

# Stanly County

myFutureNC 2025 Attainment Profiles



Charlotte  
Prosperity Zone Sub-Region  
Peer County Type: Rural - Non-Metro

## Educational Attainment

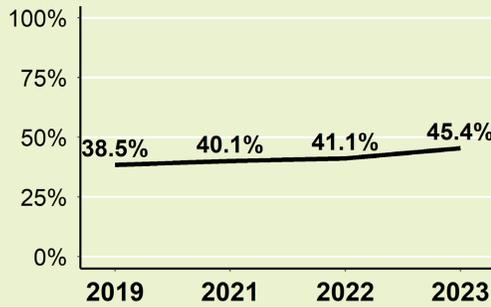
Stanly County residents ages 25-44, 2023

**Have Degree or Credential**  
7,142  
45.4%

**No Degree**  
8,584  
54.6%

**Residents Ages 25-44**  
15,726

## 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 Stanly County Attainment Goal: 8,845 (Stretch Goal: 8,986)

2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

## Population Spotlight

2020 Census: 62,505  
2023 Estimate: 65,699  
Change: 3,194

## Growth Rate

5.1% County vs. 3.8% State

## Race/Ethnicity

Amer. Indian 0%  
Asian/Pac. Isl. 2.2%  
Black 11%  
Hispanic 5.3%  
Multiracial 2.5%  
White 79%



\$65,784  
Median Household Income (2023)  
State: \$70,838



73.6%  
Home Owners (2023)  
State: 66.3%



69.5%  
Households with Broadband (2023)  
State: 77.1%



21.0%  
Child Poverty Rate (2023)  
State: 17.6%



17.6%  
Single Parent Households (2023)  
State: 17.0%



4.3%  
Foreign Born (2023)  
State: 9.2%

## Top Opportunities for Growth



### Family Sustaining Wage

50% of Stanly County adults 25-44 earn a family sustaining wage, below the state average of 58%.

## In Charlotte Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

79.7%

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
- Business Management & Administration Jobs > Creds
- Health Science Jobs > Creds



138 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2023

## UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

12,495 graduates in 2020  
74.0% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021  
\$45,387 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs), 2021

50.0% of adults (ages 25-44) in Stanly County earned a family sustaining wage. Peer: 40.5% | State: 57.6%, 2023

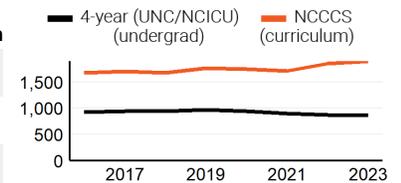
11.8% of youth (ages 16-24) in Stanly County were Opportunity Youth. Peer: 13.8% | State: 10.3%, 2023

79.0% of adults (ages 25-44) in Stanly County participated in the labor force. Peer: 78.3% | State: 84.2%, 2023

## Top 3 Five-Star Jobs in Charlotte Prosperity Zone Sub-Region

Job Title	Annual Growth
Nurse Practitioners	4.48%
Data Scientists	3.83%
Logisticians	3.62%

## Postsecondary Enrollment for Stanly County Residents



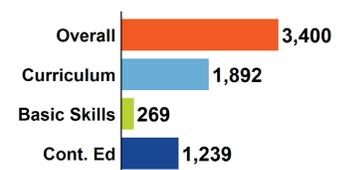
## Top 3 Employers in Stanly County

Employer	Employment Range
Ess Southeast LLC	1000+
Stanly County Schools	1000+
Charlotte Mecklenburg Hospital	500-999

## Top 3 industries in Stanly County

Industry	Jobs   Percent
Admin Support, Waste Mgmt, Rem. Services	4,059   17.3%
Manufacturing	3,513   15.0%
Retail Trade	2,959   12.6%

## Stanly County residents enrolled in NCCCS, Fall 2023



## Stanly County is served by:

- Centralina Workforce Development Board
- Centralina Regional Council

LABOR MARKET ALIGNMENT

POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION

Top Opportunities for Growth



Postsecondary Completion

54% of Stanly County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary education earn a degree or credential within 6 years, below the rural - non-metro county average of 55%.

Degree Credentials Awarded in PZ Sub-Region, 2023

4,911 certificate | 5,727 associate | 8,744 bachelor's

Adult Learners

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

- 79 Basic Skills
- 928 Continuing Education
- 415 Curriculum

15.3% of residents (aged 25-44) have some college but no degree. Peer: 15.9% | State: 11.7%, 2023



12.5% of Stanly County residents have student loan debt. 2.7% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2024

Success of Stanly County High School Graduates

81.6% of students who enroll persist to their second year.

