

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE:

GREAT CITIES HAVE GREAT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES. HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS POWER THE ECONOMY OF WASHINGTON, DC AND ITS SURROUNDING REGION.



Consortium of Universities
of the Washington
Metropolitan Area

Our region's higher educational institutions are innovative, mission-driven, nonprofit anchors of economic, social, and community activity. Our colleges and universities attract businesses, recruit and retain talent, expand access, and drive innovation. They revitalize neighborhoods, strengthen communities, and create opportunities that ripple across the region. These institutions provide bold pathways to prepare a resilient and adaptable workforce, meeting labor market demands and fueling the region's growth.

At this critical moment, transformative investments in higher education are essential to turning today's challenges into opportunities for a stronger and more vibrant future. We must invest in and support our local colleges and universities.



Higher educational institutions in the Washington Metropolitan Area are economic engines. They generate billions in activity, support jobs, and foster financial accessibility for students.

REGIONAL IMPACT

Generate more than **\$15 billion** in economic activity in the region

IMPACT IN WASHINGTON, DC

Generate more than **\$6 billion** in economic activity in DC

Higher educational institutions contribute significantly to the economy of the Washington, DC metropolitan area, with direct, indirect, and induced spending, generating substantial revenue for the region and the District.

Support over **100,000** jobs

Support over **50,000** jobs

Higher educational institutions are a cornerstone of the local workforce, serving as one of the largest employment sectors in the area, creating jobs across developing sectors, from Crypto and Quantum, and Defense to Finance while continuing support for healthcare, education, public safety, and hospitality.

Enroll nearly **300,000** students

Enroll nearly **100,000** students

Higher educational institutions prepare a resilient and adaptable workforce, equipping students with the skills needed to meet the demands of emerging industries.

Provide **\$1.6 billion** in student financial aid

Provide **\$970 million** in student financial aid, **\$248 million** to students who live in DC

Higher educational institutions attract, retain, and prepare the region's next generation of skilled professionals. Graduates stay in the region, providing the best platform for future economic growth and the workforce to meet the region's evolving labor needs.

Devote **thousands of hours** in service to the community

Higher educational institutions provide essential services such as law clinics, vaccination centers, public health programs, and police forces, addressing critical community needs.

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Higher educational institutions fuel innovation, foster entrepreneurship, and propel economic growth, ensuring the region remains a leader in research, development, and societal advancement.

- **Hubs for Research and Innovation:** Universities and colleges advance research, raise public knowledge, and contribute to the community dialogue through public lectures, arts programs, and initiatives that address local and regional challenges.
- **Fostering Entrepreneurship:** Institutions stimulate entrepreneurship by offering resources and incubators that support start-ups and spin-off businesses.
- **Attracting Investments:** Institutions secure federal grants and private investments that fund groundbreaking projects and fuel economic growth.



Higher educational institutions serve as vibrant community anchors, enriching the region's identity while stimulating economic activity and addressing critical societal needs.

- **A Creative Arts Powerhouse:** Consortium institutions operate some of the region's most prominent museums, galleries, and performance spaces.
- **Enhancing Regional Vibrancy:** Through events, performances, and sports, these institutions foster community pride and attract visitors, contributing to the area's unique character and appeal.
- **Serving the Community:** Consortium members provide essential services such as law clinics, vaccination centers, public health programs, and police forces, addressing critical community needs.



Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area

American University
The Catholic University of
America
Gallaudet University
George Mason University
Georgetown University
The George Washington
University
Howard University
Marymount University

National Defense University
National Intelligence University
Northern Virginia Community
College
Prince George's Community
College
Trinity Washington University
Uniformed Services University
University of the District of
Columbia

University of Maryland
University of Maryland Global
Campus

Affiliate Members:

Johns Hopkins University
The Kennedy Center
Smithsonian Institution
Virginia Tech

Research Memorandum

Summary Economic Contributions

Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area Members

Revised December 2024

The following summarizes our findings of the economic contributions of Consortium member colleges' and universities' capital and operational spending on the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area. The figures excludes Federal members (National Defense University, National Intelligence University, and Uniformed Services University), affiliate and associate members, and institutions with branch campuses in the region that are based elsewhere. Data are provided by member institutions, publicly available information, or analyst's estimates to complete any data gaps. A separate technical memorandum describes the approach used in estimating missing data used in the analysis. The estimates do not include any potential impacts of university affiliated entities such as university foundations or activities not directly related to education and research at member institutions.

