

myFutureNC County Attainment Profile – Data Guidance

About

This page outlines the data elements and sources of the variables in the myFutureNC County Attainment Profiles. These profiles, available as PDFs via the <https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org> website, were produced by Carolina Demography for myFutureNC.

The profiles include many data elements, including county demographics; educational performance indicators; and labor market outcomes. In addition to the indicators on the published profile, this data file contains county indicators that align with data reported in the state attainment dashboard (where available), as well as contextual information that has been included based on conversations with county leaders. This data file also contains data for multiple years for many indicators and provides details by demographic subgroups where available.

Researchers from Carolina Demography, located within the Carolina Population Center at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, identified the best source of data for each indicator by consulting with experts from the UNC System, the NC Community College System, North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, the NC Department of Public Instruction, the NC Department of Commerce, and the NC Department of Health and Human Services.

Carolina Demography will provide updated data for each indicator as it becomes available. In most cases, new data will be available annually; the timing of the update differs depending on the indicator.

This document provides the following information:

- Data Availability
- File Layout
- Detailed information for each indicator

Suggested Citation

Carolina Demography. *myFutureNC Attainment Dashboard: County Database*. Chapel Hill, NC: Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Contact

Questions about this data should be directed to Carolina Demography at demography@unc.edu.

Data Availability

Indicators Available for All Counties and Regions	Years Available in File	Indicator Used in...		Demographic Details Available in File		
		State Dashboard	County Profile	Sex	Race/Ethnicity	Other
Highest Educational Attainment (ages 25-44)	2018		x	x		
Total Population	2000-2030		x	x		
K-12 Students: Traditional Public Schools	2004-2019		X		See Race/Ethnicity of Traditional Public School Students	
K-12 Students: Non-Traditional Total	2019		X		No demographic details available	
K-12 Students: Charter Schools	2019				No demographic details available	
K-12 Students: Home Schools	2019				No demographic details available	
K-12 Students: Private Schools	2019				No demographic details available	
Median Household Income	2018		x		No demographic details available	
Child Poverty Rate	2018		x		No demographic details available	
Broadband Subscription Rate	2018		x		No demographic details available	
Low-Performing Schools	2018-2019		X		No demographic details available	
NC Pre-K Participation Rate	2015-2019	x	x		No demographic details available	
College-Career-Ready in Reading	2019	x	x	x	x	x
College-Career-Ready in Math	2019	x	x	x	x	x
Schools Meeting or Exceeding Growth	2018-2019		x		x	x
High School Graduation Rate	2006-2019	x	x	x	x	x
FAFSA Completion Rate	2018-2019	X	X		No demographic details available	
Chronic Absenteeism	2018	x	x		No demographic details available	
AP Participation	2018-2019		x		No demographic details available	
CCP Participation	2019		x		No demographic details available	
CTE Concentrators	2019				No demographic details available	
School Counselors	2005-2019		x		No demographic details available	
Enroll in Postsecondary within 12 Months	2010-2017		x		Not currently reported	
First-Year Persistence Rate	2012-2018		x		Not currently reported	
Postsecondary 6-Year Completion Rate	2018		x		Not currently reported	
Disconnected Youth	2018	x	x	x		
Race/Ethnicity of Public School Students	2011-2020				x	
Cooperative Innovative High Schools	2019				No demographic details available	
ACT Performance	2019	x		x	x	x
Population Age Structure	2000-2030	x		x		
Postsecondary Enrollment Rate (ages 18-24)	2018	x			No demographic details available	
Family Sustaining Wage	2018	x			No demographic details available	
Labor Force Participation Rate	2018	x		x		
Indicators Only Available at Prosperity Zone Sub-Region Level						
ApprenticeshipNC Participation	2019		x		No demographic details available	
NC Community College: Basic Skill Enrollments	2019		x		No demographic details available	
NC Community College: Continuing Education Enrollments	2019		x		No demographic details available	
NC Community College: Curriculum Enrollments	2019				No demographic details available	
Total UNC and NCCC Graduates	2018		x		No demographic details available	
UNC & NCCC Graduates Employed in NC after 5 Years	2018		x		No demographic details available	
Average Wage of UNC & NCCC Graduates Employed in NC After 5 Years	2018		x		No demographic details available	
Labor Market Alignment	2018	x	x		No demographic details available	

Occupational Projections	2019	x	No demographic details available
Degree-Seeking Undergraduate Enrollments (all institutions)	2018	x	Not currently reported
Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years	2018	x	Not currently reported

All data included here will be updated annually except for Occupational Projections, which is updated biennially, and the National Student Clearinghouse data (Enroll in Postsecondary within 12 Months, First-Year Persistence, Postsecondary 6-Year Completion) for which no update schedule is currently set.

