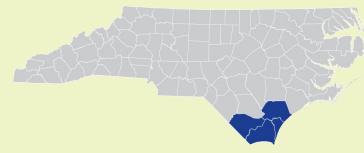


Cape Fear

Council of Governments

myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles

2030 Proposed Regional Council Attainment Goal: 92,905




Counties in Council of Governments:
Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover,
Pender


Population Spotlight


Growth Rate: Council of Governments: **6.4%** vs. State: **2.5%**

County	2020	2022	Change
North Carolina	10,439,414	10,698,973	259,559
Brunswick County	136,694	153,064	16,370
Columbus County	50,625	49,885	-740
New Hanover County	225,705	234,921	9,216
Pender County	60,208	65,737	5,529

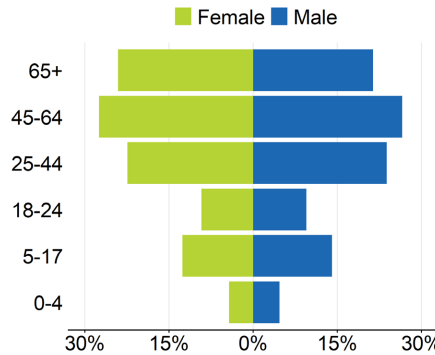

16.1%
Child Poverty Rate (2022)
State: 17.2%


12.2%
Opportunity Youth Rate (2022)
State: 10.9%

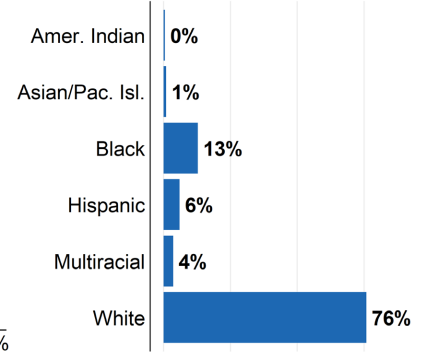

76%
Households with Broadband (2022)
State: 77%


4%
Foreign Born (2022)
State: 9%

Age Structure, 2022




Race/Ethnicity, 2022




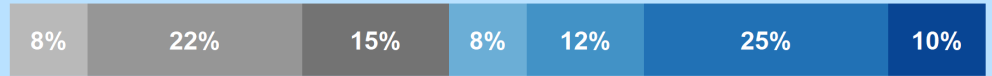
Educational Attainment

Cape Fear residents ages 25-44, 2022

Less than high school
High school graduate (including GED)
Some college, no credential
Short-term credential
Associate degree
Bachelor's degree
Graduate or professional degree


No Degree
49,282
44.5%



Have Degree or Credential
61,554
55.5%



Note: Numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding

LABOR MARKET ALIGNMENT

In Cape Fear Council of Governments:


 **273** Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

6,009 graduates in 2020

66% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021

\$44,328 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

 **53%** of adults (ages 25-44) in Cape Fear earned a **family sustaining wage**, 2022

Labor Force Snapshot - 2023 Q2

Total Jobs	198,359
Business Establishments	18,381
Employed	232,266
Unemployed	8,982
Avg. Weekly Wage	\$1,016
Median Household Income	\$56,821

Top Industries in Cape Fear Council of Governments

Industry Name	Average Employment	Average Weekly Wages
Health Care and Social Assistance	29,891	\$1,215
Retail Trade	25,781	\$727
Accommodation and Food Services	24,707	\$431
Educational Services	15,349	\$958
Construction	14,332	\$1,171

Top Job Sectors in Cape Fear Council of Governments

Job Sector	Average Employment	Average Weekly Wages
Private	172,407	\$1,008
Local Government	16,881	\$990
State Government	7,197	\$1,126
Federal Government	1,873	\$1,640

Success of Cape Fear High School Graduates

- **81%** of students who enroll **persist to their second year** versus **83%** for the state. 2022
- **58%** of students who enroll **earn a degree or certificate** within 6 years versus **59%** for the state. 2022

Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023

- **10,895** of all college-goers attended **Cape Fear CC**
- **2,926** of all college-goers attended **Brunswick CC**
- **2,746** of all college-goers attended **Southeastern CC**

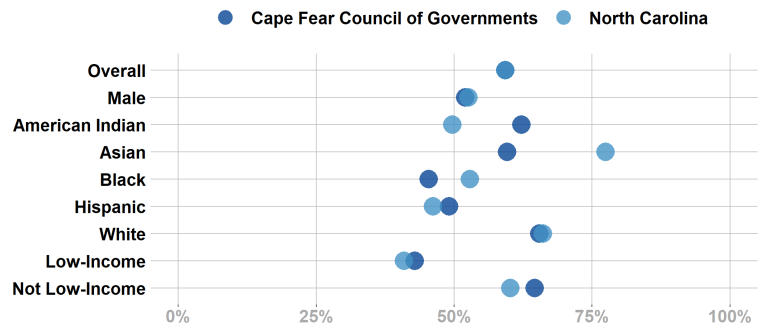
Adult Learners

Cape Fear resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2022

- 552** Basic Skills
- 8,495** Continuing Education
- 2,208** Curriculum

- **57%** of seniors **completed the FAFSA** in 2023, compared to **62%** statewide; 935 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of **80%**. 2023
- **86%** of graduates reported **intentions to enroll** in a postsecondary institution versus **74%** in the state. 2022
- **58%** of graduates **enrolled in a postsecondary institution** within 12 months versus **58%** in the state. 2022

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates in Cape Fear, 2022



Note: Outcomes for groups with less than 10 students, <5% or >95% are not displayed.

How students in Cape Fear traditional schools are currently doing:

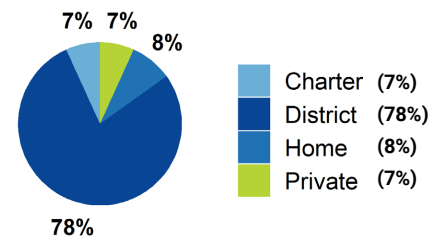
To meet state goals, each year Cape Fear needs:

- **74%** of eligible 4-year-olds **enrolled in NC Pre-K program**, compared to **53%** statewide; 21 more needed to meet state goal of **75%**. 2023
- **33%** of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in **reading**, compared to **30%** statewide; 9,945 more needed to meet state goal of **73%**. 2023
- **40%** of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in **math**, compared to **35%** statewide; 11,499 more needed to meet state goal of **86%**. 2023
- **88%** of 9th graders **graduate within four years**, compared to **87%** statewide; 348 more needed to meet state goal of **95%**. 2023
- **28%** of students are **chronically absent from school**, compared to **27%** statewide; 10,175 less needed to meet state goal of **11%**. 2023
- **2%** of students **drop out of high school** (328 total students), compared to **2%** statewide. 2023

School Choice

70,846 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Cape Fear in the 2022-23 school year.

Note: This profile focuses on outcomes of students enrolled in district schools.



Access to Postsecondary Credits

Students in Cape Fear completed **14,707 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (2,154 (15%) were industry-valued credentials) and 2,557 concentrations** in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications.

2,285 high school students took at least one **AP test (13%)** versus **16%** in the state (2023).

2,034 high school students participated in **Career & College Promise programs (48%)** versus **36%** in the state (2023).

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

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