Franklin County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Franklin County Attainment Goal: 12,495 (61%)

Population Spotlight

2010 Census: 60,619
2020 Census: 68,573
Change: 7,954

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Growth Rate
13.1% vs. 9.5%

Median Household Income (2020)
$54,868

Child Poverty Rate (2020)
18.1%

Households with Broadband (2020)
85%

Home Owners (2020)
73%

Voter Registration Rate (2021)
78%

Unemployment Rate (2021)
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Raleigh-Durham
Prosperity Zone Sub-Region
Peer County Type: Rural Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1
Charter Schools: 2

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Educational Attainment
Franklin County residents ages 25-44, 2020

No Degree
54.3%
8,906

Have Degree or Credential
45.7%
7,508

Less than high school
13%

High school graduate (including GED)
24%

Some college, no credential
18%

Short-term credential
8%

Associate degree
14%

Bachelors degree
18%

Graduate or professional degree
6%

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

NC Pre-K Enrollment
46% of Franklin County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 59%.

Postsecondary Completion
49% of Franklin County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary earn a degree or credential within 6 years, below the rural metro county average of 57%.

High School Graduation
81% of Franklin County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural metro county average of 87%.

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

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)
-1.7%
2021-22 vs. 2019-20

Postsecondary Enrollment
-14.1%
2021 vs. 2020

FAFSA Completion
-9.7%
2021-22 vs. 2018-19

Postsecondary Intentions
-7.8%
2020-21 vs. 2018-19

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

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

- 103 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 46%). 2022
- 1,877 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 20%). 2022
- 2,239 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 23%). 2022
- 93 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 81%). 2021
- 1,579 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 32%). 2021

Franklin County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 383:1 versus 362:1 in peer counties. 2021

- 54% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2022. (150 more need to complete in 2022 to meet state goal of 80%).
https://www.myfuturenc.org/ourwork/first-in-fafsa/

- 69% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 69% in peer counties. 2021

- 47% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 49% in peer counties. 2021

57% of Franklin County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 58% in peer counties.

School Choice
10,893 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Franklin County in the 2021-22 school year.

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

Career and College Preparation
236 high school students took at least one AP course (9%) versus 9% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Franklin County completed 298 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations included Architecture and Construction; Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Franklin County, 2021

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

Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020

- 36% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 15% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 44% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
- <5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
- 94% of college-goers attended an in-state college

- 71% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
- 49% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 57% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners

Franklin County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021

- 68 Basic Skills
- 756 Continuing Education
- 1,305 Curriculum

16% of Franklin County residents have student loan debt; 14% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

78.8% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

Top areas of misalignment:
- Health Science (below bachelor’s)
- Business Management & Administration (bachelor’s)
- Information Technology (bachelor’s)

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)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:

- 5,026 in Basic Services
- 2,166 in Career Services
- 109 in Education Services

17.6% of young adults ages 16-24 in Franklin 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 Franklin County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Franklin

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