Durham County

myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles

2030 Proposed Durham County Attainment Goal: 73,098 (Stretch Goal: 73,537)

Population Spotlight

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

Growth Rate

2.4% County vs. 2.5% State

$79,524 Median Household Income (2022) 55% Home Owners (2022) 17.1% Child Poverty Rate (2022) 9.7% Opportunity Youth Rate (2022) 80% Households with Broadband (2022) 3.2% Unemployment Rate (2022)

Local Education Agencies: 1 (2023)
Charter Schools: 16 (2023)

2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

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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
37% of Durham County students are chronically absent from school, above the urban county average of 28%.

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

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Durham County 2024 Attainment Profile

Updated: Jul 22 2024

**Adult Learners**

**Raleigh-Durham Sub-Prosperity Zone post-secondary enrollments in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2022**

- 3,247 Basic Skills
- 29,217 Continuing Education
- 9,377 Curriculum

21% of Durham County residents have student loan debt. 8% of debt holders had student loans in default.

**Success of Durham County High School Graduates**

- 83% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 86% in peer counties. 2022
- 55% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years versus 62% in peer counties. 2022

**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

- 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. 2022
- 53% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 64% in peer counties. 2022

41% of Durham County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 37% in peer counties.

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

![Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Durham County, 2022](image)

Note: Outcomes for groups with less than 10 students, <5% or >95% are not displayed.

**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 75%.
- 28% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading, compared to 30% statewide; 7,787 more needed to meet state goal of 73%.
- 30% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math, compared to 35% statewide; 7,496 more needed to meet state goal of 86%.
- 84% of 9th graders graduate within four years, compared to 87% statewide; 295 more needed to meet state goal of 95%.
- 37% of students are chronically absent from school, compared to 27% statewide; 8,702 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 (471 total students), compared to 2% statewide.

**School Choice**

51,227 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Durham County in the 2022-23 school year.

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

**Access to Postsecondary Credits**

Students in Durham County completed 1,669 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (362 (22%) were industry-valued credentials) and 837 concentrations in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications.

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

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