Sampson County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Sampson County Attainment Goal: 6,997 (45%)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 63,431
2020 Census: 59,036
Change: -4,395

Growth Rate
-6.9% vs. 9.5% County State

Educational Attainment
Sampson County residents ages 25-44, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Have Degree or Credential</th>
<th>No Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33.9%</td>
<td>66.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,937</td>
<td>9,633</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Note: Numbers may add to more than 100% due to rounding

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

High School Graduation
81% of Sampson County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural non-metro county average of 86%.

NC Pre-K Enrollment
65% of Sampson County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 68%.

School Counselors
Sampson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 345:1, above the rural non-metro county average of 318:1.

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

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)
-3.4% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20
Postsecondary Enrollment
-7.4% 2021 vs. 2020
FAFSA Completion
-4.4% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19
Postsecondary Intentions
-12.6% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

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

- 55 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 65%), 2022
- 2,500 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 22%), 2022
- 2,840 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 29%), 2022
- 123 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 81%), 2021
- 1,966 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 30%), 2021

Sampson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 345:1 versus 318:1 in peer counties. 2021

Career and College Preparation
159 high school students took at least one AP course (5%) versus 7% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Sampson County completed 635 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Sampson County, 2021

Note: Outcomes for demographic groups with fewer than 10 students are not displayed.
Success of Sampson County High School Graduates
Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020
- 34% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 16% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 50% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
- 4% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
- 95% of college-goers attended an in-state college

- 75% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
- 55% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners
Sampson County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021
288 Basic Skills
1,062 Continuing Education
1,837 Curriculum

14% of Sampson County residents have student loan debt; 11% 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.

Top areas of misalignment:
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics (below bachelor’s)
- Business Management & Administration (bachelor’s)
- Information Technology (bachelor’s)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:
5,511 in Basic Services
3,019 in Career Services
273 in Education Services

13.6% of young adults ages 16-24 in Sampson 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 Sampson County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Sampson

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