Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8
High-quality early learning and strong academic progress in early years helps prepare children for future success.
Lincoln County has 20 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, 1 or 5% were classified as low performing in 2019.

Ready for College & Career
High school completion is a crucial step on the pathway to postsecondary success or the beginnings of a career. Activities that prepare students to navigate the transition to postsecondary include gaining experience in college-level coursework and applying for financial assistance.

Postsecondary Access and Success
These metrics capture student progression and educational attainment from high school graduation to postsecondary completion. They indicate relative strengths and weaknesses of Lincoln County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.
Lincoln County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 334:1.

Labor Market Outcomes
Lack of technical skills and lack of education are among the primary reasons why NC employers struggle to fill vacancies. These metrics capture labor market outcomes among recent graduates, the alignment between postsecondary degree production and labor market demand, and future job demands.
8.2% of teens ages 16-19 are not working and not in school versus 6.8% of peer counties.

Opportunities for Growth
Compared to suburban counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Lincoln County to improve future attainment outcomes.

How students in Lincoln County traditional public schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, Lincoln County needs:
- 126 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 45%).
- 1,042 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 53%).
- 1,937 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 49%).

To meet state goals, Lincoln County needs:
- 40 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 91%).
- 241 more seniors to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 91%).
- 219 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 13%).

Students in Lincoln County completed 395 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Hospitality & Tourism; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:
- 3,322 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 12,019 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 64,398 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

There are 1,361,336 job openings projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of $50,000 or more are: 1) Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products; 2) General and Operations Managers; 3) Registered Nurses.

INTRODUCTION
From birth to career, there are many opportunities to develop strategies and interventions to increase attainment and improve workforce alignment. Below are some key areas and indicators that highlight where interventions may be possible to improve overall educational attainment outcomes.

COUNTY OVERVIEW
Lincoln County is in the Charlotte Prosperity Zone sub-region. It’s one of 16 suburban counties in NC. Overall, 8% of 25-44-year-olds in Lincoln County have earned a master’s degree or higher as their highest degree; 16% have a bachelor’s degree; 11% have an associate degree; 23% have some college, no degree; 30% have a high school diploma; and 12% have less than a high school diploma.

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile
Lincoln County

2018 Population 84,751
2030 Population 99,743
K-12 Students (2019) 11,344
Traditional Schools 3,375
Charter/Private/Home $62,963
Median Household Income 15%
Child Poverty Rate Households with Broadband 79%
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>107,538</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>29,552</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Charlotte</td>
<td>27,078</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowan-Cabarrus Community College</td>
<td>7,939</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaston College</td>
<td>7,333</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Community College</td>
<td>4,188</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Piedmont Community College</td>
<td>3,935</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Community College</td>
<td>3,883</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanly Community College</td>
<td>3,837</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wingate University</td>
<td>2,729</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner-Webb University</td>
<td>2,454</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson &amp; Wales University-Charlotte</td>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens University of Charlotte</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out.
- Detailed data guidance is provided at [http://go.unc.edu/countydata](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

### Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: Lincoln County School of Technology
Lincoln County School of Technology provides students with a central location to take specialized CTE courses that are not available at all of the four high schools, including Nursing, Automotive, Computer Programming, Firefighting Technology, Drafting (Engineering and Architecture), Carpentry, Adobe Academy, and Multimedia and Web Page Design.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you’d like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

### For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

### ABOUT CAROLINA DEMOGRAPHY
Located within the Carolina Population Center at UNC-Chapel Hill, we use data and other available research to help you put a face or a story on the population-level changes facing your community. Our analysts provide a full array of demographic data and research services to inform decision making, evaluation, and policy across North Carolina, where we serve organizations and people in all 100 counties.

- [ncdemography.org](http://ncdemography.org)
- [demography@unc.edu](mailto:demography@unc.edu)
- [@ncdemography](https://twitter.com/@ncdemography)

### ABOUT MYFUTURENC
MyFutureNC is a statewide nonprofit organization focused on educational attainment and is the result of cross-sector collaboration between North Carolina leaders in education, business, and government. Our mission is to prepare North Carolina for the future by empowering individuals, strengthening communities, and ensuring our economic viability in a global economy.

- [myfuturenc.org](http://myfuturenc.org)
- [facebook.com/myfuturenc](http://facebook.com/myfuturenc)
- [@myFutureNC](https://twitter.com/@myFutureNC)