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

New Hanover County residents ages 25-44, 2020

- No Degree: 36.7% (21,897)
- Have Degree or Credential: 63.3% (37,807)

Growth Rate 11.4% vs. 9.5% County State

$65,615 Median Household Income (2020)

18.0% Child Poverty Rate (2020)

90% Households with Broadband (2020)

58% Home Owners (2020)

78% Voter Registration Rate (2021)

4.2% Unemployment Rate (2021)

Educational Attainment

New Hanover County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attainment Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than high school</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate (including GED)</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>12,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, no credential</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>9,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-term credential</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>5,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>6,367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>19,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate or professional degree</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>8,367</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Numbers may add to more than 100% due to rounding

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

- No Degree: 36.7% (21,897)
- Have Degree or Credential: 63.3% (37,807)

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

- K-12 Enrollment (district schools) -3.7% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20
- Postsecondary Enrollment -3.3% 2021 vs. 2020
- FAFSA Completion -1.5% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19
- Postsecondary Intentions 0.0% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

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:

- 87 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 66%). 2022
- 4,211 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 34%). 2022
- 5,092 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 39%). 2022
- 136 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 89%). 2021
- 4,244 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 28%). 2021

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

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.

Data Disruptions

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

ncdemography.org

Wilmington
Prosperity Zone Sub-Region
Peer County Type: Urban
Local Education Agencies: 1
Charter Schools: 8

Updated: Dec 08 2022

Note: Outcomes for demographic groups with fewer than 10 students are not displayed.

42% of New Hanover County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 40% in peer counties.
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.

Top areas of misalignment:
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics (below bachelor’s)
- Health Science (below bachelor’s)
- Finance (bachelor’s)

273 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

- 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)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:

- 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

Impact of Covid-19 on NC Community College Enrollment

Degree Credentials Awarded, 2021

- 1,154 certificate
- 1,686 associate
- 3,936 bachelor’s

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/