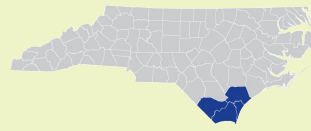


# Cape Fear

## Workforce Development Board

myFutureNC 2024 Attainment Profiles

2030 Proposed Cape Fear Attainment Goal: 92,905



### Counties in WDB:

Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover, Pender

## Population Spotlight

Growth Rate: WDB: 6.4% vs. State: 2.5%

County	2020	2022	Change
North Carolina	10,439,414	10,698,973	259,559
Brunswick County	136,694	153,064	16,370
Columbus County	50,625	49,885	-740
New Hanover County	225,705	234,921	9,216
Pender County	60,208	65,737	5,529



**16.1%**  
Child Poverty Rate (2022)  
State: 17.2%



**11.7%**  
Opportunity Youth Rate (2021)  
State: 12.1%

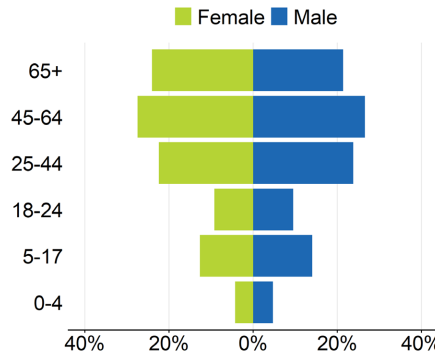


**76%**  
Households with Broadband (2022)  
State: 77%

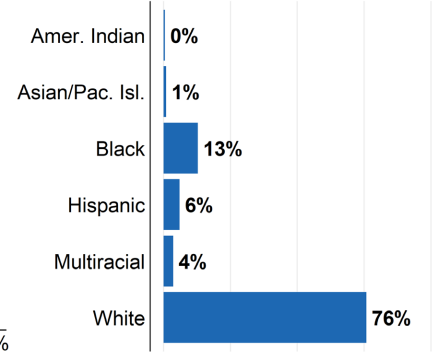


**4%**  
Foreign Born (2022)  
State: 9%

## Age Structure, 2022



## Race/Ethnicity, 2022



## Educational Attainment

Cape Fear residents ages 25-44, 2022

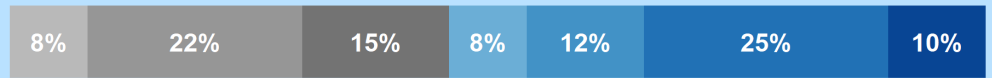
Less than high school
High school graduate (including GED)
Some college, no credential
Short-term credential
Associate degree
Bachelor's degree
Graduate or professional degree



**No Degree**  
49,282  
44.5%



**Have Degree or Credential**  
61,554  
55.5%



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

LABOR MARKET ALIGNMENT

## In Cape Fear WDB:

**273** Individuals served in an ApprenticeshipNC program in 2020

### UNC and NC Community College Outcomes:

**6,009** graduates in 2020

**66%** of 2016 graduates were employed in NC in 2021

**\$44,328** annual average earnings of graduates employed in NC (includes both part-time and full-time jobs)



**53%** of adults (ages 25-44) in Cape Fear earned a family sustaining wage, 2022

## Labor Force Snapshot - 2023 Q2

Total Jobs	198,358
Business Establishments	18,381
Employed	232,266
Unemployed	8,982
Avg. Weekly Wage	\$1,016
Median Household Income	\$67,632

## Top Industries in Cape Fear WDB:

Industry Name	Average Employment	Average Weekly Wages
Health Care and Social Assistance	30,113	\$1,154
Accommodation and Food Services	26,977	\$462
Retail Trade	26,449	\$691
Educational Services	14,692	\$931
Construction	14,383	\$1,194

## Top Job Sectors in Cape Fear WDB:

Job Sector	Average Employment	Average Weekly Wages
Private	172,408	\$1,008
Local Government	16,880	\$990
State Government	7,197	\$1,126
Federal Government	1,873	\$1,640

### Success of Cape Fear High School Graduates

- **81%** of students who enroll **persist to their second year** versus **83%** for the state. 2022
- **58%** of students who enroll **earn a degree or certificate** within 6 years versus **59%** for the state. 2022

