

Onslow County

myFutureNC 2025 Attainment Profiles



Jacksonville-New Bern Prosperity Zone Sub-Region
Peer County Type: Suburban

Educational Attainment

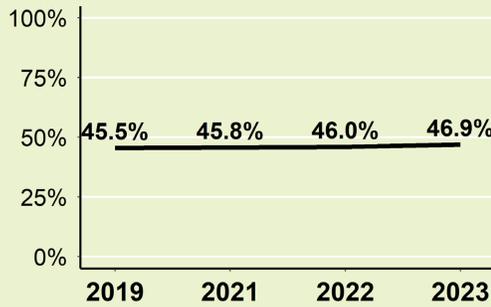
Onslow County residents ages 25-44, 2023

Have Degree or Credential
28,115
46.9%

No Degree
31,832
53.1%

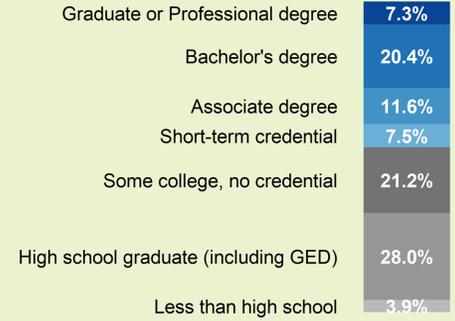
Residents Ages 25-44
59,947

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 Onslow County Attainment Goal: 29,424 (Stretch Goal: 29,780)

2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

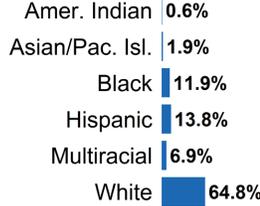
Population Spotlight

2020 Census: 204,576
2023 Estimate: 213,676
Change: 9,100

Growth Rate

4.4% County vs. 3.8% State

Race/Ethnicity



\$66,982
Median Household Income (2023)
State: \$70,838



61.0%
Home Owners (2023)
State: 66.3%



80.3%
Households with Broadband (2023)
State: 77.1%



15.2%
Child Poverty Rate (2023)
State: 17.6%



15.0%
Single Parent Households (2023)
State: 17.0%



4.0%
Foreign Born (2023)
State: 9.2%

Top Opportunities for Growth



Family Sustaining Wage

46% of Onslow County adults 25-44 earn a family sustaining wage, below the suburban county average of 52%.

In Jacksonville-New Bern Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

53.2%

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

Top Misalignments

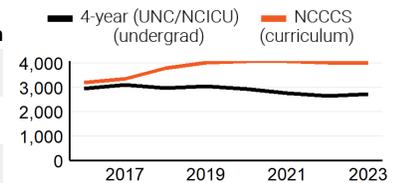
Job Openings vs. Degrees/Credentials

- **Education & Training** Jobs < Creds
- **Health Science** Jobs > Creds
- **Manufacturing** Jobs < Creds

Top 3 Five-Star Jobs in Jacksonville-New Bern Prosperity Zone Sub-Region

Job Title	Annual Growth
Information Security Analysts	4.14%
Nurse Practitioners	3.85%
Web and Digital Interface Designers	3.32%

Postsecondary Enrollment for Onslow County Residents



151 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2023

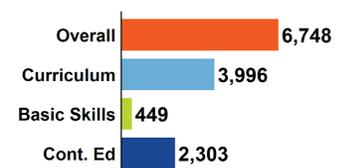
UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

1,967 graduates in 2020
55.9% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
\$36,955 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs), 2021

Top 3 Employers in Onslow County

Employer	Employment Range
Defense Ex Army Navy & Air Force	1000+
Onslow County Board of Education	1000+
Marine Corps Exchange Service	1000+

Onslow County residents enrolled in NCCCS, Fall 2023



Top 3 industries in Onslow County

Industry	Jobs Percent
Retail Trade	10,503 19.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	9,252 17.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	6,956 12.8%

Onslow County is served by:

- Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board
- Eastern Carolina Council of Governments

LABOR MARKET ALIGNMENT

POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION

Top Opportunities for Growth



Adult Learners

21% of Onslow County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the suburban county average of 15%.

Degree Credentials Awarded in PZ Sub-Region, 2023

1,467 certificate | 1,580 associate | 37 bachelor's

Adult Learners

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

227 Basic Skills
1,918 Continuing Education
1,363 Curriculum

21.2% of residents (aged 25-44) have some college but no degree. Peer: 15.1% | State: 11.7%, 2023



14.4% of Onslow County residents have student loan debt, 1.3% of debt holders had student loans in default, 2024

Success of Onslow County High School Graduates

78.4% of students who enroll persist to their second year.

