Washington County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Washington County Attainment Goal: 1,124 (43%)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 13,228
2020 Census: 11,003
Change: -2,225

Growth Rate
-16.8% vs. 9.5% State

2020 Census: 11,003
2010 Census: 13,228

Population Spotlight
2030 Proposed Washington County Attainment Goal: 1,124 (43%)
2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)

Washington County education continuum.

Transition points along the Education Pipeline
Impact of Covid-19 on outcomes.

Covid-19 has affected critical transition points along the education continuum.

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

No Degree
72.8% 1,451

Have Degree or Credential
27.2% 541

Educational Attainment
Washington County residents ages 25-44, 2021

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

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

Chronic Absenteeism
59% of Washington County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural non-metro county average of 29%.

Math Performance
11% of Washington County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Math, below the rural non-metro county average of 26%.

Reading Performance
11% of Washington County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural non-metro county average of 24%.

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

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)
-11.6% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20
Postsecondary Enrollment
-4.4% 2021 vs. 2020

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

- 72% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program; 3 more needed to meet state goal of 75%.
- 11% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading; 308 more needed to meet state goal of 73%.
- 11% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math; 371 more needed to meet state goal of 86%.
- 82% of 9th graders graduate within four years; 12 more needed to meet state goal of 95%.
- 59% of students are chronically absent from school; 498 less needed to meet state goal of 11%.

Washington County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 207:1 versus 318:1 in peer counties.

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

FAFSA Completion
-9.7% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19
Postsecondary Intentions
-12.9% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

School Choice
1,420 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Washington 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 Washington County completed 65 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Health Science.

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

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Washington County, 2021

Note: Outcomes for demographic groups with fewer than 10 students are not displayed.
Success of Washington County High School Graduates

Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020

• 47% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
• 13% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
• 37% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
• <5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
• 95% of college-goers attended an in-state college

• 67% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
• 44% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners

Washington County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021

13 Basic Skills
199 Continuing Education
269 Curriculum

13% of Washington County residents have student loan debt; 8% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

70.0% 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 (bachelor’s)
Business Management & Administration (bachelor’s)

13 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:
632 graduates in 2020
62% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
$33,554 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:
3,785 in Basic Services
2,643 in Career Services
293 in Education Services

17.2% of young adults ages 16-24 in Washington 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 Washington County has been meeting local needs:

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