File Layout

The database contains the following fields (in order of appearance)

Variable Name	Definition	Variable Type
GEOTYPE	Geographic Type	String
NAME	Geography Name	String
YEAR	Reporting Year	Numeric
INDTYPE	Indicator Type	String
SUBGROUP	Demographic Group	String
INDDEN	Indicator Denominator	Numeric
INDNUM	Indicator Numerator	Numeric
INDVALUE	Indicator Value	Numeric
COFIPS	County FIPS Code	String
PZONE	Prosperity Zone	String
PZSUB	Prosperity Zone Sub-Region	String
RURURB	Rural/Urban Classification	String
RU_VAL	Value for Peer Counties	String
COHORT	School Cohort Years	String
CTE_1	Top CTE Credential #1	String
CTE_2	Top CTE Credential #2	String
CTE_3	Top CTE Credential #3	String
JOBNAME1	High-quality occupation #1	String
JOBNAME2	High-quality occupation #2	String
JOBNAME3	High-quality occupation #3	String

NOTES: For data referring to the school year, YEAR refers to the end year of that school year. For example, YEAR = 2019 for school year 2018-19. Subgroup information available differs depending on the indicator. Indicator denominators and indicator numerators are not available for all indicators.

CTE_1, CTE_2, and CTE_3 are only available for the CTE indicator.

JOBNAME1, JOBNAME2, and JOBNAME3 are only available for the JOBS indicator.

The key for GEOTYPE is as follows:

County	North Carolina County
State	North Carolina
SubPZ	Sub-Prosperity Zone

The key for INDTYPE is as follows:

ABSENT	Chronic Absenteeism
ACGR4	High School Graduation Rate (4-Year)
ACT	ACT Performance
AGE0to17	Population ages 0 to 17
AGE18to24	Population ages 18 to 24
AGE25to44	Population ages 25 to 44
AGE45to64	Population ages 45 to 64
AGE65to84	Population ages 65 to 84
AGE85p	Population ages 85 plus
ALIGN	Labor Market Alignment
AP	Advanced Placement
APPRENTICE	ApprenticeshipNC Participation
BRDBND_5	Households with Broadband (5-Year ACS)
CCP	College & Career Promise Participation
CHILDPOV	Child Poverty Rate
CIHS	Cooperative Innovative High Schools
CTE	Career & Technical Education Concentrations Completed
DISY_5	Disconnected Youth (5-Year ACS)

DPI_HS	NC DPI High School Enrollments (Grades 9-12)
DPI_K12	NC DPI Total Enrollments (K-12)
EDUC_AAPL_5	Educational Attainment: Associate Degree or Higher (5-Year ACS)
EDUC_AA_5	Educational Attainment: Associate Degree (5-Year ACS)
EDUC_BA_5	Educational Attainment: Bachelor's (5-Year ACS)
EDUC_HS_5	Educational Attainment: High School (5-Year ACS)
EDUC_LTHS_5	Educational Attainment: Less than High School (5-Year ACS)
EDUC_MAPL_5	Educational Attainment: Master's or more (5-Year ACS)
EDUC_SCND_5	Educational Attainment: Some College, No Degree (5-Year ACS)
EMP5	UNC and NCCC graduates employed in NC after 5 years
ENRL18_5	Postsecondary Enrollment (5-Year ACS)
ENROLL12	Enroll in Postsecondary within 12 months (recent HS Graduate)
FAFSA_JUN	June FAFSA Completion Rate
FAM300_5	Family Sustaining Wage (5-Year ACS)
GRAD6	Postsecondary 6-Year Completion Rate
GRADTRAN8	8-Year Graduation or Transfer Rate
GROWTH	Academic Growth
GUIDANCE	Student-to-School Counselor Ratio
JOBS	Projected job openings, 2017-2026
K12_CHARTER	K-12 Students: Charter Schools
K12_HOME	K-12 Students: Home Schools
K12_NONTRAD	K-12 Students: Non-Traditional School Total
K12_PRIV	K-12 Students: Private Schools
LF2544_5	Labor Force Participation Rate (25-44) (5-Year ACS)
LPSCHOOL	Low-Performing Schools
MAGS	College-and-Career-Ready in Math
MEDHHINC	Median Household Income
NCCC_BS	NC Community College: Basic Skills Enrollments
NCCC_CE	NC Community College: Continuing Education Enrollments
NCCC_CU	NC Community College: Curriculum Enrollments
PER1	First-Year Persistence
PREK	NC Pre-K Enrollment
PS_INTENT	Postsecondary Intentions
PUBGRAD	Total UNC and NCCC graduates
RACETH	Race/Ethnicity of Public School Students
RDGS	College-and-Career-Ready in Reading
TOTENRL	Degree-Seeking Undergraduate Enrollments (all institutions)
TPOP	Total Population
WAGE5	UNC and NC Graduates: Average wage after 5 years

The key for SUBGROUP is as follows:

ALL	All Groups/Overall
Sex	
FEM	Female
MALE	Male
Race/Ethnicity	
AMIN	American Indian/Alaska Native
API	Asian or Pacific Islander
BLACK	Black or African-American
HISP	Hispanic or Latino
MULT	Multiracial
WHITE	White
Economic Disadvantage	
EDS	Economically Disadvantaged (receives Free or Reduced Price lunch)
NEDS	Not Economically Disadvantaged
Disability Status	
SWD	Students with Disability
NSWD	Not Students with Disability
English Proficiency	

