Johnston County

myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles

Population Spotlight
2020 Census: 215,991
2022 Estimate: 234,778
Change: 18,787

Growth Rate
8.7% vs. 2.5%
County State

$80,612 Median Household Income (2022)
State: $67,516

77% Home Owners (2022)
State: 67%

14.8% Child Poverty Rate (2022)
State: 17.2%

12.1% Opportunity Youth Rate (2021)
State: 12.1%

68% Households with Broadband (2022)
State: 77%

3.3% Unemployment Rate (2022)
State: 3.7%

2030 Proposed Johnston County Attainment Goal: 40,244 (Stretch Goal: 40,807)
2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

Educational Attainment
Johnston County residents ages 25-44, 2022

No Degree
27,676 48.2%

Have Degree or Credential
29,790 51.8%

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

Earning College Credit in High School
5% of Johnston County graduates participated in Career & College Promise programs, below the suburban county average of 23%. Also, 7% of high school students took at least one AP exam, below the peer county average of 14%.

NC Pre-K Enrollment
32% of Johnston County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 45%.

School Counselors
Johnston County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 407:1, above the suburban county average of 327:1.

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 Johnston County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Johnston

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)

56% of adults (ages 25-44) in Johnston County earned a family sustaining wage, 2022

Johnston County is served by:
Capital Area Workforce Development Board
Central Pines Council of Governments

2020 census data sourced from American Community Survey; all other data sourced from North Carolina Department of Commerce, Office of Strategic Planning and Performance.

First-time Curriculum Enrollments

Top Employers in Johnston County

Top 3 Employers in Johnston County

Johnston County Public Schools 1000+
Johnston Health 1000+
Industries Lp 1000+

Basic Skills

Continuing Education
Johnston County 2024 Attainment Profile

Johnston County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2022
- 435 Basic Skills
- 5,145 Continuing Education
- 5,219 Curriculum

15% of Johnston County residents have student loan debt. 6% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2022

Success of Johnston County High School Graduates
- 84% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 82% in peer counties. 2022
- 61% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years versus 60% in peer counties. 2022

Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023
- 4,942 of all college-goers attended Johnston CC
- 1,786 of all college-goers attended Wake TCC
- 262 of all college-goers attended Wayne CC

- 59% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2023, compared to 62% statewide; 591 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of 80%. 2023
- 72% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 73% in peer counties. 2022
- 56% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% in peer counties. 2022

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

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