Peer: 79.6% | State: 83.8%, 2023

94.1% UNC | 70.2% NCCCS | 88.9% NCICU

54.2% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years. Peer: 55.5% | State: 60.0%, 2023

19.1% UNC | 20.4% NCCCS | 12.2% NCICU

Top destinations of all college-goers, 2023

- 2,523 of all college-goers attended Stanly CC
- 248 of all college-goers attended Rowan-Cabarrus CC
- 146 of all college-goers attended UNC Charlotte

COLLEGE & CAREER ACCESS

Top Opportunities for Growth

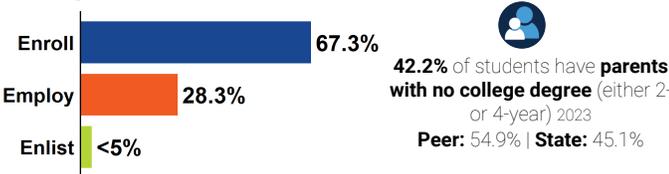


FAFSA Completion

40% of Stanly County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural - non-metro county average of 54%.

39.7% of 2024 high school class completed the FAFSA as of Sept. 27, 2024. 243 more need to complete in 2024 to meet state goal of 80%. Peer: 54.0% | State: 55.0%

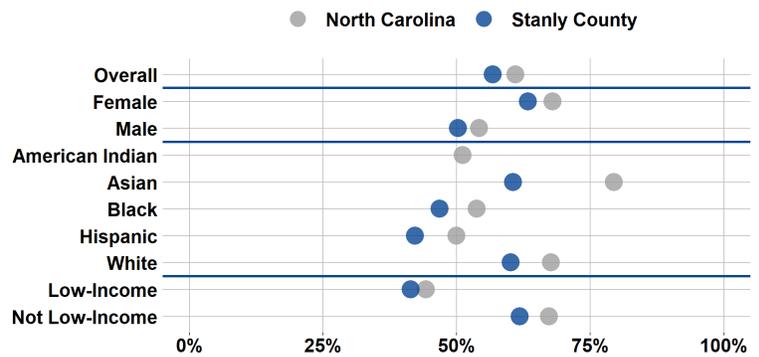
Post High School Graduation Intentions



87.8% of 9th graders graduated within four years. 50 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. Peer: 85.7% | State: 87.3% 2024

55.1% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months. Peer: 52.6% | State: 59.3% 2023

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Stanly County, 2023



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

ACADEMIC READINESS

Top Opportunities for Growth



School Counselors

Stanly County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 505:1, above the rural - non-metro county average of 332:1.

68.2% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program in 2024. 25 more needed to meet state goal of 75%. Peer: 71.0% | 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.

Stanly County Traditional Public Schools students:

27.4% of 3-8 graders earned college-and-career-ready scores in reading in 2024. 1,789 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. Peer: 24.5% | State: 29.8%

34.1% of 3-8 graders earned college-and-career-ready scores in math in 2024. 2,034 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. Peer: 30.3% | State: 36.5%

20.2% of students were chronically absent from school in 2024. 835 fewer needed to meet state goal of 11%. Peer: 27.7% | State: 25.7%

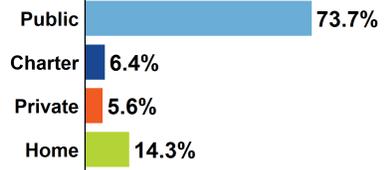
Stanly County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 505:1 compared to 332:1 in peer counties. 2024

2.1% of students drop out of high school (56 total students), compared to 2.1% statewide. 2023

School & Student Overview (2024 school year)

Traditional Public School District(s): 1  
 Traditional Public School(s): 23  
 Charter School(s): 1  
 Private School(s): 9  
 Home School(s): 1,044

11,716 total K-12 students enrolled in schools.



Pathways to College and Career

Students in traditional public schools completed 2,923 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials and 485 concentrations. 637 (21.8%) of credentials were industry-valued in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations: Human Services; Health Science; and Manufacturing.

53 (<5%) high school students took at least one AP, IB, or CIE exam. State: 16.8% (2023).

397 (63.2%) 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/](https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/)