
Oregon Institute of Technology 2023 Economic, Fiscal, and Social Impact Analysis

July 2023



Fact Sheet:

The Economic and Fiscal Value of Oregon Tech

Analysis of Fiscal Year 2021-22



Oregon Tech is a public education and applied research university located in the state of Oregon. Nearly 5,000 students are enrolled across its campuses, including non-degree-seeking, undergraduate, and graduate students. The University makes substantial contributions that significantly benefit the state of Oregon and its communities in a highly impactful manner.

47

Majors and Degrees

16:1

Student:Faculty Ratio

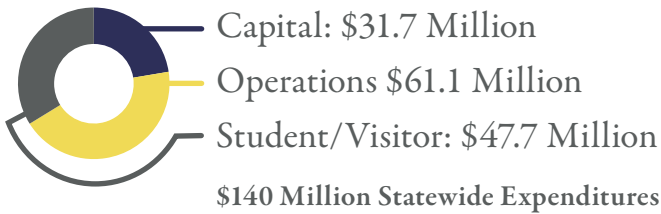
\$67,200

Avg. Starting Salary

Studied Geographies Throughout Oregon

Expenditures

Expenditure by type



Economic Impact



2,555
Jobs Supported Annually



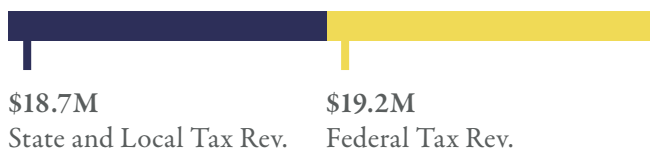
\$124.5M
Labor Income Generated



\$286.4M
Output Created

Fiscal Impact

\$37.9M Statewide Fiscal Impact



Key Terms

Term	Definition
Direct Effect	The output of goods or services resulting from immediate spending by Oregon Tech and its entities, students, faculty, staff and/or visitors. These expenditures include construction spending, operations spending (including employee compensation), and non-tuition-related student spending on goods and services in the region.
Indirect Effect	The additional output of goods or services generated by Oregon Tech's supply chain. The indirect effect supports the outputs produced by the direct effect.
Induced Effect	As businesses increase productivity from the direct and indirect effects, their payroll expenditures grow through more hiring or increased salaries. As a result, household spending expands. These new personal market transactions, which generate additional outputs of goods and/or services, are the induced effect.
Secondary Effect	Sum of indirect and induced effects.
Total Impact	The sum of the direct, indirect, and induced effects.
Employment, Jobs	The number of jobs supported through spending by Oregon Tech's students, faculty, staff, and/or visitors (Oregon Tech's spending).
Labor Income	The value of all forms of employment income paid through Oregon Tech's spending, including health care and other employee benefits.
Output	The total value of production generated through Oregon Tech's spending, including the value of intermediate inputs – the goods and services used in the production of equipment, raw materials, energy, and other production inputs.
Value Added	Oregon Tech's contribution to GDP, which is equal to output minus the value of intermediate inputs. Value added represents the total market value of final goods and services produced.
Tax Revenue	Money collected to support federal, state, and local governments.

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Executive Summary

Oregon Tech (Oregon Institute of Technology, or the University) is a public education and applied research university that offers a wide array of bachelor’s degrees and master’s degree, and a new doctorate program in physical therapy at its five campuses across Oregon and Washington. Oregon Tech is Oregon’s only polytechnic university. The university offers innovative, professionally-focused undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the areas of engineering, health, business, technology, and applied arts and sciences. These programs are conducted at a residential campus in Klamath Falls, Oregon; the OMIC research innovation center in Scappoose, Oregon; an urban campus in Wilsonville, Oregon; and two additional campuses in Salem, Oregon and Seattle, Washington. In academic year 2022-23, Oregon Tech enrolled nearly 5,000 students across its campuses: 4,800 as undergraduate and non-degree-seeking students and over 100 master’s students.

Oregon Tech Mission Statement:

Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech), Oregon’s public polytechnic university, offers innovative, professionally-focused undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the areas of engineering, health, business, technology, and applied arts and sciences. To foster student and graduate success, the university provides a hands-on, project-based learning environment and emphasizes innovation, scholarship, and applied research. With a commitment to diversity and leadership development, Oregon Tech offers statewide educational opportunities and technical expertise to meet current and emerging needs of Oregonians as well as other national and international constituents.



Oregon Tech takes pride in offering its students an education that provides them with real tools to conquer real challenges in the workforce. The University is consistently well-ranked in many fields of study. The educational opportunities offered by the school are also exceptionally affordable, particularly for in-state students; Oregon Tech provides high quality educational opportunities at a relatively low price, earning it the distinction of 15th in the western US for Social Mobility.¹ Amongst all degree programs, Oregon Tech specializes in engineering, health sciences, and business technology. Based on its consistent innovation and improvements to curriculum, faculty, campus life, and more, the University ranks in the top 30 nationally for “Best Engineering Programs”.¹ Oregon Tech students earn the highest starting postgrad salary of any Oregon school.²

Aside from providing a valuable education, one of Oregon Tech’s most important tasks is continuing to strengthen the relationship between itself and the local community. The University provides a pipeline of talent to the local community, with over 60% of degree-receiving alumni staying in the state of Oregon after graduation. These alumni allow Oregon Tech to continue to have a long-lasting regional impact as they build companies, fill skilled jobs, and contribute to the greater social and cultural life of Oregon.

This report seeks to assess the economic, fiscal, and social impacts of Oregon Tech across five regional geographies. The regions analyzed in the economic and fiscal impact sections of this report include Klamath County, Clackamas & Washington Counties (bundled together as one region), Marion County, Columbia County, and the overall State of Oregon. These geographies correspond to the Oregon Tech Klamath Falls, Wilsonville, Salem, and OMIC-Scappoose campus locations, respectively.

