2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Lincoln County Attainment Goal: 14,161 (60%)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 78,265
2020 Census: 86,810
Change: 8,545

Growth Rate
10.9% vs. 9.5% County vs. State

$56,183 Median Household Income (2020)
15.5% Child Poverty Rate (2020)
89% Households with Broadband (2020)
76% Home Owners (2020)
81% Voter Registration Rate (2021)
4.1% Unemployment Rate (2021)

Educational Attainment
Lincoln County residents ages 25-44, 2020

No Degree
54.4%
10,934
Have Degree or Credential
45.6%
9,172

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

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

Opportunity Youth
16% of Lincoln County youth ages 16-24 are not working and not in school, above the suburban county average of 11%.

FAFSA Completion
56% of Lincoln County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the suburban county average of 57%.

Math Performance
42% of Lincoln County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the state goal of 86%.

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

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)
-2.2% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20

Postsecondary Enrollment
3.2% 2021 vs. 2020

FAFSA Completion
-0.5% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19

Postsecondary Intentions
-2.5% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

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

How students in Lincoln County traditional schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, each year Lincoln County needs:
• 9 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 73%), 2022
• 2,142 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 52%), 2022
• 2,280 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 42%), 2022
• 51 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 90%), 2021
• 270 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 13%), 2021

Lincoln County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 310:1 versus 336:1 in peer counties. 2021

School Choice
15,575 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Lincoln County in the 2021-22 school year.

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

Career and College Preparation
763 high school students took at least one AP course (22%) versus 15% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Lincoln County completed 467 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Manufacturing; and Human Services.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Lincoln County, 2021

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

Success of Lincoln County High School Graduates

Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020

• 42% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
• 13% 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
• 92% of college-goers attended an in-state college

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

Adult Learners

Lincoln County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021

88 Basic Skills
1,369 Continuing Education
1,734 Curriculum

12% of Lincoln County residents have student loan debt; 10% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

82.2% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

Top areas of misalignment:

Business Management & Administration (bachelor’s)
Information Technology (bachelor’s)
Finance (bachelor’s)

4,230 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

12,495 graduates in 2020
74% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
$45,387 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:

16,131 in Basic Services
7,386 in Career Services
506 in Education Services

16.1% of young adults ages 16-24 in Lincoln County were not working and not in school versus 11.2% in peer counties. 2019

Impact of Covid-19 on NC Community College Enrollment

Curriculum

First-time Curriculum Enrollments

Basic Skills

Continuing Education

Number of Lincoln County residents employed, January 2020 to March 2022

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

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