

Johnston County

myFutureNC 2025 Attainment Profiles



Raleigh-Durham Prosperity Zone Sub-Region
Peer County Type: Suburban

Educational Attainment

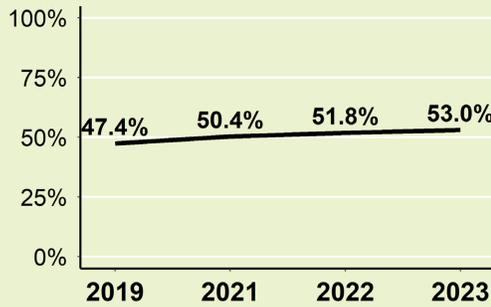
Johnston County residents ages 25-44, 2023

Have Degree or Credential
31,876
53.0%

No Degree
28,228
47.0%

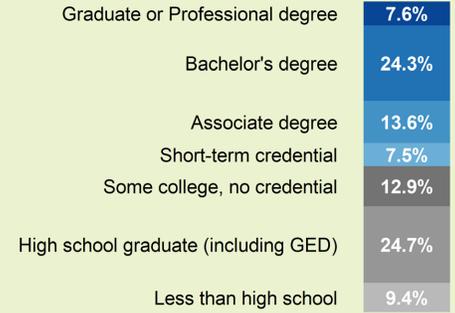
Residents Ages 25-44
60,104

Educational Attainment Trend



Note: 2020 data not shown due to inconsistency

Educational Level Breakdown, 2023



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

2030 Proposed Johnston County Attainment Goal: 40,244 (Stretch Goal: 40,807)

2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

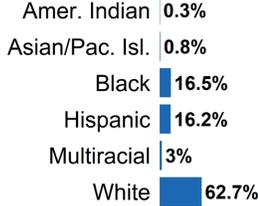
Population Spotlight

2020 Census: 215,994
2023 Estimate: 241,955
Change: 25,961

Growth Rate

12.0% vs. 3.8%
County State

Race/Ethnicity



\$79,666
Median Household Income (2023)
State: \$70,838



77.1%
Home Owners (2023)
State: 66.3%



70.6%
Households with Broadband (2023)
State: 77.1%



16.0%
Child Poverty Rate (2023)
State: 17.6%



15.3%
Single Parent Households (2023)
State: 17.0%



8.5%
Foreign Born (2023)
State: 9.2%

Top Opportunities for Growth



Opportunity Youth

14% of Johnston County youth ages 16-24 are not working and not in school, above the suburban county average of 11%.

In Raleigh-Durham Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

75.8%

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

Top Misalignments

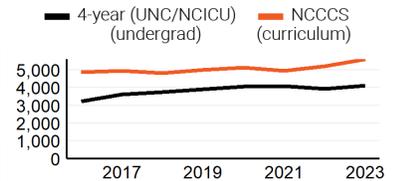
Job Openings vs. Degrees/Credentials

- Health Science Jobs > Creds
- Business Management & Administration Jobs > Creds
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics Jobs < Creds

Top 3 Five-Star Jobs in Raleigh-Durham Prosperity Zone Sub-Region

Job Title	Annual Growth
Nurse Practitioners	4.09%
Data Scientists	3.79%
Statisticians	3.71%

Postsecondary Enrollment for Johnston County Residents



37 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2023

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

19,047 graduates in 2020
64.9% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
\$50,028 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs), 2021

57.3% of adults (ages 25-44) in Johnston County earned a **family sustaining wage**. Peer: 51.8% | State: 57.6%, 2023

14.0% of youth (ages 16-24) in Johnston County were **Opportunity Youth**. Peer: 11.2% | State: 10.3%, 2023

83.6% of adults (ages 25-44) in Johnston County **participated in the labor force**. Peer: 83.4% | State: 84.2%, 2023

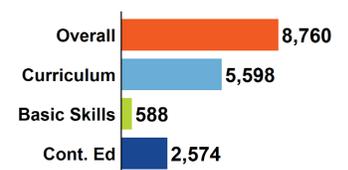
Top 3 Employers in Johnston County

Employer	Employment Range
Johnston County Board of Education	1000+
Novo Nordisk Pharmaceutical Industries	1000+
Rex Healthcare Inc	1000+

Top 3 industries in Johnston County

Industry	Jobs Percent
Manufacturing	8,169 13.4%
Retail Trade	7,912 13.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	7,297 12.0%

Johnston County residents enrolled in NCCCS, Fall 2023



Johnston County is served by:

- Capital Area Workforce Development Board
- Central Pines Council of Governments

LABOR MARKET ALIGNMENT

POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION

Top Opportunities for Growth



Adult Learners

13% of Johnston County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the state average of 12%.

