

# FACT SHEET

*Demonstrating the Economic Value of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke to Robeson County and the state of North Carolina*

JANUARY 2015

The University of North Carolina at Pembroke (UNCP) creates value in a variety of ways. The university improves higher education delivery throughout the county and helps students increase their employability and potential, with a notably high percentage of graduates employed in their field of study. By facilitating new research, placing a priority on community service through academic programming, and drawing students and visitors to Robeson County, the university also generates new dollars and opportunities for the county. The purpose of this analysis is to assess the impact of UNCP on the Robeson County economy. The analysis also looks at the benefits generated for students, North Carolina as a whole, and taxpayers.

*Our analysis shows that in FY 2012-13, the \$116.4 million in payroll and operations spending of UNCP, together with its construction spending and the spending of its students, visitors, and alumni, created **\$152 MILLION** in added county income. This is equal to approximately **5.5%** of the total Gross Regional Product of Robeson County, and is equivalent to creating **3,178** new jobs.*

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## IMPACT ON THE COUNTY BUSINESS COMMUNITY

During the analysis year, FY 2012-13, UNCP spent **\$64.4 MILLION** on payroll and benefits for **1,064** full-time and part-time employees, and spent another **\$52.1 MILLION** on goods and services to carry out its day-to-day operations and research. This initial round of spending creates more spending across other businesses throughout the county economy, resulting in the commonly referred to multiplier effects. We estimate these multiplier effects in this study and report the *additional* economic activity that is created by the initial spending of UNCP.\* Impacts are reported in terms of total income, which is analogous to Gross Regional Product, and the corresponding number of jobs created.

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\* Note: Our estimated economic impacts are conservative in that we directly take into account the fact that state and local dollars spent on the university could have been spent elsewhere in North Carolina if not directed toward UNCP, and thus would have created some economic impacts regardless. We account for these alternative uses of funds directly in our analysis by (i) assuming that if funds were not directed to UNCP, they would have been returned to the taxpayer and generate economic impacts through household spending on goods and services, and (ii) subtracting the estimated economic impacts generated by this alternative use of funds from the estimated economic impacts of UNCP. Thus, we report a net impact of UNCP that is above and beyond what would have occurred had the funds been returned to the taxpayer.



These economic impacts break down as follows:

#### *Operations spending impact*

- Payroll and non-pay expenditures to support day-to-day operations (less research) of UNCP amounted to **\$63.8 MILLION** and **\$51.8 MILLION**, respectively. The net impact of the university's operations spending in Robeson County during the analysis year was approximately **\$73.5 MILLION** in added county income, which is equivalent to creating **1,237** jobs.

#### *Research spending impact*

- Research activities of UNCP impact the county economy by employing people and making purchases for equipment, supplies, and services. They also facilitate new knowledge creation throughout Robeson County. In FY 2012-13, UNCP spent **\$569.4 THOUSAND** on payroll to support research activities.
- Research spending of UNCP generates **\$670.8 THOUSAND** in added county income for the Robeson County economy, which is equivalent to creating **11** new jobs.

#### *Construction spending impact*

- UNCP built or renovated a number of its facilities during the analysis year. This spending generated a short-term infusion of income and jobs in the county economy.
- The net impact of the university's construction spending in FY 2012-13 was **\$473 THOUSAND** in added county income, equivalent to **22** new jobs.

#### *Student spending impact*

- Around **44%** of graduate and undergraduate students attending UNCP originated from outside the county. Some of these students relocated to Robeson County and spent money on groceries, transportation, rent, and so on at Robeson County businesses.
- The expenditures of students who relocated to the county during the analysis year added approximately **\$5.9 MILLION** in county income for the Robeson County economy, which is equivalent to creating **260** new jobs.

**IMPACTS CREATED BY UNCP IN FY 2012-13**

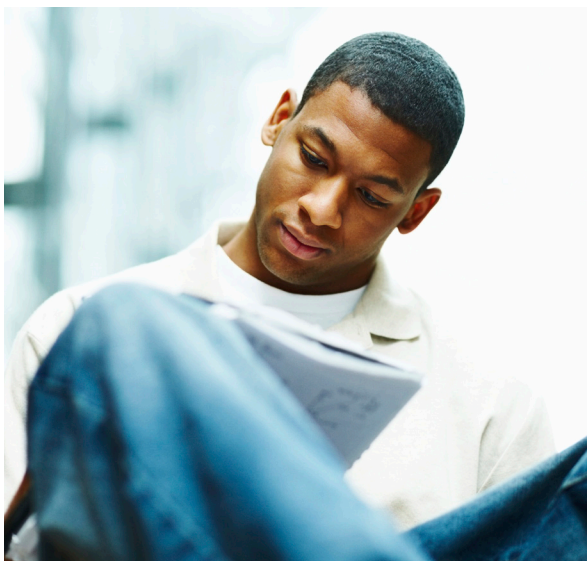
| INCOME                       | JOBS         |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>\$73.5 MILLION</b>        | <b>1,237</b> |
| Operations spending impact   |              |
| <b>\$670.8 THOUSAND</b>      | <b>11</b>    |
| Research spending impact     |              |
| <b>\$473 THOUSAND</b>        | <b>22</b>    |
| Construction spending impact |              |
| <b>\$5.9 MILLION</b>         | <b>260</b>   |
| Student spending impact      |              |
| <b>\$5.6 MILLION</b>         | <b>171</b>   |
| Visitor spending impact      |              |
| <b>\$65.9 MILLION</b>        | <b>1,478</b> |
| Alumni impact                |              |
| <b>\$152 MILLION</b>         | <b>3,178</b> |
| Total impact                 |              |