4,900

Students Enrolled

60%

of Alums Stay in Oregon

+8%

Start Salary vs Avg. OR University

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- 1 “Oregon Institute of Technology Overall Rankings | US News Best Colleges.” US News, <https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/oregon-institute-of-technology-3211/overall-rankings>.
 - 2 “Oregon Tech Graduates Have Starting Salaries 8% Higher than the Oregon Average, According to SmartAsset.” Oregon Tech, 11 July 2022, www.oit.edu/news/oregon-tech-graduates-have-starting-salaries-8-higher-oregon-average-according-smartasset#

In fiscal year 2021-22, spending associated with Oregon Tech in Oregon was approximately \$140.5 million. This figure included wages and employee benefits, university operations (vendors and other necessary goods and services), student spending, and visitor spending. Across the same period, the University generated roughly \$286.4 million in economic impacts across Oregon, with over \$204 million in output generated in Klamath County alone. The University's economic activities have also supported thousands of jobs locally and generated millions of dollars in wages. Of equal importance are the University's social services, which are designed to improve and aid the nearby community and help enhance the lives of students and non-students alike. This report will evaluate the social impacts that the University generates, including Community Efforts, Diversity and Inclusion, Academics and Research, and social impacts of the Oregon Tech Foundation,

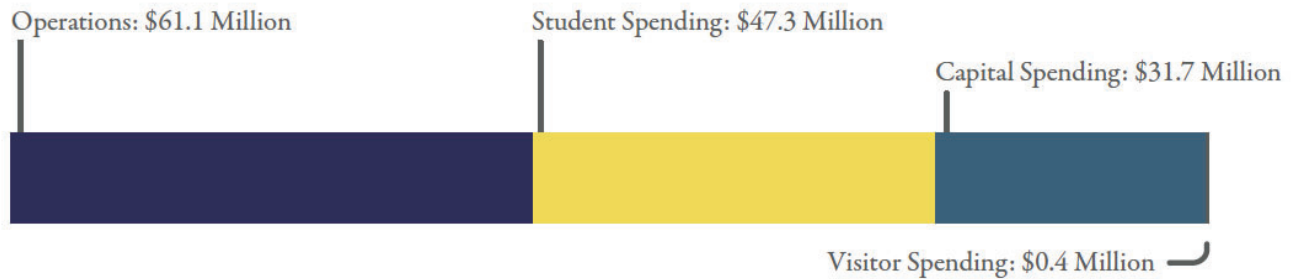


Key Findings

Expenditures

Throughout the fiscal year 2021-22, statewide expenditures associated with Oregon Tech totaled roughly \$140 million, including university-related spending allocated to capital expenditures, operational costs (including employee compensation, vendor payments, other non-wage expenses, etc.), and student and visitor spending across the state of Oregon. By far the largest source of expenditures for Oregon Tech in Fiscal Year 2021-22 was operational spending at \$61.1 million (44% of total expenditures). Student spending was the second largest category at over \$47 million, or 34% of total spending. Klamath County benefitted from a significant portion of the University’s statewide expenditures, with roughly \$103.3 million (approximately 73% of the University associated spending in Oregon as a whole) spent in the county.

Figure A.1: FY 2021-22 Statewide Expenditures by Source, Oregon Tech

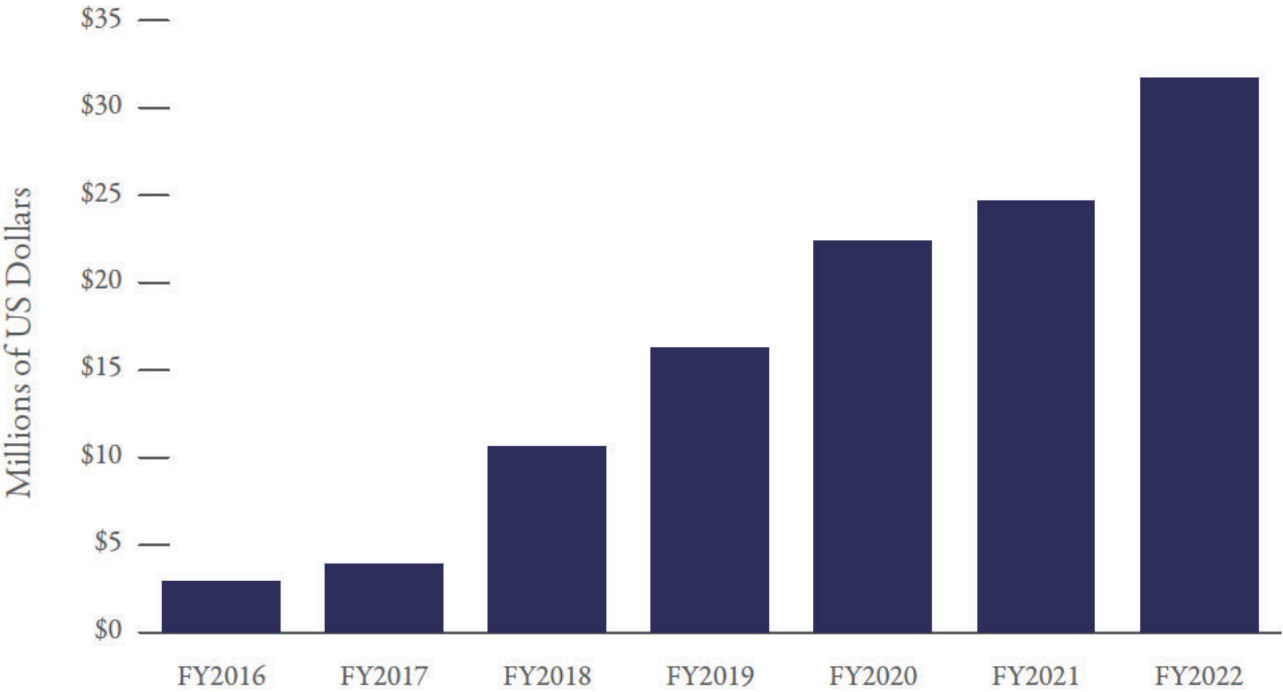


Source: Oregon Tech. Analysis by Beacon Economics.

While student expenditures, operational expenditures, and visitor expenditures associated with universities are generally stable over time, capital expenditures are not. Oregon Tech’s significant capital expenditure projects are funded primarily through the state’s capital construction program administered by the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC). State capital project funding is awarded through a ranking system amongst all seven public universities in the state. Funding available for capital investment by the state varies year-to-year, depending upon actual capital projects approved and funded. As a result, Oregon Tech’s capital expenditures can fluctuate significantly between fiscal years. For example, if Oregon Tech was awarded funding to construct a new state-of-the-art engineering research center, such as the University’s Center for Engineering Excellence and Technology (CEET) completed in Fiscal Year 2020-21, the University may see total capital expenditures vary significantly from one year to the next, and between biennia.

While many of the findings of this report may be comparable in future years, the high variability of capital expenditures limits the reliability of the 2022 expenditure estimates as predictors of future years. Given recent Oregon Tech capital expenditure trends, it is not unlikely that the University could have significantly higher capital expenditures (with corresponding impacts) in future years, depending on state investment.

Figure A.2: Oregon Tech Capital Expenditures Trend Upward, by Fiscal Year



Source: Oregon Tech. Analysis by Beacon Economics.

Note that FY2022 in this chart is the same as the “Fiscal Year 2021-22” referenced throughout the text of this report.

