11,306	32%
Winston-Salem State University	5,408	82%
Wake Forest University	5,244	98%
Davidson County Community College	5,013	61%
Surry Community College	4,040	58%
University of North Carolina School of the Arts	889	85%
Salem College	869	81%
Piedmont International University	394	44%
Carolina Christian College	48	100%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Forsyth Academy of Continuing Education

Forsyth Academy of Continuing Education is an evening high school opportunity for students who may otherwise not be able to access or continue a traditional secondary school environment. This program allows for students to take classes in the evening at the career center and is a more individualized and focused program to help students earn their diploma.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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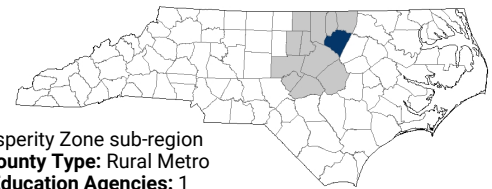
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Franklin County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Franklin County is in the **Raleigh-Durham** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 7% of 25-44-year-olds in Franklin County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 17% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 24% have a high school diploma; and 16% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	68,012
2030 Population	81,204
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	8,061
Charter/Private/Home	2,439
Median Household Income	\$57,710
Child Poverty Rate	20%
Households with Broadband	75%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



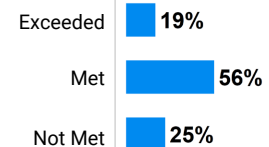
Franklin County has 16 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Franklin County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Franklin County needs:

- **152 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 38%).
- **1,270 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 39%).
- **1,997 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 33%).

Percent of Franklin 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, Franklin County needs:

- **79 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 85%).
- **116 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 60%).
- **475 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 17%).



384 students took at least one AP course (15%) versus 10% of peer counties.



285 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (11%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Franklin County completed **358 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Information Technology.

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 Franklin County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Franklin County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 448:1.

Among Franklin County high school graduates:

- **61% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **76% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **44% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

2,661	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,867	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



10.3% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **22,190 students per year**. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$52,133.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Marketing** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **1,166,888 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) **Software Developers, Applications**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

38% of Franklin County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



CCP Enrollment

11% of Franklin County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the rural metro county average of 18%.



Postsecondary Completion

44% of Franklin County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary earn a degree or credential within 6 years, below the rural metro county average of 50%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	139,487	73%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Durham Technical Community College	8,049	58%
Duke University	7,504	95%
North Carolina Central University	7,165	80%
Strayer University-North Carolina	6,998	53%
Central Carolina Community College	6,811	58%
Johnston Community College	5,343	55%
Campbell University	5,183	89%
Vance-Granville Community College	4,014	60%
Meredith College	1,900	92%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: STEAM Lab

The United Way of Franklin County, Franklin County School District, and the Boys & Girls Club have collaborated to create a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) Imagination Lab to invest in the future of our children and our community.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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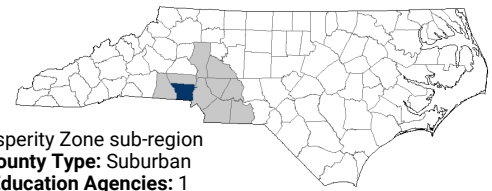
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Gaston County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Gaston County is in the **Charlotte** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 7% of 25-44-year-olds in Gaston County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 18% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 27% have a high school diploma; and 12% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	221,006
2030 Population	239,285
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	30,857
Charter/Private/Home	8,021
Median Household Income	\$52,798
Child Poverty Rate	19%
Households with Broadband	78%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Gaston County has 50 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 11 or 22% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Gaston County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Gaston County needs:

- **202 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 61%).
- **4,837 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 40%).
- **6,913 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 38%).

Percent of Gaston County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	39%
Met	37%
Not Met	24%

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, Gaston County needs:

- **263 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 85%).
- **612 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 51%).
- **2,092 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 18%).



1,547 students took at least one AP course (17%) versus 17% of peer counties.



855 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (9%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Gaston County completed **1,386 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Architecture and Construction; Health Science; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

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 Gaston County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Gaston County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 351:1.

Among Gaston County high school graduates:

- **56% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **73% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **50% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

3,322	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,019	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.6% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **12,162 students per year**. After 5 years, 74% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$43,374.

79% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Information Technology** (bachelor's).

There are **1,361,336 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 2) **General and Operations Managers**; 3) **Registered Nurses**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Gaston County to improve future attainment outcomes.



Reading Performance

40% of Gaston County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the suburban county average of 46%.



Transition to Postsecondary

56% of Gaston County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the suburban county average of 62%.



Low-Performing Schools

22% of Gaston County schools are low-performing, above the suburban county average of 17%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	107,538	64%
Central Piedmont Community College	29,552	47%
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	27,078	85%
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College	7,939	28%
Gaston College	7,333	69%
Mitchell Community College	4,188	55%
South Piedmont Community College	3,935	54%
Cleveland Community College	3,883	55%
Stanly Community College	3,837	61%
Wingate University	2,729	93%
Gardner-Webb University	2,454	71%
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte	2,080	79%
Queens University of Charlotte	2,010	91%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Apprenticeship 321

The goal of the Apprenticeship 321 Program is to cultivate highly skilled workers for large and small manufacturers who can enter the workforce immediately upon completing the program. Through on-the-job training, successful apprentices will qualify for nationally recognized certifications as journeyworkers, academic credentials from Gaston College, and a National Career Readiness Certificate.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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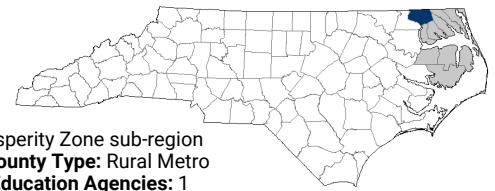
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Gates County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Rural Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Gates County is in the **Elizabeth City** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Gates County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 8% have a bachelor's degree; 17% have an associate degree; 29% have some college, no degree; 35% have a high school diploma; and 6% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	12,094
2030 Population	12,254
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,618
Charter/Private/Home	244
Median Household Income	\$51,746
Child Poverty Rate	21%
Households with Broadband	67%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Gates County has 5 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 20% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Gates County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Gates County needs:

- **Gates County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 94%).
- **269 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 38%).
- **376 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 38%).

Percent of Gates County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	0%
Met	60%
Not Met	40%

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, Gates County needs:

- **17 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 82%).
- **29 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 52%).
- **161 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 21%).

Students in Gates County completed **61 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Hospitality & Tourism.



1 students took at least one AP course (0%) versus 10% of peer counties.



93 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (20%) versus 18% of peer counties.

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 Gates County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Gates County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 270:1.

Among Gates County high school graduates:

- **56% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **76% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **50% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

8 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



6.8% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **580 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,932.

60% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **67,624 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **General and Operations Managers**; 2) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**; 3) **Accountants and Auditors**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



AP Participation

0% of Gates County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural metro county average of 10%.



Chronic Absenteeism

21% of Gates County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural metro county average of 16%.



Adult Learners

29% of Gates County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural metro county average of 25%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	5,015	63%
College of the Albemarle	3,263	57%
Elizabeth City State University	1,538	74%
Mid-Atlantic Christian University	214	35%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: "ASPIRE" (ACT Supplemental Preparation in Rural Education)

Gates County and Pasquotank County are joining forces to offer ACT Preparatory training to high school sophomores and juniors by collaborating on ACT Prep through 4-H. The program, which is offered by North Carolina State University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, bridges deficits in rural high school students' performance on the ACT College Entrance Examination to increase the number of students pursuing higher education.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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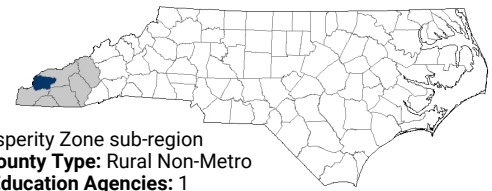
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Graham County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Graham County is in the **Waynesville-Franklin** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 6% of 25-44-year-olds in Graham County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 10% have a bachelor's degree; 13% have an associate degree; 27% have some college, no degree; 33% have a high school diploma; and 10% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	8,686
2030 Population	8,686
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,093
Charter/Private/Home	211
Median Household Income	\$39,502
Child Poverty Rate	26%
Households with Broadband	50%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Graham County has 3 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Graham County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Graham County needs:

- **13 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 53%).
- **173 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 38%).
- **276 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 30%).

Percent of Graham County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	0%
Met	100%
Not Met	0%

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, Graham County needs:

- **9 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 84%).
- **8 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 67%).
- **140 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 23%).

Students in Graham County completed **35 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Hospitality & Tourism; and Manufacturing.



31 students took at least one AP course (9%) versus 9% of peer counties.



87 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (25%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Graham County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Graham County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 364:1.

Among Graham County high school graduates:

- **51% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **75% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **50% 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:

18	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,489	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
10,302	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



17.7% 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 **3,691 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$39,941.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Health Science** (above bachelor's).

There are **81,375 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

53% of Graham County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



Disconnected Youth

18% of Graham County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural non-metro county average of 9%.



Chronic Absenteeism

23% of Graham County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural non-metro county average of 17%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	17,345	74%
Western Carolina University	10,449	88%
Southwestern Community College	3,262	62%
Haywood Community College	2,223	56%
Tri-County Community College	1,411	56%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: EmPOWERing Mountain Food Systems

This three-year project is funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Cherokee Preservation Foundation and created in partnership by the Center for Environmental Farming Systems and NC State Extension. The project supports farm and food businesses by providing educational programs related to business development and financial services, including grants, support from loans and advanced business consulting services including funding farmer equipment and supplies.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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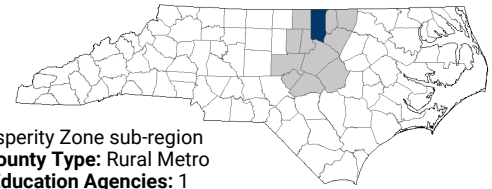
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Granville County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Granville County is in the **Raleigh-Durham** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 7% of 25-44-year-olds in Granville County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 17% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 29% have a high school diploma; and 12% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	60,700
2030 Population	69,540
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	7,314
Charter/Private/Home	2,462
Median Household Income	\$58,956
Child Poverty Rate	19%
Households with Broadband	76%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Granville County has 19 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 9 or 47% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Granville County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Granville County needs:

- **50 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 59%).
- **1,310 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 35%).
- **2,026 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 27%).

Percent of Granville County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	21%
Met	32%
Not Met	47%

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, Granville County needs:

- **81 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 83%).
- **197 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 42%).
- **335 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).

Students in Granville County completed **260 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics; and Health Science.



288 students took at least one AP course (12%) versus 10% of peer counties.



310 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (13%) versus 18% of peer counties.

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 Granville County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Granville County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 305:1.

Among Granville County high school graduates:

- **55% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **78% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **46% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

2,661	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,867	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



14% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **22,190 students per year**. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$52,133.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Marketing** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **1,166,888 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) **Software Developers, Applications**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

47% of Granville County schools are low-performing, above the rural metro county average of 16%.



FAFSA Completion

42% of Granville County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



Math Performance

27% of Granville County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural metro county average of 36%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	139,487	73%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Durham Technical Community College	8,049	58%
Duke University	7,504	95%
North Carolina Central University	7,165	80%
Strayer University-North Carolina	6,998	53%
Central Carolina Community College	6,811	58%
Johnston Community College	5,343	55%
Campbell University	5,183	89%
Vance-Granville Community College	4,014	60%
Meredith College	1,900	92%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Vance-Granville CC Career Coach

Vance-Granville Community College recently introduced a new web-based service that will help students explore careers and make plans for their future. Students can about various VGCC education and training programs that lead to the careers they want.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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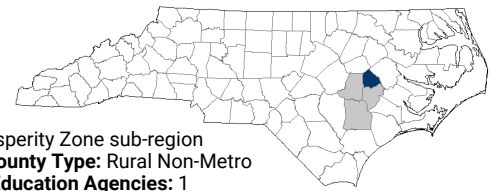
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Greene County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Greene County is in the **Goldsboro-Kinston** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 2% of 25-44-year-olds in Greene County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 10% have a bachelor's degree; 8% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 26% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	21,024
2030 Population	21,050
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	2,885
Charter/Private/Home	286
Median Household Income	\$43,591
Child Poverty Rate	34%
Households with Broadband	72%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Greene County has 5 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 2 or 40% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Greene County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Greene County needs:

- **52 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 42%).
- **625 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 29%).
- **866 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 25%).

Percent of Greene County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	40%
Met	20%
Not Met	40%

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, Greene County needs:

- **Greene County has met the goal for 9th graders** graduating within four years (goal: 95% vs. 95%).
- **45 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 57%).
- **79 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 14%).

Students in Greene County completed **106 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Manufacturing; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.



44 students took at least one AP course (5%) versus 9% of peer counties.



301 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (34%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Greene County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Greene County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 361:1.

Among Greene County high school graduates:

- **55% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **72% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **46% 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:

96	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,446	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
17,300	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



12.5% 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 **1,581 students per year**. After 5 years, 75% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$32,495.

63% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (above bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Human Services** (above bachelor's).

There are **102,508 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, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

42% of Greene County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



Low-Performing Schools

40% of Greene County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Reading Performance

29% of Greene County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural non-metro county average of 41%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	14,028	67%
Wayne Community College	4,392	62%
University of Mount Olive	4,197	79%
Lenoir Community College	3,843	60%
James Sprunt Community College	1,596	58%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: NC Advanced Placement Partnership (NCAPP) Greene County

To encourage and support more students to complete more rigorous courses, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) established the NC Advanced Placement Partnership (NCAPP) in May 2014 with the College Board. The NCAPP continues statewide efforts and work with LEAs to broaden access and successful participation in advanced coursework in NC public schools. The NCAPP works on state-wide initiatives as well as with targeted school districts to provide support and technical assistance.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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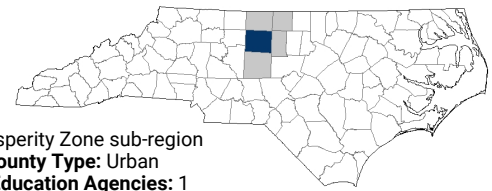
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Guilford County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Guilford County is in the **Greensboro** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 6 urban counties in NC.

Overall, 12% of 25-44-year-olds in Guilford County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 24% have a bachelor's degree; 9% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 19% have a high school diploma; and 10% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	534,346
2030 Population	615,227
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	71,029
Charter/Private/Home	19,053
Median Household Income	\$52,166
Child Poverty Rate	23%
Households with Broadband	73%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Guilford County has 117 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 36 or 31% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Guilford County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Guilford County needs:

- **322 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 65%).
- **9,975 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 43%).
- **16,677 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 36%).

Percent of Guilford County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	22%
Met	52%
Not Met	26%

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, Guilford County needs:

- **352 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 89%).
- **895 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 63%).
- **5,188 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 18%).



5,694 students took at least one AP course (25%) versus 25% of peer counties.



1,716 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (8%) versus 5% of peer counties.

Students in Guilford County completed **1,984 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics; 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 Guilford County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Guilford County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 326:1.

Among Guilford County high school graduates:

- **67% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 66% of peer counties.
- **78% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 81% of peer counties.
- **51% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 58% of peer counties.

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

739	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
6,843	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
34,670	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



6.7% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 5.3% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **8,688 students per year**. After 5 years, 71% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$41,392.

84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); **Health Science** (above bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **469,667 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) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to urban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Guilford County to improve future attainment outcomes.



Math Performance

36% of Guilford County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the urban county average of 44%.



Low-Performing Schools

31% of Guilford County schools are low-performing, above the urban county average of 23%.



Postsecondary Completion

51% of Guilford County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary earn a degree or credential within 6 years, below the urban county average of 58%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	70,185	72%
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	18,374	83%
Guilford Technical Community College	14,735	57%
North Carolina A & T State University	11,370	79%
Elon University	6,187	98%
Alamance Community College	5,651	53%
High Point University	4,631	95%
Randolph Community College	3,475	55%
Rockingham Community College	2,379	57%
Guilford College	1,824	83%
Greensboro College	1,018	89%
Bennett College	541	93%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: GAP

The GAP apprenticeship program allows students to earn money on the job while taking college classes at Guilford Technical Community College at no cost. The program is available to eligible juniors and seniors in high school and focuses on five technical industry sectors.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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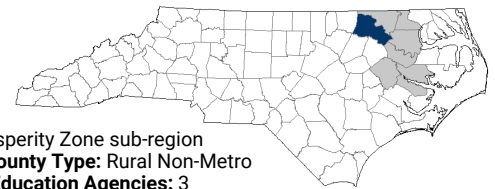
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Halifax County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Rural Non-Metro
Local Education Agencies: 3

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Halifax County is in the **Greenville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Halifax County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 10% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 39% have a high school diploma; and 15% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	51,552
2030 Population	47,259
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	5,897
Charter/Private/Home	1,300
Median Household Income	\$36,760
Child Poverty Rate	34%
Households with Broadband	57%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Halifax County has 19 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 8 or 42% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Halifax County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Halifax County needs:

- **10 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 72%).
- **1,203 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 31%).
- **1,670 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 27%).

Percent of Halifax County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	16%
Met	53%
Not Met	32%

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, Halifax County needs:

- **67 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 83%).
- **135 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 52%).
- **722 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 23%).

Students in Halifax County completed **293 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Hospitality & Tourism; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Health Science.



132 students took at least one AP course (7%) versus 9% of peer counties.



337 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (19%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Halifax County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Halifax County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 295:1.

Among Halifax County high school graduates:

- **59% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **60% 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:

347	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
2,779	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
19,098	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



15.6% 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 **8,237 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$47,838.

84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources** (bachelor's) and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (bachelor's).

There are **154,964 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

42% of Halifax County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



First-Year Persistence

60% of Halifax County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural non-metro county average of 73%.



Reading Performance

31% of Halifax County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural non-metro county average of 41%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,903	70%
East Carolina University	25,427	90%
Pitt Community College	12,206	65%
Beaufort County Community College	1,994	41%
Halifax Community College	1,626	38%
Chowan University	1,582	81%
Roanoke-Chowan Community College	1,067	52%
Martin Community College	1,001	55%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: RAMP East (Advanced Manufacturing Institute)

RAMP East is a partnership between Halifax Community College, Halifax Co. Economic Development Commission, and local workforce development professionals to find and train job-ready candidates within the advanced manufacturing sector. 18 students have "graduated" from the Advanced Manufacturing Institute and the majority are employed in the manufacturing sector.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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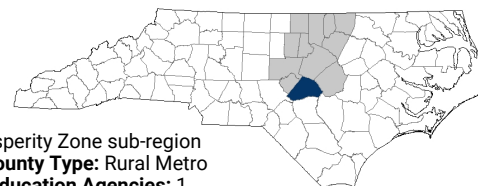
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Harnett County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Harnett County is in the **Raleigh-Durham Prosperity Zone** sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 8% of 25-44-year-olds in Harnett County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 17% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 27% have some college, no degree; 24% have a high school diploma; and 12% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	133,172
2030 Population	158,563
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	20,097
Charter/Private/Home	3,581
Median Household Income	\$51,225
Child Poverty Rate	20%
Households with Broadband	76%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Harnett County has 25 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 6 or 24% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Harnett County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Harnett County needs:

- **524 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 28%).
- **3,223 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 39%).
- **5,013 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 34%).

