Orange County

myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles

Population Spotlight
2020 Census: 148,707
2022 Estimate: 150,477
Change: 1,770

Growth Rate
1.2% vs. 2.5%
County State

2023 Median Household Income
$87,780
65%
Home Owners (2022)
State: 67%

2023 Child Poverty Rate
11.2%
State: 17.2%

2023 Opportunity Youth Rate
4.7%
State: 10.9%

2023 Unemployment Rate
81%
State: 77%

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State: 10.9%

2023 Unemployment Rate
81%
State: 77%

Educational Attainment
Orange County residents ages 25-44, 2022

No Degree
6,595
19.2%

Have Degree or Credential
27,739
80.8%

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

Math Performance
49% of Orange County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the state goal of 86%.

Reading Performance
46% of Orange County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the state goal of 73%.

FAFSA Completion
68% of Orange County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the state goal of 80%.

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

In Raleigh-Durham Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:
76.5% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:
19,047 graduates in 2020
65% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
$50,028 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

5,347 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

Top areas of misalignment:
Business Management & Administration bachelor’s
Health Science below bachelor’s
Information Technology bachelor’s

Orange County is served by:
Capital Area Workforce Development Board
Central Pines Council of Governments

2030 Proposed Orange County Attainment Goal: 34,134 (Stretch Goal: 34,284)
2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

Note: Numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding
Orange County 2024 Attainment Profile

**Adult Learners**

Raleigh-Durham Sub-Prosperity Zone post-secondary enrollments in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2022

- 3,247 Basic Skills
- 29,217 Continuing Education
- 9,377 Curriculum

14% of Orange County residents have student loan debt; 4% of debt holders had student loans in default.

**Success of Orange County High School Graduates**

- 91% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 82% in peer counties. 2022
- 76% 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**

- 1,453 of all college-goers attended Durham TCC
- 608 of all college-goers attended Alamance CC
- 326 of all college-goers attended UNC_CH

- 68% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2023, compared to 62% statewide; 168 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of 80%
- 2023
- 82% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 73% in peer counties. 2022
- 70% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 57% in peer counties. 2022

23% of Orange County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 48% in peer counties.

**How students in Orange County traditional schools are doing:**

- 72% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program, compared to 53% statewide; 9 more need to complete to meet state goal of 75%.
- 2023
- 46% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading, compared to 30% statewide; 3,407 more need to meet state goal of 73%.
- 2023
- 49% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math, compared to 35% statewide; 3,176 more need to meet state goal of 86%.
- 2023
- 92% of 9th graders graduate within four years, compared to 87% statewide; 47 more needed to meet state goal of 95%.
- 2023
- 22% of students are chronically absent from school, compared to 27% statewide; 2,135 less needed to meet state goal of 11%.
- 2023

Orange County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 288:1 versus 327:1 in peer counties.

2% of students drop out of high school (114 total students), compared to 2% statewide.

**Degree Credentials Awarded, 2022**

- 5,278 certificate
- 5,596 associate
- 16,200 bachelor’s

**Postsecondary assets in Raleigh-Durham Prosperity Zone sub-region**

- Public, 4-year or above
  - North Carolina Central University, North Carolina State University at Raleigh
  - University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- Public, 2-year
  - Central Carolina Community College, Durham Technical Community College, Johnston Community College, Piedmont Community College, Vance-Granville Community College, Wake Technical Community College

- Private not-for-profit, 4-year or above
  - Campbell University, Duke University, Heritage Bible College, Meredith College, Saint Augustine’s University, Shaw University, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Southeastern Free Will Baptist Bible College, Watts School of Nursing, William Peace University

- Private not-for-profit, 2-year
  - Louisburg College

**Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Orange County, 2022**

- Overall: Orange County 68%, North Carolina 73%
- Female: Orange County 65%, North Carolina 70%
- Male: Orange County 71%, North Carolina 75%
- American Indian: Orange County 49%, North Carolina 54%
- Asian: Orange County 59%, North Carolina 63%
- Black: Orange County 84%, North Carolina 88%
- Hispanic: Orange County 55%, North Carolina 59%
- White: Orange County 51%, North Carolina 55%
- Low-Income: Orange County 62%, North Carolina 65%
- Not Low-Income: Orange County 62%, North Carolina 65%

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

**School Choice**

- 22,070 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Orange 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 Orange County completed 2,363 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (727 (31%) were industry-valued credentials) and 906 concentrations in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; Health Science; and Information Technology.

