**Mitchell County**

*myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles*

**2030 Proposed Mitchell County Attainment Goal: 2,251 (Stretch Goal: 2,281)**

**Population Spotlight**

- 2020 Census: 14,906
- 2022 Estimate: 15,094
- Change: 188

**Growth Rate**

- 1.3% County
- vs. 2.5% State

**Education Attainment**

Mitchell County residents ages 25-44, 2022

- **No Degree**: 1,911 (59.3%)
- **Have Degree or Credential**: 1,313 (40.7%)

**Top Opportunities for Growth**

These three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Mitchell County to improve future attainment outcomes.

- **NC Pre-K Enrollment**: <5% of Mitchell County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural - non-metro county average of 68%.
- **Adult Learners**: 28% of Mitchell County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural - non-metro county average of 16%.
- **School Counselors**: Mitchell County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 426:1, above the rural - non-metro county average of 325:1.

**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 Mitchell County has been meeting local needs:


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**Economic and Labor Market**

- **Median Household Income (2022)**: $53,555
- **Home Owners (2022)**: 79% State: 67%
- **Child Poverty Rate (2022)**: 13.9% State: 17.2%
- **Opportunity Youth Rate (2022)**: 5.5% State: 10.9%
- **Households with Broadband (2022)**: 61% State: 77%
- **Unemployment Rate (2022)**: 4.2% State: 3.7%

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8% of Mitchell County residents have student loan debt. 0% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2022

Success of Mitchell County High School Graduates

- 81% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% in peer counties. 2022
- 65% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2022

Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023

- 581 of all college-goers attended Mayland CC
- 82 of all college-goers attended McDowell TCC
- 44 of all college-goers attended Asheville-Buncombe TCC

Access to Postsecondary Credits

Students in Mitchell County completed 617 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (254 (41%) were industry-valued credentials) and 176 concentrations in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Health Science; and Architecture and Construction.

52 high school students took at least one AP test (9%) versus 8% in peer counties (2023).

100 high school students participated in Career & College Promise programs (75%) versus 51% in peer counties (2023).