

BUILDING THE ECONOMY AND THE COMMON GOOD: THE NATIONAL IMPACT OF CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES

As the voice of more than 140 Christian colleges and universities in the United States, the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU) has commissioned Econsult Solutions, Inc. to look at the collective economic, societal, and community impact of its U.S. institutions. Though diverse in geographic location, community type, size, age, historical roots, and curricular emphasis, CCCU institutions share a common commitment to transforming lives by faithfully relating scholarship and service to biblical truth. Fulfilling this mission profoundly affects individual students, communities, and the nation as a whole. This report articulates the significant impact these institutions have on the national economy through annual operations and capital investments, the wage premium conferred on graduates, and additional benefits brought to local communities.



140+

INSTITUTIONS
IN THE U.S.



445,000

STUDENTS



72,000

FACULTY & STAFF
(FULL-TIME & PART-TIME)



3.5 million

ALUMNI



COUNCIL FOR CHRISTIAN COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

ADVANCING FAITH AND INTELLECT
FOR THE COMMON GOOD

ECONOMIC IMPACT

In addition to their education and social mission, CCCU institutions have a significant impact on the national economy through annual operations and capital investments, the wage premium conferred on graduates, and additional benefits brought to local communities. In the aggregate, CCCU institutions are responsible for more than **\$60 billion in total economic output on an annual basis, or \$166 million per day.** This activity is generated by a combination of institutional expenditures on operations and capital investments (\$25.9 billion) and the additional alumni earning power of CCCU alumni (\$34.6 billion). In total, it supports nearly **340,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs and \$18 billion in earnings, and generates nearly \$10 billion in federal tax revenue annually.**

\$60 BILLION
IN ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT



\$25.9 BILLION
FROM OPERATIONS AND
CAPITAL INVESTMENTS



\$34.6 BILLION
FROM ADDITIONAL
ALUMNI EARNINGS

This economic activity also generates:



\$9.7 BILLION
IN FEDERAL
TAX REVENUE



340,000
JOBS IN THE ECONOMY



\$17.8 BILLION
IN SALARY AND
BENEFITS

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

At a time when higher education is under heavy scrutiny for its value proposition, CCCU institutions and their students are delivering a significant return on investment for the federal government. For every **\$1** in federal grant money a student receives, CCCU institutions provide **\$5** in aid to that student through grants and scholarships. More broadly, the federal investment in students leverages the significant private sector investment that enables the range of economic activity associated with CCCU institutions.

WHERE DOES STUDENT AID COME FROM?

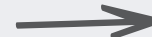
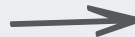


\$470 MILLION
IN ANNUAL FEDERAL GRANT AID



\$2.46 BILLION
IN ANNUAL INSTITUTIONAL AID
(THROUGH GRANTS
& SCHOLARSHIPS)

HOW DOES THIS BENEFIT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT?



\$470 MILLION
IN ANNUAL FEDERAL GRANT AID

\$9.7 BILLION
IN ANNUAL FEDERAL TAX REVENUE

For every **\$1** in federal grant money a student receives, CCCU institutions generate more than **\$20** in federal tax revenue through their operations, capital investments, and additional alumni earning power.

CCCU students have the **highest loan repayment rates** and **lowest loan default rates**.

REPAYMENT RATE

77.6%

CCCU INSTITUTIONS

64.8%

NATIONAL AVERAGE



DEFAULT RATE

6.3%

CCCU INSTITUTIONS

11.5%

NATIONAL AVERAGE

SOCIAL IMPACT

The faith-infused experience offered by CCCU institutions transforms students and produces additional personal and societal benefit. CCCU institutions are living out their organizational values in ways that help their graduates to contribute to society in numerous ways.

CCCU institutions play a vital role in educating first-generation and low-income college students. **50% of CCCU students come from families that make less than \$50,000 per year.**

1 IN 3 CCCU STUDENTS ARE FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS

35.8%

ALL 4-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

33.0%

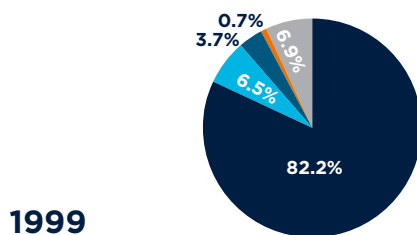
CCCU INSTITUTIONS

30.2%

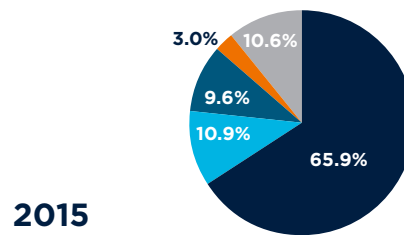
4-YEAR PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS

Since the turn of the century, the **racial and ethnic composition of CCCU's campuses have become markedly more diverse.**

UNDERGRADUATE RACE/ETHNICITY



1999
CCCU INSTITUTIONS



2015
CCCU INSTITUTIONS

WHITE
 BLACK
 HISPANIC
 ASIAN
 OTHER

CCCU students and alumni bring a faith-informed perspective to careers in a wide range of fields, and are **overrepresented in fields that may not maximize earnings but deliver social benefits**, such as human services and education.

HUMAN SERVICES*

12.7%

CCCU INSTITUTIONS



4.2%

ALL 4-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

EDUCATION & TRAINING

14.3%

CCCU INSTITUTIONS



13.6%

ALL 4-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

*Includes counseling, mental health, family, and community services.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

- Community service and service learning programs give students and faculty the opportunity to integrate direct opportunities for service into their academic experiences. CCCU students perform an estimated **5.4 million community service hours per year**. While approximately one in four college students across the country volunteer, more than one in three CCCU students participate in volunteer or community service programs while enrolled. **These participating students commit an average of 38 hours per year**, well above the national average of 34 hours per year.



35.2%
OF CCCU
STUDENTS



25.7%
OF ALL COLLEGE
STUDENTS

MORE PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

**5.4
million**



COMMUNITY SERVICE
HOURS PERFORMED BY
CCCU STUDENTS EACH YEAR

- Institutions invest in K-12 educational efforts in their local communities through collaboration with local public, private, and charter schools. CCCU institution campuses also provide significant community amenities, as centers of education, art and culture, and recreation areas that are accessible to the public.
- Economic gains are felt most concretely in local communities, intensified by the local hiring and sourcing programs undertaken by the majority of institutions. Further, students and visitors bring significant spending power into host communities, supporting and sustaining local retail activity and jobs.

Local communities benefit from a wide range of programs undertaken by CCCU institutions:

% OF CCCU INSTITUTIONS INVESTING IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



84%

ARTS & CULTURAL FACILITIES
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



71%

INVEST IN
NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS



67%

ATHLETIC FACILITIES OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC



38%

INVEST IN NEIGHBORHOOD
REAL ESTATE PROJECTS