2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Cabarrus County Attainment Goal: 49,862 (73%)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 178,011
2020 Census: 225,804
Change: 47,793

Growth Rate
26.9% vs. 9.5% State

Median Household Income (2020)
$79,736

Child Poverty Rate (2020)
13.1%

Households with Broadband (2020)
92%

Home Owners (2020)
73%

Voter Registration Rate (2021)
83%

Unemployment Rate (2021)
4.4%

Educational Attainment
Cabarrus County residents ages 25-44, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No Degree</th>
<th>Have Degree or Credential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25,169</td>
<td>57,349</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Numbers may add to more than 100% due to rounding.

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

NC Pre-K Enrollment
38% of Cabarrus County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 45%.

School Counselors
Cabarrus County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 386:1, above the suburban county average of 336:1.

First-Year Persistence
75% of Cabarrus County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the suburban county average of 77%.

Impact of Covid-19 on Education Pipeline
Covid-19 has affected critical transition points along the education continuum.

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)
-0.3% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20

Postsecondary Enrollment
-7.9% 2021 vs. 2020

FAFSA Completion
0.3% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19

Postsecondary Intentions
-4.1% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

Data Disruptions
- College-and-Career-Ready in Reading
- College-and-Career-Ready in Math
- Chronic Absenteeism

How students in Cabarrus County traditional schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, each year Cabarrus County needs:

- 38% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program; 355 more needed to meet state goal of 75%.
- 34% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading; 6,828 more needed to meet state goal of 73%.
- 41% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math; 8,033 more needed to meet state goal of 86%.
- 91% of 9th graders graduate within four years; 133 more needed to meet state goal of 95%.
- 21% of students are chronically absent from school; 3,558 less needed to meet state goal of 11%.

Cabarrus County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 386:1 versus 336:1 in peer counties. 2021

School Choice
46,713 total students were enrolled in high school in Cabarrus County in the 2021-22 school year.

Career and College Preparation
1,703 high school students took at least one AP course (14%) versus 15% in peer counties (2021).

1,077 graduates participated in Career and College Promise programs (38%) versus 33% in peer counties (2021). Students in Cabarrus County completed 1,517 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Human Services; and Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Cabarrus County, 2021

Note: Outcomes for demographic groups with fewer than 10 students are not displayed.
### Success of Cabarrus County High School Graduates

**Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020**
- 47% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 15% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 37% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
- <5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
- 89% of college-goers attended an in-state college

- 75% of students who enroll **persist to their second year** versus 77% in peer counties. 2021
- 60% of students who enroll **earn a degree or credential** within 6 years versus 60% in peer counties. 2021

### Adult Learners

**Cabarrus County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021**
- 194 Basic Skills
- 1,897 Continuing Education
- 4,660 Curriculum

- 17% of Cabarrus County residents have student loan debt; 9% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

### Top areas of misalignment:

- Business Management & Administration (bachelor’s)
- Information Technology (bachelor’s)
- Finance (bachelor’s)

### In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

- **82.2%** of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

- 4,230 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

### UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

- 12,495 graduates in 2020
- 74% 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)

### In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:

- 16,131 in Basic Services
- 7,386 in Career Services
- 506 in Education Services

- 12.9% of young adults ages 16-24 in Cabarrus County were **not working and not in school** versus 11.2% in peer counties. 2019

### 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 Cabarrus County has been meeting local needs:**
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Cabarrus

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit: