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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<td>Dale Jenkins</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer, Curi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Hans</td>
<td>President, University of North Carolina System</td>
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<tr>
<td>MC Belk Pilon</td>
<td>President and Board Chair, John M. Belk Endowment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cecilia Holden</td>
<td>President and CEO, myFutureNC</td>
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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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<tr>
<td>Senator Deanna Ballard</td>
<td>Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger’s Designee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathryn Black</td>
<td>Major Markets Segment Executive, Bank of America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. William S. Carver</td>
<td>Interim President of the NC Community College System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John F.A.V. Cecil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geoff Coltrane</td>
<td>Governor Roy Cooper’s Designee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eric Davis</td>
<td>NC State Board of Education Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representative John Fraley</td>
<td>House Speaker Tim Moore’s Designee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lynn J. Good</td>
<td>Chair, President, and CEO of Duke Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Goodnight</td>
<td>Senior Director of Community Relations, SAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Howell</td>
<td>Vice Chancellor for External Affairs, Partnerships, and Economic Development, NC State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Johnson</td>
<td>State Superintendent</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Mounts</td>
<td>Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Inmar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Spangler Nelson</td>
<td>Chairman, Spangler Companies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary Salamido, MS</td>
<td>President and CEO, NC Chamber</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. A. Hope Williams</td>
<td>President, NC Independent Colleges and Universities</td>
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THANK YOU TO ...

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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 2030; 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.

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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
- Bachelor’s degree (NC public university)
- Associate’s degree (NC community college)
- High school graduate, with no higher education

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
Complete college
Some college, No degree
High school or less

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.

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:
- 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
- Reform public need-based financial aid programs
- Increase training and capacity of college advisors
- Identify and support students impacted by COVID-19 to increase college completion

Education & Labor Market Alignment:
- Define, standardize, and incentivize non-degree NC Workforce Credentials to align with in-demand living wage jobs for providers and students

Interested in learning more about our policy recommendations? Additional detail is available on our website at myfuturenc.org
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) non-profit 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.
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.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibit 4</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>The NC State Attainment Dashboard allows us to track progress toward the sub-goals tied to the State’s 2 million by 2030 goal.</td>
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<tr>
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</table>
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.

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

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.


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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organizational goals</th>
<th>Strategic responsibilities</th>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Steps &amp; measures</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. A shared vision for attainment in NC</td>
<td>B. Postsecondary readiness, access &amp; completion</td>
<td>Convene, engage &amp; drive awareness</td>
<td>Develop public engagement strategies to promote attainment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Align &amp; coordinate state-level efforts</td>
<td>Foster collaboration and prioritization across education, workforce &amp; economic development sectors</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Catalyze &amp; support local initiatives</td>
<td>Identify map and support partners who are leading existing and emerging initiatives</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Advance practices &amp; policies</td>
<td>Facilitate adoption of evidence-based policies to drive attainment efforts</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Measure progress</td>
<td>Report state progress toward the goal to the joint legislative education oversight committee</td>
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By 2030, 2 million North Carolinians will have a high-quality credential or a postsecondary degree

Create a stronger, economically competitive and prosperous North Carolina with opportunity for all

Additional steps and measures are defined for each action
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.
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**

### INTRODUCTION

From birth to career, there are many opportunities to develop strategies and interventions to improve 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>K-12 Students</th>
<th>Traditional Schools</th>
<th>Charter/Private/Home</th>
<th>Median Household Income</th>
<th>Child Poverty Rate</th>
<th>Households with Broadband</th>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>10,389,148</td>
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<td>2030</td>
<td>11,836,070</td>
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### 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, 43% or 19% were classified as low performing in 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:
- 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%).

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.
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”.

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

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**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.

**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.

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.

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**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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Education Requirement</th>
<th>2018 Growth</th>
<th>2028 Growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HS/GED or less</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, no degree</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postsecondary non-degree award</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate’s degree</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s and above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All NC jobs 6.3%

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

### 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 worked 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.

**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 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

“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
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.

---

**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.

---

— **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.

---

programs.

— **College Advisors:** Increase training and capacity of college success coaches and advisors to encourage student retention and on-time graduation.

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---

**50%**

of North Carolina employers report difficulty hiring qualified staff.
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 2030\(^1\). 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.

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\(^1\) 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
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

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.

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

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-school counselor ratio of 356:1.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

In North Carolina, 2018-19:
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.

Local Education Agencies: 231
Updated: Aug 12 2020
# North Carolina 2020 Attainment Profile

## Largest postsecondary institutions North Carolina

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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**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/](http://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/)

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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.

- [ncdemography.org](http://ncdemography.org)
- [demography@unc.edu](mailto: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](http://myfuturenc.org)
- [facebook.com/myfuturenc](http://facebook.com/myfuturenc)
- [@myFutureNC](https://twitter.com/@myFutureNC)
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.

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.

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.

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%).

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%).

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.

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).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
739 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
6,843 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
34,670 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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%.

CAROLINA DEMOGRAPHY myFUTURENC 2 million by 2030
John M Belk Endowment UNC Carolina Population Center

Updated: Aug 12 2020

PROSPERITY ZONE SUB-REGION
Peer County Type: Suburban
Local Education Agencies: 1
# Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford Technical Community College</td>
<td>14,735</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina A &amp; T State University</td>
<td>11,370</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elon University</td>
<td>6,187</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alamance Community College</td>
<td>5,651</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Point University</td>
<td>4,631</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randolph Community College</td>
<td>3,475</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockingham Community College</td>
<td>2,379</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford College</td>
<td>1,824</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greensboro College</td>
<td>1,018</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennett College</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
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Detailed data guidance is provided at [http://go.unc.edu/countydata](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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

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Alexander 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.

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.

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.

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%).

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%).**

Students in Alexander County completed 260 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 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 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 Apprenticeship 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%.

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

Updated: Aug 12 2020
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

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

---

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Alleghany 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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>24,025</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appalachian State University</td>
<td>18,135</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilkes Community College</td>
<td>3,416</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayland Community College</td>
<td>1,455</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lees-McRae College</td>
<td>1,019</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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](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](https://example.com).

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

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%).

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%).

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 Apprenticeship program.
12,019 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>107,538</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>29,552</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Charlotte</td>
<td>27,078</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowan-Cabarrus Community College</td>
<td>7,939</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaston College</td>
<td>7,333</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Community College</td>
<td>4,188</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>3,935</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Community College</td>
<td>3,883</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanly Community College</td>
<td>3,837</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wingate University</td>
<td>2,729</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner-Webb University</td>
<td>2,454</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson &amp; Wales University-Charlotte</td>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens University of Charlotte</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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](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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata).

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

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**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

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

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%).

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.

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

12 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.

1,740 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

8,809 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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

**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

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<tr>
<td>Appalachian State University</td>
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<td>54%</td>
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<td>Mayland Community College</td>
<td>1,455</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lees-McRae College</td>
<td>1,019</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
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**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata).

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- @my Future NC
Avery 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
12,174 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
8,809 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2019:
340 people enrolled in a local Adult Learner Education program.
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.

