Robeson County

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 134,168
2020 Census: 116,530

Growth Rate
-13.2% vs. 9.5%

2030 Proposed Robeson County Attainment Goal: 14,651 (46%)
2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)

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

Educational Attainment
Robeson County residents ages 25-44, 2021

- No Degree: 68.0% (19,641)
- Have Degree or Credential: 32.0% (9,247)

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

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

Earning College Credit in High School
26% of Robeson County graduates participated in the Career & College Promise programs, below the rural non-metro county average of 49%. Also, 6% of high school students took at least one AP exam, below the peer county average of 7%.

Chronic Absenteeism
42% of Robeson County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural non-metro county average of 29%.

Math Performance
14% of Robeson County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 26%.

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

- 67% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program; 92 more needed to meet state goal of 75%. 2022
- 12% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading; 5,884 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. 2022
- 14% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math; 6,949 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. 2022
- 87% of 9th graders graduate within four years; 128 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. 2021
- 42% of students are chronically absent from school; 6,254 less needed to meet state goal of 11%. 2021

Robeson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 362:1 versus 318:1 in peer counties. 2021

- 54% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2022; 271 more need to complete in 2022 to meet state goal of 80%. 2022
- 73% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 69% in peer counties. 2021
- 44% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 50% in peer counties. 2021

71% of Robeson County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 59% in peer counties.

School Choice
22,512 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Robeson County in the 2021-22 school year.

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

Career and College Preparation
354 high school students took at least one AP course (6%) versus 7% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Robeson County completed 999 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Health Science; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Robeson County, 2021

Note: Outcomes for demographic groups with fewer than 10 students are not displayed.
Robeson County 2022 Attainment Profile

Success of Robeson County High School Graduates

Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020
- 47% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 6% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 46% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
- 5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
- 95% of college-goers attended an in-state college
- 69% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
- 44% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners
Robeson County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021
- Basic Skills: 536
- Continuing Education: 2,662
- Curriculum: 2,755
- 14% of Robeson County residents have student loan debt; 13% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

80.4% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

1,855 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:
- Graduates: 5,664
- 56% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
- $38,415 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:
- Basic Services: 10,858
- Career Services: 5,285
- Education Services: 715
- 22.0% of young adults ages 16-24 in Robeson County were not working and not in school versus 15.2% 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 Robeson County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Robeson

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