Percent of Harnett County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	35%
Met	38%
Not Met	27%

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, Harnett County needs:

- **132 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 87%).
- **362 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 53%).
- **963 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).



587 students took at least one AP course (10%) versus 10% of peer counties.



889 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (15%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Harnett County completed **900 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; and Health Science.

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 Harnett County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Harnett County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 372:1.

Among Harnett County high school graduates:

- **53% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **70% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **46% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

2,661	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,867	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



10.2% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **22,190 students per year**. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$52,133.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Marketing** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **1,166,888 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) **Software Developers, Applications**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

28% of Harnett County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



Low-Performing Schools

24% of Harnett County schools are low-performing, above the rural metro county average of 16%.



First-Year Persistence

70% of Harnett County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural metro county average of 73%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	139,487	73%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Durham Technical Community College	8,049	58%
Duke University	7,504	95%
North Carolina Central University	7,165	80%
Strayer University-North Carolina	6,998	53%
Central Carolina Community College	6,811	58%
Johnston Community College	5,343	55%
Campbell University	5,183	89%
Vance-Granville Community College	4,014	60%
Meredith College	1,900	92%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Harnett County Promise

Central Carolina Community College's Education Programs provide top-quality training for careers in the field of education. Students can earn an Associate in Science - Teacher Preparation degree or Associate in Arts - Teacher Preparation degree in only two years, and then transfer to a four-year institution and enter as a junior. These new degrees will help create a smooth transfer experience for graduates to become the new generation of teachers in Lee, Chatham, and Harnett counties

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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Haywood County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Haywood County is in the **Waynesville-Franklin** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 8% of 25-44-year-olds in Haywood County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 17% have a bachelor's degree; 18% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 23% have a high school diploma; and 12% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	62,839
2030 Population	68,680
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	7,026
Charter/Private/Home	1,431
Median Household Income	\$47,183
Child Poverty Rate	22%
Households with Broadband	69%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



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

How students in Haywood County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Haywood County needs:

- **78 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 53%).
- **743 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 50%).
- **1,289 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 46%).

Percent of Haywood County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	13%
Met	40%
Not Met	47%

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, Haywood County needs:

- **59 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 85%).
- **79 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 64%).
- **Haywood County has met the goal for students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 10%).



146 students took at least one AP course (7%) versus 10% of peer counties.



462 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (21%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Haywood County completed **493 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Manufacturing; and Architecture and Construction.

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 Haywood County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Haywood County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 413:1.

Among Haywood County high school graduates:

- **59% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **78% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **58% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

18	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,489	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
10,302	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **3,691 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$39,941.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Health Science** (above bachelor's).

There are **81,375 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



AP Participation

7% of Haywood County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural metro county average of 10%.



School Counselors

Haywood County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 413:1, above the rural metro county average of 378:1.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

53% of Haywood County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	17,345	74%
Western Carolina University	10,449	88%
Southwestern Community College	3,262	62%
Haywood Community College	2,223	56%
Tri-County Community College	1,411	56%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: The State of our Workforce

The Mountain Area Workforce Development Board and over 20 regional partner organizations collaborated with the North Carolina Chamber and RTI to survey businesses across a 10-county region in Western North Carolina. Overall, Western North Carolina is well-suited to proactively address talent needs. It possesses high-quality education resources, access to training, and a community that is focused on growing a strong talent pipeline.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/

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Henderson County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Suburban
Local Education Agencies: 1

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Henderson County is in the **Asheville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 8% of 25-44-year-olds in Henderson County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 21% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 27% have some college, no degree; 22% have a high school diploma; and 10% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	116,857
2030 Population	132,035
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	13,151
Charter/Private/Home	3,899
Median Household Income	\$54,012
Child Poverty Rate	16%
Households with Broadband	80%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Henderson County has 22 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Henderson County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Henderson County needs:

- **213 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 35%).
- **1,272 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 52%).
- **2,376 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 48%).

Percent of Henderson County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	30%
Met	52%
Not Met	17%

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, Henderson County needs:

- **34 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 92%).
- **250 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 52%).
- **49 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 11%).



637 students took at least one AP course (16%) versus 17% of peer counties.



520 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (13%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Henderson County completed **527 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Hospitality & Tourism; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Architecture and Construction.

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 Henderson County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Henderson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 424:1.

Among Henderson County high school graduates:

- **58% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **77% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **56% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

553	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,207	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
22,514	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



6.8% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **2,836 students per year**. After 5 years, 69% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$33,116.

71% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **255,306 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 suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Henderson County to improve future attainment outcomes.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

35% of Henderson County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 44%.



School Counselors

Henderson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 424:1, above the suburban county average of 363:1.



Transition to Postsecondary

58% of Henderson County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the suburban county average of 62%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	23,862	65%
Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College	10,492	53%
University of North Carolina at Asheville	4,366	89%
Blue Ridge Community College	2,812	48%
Isothermal Community College	2,662	58%
Mars Hill University	1,343	82%
Montreat College	845	71%
Brevard College	698	87%
Warren Wilson College	644	84%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Made in Henderson County Apprenticeships

The Made in Henderson County Apprenticeship program started in 2012 as a workforce development strategy by the Henderson County Economic Development Partnership. The program is accessible to all manufacturers and now has seven participating companies. In 2019, 20 of 65 student applicants were selected. Funded by the companies served and grants from local, state and federal partners, the program is free to participants.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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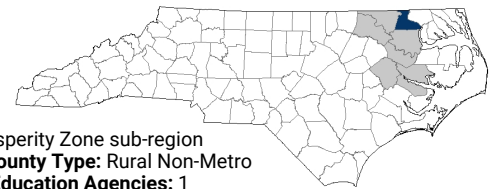
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Hertford County

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 2020

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

Hertford County is in the **Greenville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Hertford County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 12% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 27% have some college, no degree; 36% have a high school diploma; and 12% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	24,093
2030 Population	24,006
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	2,682
Charter/Private/Home	592
Median Household Income	\$38,216
Child Poverty Rate	32%
Households with Broadband	60%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Hertford County has 7 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 3 or 43% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Hertford County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Hertford County needs:

- **Hertford County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 103%).
- **611 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 25%).
- **878 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 17%).

Percent of Hertford County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	29%
Met	29%
Not Met	43%

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, Hertford County needs:

- **35 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 79%).
- **18 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 69%).
- **474 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 28%).

Students in Hertford County completed **164 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Information Technology; and Hospitality & Tourism.



0 students took at least one AP course (0%) versus 9% of peer counties.



288 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (35%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Hertford County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Hertford County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 268:1.

Among Hertford County high school graduates:

- **67% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **69% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **43% 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:

347	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
2,779	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
19,098	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



7.8% 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 **8,237 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$47,838.

84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources** (bachelor's) and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (bachelor's).

There are **154,964 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

43% of Hertford County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Math Performance

17% of Hertford County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.



Reading Performance

25% of Hertford County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural non-metro county average of 41%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,903	70%
East Carolina University	25,427	90%
Pitt Community College	12,206	65%
Beaufort County Community College	1,994	41%
Halifax Community College	1,626	38%
Chowan University	1,582	81%
Roanoke-Chowan Community College	1,067	52%
Martin Community College	1,001	55%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Roanoke Connect

Roanoke Connect is rapidly expanding Smart Grid and broadband services in their Service Territory in Northeastern North Carolina (Bertie, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Northampton) to better serve its Member-Owners. The organization has its origins in Roanoke Electric Cooperative's focus on economic opportunity for its Member-Owners.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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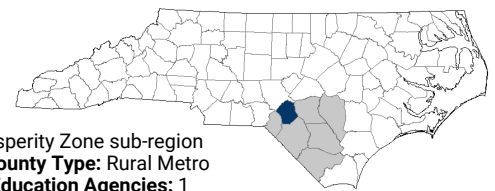
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Hoke County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Hoke County is in the **Fayetteville-Lumberton** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 6% of 25-44-year-olds in Hoke County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 15% have a bachelor's degree; 13% have an associate degree; 30% have some college, no degree; 26% have a high school diploma; and 10% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	53,992
2030 Population	66,691
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	8,696
Charter/Private/Home	1,123
Median Household Income	\$47,892
Child Poverty Rate	26%
Households with Broadband	78%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Hoke County has 13 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 8% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Hoke County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Hoke County needs:

- **23 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 71%).
- **1,411 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 39%).
- **2,128 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 34%).

Percent of Hoke County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	43%
Met	29%
Not Met	29%

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, Hoke County needs:

- **92 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 80%).
- **175 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 44%).
- **463 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).



267 students took at least one AP course (12%) versus 10% of peer counties.



509 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (22%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Hoke County completed **185 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Human Services.

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 Hoke County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Hoke County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 512:1.

Among Hoke County high school graduates:

- **48% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **74% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **37% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

1,621	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
6,792	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
32,293	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



9.1% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **5,110 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$36,969.

75% 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); **Information Technology** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **258,519 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) **Business Operations Specialists, All Other**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Postsecondary Completion

37% of Hoke County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary earn a degree or credential within 6 years, below the rural metro county average of 50%.



FAFSA Completion

44% of Hoke County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



Transition to Postsecondary

48% of Hoke County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural metro county average of 57%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,488	56%
Fayetteville Technical Community College	18,684	43%
Fayetteville State University	6,522	77%
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	6,252	79%
Robeson Community College	2,631	60%
Methodist University	2,149	83%
Sampson Community College	2,049	27%
Southeastern Community College	1,887	54%
Bladen Community College	1,643	51%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Fayetteville	1,504	43%
St. Andrews University	756	68%
Carolina College of Biblical Studies	257	10%
Grace College of Divinity	154	21%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Virtual Academy Collaborative

The Innovation Project (TIP) consortium consists of school districts working together on projects to advance public education in North Carolina. One project is creating virtual course packages for Math I, Math II, Math III, English I/II, and Biology. In Hoke County teachers use the materials to remediate struggling students and extend learning for students needing enrichment. Some teachers like the resources so much they have created blended learning stations to use them in class.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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Hyde County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Hyde County is in the **Elizabeth City** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 1% of 25-44-year-olds in Hyde County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 4% have a bachelor's degree; 8% have an associate degree; 35% have some college, no degree; 33% have a high school diploma; and 20% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	5,198
2030 Population	4,929
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	561
Charter/Private/Home	119
Median Household Income	\$40,653
Child Poverty Rate	32%
Households with Broadband	55%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Hyde County has 3 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 33% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Hyde County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Hyde County needs:

- **3 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 60%).
- **84 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 42%).
- **145 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 33%).

Percent of Hyde County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	67%
Met	33%
Not Met	0%

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, Hyde County needs:

- **7 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 77%).
- **11 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 53%).
- **39 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 18%).

Students in Hyde County completed **14 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Manufacturing; and Hospitality & Tourism.



4 students took at least one AP course (3%) versus 9% of peer counties.



85 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (57%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Hyde County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Hyde County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 187:1.

Among Hyde County high school graduates:

- **58% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **73% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **36% 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:

8 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



0% 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 **580 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,932.

60% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **67,624 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **General and Operations Managers**; 2) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**; 3) **Accountants and Auditors**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

33% of Hyde County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Postsecondary Completion

36% of Hyde 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%.



Adult Learners

35% of Hyde County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural non-metro county average of 25%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	5,015	63%
College of the Albemarle	3,263	57%
Elizabeth City State University	1,538	74%
Mid-Atlantic Christian University	214	35%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Mattamuskeet Early College High School

Mattamuskeet Early College High School was recently awarded a grant as part of the Verizon Innovative Learning Curriculum Expansion Program by the partnership between Verizon and Arizona State University. The grant provides training for three teachers within the CTE department at Mattamuskeet Early College High School, and provides teachers with a technology kit to support a classroom of 25-30 students. Mattamuskeet Early College will receive four Immersive Media (augmented/virtual reality) smart phones, VR headsets and 360-degree cameras.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

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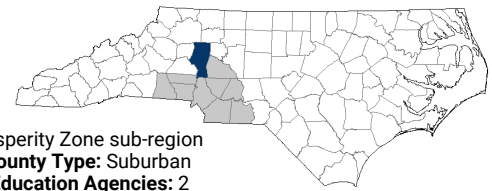
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Iredell County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Iredell County is in the **Charlotte** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 8% of 25-44-year-olds in Iredell County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 21% have a bachelor's degree; 12% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 24% have a high school diploma; and 10% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	178,730
2030 Population	210,452
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	26,121
Charter/Private/Home	8,915
Median Household Income	\$60,044
Child Poverty Rate	14%
Households with Broadband	80%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Iredell County has 42 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 5 or 12% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Iredell County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Iredell County needs:

- **351 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 35%).
- **2,864 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 49%).
- **4,823 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 46%).

Percent of Iredell County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	33%
Met	40%
Not Met	28%

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, Iredell County needs:

- **136 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 89%).
- **487 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 56%).
- **380 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%).



1,806 students took at least one AP course (21%) versus 17% of peer counties.



1,122 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (13%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Iredell County completed **1,074 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Hospitality & Tourism.

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 Iredell County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Iredell County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 421:1.

Among Iredell County high school graduates:

- **63% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **79% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **58% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

3,322	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,019	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



7% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **12,162 students per year**. After 5 years, 74% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$43,374.

79% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Information Technology** (bachelor's).

There are **1,361,336 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 2) **General and Operations Managers**; 3) **Registered Nurses**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Iredell County to improve future attainment outcomes.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

35% of Iredell County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 44%.



School Counselors

Iredell County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 421:1, above the suburban county average of 363:1.



FAFSA Completion

56% of Iredell County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the state average of 64%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	107,538	64%
Central Piedmont Community College	29,552	47%
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	27,078	85%
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College	7,939	28%
Gaston College	7,333	69%
Mitchell Community College	4,188	55%
South Piedmont Community College	3,935	54%
Cleveland Community College	3,883	55%
Stanly Community College	3,837	61%
Wingate University	2,729	93%
Gardner-Webb University	2,454	71%
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte	2,080	79%
Queens University of Charlotte	2,010	91%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: North Carolina Manufacturing Institute

The North Carolina Manufacturing Institute is specially designed to link and leverage the existing assets of Rowan, Cabarrus, and Iredell counties to solve a growing gap between regional job seekers and available positions. Its innovative funding and operational structure allows the Institute to deliver results in response to a rapidly-growing need for manufacturing employees with certified skills and verified work readiness.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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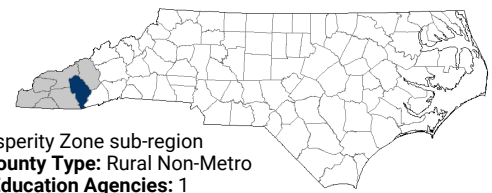
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Jackson County

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 2020

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

Jackson County is in the **Waynesville-Franklin** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 12% of 25-44-year-olds in Jackson County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 18% have a bachelor's degree; 14% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 24% have a high school diploma; and 9% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	43,819
2030 Population	49,995
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	3,584
Charter/Private/Home	876
Median Household Income	\$44,502
Child Poverty Rate	21%
Households with Broadband	67%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Jackson County has 8 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 3 or 38% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Jackson County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Jackson County needs:

- **36 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 53%).
- **542 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 40%).
- **904 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 32%).

Percent of Jackson County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	22%
Met	44%
Not Met	33%

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, Jackson County needs:

- **19 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 89%).
- **71 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 54%).
- **449 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 24%).

Students in Jackson County completed **110 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Architecture and Construction; and Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications.



94 students took at least one AP course (8%) versus 9% of peer counties.



331 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (29%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Jackson County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Jackson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 398:1.

Among Jackson County high school graduates:

- **56% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **69% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **57% 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:

18	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,489	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
10,302	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



3% 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 **3,691 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$39,941.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Health Science** (above bachelor's).

There are **81,375 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

38% of Jackson County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

53% of Jackson County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



Chronic Absenteeism

24% of Jackson County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural non-metro county average of 17%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	17,345	74%
Western Carolina University	10,449	88%
Southwestern Community College	3,262	62%
Haywood Community College	2,223	56%
Tri-County Community College	1,411	56%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: WCU's Corporation for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CEI)

WCU's Corporation for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CEI) provides faculty, staff and university services to assist your business with problem solving, testing, consulting services, and training. In the past year, we assisted regional businesses with strategic planning, acquisition integration, DNA testing, chemical analysis, quality training, lean manufacturing training, leadership coaching, economic impact studies, marketing solutions, patent commercialization, financial analyses, and a host of other services.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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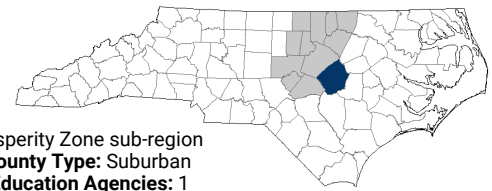
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Johnston County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Johnston County is in the **Raleigh-Durham** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 7% of 25-44-year-olds in Johnston County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 17% have a bachelor's degree; 13% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 24% have a high school diploma; and 13% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	199,790
2030 Population	269,736
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	36,210
Charter/Private/Home	5,688
Median Household Income	\$60,296
Child Poverty Rate	17%
Households with Broadband	76%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Johnston County has 45 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 14 or 31% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Johnston County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Johnston County needs:

- **495 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 32%).
- **5,928 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 39%).
- **9,281 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 33%).

Percent of Johnston County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	22%
Met	36%
Not Met	42%

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, Johnston County needs:

- **40 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 94%).
- **662 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 54%).
- **465 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%).



927 students took at least one AP course (8%) versus 17% of peer counties.



1,310 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (12%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Johnston County completed **1,838 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; 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 Johnston County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Johnston County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 458:1.

Among Johnston County high school graduates:

- **59% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **79% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **55% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

2,661	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,867	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.6% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **22,190 students per year**. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$52,133.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Marketing** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **1,166,888 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) **Software Developers, Applications**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Johnston County to improve future attainment outcomes.