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.

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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.

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

1.1% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 8.9% of peer counties.

Avery County
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.

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

How students in Avery County traditional public schools are currently doing:
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Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>24,025</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appalachian State University</td>
<td>18,135</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilkes Community College</td>
<td>3,416</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayland Community College</td>
<td>1,455</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lees-McRae College</td>
<td>1,019</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY ACCOUNTABILITY

Beaufort 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
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.

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%).

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%).

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.

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 Apprenticeship program.
2,779 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
19,098 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY ACCOUNTABILITY

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NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

INTRODUCTION
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Beaufort County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>44,903</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Carolina University</td>
<td>25,427</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pitt Community College</td>
<td>12,206</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaufort County Community College</td>
<td>1,994</td>
<td>41%</td>
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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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NC goal: 2 million by 2030

**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; 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.

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

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

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

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. 66%).
- 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.

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**LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES:**

**Peer County Type:** Rural Non-Metro

**Local Education Agencies:**

**Rural Non-Metro**

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**IN YOUR PROSPERITY ZONE SUB-REGION, 2018-19:**

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

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.

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**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

<table>
<thead>
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**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](https://myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/).

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### 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
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.

### 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.

### 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.

- 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.

### 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.

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

### 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.

### 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

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<th>Institution Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>44,488</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fayetteville Technical Community College</td>
<td>18,684</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fayetteville State University</td>
<td>6,522</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Pembroke</td>
<td>6,252</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robeson Community College</td>
<td>2,631</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodist University</td>
<td>2,149</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sampson Community College</td>
<td>2,049</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeastern Community College</td>
<td>1,887</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bladen Community College</td>
<td>1,643</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platt College-Miller-Motte-Fayetteville</td>
<td>1,504</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Andrews University</td>
<td>756</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolina College of Biblical Studies</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace College of Divinity</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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](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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- [facebook.com/myfuturenc](https://facebook.com/myfuturenc)
- [@myFutureNC](https://twitter.com/myFutureNC)
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.

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.

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.

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.

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%.

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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 254 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 1,943 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 14,610 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

How students in Brunswick County traditional public schools are currently doing:
Percent of Brunswick County schools by academic growth status, 2019
- Exceeded 33%
- Met 44%
- Not Met 22%

How students in Brunswick County traditional public schools are currently doing:
• 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.
• 931 more students ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 39%).
• 1,857 more 3-8 graders ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 41%).
• 2,760 more 3-8 graders ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 39%).

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.
Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

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.

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit: dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/

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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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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

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

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Burke 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
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.

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.

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%).

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%).

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.

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, 2018-19:
- 300 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 3,422 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 22,503 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 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, below the rural metro county average of 18%.

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2 million by 2030
John H Belk Endowment
UNC
CAROLINA POPULATION CENTER

Updated: Aug 12 2020

Local Education Agencies:
Peer County Type: Rural Metro
Prosperity Zone sub-region
Charter/Private/Home: 2
Traditional Schools: 22
Community College: 1
Private: 2
Charter: 1
Public: 23
## Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**Notes:**
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### 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](http://myfuturenc.org).

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

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

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.

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.

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%.

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.

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%).

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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
3,322 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
12,019 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>107,538</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>29,552</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Charlotte</td>
<td>27,078</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowan-Cabarrus Community College</td>
<td>7,939</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaston College</td>
<td>7,333</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Community College</td>
<td>4,188</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>3,935</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Community College</td>
<td>3,883</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanly Community College</td>
<td>3,837</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wingate University</td>
<td>2,729</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner-Webb University</td>
<td>2,454</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson &amp; Wales University-Charlotte</td>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens University of Charlotte</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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](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.

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

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- [demography@unc.edu](mailto:demography@unc.edu)
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**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.

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- [facebook.com/myfuturenc](http://facebook.com/myfuturenc)
- [@myFutureNC](http://twitter.com/@myFutureNC)
Caldwell 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%.

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%).

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%).

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 Labor Market Outcomes:

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 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 Apprenticeship program.
- 3,422 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 22,503 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

opportunities for Growth:

Comparison 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%.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

- 1,084 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (30%) versus 18% of peer counties.
- 70% of Caldwell County high school graduates are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.
- 659 more students are enrolled in NC Pre-K (goal: 95% vs. 88%).

Labor Market Outcomes:

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 average annual 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).

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

- 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.
Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

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.

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:
dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/

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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.

Camden County
NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

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) 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.

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.

How students in Camden County traditional public schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, Camden County needs:
• 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%).

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.

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.

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.

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%.

Resources; and Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics.
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.

For each stage of the postsecondary pipeline:
• 84% of students enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% of peer counties.
• 73% of graduates enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% 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 Apprenticeship program.
603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.
Camden County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

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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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.

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

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

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.

Postsecondary Access and Success metrics:
- 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.

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.

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.

INTRODUCTION

Carteret County is in the Jackson‐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.

Compared to rural non‐metro counties and the state,

Opportunities for Growth

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

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

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

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

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%.

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile
Carteret County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>14,670</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal Carolina Community College</td>
<td>6,255</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craven Community College</td>
<td>4,599</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carteret Community College</td>
<td>2,077</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platt College-Miller-Motte-Jacksonville</td>
<td>1,046</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamlico Community College</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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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Caswell 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
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)
2,425
Traditional Schools
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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

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.

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 Apprenticeship 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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region of 2018-19:
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%.

CA - County Prosperity Zone
Prosperity Zone sub-region
Peer County Type: Rural Non-Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1
Caswell County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>70,185</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Greensboro</td>
<td>18,374</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford Technical Community College</td>
<td>14,735</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina A &amp; T State University</td>
<td>11,370</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elon University</td>
<td>6,187</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alamance Community College</td>
<td>5,651</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Point University</td>
<td>4,631</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randolph Community College</td>
<td>3,475</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockingham Community College</td>
<td>2,379</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford College</td>
<td>1,824</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greensboro College</td>
<td>1,018</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennett College</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

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

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Catawba 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
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.

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.

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%).

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.

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 Apprenticeship 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

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata).

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

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Chatham 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.

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.

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.
- 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.

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.

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.

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.

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

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region: 2018-19:
- 2,661 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 12,867 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 67,583 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

To meet state goals, Chatham County needs:
- 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%).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 2,661 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 12,867 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 67,583 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

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%.
**Chatham County 2020 Attainment Profile**

### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

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


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Cherokee 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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

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.

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.

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%.

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%
### Cherokee County 2020 Attainment Profile

#### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**Notes:**
- Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments.
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**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.

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit: [dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/](http://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/)

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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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
8 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

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).

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

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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**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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Clay 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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%).

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.

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.
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.

Coronavirus Response
Coronavirus 

CLAY COUNTY

High school completion is a crucial step on the pathway to postsecondary success.

8.1% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 8.9% of peer counties.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

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.

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

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.

80% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

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.

Corresponding to rural non-metro counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Clay County to improve future attainment outcomes.
**Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region**

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata).

