Vance County

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 45,422
2020 Census: 42,578
Change: -2,844

Growth Rate
-6.3% vs. 9.5%

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Vance County Attainment Goal: 6,312 (51%)

$41,935 Median Household Income (2020)
27.6% Child Poverty Rate (2020)
81% Households with Broadband (2020)
58% Home Owners (2020)
72% Voter Registration Rate (2021)
7.9% Unemployment Rate (2021)

Updated: Dec 08 2022

Raleigh-Durham
Prosperity Zone Sub-Region
Peer County Type: Rural Non-Metro
Local Education Agencies: 1
Charter Schools: 2

Educational Attainment
Vance County residents ages 25-44, 2020

No Degree
64.5%
6,505

Have Degree or Credential
35.5%
3,582

Less than high school
18%

High school graduate (including GED)
31%

Some college, no credential
15%

Short-term credential
8%

Associate degree
8%

Bachelor’s degree
14%

Graduate or professional degree
6%

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

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

Chronic Absenteeism
51% of Vance County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural non-metro county average of 29%.

Transition to Postsecondary
28% of Vance County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 50%.

First-Year Persistence
56% of Vance County high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary persist to their second year, below the rural non-metro county average of 73%.

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

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)
-3.9% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20

Postsecondary Enrollment
-23.1% 2021 vs. 2020

FAFSA Completion
-14.7% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19

Postsecondary Intentions
-25.5% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

Data Disruptions
• College-and-Career-Ready in Reading
• College-and-Career-Ready in Math
• Chronic Absenteeism

How students in Vance County traditional schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, each year Vance County needs:

• 65 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 59%). 2022
• 1,403 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 14%). 2022
• 1,760 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 12%). 2022
• 37 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 85%). 2021
• 1,989 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 51%). 2021

Vance County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 273:1 versus 318:1 in peer counties. 2021

School Choice
8,464 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Vance County in the 2021-22 school year.

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

Career and College Preparation
Fewer than 10 high school students took at least one AP course (<5%) versus 7% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Vance County completed 122 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Hospitality & Tourism; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Vance County, 2021

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

How students in Vance County traditional schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, each year Vance County needs:

• 65 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 59%). 2022
• 1,403 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 14%). 2022
• 1,760 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 12%). 2022
• 37 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 85%). 2021
• 1,989 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 51%). 2021

Vance County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 273:1 versus 318:1 in peer counties. 2021

66% of Vance County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 59% in peer counties.
Success of Vance County High School Graduates

Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020

- 43% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 12% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 42% 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

- 56% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
- 50% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners

Vance County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021

- 59 Basic Skills
- 617 Continuing Education
- 727 Curriculum

14% of Vance County residents have student loan debt; 16% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

78.8% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

Top areas of misalignment:

Health Science (below bachelor’s)
Business Management & Administration (bachelor’s)
Information Technology (bachelor’s)

5,347 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

- 19,047 graduates in 2020
- 65% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
- $50,028 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:

- 5,026 in Basic Services
- 2,166 in Career Services
- 109 in Education Services

19.8% of young adults ages 16-24 in Vance 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 Vance County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Vance

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