

Eastern Carolina

Council of Governments (COG)

myFutureNC 2025 Attainment Profiles



Counties in Council of Governments:
Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, and Wayne

Educational Attainment

Eastern Carolina COG residents ages 25-44, 2023

Have Degree or Credential
72,166
44.7%

No Degree
89,210
55.3%

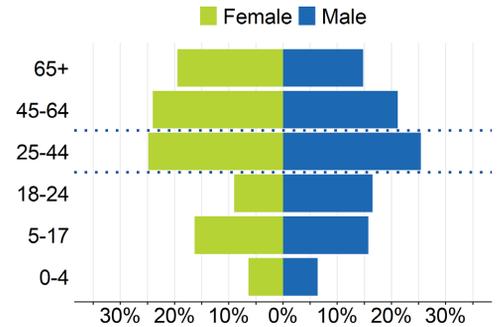
Residents Ages 25-44
161,376

Educational Level Breakdown, 2023

Graduate or Professional degree	7.2%
Bachelor's degree	17.5%
Associate degree	12.5%
Short-term credential	7.5%
Some college, no credential	19.3%
High school graduate (including GED)	27.2%
Less than high school	8.8%

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

Age Structure, 2023



2030 Proposed Eastern Carolina Attainment Goal: 91,351

2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

Population Spotlight

2020 Census: 636,028
2023 Estimate: 651,137
Change: 15,109

Growth Rate
2.4% vs. 3.8%
County vs. State

Race/Ethnicity, 2023

Amer. Indian	0.3%
Asian/Pac. Isl.	1.5%
Black	19.9%
Hispanic	11.7%
Multiracial	4.8%
White	61.5%

\$59,725
Median Household Income (2023)
State: \$70,838

65.5%
Home Owners (2023)
State: 66.3%

71.7%
Households with Broadband (2023)
State: 77.1%

21.1%
Child Poverty Rate (2023)
State: 17.6%

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

5.1%
Foreign Born (2023)
State: 9.2%

In Eastern Carolina :

399 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2023

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

3,613 graduates in 2020
64.1% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
\$37,788 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs), 2021

44.0% of adults (ages 25-44) in Eastern Carolina earned a **family sustaining wage**. State: 57.6%, 2023

10.6% of youth (ages 16-24) in Eastern Carolina were **Opportunity Youth**. State: 10.3%, 2023

79.8% of adults (ages 25-44) in Eastern Carolina **participated in the labor force**. State: 84.2%, 2023

Eastern Carolina Labor Force Snapshot, 2024 Q2

Total Jobs	221,306	Business Establishments	16,003
Employed	262,901	Unemployed	11,426
Avg. Weekly Wage	\$910		

Top Industries in Eastern Carolina , 2024 Q2

Industry Name	Average Employment	Average Weekly Wages
Retail Trade	32,896	\$645
Health Care and Social Assistance	32,649	\$1,017
Accommodation and Food Services	26,670	\$415
Manufacturing	26,526	\$1,026
Public Administration	21,541	\$1,205

Top Job Sectors in Eastern Carolina , 2024 Q2

Job Sector	Average Employment	Average Weekly Wages
Private	168,401	\$856
Local Government	29,385	\$996
Federal Government	14,261	\$1,290
State Government	9,259	\$1,046

LABOR MARKET ALIGNMENT

POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION

Degree Credentials Awarded in Eastern Carolina , 2023

2,672 certificate | 2,715 associate | 503 bachelor's

Adult Learners

Eastern Carolina Residents Aged 25+ enrolled in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2023

1,301 Basic Skills
8,884 Continuing Education
4,511 Curriculum

19.3% of residents (aged 25-44) have some college but no degree. State: 11.7%, 2023

Success of Eastern Carolina High School Graduates

79.6% of students who enroll persist to their second year. State: 83.8%, 2023

92.9% UNC | 71.1% NCCCS | 79.4% NCICU

57.3% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years. State: 60.0%, 2023

27.9% UNC | 19.3% NCCCS | 5.2% NCICU

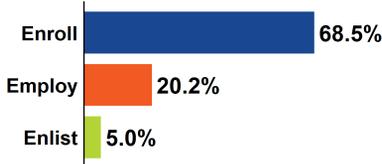
Top destinations of all college-goers, 2024

- 5,058 of all college-goers attended Coastal Carolina CC
- 4,749 of all college-goers attended Wayne CC
- 4,700 of all college-goers attended Craven CC

COLLEGE & CAREER ACCESS

51.4% of 2024 high school class completed the FAFSA as of Sept. 27, 2024. 1,630 more need to complete in 2024 to meet state goal of 80%. State: 55.0%

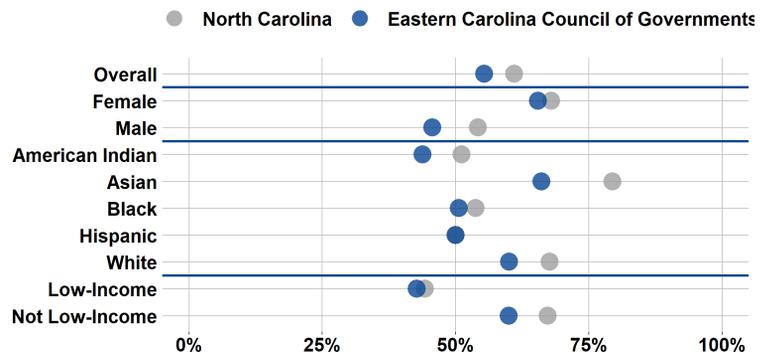
Post High School Graduation Intentions, 2023



84.9% of 9th graders graduated within four years. 712 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. State: 87.3% 2024

53.7% 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

60.9% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program in 2024. 556 more needed to meet state goal of 75%. State: 57.2%

Eastern Carolina Traditional Public Schools students:

25.3% of 3-8 graders earned college-and-career-ready scores in reading in 2024. 24,265 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. State: 29.8%

30.5% of 3-8 graders earned college-and-career-ready scores in math in 2024. 16,996 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. State: 36.5%

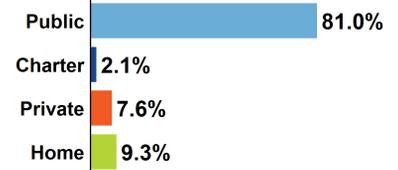
26.7% of students were chronically absent from school in 2024. 14,425 fewer needed to meet state goal of 11%. State: 25.7%

2.0% of students drop out of high school (560 total students), compared to 2.1% statewide. 2023

School & Student Overview (2024 school year)

Traditional Public School District(s): 9
Traditional Public School(s): 160
Charter School(s): 7
Private School(s): 65
Home School(s): 5,962

106,603 total K-12 students enrolled in schools.



Pathways to College and Career

Students in traditional public schools completed 22,971 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials and 4,499 concentrations. 4,336 (18.9%) of credentials were industry-valued in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations: Human Services; Health Science; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

1,976 (7.7%) high school students took at least one AP, IB, or CIE exam. State: 16.8% (2023).

2,362 (37.8%) 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/