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**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](http://myfuturenc.org).

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit: [dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/](http://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/)

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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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Cleveland 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
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.

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%).

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.

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 Apprenticeship/NC program.
12,019 Basic Skills enrollments at NC Community colleges.
64,398 Continuing Education enrollments at NC Community colleges.

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); 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 Manufacuting, Except Technical and Scientific Products; 2) General and Operations Managers; 3) Registered Nurses.

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 Manufacuring, 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%.
Cleveland County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>107,538</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>29,552</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Charlotte</td>
<td>27,078</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowan-Cabarrus Community College</td>
<td>7,939</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaston College</td>
<td>7,333</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Community College</td>
<td>4,188</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>3,935</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Community College</td>
<td>3,883</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanly Community College</td>
<td>3,837</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wingate University</td>
<td>2,729</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner-Webb University</td>
<td>2,454</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson &amp; Wales University-Charlotte</td>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens University of Charlotte</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
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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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INTRODUCTION
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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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

How students in Columbus County traditional public schools are currently doing:
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. 68%).
- 641 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).

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.

How students in Columbus County high school graduates are currently doing:
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 Apprenticeship program.
6,792 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
32,293 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2017-2019:
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.
Columbus County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

Notes:
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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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INTRODUCTION
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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.

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.

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.

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.

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%.

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.

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%).

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.

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.

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%).

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.

How does education align with labor market outcomes among recent graduates, the alignment between postsecondary degree 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).

Labor Market Outcomes:
- 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).
  - 38% of Craven County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.
  - 24% of Craven County schools are low-performing, above the rural metro county average of 16%.
  - 30% of Craven County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural metro county average of 25%.

Labor Market Outcomes:
- 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).

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.

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

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.

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.

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%.

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%).

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.

How does education align with labor market outcomes among recent graduates, the alignment between postsecondary degree 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).

Labor Market Outcomes:
- 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).
  - 38% of Craven County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.
  - 24% of Craven County schools are low-performing, above the rural metro county average of 16%.
  - 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

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

**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](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](https://example.com/survey).

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


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- [myFutureNC](https://twitter.com/myFutureNC)
Cumberland 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.

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%).

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%).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
1,621 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
6,792 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
32,293 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
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.

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.

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 80 public schools with a student-to-school counselor ratio of 351:1.

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 average annual 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).

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:
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

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

**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

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**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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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.

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%).

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%).

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.

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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

Currituck County has 10 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 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.

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.

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.

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%.

**COUNTY OVERVIEW**

**Peer County Type:** Rural Metro

**Local Education Agencies:** 1

**2018 Population**

27,099

**2030 Population**

32,219

**K-12 Students (2019)**

4,049

**Charter/Private/Home**

500

**Median Household Income**

$64,426

**Child Poverty Rate**

14%

**Households with Broadband**

80%

**REGIONAL EDUCATION**

**High School Completion Rate**

35% of Currituck County adults with a high school diploma.

**College Access Rate**

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.

**Regional Institutions**

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.

**Labor Market Gaps**

- 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.

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

- 8 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

**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%.

**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.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>5,015</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of the Albemarle</td>
<td>3,263</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth City State University</td>
<td>1,538</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Atlantic Christian University</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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.

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### 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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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
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.

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%).

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%).

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.

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.

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.

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8
High-quality early learning and strong academic progress in early years helps prepare children for future success.

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.

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%).

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%).

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.

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.

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.
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.

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@myFutureNC
Davidson 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
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.
- Hollis CTE Concentrations: Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Hospitality & Tourism.

- 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.

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%).

....

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.

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.

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

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%).

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.

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.

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%.

Labor Market Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metrics</th>
<th>Davidson County</th>
<th>Suburban County Average</th>
<th>State Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CTE with Workforce Credentials</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurses as a share of workforce</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurses as a share of all hires</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurses as a share of residents</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Disclaimer: The above data is for illustration purposes only and may not reflect the exact percentages for Davidson County.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>33,211</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forsyth Technical Community College</td>
<td>11,306</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winston-Salem State University</td>
<td>5,408</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wake Forest University</td>
<td>5,244</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davidson County Community College</td>
<td>5,013</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surry Community College</td>
<td>4,040</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina School of the Arts</td>
<td>889</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salem College</td>
<td>869</td>
<td>81%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Piedmont International University</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolina Christian College</td>
<td>48</td>
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**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](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.

### 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

### 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.orgfacebook.com/myfuturenc@myFutureNC
Davie 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.

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.

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.

How students in Davie County traditional public schools are currently doing:
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%).

Students in Davie County completed 210 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include 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.

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.

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.

2018 Population 42,976
2030 Population 49,615
K-12 Students (2019) 6,100
Traditional Schools 860
Charter/Private/Home Median Household Income $60,801
Child Poverty Rate 16%
Households with Broadband 81%

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.

To meet state goals, Davie County needs:
• 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%).

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 Apprenticeship program.
4,264 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
24,064 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

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.

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%.

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

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
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**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata).

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

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Duplin 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 Apprenticeship program.
3,446 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
17,300 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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%).

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%).

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

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
644 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Business Management & Administration.

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 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 average annual 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.

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

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<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>14,028</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne Community College</td>
<td>4,392</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Mount Olive</td>
<td>4,197</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenoir Community College</td>
<td>3,843</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Sprunt Community College</td>
<td>1,596</td>
<td>58%</td>
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</table>

**Notes:**
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**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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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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

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.

How students in Durham County traditional public schools are currently doing:
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. 69%).
- 2,552 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 2,661 individuals served in a Apprenticeship program.
- 12,867 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 67,583 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 22,190 students per year. After 5 years, 59% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of $52,133.
- 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.

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).

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

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 3,314 more seniors who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 58% of peer counties.
- 472 more seniors who enroll persist to their second year versus 81% of peer counties.
- 2,552 more students who enroll attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 3,314 more seniors who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 58% of peer counties.
- 472 more seniors who enroll persist to their second year versus 81% of peer counties.
- 2,552 more students who enroll attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).

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).

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Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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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.

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**Edgecombe 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**

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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

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

**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.

**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%).

**Postsecondary Access and Success**

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 Apprenticeship program.
- 1,711 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 13,104 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

**Labor Market Outcomes**

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 average annual 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.

**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%.

21% of Edgecombe County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural metro county average of 36%.

**Math Performance**

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

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%

**How students in Edgecombe County traditional public schools are currently doing:**

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%).

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.
### 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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Forsyth 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.

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.

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.

- 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.

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.

- In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
  - 974 individuals served in an Apprenticeship NC 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.

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%.

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.

- Opportunities for Growth
  - Compared to urban counties and the state, these three sub-region.

How students in Forsyth County traditional public schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, Forsyth County needs:

- 3,234 students took at least one AP course (20%) versus 25% of peer counties.
- 11,995 more seniors to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 86%).
- 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.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forsyth Technical Community College</td>
<td>11,306</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winston-Salem State University</td>
<td>5,408</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>5,244</td>
<td>98%</td>
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<td>61%</td>
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<td>4,040</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina School of the Arts</td>
<td>889</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salem College</td>
<td>869</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piedmont International University</td>
<td>394</td>
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### 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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Franklin County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

INTRODUCTION
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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.