ELS	Limited English Proficient or English Learner
Other subgroups (NC DPI data only)	
AIG	Academically or Intellectually Gifted
FCS	Foster Care
HMS	Homeless
MIG	Migrant
MIL	Military Connected

Creating County-Level Data

Much of the data used in this file is provided for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) based on reports from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Many of the indicators—such as College-and-Career-Ready in Math—are reported as a percentage of students achieving a certain outcome (INDVALUE) with a denominator (INDDEN). We converted these data to numerators (INDNUM) by multiplying the denominator by the reported rate and rounding the result.

NC DPI applies bottom codes for values less than 5% and top codes values of 95% or higher; we used proportions of 0.05 and 0.95 in these cases.

There are 115 LEAs in North Carolina; each LEA was assigned to a county based on its geographic location. County indicators were calculated by aggregating the numerators and denominators for each indicator for all LEAs within the county and recalculating the rate (INDVALUE).

Note: All LEAs except Kannapolis City Schools fall entirely within one county. Kannapolis City School data was proportionally allocated to Cabarrus and Rowan counties based on the share of Kannapolis City population in each county.

Educational Attainment

Percent of North Carolina 25-44-year-olds with a specific level of education, such as an associate degree or higher.

Source

Data for all counties is available from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS) in Table B15001: Sex by Age by Educational Attainment for the Population 18 Years and Over.

Note: The sum of county values will differ from the state-level values in the state database and the state one pager. This is because they come from different data sources. State values are drawn from the 1-Year ACS microdata accessed at IPUMS-USA, whereas the county and sub-PZ one pagers are drawn from 5-Year ACS microdata. To understand the difference between single year and multi-year estimates, click [here](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

EDUC_AAPL_5	Educational Attainment: Associate Degree or Higher (5-Year ACS)
EDUC_AA_5	Educational Attainment: Associate Degree (5-Year ACS)
EDUC_BA_5	Educational Attainment: Bachelor's Degree (5-Year ACS)
EDUC_HS_5	Educational Attainment: High School or Equivalent (5-Year ACS)
EDUC_LTHS_5	Educational Attainment: Less than High School (5-Year ACS)
EDUC_MAPL_5	Educational Attainment: Master's Degree or more (5-Year ACS)
EDUC_SCND_5	Educational Attainment: Some College, No Degree (5-Year ACS)

Note: This data does not include an estimate of the share of adults with a high-quality nondegree credential. Statewide, the [Lumina Foundation](#) estimates roughly 5% of NC adults hold a high-quality nondegree credential. These individuals would appear in this dataset in the variable EDUC_SCND_5 as having "some college, no degree."

Demographic Information Available

- Sex

Calculations

Individuals were classified based on their self-reported highest level of education:

- High school diploma or less includes the following responses:
 - "Less than 9th grade"
 - "9th to 12th grade, no diploma"

- “High school graduate (includes equivalency)”
- “Some college, no degree.” Individuals who have a postsecondary credential or certificate may be included in this classification.
- Associate degree or higher includes the following responses:
 - “Associate degree”
 - “Bachelor’s degree”
 - “Graduate or professional degree”

The share of 25-44-year-olds with a specific level of education was calculated by dividing the estimated number of adults ages 25-44 with that level of education by the total number of adults 25-44.

$$\text{Educational Attainment Rate} = \frac{\text{\# of 25 to 44 with specific level of education}}{\text{Total \# of adults 25 to 44}}$$

Population Estimates and Projections

Total number of North Carolina residents and total population by age group.

Source

This data was provided by the [NC Demographer's Office](#) in the [Office of State Budget and Management \(OSBM\)](#). The county population estimates and projections can be downloaded from this [site](#). This data includes the 2000-2009 intercensal estimates, the 2010-2018 population estimates, and the 2019-2030 population projections for all NC counties.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

AGE0to17	Population ages 0 to 17
AGE18to24	Population ages 18 to 24
AGE25to44	Population ages 25 to 44
AGE45to64	Population ages 45 to 64
AGE65to84	Population ages 65 to 84
AGE85p	Population ages 85 plus
TPOP	Total Population

Demographic Information Available

- Sex

Calculations

NC population estimates and projections were obtained from the Sex and Single Years of Age (2000-2039) Section of the [site](#). For each year, single years of age were summed to create the age groups included in this database: 0 to 17, 18 to 24, 25 to 44, 45 to 64, 65 to 84, and 85+.

K-12 Students: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

Total number of K-12 students enrolled at North Carolina traditional public schools (NC DPI).

Sources

This data is from NC DPI's [Statistical Profile Online](#): Table 1. LEA Final Pupils by Grade.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

DPL_HS	NC DPI High School Enrollments (Grades 9-12)
DPL_K12	NC DPI Total Enrollments (K-12)

Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The total number of DPI students in grades K-12 represents the sum of students in all grades, from Kindergarten through Grade 12 (including a small amount of students classified as Grade 13).