Economic and Fiscal Impact

Oregon Tech’s economic impact was significant in fiscal year 2021-22, both locally and statewide. In total, the University generated \$286.4 million in economic output across Oregon, of which \$204.3 million was generated in Klamath County. Oregon Tech-related expenditures helped support 1,760 jobs in Klamath County alone. The University also supported over 2,500 jobs statewide.

The total fiscal impact (also known as tax revenues) generated by Oregon Tech-related expenditures was approximately \$37.9 million, with \$18.7 million in state and local tax revenue, and \$19.2 million in federal tax revenue. Sources of revenue vary by government agency, with most state and local taxes being collected through income taxes, while most federal taxes come from payroll tax and income tax.



Figure A.3: Oregon Tech FY 2021-22 Total Economic and Fiscal Impact Estimates by Region (\$ Values in \$Millions)

	Klamath County	Marion County	Clackamas & Washington Counties	Columbia County	State of Oregon
Jobs Supported Annually	1,760	62	489	78	2,555
Labor Income Generated	\$ 91.4	\$ 2.6	\$ 19.0	\$ 3.3	\$ 124.5
Total Economic Output Created	\$ 204.4	\$ 5.7	\$ 44.9	\$ 7.8	\$ 286.4
State and Local Tax Revenue	\$ 15.0	\$ 0.2	\$ 2.6	\$ 0.2	\$ 18.7
Federal Tax Revenue	\$ 13.9	\$ 0.5	\$ 3.2	\$ 0.3	\$ 19.2

Source: IMPLAN. Note that the “State of Oregon” geography is not equivalent to the sum of the four preceding geographies. Analysis by Beacon Economics.



Social Impact

Oregon Tech has substantial qualitative impacts beyond its economic and fiscal impacts. These impacts, driven by the people of Oregon Tech, help improve the greater Oregon community.

**Community
Efforts**

**Oregon Tech
Foundation**

**Equity, Diversity,
and Inclusion**

**Academics
and Research**



Introduction

Oregon Institute of Technology was founded in 1947 as Oregon Vocational School, with a mission to provide accessible higher education to all, regardless of race or gender. It was renamed to Oregon Technical Institute in 1960, and then to Oregon Institute of Technology in 1973. The 2021 Oregon State Legislature designated Oregon Tech as “Oregon’s Polytechnic University”. The University offers a wide range of bachelor’s and master’s degrees, including programs in health sciences, engineering, applied sciences, management, and communication. The University consists of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Management, and the College of Health, Arts, and Sciences. The main Oregon Tech campus is in the city of Klamath Falls, Oregon, surrounded by lakes and mountains.

Oregon Tech has a diverse student body, a robust alumni network, and a long history of community engagement. Oregon Tech’s alumni are valued members of the community and are encouraged to support each other in their entrepreneurial ventures. The University also promotes volunteer work and community service, encouraging its students and alumni to make a positive impact in their communities through partnerships and collaborations with local businesses and organizations. Oregon Tech also partners with local schools to provide mentorship, resources, and scholarships to students in the surrounding areas. These social factors, in tandem with significant economic and fiscal impacts, make Oregon Tech a vital asset to the greater Oregon region. This report seeks to understand the quantitative (economic and fiscal) impacts and qualitative (social) impacts that Oregon Tech has on the surrounding region.



Oregon Tech celebrated it’s 75th anniversary on July 14th, 2023.

Oregon Tech began as Oregon Vocational School in 1947 and admitted only war veterans and their wives in the initial schools of Auto Mechanics, Commercial Cooking and Automotive Body & Fender. By 1948 the School had expanded its curriculum and enrolled over 500 students.

Methodology

To analyze the total economic and fiscal impacts of Oregon Tech, Beacon Economics assessed spending categories associated with the University. This includes Oregon Tech operations spending (wages, vendor payments, services, etc.), construction and capital expenditures, and student and visitor spending for the 2021-22 fiscal year. The 2021-22 fiscal year was chosen as it was the most recent full year, and as such, the economic activity generated that year represents the full recent impact of the University. This does, however, mean that estimates in this report may be lower than in future iterations of this study, particularly with regards to spending by visitors at Oregon Tech campuses and events that may have been limited by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Data for the analysis was provided by Oregon Tech for the 2021-22 fiscal year. Beacon Economics uses IMPLAN, a state-of-the-art input-output modeling system that estimates how certain expenditures correlate and affect other industries in the economy to generate the total economic and fiscal impact. This study assumes that any change in spending generates a direct, indirect, and induced effect. The indirect and induced effects are also known as ‘ripple’ or ‘multiplier’ effects, and in combination are referred to as ‘secondary’ impacts. For each type of impact (direct, indirect, and induced), impacts are measured using three economic indicators: employment, labor income, and output. The initial direct expenditures lead to sequential spending in the respective economy. Together, the direct, indirect, and induced effects add up to the total impact.

The direct impact is the additional goods or services generated from immediate spending related to Oregon Tech (i.e., purchasing new goods, paying wages, or students spending money on food, etc.). The indirect impact is the subsequent output generated through supply chain, or business-to-business transactions with suppliers of Oregon Tech’s direct purchases or spending (i.e., restaurants restocking goods due to student expenditures, logistics and transportation firms spending money to deliver goods to the University, etc.). The induced impact is the spending that will occur through the employees that either receive wages directly from Oregon Tech or the subsequent supply chain workers who benefit from the money paid by the University (i.e., spending by the worker’s households on rent, goods and services, etc. through the direct expenditures paid by the University). The total economic impact is the combination of direct, indirect, and induced impacts.

The study reports economic impacts using three key economic indicators: employment, labor income, and output.

- Employment represents the number (headcount) of part-time, full-time, and temporary jobs supported through spending associated with Oregon Tech (i.e., spending on operations and construction/capital expenditures, student spending, and visitor spending). Jobs “supported” is inclusive of jobs generated and existing jobs that have now been expanded in scope by University-related spending, which helps keep workers employed.
- Labor Income (reported in 2022 U.S.D) represents the value of all employment income paid through Oregon Tech spending, including fringe benefits such as health care, etc.
- Output (reported in 2022 U.S.D) refers to the total value of production generated through University-related spending, including the value of intermediate inputs – the goods and services used in the production of equipment, raw materials, energy, and other production inputs.

Note that employment, labor income, and output can all be further broken down into the direct, indirect, and induced effects. As an example, employment economic impacts can be broken down like so: direct employment impacts include Oregon Tech employees and employees at firms that receive related expenditures, indirect employment impacts include employees at businesses that service and supply Oregon Tech and other direct expenditure establishments, and induced employment impacts include employees at businesses where employees at firms receiving direct expenditures spend their wages (such as restaurants and grocery stores).

