**Mecklenburg County**

**2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)**

**2030 Proposed Mecklenburg County Attainment Goal: 299,257 (74%)**

### Population Spotlight

- **2010 Census:** 919,628
- **2020 Census:** 1,115,482
- **Change:** 195,854

### Educational Attainment

- **Mecklenburg County residents ages 25-44, 2021**
  - **No Degree:** 33.0% (115,276)
  - **Have Degree or Credential:** 67.0% (233,880)

### Top Opportunities for Growth

- **NC Pre-K Enrollment**
  - 30% of Mecklenburg County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the urban county average of 40%.

- **FAFSA Completion**
  - 58% of Mecklenburg County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the urban county average of 62%.

### Impact of Covid-19 on Education Pipeline

- **K-12 Enrollment (district schools)**
  - -4.4% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20
- **Postsecondary Enrollment**
  - -7.2% 2021 vs. 2020

### School Choice

- **193,390 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Mecklenburg County in the 2021-22 school year.**

### Career and College Preparation

- **10,663 high school students took at least one AP course (25%) versus 25% in peer counties (2018-19).**
- **1,626 graduates participated in Career & College Promise programs (17%) versus 17% in peer counties (2021).**

### Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Mecklenburg County, 2021

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

Success of Mecklenburg County High School Graduates

Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020

- 51% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 14% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 34% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
- <5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
- 82% of college-goers attended an in-state college

- 79% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 81% in peer counties. 2021
- 59% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 62% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners

Mecklenburg County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021

- Basic Skills: 2,788
- Continuing Education: 5,067
- Curriculum: 15,523

20% of Mecklenburg 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.

- 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:

- Basic Services: 23,005
- Career Services: 9,901
- Education Services: 841

10.0% of young adults ages 16-24 in Mecklenburg County were not working and not in school versus 9.2% 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 Mecklenburg County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Mecklenburg

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