The total number of high school enrollments represents the sum of students in Grades 9-12.

K-12 Students: Charter Schools

Total number of K-12 students enrolled in a charter school.

Source

Information on K-12 enrollments in charter schools was downloaded from NC DPI's [Statistical Profile Online](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

K12_CHARTER	K-12 Students: Charter Schools
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

Each charter school was assigned to a county based on its geographic location. The county total represents the sum of all charter schools within the county.

K-12 Students: Home Schools

Total number of K-12 students enrolled in home schools.

Source

The number of K-12 students enrolled in [Home Schools](#) is an estimated provided by the Division of Non-Public Education at the Department of Administration.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

K12_HOME	K-12 Students: Home Schools
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

This is a direct download from the Department of Administration.

K-12 Students: Private Schools

Total number of K-12 students enrolled in private schools.

Source

Data on the number K-12 students enrolled in [Private Schools](#) comes from the Division of Non-Public Education at the Department of Administration.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

K12_PRIV	K-12 Students: Private Schools
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

This is a direct download from the Department of Administration.

K-12 Students: Non-Traditional School Total

Total number of K-12 students enrolled in charter schools, home schools, or private schools.

Sources

The number of K-12 students enrolled in 2019 who attend Charter Schools comes from the NC DPI online [Statistical Profile](#). The number of K-12 students enrolled in 2019 who attend [Home Schools](#) and the number enrolled in [Private Schools](#) comes from the Division of Non-Public Education at the Department of Administration. The Non-Traditional School Total is the sum of students enrolled in Charter Schools, Home Schools, and Private Schools.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

K12_NONTRAD	K-12 Students: Non-Traditional School Total
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The total number of K-12 students in non-traditional schools represents the sum of students in charter (K12_CHARTER), home (K12_HOME), and private (K12_PRIVATE) schools.

Median Household Income

The median household income by county.

Source

The median household income by county can be obtained from the Census Bureau's Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program [here](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

MEDHHINC	Median Household Income
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

This is a direct download from the Census Bureau's SAIPE program.

Child Poverty Rate

The percentage of children under 18 living in poverty.

Source

The child poverty rate by county can be obtained from the Census Bureau's Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program [here](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

CHILDPOV	Child Poverty Rate
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

This is a direct download from the Census Bureau's SAIPE program.

Broadband Access

Percentage of households with broadband access.

Source

Data for all counties is available from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS) in Table 28002: Presence and Types of Internet Subscriptions in Household.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

BRDBND_5	Broadband Access (5-Year ACS)
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The broadband access rate was calculated by dividing the number of households with broadband of any type by the total number of households.

$$\% \text{ Broadband Access} = \frac{\# \text{ of households with broadband of any type}}{\text{Total \# of households}}$$

Low-Performing Schools

Number and percentage of low-performing schools in the county. Low-performing schools is a State designated status for schools that receive a [school performance](#) grade of D or F and an [Education Value-Added Assessment System \(EVAAS\)](#) school growth score of “met expected growth” or “not met expected growth” as defined by North Carolina General Statute 115C-83.15.

Source

Data on the number of low-performing schools by district is available from NC DPI [here](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

LPSCHOOL	Low-Performing Schools
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

This is a direct download from NC DPI.

NC Pre-K Enrollment

The percentage of eligible North Carolina four-year-olds enrolled in North Carolina's public pre-kindergarten program (the [NC Pre-K Program](#)).

Source

NC Pre-K enrollments were provided by the [North Carolina Division of Child Development and Early Education \(NC DCDEE\)](#) at the Department of Health and Human Services. Carolina Demography estimated the number of eligible four-year-olds using population estimates from the [North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management](#) and poverty status for the child population was obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau's 5-Year American Community Survey (Table B17024: Age by Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

PREK	NC Pre-K Enrollment
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The NC Pre-K enrollment rate reflects the total number of NC Pre-K enrollments divided by the estimated number of eligible 4-year-olds. This estimate was developed for each North Carolina county through the following steps:

- Used adjustment factors to allocate regionally reported NC Pre-K enrollments to their constituent counties.
- Used the 5-Year American Community Survey data to determine the county percentage of children under 6 in families earning less than 200% of the federal poverty line, following [guidance](#) that this is a good proxy for the income-eligibility threshold for NC Pre-K.
- Estimated eligible 4-year-old population by multiplying the number of 4-year-olds in each county by the estimated proportion of young children in families with incomes <200% of the poverty line.
- Calculated NC Pre-K enrollment rate by dividing county NC Pre-K enrollments by county eligible 4-year-olds.

$$\text{NC PreK Enrollment Rate} = \frac{\text{\# of NC PreK enrollments}}{\text{Total \# of eligible 4 year olds}}$$

State values reflect the sum of all counties.

College-and-Career-Ready in Reading

Percent of North Carolina students in grades 3-8 who earned a college-and-career-ready score on the End-of-Grade Reading exam.

