Wilson County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Wilson County Attainment Goal: 11,532 (51%)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 81,234
2020 Census: 78,784
Change: -2,450

Growth Rate
-3.0% vs. 9.5% State

Educational Attainment
Wilson County residents ages 25-44, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No Degree</th>
<th>Have Degree or Credential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>61.3%</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11,723</td>
<td>7,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

NC Pre-K Enrollment
27% of Wilson County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 68%.

High School Graduation
79% of Wilson County 9th graders complete high school in 4 years or less, below the rural non-metro county average of 86%.

Opportunity Youth
21% of Wilson County youth ages 16-24 are not working and not in school, above the rural non-metro county average of 15%.

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

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)
-6.1% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20

Postsecondary Enrollment
-4.2% 2021 vs. 2020

FAFSA Completion
-2.7% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19

Postsecondary Intentions
-11.0% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

Academic Readiness
To meet state goals, each year Wilson County needs:

• 294 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 27%). 2022
• 2,344 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 23%). 2022
• 2,872 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 25%). 2022
• 155 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 79%). 2021
• 2,022 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 31%). 2021

Wilson County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 265:1 versus 318:1 in peer counties. 2021

Career and College Preparation
249 high school students took at least one AP course (8%) versus 7% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Wilson County completed 375 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Health Science; and Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources.

How students in Wilson County traditional schools are currently doing:

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Wilson County, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Wilson County</th>
<th>North Carolina</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-Income</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Low-Income</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020

- 39% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 17% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 43% 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

- 74% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
- 57% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2021

**Adult Learners**

Wilson County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021

- 291 Basic Skills
- 1,027 Continuing Education
- 1,914 Curriculum

15% of Wilson County residents have student loan debt; 16% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

**In your Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:**

78.6% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

- 297 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

**UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:**

- 1,229 graduates in 2020
- 79% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
- $41,742 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

**In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:**

- 8,274 in Basic Services
- 4,021 in Career Services
- 408 in Education Services

21.1% of young adults ages 16-24 in Wilson County were not working and not in school versus 15.2% in peer counties. 2019

**Impact of Covid-19 on NC Community College Enrollment**

**Curriculum**

- 2013: 2,000
- 2015: 2,100
- 2017: 2,200
- 2019: 2,300
- 2021: 2,400

**Basic Skills**

- 2013: 450
- 2015: 400
- 2017: 350
- 2019: 300
- 2021: 250

**Continuing Education**

- 2013: 1,300
- 2015: 1,200
- 2017: 1,100
- 2019: 1,000
- 2021: 900

**Number of Wilson County residents employed, January 2020 to March 2022**

- Jan: 28,000
- Mar: 30,000
- May: 32,000
- Jul: 34,000
- Sep: 36,000
- Nov: 38,000
- Jan: 40,000

**For more information about each indicator, including data sources and methodology, visit:**