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.

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%).

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 Apprenticeship 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.

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.

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, 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%.

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### 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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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.

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.

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: 96% vs. 38%).

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%).

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 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 Gaston County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.

Gaston County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 351:1.

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.

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.

NC 2030 County Attainment Profile
2020 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%

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.

Gaston County has 50 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 11 or 22% were classified as low performing in 2019.

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Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Gaston County to improve future attainment outcomes.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>107,538</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>29,552</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Charlotte</td>
<td>27,078</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowan-Cabarrus Community College</td>
<td>7,939</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaston College</td>
<td>7,333</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Community College</td>
<td>4,188</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>3,935</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Community College</td>
<td>3,883</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanly Community College</td>
<td>3,837</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wingate University</td>
<td>2,729</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner-Webb University</td>
<td>2,454</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson &amp; Wales University-Charlotte</td>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens University of Charlotte</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
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### 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.

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

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

### ABOUT CAROLINA DEMOGRAPHY

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- [ncdemography.org](http://ncdemography.org)
- demography@unc.edu
- @ncdemography

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- [myfuturenc.org](http://myfuturenc.org)
- facebook.com/myfuturenc
- @myFutureNC
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.

Gates County has 5 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 20% were classified as low performing in 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.

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.

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.

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.

Gates County
NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

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 bachelor’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.

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

- **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%).**

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.

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 Apprenticehip program.
- **603** Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- **4,933** Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2019:

- **376 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores.**
- **29 more seniors participating in the FAFSA.**
- **161 more students attending school regularly.**

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunity</th>
<th>NC goal: 2 million by 2030</th>
<th>Gates County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AP Participation</td>
<td>0% of Gates County high school students took at least one AP exam. Below the rural metro county average of 10%.</td>
<td>0% of Gates County high school students took at least one AP exam. Below the rural metro county average of 10%.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Absenteeism</td>
<td>21% of Gates County students are chronically absent from school. Above the rural metro county average of 16%.</td>
<td>21% of Gates County students are chronically absent from school. Above the rural metro county average of 16%.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Learners</td>
<td>29% of Gates County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree. Above the rural metro county average of 25%.</td>
<td>29% of Gates County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree. Above the rural metro county average of 25%.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

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 Apprenticeship program.
- 1,489 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 10,302 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

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

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

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**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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@myFutureNC
Granville 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

**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%.

**INTRODUCTION**
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.

**COUNTY OVERVIEW**
Granville County has 19 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 9 or 47% were classified as low performing in 2019.

**Ready for College & Career**
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Granville County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>139,487</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wake Technical Community College</td>
<td>29,480</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina State University at Raleigh</td>
<td>27,424</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</td>
<td>19,773</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durham Technical Community College</td>
<td>8,049</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke University</td>
<td>7,504</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Central University</td>
<td>7,165</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strayer University-North Carolina</td>
<td>6,998</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Carolina Community College</td>
<td>6,811</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnston Community College</td>
<td>5,343</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campbell University</td>
<td>5,183</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vance-Granville Community College</td>
<td>4,014</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meredith College</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 learn 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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Greene 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
96 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
3,446 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
17,300 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
96 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
3,446 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
17,300 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
96 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
3,446 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
17,300 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
96 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
3,446 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
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In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
96 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
3,446 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
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In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
96 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
3,446 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
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In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
96 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
3,446 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
17,300 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.
### Greene County 2020 Attainment Profile

#### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>14,028</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne Community College</td>
<td>4,392</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Mount Olive</td>
<td>4,197</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenoir Community College</td>
<td>3,843</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Sprunt Community College</td>
<td>1,596</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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


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- [facebook.com/myfuturenc](http://facebook.com/myfuturenc)
- [@myFutureNC](http://twitter.com/myFutureNC)
Guilford 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
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 bachelor’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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

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.

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6.7% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 5.3% of peer counties.

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%.

How students in Guilford County traditional public schools are currently doing:
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 graduate on time (goal: 88% vs. 86%).

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Guilford County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>70,185</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Greensboro</td>
<td>18,374</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford Technical Community College</td>
<td>14,735</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina A &amp; T State University</td>
<td>11,370</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elon University</td>
<td>6,187</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alamance Community College</td>
<td>5,651</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Point University</td>
<td>4,631</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randolph Community College</td>
<td>3,475</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockingham Community College</td>
<td>2,379</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford College</td>
<td>1,824</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greensboro College</td>
<td>1,018</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennett College</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
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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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Halifax 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
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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

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.

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, 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.

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%.

CAROLINA DEMOGRAPHY myFUTURENC 2 million by 2030
John M Belk Endowment
UNC CAROLINA POPULATION CENTER
Halifax County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

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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INTRODUCTION
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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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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%).

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 Technology.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
2,661 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
12,867 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

Harnett County
NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

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%

28% of Harnett County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.

24% of Harnett County schools are low-performing, above the rural metro county average of 16%.

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

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:

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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%).

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 Technology.

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

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

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.

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:

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).
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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

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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](http://ncdemography.org)
- [demography@unc.edu](mailto: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](http://myfuturenc.org)
- [facebook.com/myfuturenc](http://facebook.com/myfuturenc)
- [@myFutureNC](https://twitter.com/myFutureNC)
**Haywood 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**

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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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%).

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.

**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.

**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AP Participation</th>
<th>School Counselors</th>
<th>NC Pre-K Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7% of Haywood County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural metro county average of 10%.</td>
<td>Haywood County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 413:1, above the rural metro county average of 378:1.</td>
<td>53% of Haywood County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 54%.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Haywood County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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 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.

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

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

**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

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### 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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Hertford 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
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.

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%).**

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%.

INTRODUCTION
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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.

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<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>44,903</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Carolina University</td>
<td>25,427</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pitt Community College</td>
<td>12,206</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaufort County Community College</td>
<td>1,994</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halifax Community College</td>
<td>1,626</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chowan University</td>
<td>1,582</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roanoke-Chowan Community College</td>
<td>1,067</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Community College</td>
<td>1,001</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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

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**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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**For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:**
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- [@myFutureNC](https://twitter.com/myFutureNC)
Hoke 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

COUNTY OVERVIEW
Hoke County is in the Fayetteville-Lumberton Prosperity Zone sub-region. It’s one of 28 rural metro counties in NC.

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%

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%).

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.

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.

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

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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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**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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%).

**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.

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 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.

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.

**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%.

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

- 8 individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program.
- 603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
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Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>5,015</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of the Albemarle</td>
<td>3,263</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth City State University</td>
<td>1,538</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Atlantic Christian University</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
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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.

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**INTRODUCTION**
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**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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%.

**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.

**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%

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; and Hospitality & Tourism.

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 earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

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%).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 3,322 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 12,019 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 64,398 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
- 1,074 Career & Technical Education concentrations completed in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health; and Hospitality & Tourism.