Using IMPLAN’s Multi-Regional Input-Output (MRIO) analysis, Beacon Economics estimates the impact that Oregon Tech has on Klamath County (Klamath Falls campus location), on Marion County (Salem campus location), on Clackamas & Washington Counties (Wilsonville campus location), on Columbia County (OMIC-Scappoose) and on Oregon overall. No out-of-state spending was considered for this analysis, except for capital expenditures which were attributed to the proper campus location. Each larger region encompasses the impacts from the smaller regions. For example:

State of Oregon Impacts = Klamath County Impacts + Marion County + Clackamas & Washington Counties + Columbia County + All Other Oregon Impacts.

For more information on the IMPLAN MRIO modeling system, please see the Appendix.

Expenditures

Higher education institutions require significant funding not only to maintain day-to-day operations, but also to grow programs and enhance the experiences offered to students and surrounding communities. Universities and colleges spend millions on capital improvements and construction, on operations to maintain goods and services, and on wages for staff and faculty. Students and visitors spend money on food, room and board, local transport, merchandise, athletic events, and various other goods and services. Visitor data was aggregated based on estimates of non-local visitor spending on events or locations including commencements, sporting events, on-campus concerts like Music Garden, and Family Weekend. Beacon Economics has considered the key expenditures below in examining Oregon Tech’s total spending.

Total expenditures for Oregon Tech in 2021-22 reached just under \$141 million, driven primarily by operations (\$61.1 million) and student spending (\$47.3 million). Capital expenditures and visitor spending accounted for \$31.7 million and \$0.4 million respectively in statewide expenditures. Approximately 73% of the University’s statewide expenditures occurred in the Klamath County, due in large part to the size of the Oregon Tech Klamath campus and number of students attending school in-person in that region. Nonetheless, spending by Oregon Tech throughout the entire state is substantial, and that spending ripples out through the local economy, benefiting many other industries and subsectors.

Figure B.1: Total Expenditures of Oregon Tech by Type and Region in FY 2021-22 (\$Millions)

Expenditure Category	Klamath County	Marion County	Clackamas & Washington Counties	Columbia County	State of Oregon
Construction/Capital	\$ 28.2	\$ -	\$ 0.3	\$ 3.3	\$ 31.7
Employee Comp.	\$ 41.6	\$ 0.9	\$ 10.4	\$ 1.0	\$ 54.5
Other Operations	\$ 1.7	\$ 1.4	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.1	\$ 6.6
Operations (Total)	\$ 43.3	\$ 2.3	\$ 10.6	\$ 1.1	\$ 61.1
Student Spending	\$ 31.4	\$ 0.1	\$ 6.7	\$ 0.1	\$ 47.3
Visitor Spending	\$ 0.4	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.4
Total Expenditures	\$ 103.3	\$ 2.4	\$ 17.6	\$ 5.6	\$ 140.5

Source: IMPLAN. Note that the “State of Oregon” geography is not equivalent to the sum of the four preceding geographies. Analysis by Beacon Economics.



\$141M

Total Expenditures



2,500

Jobs Supported



\$37.9M

Generated by State, Local, and
Federal Taxes



Economic Impacts

In the 2021-22 fiscal year, expenditures associated with Oregon Tech supported over 2,500 jobs in Oregon, with 74% of them specific to Klamath County. Of the nearly 1,800 jobs supported in Klamath County, 70% were categorized as direct effects, with businesses supported in sectors such as education, leisure and hospitality, arts and recreation, transportation, and more. With thousands of jobs supported in multiple industries, the University's economic impact on both local and statewide labor income was significant. Statewide labor income generated was approximately \$125 million, with roughly three quarters of the impacts in Klamath County. Oregon Tech's total economic output (essentially the 'value add' the University brings to the local and broader community as well as secondary economic activity or intermediate inputs) totaled \$286.4 million across Oregon. Put another way, total Oregon Tech-related expenditures of \$140.5 million within the state generated \$286.4 million in statewide output, for a 2.04 output multiplier effect.



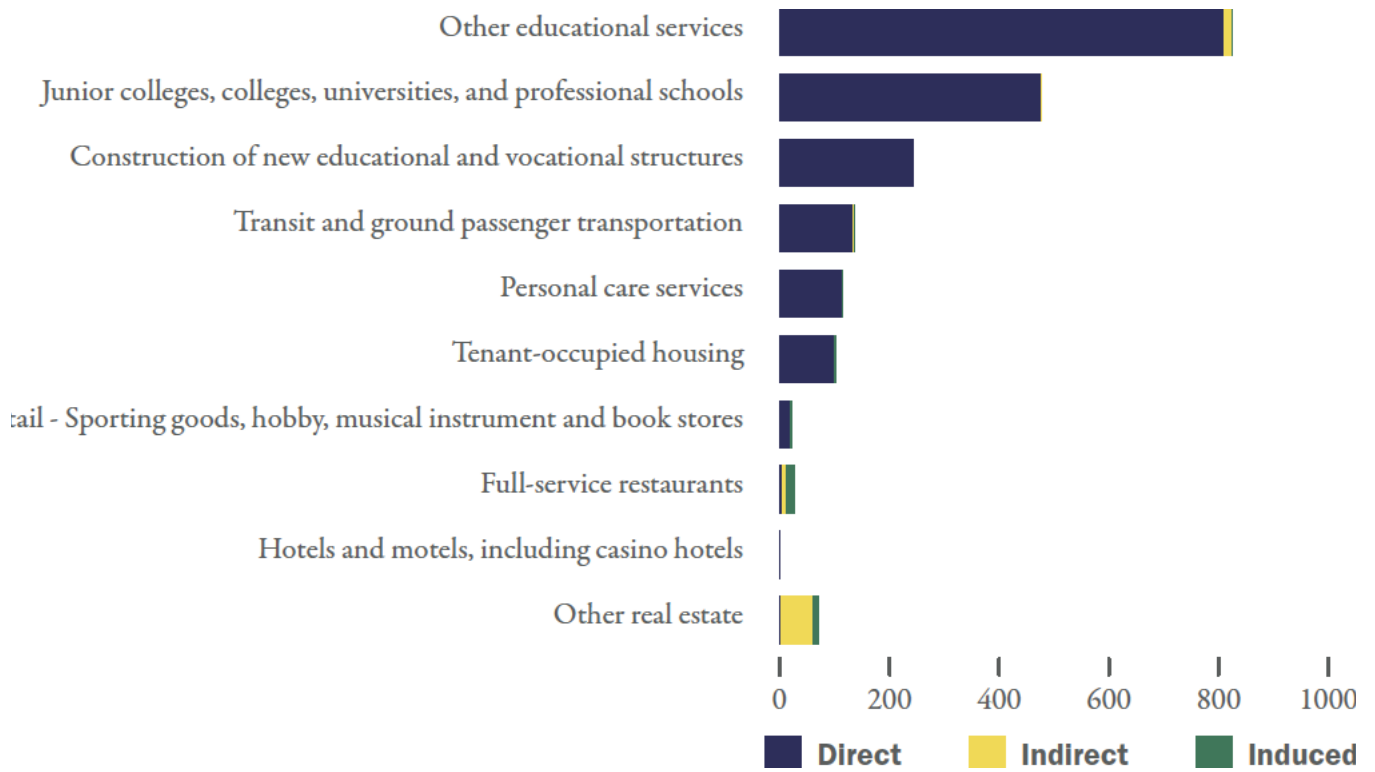
Figure B.2: Total Impacts of Oregon Tech by Impact Type and Region in FY 2021-22

