Brunswick County
myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles

2030 Proposed Brunswick County Attainment Goal: 22,373 (Stretch Goal: 22,613)
2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

Population Spotlight
2020 Census: 136,694
2022 Estimate: 153,064
Change: 16,370

Growth Rate
County: 12.0% vs. State: 2.5%

Educational Attainment
Brunswick County residents ages 25-44, 2022

No Degree: 13,251 (51.7%)
Have Degree or Credential: 12,365 (48.3%)

8% Less than high school
28% High school graduate (including GED)
16% Some college, no credential
8% Short-term credential
14% Associate degree
20% Bachelor’s degree
7% Graduate or professional degree

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

Top Opportunities for Growth
These three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Brunswick County to improve future attainment outcomes.

NC Pre-K Enrollment
52% of Brunswick County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural-metro county average of 59%.

Chronic Absenteeism
32% of Brunswick County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural-metro county average of 29%.

High School Graduation
84% of Brunswick County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural-metro county average of 85%.

Promising Attainment Practices
The new Promising Attainment Practices Database is a curated, searchable, and filterable collection of about 250 county, region, and state-level initiatives and programs that directly address various components of the state’s attainment challenge. The Database allows local and regional initiative leaders and other stakeholders to identify groups across the state who are developing or operating initiatives designed to boost attainment.

Follow link to discover how Brunswick County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Brunswick

In Wilmington Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:
83.8% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

Top areas of misalignment:
Health Science below bachelor’s
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics below bachelor’s
Business Management & Administration bachelor’s

Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020: 273

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:
5,768 graduates in 2020
66% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
$44,807 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

50% of adults (ages 25-44) in Brunswick County earned a family sustaining wage, 2022

Brunswick County is served by:
Cape Fear Workforce Development Board
Cape Fear Council of Governments

Top 3 Five-Star Jobs in Wilmington Prosperity Zone Sub-Region
Job Title Annual Growth
Nurse Practitioners 4%
Data Scientists 4%
Web Developers 4%

Top 3 Employers in Brunswick County
Employer Employment Range
Brunswick County Board of Education 1000+
County Of Brunswick 1000+
Wal-Mart Associates Inc. 500-999

LAW MARKET ALIGNMENT

Carolina Demography
myFutureNC 2 million by 2030

UNC System College Enrollment
First-time Curriculum Enrollments

Continuing Education

In-Wilmington Prosperity Zone Sub-Region: 83.8%
Updated: Jul 22 2024

**Basic Skills**
- 381 Basic Skills
- 6,638 Continuing Education
- 1,928 Curriculum

**Brunswick County 2024 Attainment Profile**

- 11% of Brunswick County residents have student loan debt. 7% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2022

**Success of Brunswick County High School Graduates**
- 78% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 79% in peer counties. 2022
- 54% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years versus 56% in peer counties. 2022

**Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023**
- 2,686 of all college-goers attended Brunswick CC
- 1,229 of all college-goers attended Cape Fear CC
- 115 of all college-goers attended Southeastern CC

**Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Brunswick County, 2022**

- 9% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2023, compared to 62% statewide; 186 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of 80%. 2023
- 68% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 68% in peer counties. 2022
- 53% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 51% in peer counties. 2022

- 45% of Brunswick County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 55% in peer counties.

**How students in Brunswick County traditional schools are doing:**
- 52% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program, compared to 53% statewide; 100 more needed to meet state goal of 75%. 2023
- 30% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading, compared to 30% statewide; 3,245 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. 2023
- 37% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math, compared to 35% statewide; 2,808 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. 2023
- 84% of 9th graders graduate within four years, compared to 87% statewide; 129 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. 2023
- 32% of students are chronically absent from school, compared to 27% statewide; 2,853 less needed to meet state goal of 11%. 2023

- Brunswick County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 364:1 versus 362:1 in peer counties. 2023

- 2% of students drop out of high school (80 total students), compared to 2% statewide. 2023

**Degree Credentials Awarded, 2022**
- 911 certificate
- 1,617 associate
- 3,674 bachelor’s

**Postsecondary assets in Wilmington Prosperity Zone sub-region**

- Public, 4-year or above
- University of North Carolina Wilmington
- Private not-for-profit, 4-year or above
  - Private not-for-profit, 2-year

**Access to Postsecondary Credits**

- Students in Brunswick County completed 4,585 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (350 (8%) were industry-valued credentials) and 475 concentrations in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Health Science.

- 395 high school students took at least one AP test (10%) versus 8% in peer counties (2023).
- 358 high school students participated in Career & College Promise programs (36%) versus 43% in peer counties (2023).

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