

# Onslow County

myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles



Jacksonville-New Bern  
Prosperity Zone Sub-Region  
**Peer County Type:** Suburban  
**Local Education Agencies:** 1 (2023)  
**Charter Schools:** 1 (2023)

2030 Proposed Onslow County Attainment Goal: 29,424 (Stretch Goal: 29,780)

2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

## Population Spotlight

2020 Census: 204,585  
2022 Estimate: 207,298  
Change: 2,713

## Growth Rate

**1.3%** County vs. **2.5%** State



**\$62,190**  
Median Household Income (2022)  
State: \$67,516



**59%**  
Home Owners (2022)  
State: 67%



**16.9%**  
Child Poverty Rate (2022)  
State: 17.2%



**9.4%**  
Opportunity Youth Rate (2021)  
State: 12.1%



**80%**  
Households with Broadband (2022)  
State: 77%



**4.3%**  
Unemployment Rate (2022)  
State: 3.7%

## Educational Attainment

Onslow County residents ages 25-44, 2022

Less than high school High school graduate (including GED) Some college, no credential Short-term credential Associate degree Bachelor's degree Graduate or professional degree



**No Degree**  
**31,567**  
54.0%



**Have Degree or Credential**  
**26,855**  
46.0%



Note: Numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding

## Top Opportunities for Growth

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



### NC Pre-K Enrollment

32% of Onslow County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the suburban county average of 45%.



### School Counselors

Onslow County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 485:1, above the suburban county average of 327:1.



### Math Performance

28% of Onslow County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the suburban county average of 36%.

## 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 Onslow County has been meeting local needs:

[https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt\\_search=Onslow](https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Onslow)

## LABOR MARKET ALIGNMENT

### In Jacksonville-New Bern Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

**54.5%**

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

#### Top areas of misalignment:

**Health Science** below bachelor's and bachelor's  
**Business Management & Administration** bachelor's  
**Education & Training** bachelor's



**201** Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

### UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

**1,967** graduates in 2020

**56%** of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021

**\$36,955** annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)



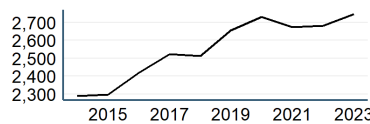
**45%** of adults (ages 25-44) in Onslow County earned a family sustaining wage, 2022

### Onslow County is served by:

**Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board**  
**Eastern Carolina Council of Governments**

### UNC System College Enrollment

#### Curriculum



### Top 3 Five-Star Jobs in Jacksonville-New Bern Prosperity Zone Sub-Region

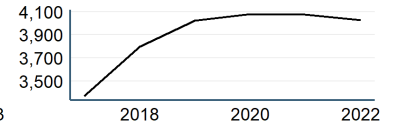
Job Title	Annual Growth
Information Security Analysts	4%
Nurse Practitioners	4%
Web and Digital Interface Designers	3%

### Top 3 Employers in Onslow County

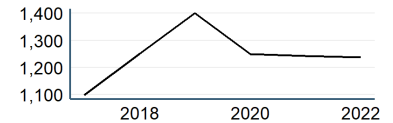
Employer	Employment Range
Defense Ex Army Navy & Air Force	1000+
Onslow County Board Of Education	1000+
Marine Corps Exchange Service	1000+

### NC Community College Enrollment

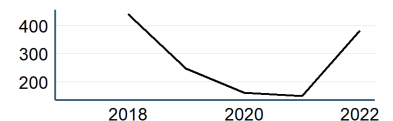
#### Curriculum



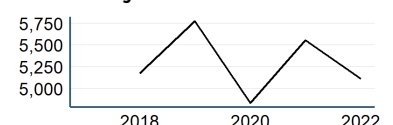
#### First-time Curriculum Enrollments



#### Basic Skills



#### Continuing Education



## Adult Learners

Onslow County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2022

384 Basic Skills  
5,110 Continuing Education  
4,026 Curriculum

15% of Onslow County residents have **student loan debt**; 10% of debt holders had **student loans in default**. 2022

## Success of Onslow County High School Graduates

- 77% of students who enroll **persist to their second year** versus 82% in peer counties. 2022
- 56% of students who enroll **earn a degree or certificate** within 6 years versus 60% in peer counties. 2022

## Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023

- 5,016 of all college-goers attended **Coastal Carolina CC**
- 535 of all college-goers attended **Cape Fear CC**
- 281 of all college-goers attended **Carteret CC**

- 54% of seniors **completed the FAFSA** in 2023, compared to 62% statewide; 436 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of 80%. 2023
- 67% of graduates reported **intentions to enroll** in a postsecondary institution versus 73% in peer counties. 2022
- 51% of graduates **enrolled in a postsecondary institution** within 12 months versus 57% in peer counties. 2022

56% of Onslow County students have **parents with no college degree** (either 2- or 4-year) versus 48% in peer counties.