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.
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%
Gastonia 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%
Queen's University of Charlotte | 2,010 | 91%

Notes:
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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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Jackson County

2020 County Attainment Profile

INTRODUCTION
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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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

How students in Jackson County traditional public schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, Jackson County needs:

- 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 earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 49% of peer counties.

Postsecondary Access and Success
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 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 Apprenticeship program.
- 1,489 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 10,302 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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 Operational Managers; 3) First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers.

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%.

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3% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 8.9% of peer counties.

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.

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%).

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.

How students in Jackson County traditional public schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, Jackson County needs:

- 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 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 Apprenticeship program.
- 1,489 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 10,302 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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 Operational Managers; 3) First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers.

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

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata).

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**For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:**
[dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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---

**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.

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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.

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%).

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.

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.

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, 2018-19:
- 2,661 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 12,867 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 67,583 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>139,487</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wake Technical Community College</td>
<td>29,480</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina State University at Raleigh</td>
<td>27,424</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</td>
<td>19,773</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durham Technical Community College</td>
<td>8,049</td>
<td>58%</td>
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<td>Duke University</td>
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<td>Central Carolina Community College</td>
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<td>Johnston Community College</td>
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<td>Vance-Granville Community College</td>
<td>4,014</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meredith College</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

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

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myfuturenc.orgfacebook.com/myfuturenc@myFutureNC
Jones 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.

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.

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.

How students in Jones County traditional public schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, Jones County needs:
- 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%).

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.

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 earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 50% of peer counties.

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.

Labor Market Outcomes

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
- 143 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 2,183 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 14,913 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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%.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
- 143 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 2,183 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 14,913 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.
### Jones County 2020 Attainment Profile

#### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**Notes:**
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**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](http://go.unc.edu/countrydata).

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

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

To meet state goals, Lee County needs:
- 55 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%).
- 124 more seniors to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%).
- 87 more students to take at least one AP course (goal: 10% vs. 9%).
- 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%.

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 2,661 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 12,867 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 67,583 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

How Lee County stands relative to other rural non-metro counties:

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
- 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).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
- 19% of Lee County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural non-metro county average of 41%.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
- 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%
**Lee County 2020 Attainment Profile**

Updated: Aug 12 2020

### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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<thead>
<tr>
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<td>96%</td>
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<td>Durham Technical Community College</td>
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<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke University</td>
<td>7,504</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Central University</td>
<td>7,165</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strayer University-North Carolina</td>
<td>6,998</td>
<td>53%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Carolina Community College</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnston Community College</td>
<td>5,343</td>
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**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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**Introducing County Attainment**

**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%

**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.

Lenoir County has 16 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 5 or 31% were classified as low performing in 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.

**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.

**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.

**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%.

**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%

**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.

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.

**NC Postsecondary Access Data**

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.
**Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>14,028</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne Community College</td>
<td>4,392</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Mount Olive</td>
<td>4,197</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenoir Community College</td>
<td>3,843</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Sprunt Community College</td>
<td>1,596</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata).

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**Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Crown-Lenior 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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[demography@unc.edu](mailto:demography@unc.edu)  
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**About MyFutureNC**

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[myfuturenc.org](http://myfuturenc.org)  
[facebook.com/myfuturenc](http://facebook.com/myfuturenc)  
[@myFutureNC](https://twitter.com/myFutureNC)
Lincoln 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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: 96% vs. 49%).

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. 91%).
- 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.

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.

How 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: 96% vs. 49%).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 3,322 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 12,019 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 64,398 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.
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.

2018 Population 84,751
2030 Population 99,743
K-12 Students (2019) 11,344
Traditional Schools 3,375
Charter/Private/Home 1,937
Median Household Income $62,963
Child Poverty Rate 15%
Households with Broadband 79%

Food, & Natural Resources.
Top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Hospitality & Tourism; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

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%.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 3,322 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 12,019 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 64,398 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.
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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 3,322 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 12,019 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
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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.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>107,538</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>29,552</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Charlotte</td>
<td>27,078</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowan-Cabarrus Community College</td>
<td>7,939</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaston College</td>
<td>7,333</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Community College</td>
<td>4,188</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>3,935</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Community College</td>
<td>3,883</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanly Community College</td>
<td>3,837</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wingate University</td>
<td>2,729</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner-Webb University</td>
<td>2,454</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson &amp; Wales University-Charlotte</td>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens University of Charlotte</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
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### 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.

---

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


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

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.

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.

Postsecondary Access and Success
These metrics capture student progress 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.

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.

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.

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%).

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 seniors 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.

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) 4,367
Charter/Private/Home 806
Median Household Income $46,426
Child Poverty Rate 26%
Households with Broadband 71%

Postsecondary Access and Success
These metrics capture student progress 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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
18 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
1,489 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
10,302 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
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).

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 average annual wage of $39,941.

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.

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

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

**Notes:**
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**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](http://myfuturenc.org).

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

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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.

Madison County
NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

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 Apprenticeship program.
- 3,207 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 22,514 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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%.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
- 2,234 Traditional Schools.
- 740 Charter/Private Home.
- $44,693 median household income.
- 23% child poverty rate.
- 71% households with broadband.

To meet state goals, Madison County needs:
- 187 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 47%).
- 37 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 42%).
- 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%).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 553 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 3,207 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 22,514 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 553 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 3,207 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 22,514 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**Notes:**
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**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.

---

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

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### ABOUT CAROLINA DEMOGRAPHY

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- [demography@unc.edu](mailto:demography@unc.edu)
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### 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.

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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.

Martin County has 7 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 4 or 57% were classified as low performing in 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.

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%).

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.

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.

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.

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 8-9 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 36%.

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### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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

[dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/](dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/)

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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.

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.

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.

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.

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%.

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) 5,871
Traditional Schools 1,232
Charter/Private/Home
Median Household Income $43,972
Child Poverty Rate 21%
Households with Broadband 70%

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%).

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: 86% vs. 44%).
• 292 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 16%).

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.
Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

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.

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit: dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/

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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.

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.

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%).

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%).

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.

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.

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%.

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.

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<td>107,538</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>29,552</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Charlotte</td>
<td>27,078</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowan-Cabarrus Community College</td>
<td>7,939</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaston College</td>
<td>7,333</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Community College</td>
<td>4,188</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>3,935</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Community College</td>
<td>3,883</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanly Community College</td>
<td>3,837</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wingate University</td>
<td>2,729</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner-Webb University</td>
<td>2,454</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson &amp; Wales University-Charlotte</td>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens University of Charlotte</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### 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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### Mitchell 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
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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

- 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.

#### 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.

- 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.

#### 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.

#### 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%.

#### 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%).

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.

