

# Dare County

myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles



Elizabeth City  
Prosperity Zone Sub-Region  
Peer County Type: Rural - Non-Metro  
Local Education Agencies: 1 (2023)  
Charter Schools: 0 (2023)

2030 Proposed Dare County Attainment Goal: 5,359 (Stretch Goal: 5,429)

2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

## Population Spotlight

2020 Census: 36,910  
2022 Estimate: 37,956  
Change: 1,046

## Growth Rate

2.8% County vs. 2.5% State



\$82,052  
Median Household Income (2022)  
State: \$67,516



78%  
Home Owners (2022)  
State: 67%



8.9%  
Child Poverty Rate (2022)  
State: 17.2%



18.5%  
Opportunity Youth Rate (2022)  
State: 10.9%



84%  
Households with Broadband (2022)  
State: 77%



4.3%  
Unemployment Rate (2022)  
State: 3.7%

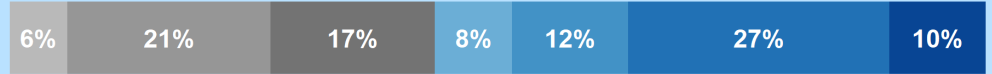
## Educational Attainment

Dare County 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  
3,375  
43.8%

Have Degree or Credential  
4,330  
56.2%



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

## Top Opportunities for Growth

These three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Dare County to improve future attainment outcomes.



### Chronic Absenteeism

31% of Dare County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural - non-metro county average of 29%.



### Adult Learners

17% of Dare County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural - non-metro county average of 16%.



### First-Year Persistence

82% of Dare County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the state average of 83%.

## Promising Attainment Practices

The new **Promising Attainment Practices Database** is a curated, searchable, and filterable collection of about 250 county, region, and state-level initiatives and programs that directly address various components of the state's attainment challenge. The Database allows local and regional initiative leaders and other stakeholders to identify groups across the state who are developing or operating initiatives designed to boost attainment.

Follow link to discover how Dare County has been meeting local needs:

[https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt\\_search=Dare](https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Dare)

LABOR MARKET ALIGNMENT

## In Elizabeth City Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

72.2%

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

### Top areas of misalignment:

Transportation, Distribution & Logistics below bachelor's  
Health Science below bachelor's  
Business Management & Administration bachelor's



13 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

### UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

632 graduates in 2020

62% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021

\$33,554 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

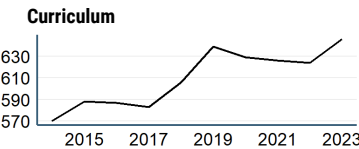


46% of adults (ages 25-44) in Dare County earned a family sustaining wage, 2022

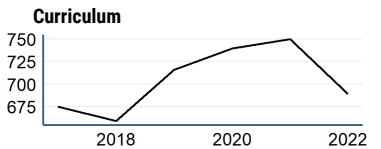
### Dare County is served by:

Northeastern Workforce Development Board  
Albemarle Commission

## UNC System College Enrollment



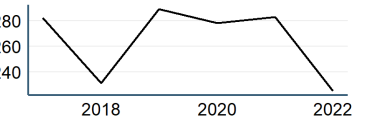
## NC Community College Enrollment



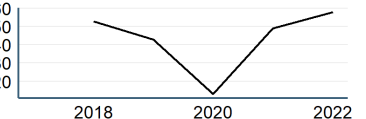
## Top 3 Five-Star Jobs in Elizabeth City Prosperity Zone Sub-Region

Job Title	Annual Growth
Nurse Practitioners	4%
Medical and Health Services Managers	3%
Logisticians	2%

## First-time Curriculum Enrollments



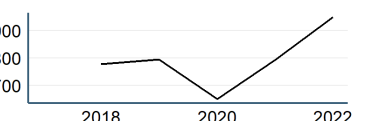
## Basic Skills



## Top 3 Employers in Dare County

Employer	Employment Range
Dare County Schools	500-999
County Of Dare	500-999
Vidant Medical Center	250-499

## Continuing Education



### Adult Learners

Elizabeth City Sub-Prosperity Zone post-secondary enrollments in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2022

- 90 Basic Skills
- 2,045 Continuing Education
- 388 Curriculum

9% of Dare County residents have student loan debt; 3% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2022

### Success of Dare County High School Graduates

- 82% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% in peer counties. 2022
- 63% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2022

### Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023

- 1,022 of all college-goers attended College of The Albemarle
- 41 of all college-goers attended Pitt CC
- 38 of all college-goers attended Wake TCC

- 75% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2023, compared to 62% statewide; 18 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of 80%. 2023
- 75% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 68% in peer counties. 2022
- 59% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 52% in peer counties. 2022

46% of Dare County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 55% in peer counties.

### How students in Dare County traditional schools are doing:

- Dare County has met the goal for Pre-K enrollment. (Goal: 75%). 2023
- 36% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading, compared to 30% statewide; 1,123 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. 2023
- 41% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math, compared to 35% statewide; 1,029 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. 2023
- 93% of 9th graders graduate within four years, compared to 87% statewide; 11 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. 2023
- 31% of students are chronically absent from school, compared to 27% statewide; 1,039 less needed to meet state goal of 11%. 2023

Dare County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 310:1 versus 325:1 in peer counties. 2023

1% of students drop out of high school (23 total students), compared to 2% statewide. 2023

### Degree Credentials Awarded, 2022

274 certificate | 349 associate | 331 bachelor's

### Postsecondary assets in Elizabeth City Prosperity Zone sub-region

Public, 4-year or above  
Elizabeth City State University

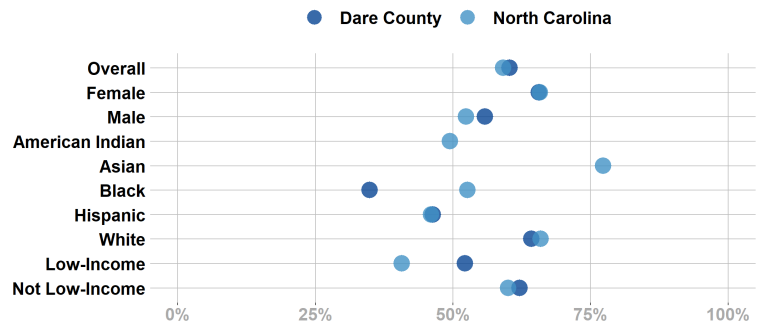
Public, 2-year  
College of the Albemarle

Private not-for-profit, 4-year or above  
Mid-Atlantic Christian University

Private not-for-profit, 2-year



### Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Dare County, 2022

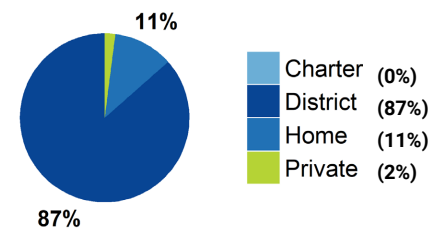


Note: Outcomes for groups with less than 10 students, <5% or >95% are not displayed.

### School Choice

5,766 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Dare County in the 2022-23 school year.

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



### Access to Postsecondary Credits

Students in Dare County completed 2,581 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (537 (21%) were industry-valued credentials) and 218 concentrations in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; Architecture and Construction; and Health Science.

329 high school students took at least one AP test (19%) versus 8% in peer counties (2023).

205 high school students participated in Career & College Promise programs (46%) versus 51% in peer counties (2023).

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

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