Guilford County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Guilford County Attainment Goal: 112,787 (66%)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 488,406
2020 Census: 541,299
Change: 52,893

Greensboro Prosperity Zone Sub-Region
Peer County Type: Urban
Local Education Agencies: 1
Charter Schools: 14

Updated: Dec 08 2022

Educational Attainment
Guilford County residents ages 25-44, 2020

- No Degree: 43.9% (60,827)
- Have Degree or Credential: 56.1% (77,874)

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

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

Math Performance
28% of Guilford County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the urban county average of 35%.

Reading Performance
26% of Guilford County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the urban county average of 32%.

First-Year Persistence
76% of Guilford County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the urban county average of 81%.

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

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)
-4.8% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20

Postsecondary Enrollment
-4.6% 2021 vs. 2020

FAFSA Completion
-3.7% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19

Postsecondary Intentions
-9.2% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

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

How students in Guilford County traditional schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, each year Guilford County needs:
• 167 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 70%). 2022
• 14,168 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 26%). 2022
• 17,734 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 28%). 2022
• 212 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 91%). 2021
• 10,388 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 27%). 2021

Guilford County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 298:1 versus 294:1 in peer counties. 2021

• 62% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2022. (916 more need to complete in 2022 to meet state goal of 80%).
  https://www.myfuturenc.org/ourwork/first-in-fafsa/
• 75% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 81% in peer counties. 2021
• 60% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 62% in peer counties. 2021

48% of Guilford County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 40% in peer counties.

Career and College Preparation
4,993 high school students took at least one AP course (23%) versus 25% in peer counties (2021).

1,235 graduates participated in Career & College Promise programs (23%) versus 17% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Guilford County completed 2,142 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics; and Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Guilford County, 2021

Note: Outcomes for demographic groups with fewer than 10 students are not displayed.
Guilford County 2022 Attainment Profile

Success of Guilford County High School Graduates

Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020
- 57% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 14% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 28% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
- <5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
- 91% of college-goers attended an in-state college
- 76% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 81% in peer counties. 2021
- 58% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 62% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners

Guilford County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021
- 1,183 Basic Skills
- 3,793 Continuing Education
- 9,219 Curriculum
- 21% of Guilford County residents have student loan debt; 12% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

85.2% 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 (below bachelor’s and bachelor’s)
- Business Management & Administration (bachelor’s)

891 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:
- 8,468 graduates in 2020
- 73% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
- $41,353 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:
- 15,259 in Basic Services
- 7,732 in Career Services
- 807 in Education Services
- 9.8% of young adults ages 16-24 in Guilford County were not working and not in school versus 9.2% in peer counties. 2019

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