Region	Klamath County	Marion County	Clackamas & Washington Counties	Columbia County	State of Oregon
Employment Impacts: Full-Time, Part-Time, and Seasonal Jobs Supported Annually					
Direct Effect	1,314	49	401	65	1,899
Indirect Effect	157	5	38	6	260
Induced Effect	289	8	50	7	397
Total Effect	1,760	62	489	78	2,555
Labor Income Impacts (\$Millions)					
Direct Effect	\$ 69.7	\$ 1.8	\$ 13.3	\$ 2.8	\$ 90.0
Indirect Effect	\$ 7.6	\$ 0.3	\$ 2.6	\$ 0.3	\$ 14.1
Induced Effect	\$ 14.1	\$ 0.5	\$ 3.1	\$ 0.3	\$ 20.4
Total Effect	\$ 91.4	\$ 2.6	\$ 19.0	\$ 3.3	\$ 124.5
Economic Output Impacts (\$Millions)					
Direct Effect	\$ 135.3	\$ 3.3	\$ 27.6	\$ 5.5	\$ 176.2
Indirect Effect	\$ 25.9	\$ 1.1	\$ 8.3	\$ 1.2	\$ 48.5
Induced Effect	\$ 43.1	\$ 1.4	\$ 9.1	\$ 1.1	\$ 61.7
Total Effect	\$ 204.4	\$ 5.7	\$ 44.9	\$ 7.8	\$ 286.4

Source: IMPLAN. Note that the “State of Oregon” geography is not equivalent to the sum of the four preceding geographies. Analysis by Beacon Economics.

Sectors that benefit significantly from expenditures associated with the University include educational services, colleges and universities, construction, transit, housing (specifically for off-campus students and employees), personal care services, and retail. These establishments, particularly on the local level (a business in Klamath Falls, for example), have benefitted from the people and economic activity Oregon Tech supports in Oregon’s many localities.

Figure B.3: Top 10 Sectors, Statewide Jobs Supported Annually, by Type of Impact



Source: Implan. Analysis by Beacon Economics.

Fiscal Impacts

The economic activity generated by Oregon Tech resulted in the collection of significant fiscal tax revenue by governments. In Fiscal Year 2021-22, the University generated a total of \$37.9 million in state, local, and federal taxes. Of that, \$28.9 million was generated in Klamath County. A significant portion of state and local tax component of Oregon Tech’s overall fiscal impacts goes to improving infrastructure and providing services to the community. Notably, while Oregon has no explicit sales tax, other taxes such as excise taxes on alcohol are counted as sales taxes for the purposes of this model. Income tax is the largest source of state and local revenue, thanks to earnings from workers. In Fiscal Year 2021-22, total income tax revenue generated in Klamath County was roughly \$10.2 million.

Figure B.4: State and Local Fiscal Impacts by Type and Region (\$Millions)

Tax Type	Klamath County	Marion County	Clackamas & Washington Counties	Columbia County	State of Oregon
Property	\$ 6.2	\$ 0.1	\$ 1.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 7.6
Personal Income	\$ 3.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.6	\$ -	\$ 4.0
Sales Tax	\$ 2.8	\$ -	\$ 0.4	\$ -	\$ 3.3
Other Taxes	\$ 2.3	\$ -	\$ 0.4	\$ -	\$ 2.8
Corporate Profits Tax	\$ 0.2	\$ -	\$ 0.1	\$ -	\$ 0.4
Motor Licenses	\$ 0.3	\$ -	\$ 0.0	\$ -	\$ 0.3
Payroll Tax	\$ 0.2	\$ -	\$ 0.0	\$ -	\$ 0.3
Total	\$ 15.0	\$ 0.2	\$ 2.6	\$ 0.2	\$ 18.7

Source: IMPLAN. Note that the “State of Oregon” geography is not equivalent to the sum of the four preceding geographies. Analysis by Beacon Economics.

\$28.9M

Generated in Klamath County

\$10.2M

Income Tax Generated in
Klamath County

\$37.9M

Generated by State, Local, and
Federal Taxes

Federal taxes are generated and collected from different sources of revenue than state and local taxes; federal revenues make up the largest share of fiscal year 2021-22 University fiscal impacts. Payroll taxes made up most of the tax revenue across every geography in this study, including 66% of statewide federal fiscal impacts. Spending associated with Oregon Tech contributed to almost \$20 million in federal revenues in the studied period.

Figure B.5: Federal Fiscal Impacts by Type and Region (\$Millions)

Tax Type	Klamath County	Marion County	Clackamas & Washington Counties	Columbia County	State of Oregon
Payroll and Other	\$ 6.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 1.7	\$ 0.2	\$ 9.1
Personal Income	\$ 7.1	\$ 0.2	\$ 1.2	\$ 0.1	\$ 9.1
Corporate Profits	\$ 0.5	\$ -	\$ 0.3	\$ -	\$ 1.1
Total	\$ 13.9	\$ 0.5	\$ 3.2	\$ 0.3	\$ 19.2

Source: IMPLAN. Note that the “State of Oregon” geography is not equivalent to the sum of the four preceding geographies. Analysis by Beacon Economics. Negative values reflect subsidies and/or tax credits applied to this specific tax category.



Oregon Tech Social Impacts

Aside from considerable economic and fiscal benefits, Oregon Tech also generates substantial social and community impacts at the local, state, and national level. This section highlights the significance of Oregon Tech’s role in building relationships between its staff, faculty, and students with the local community. The University and its regions of operation both benefit greatly from these relationships, which range from providing local businesses with promotional and sales opportunities to expanding and enhancing the local talent pipelines. The section will detail the major partnerships and engagements that exist between University departments, students, and alumni and the greater Oregon community.

Community Efforts

Oregon Tech is a university that is committed to giving back to its community, and it does so through a range of charitable and community events throughout the year. These events vary greatly and on a yearly basis often include public health events, alumni gatherings, educational opportunities, and volunteer work. These events help drive community throughout Oregon.

