

# The Economic Value of Durham Technical Community College

Durham Technical Community College (Durham Tech) creates a significant positive impact on the business community and generates a return on investment to its major stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. Using a two-pronged approach that involves an economic impact analysis and an investment analysis, this study calculates the benefits received by each of these groups. Results of the analysis reflect fiscal year (FY) 2019-20.



THE DURHAM TECH  
SERVICE REGION, NC



## ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

In FY 2019-20, Durham Tech added **\$305.9 million** in income to the Durham Tech Service Region\* economy. Expressed in terms of jobs, Durham Tech's impact supported **4,080 jobs**.

### OPERATIONS SPENDING IMPACT

- Durham Tech employed 796 full-time and part-time faculty and staff. Payroll amounted to \$31.8 million, much of which was spent in the region for groceries, mortgage and rent payments, dining out, and other household expenses. The college spent another \$22.2 million on day-to-day expenses related to facilities, supplies, and professional services.
- The net impact of the college's operations spending added **\$44.7 million** in income to the regional economy in FY 2019-20.

### STUDENT SPENDING IMPACT

- Some in-region students, referred to as retained students, would have left the Durham Tech Service Region for other educational opportunities if not for Durham Tech. These retained students spent money on groceries, mortgage and rent payments, and other living expenses at regional businesses.
- The expenditures of retained students in FY 2019-20 added **\$13.9 million** in income to the Durham Tech Service Region economy.

\* For the purposes of this analysis, the Durham Tech Service Region is comprised of the following zipcodes: 27703, 27713, 27707, 27705, 27704, 27517, 27701, 27712, 27572, 27503, 27709, 27717, 27715, 27702, 27722, 27706, 27708, 27710, 27711, 27516, 27278, 27514, 27510, 27243, 27541, 27231, 27515, 27599, 27560, 27519, 27617, 27613, 27587, 27610, 27616, 27513, 27612, 27606, 27604, 27607, 27614, 27615, and 27609 in Durham, Orange, Person, and Wake Counties.

### IMPACTS CREATED BY DURHAM TECH IN FY 2019-20



Operations spending impact

**\$44.7 million**



Student spending impact

**\$13.9 million**



Alumni impact

**\$247.3 million**



TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

**\$305.9 million**

OR

Jobs supported

**4,080**

## ALUMNI IMPACT

- Over the years, students have studied at Durham Tech and entered or re-entered the workforce with newly-acquired knowledge and skills. Today, thousands of these former students are employed in the Durham Tech Service Region.
- The net impact of Durham Tech's former students currently employed in the regional workforce amounted to **\$247.3 million** in added income in FY 2019-20.



## INVESTMENT ANALYSIS

### STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

- Durham Tech's FY 2019-20 students paid a present value of **\$8.8 million** to cover the cost of tuition, fees, supplies, and interest on student loans. They also forwent **\$43.5 million** in money that they would have earned had they been working instead of attending college.
- In return for their investment, students will receive a cumulative present value **\$189.6 million** in increased earnings over their working lives. This translates to a return of **\$3.60** in higher future earnings for every dollar students invest in their education. Students' average annual rate of return is **20.5%**.

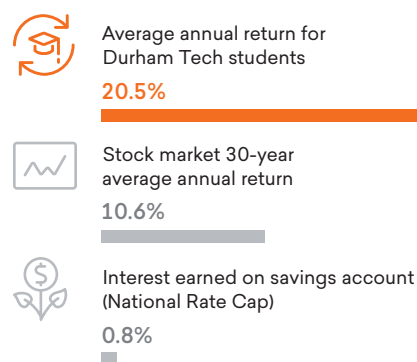
### TAXPAYER PERSPECTIVE

- Taxpayers provided Durham Tech with **\$40.2 million** of funding in FY 2019-20. In return, they will benefit from added tax revenue, stemming from students' higher lifetime earnings and increased business output, amounting to **\$56.1 million**. A reduced demand for government-funded services in North Carolina will add another **\$3.8 million** in benefits to taxpayers.
- For every dollar of public money invested in Durham Tech, taxpayers will receive **\$1.50** in return, over the course of students' working lives. The average annual rate of return for taxpayers is **3.8%**.

### SOCIAL PERSPECTIVE

- In FY 2019-20, North Carolina invested **\$102 million** to support Durham Tech. In turn, the North Carolina economy will grow by **\$627.9 million**, over the course of students' working lives. Society will also benefit from **\$9.7 million** of public and private sector savings.
- For every dollar invested in Durham Tech in FY 2019-20, people in North Carolina will receive **\$6.30** in return, for as long as Durham Tech's FY 2019-20 students remain active in the state workforce.

### STUDENTS SEE A HIGH RATE OF RETURN FOR THEIR INVESTMENT IN DURHAM TECH



Source: Forbes' S&P 500, 1991-2020. FDIC.gov, 6-2021.

### For every \$1...

