Transylvania County

NC goal: 2 million by 2030
2020 County Attainment Profile

INTRODUCTION
From birth to career, there are many opportunities to develop strategies and interventions to increase attainment and improve workforce alignment. Below are some key areas and indicators that highlight where interventions may be possible to improve overall educational attainment outcomes.

Building the Foundation: Pre-K to 8
High-quality early learning and strong academic progress in early years helps prepare children for future success.

Transylvania County has 8 public schools with performance grades. Of these schools, none were classified as low performing in 2019.

Ready for College & Career
High school completion is a crucial step on the pathway to postsecondary success or the beginnings of a career. Activities that prepare students to navigate the transition to postsecondary include gaining experience in college-level coursework and applying for financial assistance.

Postsecondary Access and Success
These metrics capture student progression and educational attainment from high school graduation to postsecondary completion. They indicate relative strengths and weaknesses of Transylvania County at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.

Labor Market Outcomes
Lack of technical skills and lack of education are among the primary reasons why NC employers struggle to fill vacancies. These metrics capture labor market outcomes among recent graduates, the alignment between postsecondary degree production and labor market demand, and future job demands.

Opportunities for Growth
Compared to rural non-metro counties and the state, these three areas represent the biggest opportunities for Transylvania County to improve future attainment outcomes.

COUNTY OVERVIEW
Transylvania County is in the Asheville Prosperity Zone sub-region. It’s one of 50 rural non-metro counties in NC.

Overall, 6% of 25-44-year-olds in Transylvania County have earned a master’s degree or higher as their highest degree; 21% have a bachelor’s degree; 6% have an associate degree; 25% have some college, no degree; 23% have a high school diploma; and 18% have less than a high school diploma.

How students in Transylvania County traditional public schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, Transylvania County needs:

- 18 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 64%).
- 334 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 51%).
- 661 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 43%).

To meet state goals, Transylvania County needs:

- 31 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 85%).
- 51 more seniors to complete the FAFSA (goal: 80% vs. 60%).
- 202 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 17%).

Students in Transylvania County completed 297 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2019. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Hospitality, Tourism; and Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications.

In your Prosperity Zone sub-region, 2018-19:

- 553 individuals served in an Apprenticeship program.
- 3,207 Basic Skills enrollments at NC community colleges.
- 22,514 Continuing Education enrollments at NC community colleges.

There are 255,306 job openings projected between 2017-2026. The top 3 in demand jobs with median wages of $50,000 or more are: 1) Registered Nurses; 2) General and Operations Managers; 3) Sales Representatives, Services, All Other.
### Largest postsecondary institutions in your Prosperity Zone sub-region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollments 2017-18</th>
<th>Graduate or Transfer in 8 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollments</td>
<td>23,862</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College</td>
<td>10,492</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina at Asheville</td>
<td>4,366</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Ridge Community College</td>
<td>2,812</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isothermal Community College</td>
<td>2,662</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mars Hill University</td>
<td>1,343</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montreat College</td>
<td>845</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brevard College</td>
<td>698</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren Wilson College</td>
<td>644</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
Enrollments reflect degree- or credential-seeking undergraduate enrollments. The graduate or transfer rate is drawn from IPEDS and represents the share of students who either graduate with a degree or credential from the institution or transfer to another institution within 8 years. The 8-year outcome is the only measure that includes information on transfer out. Detailed data guidance is provided at [http://go.unc.edu/countydata](http://go.unc.edu/countydata)

---

**Local Cross-Sector Promising Practice: High school to career pathways**

The Transylvania County School System offers high school students a variety of course and program options to accelerate their progress through high school and into higher education or on a career path. These include a variety of programs, including Dual Enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP), North Carolina School of Science and Math (NCSSM) Open Enrollment and STEM Scholars, North Carolina Governor’s School, and North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS). These options help the school system create more equitable opportunities for all students.

We identified this example of an emerging cross-sector promising practice in partnership with local leaders. If you have additional examples you’d like to share with myFutureNC, please respond to this short survey.

---

**About Carolina Demography**

Located within the Carolina Population Center at UNC-Chapel Hill, we use data and other available research to help you put a face or a story on the population-level changes facing your community. Our analysts provide a full array of demographic data and research services to inform decision making, evaluation, and policy across North Carolina, where we serve organizations and people in all 100 counties.

- [ncdemography.org](http://ncdemography.org)
- [demography@unc.edu](mailto:demography@unc.edu)
- [@ncdemography](https://twitter.com/ncdemography)

**About MyFutureNC**

MyFutureNC is a statewide nonprofit organization focused on educational attainment and is the result of cross-sector collaboration between North Carolina leaders in education, business, and government. Our mission is to prepare North Carolina for the future by empowering individuals, strengthening communities, and ensuring our economic viability in a global economy.

- [myfuturenc.org](http://myfuturenc.org)
- [facebook.com/myfuturenc](https://facebook.com/myfuturenc)
- [@myFutureNC](https://twitter.com/myFutureNC)