- 2,496 high school students took at least one AP test (39%) versus 15% in peer counties (2023).
- 384 high school students participated in Career & College Promise programs (26%) versus 39% in peer counties (2023).

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

**Orange County Schools | 2022-2023**

This profile is a supplement to the County Profiles

**Total Schools:** 14  **Total Students:** 7,056

### ACADEMIC READINESS

**How students in Orange County Schools are currently doing:**

- **31%** of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in **reading**, compared to **30%** statewide; 1,325 more needed to meet state goal of **73%**, 2023.
- **36%** of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in **math**, compared to **35%** statewide; 1,604 more needed to meet state goal of **86%**, 2023.
- **88%** of 9th graders graduate within four years, compared to **87%** statewide; 45 more needed to meet state goal of **95%**, 2023.
- **24%** of students are **chronically absent from school**, compared to **27%** statewide; 983 less needed to meet state goal of **11%**, 2023.

**Orange County Schools has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 271:1, 2023.**

**Access to Postsecondary Credits**

Students in Orange County Schools completed **1,138 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials** (318 (28%) were industry-valued credentials) and **407 concentrations** in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; and Human Services.

- 380 high school students took at least one AP test (16%) (2023).
- 198 high school students participated in Career & College Promise programs (35%) (2023).

### COLLEGE & CAREER ACCESS

**How students in Orange County Schools are planning for and enrolling in college:**

- **66%** of seniors **completed the FAFSA** in 2023, compared to **62%** statewide; 73 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of **80%**, 2023.
- **76%** of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution.
- **58%** of graduates **enrolled in a postsecondary institution** within 12 months.

**Postsecondary Enrollment Rates (within 12 months) for Select Groups in Orange County Schools, 2022**

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

### POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION

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

- Durham TCC
- Alamance CC
- Wake TCC
- 86% of college students **persist to their second year** of attendance.

**Percentage of students enrolled in North Carolina postsecondary institution who graduate within 6 years of enrollment, 2022**

- Orange County Schools: 65%
- North Carolina: 59%

**Observations <10 or no data available**

For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit: [dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/](http://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/)
City/District School Profile
Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools | 2022-2023
This profile is a supplement to the County Profiles

Total Schools: 21  Total Students: 11,397

ACADEMIC READINESS

How students in Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools are currently doing:

- 55% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading, compared to 30% statewide; 979 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. 2023
- 56% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math, compared to 35% statewide; 1,572 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. 2023
- Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools has met the goal for high school graduation within four years. (Goal: 95%), 2023
- 21% of students are chronically absent from school, compared to 27% statewide; 1,152 less needed to meet state goal of 11%. 2023

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 300:1. 2023

Access to Postsecondary Credits

Students in Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools completed 1,225 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (409 (33%) were industry-valued credentials) and 499 concentrations in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications; Information Technology; and Health Science.

2,116 high school students look at least one AP test (54%) (2023).
186 high school students participated in Career & College Promise programs (20%) (2023).

COLLEGE & CAREER ACCESS

How students in Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools are planning for and enrolling in college:

- 69% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2023, compared to 62% statewide; 95 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of 80%. 2023
- 85% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution. 2022
- 76% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months. 2022

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates (within 12 months) for Select Groups in Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, 2022

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

Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023

- Durham TCC
- Alamance CC
- Wake TCC
- 94% of college students persist to their second year of attendance. 2022

Percentage of students enrolled in North Carolina postsecondary institution who graduate within 6 years of enrollment, 2022

** Observations <10 or no data available

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