Low-Performing Schools

31% of Johnston County schools are low-performing, above the suburban county average of 17%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

32% of Johnston County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 44%.



Math Performance

33% of Johnston County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the suburban county average of 42%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	139,487	73%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Durham Technical Community College	8,049	58%
Duke University	7,504	95%
North Carolina Central University	7,165	80%
Strayer University-North Carolina	6,998	53%
Central Carolina Community College	6,811	58%
Johnston Community College	5,343	55%
Campbell University	5,183	89%
Vance-Granville Community College	4,014	60%
Meredith College	1,900	92%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: JOCO WORKS

JOCO WORKS is an industry-led collaborative supported by education, business, civic, and government partners, and was created to meet the Johnston County, North Carolina (JOCO) workforce needs of the future. Their career exposition showcases available career options to the county's 8th grade students.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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MyFutureNC is a statewide nonprofit organization focused on educational attainment and is the result of cross-sector collaboration between North Carolina leaders in education, business, and government. Our mission is to prepare North Carolina for the future by empowering individuals, strengthening communities, and ensuring our economic viability in a global economy.

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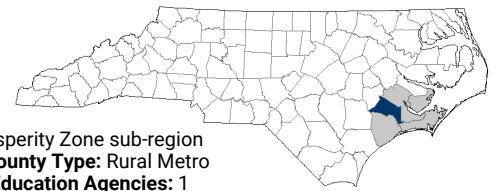
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Jones County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Rural Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Jones County is in the **Jacksonville-New Bern Prosperity Zone** sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Jones County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 8% have a bachelor's degree; 7% have an associate degree; 32% have some college, no degree; 31% have a high school diploma; and 18% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	10,196
2030 Population	10,195
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,007
Charter/Private/Home	216
Median Household Income	\$43,302
Child Poverty Rate	29%
Households with Broadband	57%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



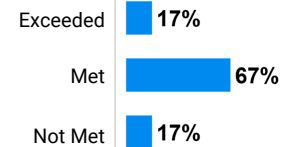
Jones County has 6 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Jones County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Jones County needs:

- **Jones County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 110%).
- **127 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 47%).
- **244 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 37%).

Percent of Jones 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, Jones County needs:

- **1 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 94%).
- **17 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 50%).
- **138 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 24%).



21 students took at least one AP course (7%) versus 10% of peer counties.



91 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (31%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Jones County completed **65 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; 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 Jones County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Jones County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 168:1.

Among Jones County high school graduates:

- **40% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **56% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **36% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

143	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
2,183	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,913	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



17.7% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **2,013 students per year**. After 5 years, 60% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,995.

56% 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); **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); and **Education & Training** (bachelor's).

There are **143,212 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) **Business Operations Specialists, All Other**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



First-Year Persistence

56% of Jones County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural metro county average of 73%.



Transition to Postsecondary

40% of Jones County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural metro county average of 57%.



Postsecondary Completion

36% of Jones County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary earn a degree or credential within 6 years, below the rural metro county average of 50%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	14,670	63%
Coastal Carolina Community College	6,255	73%
Craven Community College	4,599	63%
Carteret Community College	2,077	63%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Jacksonville	1,046	32%
Pamlico Community College	693	52%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Jones County Career Resource Center

The Jones County Center offers various programs and services in curriculum and continuing education. A variety of workforce development and continuing education classes are offered at the Center as well as at numerous locations in Jones County including Jones County Senior Services, Maysville Public Library, and the Pollocksville Filling Station.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

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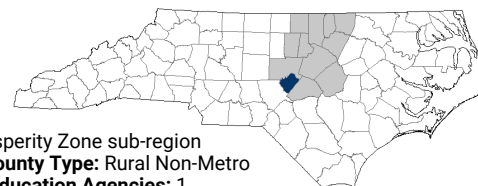
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Lee County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Lee County is in the **Raleigh-Durham** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Lee County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 15% have a bachelor's degree; 14% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 23% have a high school diploma; and 19% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	60,878
2030 Population	68,325
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	9,790
Charter/Private/Home	1,556
Median Household Income	\$48,984
Child Poverty Rate	23%
Households with Broadband	74%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Lee County has 13 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 2 or 15% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Lee County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Lee County needs:

- **Lee County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 76%).
- **1,583 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 40%).
- **2,303 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 37%).

Percent of Lee County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	36%
Met	29%
Not Met	36%

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, Lee County needs:

- **55 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%).
- **124 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 58%).
- **87 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%).



297 students took at least one AP course (10%) versus 9% of peer counties.



613 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (21%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Lee County completed **444 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Hospitality & Tourism; Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; 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 Lee County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Lee County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 466:1.

Among Lee County high school graduates:

- **56% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **74% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **53% 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:

2,661	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,867	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



5.9% 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 **22,190 students per year**. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$52,133.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Marketing** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **1,166,888 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) **Software Developers, Applications**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



School Counselors

Lee County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 466:1, above the rural non-metro county average of 338:1.



Transition to Postsecondary

56% of Lee County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 57%.



Reading Performance

39% of Lee County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural non-metro county average of 41%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	139,487	73%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Durham Technical Community College	8,049	58%
Duke University	7,504	95%
North Carolina Central University	7,165	80%
Strayer University-North Carolina	6,998	53%
Central Carolina Community College	6,811	58%
Johnston Community College	5,343	55%
Campbell University	5,183	89%
Vance-Granville Community College	4,014	60%
Meredith College	1,900	92%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Innovation Center of Central Carolina Community College (CCCC)

At the Innovation Center's Industry Training Center, students are immersed in hands-on learning experiences provided by state-of-the-art facilities mirroring the modern manufacturing floor. Some of the state's best welders learn here, honing skills in a fully equipped welding shop that includes eight bays, a virtual welder and a portable robotic welding training center.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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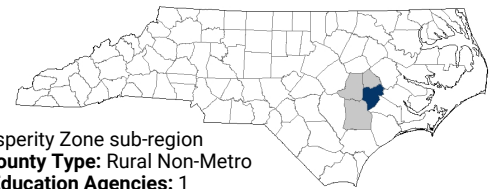
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Lenoir County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Lenoir County is in the **Goldsboro-Kinston** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Lenoir County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 11% have a bachelor's degree; 13% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 28% have a high school diploma; and 19% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	56,856
2030 Population	51,883
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	8,425
Charter/Private/Home	1,781
Median Household Income	\$40,433
Child Poverty Rate	38%
Households with Broadband	74%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Lenoir County has 16 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 5 or 31% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Lenoir County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Lenoir County needs:

- **148 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 42%).
- **1,505 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 36%).
- **2,367 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 28%).

Percent of Lenoir County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	6%
Met	59%
Not Met	35%

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, Lenoir County needs:

- **73 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 85%).
- **133 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 57%).
- **573 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 18%).

Students in Lenoir County completed **509 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Architecture and Construction.



96 students took at least one AP course (4%) versus 9% of peer counties.



570 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (24%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Lenoir County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Lenoir County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 366:1.

Among Lenoir County high school graduates:

- **58% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **70% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **44% 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:

96	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,446	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
17,300	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



5.3% 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 **1,581 students per year**. After 5 years, 75% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$32,495.

63% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (above bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Human Services** (above bachelor's).

There are **102,508 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, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

42% of Lenoir County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



Low-Performing Schools

31% of Lenoir County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Math Performance

28% of Lenoir County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	14,028	67%
Wayne Community College	4,392	62%
University of Mount Olive	4,197	79%
Lenoir Community College	3,843	60%
James Sprunt Community College	1,596	58%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Crown-Lenoir County Schools Pre-Apprenticeship

Crown Equipment Corp.'s Kinston plant and Lenoir County Public Schools have created a pre-apprenticeship program designed to provide a pathway to additional career opportunities for LCPS graduates, particularly those wanting to go directly into the workforce.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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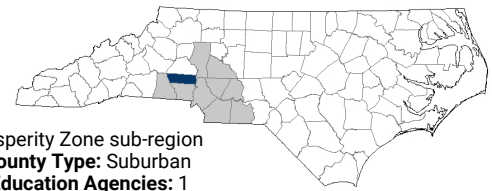
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Lincoln County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Lincoln County is in the **Charlotte** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 8% of 25-44-year-olds in Lincoln County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 16% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 12% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	84,751
2030 Population	99,743
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	11,344
Charter/Private/Home	3,375
Median Household Income	\$62,963
Child Poverty Rate	15%
Households with Broadband	79%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



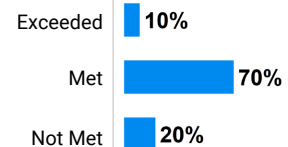
Lincoln County has 20 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 5% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Lincoln County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Lincoln County needs:

- **126 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 45%).
- **1,042 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 53%).
- **1,937 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 49%).

Percent of Lincoln 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, Lincoln County needs:

- **40 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 91%).
- **241 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 51%).
- **219 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 13%).

Students in Lincoln County completed **395 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Hospitality & Tourism; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.



876 students took at least one AP course (25%) versus 17% of peer counties.



470 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (13%) versus 12% of peer counties.

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 Lincoln County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Lincoln County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 334:1.

Among Lincoln County high school graduates:

- **58% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **76% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **55% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

3,322	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,019	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.2% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **12,162 students per year**. After 5 years, 74% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$43,374.

79% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Information Technology** (bachelor's).

There are **1,361,336 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 2) **General and Operations Managers**; 3) **Registered Nurses**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Lincoln County to improve future attainment outcomes.



FAFSA Completion

51% of Lincoln County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the suburban county average of 56%.



Transition to Postsecondary

58% of Lincoln County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the suburban county average of 62%.



First-Year Persistence

76% of Lincoln County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the suburban county average of 78%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	107,538	64%
Central Piedmont Community College	29,552	47%
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	27,078	85%
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College	7,939	28%
Gaston College	7,333	69%
Mitchell Community College	4,188	55%
South Piedmont Community College	3,935	54%
Cleveland Community College	3,883	55%
Stanly Community College	3,837	61%
Wingate University	2,729	93%
Gardner-Webb University	2,454	71%
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte	2,080	79%
Queens University of Charlotte	2,010	91%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Lincoln County School of Technology

Lincoln County School of Technology provides students with a central location to take specialized CTE courses that are not available at all of the four high schools, including Nursing, Automotive, Computer Programming, Firefighting Technology, Drafting (Engineering and Architecture), Carpentry, Adobe Academy, and Multimedia and Web Page Design.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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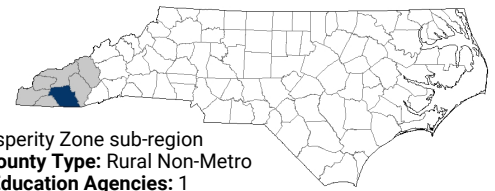
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Macon County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Macon County is in the **Waynesville-Franklin** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 7% of 25-44-year-olds in Macon County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 18% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 28% have a high school diploma; and 13% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	36,101
2030 Population	40,862
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	4,367
Charter/Private/Home	806
Median Household Income	\$46,426
Child Poverty Rate	26%
Households with Broadband	71%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



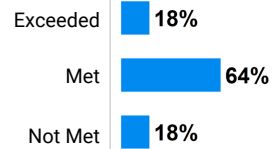
Macon County has 9 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 11% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Macon County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Macon County needs:

- **48 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 53%).
- **546 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 47%).
- **991 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 38%).

Percent of Macon 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, Macon County needs:

- **6 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 93%).
- **53 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 61%).
- **189 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 15%).

Students in Macon County completed **184 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Architecture and Construction.



116 students took at least one AP course (9%) versus 9% of peer counties.



382 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (30%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Macon County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Macon County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 437:1.

Among Macon County high school graduates:

- **55% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **77% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **58% 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:

18	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,489	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
10,302	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



2.5% 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 **3,691 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$39,941.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Health Science** (above bachelor's).

There are **81,375 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

53% of Macon County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



School Counselors

Macon County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 437:1, above the rural non-metro county average of 338:1.



Transition to Postsecondary

55% of Macon County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 57%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	17,345	74%
Western Carolina University	10,449	88%
Southwestern Community College	3,262	62%
Haywood Community College	2,223	56%
Tri-County Community College	1,411	56%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Macon Program for Progress

A nonprofit community action agency, Macon Program for Progress (MPP) improves the standard of living for low-income families in Macon County. MPP seeks to provide services that help the whole family, including Head Start/Early Head Start/NC Pre-K, economic development opportunities, and community networking for families in need.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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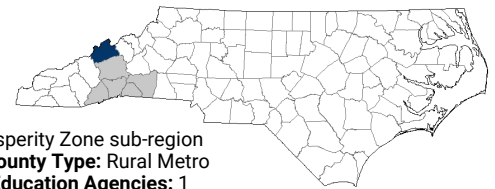
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Madison County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Madison County is in the **Asheville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 11% of 25-44-year-olds in Madison County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 21% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 20% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 8% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	22,361
2030 Population	25,251
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	2,234
Charter/Private/Home	740
Median Household Income	\$44,693
Child Poverty Rate	23%
Households with Broadband	71%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Madison County has 6 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Madison County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Madison County needs:

- **37 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 42%).
- **187 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 53%).
- **368 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 47%).

Percent of Madison County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	50%
Met	17%
Not Met	33%

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, Madison County needs:

- **13 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%).
- **56 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 47%).
- **103 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).

Students in Madison County completed **130 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; and Health Science.



41 students took at least one AP course (5%) versus 10% of peer counties.



342 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (45%) versus 18% of peer counties.

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 Madison County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Madison County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 559:1.

Among Madison County high school graduates:

- **45% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **64% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **59% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

553	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,207	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
22,514	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



1.6% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **2,836 students per year**. After 5 years, 69% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$33,116.

71% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **255,306 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 metro counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Madison County to improve future attainment outcomes.



Transition to Postsecondary

45% of Madison County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural metro county average of 57%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

42% of Madison County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



First-Year Persistence

64% of Madison County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural metro county average of 73%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	23,862	65%
Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College	10,492	53%
University of North Carolina at Asheville	4,366	89%
Blue Ridge Community College	2,812	48%
Isothermal Community College	2,662	58%
Mars Hill University	1,343	82%
Montreat College	845	71%
Brevard College	698	87%
Warren Wilson College	644	84%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: WNC Early Childhood Workforce Development Program

The WNC Early Childhood Workforce Development Program (Buncombe, Madison, Henderson and Transylvania counties) will expand a program started in Buncombe County to train more early childhood educators through a \$400,000 grant. The program will address the shortage of early childhood teachers by recruiting candidates in under-resourced communities and providing them with training, substitute placement and coaching. The program seeks to increase the number of teachers from diverse backgrounds entering the profession and increase the availability of quality child care for working families.




We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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Martin County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Martin County is in the **Greenville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 8% of 25-44-year-olds in Martin County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 13% have a bachelor's degree; 14% have an associate degree; 28% have some college, no degree; 26% have a high school diploma; and 12% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	23,264
2030 Population	21,914
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	2,898
Charter/Private/Home	639
Median Household Income	\$43,569
Child Poverty Rate	31%
Households with Broadband	62%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Martin County has 7 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 4 or 57% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Martin County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Martin County needs:

- **Martin County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 88%).
- **594 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 32%).
- **884 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 25%).

Percent of Martin County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	0%
Met	43%
Not Met	57%

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, Martin County needs:

- **54 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 72%).
- **9 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 74%).
- **199 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 18%).

Students in Martin County completed **140 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Health Science.



3 students took at least one AP course (0%) versus 9% of peer counties.



121 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (16%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Martin County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Martin County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 290:1.

Among Martin County high school graduates:

- **63% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **74% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **47% 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:

347	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
2,779	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
19,098	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



3.9% 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 **8,237 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$47,838.

84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources** (bachelor's) and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (bachelor's).

There are **154,964 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

57% of Martin County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



High School Graduation

72% of Martin County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural non-metro county average of 86%.



Math Performance

25% of Martin County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,903	70%
East Carolina University	25,427	90%
Pitt Community College	12,206	65%
Beaufort County Community College	1,994	41%
Halifax Community College	1,626	38%
Chowan University	1,582	81%
Roanoke-Chowan Community College	1,067	52%
Martin Community College	1,001	55%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Northeast NC Career Pathways

Northeast NC Career Pathways follows the Pathways to Prosperity (PTP) model, which enhances the development of academically and technically rigorous and robust career pathways. NENC now represents 20 counties and 22 local education agencies (LEAs), 4 charter schools, 1 regional high school, 9 community colleges, 11 NCWorks Career Centers, and 3 universities. A variety of employers and economic development agencies have also been a part of this process.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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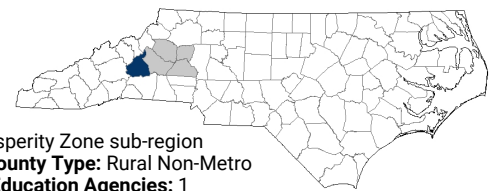
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McDowell County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

McDowell County is in the **Hickory** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in McDowell County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 13% have a bachelor's degree; 15% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 29% have a high school diploma; and 13% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	46,373
2030 Population	49,474
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	5,871
Charter/Private/Home	1,232
Median Household Income	\$43,972
Child Poverty Rate	21%
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.



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

How students in McDowell County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, McDowell County needs:

- **McDowell County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 76%).
- **839 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 44%).
- **1,439 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 36%).

Percent of McDowell County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	43%
Met	57%
Not Met	0%

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, McDowell County needs:

- **56 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 83%).
- **131 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 48%).
- **292 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).



174 students took at least one AP course (10%) versus 9% of peer counties.



505 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (29%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in McDowell County completed **253 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Manufacturing; Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; and Architecture and Construction.

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 McDowell County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



McDowell County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 326:1.

Among McDowell County high school graduates:

- **48% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **74% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **50% 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:

300	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,422	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
22,503	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



7.9% 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 **2,073 students per year**. After 5 years, 82% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$33,373.

64% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); **Health Science** (above and below bachelor's); and **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's).

There are **188,511 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers**; 3) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Transition to Postsecondary

48% of McDowell County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 57%.



FAFSA Completion

48% of McDowell County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural non-metro county average of 55%.



High School Graduation

83% of McDowell County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural non-metro county average of 86%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	16,315	52%
Catawba Valley Community College	6,125	62%
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute	4,636	53%
Western Piedmont Community College	2,306	36%
Lenoir-Rhyne University	1,830	70%
McDowell Technical Community College	1,418	44%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: McDowell Strategic Employment Plan Initiative (SEPI)

The McDowell Economic Development Association and the Region C Workforce Development Board studied the employment needs of McDowell County to develop a strategic regional plan.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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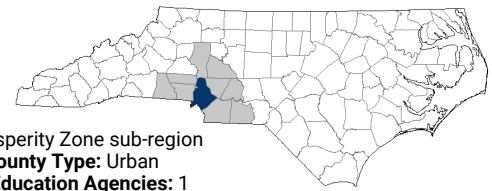
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Mecklenburg County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Mecklenburg County is in the **Charlotte** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 6 urban counties in NC.

