Yancey County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Yancey County Attainment Goal: 3,090 (58%)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 17,818
2020 Census: 18,470
Change: 652

Growth Rate
3.7% vs. 9.5% State

$48,662 Median Household Income (2020)
21.6% Child Poverty Rate (2020)
79% Households with Broadband (2020)
73% Home Owners (2020)
82% Voter Registration Rate (2021)
4.3% Unemployment Rate (2021)

Population Spotlight
2010 Census: 17,818
2020 Census: 18,470
Change: 652

Educational Attainment
Yancey County residents ages 25-44, 2020

No Degree
63.4% 2,349
Have Degree or Credential
36.6% 1,358

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

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

NC Pre-K Enrollment
45% of Yancey County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural non-metro county average of 68%.

Transition to Postsecondary
44% of Yancey County seniors enroll in postsecondary within 12 months of graduation, below the rural non-metro county average of 50%.

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

K-12 Enrollment (district schools)
-6.6% 2021-22 vs. 2019-20
Postsecondary Enrollment
-9.4% 2021 vs. 2020

FAFSA Completion
-7.0% 2021-22 vs. 2018-19
Postsecondary Intentions
-8.0% 2020-21 vs. 2018-19

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

How students in Yancey County traditional schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, each year Yancey County needs:

• 30 more eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program (goal: 75% vs. 45%). 2022
• 330 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading (goal: 73% vs. 35%). 2022
• 397 more 3-8 graders earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math (goal: 86% vs. 41%). 2022
• 11 more 9th graders to graduate within four years (goal: 95% vs. 88%). 2021
• 75 more students to attend school regularly (goal: 11% chronic absenteeism vs. 15%). 2021

Yancey County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 236:1 versus 318:1 in peer counties. 2021

School Choice
2,491 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Yancey County in the 2021-22 school year.

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

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

94 graduates participated in Career & College Promise programs (69%) versus 49% in peer counties (2021).

Students in Yancey County completed 113 Career & Technical Education concentrations in 2021. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Architecture and Construction; and Health Science.

Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Yancey County, 2021

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

Top destinations of graduates, 2016-2020

- 33% of college-goers attended a public 4-year college
- 14% of college-goers attended a private 4-year college
- 52% of college-goers attended a public 2-year college
- <5% of college-goers attended a private 2-year college
- 83% of college-goers attended an in-state college

- 72% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 73% in peer counties. 2021
- 65% of students who enroll earn a degree or credential within 6 years versus 55% in peer counties. 2021

Adult Learners

Yancey County resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, 2021

- 47 Basic Skills
- 265 Continuing Education
- 393 Curriculum

9% of Yancey County residents have student loan debt; 8% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2020

84.0% of postsecondary degrees and credentials conferred by regional institutions are aligned with labor market needs.

Top areas of misalignment:
Health Science (below and above bachelor’s)
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics (below bachelor’s)
Business Management & Administration (bachelor’s)

17 Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

- 5,202 graduates in 2020
- 69% of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021
- $44,421 annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

In 2021 your Workforce Development Board served:

- 3,616 in Basic Services
- 1,617 in Career Services
- 245 in Education Services

5.5% of young adults ages 16-24 in Yancey County were not working and not in school versus 15.2% in peer counties. 2019

Follow link to discover how Yancey County has been meeting local needs:
https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Yancey

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