

Centralina Regional Council

Council of Governments (COG)

myFutureNC 2025 Attainment Profiles



Counties in Council of Governments:

Anson, Cabarrus, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly, and Union Counties

Educational Attainment

Centralina Regional Council COG residents ages 25-44, 2023

Have Degree or Credential
407,305
61.1%

No Degree
259,131
38.9%

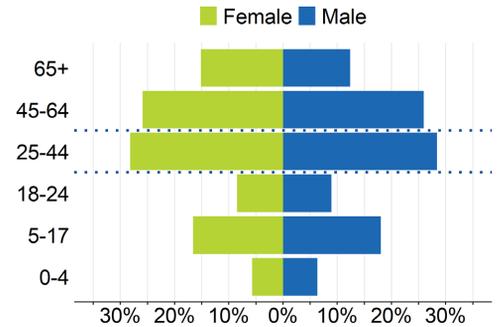
Residents Ages 25-44
666,436

Educational Level Breakdown, 2023

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Graduate or Professional degree | 14.6% |
| Bachelor's degree | 30.1% |
| Associate degree | 8.9% |
| Short-term credential | 7.5% |
| Some college, no credential | 11.1% |
| High school graduate (including GED) | 18.8% |
| Less than high school | 9.0% |

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

Age Structure, 2023



2030 Proposed Centralina Regional Council Attainment Goal: 523,672

2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

Population Spotlight

2020 Census: 2,312,459
2023 Estimate: 2,432,053
Change: 119,594

Growth Rate
5.2% vs. 3.8%
County State

Race/Ethnicity, 2023

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Amer. Indian | 0.1% |
| Asian/Pac. Isl. | 4.4% |
| Black | 22% |
| Hispanic | 12.8% |
| Multiracial | 3.6% |
| White | 56.6% |



\$82,586
Median Household Income (2023)
State: \$70,838



64.2%
Home Owners (2023)
State: 66.3%



79.9%
Households with Broadband (2023)
State: 77.1%



14.5%
Child Poverty Rate (2023)
State: 17.6%



17.1%
Single Parent Households (2023)
State: 17.0%



12.1%
Foreign Born (2023)
State: 9.2%

In Centralina Regional Council:

3,303 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2023

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

12,016 graduates in 2020
74.0% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
\$45,848 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs), 2021

60.0% of adults (ages 25-44) in Centralina Regional Council earned a family sustaining wage. State: 57.6%, 2023

11.6% of youth (ages 16-24) in Centralina Regional Council were Opportunity Youth. State: 10.3%, 2023

85.9% of adults (ages 25-44) in Centralina Regional Council participated in the labor force. State: 84.2%, 2023

Centralina Regional Council Labor Force Snapshot, 2024 Q2

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------|
| Total Jobs | 1,219,019 | Business Establishments | 88,848 |
| Employed | 1,257,709 | Unemployed | 50,637 |
| Avg. Weekly Wage | \$1,393 | | |

Top Industries in Centralina Regional Council, 2024 Q2

| Industry Name | Average Employment | Average Weekly Wages |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Health Care and Social Assistance | 150,252 | \$1,499 |
| Retail Trade | 121,592 | \$777 |
| Accommodation and Food Services | 112,997 | \$521 |
| Manufacturing | 95,307 | \$1,415 |
| Finance and Insurance | 93,740 | \$2,362 |

Top Job Sectors in Centralina Regional Council, 2024 Q2

| Job Sector | Average Employment | Average Weekly Wages |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Private | 1,074,560 | \$1,380 |
| Local Government | 119,080 | \$1,500 |
| State Government | 14,450 | \$1,176 |
| Federal Government | 10,929 | \$1,747 |

LABOR MARKET ALIGNMENT

POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION

Degree Credentials Awarded in Centralina Regional Council, 2023

4,551 certificate | 5,338 associate | 8,311 bachelor's

Adult Learners

Centralina Regional Council Residents Aged 25+ enrolled in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2023

4,640 Basic Skills
15,894 Continuing Education
9,216 Curriculum

11.1% of residents (aged 25-44) have some college but no degree. State: 11.7%, 2023

Success of Centralina Regional Council High School Graduates

85.2% of students who enroll persist to their second year. State: 83.8%, 2023

94.2% UNC | 70.7% NCCCS | 84.6% NCICU

61.0% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years. State: 60.0%, 2023

35.9% UNC | 8.7% NCCCS | 5.9% NCICU

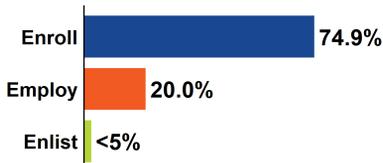
Top destinations of all college-goers, 2024

- 26,260 of all college-goers attended Central Piedmont CC
- 11,260 of all college-goers attended Rowan-Cabarrus CC
- 10,974 of all college-goers attended UNC Charlotte

COLLEGE & CAREER ACCESS

54.0% of 2024 high school class completed the FAFSA as of Sept. 27, 2024. 5,938 more need to complete in 2024 to meet state goal of 80%. State: 55.0%

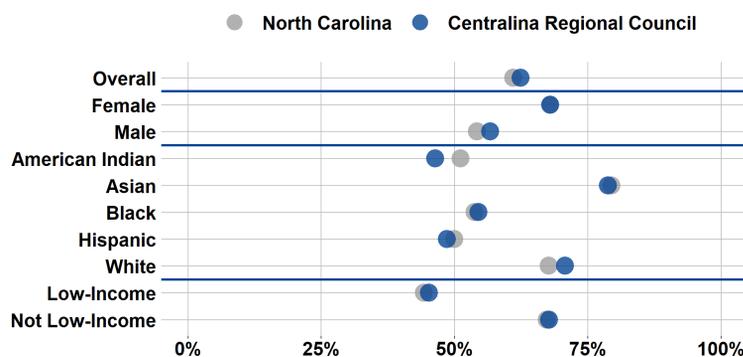
Post High School Graduation Intentions, 2023



87.0% of 9th graders graduated within four years. 2,159 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. State: 87.3% 2024

60.7% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months. State: 59.3% 2023

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in COG, 2023



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

ACADEMIC READINESS

40.6% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program in 2024. 3,476 more needed to meet state goal of 75%. State: 57.2%

Centralina Regional Council Traditional Public Schools students:

31.0% of 3-8 graders earned college-and-career-ready scores in reading in 2024. 79,695 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. State: 29.8%

40.2% of 3-8 graders earned college-and-career-ready scores in math in 2024. 47,504 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. State: 36.5%

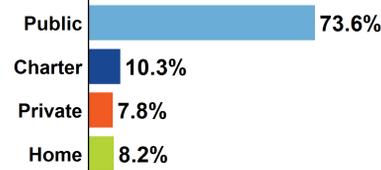
22.8% of students were chronically absent from school in 2024. 39,891 fewer needed to meet state goal of 11%. State: 25.7%

2.2% of students drop out of high school (2,435 total students), compared to 2.1% statewide. 2023

School & Student Overview (2024 school year)

Traditional Public School District(s): 11
Traditional Public School(s): 476
Charter School(s): 56
Private School(s): 192
Home School(s): 21,977

432,645 total K-12 students enrolled in schools.



Pathways to College and Career

Students in traditional public schools completed 53,239 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials and 13,548 concentrations. 14,440 (27.1%) of credentials were industry-valued in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations: Health Science; Hospitality & Tourism; and Human Services.

20,458 (20.4%) high school students took at least one AP, IB, or CIE exam. State: 16.8% (2023).

7,868 (32.4%) high school graduates participated in Career & College Promise programs. State: 36.0% (2024).

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

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