Population Spotlight

2020 Census: 116,516  
2022 Estimate: 116,663  
Change: 147

Growth Rate

County: 0.1%  
State: 2.5%

Prosperity Zone Sub-Region: 66%  
State: 67%

Peer County Type: Rural - Non-Metro

Local Educational Agencies: 1 (2023)

Charter Schools: 3 (2023)

Educational Attainment

Robeson County residents ages 25-44, 2022

No Degree: 19,141  
67.7%

Have Degree or Credential: 9,123  
32.3%

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

25% of Robeson County graduates participated in Career & College Promise programs, below the rural - non-metro county average of 51%. Also, <5% of high school students took at least one AP exam, below the peer county average of 8%.

NC Pre-K Enrollment

52% of Robeson County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural - non-metro county average of 68%.

Chronic Absenteeism

43% of Robeson County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural - non-metro county average of 29%.

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

In Fayetteville-Lumberton Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

80.5% 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:

5,664 graduates in 2020  
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)

30% of adults (ages 25-44) in Robeson County earned a family sustaining wage, 2022

Robeson County is served by:

Lumber River Workforce Development Board

Lumber River Council of Governments

Top areas of misalignment:

Business Management & Administration  
Health Science below bachelor’s  
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics below bachelor’s

Top 3 Five-Star Jobs in Fayetteville-Lumberton Prosperity Zone Sub-Region

Nurse Practitioners  
Data Scientists  
Medical and Health Services Managers

Top 3 Employers in Robeson County

Public Schools Of Robeson County  
Mountaire Farms Of NC Inc  
Southeastern Regional Medical Ctr

Robeson County 2024 Attainment Profiles

myFutureNC
Robeson County 2024 Attainment Profile

Updated: Jul 22 2024

1,281
Basic Skills

12,836
Continuing Education

5,244
Curriculum

13% of Robeson County residents have student loan debt. 13% of debt holders had student loans in default.

Success of Robeson County High School Graduates

• 73% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% in peer counties. 2022

Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023

• 3,841 of all college-goers attended Robeson CC

• 694 of all college-goers attended Fayetteville TCC

• 311 of all college-goers attended Bladen CC

59% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2023, compared to 62% statewide; 266 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of 80%.

72% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 68% in peer counties. 2022

44% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 52% in peer counties. 2022

69% of Robeson County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 55% in peer counties.

How students in Robeson County traditional schools are doing:

• 52% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program, compared to 53% statewide; 254 more needed to meet state goal of 75%. 2023

• 13% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading, compared to 30% statewide; 6,817 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. 2023

• 16% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math, compared to 35% statewide; 6,544 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. 2023

• 79% of 9th graders graduate within four years, compared to 87% statewide; 256 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. 2023

• 43% of students are chronically absent from school, compared to 27% statewide; 6,960 less needed to meet state goal of 11%. 2023

Robeson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 312:1 versus 325:1 in peer counties. 2023

3% of students drop out of high school (203 total students), compared to 2% statewide. 2023

School Choice

22,877 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Robeson 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 Robeson County completed 2,257 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (349 (15%) were industry-valued credentials) and 1,448 concentrations in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Business Management & Administration; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Human Services.

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