

BUSINESS & COMMERCE IMPACTS

The Economic Value of Lamar Community College | May 2017

In FY 2015-16, Lamar's total impact on the Lamar Service Area economy was \$41.1 million in added income, equal to 6.4% of the region's GRP. This contribution that the college provides on its own is slightly larger than the entire Retail Trade industry in the region.

LAMAR PAYROLL & EXPENSES SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

- In FY 2015-16, Lamar employed **107** full-time faculty, adjunct instructors, and staff, with an annual payroll of **\$5 million**. Much of this was spent in the Lamar Service Area to purchase groceries, clothing, and other household goods and services.
- The college is itself a buyer of goods and services and spent another **\$5.2 million** to support its operations during the analysis year.
- The net impact of college payroll and expenses in the Lamar Service Area was **\$5.9 million** in added income. Of this added income, \$66.2 thousand is attributable to Lamar's construction expenditures in FY 2015-16..

LAMAR STUDENTS BOOST LOCAL SPENDING

- Around **33%** of students attending Lamar originated from outside the region. Some of these students relocated to the Lamar Service Area and spent money on groceries, transportation, rent, and so on at regional businesses.
- In addition, a number of in-region students would have left the region for other education opportunities if not for the existence of Lamar.
- The expenditures of these relocated and retained students added approximately **\$1.9 million** in income to the region during the analysis year.

LAMAR TRAINING SUSTAINS A SKILLED WORKFORCE

- Over the years, students have studied at Lamar and entered or re-entered the workforce with newly-acquired skills. Today, thousands of former students are employed in the Lamar Service Area.
- As students apply the skills they acquired at the college, they are rewarded with higher earnings. They also raise business profits through their increased productivity. These higher earnings and increased profits create even more earnings as they are spent in the region.
- In FY 2015-16, the impact of former Lamar students on the regional economy amounted to **\$33.3 million** in added income.

ADDED INCOME CREATED BY LAMAR IN FY 2015-16



\$5.9 million

Operations and Construction
Spending Impact



\$1.9 million

Student Spending Impact



\$33.3 million

Alumni Impact



\$41.1 million

Total Impact