Source

Data for [student performance](#) in the 2018-19 school year is reported by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NC DPI). Students are classified as “college-and-career-ready” if they score at a Level 4 or higher on the End-of-Grade Reading exam.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

RDGS	College-and-Career-Ready in Reading
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Demographic Information Available

- Sex
- Race/Ethnicity
- Economic disadvantage
- Disability status
- Limited English proficiency
- Other, including academically and intellectually gifted, homeless, and military connected

Calculations

This is a direct download from NC DPI.

College-and-Career-Ready in Math

Percent of North Carolina students in grades 3-8 who earned a college-and-career-ready score on the End-of-Grade Math exam.

Source

Data for [student performance](#) in the 2018-19 school year is reported by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NC DPI). Students are classified as “college-and-career-ready” if they score at a Level 4 or higher on the End-of-Grade Math exam.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

MAGS	College-and-Career-Ready in Math
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Demographic Information Available

- Sex
- Race/Ethnicity
- Economic disadvantage
- Disability status
- Limited English proficiency
- Other, including academically and intellectually gifted, homeless, and military connected

Calculations

This is a direct download from NC DPI.

Academic Growth

Percent of North Carolina schools meeting or exceeding academic growth. Schools are classified as exceeding expected growth when there is evidence that the students in a school are progressing far above the statewide average. When there is evidence that the students in a school are progressing consistent with the average, the school is meeting expected growth.

Source

The data on academic growth comes from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction [School Report Cards](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

GROWTH	Academic Growth
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Demographic Information Available

- Sex
- Race/ethnicity
- Economic disadvantage
- Disability status
- Limited English proficiency
- Other, including academically and intellectually gifted, homeless, and military connected

Note: demographic information may not be available for all schools in a district, so demographic subgroup totals may not equal the total number of schools reporting growth scores.

Calculations

Academic growth was calculated by dividing the total number of schools within a district that met or exceeded growth by the total number of district schools with growth scores.

$$\% \text{ Met or Exceeded Growth} = \frac{\# \text{ schools that met or exceeded growth}}{\text{Total \# of schools with growth scores}}$$

High School Graduation Rate

The percent of public high school students who graduated in 4 years or less.

Source

Detailed North Carolina data was downloaded from the [North Carolina Department of Public Instruction \(NC DPI\)](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

ACGR4	High School Graduation Rate (NC DPI)
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Demographic Information Available

- Race/ethnicity
- Economic disadvantage
- Disability status
- Limited English proficiency
- Other, including academically and intellectually gifted, homeless, and military connected (NC DPI data only)

Calculations

This is a direct download from the NC Department of Public Instruction ([methodology](#)).

FAFSA Completion Rate

Percent of North Carolina public high school seniors completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](#)).

Source

Detailed North Carolina data on FAFSA completion was obtained from [Federal Student Aid](#); school enrollment data was obtained from the [North Carolina Department of Public Instruction](#).

Note: Overall, FAFSA completion rates are underestimated and may impact certain areas or schools more than others. High schools with fewer than five FAFSA completers are not reported by Federal Student Aid. The state total will differ from the sum of all counties because this is drawn from the [National College Access Network](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

FAFSA_JUN	FAFSA Completion Rate (June)
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The data was calculated by dividing the total number of completed FAFSA applications (as of June of the current FAFSA cycle) in all schools with five or more completed applications by the total grade 12 enrollment.

The FAFSA completion rate was calculated by the following equation:

$$\frac{\text{Total number of completed FAFSA applications by Local Education Agency (LEA) in all high schools with 5 or more completed applications}}{\text{Grade 12 Average Daily Membership for the LEA}}$$

Chronic Absenteeism

The percent of public K-12 students who missed more than 10% of school days in a school year.

Source

The data on chronic absenteeism comes from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction [School Report Cards](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

ABSENT	Chronic Absenteeism
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic information available.

Calculations

This was a direct download from NC DPI.

Enroll in Postsecondary Within 12 Months

Percent of North Carolina public high school graduates who enroll in any postsecondary institution within 12 months of graduation.

Source

The data for postsecondary enrollment is calculated using individual student-record data for high school graduates from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction matched with postsecondary enrollment records from the National Student Clearinghouse.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

ENROLL12	Enroll in Postsecondary within 12 months (recent HS Graduate)
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The number of high school graduates who enrolled in any postsecondary institution within 12 months of high school graduation divided by the total number of high school graduates. Within 12 months of high school graduation was defined as any enrollment between July 1 of the student's graduating year and June 30th of the following year.

$$\text{Enroll within 12 months rate} = \frac{\# \text{ HS graduates who enroll in postsecondary within 12 months}}{\# \text{ HS graduates}}$$

First-Year Persistence Rate

Percent of North Carolina public high school graduates who enroll in any postsecondary institutions within 12 months of graduation who continue to a second year of enrollment.