One of the most significant events that the University hosts is the annual Winter Wings Festival, which typically takes place in February. This festival is an opportunity for bird enthusiasts to come together at Oregon Tech’s Klamath Campus to celebrate and learn about birds, and it includes a variety of workshops, lectures, and guided birding tours. The festival is the oldest birding festival in the western United States and is managed by the Klamath Basin Audubon Society.³

3 Lawson, Susanna. “Winter Wings Festival.” All About Birds, <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/event/winter-wings-festival/#>.

Spotlight: Oregon Tech Sports

Oregon Institute of Technology offers six varsity men's sports and seven varsity women's sports as a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). The Owls and Lady Owls typically compete in the Cascade Collegiate Conference. Oregon Tech men's basketball has won the Division II and NAIA National Titles for three championships in the past two decades. Oregon Tech's men's basketball game has a loyal local following, earning the team's fans notoriety with other regional opponents like rival Southern Oregon University.

Another event that is essential to Oregon Tech's commitment to its community is the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) district competition. Held in January, this competition is an opportunity for high school students to showcase their business skills and compete against other students from the region. Without Oregon Tech's support, the competition may have to move to a different location, such as Bend, which could make it more challenging for students from other regions to participate. Similarly, Oregon Tech also hosts the DECA district competition each December, which provides high school students with the opportunity to compete in various business categories. Like the FBLA district competition, this event would move to Medford if not for Oregon Tech hosting the event, removing a professional and educational development tool from youth local to Klamath Falls.

In addition to these competitions, Oregon Tech also hosts career fairs in November and February, which are critical for students who are looking to enter the job market. These events provide students with the opportunity to meet with potential employers, learn about job opportunities, and network with professionals in their fields. Employers that attend these events are more likely to be from a nearby region, increasing the odds that students who receive degrees from Oregon Tech in critical fields like Engineering and Public Health keep their acquired skills in the regional economy.

4 Oregonian, Special to The. "Men's Basketball: Oregon Tech Wins NAIA Division II National Championship." Oregonlive, 14 Mar. 2012, www.oregonlive.com/sports/2012/03/mens_basketball_oregon_tech_wi.html.

Oregon Tech also plays a significant role in supporting local community health through its blood drive, Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Clinic, AIRE Research Laboratory, and COVID-19 vaccine clinic. The blood drive, which takes place in November, provides the community with an opportunity to give back by donating blood to those in need. The COVID vaccine clinic, held twice in November, is an essential service that the University provides to help keep the Klamath County community safe and healthy.

Oregon Tech hosts a wide range of alumni events throughout the year, providing graduates with opportunities to reconnect with their alma mater and fellow alumni. These events help to build and strengthen relationships among graduates and help create a sense of belonging in Oregon. An industry luncheon, alumni pregame events, a Reno Alumni BBQ, the Oregon Tech Blazers event, and a variety of academic alumni events are all small-scale events that allow for more intimate gatherings and more personalized interactions. Larger events like the alumni basketball and baseball games, the Golden Owls Reunion, and the Alumni and Family Weekend bring together larger groups of alumni, creating an energetic and lively atmosphere. Alumni are encouraged to support one another, support the Oregon region, and to continually support Oregon Tech as it provides vital educational services to new students. This continual support is apparent at the annual alumni advisory board meeting, which provides a more formal setting for alumni to come together and help guide the University's direction. Overall, these events play a crucial role in keeping alumni engaged with Oregon Tech and building a strong community of graduates who contribute to state and local economies and communities.

In addition to community events and alumni gatherings, Oregon Tech supports the community beyond the University's walls through a range of volunteer events that provide valuable assistance to community members. Scholarship Reader Volunteers, often numbering over 100 people, donate their time to read and evaluate scholarship applications, ensuring that deserving students receive the financial support they need to pursue their academic goals. In addition to this, Oregon Tech board members also volunteer their time to support the University and the community. These board members, including those on the Oregon Tech Foundation, on the Shaw Board of Governors, and on the Alumni Advisory Board, donate an average of 40 hours per year to help guide the University's direction, support its initiatives, and give back to the community.

Oregon Tech Foundation

The Oregon Tech Foundation (‘The Foundation’) is a nonprofit organization that serves as the fundraising arm of Oregon Tech. The Foundation’s mission is to support Oregon Tech’s educational, research, and community outreach efforts through fundraising, stewardship, and advocacy. Since its inception in 1976, the Oregon Tech Foundation has raised millions of dollars to support scholarships, research, faculty development, and capital projects, making a significant social impact to Oregon Tech and the wider Oregon population.

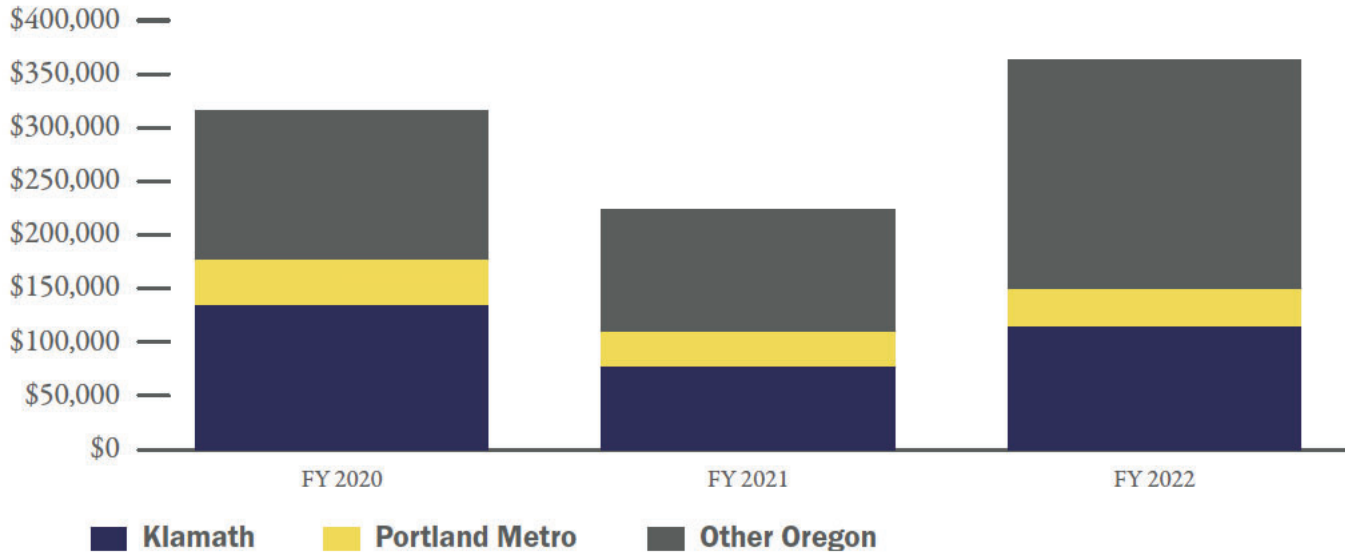
One of the primary ways the Oregon Tech Foundation creates social impact is by providing financial support to students through scholarships. The Foundation administers scholarship funds that provide students with much-needed financial assistance to pursue their academic goals. In the 2020-2021 academic year, the Foundation awarded over \$1 million in scholarships to over 300 students,⁵ helping to make education more accessible to those who might otherwise be unable to afford it.