### COUNTY PROSPERITY ZONE SUB-REGION
**Peer County Type:** Rural Non-Metro

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Education Agencies:</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**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%

**Housesholds with Broadband:** 67%

#### POSTSECONDARY ACCESS AND SUCCESS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018 Population</th>
<th>15,223</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2030 Population</td>
<td>15,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 Students (2019):</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Schools</td>
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#### LABOR MARKET OUTCOMES

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<td>Households with Broadband</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IN YOUR PROSPERITY ZONE SUB-REGION, 2018-19:**
- 12 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 1,740 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 8,809 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

### K-12 STUDENT COMPLETION
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**IN YOUR PROSPERITY ZONE SUB-REGION, 2018-19:**
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### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata).

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---

**About MyFutureNC**

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

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.

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.

Montgomery County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 421:1.

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.

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.

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.

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.

How students in Montgomery County traditional public schools are currently doing:
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.

How students in Montgomery County traditional public schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, Montgomery County needs:

- 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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 24 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 1,920 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 14,381 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 50% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: Health Science (above 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.

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%

2019.
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.
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.
- 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.

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%.

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%.
Montgomery County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>9,578</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandhills Community College</td>
<td>5,329</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond Community College</td>
<td>3,107</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery Community College</td>
<td>1,142</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

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

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

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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.

Moore County has 20 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 4 or 20% were classified as low performing in 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

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%.

2018 Population
99,390
2030 Population
119,674
K-12 Students (2019)
12,668
Charter/Private/Home
3,826
Median Household Income
$59,471
Child Poverty Rate
15%
Households with Broadband
81%

IN YOUR PROSPERITY ZONE SUB-REGION:
24 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
1,920 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,381 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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### 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:

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Compared to rural metro counties and the state, these demands. Production and labor market demand, and future job alignment between postsecondary degree labor market outcomes among recent graduates, the struggle to fill vacancies. These metrics capture among the primary reasons why NC employers lack of technical skills and lack of education are Labor Market Outcomes

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.

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.

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%).

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%).

Students in Nash County completed 582 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed included Hospitality & Tourism, Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources, and Health Science.

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 Apprenticeship program.
1,711 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
13,104 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

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%.
### Nash County 2020 Attainment Profile

#### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>13,632</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nash Community College</td>
<td>4,549</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edgecombe Community College</td>
<td>2,967</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson Community College</td>
<td>2,687</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Wesleyan College</td>
<td>2,459</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barton College</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>87%</td>
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**Notes:**
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###_localCross-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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New Hanover 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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: 96% vs. 50%).

Among New Hanover County high school graduates:
• 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%).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
254 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
1,943 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,610 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2019:
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.

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

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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


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- [facebook.com/myfuturenc](http://facebook.com/myfuturenc)
- [@myFutureNC](https://twitter.com/myFutureNC)
Northampton 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
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.

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.

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.

How students in Northampton County traditional public schools are currently doing:
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.

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.

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, 2018-19:
347 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
2,779 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
19,098 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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%.
Northampton County 2020 Attainment Profile

### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**Notes:**
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### 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

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. Onslow County has 36 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 4 or 11% were classified as low performing in 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Lack of technical skills and lack of education are among the primary reasons why NC employers

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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%).

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%).

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.

Percent of Onslow County schools by academic growth status, 2019

- Exceeded: 36%
- Met: 50%
- Not Met: 14%

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.

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.

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### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**Notes:**
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### 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](http://myfuturenc.org).

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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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

How students in Orange County traditional public schools are currently doing:
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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 2,661 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 12,867 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 67,583 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
- 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.

Among Orange County high school graduates:
- 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).

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.
- 2,878 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 55%).

How students in Orange County traditional public schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, Orange County needs:
- 1,358 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 58%).
- 2,166 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (5%) versus 12% of peer counties.

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.
## Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**Notes:**
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### 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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- [@myFutureNC](https://twitter.com/myFutureNC)
Pamlico 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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 & Construction; and Health Science.

The Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
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.

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 Apprenticeship program.
2,183 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
14,913 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

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).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
787 Median Household Income: $46,447
29% Child Poverty Rate
69% Households with Broadband

2018 Population: 13,359
2030 Population: 13,452
K-12 Students (2019):
Traditional Schools: 1,308
Charters/Private/Home: 787
Median Household Income: $46,447
Child Poverty Rate: 29%
Households with Broadband: 69%

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
## Pamlico County 2020 Attainment Profile

**Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region**

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

**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](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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata).

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit: [dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/](http://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/)

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Pasquotank 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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%).

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.

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.
- 1,482 more 3-8 graders enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.
- 51% of Pasquotank County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.

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.

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

2018 Population
39,790
2030 Population
39,591
K-12 Students (2019)
5,355
Charter/Private/Home
1,798
Median Household Income
$46,355
Child Poverty Rate
28%
Houselholds with Broadband
74%

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%).

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%).

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.

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.
- 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.

64 students enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.

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.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Enrollments</strong></td>
<td>5,015</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of the Albemarle</td>
<td>3,263</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth City State University</td>
<td>1,538</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Atlantic Christian University</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata).

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**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata).

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

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Pender 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
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.

How students in Pender County traditional public schools are currently doing:
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. 65%).
- 758 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 19%).

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 Apprenticeship program.
- 1,943 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 14,610 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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

**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.
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**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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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.

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%).

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.

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.

How students in Perquimans County high schools are currently doing:

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%).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- **8** individuals served in an Apprenticeship 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.

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).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
- **44%** of Perquimans County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 57%.
- **51%** of Perquimans County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.
- **43%** of Perquimans County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural non-metro county average of 55%.

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.

...
Perquimans County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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Notes:
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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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Person County
NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

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.

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.

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.

Person County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 331:1.

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.

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 earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 56% of peer counties.

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.

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%.

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%).

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 Hospitality & Tourism.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
2,661 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
12,867 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

CHILDREN IN SCHOOL 2018-19

FAFSA Completion
Percent of Person County schools by academic growth status, 2019
Exceeded 45%
Met 18%
Not Met 36%

Households with Broadband
74%

Rural Metro
Peer County Type: Rural Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1

Prosperity Zone sub-region

2018 Population 40,208
2030 Population 41,823
K-12 Students (2019) 4,305
Charter/Private/Home 1,868
Median Household Income $50,149
Child Poverty Rate 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.

Person County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 331:1.

Pre-K

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.

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

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.

Person County
NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

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.

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.

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First-Year Persistence
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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

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

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](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](mailto:).  

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit: [dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/](http://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](http://ncdemography.org)
- [demography@unc.edu](mailto:demography@unc.edu)
- [@ncdemography](http://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](http://myfuturenc.org)
- [facebook.com/myfuturenc](http://facebook.com/myfuturenc)
- [@myFutureNC](http://twitter.com/@myFutureNC)
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.

Pitt County has 35 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 7 or 20% were classified as low performing in 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.

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.

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.

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.

COUNTY OVERVIEW
Pitt County is in the Greenville Prosperity Zone sub-region. It’s one of 16 suburban counties in NC.

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%

NC goal: 2 million by 2030

2020 County Attainment Profile

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%).

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 Apprenticeship program.

2,779

Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.

19,098

Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

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).

5.6% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

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%.

High School Graduation
83% of Pitt County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the suburban county average of 88%.
Pitt County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

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.

