Durham County
myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles

Population Spotlight
2020 Census: 324,849
2022 Estimate: 332,680
Change: 7,831

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Growth Rate
2.4% vs. 2.5%

County
State

Median Household Income (2022)
$79,524
$67,516

Home Owners (2022)
55%
67%

Child Poverty Rate (2022)
17.1%
17.2%

Opportunity Youth Rate (2021)
10.1%

Households with Broadband (2022)
80%
77%

Unemployment Rate (2022)
3.2%
3.7%

Educational Attainment
Durham County residents ages 25-44, 2022

No Degree
29,215
27.9%

Have Degree or Credential
75,574
72.1%

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

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

NC Pre-K Enrollment
30% of Durham County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the urban county average of 41%.

Chronic Absenteeism
41% of Durham County students are chronically absent from school, above the urban county average of 31%.

Math Performance
30% of Durham County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the urban county average of 39%.

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

In Raleigh-Durham Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:
76.5%
of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

5,347
Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:
19,047 graduates in 2020
65% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
$50,028 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

59% of adults (ages 25-44) in Durham County earned a family sustaining wage, 2022

Durham County is served by:
Durham Workforce Development Board
Central Pines Council of Governments

LAbor Market Alignment

Durham County 2024 Attainment Profile

Degree Credentials Awarded, 2022
- 5,278 certificate
- 5,596 associate
- 16,200 bachelor’s

Postsecondary assets in Raleigh-Durham Prosperity Zone sub-region
- Public, 4-year or above
  - North Carolina Central University, North Carolina State University at Raleigh, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Public, 2-year
  - Central Carolina Community College, Durham Technical Community College, Johnston Community College, Piedmont Community College, Vance-Granville Community College, Wake Technical Community College
- Private not-for-profit, 4-year or above
  - Campbell University, Duke University, Heritage Bible College, Meredith College, Saint Augustine’s University, Shaw University, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Southeastern Free Will Baptist Bible College, Watts School of Nursing, William Peace University
- Private not-for-profit, 2-year
  - Lousburg College

Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023
- 4,755 of all college-goers attended Durham TCC
- 1,108 of all college-goers attended Wake TCC
- 325 of all college-goers attended Duke University

How students in Durham County traditional schools are doing:
- 30% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program, compared to 53% statewide; 806 more needed to meet state goal of 80%.
- 42% of 9th graders graduate within four years, compared to 87% statewide; 295 more needed to meet state goal of 95%.
- 41% of students are chronically absent from school, compared to 32% statewide, 10,045 less needed to meet state goal of 11%.
- Durham County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 259:1 versus 286:1 in peer counties.
- 4% of students drop out of high school (492 total students), compared to 2% statewide.

Adult Learners
- Durham County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2022
  - 829 Basic Skills
  - 4,390 Continuing Education
  - 3,940 Curriculum
- 21% of Durham County residents have student loan debt; 8% of debt holders had student loans in default.

How students in Durham County traditional schools are doing:
- 61% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2023, compared to 62% statewide; 405 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of 80%.
- 69% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 81% in peer counties.
- 53% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 64% in peer counties.
- 45% of Durham County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 38% in peer counties.

Access to Postsecondary Credits
- Students in Durham County completed 822 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (industry-valued credential data available in Spring 2024) and 900 concentrations in 2022. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics; Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; and Hospitality & Tourism.
- 1,926 high school students took at least one AP course (19%) versus 24% in peer counties.
- 580 high school students participated in Career & College Promise programs (13%) versus 12% in peer counties.

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