

**THE ECONOMIC IMPACT  
OF  
HIGHER EDUCATION ON HOUSTON:  
  
A CASE STUDY  
OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Prepared by  
The Institute for Regional Forecasting  
University of Houston**

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## **The Economic Impact**

The UH System's annual impact on the Houston-area's economy equates to that of a major corporation.

- \* \$1.1 billion in new funds attracted annually to the Houston area
- \* \$3.126 billion in total economic benefit
- \* 24,000 local jobs generated

## **The Workforce Impact**

UH System graduates stay in Houston, investing their knowledge and effort into our business, industry, and community life.

- \* 200,000+ UH System graduates
- \* 75 percent of graduates are from Houston, but 80 percent of graduates stay in Houston.
- \* Alumni include today's corporate, civic, arts, and education leaders.

## **The Community Impact**

The UH System is indispensable, impacting literally every resident in our city.

- \* Students give 1 million volunteer and internship hours annually.
- \* UH System research addresses public safety, medicine, life-enhancing technology, transportation, the environment, and much more.
- \* Outreach efforts encompass business, education, the arts, social services, and public health.

## **The Educational Impact**

The UH System is, by far, the region's largest awarder of degrees and educational services.

- \* Creates an "opportunity escalator" for students and families
- \* Generates knowledge that benefits Houston and Texas
- \* Serves Houstonians as well as students from 126 countries, making UH the most ethnically diverse major research institution in the nation.