Dare County

**2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)**

**2030 Proposed Dare County Attainment Goal: 5,559 (57%)**

### Population Spotlight

- **2010 Census:** 33,920
- **2020 Census:** 36,915
- **Change:** 2,995

### Growth Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Median Household Income (2020)</th>
<th>10.7% Child Poverty Rate (2020)</th>
<th>94% Households with Broadband (2020)</th>
<th>77% Home Owners (2020)</th>
<th>86% Voter Registration Rate (2021)</th>
<th>6.0% Unemployment Rate (2021)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$72,962</td>
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### Educational Attainment

- **No Degree:** 3,356 (43.0%)
- **Have Degree or Credential:** 4,454 (57.0%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than high school</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate (including GED)</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, no credential</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-term credential</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree</td>
<td>26%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate or professional degree</td>
<td>11%</td>
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Note: Numbers may add to more than 100% due to rounding.

### Top Opportunities for Growth

- **Adult Learners:** 17% of Dare County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the state average of 15%.
- **Opportunity Youth:** 15% of Dare County youth ages 16-24 are not working and not in school, above the state average of 12%.

### Impact of Covid-19 on Education Pipeline

- **K-12 Enrollment (district schools):** -2.9% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20, -13.6% 2021 vs. 2020
- **FAFSA Completion:** -13.3% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19, -10.5% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

### Data Disruptions

- **College-and-Career-Ready in Reading**
- **College-and-Career-Ready in Math**
- **Chronic Absenteeism**

### How students in Dare County traditional schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, each year Dare County needs:

- **Pre-K enrollment:** Goal: 75% (2022)
- **3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5):** Goal: 73% (2022)
- **3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5):** Goal: 86% (2022)
- **93% of 9th graders graduate within four years:** Goal: 95% (2021)
- **20% of students are chronically absent from school:** Goal: 11% (2021)

- **5,850 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Dare County in the 2021-22 school year.**

Note: This profile focuses on outcomes of students enrolled in district schools.

### School Choice

- **385 high school students took at least one AP course:** Goal: 23% versus 7% in peer counties (2021)

Students in Dare County completed 136 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; and Hospitality & Tourism.

### Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Dare County, 2021

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

**Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020**

- 50% of college-goers attended a **public 4-year college**
- 14% of college-goers attended a **private 4-year college**
- 35% of college-goers attended a **public 2-year college**
- <5% of college-goers attended a **private 2-year college**
- 85% of college-goers attended an **in-state college**

- 82% of students who enroll **persist to their second year** versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
- 62% of students who enroll **earn a degree or credential** within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2021

### Adult Learners

**Dare County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>49</th>
<th>Basic Skills</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>375</td>
<td>Continuing Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>750</td>
<td>Curriculum</td>
</tr>
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</table>

- 7% of Dare County residents have student loan debt; 8% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

### In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

**70.0%**

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

**Top areas of misalignment:**

- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics (below bachelor’s)
- Health Science (bachelor’s)
- Business Management & Administration (bachelor’s)

**13** Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

### UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

- 632 graduates in 2020
- 62% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
- $33,554 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

### In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:

- 3,785 in Basic Services
- 2,643 in Career Services
- 293 in Education Services

- 13.0% of young adults ages 16-24 in Dare County were not working and not in school versus 15.2% 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 Dare County has been meeting local needs:**

[https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Dare](https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Dare)