Source

The data for the first-year-persistence rate is calculated using individual student-record data for high school graduates from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction matched with postsecondary enrollment records from the National Student Clearinghouse.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

PER1	First-Year Persistence
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The number of high school graduates who continue to a second year of postsecondary enrollment divided by the total number of high school graduates who enrolled in any postsecondary institution within 12 months of graduation.

Within 12 months of high school graduation was defined as any enrollment between July 1 of the student's graduating year and June 30th of the following year. Enrollments in the second year were defined as an enrollment term that occurred within 1-2 years of the data of first enrollment.

All students who enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months of their high school graduation and the enrollment was not classified as withdrawn, leave of absence, or deceased. Enrollments shorter than 21 days were excluded from the analysis. While the National Student Clearinghouse data covers nearly all public and non-profit private institutions nationally (about 98% of all enrollments nationwide), the NSC data has less coverage of for-profit institutions.

$$\text{First Year Persistence Rate} = \frac{\# \text{ of HS graduates who continue to 2nd year of postsecondary}}{\# \text{ HS graduates who enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation}}$$

Postsecondary 6-Year Completion Rate

Percent of North Carolina public high school graduates who enroll in any postsecondary institution within 12 months of graduation who earned a degree or credential within 6 years.

Source

The postsecondary completion rate is calculated using individual student-record data for high school graduates from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction matched with postsecondary enrollment records from the National Student Clearinghouse.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

GRAD6	Postsecondary 6-Year Completion Rate
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The number of high school graduates who earned a postsecondary degree or credential within 6 years divided by the total number of high school graduates who enrolled in any postsecondary institution within 12 months of graduation.

Within 12 months of high school graduation was defined as any enrollment between July 1 of the student's graduating year and June 30th of the following year. Degree or credential receipt was defined as the first degree or credential awarded to the student (from any institution) that occurred within 6 years of the date of first enrollment.

$$\text{Postsecondary Completion Rate} = \frac{\text{\# HS graduates who earn postsecondary award within 6 years}}{\text{Total \# HS graduates who enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation}}$$

Student-to-School Counselor Ratio

The number of K-12 students per school counselor.

Source

Information on the number of school counselors was downloaded from the [North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's Statistical Profile](#) (Table A6. Public Personnel Summary). The total number of students was also obtained from NC DPI (variable DPI_K12).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

GUIDANCE	Student-to-School Counselor Ratio
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The total number of students was divided by the total number of school counselors.

$$\text{Student to School Counselor Ratio} = \frac{\text{Total \# of K - 12 students}}{\text{Total \# of school counselors}}$$

Disconnected Youth

Percent of North Carolina 16-19-year-olds not in school or working (full or part time). This figure includes incarcerated youth who are not enrolled in school.

Source

Data on disconnected youth are from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS). Data for all counties is available in the [5-Year ACS](#) in Table B14005: Sex by School Enrollment by Educational Attainment by Employment Status for the Population 16 to 19 Years.

Note: The sum of county values will differ from the state-level values in the state database and the state one pager. This is because they come from different data sources. State values are drawn from the 1-Year ACS microdata accessed at IPUMS-USA, whereas the county and sub-PZ one pagers are drawn from 5-Year ACS microdata. To understand the difference between single year and multi-year estimates, click [here](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

DISY_5	Disconnected Youth (5-Year ACS)
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Demographic Information Available

- Sex

Calculations

Individuals were identified as being disconnected if they were not enrolled in school and were either unemployed or not in the labor force. The disconnected youth rate was calculated by dividing the estimated number of disconnected youth ages 16-19 by the total number of youth ages 16-19.

$$\text{Disconnected Youth Rate} = \frac{\# \text{ 16 – 19 not working, not in school}}{\text{Total \# 16 – 19}}$$

Race/Ethnicity of Traditional Public School Students

The percent of North Carolina traditional public school students by racial/ethnic group.

Source

Information on the number of students attending individual high schools was obtained from the [North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's Statistical Profile](#) (Table 10. Pupils in Membership by Race and Sex).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

RACETH	Race/Ethnicity
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Demographic Information Available

- Race/ethnicity

Note: the denominator for *all* racial/ethnic groups is the total number of students in the school.

Calculations

For each racial/ethnic group, the group total was calculated by summing the number of male and female students together. The Asian/Pacific Islander total was calculated by adding the Asian total with the Pacific Islander total. These totals were then divided by the total number of students according to NC DPI.

$$\% \text{ demographic group} = \frac{\# \text{ students in demographic group}}{\text{Total students}}$$

Cooperative Innovative High School Participation Rate

The percent of North Carolina public high schoolers who were enrolled in a [Cooperative Innovative High School](#) (CIHS), a small public high school, usually located on the campus of a university or community college. These schools target students who are at risk of dropping out of high school, first-generation college students, and/or students who would benefit from accelerated learning opportunities.