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit: dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/

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@myFutureNC
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.

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%).

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%.
Polk County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**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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@myFutureNC
Randolph 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
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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>70,185</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Greensboro</td>
<td>18,374</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford Technical Community College</td>
<td>14,735</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina A &amp; T State University</td>
<td>11,370</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elon University</td>
<td>6,187</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alamance Community College</td>
<td>5,651</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Point University</td>
<td>4,631</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randolph Community College</td>
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<td>55%</td>
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<td>Rockingham Community College</td>
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<td>Bennett College</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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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Richmond 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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

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

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:
- 24 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 1,920 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 14,381 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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%.

Costs:
- 2020 Population: 45,199
- 2030 Population: 44,123

Peer County Type:
- Traditional Schools: 7,045
- Charter/Private/Home: 679

Median Household Income: $38,514
Child Poverty Rate: 31%
Households with Broadband: 70%

Local Education Agencies:
- Pinehurst-Rockingham Public postsecondary institutions:
  - 1,497 students per year. After 5 years, 72% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of $32,460.

411 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2019:
- College Promise programs (27%) versus 22% of peer counties.
- 1,615 more 3-8 graders who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 49% of peer counties.
- 1,143 more 3-8 graders who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years, below the rural non-metro county average of 73%.
Richmond County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>9,578</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandhills Community College</td>
<td>5,329</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond Community College</td>
<td>3,107</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery Community College</td>
<td>1,142</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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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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.

Robeson County has 39 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 22 or 56% were classified as low performing in 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.

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%).

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%).

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.

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.

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.

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%.

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.

Postsecondary Access and Success

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

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

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.
## Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

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.

- Rockingham County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 412:1.

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.

- Among Rockingham County high school graduates:
  - 45% 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 56% of peer counties.

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

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%.

CCTP Enrollment
- 14% of Rockingham County high school students participated in the Career & College Promise program, below the rural metro county average of 18%.

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.

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%).
- 2,946 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 39%).

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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 739 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 6,843 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 34,670 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2017-2018:
- 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; 3) General and Operations Managers.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>70,185</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Greensboro</td>
<td>18,374</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford Technical Community College</td>
<td>14,735</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina A &amp; T State University</td>
<td>11,370</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elon University</td>
<td>6,187</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alamance Community College</td>
<td>5,651</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Point University</td>
<td>4,631</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randolph Community College</td>
<td>3,475</td>
<td>55%</td>
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### 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.

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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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
3,322 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
12,019 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 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%.

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

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.

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%

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.

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%.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
3,322 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
12,019 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
64,398 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 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.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>107,538</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>29,552</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Charlotte</td>
<td>27,078</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowan-Cabarrus Community College</td>
<td>7,939</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaston College</td>
<td>7,333</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Community College</td>
<td>4,188</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>3,935</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Community College</td>
<td>3,883</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanly Community College</td>
<td>3,837</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wingate University</td>
<td>2,729</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner-Webb University</td>
<td>2,454</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson &amp; Wales University-Charlotte</td>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens University of Charlotte</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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](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.

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

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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.

- nc-demography.org
- demography@unc.edu
- @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
Rutherford 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
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.

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%).

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.

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.

How students in Rutherford County traditional public schools are currently doing:
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%).

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.

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.

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.

Postsecondary Access and Success
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 Apprentice@hipNC program.
- 3,207 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 22,514 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 1,503 more 3-8 graders
- 947 more 3-8 graders
- 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.
- 947 more 3-8 graders
- 87 more eligible 4-year-olds

Labor Market Outcomes
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.

Updated: Aug 12 2020
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**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](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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- facebook.com/myfuturenc
- @myFutureNC
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.

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%).

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%.

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%.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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, 2018-19:
- 1,621 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 6,792 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 32,293 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

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:
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).

Workers in Sampson County earned an average of $42,807.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
- 12 students took at least one AP course (7%) versus 9% of peer counties.
- 530 more students took AP than 4 years ago (goal: 50% vs. 42%).
- 58% of graduates earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 73% of peer counties.
- 179 more seniors ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 44%).
- 79 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 61%).
- 2,222 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 42%).
Sampson County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

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.

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

- Scotland County has 10 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 7 or 70% were classified as low performing in 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### How students in Scotland County traditional public schools are currently doing:
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%).

To meet state goals, Scotland County needs:

- **1,172 more 3-8 graders** 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%).

### 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.

- 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 ApprenticeShip NC program.
- **6,792** Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- **32,293** Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

### 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%.

### 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.

- **1,633 more 3-8 graders** 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.

### 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%.
### Scotland County 2020 Attainment Profile

#### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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<td>1,887</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bladen Community College</td>
<td>1,643</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platt College-Miller-Motte-Fayetteville</td>
<td>1,504</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Andrews University</td>
<td>756</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolina College of Biblical Studies</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace College of Divinity</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.

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

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

---

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Stanley 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
Stanley 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 Stanley 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.

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8
High-quality early learning and strong academic progress in early years helps prepare children for future success.

Stanley County has 20 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 5% were classified as low performing in 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.

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 Stanley County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.

Stanley County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 377:1.

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.

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

How students in Stanley County traditional public schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, Stanley 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. 74%).
- 152 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 13%).

Students in Stanley County completed 521 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Architecture & Administration; and Manufacturing.

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2017-2026: 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.

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

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

Disconnected Youth
13% of Stanley 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>107,538</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>29,552</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Charlotte</td>
<td>27,078</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowan-Cabarrus Community College</td>
<td>7,939</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaston College</td>
<td>7,333</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Community College</td>
<td>4,188</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>3,935</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Community College</td>
<td>3,883</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanly Community College</td>
<td>3,837</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wingate University</td>
<td>2,729</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner-Webb University</td>
<td>2,454</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson &amp; Wales University-Charlotte</td>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens University of Charlotte</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
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Detailed data guidance is provided at [http://go.unc.edu/countydata](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/](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.

---

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

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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.

Stokes County has 18 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 6% were classified as low performing in 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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

7% of Stokes County high school students took at least one Advanced Placement exam, below the rural metro county average of 10%.

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

17% of Stokes County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural metro county average of 16%.

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%).

126 students to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 73%)

355 students participated in Career & College Promise programs (19%) versus 18% of peer counties.

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%).

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 Apprenticeship program.
4,264 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
24,064 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

1,013 apprenticeships in the state.
5,747 Charter/Private/Home school enrollment.
1,013 Median Household Income $50,826
18% Child Poverty Rate
68% Households with Broadband

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%.

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:
974 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
4,264 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
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310 Apprenticeships in the state.
1,013 Maximum of opportunities in the state.
1,013 Median Household Income $50,826
18% Child Poverty Rate
68% Households with Broadband

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%.

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### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>33,211</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forsyth Technical Community College</td>
<td>11,306</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winston-Salem State University</td>
<td>5,408</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wake Forest University</td>
<td>5,244</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davidson County Community College</td>
<td>5,013</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surry Community College</td>
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</tr>
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<td>394</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolina Christian College</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
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### 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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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. Surry County has 25 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 4% were classified as low performing in 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.

