Haywood County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Haywood County Attainment Goal: 10,766 (70%)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 59,036
2020 Census: 62,089
Change: 3,053 (5.2%)

Growth Rate
5.2% vs. 9.5% State

Median Household Income (2020)
$50,492

Child Poverty Rate (2020)
20.9%

Households with Broadband (2020)
79%

Home Owners (2020)
73%

Voter Registration Rate (2021)
79%

Unemployment Rate (2021)
4.2%

Waynesville-Franklin
Prosperity Zone Sub-Region
Peer County Type: Rural Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1
Charter Schools: 1

Educational Attainment
Haywood County residents ages 25-44, 2020

No Degree
50.8% 7,011

Have Degree or Credential
49.2% 6,801

Less than high school
13%

High school graduate (including GED)
22%

Some college, no credential
16%

Short-term credential
8%

Associate degree
15%

Bachelor's degree
19%

Graduate or professional degree
8%

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

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

NC Pre-K Enrollment
48% of Haywood County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural metro county average of 59%.

FAFSA Completion
50% of Haywood County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural metro county average of 54%.

First-Year Persistence
69% of Haywood County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural metro county average of 73%.

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

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)
-7.7% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20

Postsecondary Enrollment
-3.3% 2021 vs. 2020

FAFSA Completion
-24.6% 2022-23 vs. 2018-19

Postsecondary Intentions
-5.3% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

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

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

- 83 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 48%). 2022
- 1,104 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 35%). 2022
- 1,267 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 43%). 2022
- 31 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 90%). 2021
- 583 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 20%). 2021

Haywood County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 394:1 versus 362:1 in peer counties. 2021

Notes:
- 50% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2022. (154 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
- 53% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 49% in peer counties. 2021
- 54% of Haywood County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 58% in peer counties.

School Choice
8,479 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Haywood County in the 2021-22 school year.

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

Career and College Preparations
159 high school students took at least one AP course (8%) versus 9% in peer counties (2021).

220 graduates participated in Career & College Promise programs (42%) versus 43% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Haywood County completed 405 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Manufacturing; and Architecture and Construction.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Haywood County, 2021

Notes:
- Outcomes for demographic groups with fewer than 10 students are not displayed.
Success of Haywood County High School Graduates
Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020
• 41% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
• 9% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
• 49% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
• <5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
• 86% of college-goers attended an in-state college

• 69% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
• 60% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 57% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners
Haywood County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021
57 Basic Skills
1,125 Continuing Education
1,277 Curriculum

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

In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:
81.2% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

Top areas of misalignment:
Health Science (all levels)
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics (below bachelor’s)
Education & Training (above bachelor’s)

15 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:
3,111 graduates in 2020
69% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
$41,526 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:
6,126 in Basic Services
3,913 in Career Services
212 in Education Services

13.5% of young adults ages 16-24 in Haywood 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 Haywood County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Haywood

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