Source

Information on the number of students attending individual high schools was obtained from the [North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's Statistical Profile](#) (Table B2. Pupil Accounting – by LEA, at School Level). NC DPI provided a complete list of CIHS school codes.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

CIHS	Cooperative Innovative High School
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The CIHS participation rate was calculated by dividing the number of CIHS students in each county by the average daily membership (ADM) of all students in grades 9-12, according to NC DPI.

$$\text{CIHS Participation Rate} = \frac{\# \text{ CIHS students}}{\text{ADM for Grades 9 – 12 (NC DPI)}}$$

ACT Performance

Percent of North Carolina 11th grade students earning an [ACT Composite score](#) of 17 or above (the UNC minimum admission requirement).

Source

Data for [student performance](#) is reported by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

ACT	ACT Performance
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Demographic Information Available

- Sex
- Race/ethnicity
- Economic disadvantage
- Disability status
- Limited English proficiency
- Other, including academically and intellectually gifted, homeless, and military connected

Calculations

This is a direct download from NC DPI.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rate

Percent of 18-24-year-olds enrolled in a postsecondary institution (college or graduate school).

Source

The data on postsecondary enrollment comes from the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS). Data for all counties is available in the [5-Year ACS](#) in Table B14004: Sex by College or Graduate School Enrollment by Type of School by Age for the Population 15 Years and Over.

Note: The sum of county values will differ from the state-level values in the state database and the state one pager. This is because they come from different data sources. State values are drawn from the 1-Year ACS microdata accessed at IPUMS-USA, whereas the county and sub-PZ one pagers are drawn from 5-Year ACS microdata. To understand the difference between single year and multi-year estimates, click [here](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

ENRL18_5	Postsecondary Enrollment (5-Year ACS)
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Demographic Information Available

- Sex

Calculations

Individuals were identified as being enrolled in college or graduate school if they reported being enrolled in school and specified one of the following enrollments during the last three months:

- “College undergraduate years (freshman to senior)”
- “Graduate or professional school beyond a bachelor’s [degree](#) (for example: MA or PhD program, or medical or law school)”

The postsecondary enrollment rate was calculated by dividing the estimated number of adults ages 18-24 enrolled in college or graduate school by the total number of adults 18-24.

$$\text{Postsecondary Enrollment Rate} = \frac{\# \text{ 18 – 24 adults enrolled in college or graduate school}}{\text{Total \# 18 – 24 adults}}$$

Family-Sustaining Wage

Percent of North Carolina 35-44-year-olds earning a living wage. A living wage is defined here as earning a family income equivalent to 300% or more of the federal poverty line.

Source

Detailed data on family income is from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS). Data for all counties is available in the [5-Year ACS](#) in Table B17024: Age by Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months.

Note: The sum of county values will differ from the state-level values in the state database and the state one pager. This is because they come from different data sources. State values are drawn from the 1-Year ACS microdata accessed at IPUMS-USA, whereas the county and sub-PZ one pagers are drawn from 5-Year ACS microdata. To understand the difference between single year and multi-year estimates, click [here](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

FAM300_5	Family Sustaining Wage (5-Year ACS)
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The family-sustaining wage rate was calculated by dividing the estimated number of adults ages 35-44 with family incomes above 300% of the federal poverty line by the total number of adults ages 35-44 for whom the poverty status was determined.

$$\text{Family – Sustaining Wage Rate} = \frac{\# \text{ 35 – 44 with family incomes } > \text{ 300\% FPL}}{\# \text{ 35 – 44 for whom poverty status is determined}}$$

Labor Force Participation Rate

Percent of North Carolina 25-44 year-olds in the labor force.

Source

Data on labor force participation are from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS). Data for all counties is available in the [5-Year ACS](#) in Table B23001: Sex by Age by Employment Status for the Population 16 Years and Over.

Note: The sum of county values will differ from the state-level values in the state database and the state one pager. This is because they come from different data sources. State values are drawn from the 1-Year ACS microdata accessed at IPUMS-USA, whereas the county and sub-PZ one pagers are drawn from 5-Year ACS microdata. To understand the difference between single year and multi-year estimates, click [here](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

LF2544_5	Labor Force Participation Rate (25-44) (5-Year ACS)
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Demographic Information Available

- Sex

Calculations

Individuals were identified as being in the labor force if they reported being employed or unemployed.

The labor force participation rate was calculated by dividing the estimated number of adults ages 25-44 who are in the labor force by the total number of adults ages 25-44.

$$\text{Labor Force Participation Rate} = \frac{\# \text{ 25 - 44 adults unemployed or working}}{\text{Total \# 25 - 44 adults}}$$

Apprenticeships

Total number of individuals served in ApprenticeshipNC programs.

Source

[ApprenticeshipNC](#), North Carolina Community Colleges.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

APPRENTICE	ApprenticeshipNC Participation
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

This was directly reported by ApprenticeshipNC. County data was summed to Prosperity Zone sub-region totals.

NC Community College Enrollments

Unduplicated 12-month enrollments, by program type, in NC Community Colleges.

