New Hanover County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed New Hanover County Attainment Goal: 52,293 (69%)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 202,667
2020 Census: 225,702
Change: 23,035

Growth Rate
11.4% vs. 9.5% County vs. State

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Continuum</th>
<th>New Hanover County</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-12 Enrollment (district schools)</td>
<td>-3.7% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postsecondary Enrollment</td>
<td>0.0% 2021 vs. 2020</td>
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Impact of Covid-19 on Education Pipeline
Covid-19 has affected critical transition points along the education continuum.

Educational Attainment
New Hanover County residents ages 25-44, 2021

- No Degree: 34.8% 20,177
- Have Degree or Credential: 65.2% 37,721

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

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

- School Counselors
New Hanover County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 333:1, above the urban county average of 294:1.

- Adult Learners
14% of New Hanover County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the urban county average of 11%.

How students in New Hanover County traditional schools are currently doing:
To meet state goals, each year New Hanover County needs:

- 66% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program; 87 more needed to meet state goal of 75%. 2022
- 34% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading; 4,211 more needed to meet state goal of 72%. 2022
- 39% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math; 5,092 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. 2022
- 89% of 9th graders graduate within four years; 136 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. 2021
- 28% of students are chronically absent from school; 4,244 less needed to meet state goal of 11%. 2021

New Hanover County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 333:1 versus 294:1 in peer counties. 2021

School Choice
33,361 total students were enrolled in K-12 in New Hanover County in the 2021-22 school year.

Career and College Preparation
1,409 high school students took at least one AP course (18%) versus 25% in peer counties (2021).

Students in New Hanover County completed 594 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; and Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in New Hanover County, 2021

Note: Outcomes for demographic groups with fewer than 10 students are not displayed.
**Success of New Hanover County High School Graduates**

**Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020**
- 49% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 9% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 41% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
- <5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
- 90% of college-goers attended an in-state college

- 80% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 81% in peer counties. 2021
- 60% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 62% in peer counties. 2021

**Adult Learners**

New Hanover County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021
- 531 Basic Skills
- 2,370 Continuing Education
- 5,011 Curriculum

17% of New Hanover County residents have student loan debt; 11% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

**In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:**

85.4% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

- 273 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020
- 5,768 graduates in 2020
- 66% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
- $44,807 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

**UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:**

- 8,319 in Basic Services
- 4,329 in Career Services
- 501 in Education Services

10.8% of young adults ages 16-24 in New Hanover 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 New Hanover County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=New_Hanover

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