Stokes County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Stokes County Attainment Goal: 6,168 (52%)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 47,401
2020 Census: 44,520
Change: -2,881

Winston-Salem Prosperity Zone Sub-Region
Peer County Type: Rural Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1
Charter Schools: 0

Educational Attainment
Stokes County residents ages 25-44, 2020

- No Degree: 66.9% (6,549)
- Have Degree or Credential: 33.1% (3,235)

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

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

- Opportunity Youth: 17% of Stokes County youth ages 16-24 are not working and not in school, above the rural metro county average of 15%.
- First-Year Persistence: 71% of Stokes County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural metro county average of 73%.
- Transition to Postsecondary: 48% of Stokes County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural metro county average of 49%.

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

- K-12 Enrollment (district schools): -6.4% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20
- Postsecondary Enrollment: -13.8% 2021 vs. 2020
- FAFSA Completion: -4.4% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19
- Postsecondary Intentions: -3.5% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

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

- Stokes County has met the goal for Pre-K enrollment (goal: 75% vs. 103%). 2022
- 1,166 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 26%). 2022
- 1,383 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 31%). 2022
- 37 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%). 2021
- 348 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 17%). 2021

Stokes County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 282:1 versus 362:1 in peer counties. 2021

How students in Stokes County schools are currently doing:

- 120 high school students took at least one AP course (7%) versus 9% in peer counties (2021).
- 196 graduates participated in Career & College Promise programs (45%) versus 43% in peer counties (2021).
- 63% of Stokes County students completed 249 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Human Services; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

School Choice
6,571 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Stokes County in the 2021-22 school year.

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

Career and College Preparation

- 56% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2022. (108 more need to complete in 2022 to meet state goal of 80%)
  https://www.myfuturenc.org/ourwork/first-in-fafsa/
- 78% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 69% in peer counties. 2021
- 48% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 49% in peer counties. 2021

63% of Stokes County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 58% in peer counties.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Stokes County, 2021

Note: Outcomes for demographic groups with fewer than 10 students are not displayed.

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ncdemography.org
Stokes County 2022 Attainment Profile

Success of Stokes County High School Graduates

Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020
- 34% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 14% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 51% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
- <5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
- 94% of college-goers attended an in-state college

- 71% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
- 64% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 57% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners

Stokes County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021

23 Basic Skills
604 Continuing Education
913 Curriculum

10% of Stokes County residents have student loan debt; 9% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

83.2% 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)
- Health Science (below bachelor’s and bachelor’s)
- Business Management & Administration (bachelor’s)

1,224 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

4,918 graduates in 2020
78% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
$43,544 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:

12,639 in Basic Services
5,245 in Career Services
785 in Education Services

17.5% of young adults ages 16-24 in Stokes 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 Stokes County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Stokes

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