In addition to providing scholarships, the Oregon Tech Foundation also supports the University’s research initiatives and capital projects. The Foundation has raised funds to support a range of projects, including the construction of new academic and research buildings, the acquisition of cutting-edge equipment and technology, and the establishment of endowed professorships to support faculty development. These capital investments allow Oregon Tech to maintain and grow as a leading regional academic institution with regards to engineering and healthcare.

While much of the Oregon Tech Foundation’s spending is directed within the school, the Foundation also directly contributes money to regional vendors throughout Oregon, benefitting the local economy. Over just the past three years, the Foundation has disbursed over \$1 million dollars to local vendors throughout Oregon. These disbursements generate jobs and support local small businesses and are included in economic and fiscal impact estimates.

5 “Oregon Tech Foundation Awards More than \$1 Million in Scholarships.” Oregon Tech, 28 Nov. 2022, <https://www.oit.edu/news/oregon-tech-foundation-awards-more-1-million-scholarships>.

Figure C.1: Annual OTF Disbursements to Vendors Other Than Oregon Tech



Source: Oregon Tech. Analysis by Beacon Economics.

The Foundation’s annual events also play a crucial role in building community. The Oregon Tech Foundation Board of Directors meetings bring together key stakeholders to discuss the University’s strategic direction and make important decisions about funding priorities. Recent ribbon-cutting ceremonies for the Cornett Hall and Center for Excellence in Engineering and Technology demonstrate the Foundation’s commitment to supporting capital projects that enhance the University’s facilities and academic programs. Additionally, the annual Scholarship Banquet recognizes the hard work and achievements of scholarship recipients while also providing an opportunity for donors, volunteer readers, and board members to connect and celebrate their shared commitment to supporting education.

Overall, the Oregon Tech Foundation’s social impact in Oregon is significant, providing critical support for students, faculty, and research initiatives at Oregon Tech and general economic support for regional businesses. By partnering with donors, volunteers, and community members, the Foundation creates a more equitable and accessible educational landscape in Oregon and make a positive impact on the lives of thousands of students every year.



50

States Represented by
OIT Students



36%

First Gen Students



2.2x

Share POC vs
OR Population

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Oregon Tech has made significant strides in promoting diversity and inclusion in its campus and the overall community. The institution recognizes the importance of creating a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment for all individuals, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or socioeconomic background. Doing this allows people the security to reach towards their full academic and employment potentials.

In keeping with their fundamentally held values of diversity and inclusion, Oregon Tech enrolls students from all corners of the globe. The University's nearly 5,000 students represent all 50 states and a handful of international countries. The University has an approximate 45:55 male to female ratio. Roughly 36% of its degree-seeking undergraduate student body is made up of first-generation students, and roughly 33% of overall students are self-identifying people of color. This is particularly noteworthy given the racial makeup of the state of Oregon – roughly 86% of Oregon's residents identify as white, per 2022 US Census Estimates.⁶ Oregon Tech's Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Cultural Engagement (DICE) is responsible for promoting diversity and inclusion across all aspects of the institution, including student life, academic programs, and campus culture. The office provides training, support, and resources for faculty, staff, and students to enhance their understanding and appreciation of diverse perspectives and experiences.

In addition to the DICE, Oregon Tech has several student-led organizations that promote diversity and inclusion on campus, such as the Latinx Club, Asian Cultural Club, Out in STEM Club,

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau Quickfacts: Oregon. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/OR/PST045221>.

Rainbow Owls Club, and the Society of Women Engineers.⁷ These groups provide a platform for students to share their experiences, organize events and activities, and advocate for equity and justice as they receive a quality education.

Of student-led organizations, The Treehouse stands out in terms of diversity and inclusion. The Treehouse is a student-run program under Diversity & Belonging that operates in the College Union of Oregon Tech’s Klamath campus. This space, which formed in 2018, leads events like the Women of Color Collective and multi-faith dinners in addition to offering convenient student services like printing.⁸

Oregon Tech also offers various programs and initiatives to attract and retain underrepresented students in STEM fields. The institution partners with local high schools and community colleges to provide mentoring, tutoring, and outreach programs for students from diverse backgrounds. Approximately 1,500 of Oregon Tech’s students are non-degree-seeking students obtaining college credits through the school’s Dual Credit at High School program. This provides quality educational opportunities to students at a lower cost than traditional university educational opportunities.

Oregon Tech provides scholarships and financial aid to support students who may face financial barriers to pursuing a college education. Oregon Tech awards Leadership and Diversity (LAD) Scholarships to qualifying degree-seeking students every year. As a requirement of these scholarships, recipients must engage in 10+ hours of community work each semester, helping connect students to the local community. The school also aggregates resources for national LGBTQ+ scholarships to help individuals within the LGBTQ community access funds needed to receive a secondary education.

Overall, Oregon Tech’s commitment to diversity and inclusion is evident in its efforts to create an inclusive campus community and foster an environment where all individuals can thrive. The institution’s dedication to equity and justice aligns with its mission to provide accessible, affordable, and high-quality education to all students, regardless of their background.

7 “Oregon Institute of Technology.” | Oregon Institute of Technology, <https://oit.presence.io/organizations>.

8 “The Treehouse.” The Treehouse | Oregon Tech, <https://www.oit.edu/campus-life/student/programs/campus-life-resource-centers>.

Academics and Research

Oregon Tech is Oregon's Polytechnic University and is known for its strong academics and cutting-edge research facilities. The University offers a wide range of degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels, including programs in engineering, health sciences, business, and applied sciences. Oregon Tech's rigorous academic curriculum is designed to prepare students for success in their careers by providing them with the knowledge, skills, and hands-on experience they need to excel in their fields.

One of the most significant academic programs at Oregon Tech is the Bachelor of Science in Renewable Energy Engineering. Oregon Tech was the first university in North America to offer a bachelor's degree in this area of study.⁹ This program is designed to provide students with the skills and knowledge they need to design and implement renewable energy systems that are sustainable and efficient. Students in this program learn about solar, wind, geothermal, and hydropower energy systems, and are exposed to the latest technologies and practices in the field. Graduates of this program are in high demand and are well-prepared to work in a variety of industries, including energy production, consulting, and research.