Overall, 16% of 25-44-year-olds in Mecklenburg County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 34% have a bachelor's degree; 7% have an associate degree; 19% have some college, no degree; 14% have a high school diploma; and 10% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	1,088,350
2030 Population	1,348,822
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	146,661
Charter/Private/Home	45,318
Median Household Income	\$64,509
Child Poverty Rate	17%
Households with Broadband	86%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Mecklenburg County has 166 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 42 or 25% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Mecklenburg County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Mecklenburg County needs:

- **2,870 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 27%).
- **20,292 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 44%).
- **26,988 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 47%).

Percent of Mecklenburg County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	27%
Met	45%
Not Met	29%

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, Mecklenburg County needs:

- **1,075 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 86%).
- **2,373 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 56%).
- **5,875 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 15%).



9,403 students took at least one AP course (22%) versus 25% of peer counties.



2,383 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (6%) versus 5% of peer counties.

Students in Mecklenburg County completed **3,549 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Hospitality & Tourism; Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics; and Health Science.

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 Mecklenburg County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Mecklenburg County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 314:1.

Among Mecklenburg County high school graduates:

- **63% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 66% of peer counties.
- **79% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 81% of peer counties.
- **58% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 58% of peer counties.

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

3,322	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,019	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



5.3% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 5.3% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **12,162 students per year**. After 5 years, 74% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$43,374.

79% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Information Technology** (bachelor's).

There are **1,361,336 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 2) **General and Operations Managers**; 3) **Registered Nurses**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to urban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Mecklenburg County to improve future attainment outcomes.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

27% of Mecklenburg County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the urban county average of 38%.



Transition to Postsecondary

63% of Mecklenburg County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the urban county average of 66%.



AP Participation

22% of Mecklenburg County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the urban county average of 25%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	107,538	64%
Central Piedmont Community College	29,552	47%
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	27,078	85%
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College	7,939	28%
Gaston College	7,333	69%
Mitchell Community College	4,188	55%
South Piedmont Community College	3,935	54%
Cleveland Community College	3,883	55%
Stanly Community College	3,837	61%
Wingate University	2,729	93%
Gardner-Webb University	2,454	71%
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte	2,080	79%
Queens University of Charlotte	2,010	91%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: The ROC

The ROC serves Charlotte students with a mission to educate and mentor high school students for technical education and career opportunities in the construction industry. Students selected for the ROC receive dual high school and college credits. Juniors and seniors receive skills training in advanced carpentry, electrical, HVAC and construction management through a combination of structured classroom and applied learning on-the-job with local professional mentors.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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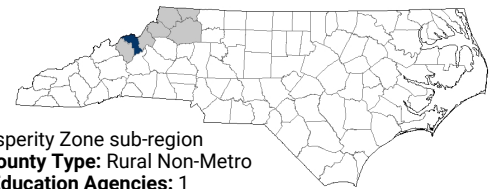
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Mitchell County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Mitchell County is in the **Boone-Wilkesboro** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 2% of 25-44-year-olds in Mitchell County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 19% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 29% have a high school diploma; and 14% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	15,223
2030 Population	15,310
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,824
Charter/Private/Home	327
Median Household Income	\$43,967
Child Poverty Rate	24%
Households with Broadband	67%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



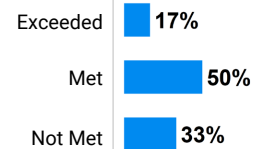
Mitchell County has 6 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Mitchell County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Mitchell County needs:

- **12 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 56%).
- **227 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 45%).
- **401 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 37%).

Percent of Mitchell 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, Mitchell County needs:

- **11 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%).
- **50 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 40%).
- **Mitchell County has met the goal for students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 10%).



42 students took at least one AP course (7%) versus 9% of peer counties.



262 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (43%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Mitchell County completed **163 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Manufacturing; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

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 Mitchell County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.

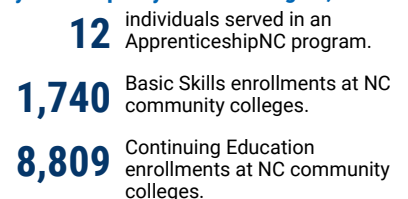


Mitchell County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 304:1.

Among Mitchell County high school graduates:

- **60% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **77% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **59% 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.



6.2% 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 **5,225 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$41,744.

72% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **84,705 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



FAFSA Completion

40% of Mitchell County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural non-metro county average of 55%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

56% of Mitchell County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



AP Participation

7% of Mitchell County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural non-metro county average of 9%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	24,025	81%
Appalachian State University	18,135	91%
Wilkes Community College	3,416	54%
Mayland Community College	1,455	55%
Lees-McRae College	1,019	66%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Mitchell Works

Mitchell Works is a program aimed at educating our local students and their parents about the career opportunities available in Mitchell County and the training required to pursue a career in those fields.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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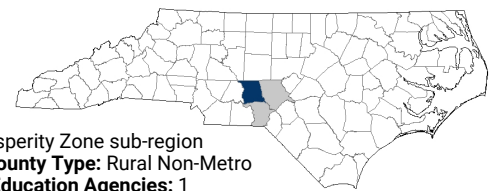
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Montgomery County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

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

Overall, 3% of 25-44-year-olds in Montgomery County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 8% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 22% have some college, no degree; 37% have a high school diploma; and 19% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	27,621
2030 Population	28,158
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	3,786
Charter/Private/Home	548
Median Household Income	\$47,757
Child Poverty Rate	26%
Households with Broadband	67%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Montgomery County has 10 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 10% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Montgomery County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Montgomery County needs:

- **Montgomery County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 102%).
- **677 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 35%).
- **971 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 31%).

Percent of Montgomery County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	36%
Met	27%
Not Met	36%

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, Montgomery County needs:

- **14 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 91%).
- **76 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 53%).
- **250 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 17%).

Students in Montgomery County completed **173 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics.



29 students took at least one AP course (3%) versus 9% of peer counties.



377 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (34%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Montgomery County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Montgomery County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 421:1.

Among Montgomery County high school graduates:

- **48% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **70% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **43% 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:

24	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,920	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,381	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



14.4% 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 Montgomery County to improve future attainment outcomes.



Transition to Postsecondary

48% of Montgomery County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 57%.



AP Participation

3% of Montgomery County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural non-metro county average of 9%.



Postsecondary Completion

43% of Montgomery 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%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	9,578	47%
Sandhills Community College	5,329	39%
Richmond Community College	3,107	56%
Montgomery Community College	1,142	66%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Apprenticeship Montgomery

Montgomery Community College is partnering with Montgomery County Schools, Montgomery Economic Development Corporation (EDC), Montgomery Career Center, NC Dept. of Commerce (Apprenticeship and Training) and local employers to build an apprenticeship program that will meet the workforce needs in the county. Apprenticeship Montgomery targets high school students in their junior and senior years, who are enrolled in Career and Technical Education pathways, and places them in college level courses while they complete their high school requirements.




We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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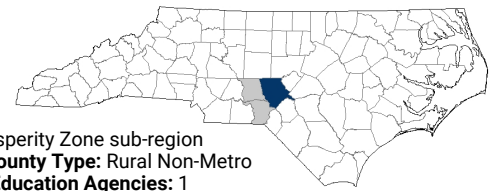
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Moore County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

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

Overall, 14% of 25-44-year-olds in Moore County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 22% have a bachelor's degree; 13% have an associate degree; 22% have some college, no degree; 21% have a high school diploma; and 8% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	99,390
2030 Population	119,674
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	12,668
Charter/Private/Home	3,826
Median Household Income	\$59,471
Child Poverty Rate	15%
Households with Broadband	81%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



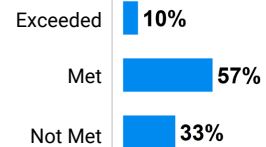
Moore County has 20 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 4 or 20% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Moore County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Moore County needs:

- **271 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 12%).
- **1,441 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 49%).
- **2,662 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 41%).

Percent of Moore 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, Moore County needs:

- **43 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 91%).
- **165 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 62%).
- **197 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 13%).

Students in Moore County completed **473 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Hospitality & Tourism.



710 students took at least one AP course (18%) versus 9% of peer counties.



969 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (24%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Moore County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Moore County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 302:1.

Among Moore County high school graduates:

- **70% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **77% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **56% 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:

24	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,920	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,381	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



10.7% 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 Moore County to improve future attainment outcomes.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

12% of Moore County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



Disconnected Youth

11% of Moore County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural non-metro county average of 9%.



Low-Performing Schools

20% of Moore County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	9,578	47%
Sandhills Community College	5,329	39%
Richmond Community College	3,107	56%
Montgomery Community College	1,142	66%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: NC For Military Employment (NC4ME)

Moore County Partners in Progress has partnered with Richmond County Economic Development, the NCWorks Career Offices in both Moore & Richmond Counties, and NC For Military Employment (NC4ME) to host the Sandhills Veteran Hiring Event for transitioning veterans and military spouses. The goal is to help these individuals find quality employment in the Sandhills region while helping local employers address their needs for qualified workers.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/

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Nash County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Nash County is in the **Rocky Mount-Wilson** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 9% of 25-44-year-olds in Nash County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 15% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 22% have some college, no degree; 33% have a high school diploma; and 10% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	95,327
2030 Population	97,276
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	14,763
Charter/Private/Home	3,734
Median Household Income	\$50,122
Child Poverty Rate	23%
Households with Broadband	73%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Nash County has 24 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 13 or 54% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Nash County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Nash County needs:

- **88 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 58%).
- **2,974 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 31%).
- **4,522 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 22%).

Percent of Nash County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	16%
Met	44%
Not Met	40%

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, Nash County needs:

- **161 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 82%).
- **287 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 52%).
- **1,215 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).



270 students took at least one AP course (6%) versus 10% of peer counties.



652 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (15%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Nash County completed **582 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Hospitality & Tourism; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Health Science.

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 Nash County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Nash County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 379:1.

Among Nash County high school graduates:

- **60% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **70% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **48% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

327	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,711	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
13,104	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



5.9% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **1,058 students per year**. After 5 years, 82% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$35,382.

69% 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); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **99,203 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

54% of Nash County schools are low-performing, above the rural metro county average of 16%.



Math Performance

21% of Nash County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural metro county average of 36%.



Reading Performance

31% of Nash County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural metro county average of 41%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	13,632	43%
Nash Community College	4,549	27%
Edgecombe Community College	2,967	15%
Wilson Community College	2,687	39%
North Carolina Wesleyan College	2,459	80%
Barton College	970	87%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: RAMP East

The Regional Advanced Manufacturing Pipeline for Eastern North Carolina, also known as RAMP East, is a 10-county regional sector partnership that addresses workforce needs for the advanced manufacturing industries.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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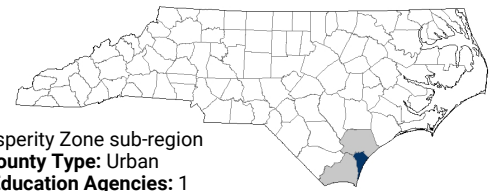
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New Hanover County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Urban
Local Education Agencies: 1

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

New Hanover County is in the **Wilmington** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 6 urban counties in NC.

Overall, 12% of 25-44-year-olds in New Hanover County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 31% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 22% have some college, no degree; 18% have a high school diploma; and 6% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	232,248
2030 Population	276,409
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	25,512
Charter/Private/Home	7,023
Median Household Income	\$53,419
Child Poverty Rate	19%
Households with Broadband	84%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



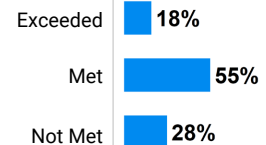
New Hanover County has 38 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 5 or 13% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in New Hanover County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, New Hanover County needs:

- **194 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 56%).
- **2,470 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 52%).
- **4,278 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 50%).

Percent of New Hanover 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, New Hanover County needs:

- **157 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%).
- **521 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 52%).
- **982 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 15%).



1,614 students took at least one AP course (20%) versus 25% of peer counties.



883 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (11%) versus 5% of peer counties.

Students in New Hanover County completed **608 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Hospitality & Tourism; Information Technology; and Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications.

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 New Hanover County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



New Hanover County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 364:1.

Among New Hanover County high school graduates:

- **68% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 66% of peer counties.
- **80% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 81% of peer counties.
- **57% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 58% of peer counties.

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

254	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,943	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,610	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



6.5% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 5.3% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **6,301 students per year**. After 5 years, 66% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$40,372.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Finance** (bachelor's); **Health Science** (above bachelor's); and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **207,875 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to urban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for New Hanover County to improve future attainment outcomes.



FAFSA Completion

52% of New Hanover County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the urban county average of 59%.



AP Participation

20% of New Hanover County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the urban county average of 25%.



Adult Learners

22% of New Hanover County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the urban county average of 19%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	35,429	69%
University of North Carolina Wilmington	16,604	93%
Cape Fear Community College	12,293	62%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Wilmington	4,672	35%
Brunswick Community College	1,860	57%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Cape Fear Collective

Founded in 2019, the Cape Fear Collective (CFC) is a collective impact and data science nonprofit backbone organization based in Wilmington. CFC's mission is to scale big data, fundraising, social innovation, and large-scale initiative management to a six-county region in Southeastern NC. CFC employs data scientists, strategists, journalists, and process improvement experts who partner with anchor institutions from across the region. Together, they create sustainable impact programs that address social progress across a variety of sectors including economic development, health and human services, climate change, and housing.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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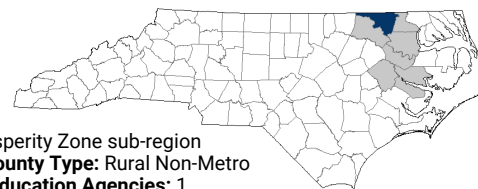
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Northampton County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Northampton County is in the **Greenville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Northampton County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 10% have a bachelor's degree; 13% have an associate degree; 19% have some college, no degree; 38% have a high school diploma; and 15% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	20,618
2030 Population	18,379
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,517
Charter/Private/Home	1,537
Median Household Income	\$37,233
Child Poverty Rate	34%
Households with Broadband	51%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



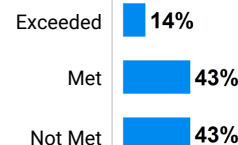
Northampton County has 7 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 5 or 71% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Northampton County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Northampton County needs:

- **Northampton County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 94%).
- **373 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 19%).
- **490 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 15%).

Percent of Northampton 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, Northampton County needs:

- **26 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 72%).
- **11 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 53%).
- **317 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 31%).

Students in Northampton County completed **57 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Hospitality & Tourism; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Manufacturing.



0 students took at least one AP course (0%) versus 9% of peer counties.



129 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (28%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Northampton County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Northampton County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 253:1.

Among Northampton County high school graduates:

- **44% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **56% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **38% 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:

347	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
2,779	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
19,098	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



4.4% 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 **8,237 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$47,838.

84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources** (bachelor's) and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (bachelor's).

There are **154,964 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

71% of Northampton County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Reading Performance

19% of Northampton County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural non-metro county average of 41%.



Math Performance

15% of Northampton County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,903	70%
East Carolina University	25,427	90%
Pitt Community College	12,206	65%
Beaufort County Community College	1,994	41%
Halifax Community College	1,626	38%
Chowan University	1,582	81%
Roanoke-Chowan Community College	1,067	52%
Martin Community College	1,001	55%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Partnership Teach

Partnership Teach (formerly Partnership East) is a collaboration between the ECU College of Education and North Carolina Community Colleges. The partnership grows teachers dedicated to their local communities and provides community college transfer students the opportunity to complete bachelor's degrees through affordable, high quality, online course delivery. Students are placed in local school districts to practice principles covered in online courses and for internships. Coordinators are located throughout North Carolina to serve students through regional hub site offices.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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Onslow County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Suburban
Local Education Agencies: 1

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Onslow County is in the **Jacksonville-New Bern** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 6% of 25-44-year-olds in Onslow County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 18% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 35% have some college, no degree; 24% have a high school diploma; and 6% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	198,740
2030 Population	229,277
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	26,410
Charter/Private/Home	4,857
Median Household Income	\$50,531
Child Poverty Rate	21%
Households with Broadband	86%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Onslow County has 36 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 4 or 11% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Onslow County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Onslow County needs:

- **1,039 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 31%).
- **3,689 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 43%).
- **6,442 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 34%).

Percent of Onslow County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	36%
Met	50%
Not Met	14%

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, Onslow County needs:

- **114 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 89%).
- **528 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 48%).
- **1,167 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 15%).



975 students took at least one AP course (14%) versus 17% of peer counties.



377 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (5%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Onslow County completed **1,562 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Health Science.

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 Onslow County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Onslow County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 539:1.

Among Onslow County high school graduates:

- **57% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **75% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **51% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

143	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
2,183	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,913	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



7.6% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **2,013 students per year**. After 5 years, 60% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,995.

56% 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); **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); and **Education & Training** (bachelor's).

There are **143,212 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) **Business Operations Specialists, All Other**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Onslow County to improve future attainment outcomes.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

31% of Onslow County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 44%.



Adult Learners

35% of Onslow County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the suburban county average of 26%.



School Counselors

Onslow County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 539:1, above the suburban county average of 363:1.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	14,670	63%
Coastal Carolina Community College	6,255	73%
Craven Community College	4,599	63%
Carteret Community College	2,077	63%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Jacksonville	1,046	32%
Pamlico Community College	693	52%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Eastern NC Regional Skills Center

High school students in Onslow County, Duplin County, Jones County and Lejeune High School can receive advanced training opportunities in a new, state-of-the-art building. Focus areas include automotive technology, collision refinishing and repair technology, culinary arts, cyber literacy, cyber security, digital design and animation, game art design, nursing fundamentals, and welding technology.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/

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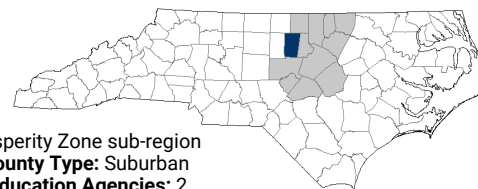
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Orange County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Suburban
Local Education Agencies: 2

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Orange County is in the **Raleigh-Durham** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 32% of 25-44-year-olds in Orange County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 28% have a bachelor's degree; 6% have an associate degree; 14% have some college, no degree; 13% have a high school diploma; and 7% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	145,574
2030 Population	163,699
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	19,572
Charter/Private/Home	3,325
Median Household Income	\$71,920
Child Poverty Rate	11%
Households with Broadband	87%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Orange County has 30 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Orange County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Orange County needs:

- **Orange County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 87%).
- **1,358 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 58%).
- **2,878 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 55%).