## How students in Onslow County traditional schools are doing:

- 32% of eligible 4-year-olds **enrolled in NC Pre-K program**, compared to 53% statewide; 837 more needed to meet state goal of 75%. 2023
- 28% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in **reading**, compared to 30% statewide; 7,526 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. 2023
- 28% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in **math**, compared to 35% statewide; 7,474 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. 2023
- 91% of 9th graders **graduate within four years**, compared to 87% statewide; 76 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. 2023
- 32% of students are **chronically absent from school**, compared to 32% statewide; 6,149 less needed to meet state goal of 11%. 2022

Onslow County has a **student-to-school counselor ratio** of 485:1 versus 327:1 in peer counties. 2022

1% of students **drop out of high school** (99 total students), compared to 2% statewide. 2022

## Degree Credentials Awarded, 2022

1,614 certificate | 1,560 associate | 23 bachelor's

## Postsecondary assets in Jacksonville-New Bern Prosperity Zone sub-region

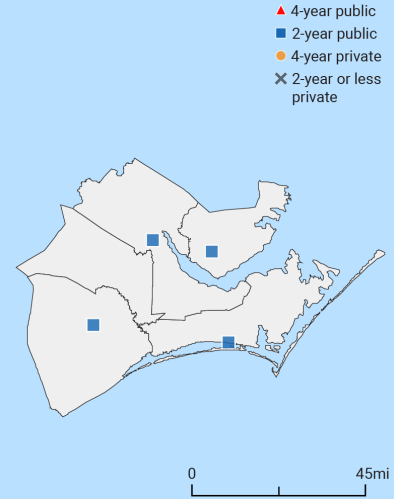
Public, 4-year or above

Public, 2-year

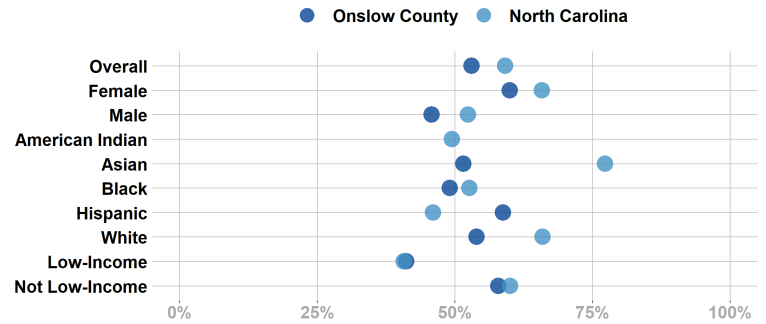
Carteret Community College, Coastal Carolina Community College, Craven Community College, Pamlico Community College

Private not-for-profit, 4-year or above

Private not-for-profit, 2-year



## Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Onslow County, 2022

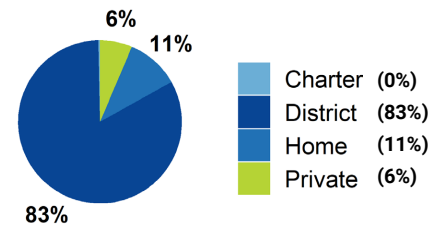


Note: Outcomes for groups with less than 10 students, <5% or >95% are not displayed.

## School Choice

33,127 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Onslow County in the 2022-23 school year.

Note: This profile focuses on outcomes of students enrolled in district schools.



## Access to Postsecondary Credits

Students in Onslow County completed 3,782 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (industry-valued credential data available in Spring 2024) and 1,264 concentrations in 2022. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Health Science; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

908 high school students took at least one **AP course** (12%) versus 14% in peer counties (2022).

667 high school students participated in **Career & College Promise programs** (20%) versus 23% in peer counties (2022).

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:

[dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/](https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/)