Spotlight: Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center (OMIC)

Oregon Institute of Technology hosts OMIC R&D at its Scappoose facility. OMIC provides students with opportunities to engage in leading research, including exciting projects like jet engine manufacturing, space vehicle development, and rocket production and testing. OMIC allows students to get hands-on research and contributes to Oregon Tech student's 97% job placement rate within six months of graduation.

9 "Renewable Energy Engineering." Renewable Energy Engineering Degree | Oregon Tech, <https://www.oit.edu/academics/degrees/renewable-energy-engineering>.

Another significant academic program at Oregon Tech is the Bachelor of Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography. This program is designed to provide students with the skills and knowledge they need to perform medical imaging procedures using ultrasound technology. Students in this program learn about the human body, medical terminology, patient care, and ultrasound technology. Graduates of this program are well-prepared to work in hospitals, clinics, and other healthcare settings, and they are also in high demand due to the growing need for medical imaging services.

The University has a strong research focus, and it provides students with many opportunities to get involved in research projects and work alongside faculty members on cutting-edge research initiatives. Some of the research facilities available to Oregon Tech students include the Oregon Renewable Energy Center (OREC), the University’s Scappoose Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center (OMIC), the Center for Advanced Interdisciplinary Research on the Environment, the Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA BIG) Clinic and the Oregon Tech Dental Clinic. Once students have developed their research and technical skills at Oregon Tech, many go on to use those skills throughout Oregon. The alumni who get in-demand research experience at Oregon Tech typically keep their valuable skills within the state of Oregon after graduation. Amongst responding Oregon Tech alumni who stayed in the United States, nearly two thirds (63%) remained in the state of Oregon after completing their degree. University alumni from Oregon Tech, often with degrees variants of engineering or healthcare, use their degrees to get jobs in Oregon, pay taxes in Oregon, and continue to foster community in Oregon.

Where Do Oregon Tech Alumni Live?



Source: Oregon Tech. Analysis by Beacon Economics.

Overall, Oregon Tech’s academic programs are designed to provide students with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in their careers. Whether they are pursuing a degree in engineering, health sciences, business, or applied sciences, students at Oregon Tech are exposed to the latest technologies and practices in their fields. With a strong emphasis on hands-on learning and research, Oregon Tech provides students with many opportunities to gain practical experience and develop the skills they need to make a positive impact in their industries and the greater Oregon community.

Conclusion

Oregon Tech has a substantial impact on the state of Oregon. The University’s activities generate significant economic output that supports thousands of jobs and creates millions of dollars in essential tax revenues at the federal, state, and local levels. In the 2021-22 fiscal year, Oregon Tech’s expenditures through its operations, capital expenditures, and student and visitor spending generated the following:

Figure D.1: Impact Summary by Region and Type (\$ Values in \$Millions)

	Klamath County	Marion County	Clackamas & Washington Counties	Columbia County	State of Oregon
Jobs Supported Annually	1,760	62	489	78	2,555
Labor Income	\$ 91.4	\$ 2.6	\$ 19.0	\$ 3.3	\$ 124.5
Economic Output	\$ 204.4	\$ 5.7	\$ 44.9	\$ 7.8	\$ 286.4
State and Local Tax Revenue	\$ 15.0	\$ 0.2	\$ 2.6	\$ 0.2	\$ 18.7
Federal Tax Revenue	\$ 13.9	\$ 0.5	\$ 3.2	\$ 0.3	\$ 19.2

Source: IMPLAN. Note that the “State of Oregon” geography is not equivalent to the sum of the four preceding geographies. Analysis by Beacon Economics.

In addition to the significant quantitative impacts that the University generates, the University has a notable positive social impact. Oregon Tech facilitates many programs that are aimed at improving the lives of local community members, including providing credit opportunities to students in local high schools, providing individual financial help through the Oregon Tech Institute, and implementing a variety of programs and events for students, alumni, and regional community members to benefit from. It is exceptionally noteworthy that Oregon Tech plays a key role in developing the local workforce and supplying it with talent. A significant number of its degree-seeking students remain in the region after graduation and work in local establishments. This leads to tremendous benefits for the counties studied in this report and for the state as a whole.

Appendix

This report is based on an economic analysis technique known as Multi-Regional Input-Output (MRIO) analysis, which examines inter-industry relationships across several regions. A MRIO analysis builds off the standard Input-Output (I-O) analysis by expanding effects from monetary market transactions beyond a single region. It also helps capture leakages in other regions. In a MRIO analysis, the direct effect in one region triggers indirect and induced effects in other regions. The results of the analysis reveal the effects of a change in one or several economic activities on an entire economy, along with the economic interdependence of regions. IMPLAN expands on the traditional I-O approach to include transactions among industries and institutions, and within institutions themselves, thereby capturing all monetary market transactions in a given period. This specific report uses the IMPLAN web model. For more information on the IMPLAN modeling process, visit IMPLAN.com. Although IMPLAN provides an excellent framework for conducting impact analysis, Beacon Economics takes extra precautions to ensure model results are valid, employing decades of experience to tailor the model to the unique demands of each economic impact analysis the firm conducts. Procedures and assumptions are thoroughly and systematically inspected for validity and individual project appropriateness before any analysis is performed.



About Beacon Economics

Founded in 2007, Beacon Economics, an LLC and certified Small Business Enterprise with the state of California, is an independent research and consulting firm dedicated to delivering accurate, insightful, and objectively based economic analysis. Employing unique proprietary models, vast databases, and sophisticated data processing, the company's specialized practice areas include sustainable growth and development, real estate market analysis, economic forecasting, industry analysis, economic policy analysis, and economic impact studies. Beacon Economics equips its clients with the data and analysis they need to understand the significance of on-the-ground realities and to make informed business and policy decisions.

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Expertise in Economic Impact Analysis

Since 2011, Beacon Economics has conducted multiple comprehensive analyses that have provided reliable and quantifiable data on the economic impact of various industries and organizations. Analyses evaluate major economic impacts associated with these entities and their fiscal impact on national, state, and local governments. They also incorporate a comprehensive assessment of the social and qualitative impacts associated with these institutions. By combining sampling methods, financial data, surveys, and other available economic resources with current frameworks for studying economic impacts, Beacon Economics estimates the amount of economic activity generated in the local and broader economy by calculating the spending of entities and other participants in the affected region.

Acknowledgements

Commissioned By

Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech, the University)

Oregon Tech is a public university and was founded in 1947 at its main campus in Klamath Falls, Oregon. It is fully accredited by the Northwest Commission on College and Universities (NWCCU) and provides higher education programs to a diverse array of students across multiple campuses in the Pacific Northwest. Oregon Tech students earn the highest average salaries upon graduation of any public university in the state.

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