Percent of Orange County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	45%
Met	45%
Not Met	10%

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, Orange County needs:

- **76 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 90%).
- **268 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 61%).
- **67 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 11%).



2,166 students took at least one AP course (35%) versus 17% of peer counties.



324 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (5%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Orange County completed **457 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics.

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 Orange County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Orange County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 292:1.

Among Orange County high school graduates:

- **72% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **88% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **71% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

2,661	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,867	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



3.1% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **22,190 students per year**. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$52,133.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Marketing** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **1,166,888 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) **Software Developers, Applications**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Orange County to improve future attainment outcomes.



CCP Enrollment

5% of Orange County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the suburban county average of 12%.



FAFSA Completion

61% of Orange County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the state average of 64%.



Math Performance

55% of Orange County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the state goal of 86%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	139,487	73%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Durham Technical Community College	8,049	58%
Duke University	7,504	95%
North Carolina Central University	7,165	80%
Strayer University-North Carolina	6,998	53%
Central Carolina Community College	6,811	58%
Johnston Community College	5,343	55%
Campbell University	5,183	89%
Vance-Granville Community College	4,014	60%
Meredith College	1,900	92%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Durham Tech Promise Fund

With the Durham Tech Promise, recent high school graduates in Durham and Orange counties can receive up to \$1,000 each year for two years of tuition and fees.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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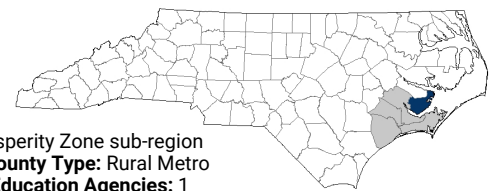
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Pamlico County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Rural Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Pamlico County is in the **Jacksonville-New Bern** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 1% of 25-44-year-olds in Pamlico County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 11% have a bachelor's degree; 14% have an associate degree; 33% have some college, no degree; 31% have a high school diploma; and 10% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	13,359
2030 Population	13,452
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,308
Charter/Private/Home	787
Median Household Income	\$46,447
Child Poverty Rate	29%
Households with Broadband	69%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Pamlico County has 3 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Pamlico County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Pamlico County needs:

- **Pamlico County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 118%).
- **220 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 36%).
- **307 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 34%).

Percent of Pamlico County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	67%
Met	33%
Not Met	0%

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, Pamlico County needs:

- **Pamlico County has met the goal for 9th graders** graduating within four years (goal: 95% vs. 95%).
- **12 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 65%).
- **115 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 20%).

Students in Pamlico County completed **73 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; and Health Science.



48 students took at least one AP course (11%) versus 10% of peer counties.



83 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (19%) versus 18% of peer counties.

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 Pamlico County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Pamlico County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 1,308:1.

Among Pamlico County high school graduates:

- **58% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **69% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **44% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

143	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
2,183	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,913	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



14% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **2,013 students per year**. After 5 years, 60% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,995.

56% 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); **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); and **Education & Training** (bachelor's).

There are **143,212 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) **Business Operations Specialists, All Other**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



School Counselors

Pamlico County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 1308:1, above the rural metro county average of 378:1.



Adult Learners

33% of Pamlico County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural metro county average of 25%.



Postsecondary Completion

44% of Pamlico County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary earn a degree or credential within 6 years, below the rural metro county average of 50%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	14,670	63%
Coastal Carolina Community College	6,255	73%
Craven Community College	4,599	63%
Carteret Community College	2,077	63%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Jacksonville	1,046	32%
Pamlico Community College	693	52%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Growth and Employment in Pamlico County (GEPC)

Growth and Employment in Pamlico County (GEPC) is a comprehensive program that provides seamless transitions to employment in Pamlico County and the eastern region within various career clusters. This program integrates and advances various ongoing activities such as academic/instructional programming, apprenticeship/hands-on/work-based learning, and career counseling/student support services that lead to goal completion, employment, or transfer to four-year institutions.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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Pasquotank 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 2020

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

Pasquotank County is in the **Elizabeth City** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 7% of 25-44-year-olds in Pasquotank County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 13% have a bachelor's degree; 12% have an associate degree; 29% have some college, no degree; 29% have a high school diploma; and 10% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	39,790
2030 Population	39,591
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	5,355
Charter/Private/Home	1,798
Median Household Income	\$46,355
Child Poverty Rate	28%
Households with Broadband	74%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



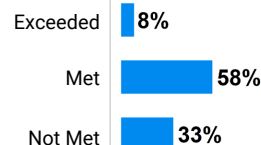
Pasquotank County has 12 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 4 or 33% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Pasquotank County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Pasquotank County needs:

- **73 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 51%).
- **979 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 35%).
- **1,482 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 29%).

Percent of Pasquotank 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, Pasquotank County needs:

- **62 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 81%).
- **91 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 54%).
- **350 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 22%).



64 students took at least one AP course (4%) versus 9% of peer counties.



137 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (9%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Pasquotank County completed **248 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Business Management & Administration; and Health Science.

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 Pasquotank County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Pasquotank County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 357:1.

Among Pasquotank County high school graduates:

- **57% 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.
- **49% 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:

8 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



4.4% 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 **580 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,932.

60% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **67,624 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **General and Operations Managers**; 2) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**; 3) **Accountants and Auditors**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

33% of Pasquotank County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



CCP Enrollment

9% of Pasquotank County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program, below the rural non-metro county average of 22%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

51% of Pasquotank County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	5,015	63%
College of the Albemarle	3,263	57%
Elizabeth City State University	1,538	74%
Mid-Atlantic Christian University	214	35%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: College of the Albemarle-Telephonics

Telephonics worked with the College of the Albemarle to structure their pre-hire training and coordination of the Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) for interested applicants. Following the two hiring events, 100+ people in the community obtained a CRC via this company expansion.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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Pender County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Pender County is in the **Wilmington** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 10% of 25-44-year-olds in Pender County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 20% have a bachelor's degree; 9% have an associate degree; 21% have some college, no degree; 28% have a high school diploma; and 12% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	62,168
2030 Population	76,106
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	9,161
Charter/Private/Home	1,148
Median Household Income	\$54,900
Child Poverty Rate	22%
Households with Broadband	75%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Pender County has 18 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 6% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Pender County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Pender County needs:

- **Pender County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 104%).
- **1,030 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 49%).
- **1,797 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 44%).

Percent of Pender County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	50%
Met	44%
Not Met	6%

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, Pender County needs:

- **17 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 93%).
- **178 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 55%).
- **758 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).

Students in Pender County completed **485 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Architecture and Construction; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Health Science.



381 students took at least one AP course (13%) versus 10% of peer counties.



499 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (17%) versus 18% of peer counties.

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 Pender County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Pender County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 416:1.

Among Pender County high school graduates:

- **61% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **77% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **47% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

254	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,943	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,610	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



6.1% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **6,301 students per year**. After 5 years, 66% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$40,372.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Finance** (bachelor's); **Health Science** (above bachelor's); and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **207,875 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Chronic Absenteeism

19% of Pender County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural metro county average of 16%.



School Counselors

Pender County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 416:1, above the rural metro county average of 378:1.



Postsecondary Completion

47% of Pender County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary earn a degree or credential within 6 years, below the rural metro county average of 50%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	35,429	69%
University of North Carolina Wilmington	16,604	93%
Cape Fear Community College	12,293	62%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Wilmington	4,672	35%
Brunswick Community College	1,860	57%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Adult High School

The Adult High School (AHS) Program is designed for students who have not completed high school and wish to earn their high school diploma. There is no cost to students for classes or books. The AHS diploma is recognized by colleges and universities throughout the nation and is the equivalent to any public or private high school diploma. Graduates receive an Adult High School Diploma issued by Cape Fear Community College and the New Hanover or Pender County Board of Education. Classes are conveniently offered at both the Downtown Wilmington Campus and at the Burgaw Campus.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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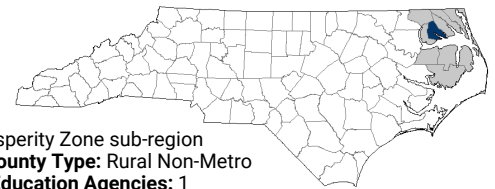
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Perquimans County

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 2020

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

Perquimans County is in the **Elizabeth City** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Perquimans County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 21% have a bachelor's degree; 9% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 34% have a high school diploma; and 5% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	13,652
2030 Population	13,923
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,607
Charter/Private/Home	175
Median Household Income	\$48,337
Child Poverty Rate	28%
Households with Broadband	69%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Perquimans County has 3 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Perquimans County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Perquimans County needs:

- **17 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 51%).
- **234 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 43%).
- **392 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 36%).

Percent of Perquimans County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	0%
Met	67%
Not Met	33%

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, Perquimans County needs:

- **7 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 89%).
- **36 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 43%).
- **148 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 20%).



13 students took at least one AP course (3%) versus 9% of peer counties.



97 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (22%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Perquimans County completed **72 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Information Technology; Health Science; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

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 Perquimans County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Perquimans County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 321:1.

Among Perquimans County high school graduates:

- **44% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **67% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **50% 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:

8 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



1.4% 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 **580 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,932.

60% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **67,624 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **General and Operations Managers**; 2) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**; 3) **Accountants and Auditors**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Transition to Postsecondary

44% of Perquimans County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 57%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

51% of Perquimans County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



FAFSA Completion

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

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	5,015	63%
College of the Albemarle	3,263	57%
Elizabeth City State University	1,538	74%
Mid-Atlantic Christian University	214	35%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Perquimans 1:1

Perquimans County Schools implemented a 1:1 initiative with iPads for students in grades 3-12 to close the digital divide and prepare students to be competitive in the global economy.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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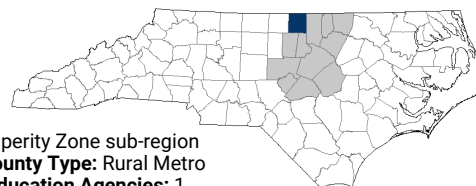
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Person County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Person County is in the **Raleigh-Durham** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Person County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 12% have a bachelor's degree; 14% have an associate degree; 29% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 9% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	40,208
2030 Population	41,823
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	4,305
Charter/Private/Home	1,868
Median Household Income	\$50,149
Child Poverty Rate	23%
Households with Broadband	74%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Person County has 11 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 2 or 18% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Person County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Person County needs:

- **81 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 47%).
- **663 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 40%).
- **949 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 39%).

Percent of Person County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	45%
Met	18%
Not Met	36%

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, Person County needs:

- **48 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 82%).
- **81 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 49%).
- **217 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).

Students in Person County completed **298 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; and Hospitality & Tourism.



134 students took at least one AP course (11%) versus 10% of peer counties.



315 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (25%) versus 18% of peer counties.

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 Person County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Person County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 331:1.

Among Person County high school graduates:

- **59% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **65% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **50% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

2,661	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,867	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



6.3% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **22,190 students per year**. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$52,133.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Marketing** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **1,166,888 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) **Software Developers, Applications**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



First-Year Persistence

65% of Person County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural metro county average of 73%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

47% of Person County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



FAFSA Completion

49% of Person County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural metro county average of 54%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	139,487	73%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Durham Technical Community College	8,049	58%
Duke University	7,504	95%
North Carolina Central University	7,165	80%
Strayer University-North Carolina	6,998	53%
Central Carolina Community College	6,811	58%
Johnston Community College	5,343	55%
Campbell University	5,183	89%
Vance-Granville Community College	4,014	60%
Meredith College	1,900	92%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: 6-14 Workforce Pipeline

Person County's new "6-14 Workforce Pipeline" partners key stakeholders in an innovative program to enhance and align student skills with local needs, move the needle on student success, and propel Person County business and industry to a future of leading productivity in sectors such as advanced manufacturing, technology, entrepreneurship, and agriculture.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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Pitt County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Suburban
Local Education Agencies: 1

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Pitt County is in the **Greenville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 12% of 25-44-year-olds in Pitt County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 24% have a bachelor's degree; 13% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 19% have a high school diploma; and 8% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	178,440
2030 Population	193,742
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	23,228
Charter/Private/Home	4,317
Median Household Income	\$43,303
Child Poverty Rate	27%
Households with Broadband	78%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



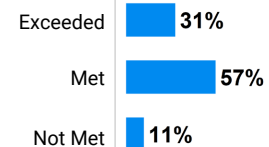
Pitt County has 35 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 7 or 20% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Pitt County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Pitt County needs:

- **282 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 48%).
- **3,410 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 42%).
- **4,968 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 40%).

Percent of Pitt 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, Pitt County needs:

- **223 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 83%).
- **305 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 61%).
- **564 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 13%).



1,007 students took at least one AP course (14%) versus 17% of peer counties.



1,253 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (18%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Pitt County completed **1,219 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Hospitality & Tourism; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

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 Pitt County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Pitt County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 342:1.

Among Pitt County high school graduates:

- **66% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **77% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **50% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

347	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
2,779	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
19,098	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



5.6% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **8,237 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$47,838.

84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources** (bachelor's) and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (bachelor's).

There are **154,964 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Pitt County to improve future attainment outcomes.



High School Graduation

83% of Pitt County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the suburban county average of 88%.



Postsecondary Completion

50% of Pitt County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary earn a degree or credential within 6 years, below the suburban county average of 54%.



Reading Performance

42% of Pitt County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the suburban county average of 46%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,903	70%
East Carolina University	25,427	90%
Pitt Community College	12,206	65%
Beaufort County Community College	1,994	41%
Halifax Community College	1,626	38%
Chowan University	1,582	81%
Roanoke-Chowan Community College	1,067	52%
Martin Community College	1,001	55%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Pitt County Reentry Council

In Pitt County, leaders in the community wanted to address the consistent struggle of people reentering society after incarceration. The Pitt County Reentry Council brings together government officials, nonprofits and other groups dedicated to decreasing barriers for those coming out of the prison system.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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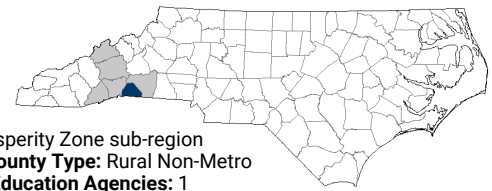
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Polk County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Polk County is in the **Asheville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 8% of 25-44-year-olds in Polk County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 18% have a bachelor's degree; 14% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 7% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	21,535
2030 Population	23,299
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	2,100
Charter/Private/Home	456
Median Household Income	\$50,467
Child Poverty Rate	20%
Households with Broadband	76%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



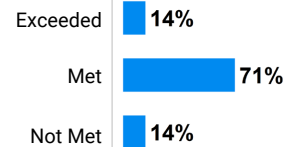
Polk County has 6 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Polk County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Polk County needs:

- **Polk County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 88%).
- **96 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 63%).
- **289 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 57%).

Percent of Polk 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, Polk County needs:

- **8 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 91%).
- **4 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 78%).
- **26 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%).



77 students took at least one AP course (12%) versus 9% of peer counties.



173 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (26%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Polk County completed **135 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; and Health Science.

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 Polk County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Polk County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 300:1.

Among Polk County high school graduates:

- **65% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **72% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **60% 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:

553	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,207	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
22,514	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



1.8% 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 **2,836 students per year**. After 5 years, 69% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$33,116.

71% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **255,306 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 Polk County to improve future attainment outcomes.



First-Year Persistence

72% of Polk County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural non-metro county average of 73%.



AP Participation

12% of Polk County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the state average of 17%.



Math Performance

57% of Polk County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the state goal of 86%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	23,862	65%
Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College	10,492	53%
University of North Carolina at Asheville	4,366	89%
Blue Ridge Community College	2,812	48%
Isothermal Community College	2,662	58%
Mars Hill University	1,343	82%
Montreat College	845	71%
Brevard College	698	87%
Warren Wilson College	644	84%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Polk Vocational Services (PVS)

Polk Vocational Services (PVS) provides rehabilitation, development and employment services to people with barriers to employment, while providing quality products and services to our customers on time and error free. PVS is an economic development social enterprise demonstrating the Abilities behind disabilities in rural Polk County, North Carolina.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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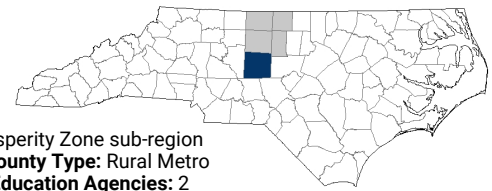
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Randolph County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Randolph County is in the **Greensboro** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC. Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Randolph County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 13% have a bachelor's degree; 12% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 15% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	144,085
2030 Population	154,739
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	20,312
Charter/Private/Home	5,101
Median Household Income	\$48,372
Child Poverty Rate	21%
Households with Broadband	71%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Randolph County has 39 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 4 or 10% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Randolph County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Randolph County needs:

- **390 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 34%).
- **3,195 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 39%).
- **4,433 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 39%).

Percent of Randolph County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	21%
Met	54%
Not Met	26%

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, Randolph County needs:

- **95 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 89%).
- **315 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 58%).
- **136 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%).

Students in Randolph County completed **1,104 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Architecture and Construction.



774 students took at least one AP course (12%) versus 10% of peer counties.



1,125 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (18%) versus 18% of peer counties.

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 Randolph County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Randolph County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 369:1.

Among Randolph County high school graduates:

- **55% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **71% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **52% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

739	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
6,843	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
34,670	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.2% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **8,688 students per year**. After 5 years, 71% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$41,392.

84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); **Health Science** (above bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **469,667 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) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

34% of Randolph County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



First-Year Persistence

71% of Randolph County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural metro county average of 73%.



Transition to Postsecondary

55% of Randolph County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural metro county average of 57%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	70,185	72%
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	18,374	83%
Guilford Technical Community College	14,735	57%
North Carolina A & T State University	11,370	79%
Elon University	6,187	98%
Alamance Community College	5,651	53%
High Point University	4,631	95%
Randolph Community College	3,475	55%
Rockingham Community College	2,379	57%
Guilford College	1,824	83%
Greensboro College	1,018	89%
Bennett College	541	93%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: FindYourCenterNC

FindYourCenterNC.com is an initiative of the Piedmont Triad Regional Council (PTRC) and its regional partners. PTRC serves the members of 12 counties and the residents of the Piedmont Triad region to implement creative regional solutions with the mission to improve the lives of the community. The PTRC accomplishes its mission by administering programs related to criminal justice, housing services, regional planning, workforce development, and more.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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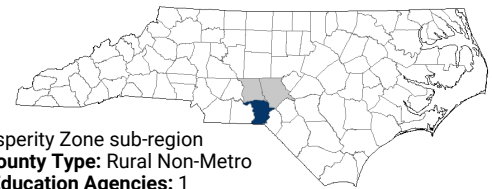
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Richmond County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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.



