Richmond County

myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles

Population Spotlight
2020 Census: 42,953
2022 Estimate: 42,778
Change: -175

Growth Rate
-0.4% vs. 2.5%
County State

$44,383
Median Household Income (2022)
State: $67,516

65%
Home Owners (2022)
State: 67%

37.3%
Child Poverty Rate (2022)
State: 17.2%

17.9%
Opportunity Youth Rate (2021)
State: 12.1%

62%
Households with Broadband (2022)
State: 77%

5.0%
Unemployment Rate (2022)
State: 3.7%

Educational Attainment
Richmond County residents ages 25-44, 2022

No Degree
6,637
63.4%

Have Degree or Credential
3,824
36.6%

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

FAFSA Completion
53% of Richmond County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural - non-metro county average of 61%.

Reading Performance
19% of Richmond County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural - non-metro county average of 25%.

High School Graduation
80% of Richmond County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural - non-metro county average of 85%.

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

In Pinehurst-Rockingham Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:
52.3%
of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

Top areas of misalignment:
Health Science bachelor’s and below bachelor’s
Business Management & Administration bachelor’s
Education & Training bachelor’s

21
Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

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)

32% of adults (ages 25-44) in Richmond County earned a family sustaining wage, 2022

Lumber River Workforce Development Board
Lumber River Council of Governments

Richmond County is served by:

2030 Proposed Richmond County Attainment Goal: 4,390 (Stretch Goal: 4,497)
2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

Top Employers in Richmond County

Employer Employment Range
Richmond County Schools 1000+
Perdue Farms Incorporated 1000+
Firsthealth Of The Carolinas Inc 500-999

Top 3 Five-Star Jobs in Pinehurst-Rockingham Prosperity Zone Sub-Region

Job Title Annual Growth
Nurse Practitioners 5%
Logisticians 4%
Medical and Health Services Managers 3%

Top 3 Employers in Richmond County

Employer Employment Range
Richmond County Schools 1000+
Perdue Farms Incorporated 1000+
Firsthealth Of The Carolinas Inc 500-999

UNC System College Enrollment
Curriculum

NC Community College Enrollment
Curriculum

First-time Curriculum Enrollments

Basic Skills

Continuing Education

Labor Market Alignment

Carolina Demography

myFutureNC 2 million by 2030

John M Belk Endowment

UNC Carolina Population Center
Adult Learners
Richmond County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2022
278 Basic Skills
2,263 Continuing Education
1,395 Curriculum

10% of Richmond County residents have student loan debt; 16% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2022

Success of Richmond County High School Graduates
- 77% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% in peer counties. 2022
- 48% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2022

Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023
- 2,157 of all college-goers attended Richmond CC
- 185 of all college-goers attended Sandhills CC
- 106 of all college-goers attended South Piedmont CC

- 53% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2023, compared to 62% statewide; 108 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of 80%. 2023
- 57% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 68% in peer counties. 2022
- 48% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 52% in peer counties. 2022

57% of Richmond County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 57% in peer counties.

How students in Richmond County traditional schools are doing:
- 67% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program, compared to 53% statewide; 26 more needed to meet state goal of 75%. 2023
- 19% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading, compared to 30% statewide; 1,932 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. 2023
- 26% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math, compared to 35% statewide; 1,750 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. 2023
- 80% of 9th graders graduate within four years, compared to 87% statewide; 79 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. 2023
- 39% of students are chronically absent from school, compared to 32% statewide, 1,949 less needed to meet state goal of 11%. 2022

Richmond County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 317:1 versus 325:1 in peer counties. 2022

4% of students drop out of high school (93 total students), compared to 2% statewide. 2022

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