Carteret County

myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles

2030 Proposed Carteret County Attainment Goal: 11,750 (Stretch Goal: 11,849)  
2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

Population Spotlight
2020 Census: 67,686  
2022 Estimate: 69,380  
Change: 1,694

Growth Rate
2.5% County  
2.5% State

$67,806 Median Household Income (2022)  
$67,516 State

73% Home Owners (2022)  
67% State

12.0% Child Poverty Rate (2022)  
17.2% State

13.0% Opportunity Youth Rate (2021)  
12.1% State

78% Households with Broadband (2022)  
77% State

3.5% Unemployment Rate (2022)  
3.7% State

201 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC System College Enrollment
Curriculum

NC Community College Enrollment
Curriculum

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Educational Attainment
Carteret County residents ages 25-44, 2022

No Degree: 6,419 (45.4%)

Have Degree or Credential: 7,716 (54.6%)

Less than high school: 6%

High school graduate (including GED): 22%

Some college, no credential: 18%

Short-term credential: 8%

Associate degree: 13%

Bachelor’s degree: 24%

Graduate or professional degree: 10%

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

Adult Learners
18% of Carteret County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural - non-metro county average of 16%.

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

Opportunity Youth
13% of Carteret County youth ages 16-24 are not working and not in school, above the state average of 12%.

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

In Jacksonville-New Bern Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:
54.5% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

Top areas of misalignment:
Health Science below bachelor’s and bachelor’s Business Management & Administration bachelor’s Education & Training bachelor’s

Top 5 First-time Curriculum Enrollments
Basic Skills

Continuing Education

Top 3 Employers in Carteret County
Employer
Carteret County Board Of Education
Carteret County General
Carteret County Government

Employment Range
1000+
1000+
500-999

Top 3 Five-Star Jobs in Jacksonville-New Bern Prosperity Zone Sub-Region
Job Title
Information Security Analysts
Nurse Practitioners
Web and Digital Interface Designers

Annual Growth
4%
4%
3%

Carteret County is served by:
Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board
Eastern Carolina Council of Governments

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:
1,967 graduates in 2020
56% 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)

52% of adults (ages 25-44) in Carteret County earned a family sustaining wage, 2022

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10% of Carteret County residents have student loan debt. 9% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2022

Success of Carteret County High School Graduates

- 88% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% in peer counties. 2022
- 66% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2022

Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023

- 2,103 of all college-goers attended Carteret CC
- 217 of all college-goers attended Craven CC
- 92 of all college-goers attended Coastal Carolina CC

- 64% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2023, compared to 62% statewide; 97 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of 80%. 2023
- 78% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 68% in peer counties. 2022
- 65% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 52% in peer counties. 2022

55% of Carteret County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 57% in peer counties.

Carteret County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 292:1 versus 325:1 in peer counties. 2022

3% of students drop out of high school (88 total students), compared to 2% statewide. 2022

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

dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/