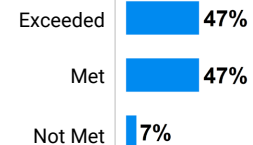
Richmond County has 14 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

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%).



149 students took at least one AP course (7%) versus 9% of peer counties.



575 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (27%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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.

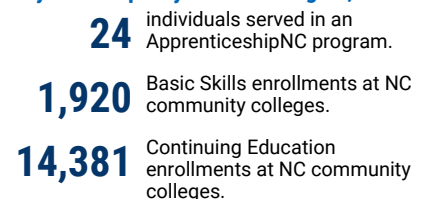


Richmond County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 371:1.

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.



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%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	9,578	47%
Sandhills Community College	5,329	39%
Richmond Community College	3,107	56%
Montgomery Community College	1,142	66%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Electric Utility Substation and Relay Technology (EUSRT)

The Electric Utility Substation and Relay Technology (EUSRT) program teaches skills needed to maintain high voltage equipment and protective systems for electric utility transmission. Graduates of the two-year program receive an Electric Utility Substation and Relay Technology AAS degree and qualify for technician jobs in the electric utility industry and industrial power facilities. Established in partnership with Duke Energy, the EUSRT program at RCC is the first of its kind in North Carolina and offered at only a handful of colleges nationwide. The program is guided by its business advisory committee (composed of Duke Energy, Doble Engineering, North American Substation Services, Virginia Dominion Power and SPX Waukesha).

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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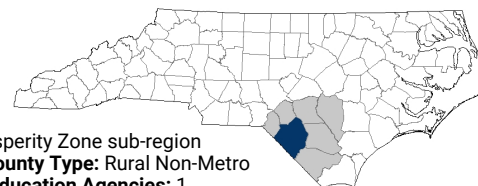
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Robeson County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Robeson County is in the **Fayetteville-Lumberton** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Robeson County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 9% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 32% have a high school diploma; and 21% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	131,600
2030 Population	125,259
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	21,487
Charter/Private/Home	2,050
Median Household Income	\$35,407
Child Poverty Rate	36%
Households with Broadband	54%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Robeson County has 39 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 22 or 56% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Robeson County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Robeson County needs:

- **54 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 70%).
- **4,918 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 25%).
- **6,573 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 22%).

Percent of Robeson County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	26%
Met	36%
Not Met	38%

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, Robeson County needs:

- **197 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 84%).
- **489 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 46%).
- **3,311 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 26%).



502 students took at least one AP course (8%) versus 9% of peer counties.



519 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (8%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Robeson County completed **1,122 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; 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 Robeson County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Robeson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 321:1.

Among Robeson County high school graduates:

- **48% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **62% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **36% 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:

1,621	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
6,792	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
32,293	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



12.4% 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 **5,110 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$36,969.

75% 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); **Information Technology** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **258,519 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) **Business Operations Specialists, All Other**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

56% of Robeson County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Reading Performance

25% of Robeson County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural non-metro county average of 41%.



Math Performance

22% of Robeson County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,488	56%
Fayetteville Technical Community College	18,684	43%
Fayetteville State University	6,522	77%
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	6,252	79%
Robeson Community College	2,631	60%
Methodist University	2,149	83%
Sampson Community College	2,049	27%
Southeastern Community College	1,887	54%
Bladen Community College	1,643	51%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Fayetteville	1,504	43%
St. Andrews University	756	68%
Carolina College of Biblical Studies	257	10%
Grace College of Divinity	154	21%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Small Business Center of Robeson Community College

The Small Business Center of Robeson Community College is located in the Charles V. Chrestman Workforce Development Center (Building 18) and it offers approximately 60-75 free seminars each year designed to assist aspiring and existing entrepreneurs. The NC Community Colleges Small Business Center Network offers no-fee confidential counseling, free seminars that are open to the public, and a Small Business Center Resource Center with computers, Internet access, books, and periodicals.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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ABOUT CAROLINA DEMOGRAPHY

Located within the Carolina Population Center at UNC-Chapel Hill, we use data and other available research to help you put a face or a story on the population-level changes facing your community. Our analysts provide a full array of demographic data and research services to inform decision making, evaluation, and policy across North Carolina, where we serve organizations and people in all 100 counties.

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MyFutureNC is a statewide nonprofit organization focused on educational attainment and is the result of cross-sector collaboration between North Carolina leaders in education, business, and government. Our mission is to prepare North Carolina for the future by empowering individuals, strengthening communities, and ensuring our economic viability in a global economy.

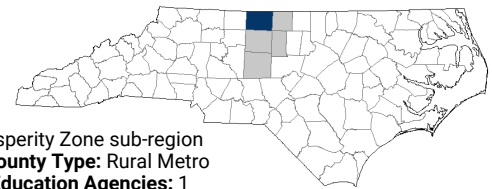
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Rockingham County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Rockingham County is in the **Greensboro** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC. Overall, 6% of 25-44-year-olds in Rockingham County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 12% have a bachelor's degree; 12% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 31% have a high school diploma; and 16% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	91,746
2030 Population	91,865
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	11,534
Charter/Private/Home	2,265
Median Household Income	\$41,869
Child Poverty Rate	26%
Households with Broadband	68%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



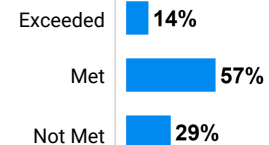
Rockingham County has 21 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 3 or 14% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Rockingham County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Rockingham County needs:

- **200 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 40%).
- **1,848 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 39%).
- **2,546 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 39%).

Percent of Rockingham 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, Rockingham County needs:

- **90 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 86%).
- **159 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 61%).
- **1,168 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 21%).



302 students took at least one AP course (8%) versus 10% of peer counties.



488 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (14%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Rockingham County completed **431 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Hospitality & Tourism; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

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 Rockingham County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Rockingham County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 412:1.

Among Rockingham County high school graduates:

- **59% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **72% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **51% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

739	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
6,843	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
34,670	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



10.9% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **8,688 students per year**. After 5 years, 71% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$41,392.

84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); **Health Science** (above bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **469,667 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) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

40% of Rockingham County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.



Chronic Absenteeism

21% of Rockingham County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural metro county average of 16%.



CCP Enrollment

14% of Rockingham County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the rural metro county average of 18%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	70,185	72%
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	18,374	83%
Guilford Technical Community College	14,735	57%
North Carolina A & T State University	11,370	79%
Elon University	6,187	98%
Alamance Community College	5,651	53%
High Point University	4,631	95%
Randolph Community College	3,475	55%
Rockingham Community College	2,379	57%
Guilford College	1,824	83%
Greensboro College	1,018	89%
Bennett College	541	93%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Dream it. Do it.

Dream it. Do It. is an initiative that helps connect local manufacturers, schools, community colleges, community-based organizations and other stakeholders. It works to change the misperception of the manufacturing industry and inspire next-generation workers to pursue careers in manufacturing.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:


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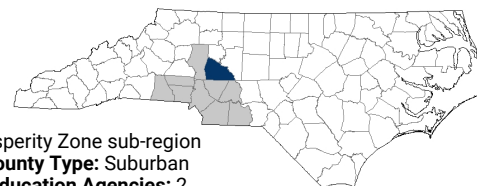
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Rowan County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Rowan County is in the **Charlotte** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Rowan County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 14% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 29% have a high school diploma; and 15% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	141,802
2030 Population	149,784
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	19,720
Charter/Private/Home	3,811
Median Household Income	\$46,864
Child Poverty Rate	25%
Households with Broadband	77%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



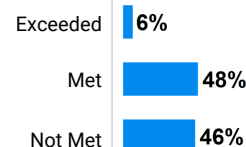
Rowan County has 35 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 16 or 45% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Rowan County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Rowan County needs:

- **283 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 41%).
- **3,694 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 33%).
- **5,834 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 23%).

Percent of Rowan 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, Rowan County needs:

- **165 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 85%).
- **392 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 52%).
- **1,616 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).

Students in Rowan County completed **734 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Hospitality & Tourism.



858 students took at least one AP course (14%) versus 17% of peer counties.



635 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (10%) versus 12% of peer counties.

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 Rowan County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Rowan County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 257:1.

Among Rowan County high school graduates:

- **56% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **72% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **47% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

3,322	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,019	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



7.8% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **12,162 students per year**. After 5 years, 74% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$43,374.

79% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Information Technology** (bachelor's).

There are **1,361,336 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 2) **General and Operations Managers**; 3) **Registered Nurses**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Rowan County to improve future attainment outcomes.



Low-Performing Schools

46% of Rowan County schools are low-performing, above the suburban county average of 17%.



Math Performance

23% of Rowan County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the suburban county average of 42%.



Reading Performance

33% of Rowan County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the suburban county average of 46%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	107,538	64%
Central Piedmont Community College	29,552	47%
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	27,078	85%
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College	7,939	28%
Gaston College	7,333	69%
Mitchell Community College	4,188	55%
South Piedmont Community College	3,935	54%
Cleveland Community College	3,883	55%
Stanly Community College	3,837	61%
Wingate University	2,729	93%
Gardner-Webb University	2,454	71%
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte	2,080	79%
Queens University of Charlotte	2,010	91%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Rowan-Salisbury School's Renewal School System

As the state's only Renewal School System, Rowan-Salisbury is committed to redesigning education to create authentic and personalized learning experiences for all students through teacher-led flexibility in curriculum, budgeting, hiring, staffing and scheduling. The model is centered around each student's learning style, interpersonal skills, academic talents and passions.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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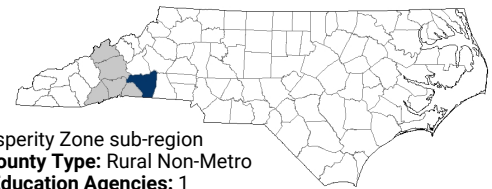
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Rutherford County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Rutherford County is in the **Asheville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Rutherford County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 14% have a bachelor's degree; 13% have an associate degree; 22% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 16% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	68,423
2030 Population	72,379
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	7,775
Charter/Private/Home	3,316
Median Household Income	\$42,831
Child Poverty Rate	28%
Households with Broadband	67%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



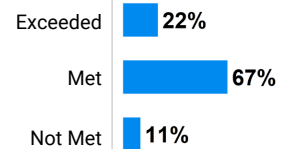
Rutherford County has 17 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Rutherford County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Rutherford County needs:

- **87 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 55%).
- **947 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 46%).
- **1,503 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 43%).

Percent of Rutherford 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, Rutherford County needs:

- **77 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 84%).
- **94 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 62%).
- **639 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).



206 students took at least one AP course (8%) versus 9% of peer counties.



603 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (25%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Rutherford County completed **461 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Health Science.

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 Rutherford County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Rutherford County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 370:1.

Among Rutherford County high school graduates:

- **58% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **73% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **48% 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:

553	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,207	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
22,514	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



13.8% 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 **2,836 students per year**. After 5 years, 69% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$33,116.

71% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **255,306 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 Rutherford County to improve future attainment outcomes.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

55% of Rutherford County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



Disconnected Youth

14% of Rutherford County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural non-metro county average of 9%.



School Counselors

Rutherford County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 370:1, above the rural non-metro county average of 338:1.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	23,862	65%
Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College	10,492	53%
University of North Carolina at Asheville	4,366	89%
Blue Ridge Community College	2,812	48%
Isothermal Community College	2,662	58%
Mars Hill University	1,343	82%
Montreat College	845	71%
Brevard College	698	87%
Warren Wilson College	644	84%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: McNair Educational Foundation

The mission of The Robert and Janice McNair Educational Foundation is to increase college and career awareness, readiness and success for all students. To achieve this goal, McNair works in collaboration with Rutherford County Schools to provide programs and activities that are designed to raise awareness, expand knowledge and prepare students for a postsecondary education in their desired career.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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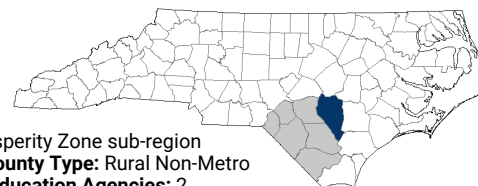
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Sampson County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Rural Non-Metro
Local Education Agencies: 2

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Sampson County is in the **Fayetteville-Lumberton** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Sampson County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 10% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 28% have a high school diploma; and 23% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	64,087
2030 Population	65,308
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	10,870
Charter/Private/Home	1,103
Median Household Income	\$42,807
Child Poverty Rate	33%
Households with Broadband	60%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Sampson County has 22 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 5% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Sampson County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Sampson County needs:

- **79 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 61%).
- **1,473 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 44%).
- **2,222 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 42%).

Percent of Sampson County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	36%
Met	50%
Not Met	14%

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, Sampson County needs:

- **136 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 81%).
- **179 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 56%).
- **530 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).



215 students took at least one AP course (7%) versus 9% of peer counties.



780 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (24%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Sampson County completed **874 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; 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 Sampson County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Sampson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 362:1.

Among Sampson County high school graduates:

- **58% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **75% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **49% 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:

1,621	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
6,792	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
32,293	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



7.3% 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 **5,110 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$36,969.

75% 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); **Information Technology** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **258,519 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) **Business Operations Specialists, All Other**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



High School Graduation

81% of Sampson County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural non-metro county average of 86%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

61% of Sampson County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



School Counselors

Sampson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 362:1, above the rural non-metro county average of 338:1.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,488	56%
Fayetteville Technical Community College	18,684	43%
Fayetteville State University	6,522	77%
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	6,252	79%
Robeson Community College	2,631	60%
Methodist University	2,149	83%
Sampson Community College	2,049	27%
Southeastern Community College	1,887	54%
Bladen Community College	1,643	51%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Fayetteville	1,504	43%
St. Andrews University	756	68%
Carolina College of Biblical Studies	257	10%
Grace College of Divinity	154	21%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Upward Bound of Sampson County

Upward Bound provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. Upward Bound serves high school students from low-income families and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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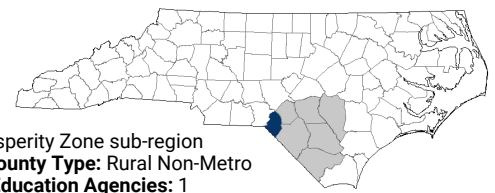
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Scotland County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Scotland County is in the **Fayetteville-Lumberton** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Scotland 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; 33% have a high school diploma; and 17% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	35,744
2030 Population	35,370
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	5,538
Charter/Private/Home	585
Median Household Income	\$36,730
Child Poverty Rate	42%
Households with Broadband	58%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Scotland County has 10 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 7 or 70% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Scotland County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Scotland County needs:

- **Scotland County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 84%).
- **1,172 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 30%).
- **1,633 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 26%).

Percent of Scotland County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	0%
Met	36%
Not Met	64%

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, Scotland County needs:

- **55 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 81%).
- **89 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 50%).
- **482 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 20%).

Students in Scotland County completed **179 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Hospitality & Tourism; and Architecture and Construction.



137 students took at least one AP course (9%) versus 9% of peer counties.



327 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (21%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Scotland County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Scotland County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 396:1.

Among Scotland County high school graduates:

- **54% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **74% 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:

1,621	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
6,792	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
32,293	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



14.2% 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 **5,110 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$36,969.

75% 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); **Information Technology** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **258,519 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) **Business Operations Specialists, All Other**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

70% of Scotland County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Reading Performance

30% of Scotland County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural non-metro county average of 41%.



Math Performance

26% of Scotland County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	44,488	56%
Fayetteville Technical Community College	18,684	43%
Fayetteville State University	6,522	77%
University of North Carolina at Pembroke	6,252	79%
Robeson Community College	2,631	60%
Methodist University	2,149	83%
Sampson Community College	2,049	27%
Southeastern Community College	1,887	54%
Bladen Community College	1,643	51%
Platt College-Miller-Motte-Fayetteville	1,504	43%
St. Andrews University	756	68%
Carolina College of Biblical Studies	257	10%
Grace College of Divinity	154	21%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Growing Change

Growing Change salvages places and people that have been abandoned by converting a defunct prison site into a sustainable farm and education center. Program participants and members of the broader community achieve education, vocational training, and service learning experience by providing job training to young people who have agreed to complete a number of hours working on the farm as an alternative to entering the court system.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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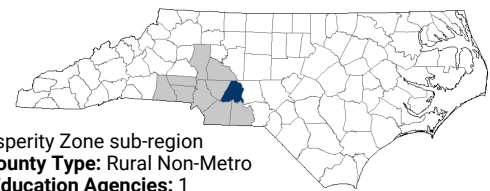
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Stanly County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Stanly County is in the **Charlotte** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Stanly County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 13% have a bachelor's degree; 14% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 31% have a high school diploma; and 13% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	63,328
2030 Population	69,309
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	8,289
Charter/Private/Home	2,432
Median Household Income	\$51,491
Child Poverty Rate	19%
Households with Broadband	77%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Stanly County has 20 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 5% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Stanly County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Stanly County needs:

- **Stanly County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 84%).
- **1,268 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 41%).
- **1,889 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 38%).

Percent of Stanly County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	43%
Met	38%
Not Met	19%

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, Stanly County needs:

- **26 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 91%).
- **208 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 47%).
- **152 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 13%).



73 students took at least one AP course (3%) versus 9% of peer counties.



501 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (20%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Stanly County completed **521 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; and Manufacturing.

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 Stanly County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Stanly County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 377:1.

Among Stanly County high school graduates:

- **54% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **77% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **55% 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:

3,322	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,019	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



13.4% 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 **12,162 students per year**. After 5 years, 74% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$43,374.

79% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Information Technology** (bachelor's).

There are **1,361,336 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 2) **General and Operations Managers**; 3) **Registered Nurses**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



FAFSA Completion

47% of Stanly County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural non-metro county average of 55%.



AP Participation

3% of Stanly County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural non-metro county average of 9%.



Disconnected Youth

13% of Stanly County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural non-metro county average of 9%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	107,538	64%
Central Piedmont Community College	29,552	47%
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	27,078	85%
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College	7,939	28%
Gaston College	7,333	69%
Mitchell Community College	4,188	55%
South Piedmont Community College	3,935	54%
Cleveland Community College	3,883	55%
Stanly Community College	3,837	61%
Wingate University	2,729	93%
Gardner-Webb University	2,454	71%
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte	2,080	79%
Queens University of Charlotte	2,010	91%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Stanly County ECHS

Stanly County has created Stanly STEM Early College to expand opportunities for students to earn their high school diplomas and associates degrees. Collaboration with Stanly Community College helps students develop career and college readiness skills, explore career options in Health and Public Services, and obtain the credentials they need to be successful in the 21st Century. <https://ssec.stanlycountyschools.org/>

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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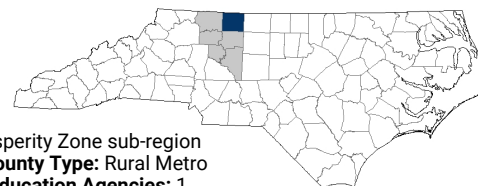
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Stokes County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Rural Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1

Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Stokes County is in the **Winston-Salem** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 3% of 25-44-year-olds in Stokes County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 13% have a bachelor's degree; 12% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 35% have a high school diploma; and 13% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	46,472
2030 Population	46,062
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	5,747
Charter/Private/Home	1,013
Median Household Income	\$50,826
Child Poverty Rate	18%
Households with Broadband	68%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Stokes County has 18 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 6% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Stokes County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Stokes County needs:

- **Stokes County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 112%).
- **787 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 43%).
- **1,161 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 41%).

Percent of Stokes County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	42%
Met	32%
Not Met	26%

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, Stokes County needs:

- **61 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 83%).
- **107 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 54%).
- **362 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 17%).

Students in Stokes County completed **281 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Hospitality & Tourism.



126 students took at least one AP course (7%) versus 10% of peer counties.



355 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (19%) versus 18% of peer counties.

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 Stokes County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Stokes County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 287:1.

Among Stokes County high school graduates:

- **60% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **79% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **50% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

974	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
4,264	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
24,064	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.6% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **3,894 students per year**. After 5 years, 75% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$40,459.

81% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Finance** (bachelor's); **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); and **Marketing** (bachelor's).

There are **324,711 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, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



AP Participation

7% of Stokes County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural metro county average of 10%.



High School Graduation

83% of Stokes County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural metro county average of 86%.



Chronic Absenteeism

17% of Stokes County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural metro county average of 16%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	33,211	58%
Forsyth Technical Community College	11,306	32%
Winston-Salem State University	5,408	82%
Wake Forest University	5,244	98%
Davidson County Community College	5,013	61%
Surry Community College	4,040	58%
University of North Carolina School of the Arts	889	85%
Salem College	869	81%
Piedmont International University	394	44%
Carolina Christian College	48	100%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Stokes Partnership for Children

The Stokes Partnership for Children, a non-profit organization led by local volunteers, provides programs and services for families and children in Stokes County, North Carolina.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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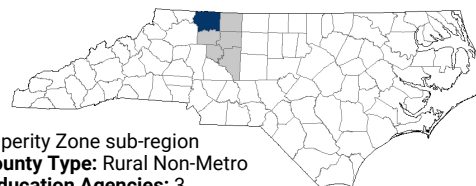
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Surry County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Surry County is in the **Winston-Salem** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC. Overall, 6% of 25-44-year-olds in Surry County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 14% have a bachelor's degree; 15% have an associate degree; 21% have some college, no degree; 26% have a high school diploma; and 18% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	73,232
2030 Population	73,231
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	10,331
Charter/Private/Home	2,245
Median Household Income	\$46,342
Child Poverty Rate	24%
Households with Broadband	63%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



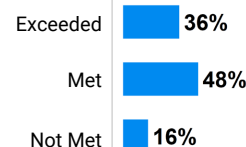
Surry County has 25 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 4% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Surry County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Surry County needs:

- **103 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 54%).
- **1,086 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 51%).
- **1,957 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 46%).

Percent of Surry 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, Surry County needs:

- **44 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 90%).
- **160 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 59%).
- **270 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 14%).



349 students took at least one AP course (11%) versus 9% of peer counties.



931 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (29%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Surry County completed **646 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Hospitality & Tourism.

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 Surry County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Surry County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 383:1.

Among Surry County high school graduates:

- **62% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **75% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **56% 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:

974	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
4,264	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
24,064	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



9.6% 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 **3,894 students per year**. After 5 years, 75% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$40,459.

81% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Finance** (bachelor's); **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); and **Marketing** (bachelor's).

There are **324,711 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, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

54% of Surry County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



School Counselors

Surry County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 383:1, above the rural non-metro county average of 338:1.



Disconnected Youth

10% of Surry County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural non-metro county average of 9%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	33,211	58%
Forsyth Technical Community College	11,306	32%
Winston-Salem State University	5,408	82%
Wake Forest University	5,244	98%
Davidson County Community College	5,013	61%
Surry Community College	4,040	58%
University of North Carolina School of the Arts	889	85%
Salem College	869	81%
Piedmont International University	394	44%
Carolina Christian College	48	100%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Next Generation Career Academy

Next Generation Career Academy, funded by the Golden Leaf Foundation, allows students to complete an internship in a local business, gain valuable real-world experience, and earn high school credit, college credit, and/or industry-recognized credentials. Students also receive a financial stipend and get paid for travel.




We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

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Swain 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 2020

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

Swain County is in the **Waynesville-Franklin** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Swain County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 11% have a bachelor's degree; 14% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 31% have a high school diploma; and 18% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	14,442
2030 Population	13,388
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,913
Charter/Private/Home	446
Median Household Income	\$43,121
Child Poverty Rate	23%
Households with Broadband	51%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Swain County has 4 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Swain County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Swain County needs:

- **32 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 53%).
- **243 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 45%).
- **380 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 42%).

Percent of Swain County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	0%
Met	50%
Not Met	50%

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, Swain County needs:

- **26 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 78%).
- **23 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 58%).
- **261 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 25%).



50 students took at least one AP course (9%) versus 9% of peer counties.



47 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (8%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Swain County completed **112 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Architecture and Construction; Health Science; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

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 Swain County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Swain County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 383:1.

Among Swain County high school graduates:

- **50% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **69% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **50% 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:

18	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,489	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
10,302	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



2.4% 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 **3,691 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$39,941.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Health Science** (above bachelor's).

There are **81,375 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



CCP Enrollment

8% of Swain County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the rural non-metro county average of 22%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

53% of Swain County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



High School Graduation

78% of Swain County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural non-metro county average of 86%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	17,345	74%
Western Carolina University	10,449	88%
Southwestern Community College	3,262	62%
Haywood Community College	2,223	56%
Tri-County Community College	1,411	56%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Swain County Hometown Strong

Hometown Strong creates a partnership between state agencies and local leaders to champion for rural communities. The effort leverages state and local resources, identifies ongoing projects and community needs, and implements focused plans to boost the economy, improve infrastructure and strengthen North Carolina's hometowns.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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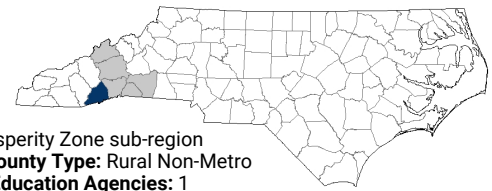
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Transylvania County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Transylvania County is in the **Asheville** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 6% of 25-44-year-olds in Transylvania County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 21% have a bachelor's degree; 6% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 23% have a high school diploma; and 18% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	35,115
2030 Population	38,768
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	3,308
Charter/Private/Home	1,252
Median Household Income	\$51,398
Child Poverty Rate	23%
Households with Broadband	78%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



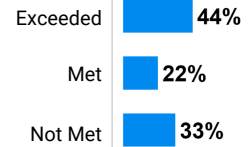
Transylvania County has 8 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Transylvania County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Transylvania County needs:

- **18 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 64%).
- **334 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 51%).
- **661 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 43%).

Percent of Transylvania 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, Transylvania County needs:

- **31 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 85%).
- **51 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 60%).
- **202 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 17%).



119 students took at least one AP course (11%) versus 9% of peer counties.



199 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (18%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Transylvania County completed **297 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications.

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 Transylvania County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.

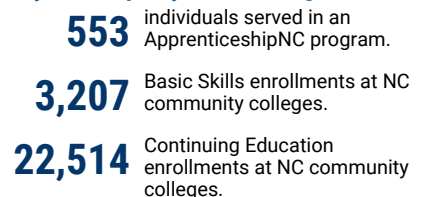


Transylvania County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 368:1.

Among Transylvania County high school graduates:

- **65% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **80% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **52% 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.



12.3% 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 **2,836 students per year**. After 5 years, 69% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$33,116.

71% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **255,306 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 Transylvania County to improve future attainment outcomes.



CCP Enrollment

18% of Transylvania County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the rural non-metro county average of 22%.



Disconnected Youth

12% of Transylvania County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural non-metro county average of 9%.



School Counselors

Transylvania County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 368:1, above the rural non-metro county average of 338:1.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	23,862	65%
Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College	10,492	53%
University of North Carolina at Asheville	4,366	89%
Blue Ridge Community College	2,812	48%
Isothermal Community College	2,662	58%
Mars Hill University	1,343	82%
Montreat College	845	71%
Brevard College	698	87%
Warren Wilson College	644	84%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: High school to career pathways

The Transylvania County School System offers high school students a variety of course and program options to accelerate their progress through high school and into higher education or on a career path. These include a variety of programs, including Dual Enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP), North Carolina School of Science and Math (NCSSM) Open Enrollment and STEM Scholars, North Carolina Governor's School, and North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS). These options help the school system create more equitable opportunities for all students.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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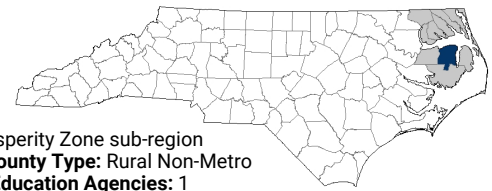
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Tyrrell County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Tyrrell County is in the **Elizabeth City** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 2% of 25-44-year-olds in Tyrrell County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 4% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 15% have some college, no degree; 39% have a high school diploma; and 28% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	4,260
2030 Population	4,259
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	626
Charter/Private/Home	42
Median Household Income	\$36,765
Child Poverty Rate	35%
Households with Broadband	61%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Tyrrell County has 3 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 2 or 67% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Tyrrell County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Tyrrell County needs:

- **11 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 47%).
- **125 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 32%).
- **213 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 17%).

Percent of Tyrrell County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	0%
Met	100%
Not Met	0%

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, Tyrrell County needs:

- **Tyrrell County has met the goal for 9th graders** graduating within four years (goal: 95% vs. 95%).
- **Tyrrell County has met the goal for seniors** completing the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 91%).
- **13 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 13%).



1 students took at least one AP course (1%) versus 9% of peer counties.



79 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (44%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Tyrrell County completed **25 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Information Technology; and Health Science.

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 Tyrrell County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Tyrrell County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 209:1.

Among Tyrrell County high school graduates:

- **66% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **71% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **35% 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:

8 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



0% 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 **580 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,932.

60% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **67,624 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **General and Operations Managers**; 2) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**; 3) **Accountants and Auditors**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

67% of Tyrrell County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Math Performance

17% of Tyrrell County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

47% of Tyrrell County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	5,015	63%
College of the Albemarle	3,263	57%
Elizabeth City State University	1,538	74%
Mid-Atlantic Christian University	214	35%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Vidant Hospital Athletic Training School Partnership

Vidant Hospital provides certified athletic training services to student athletes in Chowan and Tyrrell County Schools. The effort to promote fitness, increases performance and coaches students about injury prevention.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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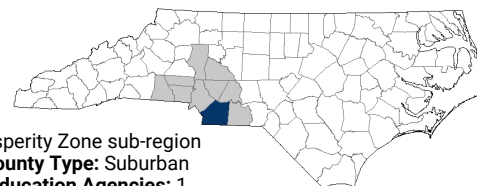
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Union County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Union County is in the **Charlotte** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

Overall, 11% of 25-44-year-olds in Union County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 27% have a bachelor's degree; 8% have an associate degree; 21% have some college, no degree; 22% have a high school diploma; and 11% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	232,465
2030 Population	302,410
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	41,149
Charter/Private/Home	10,651
Median Household Income	\$80,428
Child Poverty Rate	9%
Households with Broadband	89%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Union County has 50 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 3 or 6% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Union County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Union County needs:

- **289 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 41%).
- **2,718 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 59%).
- **4,736 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 61%).

Percent of Union County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	45%
Met	39%
Not Met	16%

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, Union County needs:

- **73 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 93%).
- **563 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 63%).
- **Union County has met the goal for students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 9%).



3,052 students took at least one AP course (22%) versus 17% of peer counties.



1,207 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (9%) versus 12% of peer counties.

Students in Union County completed **1,374 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Information Technology; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Health Science.

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 Union County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Union County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 340:1.

Among Union County high school graduates:

- **70% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
- **82% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
- **60% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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

3,322	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,019	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



2.8% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **12,162 students per year**. After 5 years, 74% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$43,374.

79% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Information Technology** (bachelor's).

There are **1,361,336 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 2) **General and Operations Managers**; 3) **Registered Nurses**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Union County to improve future attainment outcomes.



CCP Enrollment

9% of Union County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program, below the suburban county average of 12%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

41% of Union County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 44%.



FAFSA Completion

63% of Union County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the state average of 64%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	107,538	64%
Central Piedmont Community College	29,552	47%
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	27,078	85%
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College	7,939	28%
Gaston College	7,333	69%
Mitchell Community College	4,188	55%
South Piedmont Community College	3,935	54%
Cleveland Community College	3,883	55%
Stanly Community College	3,837	61%
Wingate University	2,729	93%
Gardner-Webb University	2,454	71%
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte	2,080	79%
Queens University of Charlotte	2,010	91%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Health Sciences Academy at Monroe MS

In partnership with Atrium Health of Monroe, UCPS offers a K-12 health science academy experience where students are provided in-depth coursework and hands-on experiences with the health profession.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/

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ABOUT MYFUTURENC

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 myfuturenc.org

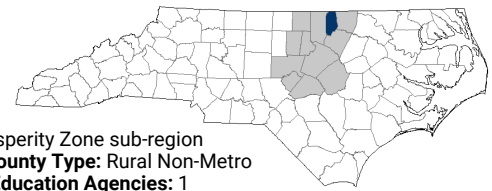
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Vance County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Vance County is in the **Raleigh-Durham** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Vance County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 10% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 34% have a high school diploma; and 18% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	45,764
2030 Population	46,944
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	5,433
Charter/Private/Home	3,120
Median Household Income	\$40,263
Child Poverty Rate	36%
Households with Broadband	66%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



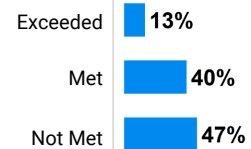
Vance County has 14 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 5 or 36% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Vance County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Vance County needs:

- **158 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 37%).
- **1,061 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 33%).
- **1,537 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 27%).

Percent of Vance 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, Vance County needs:

- **36 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 87%).
- **77 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 53%).
- **905 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 27%).

Students in Vance County completed **134 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Architecture and Construction.



82 students took at least one AP course (6%) versus 9% of peer counties.



222 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (16%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Vance County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Vance County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 320:1.

Among Vance County high school graduates:

- **46% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **72% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **40% 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:

2,661	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,867	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



13% 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 **22,190 students per year**. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$52,133.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Marketing** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **1,166,888 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) **Software Developers, Applications**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

37% of Vance County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



Low-Performing Schools

36% of Vance County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Transition to Postsecondary

46% of Vance County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 57%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	139,487	73%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Durham Technical Community College	8,049	58%
Duke University	7,504	95%
North Carolina Central University	7,165	80%
Strayer University-North Carolina	6,998	53%
Central Carolina Community College	6,811	58%
Johnston Community College	5,343	55%
Campbell University	5,183	89%
Vance-Granville Community College	4,014	60%
Meredith College	1,900	92%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Vance County Early College

Established in 2008, Vance County Early College High School is the result of a Vance County Schools/Vance-Granville Community College partnership. Located on the community college's Henderson campus, VCECHS is a five-year high school experience that offers students the opportunity to receive a North Carolina high school diploma, an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science Degree, and/or one year of college transfer credits upon high school graduation, tuition free.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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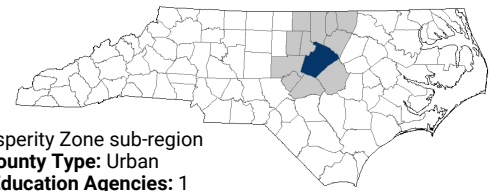
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Wake County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Wake County is in the **Raleigh-Durham Prosperity Zone** sub-region. It's one of 6 urban counties in NC.

Overall, 20% of 25-44-year-olds in Wake County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 36% have a bachelor's degree; 8% have an associate degree; 16% have some college, no degree; 13% have a high school diploma; and 7% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	1,070,197
2030 Population	1,328,336
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	159,588
Charter/Private/Home	45,774
Median Household Income	\$80,169
Child Poverty Rate	10%
Households with Broadband	90%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Wake County has 181 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 28 or 15% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Wake County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Wake County needs:

- **1,585 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 38%).
- **13,575 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 55%).
- **27,659 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 49%).

Percent of Wake County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	22%
Met	41%
Not Met	37%

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, Wake County needs:

- **655 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 90%).
- **1,987 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 62%).
- **1,248 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%).



15,629 students took at least one AP course (32%) versus 25% of peer counties.



1,583 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (3%) versus 5% of peer counties.

Students in Wake County completed **5,017 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Hospitality & Tourism; Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; 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 Wake County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Wake County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 409:1.

Among Wake County high school graduates:

- **72% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 66% of peer counties.
- **88% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 81% of peer counties.
- **64% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 58% of peer counties.

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

2,661	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,867	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



4% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 5.3% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **22,190 students per year**. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$52,133.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Marketing** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **1,166,888 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) **Software Developers, Applications**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

Compared to urban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Wake County to improve future attainment outcomes.



School Counselors

Wake County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 409:1, above the urban county average of 350:1.



CCP Enrollment

3% of Wake County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the urban county average of 5%.