*Visitor spending impact*

- Out-of-county visitors attracted to Robeson County for activities at UNCP brought new dollars to the economy through their spending at hotels, restaurants, gas stations, and other county businesses.
- Visitor spending added approximately **\$5.6 MILLION** in county income for the Robeson County economy, which is equivalent to creating **171** new jobs.

*Alumni impact*

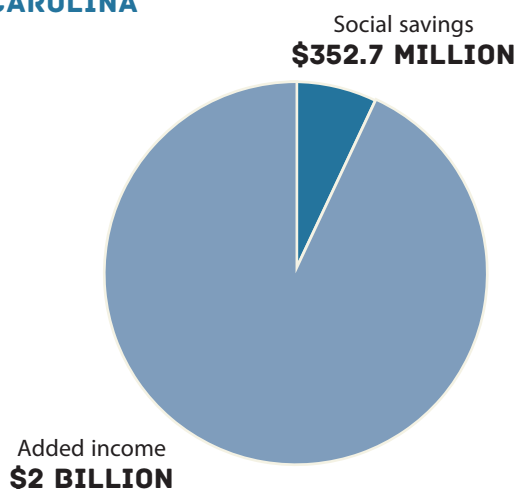
- Over the years, students gained new skills, making them more productive workers, by studying at UNCP. Today, thousands of these former students are employed in Robeson County.
- The accumulated contribution of former UNCP students currently employed in the Robeson County workforce amounted to **\$65.9 MILLION** in added county income to the Robeson County economy, which is equivalent to creating **1,478** new jobs.



## FOR EVERY \$1 SPENT BY...

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>STUDENTS</b>  | <p><b>\$3.10</b></p> <p>Gained in lifetime income for STUDENTS</p>                        |
| <b>SOCIETY</b>   | <p><b>\$10.20</b></p> <p>Gained in added state income and social savings for SOCIETY</p>  |
| <b>TAXPAYERS</b> | <p><b>\$4.20</b></p> <p>Gained in added taxes and public sector savings for TAXPAYERS</p> |

## PRESENT VALUE OF ADDED INCOME AND SOCIAL SAVINGS IN NORTH CAROLINA



### ABOUT EMSI

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## RETURN ON INVESTMENT TO STUDENTS, SOCIETY, AND TAXPAYERS

### Student perspective

- Students attending UNCP during FY 2012-13 paid a total of **\$28.1 MILLION** to cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, and supplies. They also forwent **\$102 MILLION** in money that they would have earned had they been working instead of learning.
- In return for the money students invest to earn their degrees, they will receive a present value of **\$405.5 MILLION** in estimated increased earnings over their working lives.
- This translates to a return of **\$3.10** in higher future income for every \$1 that students invest in their UNCP education. The average annual return for students is **13.3%**.

### Societal perspective

- North Carolina as a whole will receive a present value of **\$2 BILLION** in added state income over the course of the students' working lives. Communities will also benefit from **\$352.7 MILLION** in present value social savings related to reduced crime, lower unemployment, and increased health and well-being across the state.
- For every dollar that society spent on educations at UNCP during the analysis year, North Carolina communities will receive a cumulative value of **\$10.20** in benefits, for as long as the 2012-13 students of UNCP remain active in the state workforce.

### Taxpayer perspective

- In FY 2012-13, state and local taxpayers in North Carolina invested **\$59.5 MILLION** to support the operations of UNCP. The net present value of the added tax revenue stemming from the students' higher lifetime incomes and the increased output of businesses amounts to **\$189.2 MILLION** in benefits to taxpayers. Savings to the public sector add another **\$61.3 MILLION** in benefits due to a reduced demand for government-funded services in North Carolina.
- Dividing benefits to taxpayers by the associated costs yields a **4.2** benefit-cost ratio, i.e., every \$1 in costs returns \$4.20 in benefits. The average annual return on investment for taxpayers is **11.9%**.