Jones County

**2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)**  
**2030 Proposed Jones County Attainment Goal: 1,051 (38%)**

### Population Spotlight
- **2010 Census:** 9,172  
- **2020 Census:** 10,153  
  - Change: 981

### Growth Rate
- **County:** -9.7%  
- **State:** 9.5%

### Key Figures
- **Median Household Income (2020):** $44,972  
- **Child Poverty Rate (2020):** 23.6%  
- **Households with Broadband (2020):** 78%  
- **Home Owners (2020):** 74%  
- **Voter Registration Rate (2021):** 76%  
- **Unemployment Rate (2021):** 4.2%

### Educational Attainment
- **Jones County residents ages 25-44, 2021:**
  - **No Degree:** 69.0%  
  - **Have Degree or Credential:** 31.0%

### Top Opportunities for Growth
- **Chronic Absenteeism:** 46% of Jones County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural metro county average of 29%.
- **First-Year Persistence:** 62% of Jones County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural metro county average of 73%.
- **Transition to Postsecondary:** 38% of Jones County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural metro county average of 49%.

### Impact of Covid-19 on Education Pipeline
- **K-12 Enrollment (district schools):** -5.3%  
  - 2021-22 vs. 2019-20
- **Postsecondary Enrollment:** -20.6%  
  - 2021 vs. 2020

### Data Disruptions
- **College-and-Career-Ready in Reading:** 9%  
- **College-and-Career-Ready in Math:** 43%

### How students in Jones County traditional schools are currently doing:
- To meet state goals, each year Jones County needs:
  - **1,274** No Degree
  - **59%** of Jones County students have completed the FAFSA in 2022; 13 more need to complete in 2022 to meet state goal of 80%.  
  - **575** Home Owners
  - **31 graduates** participated in Career & College Promise programs (46%) versus 43% in peer counties (2021).  

### School Choice
- 1,188 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Jones County in the 2021-22 school year.
- Note: This profile focuses on outcomes of students enrolled in district schools.

### Career and College Preparation
- Fewer than 10 high school students took at least one AP course (<5%) versus 9% in peer counties (2021).
- Students in Jones County completed 74 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Architecture and Construction.

### Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Jones County, 2021
- Note: Outcomes for demographic groups with fewer than 10 students are not displayed.

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For more information, visit [ncdemography.org](https://ncdemography.org).
Jones County 2022 Attainment Profile

Success of Jones County High School Graduates

Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020
- 42% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 10% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 47% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
- <5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
- 93% of college-goers attended an in-state college
- 62% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
- 48% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 57% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners

Jones County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021
- 17 Basic Skills
- 248 Continuing Education
- 211 Curriculum
- 17% of Jones County residents have student loan debt; 11% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

54.7% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

Top areas of misalignment:
- Health Science (all levels)
- Business Management & Administration (bachelor’s)
- Education & Training (bachelor’s)

201 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:
- 1,967 graduates in 2020
- 56% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
- $36,955 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:
- 11,622 in Basic Services
- 5,489 in Career Services
- 674 in Education Services
- 16.7% of young adults ages 16-24 in Jones County were not working and not in school versus 15.2% in peer counties. 2019

Impact of Covid-19 on NC Community College Enrollment

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

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