Source

This data was provided by the NC Community College System office upon request.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

NCCC_BS	NC Community College Basic Skills Enrollments
NCCC_CE	NC Community College Continuing Education Enrollments
NCCC_CU	NC Community College Curriculum Enrollments

Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

NC Community College enrollments were summed to regional totals based on the county location of the main campus reported by the National Center for Education Statistics Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System directory. Sub-prosperity zones, as defined by the NC Department of Commerce, were used to define regions.

Total Number of UNC and NCCC Graduates

The total number of UNC and NCCC graduates (combined) in 2018 provided at the sub-prosperity zone level.

Source

The number of UNC and NCCC graduates combined in 2018 can be obtained from the North Carolina Department of Commerce TOWER [dataset](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

PUBGRAD	Total UNC and NCCC graduates
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The total number of UNC and NCCC graduates in 2018 was calculated using information in the NC TOWER datasets for both UNC and NCCC.

Each UNC and NCCC institution is assigned to a county according to the location of its main campus (using IPEDS directory information). Sub-prosperity zones, as defined by the [NC Department of Commerce](#), were used to define regions.

The total number of UNC and NCCC graduates in the sub-prosperity zone was calculated by aggregating the graduates of all institutions in the sub-prosperity zone through the following equation:

$$\text{Total UNC and NCCC Graduates by Sub PZ} = \sum_{k=1}^n \text{Graduates}_k$$

UNC and NCCC Graduates: Employed in NC after 5 Years

The percent of UNC and NCCC graduates employed in NC after 5 years provided at the sub-prosperity zone level.

Source

The percentage of UNC and NCCC graduates employed in NC after 5 years can be obtained from the North Carolina Department of Commerce TOWER [dataset](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

EMP5	UNC and NCCC graduates employed in NC after 5 years
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The percent of UNC and NCCC graduates employed in NC after 5 years was calculated for 2018 using information on 2013 graduates in the NC TOWER datasets for both UNC and NCCC.

Each UNC and NCCC institution is assigned to a county according to the location of its main campus (using IPEDS directory information). Sub-prosperity zones, as defined by the [NC Department of Commerce](#), were used to define regions.

The percent of all UNC and NCCC graduates employed in North Carolina within the sub-prosperity zone was calculated by aggregating outcomes for all institutions in the sub-prosperity zone through the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Percent of UNC and NCCC Graduates Employed in NC by Sub PZ} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{k=1}^n \text{EmployedGraduates}_k}{\sum_{k=1}^n \text{TotalGraduates}_k} \end{aligned}$$

UNC and NC Graduates: Wages after 5 Years

The mean wages of UNC and NCCC graduates employed in NC after 5 years provided at the sub-prosperity zone level.

Source

The percentage of UNC and NCCC graduates employed in NC after 5 years can be obtained from the North Carolina Department of Commerce TOWER [dataset](#).

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

WAGE5	UNC and NCCC Graduates: Average Wage after 5 Years
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The average wages of UNC and NCCC graduates employed in NC after 5 years was calculated for 2018 using information on 2013 graduates in the NC TOWER datasets for both UNC and NCCC.

Each UNC and NCCC institution is assigned to a county according to the location of its main campus (using IPEDS directory information). Sub-prosperity zones, as defined by the [NC Department of Commerce](#), were used to define regions.

Average wages of all employed UNC and NCCC graduates within the sub-prosperity zone were calculated by aggregating outcomes for all institutions in the sub-prosperity zone through the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Average Wages of UNC and NCCC Graduates by Sub PZ} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{k=1}^n (\text{MeanWage}_k \times \text{EmployedGraduates}_k)}{\sum_{k=1}^n \text{EmployedGraduates}_k} \end{aligned}$$

Degree-Seeking Undergraduate Enrollments

Total number of degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments.

Source

Data for all postsecondary institutions was obtained from the National Center for Education Statistics [Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System](#) (IPEDS) using the 12-Month Enrollment: 12-month unduplicated head count.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

TOTENRL	Degree-Seeking Undergraduate Enrollments (all institutions)
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

Total undergraduate enrollments were summed to the Prosperity Zone sub-region based on the main campus location listed in the IPEDS Institutional Directory.

8-Year Graduation or Transfer Rate

The percentage of students who graduate from their institution of initial enrollment or transfer out within 8 years.

Source

Data for all postsecondary institutions was obtained from the National Center for Education Statistics [Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System](#) (IPEDS) using the Outcome Measures data file.

Indicator Variable Name and Definition

GRADTRAN8	8-Year Graduation or Transfer Rate
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Demographic Information Available

No demographic details available.

Calculations

The graduation or transfer rate was calculated by summing all students who earned a degree or credential from their initial institution within 8 years or had a documented transfer out and dividing by all students who were initially enrolled. This was calculated at the Prosperity Zone sub-region level for all postsecondary institutions. (Individual institutions are reported in a separate file available at <https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/>.)

$$\text{8 year Graduation or Transfer Rate} = \frac{\# \text{ of graduates in 8 years} + \# \text{ transfer out}}{\text{Total \# of initial enrollments}}$$