## Wayne County

### 2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
### 2030 Proposed Wayne County Attainment Goal: 20,498 (59%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>$52,906 Median Household Income (2020)</td>
<td>29.9% Child Poverty Rate (2020)</td>
<td>89% Households with Broadband (2020)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Educational Attainment
Wayne County residents ages 25-44, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree or Credential</th>
<th>Less than high school</th>
<th>High school graduate (including GED)</th>
<th>Some college, no credential</th>
<th>Short-term credential</th>
<th>Associate degree</th>
<th>Bachelor’s degree</th>
<th>Graduate or professional degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Degree</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have Degree or Credential</td>
<td>44.3%</td>
<td>12,884</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

- **Earning College Credit in High School**: 30% of Wayne County graduates participated in the Career & College Promise programs, below the rural metro county average of 43%. Also, 6% of high school students took at least one AP exam, below the peer county average of 9%.
- **Chronic Absenteeism**: 42% of Wayne County students are chronically absent from school, above the rural metro county average of 29%.
- **High School Graduation**: 82% of Wayne County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural metro county average of 87%.

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

- K-12 Enrollment (district schools) -3.5% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20
- Postsecondary Enrollment -12.2% 2021 vs. 2020
- FAFSA Completion -2.9% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19
- Postsecondary Intentions -9.1% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

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

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

- 59% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program; 157 more need to meet state goal of 75% 2022.
- 20% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading; 4,304 more needed to meet state goal of 73% 2022.
- 24% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math; 5,008 more needed to meet state goal of 86% 2022.
- 82% of 9th graders graduate within four years; 195 more needed to meet state goal of 95% 2021.
- 42% of students are chronically absent from school; 5,253 less needed to meet state goal of 11% 2021.

Wayne County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 433:1 versus 362:1 in peer counties. 2021

### School Choice
21,500 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Wayne County in the 2021-22 school year.

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

### Career and College Preparation
289 high school students took at least one AP course (6%) versus 9% in peer counties (2021). 353 graduates participated in Career & College Promise programs (30%) versus 43% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Wayne County completed 669 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Architecture and Construction.

### Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Wayne County, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Wayne County</th>
<th>North Carolina</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Low-Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Wayne County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 433:1 versus 362:1 in peer counties. 2021

- 51% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2022; 322 more need to complete in 2022 to meet state goal of 80%. 2022
- 66% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 69% in peer counties. 2021
- 46% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 49% in peer counties. 2021

56% of Wayne County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 58% in peer counties.
Wayne County 2022 Attainment Profile

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 Wayne County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Wayne

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

Wayne County 2022 Attainment Profile

Success of Wayne County High School Graduates
Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020
• 31% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
• 14% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
• 54% 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

• 75% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
• 60% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 57% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners
Wayne County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021

610 Basic Skills
1,789 Continuing Education
2,908 Curriculum

15% of Wayne County residents have student loan debt; 14% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:
70.5% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

117 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:
1,646 graduates in 2020
75% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
$38,627 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:
11,622 in Basic Services
5,489 in Career Services
674 in Education Services

13.5% of young adults ages 16-24 in Wayne County were not working and not in school versus 15.2% in peer counties. 2019