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.

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.

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.

Surry County
NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

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.

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%).

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. 50%).
- 270 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 14%).

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
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 Apprenticeship program.
- 4,264 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 24,064 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

Labor Market Outcomes
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
54% of Surry County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 64%.

Surry County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 383:1, above the rural non-metro county average of 338:1.

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

<table>
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### 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.

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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.

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

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 ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 45%).
• 70% of 2013 graduates were credential within 6 years versus 49% 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 Swain County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.

Swain County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 383:1.

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.

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.

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%).

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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
• 18 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
• 1,489 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
• 10,302 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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**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.

---

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

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---

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- [@myFutureNC](http://@myFutureNC)
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 PROFILE
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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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%).

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.

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:
553 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
3,207 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
22,514 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.
**Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region**

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

**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

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**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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Tyrrell 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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

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 earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 49% of peer counties.

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 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.

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%.

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%.

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.

INTRODUCTION
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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.

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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.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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### 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 promotes 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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Union 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent of Union County schools by academic growth status, 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exceeded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Met</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Met</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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%).

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.

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

- 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%).

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.

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 Apprenticeship program.
- 12,019 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 64,398 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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; 2) General and Operations Managers; 3) Registered Nurses.

Local Education Agencies:

- 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%

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

Updated: Aug 12 2020
## Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>107,538</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>29,552</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Charlotte</td>
<td>27,078</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowan-Cabarrus Community College</td>
<td>7,939</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaston College</td>
<td>7,333</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Community College</td>
<td>4,188</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>3,935</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Community College</td>
<td>3,883</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanly Community College</td>
<td>3,837</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wingate University</td>
<td>2,729</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner-Webb University</td>
<td>2,454</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson &amp; Wales University-Charlotte</td>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens University of Charlotte</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
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### 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](#).

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


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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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

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.

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.

IN YOUR PROSPERITY ZONE SUB-REGION
Peer County Type: Rural Non-Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1

Updated: Aug 12 2020
Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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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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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.

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.

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.

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.

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%.

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%).
• 13,580 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 55%).
• 27,650 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 49%).

To meet state goals, Wake County needs:
• 650 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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
2,661 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
12,867 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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

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.

How County to improve future attainment outcomes.
areas represent the biggest opportunities for Wake County compared to urban counties and the state.

2018 Population 1,070,197
2030 Population 1,328,336
K-12 Students (2019) 159,588
Traditional Schools 45,774
Charter/Private/Home 105,814
Median Household Income $80,169
Child Poverty Rate 10%
Households with Broadband 90%

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, Peer County Type: Urban Local Education Agencies: 1

2019. The
percentages.

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

opportunities for growth
below the state average of 48%.

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.

Prosperity Zone sub-region
Updated: Aug 12 2020
Updated: Aug 12 2020

### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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Detailed data guidance is provided at [http://go.unc.edu/countydata](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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Warren 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
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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

How students in Warren County traditional public schools are currently doing:
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%).

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:
In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19: 2,661 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
12,867 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
67,583 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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

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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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Washington 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%.

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.

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%).

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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 8 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

INTRODUCTION
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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.

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%).

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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 8 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 603 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 4,933 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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%).

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
12 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
1,740 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
8,809 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
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.

CAROLINA DEMOGRAPHY
Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

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

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.

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit: dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/

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Wayne 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
96 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
3,446 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
17,300 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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%.

Low-Performing Schools
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 18,093
Charter/Private/Home 3,738
Median Household Income $41,572
Child Poverty Rate 32%
Households with Broadband 76%
Wayne County 2020 Attainment Profile

Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>14,028</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne Community College</td>
<td>4,392</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Mount Olive</td>
<td>4,197</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenoir Community College</td>
<td>3,843</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Sprunt Community College</td>
<td>1,596</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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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Wilkes 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

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.

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.

2018 Population
66,943
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%
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
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<tr>
<td>Appalachian State University</td>
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<td>91%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilkes Community College</td>
<td>3,416</td>
<td>54%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mayland Community College</td>
<td>1,455</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lees-McRae College</td>
<td>1,019</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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](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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Wilson 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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.

Postsecondary Access and Success
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 Apprenticeship program.
• 1,711 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
• 13,104 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

Labor Market Outcomes
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
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>13,632</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nash Community College</td>
<td>4,549</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edgecombe Community College</td>
<td>2,967</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson Community College</td>
<td>2,687</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Wesleyan College</td>
<td>2,459</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barton College</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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

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

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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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- [demography@unc.edu](mailto:demography@unc.edu)
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### 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](http://myfuturenc.org)
- [facebook.com/myfuturenc](https://facebook.com/myfuturenc)
- [@myFutureNC](https://twitter.com/@myFutureNC)
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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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%).

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. 63%).
• 60 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 12%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2017-2026:
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.

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

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

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

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 average annual 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).

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%.

CHILD POVERTY RATE
20% of Yadkin County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.
5% of Yadkin County high school students are not working and not in school versus 7.2% of peer counties.
18% of Yadkin County youth ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 9.4% of peer counties.

CHARTER/PRIvATE/HOME
Traditional Schools
Charter/Private/Home
Median Household Income
$49,070
20%
69%

Households with Broadband
69%

IN YOUR PROSPERITY ZONE SUB-REGION
2018 Population
38,100
2030 Population
38,392
K-12 Students (2019)
5,122
757

Median Household Income
$49,070
20%
69%

CHILD POVERTY RATE
5%
52%
97%

CHILD POVERTY RATE
5%
52%
97%

PROSPERITY ZONE SUB-REGION
Rural Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
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CHILD POVERTY RATE
5%
52%
97%

CHILD POVERTY RATE
5%
52%
97%

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CHILD POVERTY RATE
5%
52%
97%

CHILD POVERTY RATE
5%
52%
97%
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>33,211</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forsyth Technical Community College</td>
<td>11,306</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winston-Salem State University</td>
<td>5,408</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wake Forest University</td>
<td>5,244</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davidson County Community College</td>
<td>5,013</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surry Community College</td>
<td>4,040</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina School of the Arts</td>
<td>889</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salem College</td>
<td>869</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piedmont International University</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolina Christian College</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

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**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](https://myfuturenc.org/short-survey/).

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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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Yancey County
NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

COUNTY OVERVIEW
Yancey County is in the Boones-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) 2,105
Traditional Schools 547
Charter/Private/Home Median Household Income $44,756
Child Poverty Rate 26%
Households with Broadband 64%

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%).

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.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
12 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
1,740 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
8,809 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

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.

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%.

Labor Market Outcomes
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).

Among Yance 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.

Percent of Yancey County schools by academic growth status, 2019
Exceeded 38%
Met 25%
Not Met 38%

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.

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<td>81%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appalachian State University</td>
<td>18,135</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilkes Community College</td>
<td>3,416</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayland Community College</td>
<td>1,455</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lees-McRae College</td>
<td>1,019</td>
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