Degree Credentials Awarded in PZ Sub-Region, 2023

4,998 certificate | 5,648 associate | 16,524 bachelor's

Adult Learners

Johnston County Residents Aged 25+ enrolled in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2023

395 Basic Skills
2,193 Continuing Education
1,195 Curriculum

12.9% of residents (aged 25-44) have some college but no degree. Peer: 15.1% | State: 11.7%, 2023



16.7% of Johnston County residents have student loan debt, 0.8% of debt holders had student loans in default, 2024

Success of Johnston County High School Graduates

84.4% of students who enroll persist to their second year.

Peer: 83.9% | State: 83.8%, 2023

93.4% UNC | 76.0% NCCCS | 86.8% NCICU

64.7% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years. Peer: 61.5% | State: 60.0%, 2023

33.7% UNC | 18.7% NCCCS | 8.0% NCICU

Top destinations of all college-goers, 2023

- 5,522 of all college-goers attended Johnston CC
- 1,857 of all college-goers attended Wake TCC
- 851 of all college-goers attended East Carolina University

COLLEGE & CAREER ACCESS

Top Opportunities for Growth

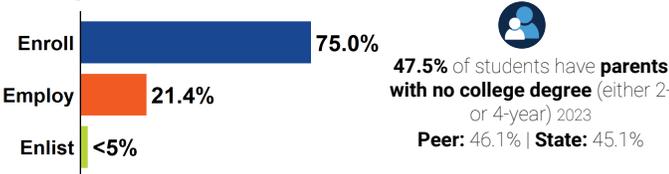


Postsecondary Enrollment

57% of Johnston County seniors enroll in postsecondary education within 12 months of graduation, below the suburban county average of 59%.

53.4% of 2024 high school class completed the FAFSA as of Sept. 27, 2024. 756 more need to complete in 2024 to meet state goal of 80%. Peer: 55.0% | State: 55.0%

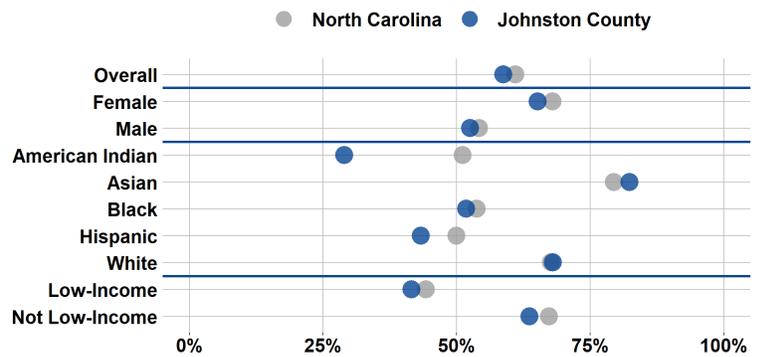
Post High School Graduation Intentions



91.3% of 9th graders graduated within four years. 119 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. Peer: 88.5% | State: 87.3% 2024

57.0% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months. Peer: 58.8% | State: 59.3% 2023

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Johnston County, 2023



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

ACADEMIC READINESS

Top Opportunities for Growth



NC Pre-K Enrollment

31% of Johnston County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 46%.

30.6% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program in 2024. 502 more needed to meet state goal of 75%. Peer: 46.5% | State: 57.2%

Note: Enrollment numbers only include students served by the NC Pre-K Program and may not represent all Pre-K offerings available.

Johnston County Traditional Public Schools students:

30.8% of 3-8 graders earned college-and-career-ready scores in reading in 2024. 7,048 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. Peer: 30.8% | State: 29.8%

35.8% of 3-8 graders earned college-and-career-ready scores in math in 2024. 8,383 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. Peer: 37.8% | State: 36.5%

23.1% of students were chronically absent from school in 2024. 4,715 fewer needed to meet state goal of 11%. Peer: 23.7% | State: 25.7%

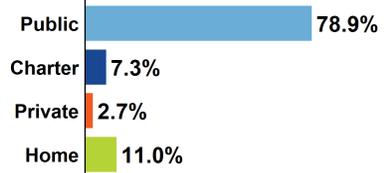
Johnston County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 417:1 compared to 328:1 in peer counties. 2024

2.3% of students drop out of high school (297 total students), compared to 2.1% statewide. 2023

School & Student Overview (2024 school year)

Traditional Public School District(s): 1
Traditional Public School(s): 48
Charter School(s): 3
Private School(s): 9
Home School(s): 3,083

46,564 total K-12 students enrolled in schools.



Pathways to College and Career

Students in traditional public schools completed 5,471 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials and 2,485 concentrations. 1,297 (23.7%) of credentials were industry-valued in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations: Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Health Science; and Human Services.

919 (7.7%) high school students took at least one AP, IB, or CIE exam. State: 16.8% (2023).

884 (29.1%) 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/