

# Yancey County

myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles



Boone-Wilkesboro  
Prosperity Zone Sub-Region  
Peer County Type: Rural - Non-Metro  
Local Education Agencies: 1 (2023)  
Charter Schools: 0 (2023)

2030 Proposed Yancey County Attainment Goal: 3,090 (Stretch Goal: 3,130)

2030 State Attainment Goal: 2 million

## Population Spotlight

2020 Census: 18,470  
2022 Estimate: 18,811  
Change: 341

## Growth Rate

1.8% County vs. 2.5% State

**\$54,455**  
Median Household Income (2022)  
State: \$67,516

**78%**  
Home Owners (2022)  
State: 67%

**24.0%**  
Child Poverty Rate (2022)  
State: 17.2%

**5.5%**  
Opportunity Youth Rate (2022)  
State: 10.9%

**66%**  
Households with Broadband (2022)  
State: 77%

**3.6%**  
Unemployment Rate (2022)  
State: 3.7%

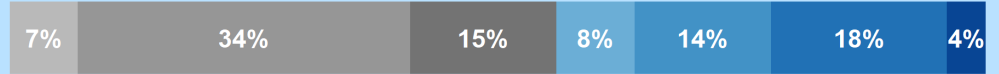
## Educational Attainment

Yancey County residents ages 25-44, 2022

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

**No Degree**  
2,169  
56.3%

**Have Degree or Credential**  
1,686  
43.7%



Note: Numbers may not add up to 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

33% of Yancey County eligible 4-year-olds are enrolled in NC Pre-K, below the rural - non-metro county average of 68%.



### School Counselors

Yancey County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 488:1, above the rural - non-metro county average of 325:1.



### FAFSA Completion

56% of Yancey County high school seniors complete the FAFSA, below the rural - non-metro county average of 61%.

## 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 Yancey County has been meeting local needs:

[https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt\\_search=Yancey](https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/promising-attainment-practices/?wdt_search=Yancey)

LABOR MARKET ALIGNMENT

## In Boone-Wilkesboro Prosperity Zone Sub-Region:

**83.4%**

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

### Top areas of misalignment:

**Health Science** below 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:

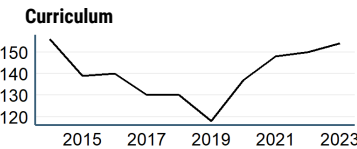
**5,202** graduates in 2020  
**69%** of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021  
**\$44,421** annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)

**38%** of adults (ages 25-44) in Yancey County earned a family sustaining wage, 2022

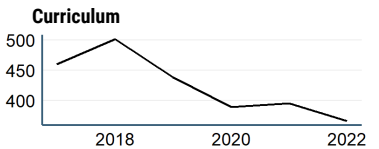
### Yancey County is served by:

High Country Workforce Development Board  
High Country Council of Governments

## UNC System College Enrollment



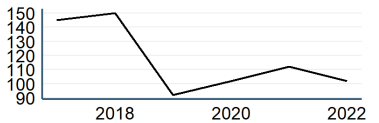
## NC Community College Enrollment



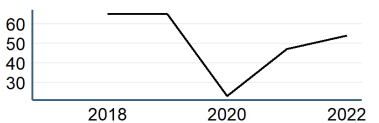
## Top 3 Five-Star Jobs in Boone-Wilkesboro Prosperity Zone Sub-Region

Job Title	Annual Growth
Nurse Practitioners	4%
Logisticians	3%
Occupational Therapy Assistants	3%

## First-time Curriculum Enrollments



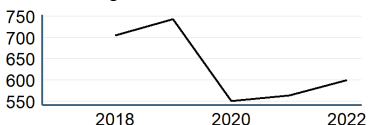
## Basic Skills



## Top 3 Employers in Yancey County

Employer	Employment Range
Altec Industries Inc	500-999
Yancey County Schools	250-499
County Of Yancey	250-499

## Continuing Education



### Adult Learners

Boone-Wilkesboro Sub-Prosperity Zone post-secondary enrollments in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2022

- 249 Basic Skills
- 2,980 Continuing Education
- 407 Curriculum

8% of Yancey County residents have student loan debt; 0% of debt holders had student loans in default. 2022

### Success of Yancey County High School Graduates

- 77% of students who enroll persist to their second year versus 78% in peer counties. 2022
- 59% 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

- 491 of all college-goers attended Mayland CC
- 134 of all college-goers attended Asheville-Buncombe TCC
- 39 of all college-goers attended McDowell TCC

56% of seniors completed the FAFSA in 2023, compared to 62% statewide; 34 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of 80%. 2023

45% of graduates reported intentions to enroll in a postsecondary institution versus 68% in peer counties. 2022

45% of graduates enrolled in a postsecondary institution within 12 months versus 52% in peer counties. 2022

42% of Yancey County students have parents with no college degree (either 2- or 4-year) versus 55% in peer counties.