NC Pre-K Enrollment

38% of Wake County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the state average of 48%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	139,487	73%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Durham Technical Community College	8,049	58%
Duke University	7,504	95%
North Carolina Central University	7,165	80%
Strayer University-North Carolina	6,998	53%
Central Carolina Community College	6,811	58%
Johnston Community College	5,343	55%
Campbell University	5,183	89%
Vance-Granville Community College	4,014	60%
Meredith College	1,900	92%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Work in the Triangle

Work in the Triangle showcases the Triangle nationally and internationally as one of the top destinations for talented professionals over the next five years. The program is an initiative of the Wake County Economic Development, in partnership with other regional economic development organizations, including the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce, Orange County Economic Development, Chapel Hill - Carrboro Chamber of Commerce, Research Triangle Foundation and the Research Triangle Regional Partnership.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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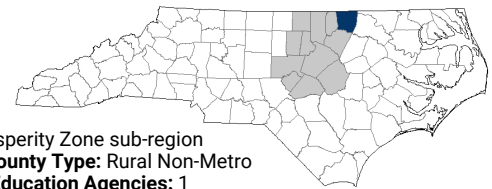
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Warren County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Warren County is in the **Raleigh-Durham** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 3% of 25-44-year-olds in Warren County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 10% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 27% have some college, no degree; 31% have a high school diploma; and 18% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	20,066
2030 Population	18,885
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,879
Charter/Private/Home	352
Median Household Income	\$38,430
Child Poverty Rate	30%
Households with Broadband	56%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



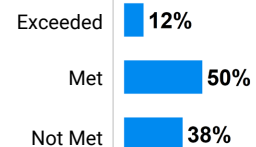
Warren County has 8 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 3 or 38% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Warren County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Warren County needs:

- **3 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 72%).
- **413 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 27%).
- **569 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 22%).

Percent of Warren 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, Warren County needs:

- **27 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 79%).
- **4 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 77%).
- **417 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 32%).

Students in Warren County completed **109 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Architecture and Construction; Health Science; and Business Management & Administration.



0 students took at least one AP course (0%) versus 9% of peer counties.



150 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (26%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Warren County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Warren County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 268:1.

Among Warren County high school graduates:

- **55% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **73% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **33% 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:

2,661	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
12,867	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.2% 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 **22,190 students per year**. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$52,133.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Information Technology** (bachelor's); **Marketing** (bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **1,166,888 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) **Software Developers, Applications**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

38% of Warren County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Postsecondary Completion

33% of Warren 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%.



Chronic Absenteeism

32% of Warren County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural non-metro county average of 17%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	139,487	73%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Durham Technical Community College	8,049	58%
Duke University	7,504	95%
North Carolina Central University	7,165	80%
Strayer University-North Carolina	6,998	53%
Central Carolina Community College	6,811	58%
Johnston Community College	5,343	55%
Campbell University	5,183	89%
Vance-Granville Community College	4,014	60%
Meredith College	1,900	92%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Frontier Warren

A new partnership between the town of Warrenton and the Research Triangle Foundation began in the summer of 2020, when a second Frontier Warren business incubator opened on S. Main Street. Containing office space for 10 companies, Frontier Warren will increase essential economic development in the town and county by encouraging entrepreneurship on Main Street and beyond.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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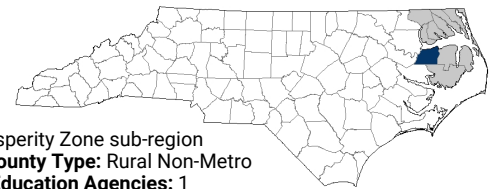
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Washington County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Washington County is in the **Elizabeth City** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Washington County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 7% have a bachelor's degree; 14% have an associate degree; 27% have some college, no degree; 24% have a high school diploma; and 24% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	12,153
2030 Population	11,159
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	1,266
Charter/Private/Home	359
Median Household Income	\$36,042
Child Poverty Rate	39%
Households with Broadband	58%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Washington County has 5 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 2 or 40% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Washington County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Washington County needs:

- **Washington County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 99%).
- **281 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 27%).
- **400 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 20%).

Percent of Washington County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	40%
Met	40%
Not Met	20%

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, Washington County needs:

- **16 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 79%).
- **15 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 62%).
- **70 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).



0 students took at least one AP course (0%) versus 9% of peer counties.



65 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (19%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Washington County completed **50 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Information Technology; and Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications.

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 Washington County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Washington County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 253:1.

Among Washington County high school graduates:

- **45% 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.
- **37% 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:

8 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



17.3% 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 **580 students per year**. After 5 years, 64% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$30,932.

60% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (all levels); **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's); and **Finance** (bachelor's).

There are **67,624 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **General and Operations Managers**; 2) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**; 3) **Accountants and Auditors**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

40% of Washington County schools are low-performing, above the rural non-metro county average of 19%.



Math Performance

20% of Washington County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.



Reading Performance

27% of Washington County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural non-metro county average of 41%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	5,015	63%
College of the Albemarle	3,263	57%
Elizabeth City State University	1,538	74%
Mid-Atlantic Christian University	214	35%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience

The Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience is an early college high school serving as a statewide model for STEM education in agriscience and biotechnology by providing all scholars with exceptional learning experiences through powerful teach and personalization within a professional setting surrounded by a shared leadership and educational partnerships. Priority is given to students whose parents did not attend college and would be first-generation college students.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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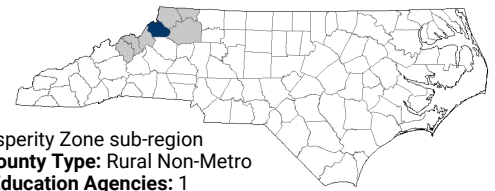
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Watauga County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Watauga County is in the **Boone-Wilkesboro** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 15% of 25-44-year-olds in Watauga County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 30% have a bachelor's degree; 10% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 15% have a high school diploma; and 7% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	57,067
2030 Population	67,043
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	4,549
Charter/Private/Home	1,125
Median Household Income	\$48,489
Child Poverty Rate	15%
Households with Broadband	81%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Watauga County has 10 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Watauga County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Watauga County needs:

- **4 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 72%).
- **317 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 58%).
- **742 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 52%).

Percent of Watauga County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	30%
Met	70%
Not Met	0%

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, Watauga County needs:

- **16 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 90%).
- **68 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 58%).
- **4 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 11%).



289 students took at least one AP course (21%) versus 9% of peer counties.



279 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (20%) versus 22% of peer counties.

Students in Watauga County completed **158 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Hospitality & Tourism; and Manufacturing.

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 Watauga County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Watauga County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 303:1.

Among Watauga County high school graduates:

- **60% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **85% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **67% 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:

12 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

1,740 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

8,809 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



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 **5,225 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$41,744.

72% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **84,705 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



CCP Enrollment

20% of Watauga County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program programs, below the rural non-metro county average of 22%.



FAFSA Completion

58% of Watauga County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the state average of 64%.



Transition to Postsecondary

60% of Watauga County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the state average of 61%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	24,025	81%
Appalachian State University	18,135	91%
Wilkes Community College	3,416	54%
Mayland Community College	1,455	55%
Lees-McRae College	1,019	66%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Appalachian GEAR UP Partnership

The Appalachian GEAR UP Partnership grant serves approximately 15,000 students from 11 school districts in the following Western North Carolina counties: Alleghany, Ashe, Burke, Clay, Graham, Madison, Rutherford, Swain, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancey. Appalachian GEAR UP strives to create capacity in the districts that changes mindsets around college access and college goingness in a sustainable way.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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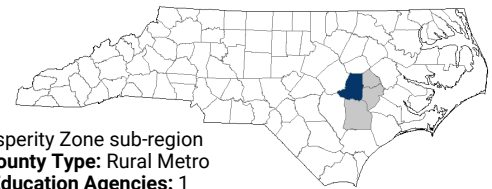
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Wayne County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Wayne County is in the **Goldsboro-Kinston** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 6% of 25-44-year-olds in Wayne County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 17% have a bachelor's degree; 12% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 23% have a high school diploma; and 16% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	124,703
2030 Population	134,419
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	18,039
Charter/Private/Home	3,738
Median Household Income	\$41,572
Child Poverty Rate	32%
Households with Broadband	76%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Wayne County has 29 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 8 or 28% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Wayne County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Wayne County needs:

- **243 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 53%).
- **3,276 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 33%).
- **4,548 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 31%).

Percent of Wayne County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	30%
Met	43%
Not Met	27%

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, Wayne County needs:

- **191 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 83%).
- **370 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 48%).
- **1,407 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).

Students in Wayne County completed **751 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Health Science.



257 students took at least one AP course (5%) versus 10% of peer counties.



862 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (16%) versus 18% of peer counties.

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 Wayne County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Wayne County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 430:1.

Among Wayne County high school graduates:

- **56% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **72% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **49% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

96	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
3,446	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
17,300	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



8.4% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **1,581 students per year**. After 5 years, 75% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$32,495.

63% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Health Science** (above bachelor's); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Human Services** (above bachelor's).

There are **102,508 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, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Low-Performing Schools

28% of Wayne County schools are low-performing, above the rural metro county average of 16%.



Reading Performance

33% of Wayne County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural metro county average of 41%.



FAFSA Completion

48% of Wayne County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural metro county average of 54%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	14,028	67%
Wayne Community College	4,392	62%
University of Mount Olive	4,197	79%
Lenoir Community College	3,843	60%
James Sprunt Community College	1,596	58%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Small Farm Unit, Center for Environmental Farming Systems

CEFS' Small Farm Unit (SFU) brings together the resources of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, North Carolina State University, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services and other community partners to deliver research and demonstration of sustainable production and marketing practices to diverse audiences.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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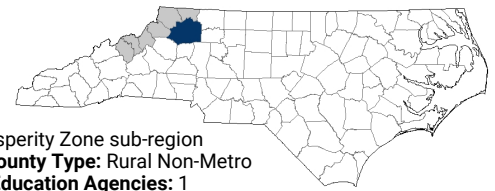
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Wilkes County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Wilkes County is in the **Boone-Wilkesboro** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Wilkes County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 12% have a bachelor's degree; 15% have an associate degree; 24% have some college, no degree; 28% have a high school diploma; and 16% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	69,913
2030 Population	73,377
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	8,972
Charter/Private/Home	1,850
Median Household Income	\$44,080
Child Poverty Rate	32%
Households with Broadband	71%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Wilkes County has 22 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Wilkes County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Wilkes County needs:

- **Wilkes County has met the goal for eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 106%).
- **1,174 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 45%).
- **1,902 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 41%).

Percent of Wilkes County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	32%
Met	50%
Not Met	18%

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, Wilkes County needs:

- **53 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%).
- **143 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 57%).
- **53 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%).

Students in Wilkes County completed **525 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Manufacturing.



264 students took at least one AP course (9%) versus 9% of peer counties.



833 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (30%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Wilkes County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Wilkes County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 320:1.

Among Wilkes County high school graduates:

- **61% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **69% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **53% 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:

12	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,740	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
8,809	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



5.7% 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 **5,225 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$41,744.

72% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **84,705 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



First-Year Persistence

69% of Wilkes County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural non-metro county average of 73%.



AP Participation

9% of Wilkes County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the state average of 17%.



FAFSA Completion

57% of Wilkes County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the state average of 64%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region		
Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	24,025	81%
Appalachian State University	18,135	91%
Wilkes Community College	3,416	54%
Mayland Community College	1,455	55%
Lees-McRae College	1,019	66%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Wilkes Community College Student Advising

All Wilkes Community College students are assigned an ACA Advisor and a Faculty Mentor upon admission to the College. ACA Advisors help new students successfully transition to college. They help identify or clarify career interests; create an academic plan; recommend academic and campus resources; and answer questions about degrees. Faculty Mentors provide information about job opportunities within a student's career and/or assist transfer students as they navigate their best path to a university. Faculty Mentors make sure graduating students understand their next step.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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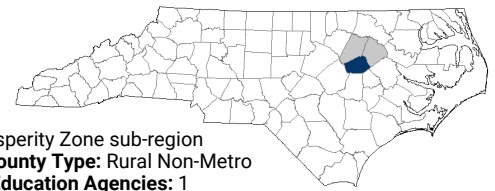
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Wilson County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Wilson County is in the **Rocky Mount-Wilson** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 6% of 25-44-year-olds in Wilson County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 15% have a bachelor's degree; 11% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 28% have a high school diploma; and 18% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	81,949
2030 Population	87,939
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	11,024
Charter/Private/Home	3,712
Median Household Income	\$44,015
Child Poverty Rate	31%
Households with Broadband	74%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Wilson County has 25 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 4 or 16% were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Wilson County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Wilson County needs:

- **330 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 21%).
- **1,704 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 40%).
- **2,608 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 36%).

Percent of Wilson County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	35%
Met	27%
Not Met	38%

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, Wilson County needs:

- **179 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 77%).
- **172 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 58%).
- **364 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 14%).

Students in Wilson County completed **439 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Health Science.



278 students took at least one AP course (8%) versus 9% of peer counties.



707 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (20%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Wilson County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Wilson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 298:1.

Among Wilson County high school graduates:

- **56% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **76% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **51% 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:

327	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
1,711	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
13,104	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



13.5% 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 **1,058 students per year**. After 5 years, 82% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$35,382.

69% 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); **Finance** (bachelor's); and **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **99,203 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

21% of Wilson County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



High School Graduation

77% of Wilson County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural non-metro county average of 86%.



Disconnected Youth

14% of Wilson County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural non-metro county average of 9%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	13,632	43%
Nash Community College	4,549	27%
Edgecombe Community College	2,967	15%
Wilson Community College	2,687	39%
North Carolina Wesleyan College	2,459	80%
Barton College	970	87%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.

Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Wilson Forward

Wilson Forward is a collaborative effort between government agencies, businesses and community leaders. The effort improves educational opportunities, health and wellness, and workforce development within Wilson County.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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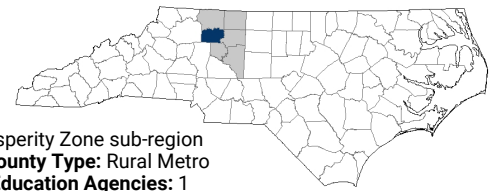
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Yadkin County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Yadkin County is in the **Winston-Salem** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

Overall, 4% of 25-44-year-olds in Yadkin County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 11% have a bachelor's degree; 12% have an associate degree; 30% have some college, no degree; 27% have a high school diploma; and 16% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	38,100
2030 Population	38,392
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	5,122
Charter/Private/Home	572
Median Household Income	\$49,070
Child Poverty Rate	20%
Households with Broadband	69%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Yadkin County has 13 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Yadkin County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Yadkin County needs:

- **9 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 71%).
- **680 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 45%).
- **1,025 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 44%).

Percent of Yadkin County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	38%
Met	38%
Not Met	23%

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, Yadkin County needs:

- **30 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%).
- **101 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 53%).
- **60 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%).



72 students took at least one AP course (5%) versus 10% of peer counties.



353 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (22%) versus 18% of peer counties.

Students in Yadkin County completed **305 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Architecture and Construction; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Health Science.

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 Yadkin County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Yadkin County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 466:1.

Among Yadkin County high school graduates:

- **57% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **81% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **55% of students** who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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

974	individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
4,264	Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
24,064	Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



18.2% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

Public postsecondary institutions graduate **3,894 students per year**. After 5 years, 75% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$40,459.

81% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: **Finance** (bachelor's); **Business Management & Administration** (bachelor's); and **Marketing** (bachelor's).

There are **324,711 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, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



Disconnected Youth

18% of Yadkin County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school, above the rural metro county average of 9%.



AP Participation

5% of Yadkin County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural metro county average of 10%.



Adult Learners

30% of Yadkin County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural metro county average of 25%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	33,211	58%
Forsyth Technical Community College	11,306	32%
Winston-Salem State University	5,408	82%
Wake Forest University	5,244	98%
Davidson County Community College	5,013	61%
Surry Community College	4,040	58%
University of North Carolina School of the Arts	889	85%
Salem College	869	81%
Piedmont International University	394	44%
Carolina Christian College	48	100%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Yadkin Wolfpack Literacy Partnership

A new partnership between the NC State College of Education and Yadkin County Schools will improve reading proficiency in the district by enabling 20 teachers in the Yadkin County school district to gain the advanced expertise necessary to effectively implement evidence-based literacy instruction.


We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this [short survey](#).

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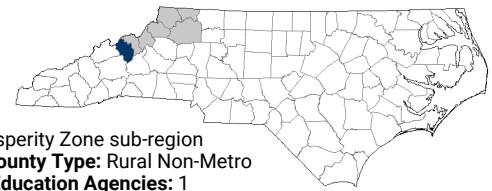
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Yancey County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile



Updated: Aug 12 2020

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

Yancey County is in the **Boone-Wilkesboro** Prosperity Zone sub-region. It's one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 5% of 25-44-year-olds in Yancey County have earned a master's degree or higher as their highest degree; 13% have a bachelor's degree; 15% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 11% have less than a high school diploma.

2018 Population	18,455
2030 Population	20,488
K-12 Students (2019)	
Traditional Schools	2,105
Charter/Private/Home	547
Median Household Income	\$44,756
Child Poverty Rate	26%
Households with Broadband	64%

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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



Yancey County has 8 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

How students in Yancey County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Yancey County needs:

- **35 more eligible 4-year-olds** enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 39%).
- **253 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 47%).
- **386 more 3-8 graders** earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 47%).

Percent of Yancey County schools by academic growth status, 2019

Exceeded	38%
Met	25%
Not Met	38%

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, Yancey County needs:

- **10 more 9th graders** to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 90%).
- **49 more seniors** to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 54%).
- **159 more students** to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 18%).

Students in Yancey County completed **182 Career & Technical Education concentrations** in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Architecture and Construction; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Manufacturing.



40 students took at least one AP course (6%) versus 9% of peer counties.



223 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (34%) versus 22% of peer counties.

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 Yancey County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



Yancey County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 263:1.

Among Yancey County high school graduates:

- **49% of graduates** enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
- **69% of students** who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% of peer counties.
- **56% 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:

12 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.

1,740 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

8,809 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.



9.9% 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 **5,225 students per year**. After 5 years, 70% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of \$41,744.

72% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gap is: **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics** (below bachelor's).

There are **84,705 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) **First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

39% of Yancey County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.



Transition to Postsecondary

49% of Yancey County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 57%.



First-Year Persistence

69% of Yancey County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural non-metro county average of 73%.

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	24,025	81%
Appalachian State University	18,135	91%
Wilkes Community College	3,416	54%
Mayland Community College	1,455	55%
Lees-McRae College	1,019	66%

Notes:

Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at <http://go.unc.edu/countydata>

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Country Cablevision

A \$25.3 million Community Connect Grant from the USDA's Rural Utilities Service in 2010 made it possible for a collaborative partnership between the counties and Country Cablevision to install fiber optic cables in Mitchell and Yancey Counties. Country Cablevision, Inc. (CCVN) is committed to providing our Internet services as an open platform for innovation, investment, job creation, economic growth, competition, and free expression.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you'd like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

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2 million by 2030

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