The table below shows the contributions reflecting the sum of direct spending on operations and capital programs by the institutions and their total economic contributions including direct, indirect, and induced effects. Direct effects represent institution spending. Indirect effects represent supply chain spending by each institution's vendors. Indirect effects represent institution and vendor employees spending a portion of their earnings in the regional economy. The analysis is based on the IMPLAN economic input-output model, which is widely used in academic and professional research.

Summary Economic Contributions of Consortium Colleges and Universities Washington, DC Metropolitan Area, Fiscal Year 2023

Description	Impacts
Students (headcount)*	290,173
Student Aid (all sources)	\$ 1,622,888,000
Total Operations Spending	\$ 7,992,828,000
Total Capital Expenditures	\$ 662,693,000
Output (Economic Activity)	\$ 15,094,031,000
Value Added (Gross Area Product	\$ 11,286,111,000
Labor Income (salaries, wages, proprietors' income, benefits)	\$ 8,000,999,000
Jobs	108,975
Taxes Paid to State & Local Jurisdictions**	\$ 359,096,000

*Certificate students and other non-credit students are not included. ** Includes taxes and other government revenue related to indirect and induced economic activity plus any payments reported by individual institutions.

Research Memorandum

Economic Contributions

Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area Members

Institutions Located in the District of Columbia

September 2024

The following summarizes our findings of the economic contributions of Consortium member universities located in the District of Columbia. The figures exclude the National Defense University and National Intelligence University, and do not include Consortium affiliate/associate members or institutions with branches in the District that are based elsewhere. Data is provided by member institutions, publicly available information, or analyst's estimates to complete any data gaps. A separate technical memorandum describes the approach used in estimating missing data used in the analysis. The estimates do not include any potential impacts of university affiliated entities such as university foundations or activities not directly related to education and research at member institutions.

Table 1 shows the contributions reflecting the sum of direct spending on operations and capital programs by the institutions and their total economic contributions including direct, indirect, and induced effects. Direct effects represent institution spending. Indirect effects represent supply chain spending by each institution's vendors. Indirect effects represent institution and vendor employees spending a portion of their earnings in the regional economy. The analysis is based on the IMPLAN economic input-output model, which is widely used in academic and professional research. The IMPLAN model provides estimates of the sum of direct, indirect and induced effects on Output (value of business transactions), Value Added/Gross State Product (the state equivalent of gross domestic product¹), Labor Earnings (salaries, wages, and benefits paid to job holders), Jobs (headcount employment), and Taxes (including property, sales and incomes taxes plus fees and other sources of government revenue).

The member universities provide substantial financial aid to students. Table 2 shows student grant and scholarship information based on responses received. All responding members provided data on this topic.

Table 3 reports direct spending by private institutions of higher education who are voting members of the Consortium. These members represent a large share of total member spending in the District of Columbia.

¹ Value added or gross product is most easily thought of as the increase in economic value (reflected in price) that a firm adds to its products or output (services). For example, if raw materials cost \$100 and are then assembled into a product that sells for \$150, \$50 is the value added. Value added includes cost of capital, labor, proprietors' income, taxes, and other costs.

