



Wenatchee Valley College Economic Impact

INVESTMENT ANALYSIS: What is the return on investment for students, taxpayers, and society?

For **students**, the benefit of increased future income makes education at WVC an excellent investment. When considering the expense of tuition and fees and the opportunity cost of time and foregone income, WVC students earn a 22.7 percent return on their investment with a payback period of 7.2 years.

Taxpayers benefit from the economic growth and additional revenue produced by the higher earnings of students educated at WVC. The return to taxpayers on the investment of state funds in WVC operations is 7.1 percent. For every tax dollar invested in WVC, \$2.20 is returned.

Society benefits from a more educated populace through higher earnings and the reduced social costs related to medical care, lower crime, and less need for income assistance. Annually, the state accrues \$1 million in social savings and \$15.8 million in added income due to WVC's activity. WVC at Omak generates approximately 13 percent of this total.

ECONOMIC GROWTH ANALYSIS: What effects do college operations, student spending, and the higher earnings of graduates have on the regional economy?

WVC's operations contribute \$19.7 million to the regional economy annually. This includes the income earned by college employees and the goods and services purchased by WVC. WVC at Omak contributes \$1.2 million to the Okanogan County economy.

Spending by students from outside the region who come to the area to attend WVC contributes another \$3.4 million to the regional economy. Included are living expenses, transportation, and personal purchases, but not tuition or books as these are considered in the college operations effect.

The largest impact of WVC's presence is the earnings of former students. As students leave WVC and enter the workforce with new skills, this starts a chain reaction in which their higher earnings generate additional consumer spending and increased business output generates additional economic activity. The net contribution to regional income is \$129.8 million. About \$19.4 million (15 percent) of this total productivity is contributed by students from WVC at Omak.

COLLEGE PROFILE

- 7,474 students (6,551 in credit programs, 923 in non-credit)
- 692 associate degree graduates
- 462 full- and part-time employees
- \$27.3 million budget – operating and capital

DISTRICT PROFILE

- Chelan, Douglas, and Okanogan Counties
- 156,958 residents
- \$4.4 billion regional economy

NET ECONOMIC IMPACT:

WVC's total economic impact is \$152.8 million, representing 3.5 percent of the regional economy. WVC at Omak generates \$20.6 million.

Wenatchee Valley College is a sound investment for students, taxpayers, and society as a whole.

