Alamance County
NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

INTRODUCTION
From birth to career, there are many opportunities to develop strategies and interventions to increase attainment and improve workforce alignment. Below are some key areas and indicators that highlight where interventions may be possible to improve overall educational attainment outcomes.

COUNTY OVERVIEW
Alamance County is in the Greensboro Prosperity Zone sub-region. It’s one of 16 suburban counties in NC. Overall, 7% of 25-44-year-olds in Alamance County have earned a master’s degree or higher as their highest degree; 18% have a bachelor’s degree; 10% have an associate degree; 26% have some college, no degree; 23% have a high school diploma; and 15% have less than a high school diploma.

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8
High-quality early learning and strong academic progress in early years helps prepare children for future success.
Alamance County has 34 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 13 or 38% were classified as low performing in 2019.

Ready for College & Career
High school completion is a crucial step on the pathway to postsecondary success or the beginnings of a career. Activities that prepare students to navigate the transition to postsecondary education include gaining experience in college-level coursework and applying for financial assistance.

Postsecondary Access and Success
These metrics capture student progression and educational attainment from high school graduation to postsecondary completion. They indicate relative strengths and weaknesses of Alamance County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.
Alamance County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 426:1.

Labor Market Outcomes
Lack of technical skills and lack of education are among the primary reasons why NC employers struggle to fill vacancies. These metrics capture labor market outcomes among recent graduates, the alignment between postsecondary degree and labor market demand, and future labor demands.
9.2% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

Opportunities for Growth
Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Alamance County to improve future attainment outcomes.

Low-Performing Schools
38% of Alamance County schools are low-performing, above the suburban county average of 17%.

Reading Performance
37% of Alamance County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the suburban county average of 46%.

Math Performance
34% of Alamance County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the suburban county average of 42%.

How students in Alamance County traditional public schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, Alamance County needs:
• 361 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 42%).
• 3,807 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 37%).
• 5,523 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 34%).

To meet state goals, Alamance County needs:
• 229 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 83%).
• 367 more seniors to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 55%).
• 2,072 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 20%).

Students in Alamance County completed 1,043 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality & Tourism; and Architecture and Construction.

Among Alamance County high school graduates:
• 57% of graduates enroll in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% of peer counties.
• 74% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% of peer counties.
• 53% of students who earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 54% of peer counties.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
739 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
6,843 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
34,670 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region:
Public postsecondary institution: 8,688 students per year. After 5 years, 71% of 2013 graduates were employed in NC, earning an annual average wage of $41,392.
84% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs. The top gaps are: Transportation, Distribution & Logistics (below bachelor’s); Health Science (below bachelor’s); and Finance (bachelor’s).

There are 469,667 job openings projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of $50,000 or more are: 1) Registered Nurses; 2) Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products; 3) General and Operations Managers.
Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Greensboro</td>
<td>18,374</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford Technical Community College</td>
<td>14,735</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina A &amp; T State University</td>
<td>11,370</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elon University</td>
<td>6,187</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alamance Community College</td>
<td>5,651</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Point University</td>
<td>4,631</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randolph Community College</td>
<td>3,475</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockingham Community College</td>
<td>2,379</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford College</td>
<td>1,824</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>1,692</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greensboro College</td>
<td>1,018</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennett College</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.
Detailed data guidance is provided at http://go.unc.edu/countydata

Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Alamance Career Accelerator Program

This apprenticeship program allows students to earn money on the job while also taking college classes at Alamance Community College at no cost. The program is available to eligible juniors and seniors in high school and focuses on several technical industry sectors with an emphasis on advanced manufacturing.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you’d like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:
dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/

ABOUT CAROLINA DEMOGRAPHY
Located within the Carolina Population Center at UNC-Chapel Hill, we use data and other available research to help you put a face or a story on the population-level changes facing your community. Our analysts provide a full array of demographic data and research services to inform decision making, evaluation, and policy across North Carolina, where we serve organizations and people in all 100 counties.

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ABOUT MYFUTURENC
MyFutureNC is a statewide nonprofit organization focused on educational attainment and is the result of cross-sector collaboration between North Carolina leaders in education, business, and government. Our mission is to prepare North Carolina for the future by empowering individuals, strengthening communities, and ensuring our economic viability in a global economy.

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