

Our State Impact

Utah State University's Economic Contributions

Summary

The Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute conducted a study of Utah State University's economic contribution to state and local communities. **The contribution estimates covered fiscal year 2023** and focused solely on the short-term measurable effects of university-related spending.

Key Findings

17,000+
Jobs Supported

USU is the largest employer in Cache County and seventh largest employer statewide with 10,000+ jobs in FY 2023. Including indirect and induced jobs, USU supports more than 17,000 jobs statewide.

\$2.2 Billion
in Output

USU supported a total of **\$1 billion in earnings, \$1.4 billion in gross domestic product, and \$2.2 billion in output** (total sales) in the 2022-23 academic year.

6,764
Graduates,
2022-23

USU graduated 6,764 students in FY 2023. **Most USU graduates continue to live and work in Utah after graduation.** Two-thirds were working in-state one year after graduation, and more than half were working in the state five years after graduation. **These alumni contribute to a skilled workforce and support economic growth.**

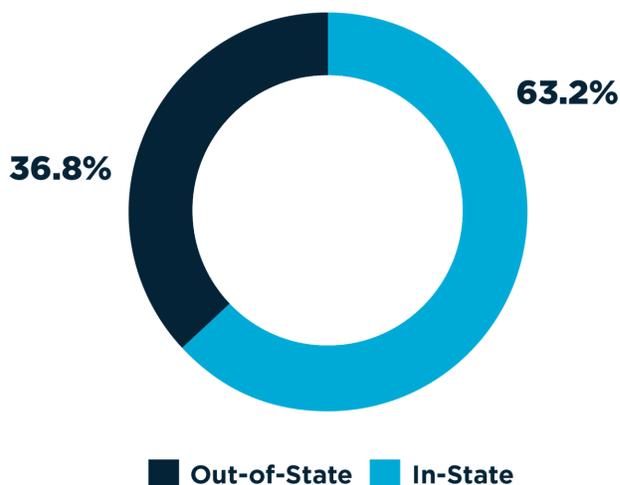
Definitions for Economic Contribution

- **Direct effects:** Generated by spending on wages of USU employees and direct purchases from vendors within the study region.
- **Indirect effects:** Produced when USU's local suppliers hire employees and make purchases from other local vendors.
- **Induced effects:** Occur when employees of USU and its suppliers spend their wages in the local economy.

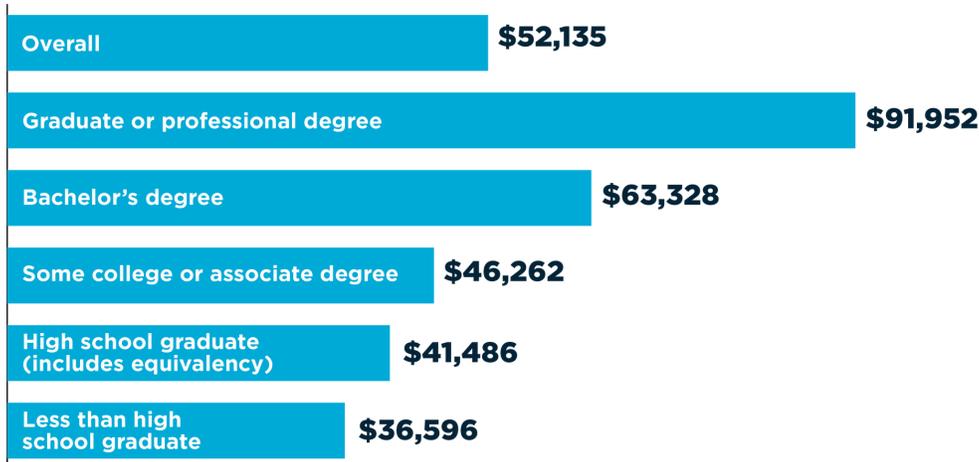
37% of revenue is from out-of-state, representing new money to Utah

USU generates significant economic impact from the 37% of its revenue that comes from out-of-state sources: **8,485 jobs, \$562 million in earnings, \$762 million in GDP, and \$1,211 million in output** (including direct, indirect, and induced effects).

Utah State University Campus Revenue by Origin, FY 2023



Utah Median Earnings by Educational Attainment, 2023



View the full report online:
usu.edu/our-state-impact/USU-Economic-Impact-june-2025.pdf

Research Funding

\$450 Million in research funding => **\$967** million in statewide output

USU received \$450 million in research funding in FY 2023, with three-quarters coming from out of state. **This funding supported 6,665 jobs, \$385 million in earnings, \$518 million in GDP, and \$967 million in output statewide.**

"This study confirms that we are not only changing lives but also driving billions in economic impact across the state. USU plays a vital role in strengthening local economies, expanding opportunity, and fueling innovation. It's a powerful reminder that investing in higher education is investing in Utah."

Alan L. Smith,
Interim President
Utah State University

Utah State University Economic Contribution, FY 2023

