Richmond County

myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles

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

2030 Proposed Richmond County Attainment Goal: 4,390 (Stretch Goal: 4,497)

2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

Population Spotlight
2020 Census: 42,953
2022 Estimate: 42,778
Change: -175

Growth Rate
-0.4% vs. **2.5%**
County **State**

$44,383 Median Household Income (2022) **State:** $67,516

65% Home Owners (2022) **State:** 67%

37.3% Child Poverty Rate (2022) **State:** 17.2%

16.2% Opportunity Youth Rate (2022) **State:** 10.9%

62% Households with Broadband (2022) **State:** 77%

5.0% Unemployment Rate (2022) **State:** 3.7%

Educational Attainment
Richmond County residents ages 25-44, 2022

No Degree
6,637
63.4%

Have Degree or Credential
3,824
36.6%

Legend:
- 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

| 15% | 32% | 17% | 8% | 14% | 11% | 4% |

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

Top Opportunities for Growth
These three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Richmond County to improve future attainment outcomes.

FAFSA Completion
53% of Richmond County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural - non-metro county average of 61%.

Reading Performance
19% of Richmond County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural - non-metro county average of 25%.

High School Graduation
80% of Richmond County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural - non-metro county average of 85%.

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 Richmond County has been meeting local needs:

https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Richmond

LABOR MARKET ALIGNMENT

In Pinehurst-Rockingham Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

52.3%
of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are **aligned with labor market needs.**

Top areas of misalignment:

Health Science bachelor's and below bachelor's
Business Management & Administration bachelor's
Education & Training bachelor's

21 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

1,663 graduates in 2020
71% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
**$35,097** annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

32% of adults (ages 25-44) in Richmond County earned a **family sustaining wage,** 2022
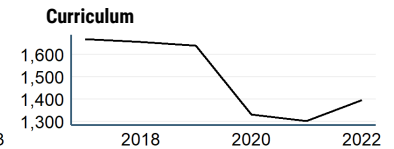
Richmond County is served by:
Lumber River Workforce Development Board
Lumber River Council of Governments
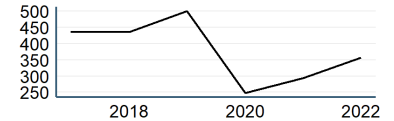
UNC System College Enrollment
Curriculum
(line chart, values 560–620, years 2015–2023)
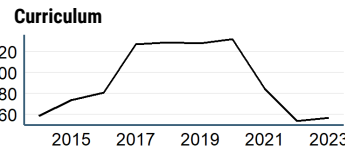
NC Community College Enrollment
Curriculum
(line chart, values 1,300–1,600, years 2018–2022)

Top 3 Five-Star Jobs in Pinehurst-Rockingham Prosperity Zone Sub-Region

Job Title	Annual Growth
Nurse Practitioners	5%
Logisticians	4%
Medical and Health Services Managers	3%

Top 3 Employers in Richmond County

Employer	Employment Range
Richmond County Schools	1000+
Perdue Farms Incorporated	1000+
Firsthealth Of The Carolinas Inc	500-999

First-time Curriculum Enrollments
(line chart, values 250–500, years 2018–2022)

Basic Skills
(line chart, values 250–350, years 2018–2022)

Continuing Education
(line chart, values 1,500–2,500, years 2018–2022)
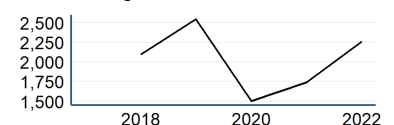
POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION

Adult Learners

Pinehurst-Rockingham Sub-Prosperity Zone post-secondary enrollments in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2022

- **430** Basic Skills
- **6,486** Continuing Education
- **1,338** Curriculum

10% of Richmond County residents have **student loan debt**; **16%** of debt holders had **student loans in default.** 2022

Success of Richmond County High School Graduates

- **77%** of students who enroll **persist to their second year** versus **78%** in peer counties. 2022
- **48%** 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

- **2,157** of all college-goers attended **Richmond CC**
- **185** of all college-goers attended **Sandhills CC**
- **106** of all college-goers attended **South Piedmont CC**

Degree Credentials Awarded, 2022
739 certificate | **1,189** associate | **19** bachelor's

