Henderson County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Henderson County Attainment Goal: 17,717 (62%)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 106,740
2020 Census: 116,281
Change: 9,541

Growth Rate
8.9% vs. 9.5%
County State

2020 Median Household Income
$60,550
Child Poverty Rate (2020)
17.1%
Households with Broadband (2020)
88%
Home Owners (2020)
74%
Voter Registration Rate (2021)
82%
Unemployment Rate (2021)
4.1%

Educational Attainment
Henderson County residents ages 25-44, 2020

No Degree
55.9%
13,911

Have Degree or Credential
44.1%
10,993

Less than high school
9%

High school graduate (including GED)
27%

Some college, no credential
20%

Short-term credential
8%

Associate degree
10%

Bachelor's degree
18%

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 Henderson County to improve future attainment outcomes.

FAFSA Completion
52% of Henderson County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the suburban county average of 57%.

School Counselors
Henderson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 387:1, above the suburban county average of 336:1.

Adult Learners
20% of Henderson County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the suburban county average of 17%.

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

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)
-5.0% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20

Postsecondary Enrollment
-3.9% 2021 vs. 2020

FAFSA Completion
-6.2% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19

Postsecondary Intentions
-7.2% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

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

How students in Henderson County traditional schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, each year Henderson County needs:
• 125 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 49%). 2022
• 2,288 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 33%). 2022
• 2,811 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 37%). 2022
• 29 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 92%). 2021
• 827 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 17%). 2021

Henderson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 387:1 versus 336:1 in peer counties. 2021

Career and College Preparation
426 high school students took at least one AP course (10%) versus 15% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Henderson County completed 508 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Architecture and Construction; and Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Henderson County, 2021

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

Success of Henderson County High School Graduates

Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020

- 40% 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
- 87% of college-goers attended an in-state college

- 79% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 77% in peer counties. 2021
- 63% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 60% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners

Henderson County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021

- 213 Basic Skills
- 2,013 Continuing Education
- 2,282 Curriculum

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

In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

71.6% 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)
- Finance (bachelor’s)

- 636 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020
- 3,023 graduates in 2020
- 69% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
- $35,824 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:

- 7,566 in Basic Services
- 3,523 in Career Services
- 260 in Education Services

- 10.0% of young adults ages 16-24 in Henderson County were not working and not in school versus 11.2% 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 Henderson County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Henderson

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