

THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF JAMES SPRUNT COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S Criminal Justice Program



The Criminal Justice program¹ was established in 1978. In FY 2019-20, JSCC enrolled 167 students in the program. Students were enrolled for the returning semester with the intent of completing their degree or certificate within the next year or two. In FY 2019-20, JSCC curriculum graduates included four associate degrees and one certificate.



DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

CAREER OUTLOOK

The Criminal Justice program can lead students into a number of occupations, which may include compliance officers; police & sheriff patrol officers; and emergency management directors. Many of the Criminal Justice program students will enter the Duplin County workforce.

Using the county number of annual openings for these occupations (13) and subtracting the FY 2019-20 JSCC completers that may fill these openings (five), we arrive at a gap of eight job openings.² There are 12 unique job postings at the associate degree or below for these occupations in Duplin County. The top three posting companies are JPMorgan Chase; PAREXEL; and Duplin County Local Government.

ALUMNI IMPACT

Former students of JSCC's Criminal Justice program added \$1.8 million in income to the Duplin County economy in FY 2019-20. This figure represents the increased wages collected by former students active today in the county workforce as a direct result of their education, the increased output of businesses that employ these students, and the multiplier effects that occur.

PROGRAM TO OCCUPATION MAPPING METRICS IN DUPLIN COUNTY

Number of occupations	18
Jobs (2020)	463
Projected avg. job growth (2020-2029)	+0.3%
Annual openings (2020)	13
Median annual wage (2020)*	\$46,007

* The median annual wage reflects all award levels.

ALUMNI LIFETIME EARNINGS INCREASE AND IMPACT

Lifetime earnings
increase per completer
\$279.6 thousand

Total alumni impact
in FY 2019-20
\$1.8 million

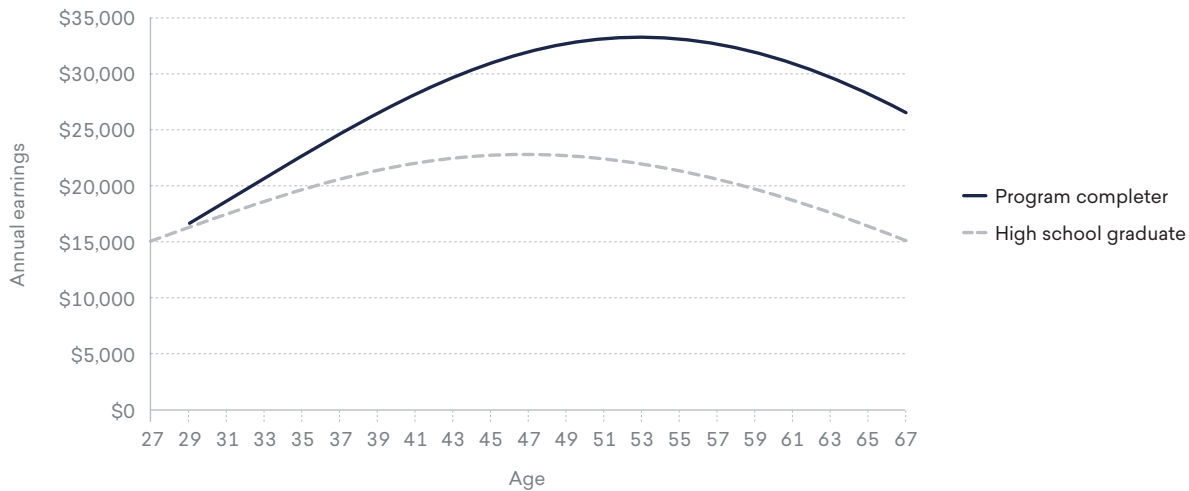


1 The Criminal Justice program is defined by the following Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes: Criminal Justice/Police Science (43.0107) and Criminal Justice/Safety Studies (43.0104).
2 For the purposes of this analysis, only JSCC completers were considered when comparing to annual openings.

STUDENT RETURN ON INVESTMENT

To earn a degree or certificate in the program, students experience costs in the form of tuition and fees, books and supplies, and the opportunity cost of attending school instead of working. In return for this investment, students can earn higher wages. For every dollar students invest in their education in the program, they will receive \$9.80 back over the course of their working lives. This investment can also be seen in terms of a rate of return of 43.7%. This is an impressive return, especially when compared to the U.S. stock market 30-year average return of 10.6%.

LIFETIME EARNINGS OF A PROGRAM COMPLETER COMPARED TO A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE



TAXPAYER BENEFITS

Taxpayers will receive an estimated present value of \$576.8 thousand in added tax revenue stemming from the students' higher lifetime earnings and the increased output of businesses. Savings to the public sector add another estimated \$48.6 thousand in benefits due to a reduced demand for government-funded social services in North Carolina. Throughout the students' working lives, North Carolina taxpayers will receive a total of \$625.4 thousand in benefits.

Throughout the students' working lives, **North Carolina taxpayers** gain in added tax revenue and public sector savings



\$625.4 thousand