Postsecondary assets in Pinehurst-Rockingham Prosperity Zone sub-region
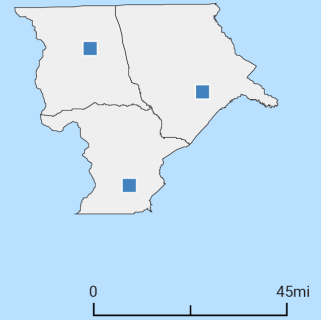
Public, 4-year or above
Public, 2-year
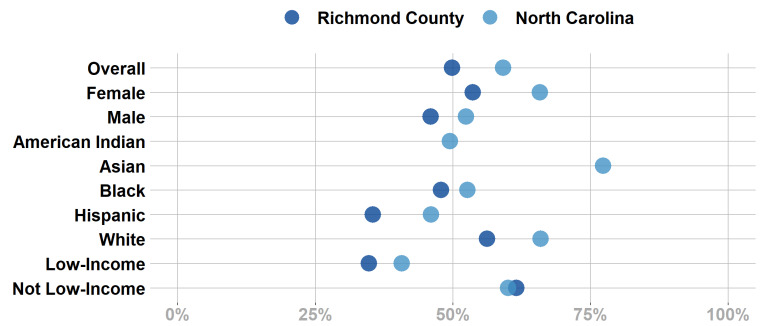Montgomery Community College, Richmond Community College, Sandhills Community College

Private not-for-profit, 4-year or above
Private not-for-profit, 2-year

- ▲ 4-year public
- ■ 2-year public
- ● 4-year private
- ✕ 2-year or less private

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COLLEGE & CAREER ACCESS

- **53%** of seniors **completed the FAFSA** in 2023, compared to **62%** statewide; 108 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of **80%**. 2023
- **57%** of graduates reported **intentions to enroll** in a postsecondary institution versus **68%** in peer counties. 2022
- **48%** of graduates **enrolled in a postsecondary institution** within 12 months versus **52%** in peer counties. 2022

57% of Richmond County students have **parents with no college degree** (either 2- or 4-year) versus **55%** in peer counties.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Richmond County, 2022

● Richmond County   ● North Carolina

Group	
Overall	
Female	
Male	
American Indian	
Asian	
Black	
Hispanic	
White	
Low-Income	
Not Low-Income	

0%   25%   50%   75%   100%

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

ACADEMIC READINESS

How students in Richmond County traditional schools are doing:

- **67%** of eligible 4-year-olds **enrolled in NC Pre-K program**, compared to **53%** statewide; 26 more needed to meet state goal of **75%**. 2023
- **19%** of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in **reading**, compared to **30%** statewide; 1,932 more needed to meet state goal of **73%.** 2023
- **26%** of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in **math**, compared to **35%** statewide; 1,750 more needed to meet state goal of **86%.** 2023
- **80%** of 9th graders **graduate within four years**, compared to **87%** statewide; 79 more needed to meet state goal of **95%**. 2023
- **29%** of students are **chronically absent from school**, compared to **27%** statewide; 1,229 less needed to meet state goal of **11%**. 2023

Richmond County has a **student-to-school counselor ratio** of **317:1** versus **325:1** in peer counties. 2023

3% of students **drop out of high school** (74 total students), compared to **2%** statewide. 2023

School Choice

7,348 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Richmond County in the 2022-23 school year.

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

- Charter **(0%)**
- District **(87%)**
- Home **(7%)**
- Private **(6%)**

6% 7% 87%
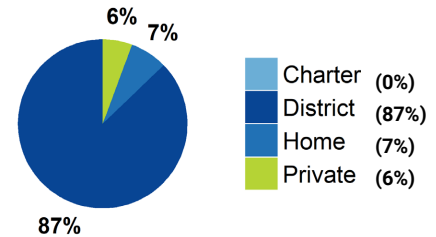
Access to Postsecondary Credits

Students in Richmond County completed **2,249 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (197 (9%) were industry-valued credentials) and 261 concentrations** in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Manufacturing; Health Science; and Information Technology.

107 high school students took at least one **AP test (5%)** versus **8%** in peer counties (2023).

258 high school students participated in **Career & College Promise programs (61%)** 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/