Montgomery County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Montgomery County Attainment Goal: 2,792 (40%)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 27,798
2020 Census: 25,751
Change: -2,047

Population vs. County
-7.4% vs. 9.5%

Growth Rate
$48,522 Median Household Income (2020)
23.9% Child Poverty Rate (2020)
73% Home Owners (2020)
73% Voter Registration Rate (2021)
4.7% Unemployment Rate (2021)

Education Attainment
Montgomery County residents ages 25-44, 2020
No Degree 65.8% 3,854
Have Degree or Credential 34.2% 2,001

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

First-Year Persistence
64% of Montgomery County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural non-metro county average of 73%.

Transition to Postsecondary
42% of Montgomery County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 50%.

FAFSA Completion
47% of Montgomery County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural non-metro county average of 55%.

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

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)
-6.3% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20

Postsecondary Enrollment
-8.9% 2021 vs. 2020

FAFSA Completion
-18.2% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19

Postsecondary Intentions
-20.1% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

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

How students in Montgomery County traditional schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, each year Montgomery County needs:
• Montgomery County has met the goal for Pre-K enrollment (goal: 75% vs. 105%). 2022
• 886 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 18%). 2022
• 1,055 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 21%). 2022
• 1 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 95%). 2021
• 686 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 31%). 2021

Montgomery County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 314:1 versus 318:1 in peer counties. 2021

52% of Montgomery County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 59% in peer counties.

Montgomery County students took at least one AP course (<5%) versus 7% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Montgomery County completed 87 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Manufacturing; and Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security.

Charter (3%)
District (82%)
Home (11%)
Private (3%)

School Choice
4,185 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Montgomery County in the 2021-22 school year.

Career and College Preparation
165 graduates participated in Career & College Promise programs (64%) versus 49% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Montgomery County completed 87 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Manufacturing; and Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security.

Note: Outcomes for demographic groups with fewer than 10 students are not displayed.
Success of Montgomery County High School Graduates
Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020
- 30% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 13% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 56% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
- <5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
- 95% of college-goers attended an in-state college
- 64% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
- 49% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners
Montgomery County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021
- 76 Basic Skills
- 629 Continuing Education
- 845 Curriculum
- 10% of Montgomery County residents have student loan debt; 15% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:
53.0% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

Top areas of misalignment:
- Health Science (all levels)
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics (below bachelor’s)
- Business Management & Administration (bachelor’s)

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:
- 1,663 graduates in 2020
- 71% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
- $35,097 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:
- 10,802 in Basic Services
- 5,263 in Career Services
- 467 in Education Services
- 21 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

Impact of Covid-19 on NC Community College Enrollment
- Curriculum
  - First-time Curriculum Enrollments
    - 2013: 950
    - 2015: 900
    - 2017: 850
    - 2019: 800
    - 2021: 750
  - 2013: 300
  - 2015: 300
  - 2017: 300
  - 2019: 300
  - 2021: 300

Basic Skills
- 2013: 120
- 2015: 120
- 2017: 120
- 2019: 120
- 2021: 120

Continuing Education
- 2013: 800
- 2015: 800
- 2017: 800
- 2019: 800
- 2021: 800

Number of Montgomery County residents employed, January 2020 to March 2022
- Jan: 11,000
- Feb: 11,000
- Mar: 11,000
- Apr: 11,000
- May: 11,000
- Jun: 11,000
- Jul: 11,000
- Aug: 11,000
- Sep: 11,000
- Oct: 11,000
- Nov: 11,000
- Dec: 11,000

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

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