Peer: 83.9% | State: 83.8%, 2023

93.5% UNC | 68.9% NCCCS | 75.0% NCICU

57.7% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years. Peer: 61.5% | State: 60.0%, 2023

26.8% UNC | 16.8% NCCCS | <5% NCICU

Top destinations of all college-goers, 2023

- 4,743 of all college-goers attended Coastal Carolina CC
- 694 of all college-goers attended Cape Fear CC
- 594 of all college-goers attended East Carolina University

COLLEGE & CAREER ACCESS

Top Opportunities for Growth

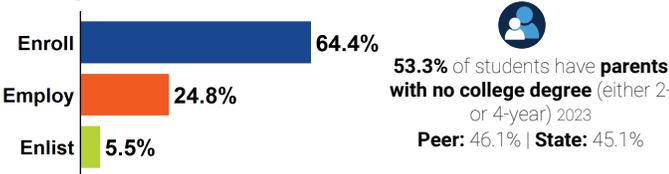


Postsecondary Enrollment

54% of Onslow County seniors enroll in postsecondary education within 12 months of graduation, below the suburban county average of 59%.

50.9% of 2024 high school class completed the FAFSA as of Sept. 27, 2024. 506 more need to complete in 2024 to meet state goal of 80%. Peer: 55.0% | State: 55.0%

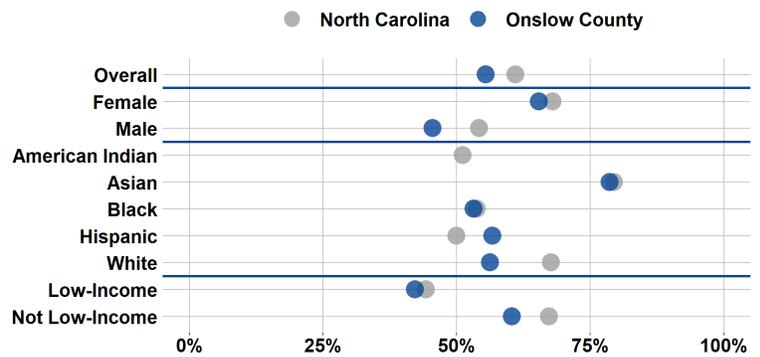
Post High School Graduation Intentions



88.9% of 9th graders graduated within four years. 123 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. Peer: 88.5% | State: 87.3% 2024

53.7% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months. Peer: 58.8% | State: 59.3% 2023

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Onslow County, 2023



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

ACADEMIC READINESS

Top Opportunities for Growth



Earning College Credit in High School

27% of Onslow County graduates participated in Career & College Promise programs, below the suburban county average of 39%. Also, 11% of high school students took at least one AP exam, below the peer county average of 15%.

46.4% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program in 2024. 413 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.

Onslow County Traditional Public Schools students:

27.3% of 3-8 graders earned college-and-career-ready scores in reading in 2024. 5,739 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. Peer: 30.8% | State: 29.8%

30.1% of 3-8 graders earned college-and-career-ready scores in math in 2024. 7,012 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. Peer: 37.8% | State: 36.5%

25.4% of students were chronically absent from school in 2024. 4,140 fewer needed to meet state goal of 11%. Peer: 23.7% | State: 25.7%

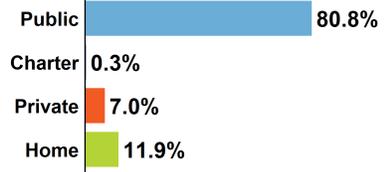
Onslow County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 444:1 compared to 328:1 in peer counties. 2024

1.5% of students drop out of high school (126 total students), compared to 2.1% statewide. 2023

School & Student Overview (2024 school year)

Traditional Public School District(s): 1
Traditional Public School(s): 39
Charter School(s): 1
Private School(s): 18
Home School(s): 2,327

33,419 total K-12 students enrolled in schools.



Pathways to College and Career

Students in traditional public schools completed 5,925 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials and 1,447 concentrations. 1,499 (25.3%) of credentials were industry-valued in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations: Human Services; Health Science; and Architecture and Construction.

918 (12.1%) high school students took at least one AP, IB, or CIE exam. State: 16.8% (2023).

483 (25.6%) 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/