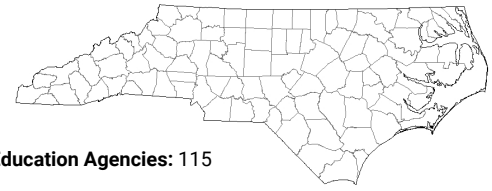


North Carolina

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 State Attainment Profile



Local Education Agencies: 115

Updated: Jun 28 2021

INTRODUCTION

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


STATE OVERVIEW

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

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

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8

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

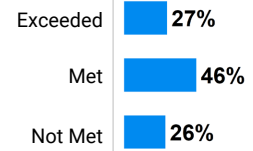
 North Carolina has 2,306 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 439 or 19% were classified as low performing in 2019.

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

To meet state goals, North Carolina needs:

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

Percent of North Carolina schools by academic growth status, 2019



Ready for College & Career

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

To meet state goals, North Carolina needs:

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



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




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

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

Postsecondary Access and Success

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

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

Among North Carolina high school graduates:


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

In North Carolina, 2018-19:

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

Labor Market Outcomes

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

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

In North Carolina:

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

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

There are **5,211,216 job openings** projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of \$50,000 or more are: 1) **Registered Nurses**; 2) **Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products**; 3) **General and Operations Managers**.

Opportunities for Growth

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



NC Pre-K Enrollment

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



Low-Performing Schools

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



FAFSA Completion

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

Largest postsecondary institutions North Carolina

Institution Name	Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18	Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years
Total Enrollments	613,711	67%
Central Piedmont Community College	29,552	47%
Wake Technical Community College	29,480	56%
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	27,424	93%
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	27,078	85%
East Carolina University	25,427	90%
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	19,773	96%
Fayetteville Technical Community College	18,684	43%
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	18,374	83%
Appalachian State University	18,135	91%
University of North Carolina Wilmington	16,604	93%
Guilford Technical Community College	14,735	57%
Cape Fear Community College	12,293	62%

Notes:

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

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




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

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

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




ABOUT CAROLINA DEMOGRAPHY

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

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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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