

6-22-2012

Updated Data: UNH Contributes More Than \$1.4 Billion to State Economy Every Year; Responsible for Providing Quarter of All Skilled Workers

Erika Mantz
UNH Media Relations

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Recommended Citation

Mantz, Erika, "Updated Data: UNH Contributes More Than \$1.4 Billion to State Economy Every Year; Responsible for Providing Quarter of All Skilled Workers" (2012). *UNH Today*. 3974.
<https://scholars.unh.edu/news/3974>


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UNH News Release: Updated Data: UNH Contributes More Than \$1.4 Billion to State Economy Every Year; Responsible for Providing Quarter of All Skilled Workers



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June 22, 2012

Updated Data: UNH Contributes More Than \$1.4 Billion to State Economy Every Year; Responsible for Providing Quarter of All Skilled Workers

DURHAM, N.H. – The University of New Hampshire contributes more than \$1.4 billion every year to New Hampshire’s economy, which includes \$791 million through revenue generation, employment and expenditures, and through its contribution toward the state’s skilled workforce valued at \$642 million, UNH President Mark Huddleston announced today.

Huddleston was joined by Joseph Morone, president and chief executive officer of Albany International Corp., at the company’s Rochester headquarters to provide the updated data on the university’s economic contributions.

“It is clear from this report that UNH continues to play a crucial role in the state’s economic future, providing the Granite State with not only a highly educated and skilled workforce but the new research and development needed to keep businesses in the state and create new jobs,” said Huddleston. “UNH consistently provides a high return on investment for the state. It’s hard to argue that point when for an investment of just \$35 million a year the state is seeing more than \$1.4 billion in return.”

Morone stressed that a strong higher education system is crucial in creating the jobs of the future.

“If technology is going to be a central part of the New Hampshire advantage then business needs to have the talent, and to have the talent we must have a strong university system,” Morone said. “It really is that simple.”

In 2011, UNH graduated 130 associate’s, 2,670 bachelor’s, 811 master’s and 60 doctoral degrees. Based on the latest census data, high school graduates earn an estimated \$1.59 million (2011 dollars) in their lifetime. Those with an associate’s degree earn \$2.12 million, bachelor’s degrees earn \$2.79 million, master’s degrees earn \$3.32 million, and doctorate degrees earn \$4.51 million.

The report on UNH’s impact in the state was prepared by Josh Stillwagon, a doctoral student in economics at UNH’s Whittemore School of Business and Economics, as an update to the original data collected in 2009. UNH’s economic footprint is significant, as significant as New Hampshire’s largest employers, according to Stillwagon. The university annually contributes approximately 2.3 percent to the state’s total \$62 billion economy. This is a \$100 million increase from 2009, when the figure was calculated at \$1.3 billion.

And given the benefit of a college education, as more of the population attains college degrees, the annual economic returns from UNH to the state will increase. This includes potential benefits from efforts to enable more Granite State residents to get a college degree in state.

[Read the full report](#)

The University of New Hampshire, founded in 1866, is a world-class public research university with the feel of a New England liberal arts college. A land, sea and space-grant university, UNH is the state's flagship public institution, enrolling 11,800 undergraduate and 2,400 graduate students.

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Media Contact: [Erika Mantz](#) | 603-862-1567 | UNH Media Relations

Secondary Contact: [Susan Siegel](#) | 603.330.5866 | Albany International Corp.
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