Washington County

myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles

2030 Proposed Washington County Attainment Goal: 1,124 (Stretch Goal: 1,150)  
2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

Population Spotlight

2020 Census: 11,001  
2022 Estimate: 10,828  
Change: -173

Growth Rate

-1.6% vs. 2.5%

County State

$46,072 Median Household Income (2022)  
State: $67,516

69% Home Owners (2022)  
State: 67%

27.7% Child Poverty Rate (2022)  
State: 17.2%

15.1% Opportunity Youth Rate (2021)  
State: 12.1%

46% Households with Broadband (2022)  
State: 77%

5.1% Unemployment Rate (2022)  
State: 3.7%

Educational Attainment

Washington County residents ages 25-44, 2022

No Degree: 1,437 (69.3%)

Have Degree or Credential: 638 (30.7%)

Less than high school  
High school graduate (including GED)  
Some college, no credential  
Short-term credential  
Associate degree  
Bachelor's degree  
Graduate or professional degree

6%  
35%  
28%  
8%  
11%  
9%  
3%

Note: Numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Educational Attainment

Washington County residents ages 25-44, 2022

Top Opportunities for Growth

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

Adult Learners

28% of Washington County adults 25-44 have some college, no degree, above the rural - non-metro county average of 16%.

High School Graduation

74% of Washington County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural - non-metro county average of 85%.

Reading Performance

14% of Washington County 3-8 graders earn college-and-career-ready scores in Reading, below the rural - non-metro county average of 25%.

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:

In Elizabeth City Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

72.2% 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  
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)

40% of adults (ages 25-44) in Washington County earned a family sustaining wage, 2022

Washington County is served by:  
Northeastern Workforce Development Board  
Albemarle Commission
% of Washington County residents have student loan debt; 15% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2022

Success of Washington County High School Graduates
• 74% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% in peer counties. 2022
• 49% of students who enroll earn a degree or certificate within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2022

Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023
• 240 of all college-goers attended Beaufort County CC
• 101 of all college-goers attended Martin CC
• 48 of all college-goers attended Pitt CC

72% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2023, compared to 62% statewide; 5 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of 80%. 2023

48% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 68% in peer counties. 2022
49% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 52% in peer counties. 2022

46% of Washington County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 57% in peer counties.

School Choice
1,442 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Washington County in the 2022-23 school year.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Washington County, 2022

Access to Postsecondary Credits
Students in Washington County completed 259 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (industry-valued credential data available in Spring 2024) and 79 concentrations in 2022. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; Business Management & Administration; and Human Services.

Less than 10 high school students took at least one AP course (<5%) versus 7% in peer counties (2022).
46 high school students participated in Career & College Promise programs (32%) versus 39% in peer counties (2022).

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