### Top destinations of all college-goers, Fall 2023

- **10,895** of all college-goers attended **Cape Fear CC**
- **2,926** of all college-goers attended **Brunswick CC**
- **2,746** of all college-goers attended **Southeastern CC**

### Adult Learners

#### Cape Fear resident enrollments in NC Community Colleges, Fall 2022

- 552** Basic Skills
- 8,495** Continuing Education
- 2,208** Curriculum

- **57%** of seniors **completed the FAFSA** in 2023, compared to **62%** statewide; 935 more need to complete in 2023 to meet state goal of **80%**. 2023
- **86%** of graduates reported **intentions to enroll** in a postsecondary institution versus **74%** in the state. 2022
- **58%** of graduates **enrolled in a postsecondary institution** within 12 months versus **58%** in the state. 2022

### Degree Credentials Awarded, 2022

**1,029** certificate | **1,815** associate | **3,676** bachelor's

### Postsecondary assets in Cape Fear Workforce Dev Board:

**Public, 4-year or above**  
University of North Carolina Wilmington

**Public, 2-year**  
Brunswick Community College, Cape Fear Community College, Southeastern Community College

**Private not-for-profit, 4-year or above**  
**Private not-for-profit, 2-year**

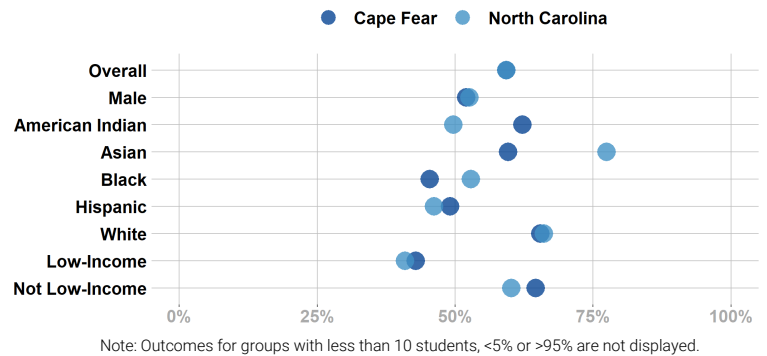


### How students in Cape Fear traditional schools are currently doing:

To meet state goals, each year Cape Fear needs:

- **74%** of eligible 4-year-olds **enrolled in NC Pre-K program**, compared to **53%** statewide; 21 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; 9,945 more needed to meet state goal of **73%**. 2023
- **40%** of 3-8 graders are earning college-and-career-ready scores (level 4 or 5) in **math**, compared to **35%** statewide; 11,499 more needed to meet state goal of **86%**. 2023
- **88%** of 9th graders **graduate within four years**, compared to **87%** statewide; 348 more needed to meet state goal of **95%**. 2023
- **31%** of students are **chronically absent from school**, compared to **32%** statewide; 11,493 less needed to meet state goal of **11%**. 2022
- **2%** of students **drop out of high school** (392 total students), compared to **2%** statewide. 2022

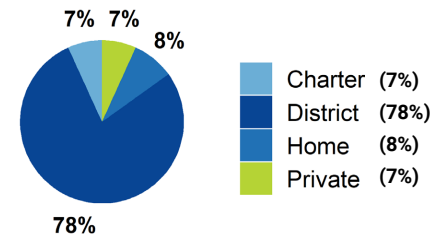
### Postsecondary Enrollment Rates in Cape Fear WDB, 2022



### School Choice

70,846 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Cape Fear in the 2022-23 school year.

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



### Access to Postsecondary Credits

Students in Cape Fear completed **12,934 Career & Technical Education (CTE) credentials (industry-valued credential data available in Spring 2024)** and **1,844 concentrations** in 2022. The top three CTE concentrations completed include Health Science; Agricultural, Food, & Natural Resources; and Architecture and Construction.

**2,235 high school students** took at least one **AP course (13%)** versus **15%** in the state (2022).

**2,615 high school students** participated in **Career & College Promise programs (33%)** versus **23%** in the state (2022).

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/)