Table 1: Economic Contributions of Consortium Universities Located in Washington, DC District of Columbia Impacts, FY2023

Description	Impacts
Total Students*	85,507
Total Student Aid (all sources)	\$969,992,000
Output (Economic Activity)	\$ 6,125,390,000
Gross State Product	\$ 4,676,786,000
Labor Earnings (salaries, wages, benefits)	\$ 3,466,243,000
Jobs Supported	51,708
Direct Jobs (direct jobs held by DC residents)	43,910 (13,966)
Taxes Paid to Local Jurisdictions**	\$ 73,505,000

* Total only for Consortium voting members. Associate/Affiliate members and institutions with DC branches not members of the Consortium are not included. Certificate students and other non-credit students are also not included. **Includes taxes and other government revenue related to indirect and induced economic activity plus any payments reported by individual institutions.

Table 2: Student Data for Member Universities in the District of Columbia FY2023

Description	Impacts
Total Students (headcount)*	85,507
Total Aid Provided to Students	\$ 969,992,000
Total District of Columbia Students (headcount)	18,915
Total Aid Provided to DC Students**	\$ 248,515,932

* Total only for Consortium voting members. Associate/Affiliate members and institutions with DC branches not members of the Consortium are not included. Certificate students and other non-credit students are also not included. **Aid does not include loans.

Table 3: Operating Statistics for DC-Located Members, Private Institutions Only

Description	Data
Total Capital Spending	\$ 420,871,000
Total Operations Spending	\$ 4,273,680,000
Total Headcount Direct Jobs / DC Residents	43,197 / 13,692
Total Direct Labor Earnings (salaries, wages, benefits)	\$ 2,666,571,000
Total Students	81,652
Total Aid to all Students	\$ 947,555,231
DC Students w Aid	15,992
Total Aid to DC Students	\$ 231,684,222



Research Memorandum

Student Related Measures

Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area Members

September 2024

The data presented in the following are provided by member institutions, publicly available information, or analyst’s estimates to complete any data gaps.

Student Headcount (Fall) Consortium Colleges and Universities, Academic Year 22-23

Description	Impacts
Students (headcount)*	290,173
Enrolled Students by Home State	
District of Columbia	21,154
Virginia	100,368
Maryland	71,850
Student Aid (all sources)	\$1,622,888,000

* Total only for Consortium voting members. Associate/Affiliate members and institutions with DC branches not members of the Consortium are not included. Certificate students and other non-credit students are also not included.

The Consortium institutions provide substantial financial aid to students. The table below shows student financial support information based on responses received. In this table, student aid does not include loans.

Total Enrollments by Home State and Aid Provided, Consortium Members

Description	Total Students		
	Enrolled Fall '23**	Total Aid	Aid per Student*
Home State DC	21,154	\$268,641,613	\$12,699
Home State VA	100,368	\$372,381,425	\$3,710
Home State MD	71,850	\$330,363,289	\$4,598

* Per all students, not just those receiving aid. *** Total only for Consortium voting members. Associate/Affiliate members and institutions with DC branches not members of the Consortium are not included. Certificate students and other non-credit students are also not included.

Student Data for Member Universities Located in the District of Columbia, FY2023

Description	Impacts
Total Students (headcount)*	85,507
Total Aid Provided to Students	\$ 969,992,292
Total District of Columbia Residents (headcount)	18,915
Total Aid Provided to DC Students**	\$ 248,515,932

* Total only for Consortium voting members whose primary campus in the District of Columbia. Associate/Affiliate members and institutions with DC branches not members of the Consortium are not included. Certificate students and other non-credit students are also not included.

**Aid does not include loans.

The table below shows student data at private university Consortium members located in the District of Columbia.

Operating Statistics for DC-Located Members Private Institutions Only

Description	Data
Total Students (headcount)*	81,652
Total Aid to all Students	\$ 947,555,231
DC Residents enrolled (headcount)	15,992
Total Aid to DC Students**	\$ 231,684,222

* Total only for Consortium voting private university members whose primary campus in the District of Columbia. Associate/Affiliate members and institutions with DC branches not members of the Consortium are not included. Certificate students and other non-credit students are also not included.

**Aid does not include loans.