### How students in Yancey County traditional schools are doing:

33% of eligible 4-year-olds enrolled in NC Pre-K program, compared to 53% statewide; 44 more needed to meet state goal of 75%. 2023

33% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in reading, compared to 30% statewide; 472 more needed to meet state goal of 73%. 2023

41% of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in math, compared to 35% statewide; 402 more needed to meet state goal of 86%. 2023

85% of 9th graders graduate within four years, compared to 87% statewide; 17 more needed to meet state goal of 95%. 2023

28% of students are chronically absent from school, compared to 27% statewide; 350 less needed to meet state goal of 11%. 2023

Yancey County has a student-to-school counselor ratio of 488:1 versus 325:1 in peer counties. 2023

2% of students drop out of high school (10 total students), compared to 2% statewide. 2023

### Degree Credentials Awarded, 2022

763 certificate | 499 associate | 4,461 bachelor's

### Postsecondary assets in Boone-Wilkesboro Prosperity Zone sub-region

#### Public, 4-year or above

Appalachian State University

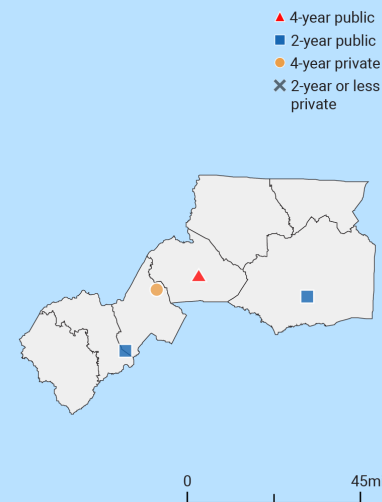
#### Public, 2-year

Mayland Community College, Wilkes Community College

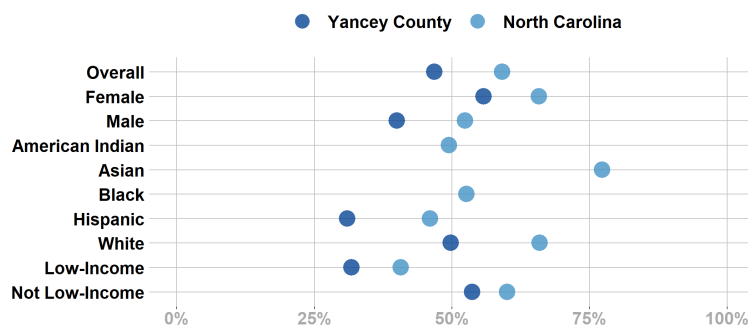
#### Private not-for-profit, 4-year or above

Lees-McRae College

#### Private not-for-profit, 2-year



### Postsecondary Enrollment Rates for Select Groups in Yancey County, 2022

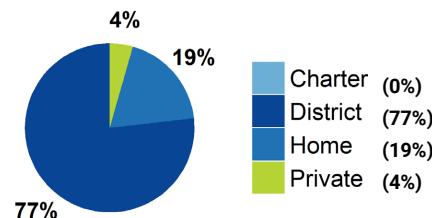


Note: Outcomes for groups with less than 10 students, <5% or >95% are not displayed.

### School Choice

2,559 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Yancey County in the 2022-23 school year.

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



### Access to Postsecondary Credits

Students in Yancey County completed 1,098 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (198 (18%) were industry-valued credentials) and 111 concentrations in 2023. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Human Services; Architecture and Construction; and Health Science.

75 high school students took at least one AP test (12%) versus 8% in peer counties (2023).

108 high school students participated in Career & College Promise programs (72%) versus 51% in peer counties (2023).

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

[dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/](https://dashboard.myfuturenc.org/county-data-and-resources/)