



Economic Impact of The Evergreen State College

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CONTACTS

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A thank you to Jeff Bowe of Experience Olympia & Beyond for providing visitor impact calculations in Thurston County and Rob Allen of Pierce County for providing visitor spending profiles there.

Additionally, thank you to Jaren Tengan, an Evergreen graduate, for providing the image of the Conservation Corps in action.

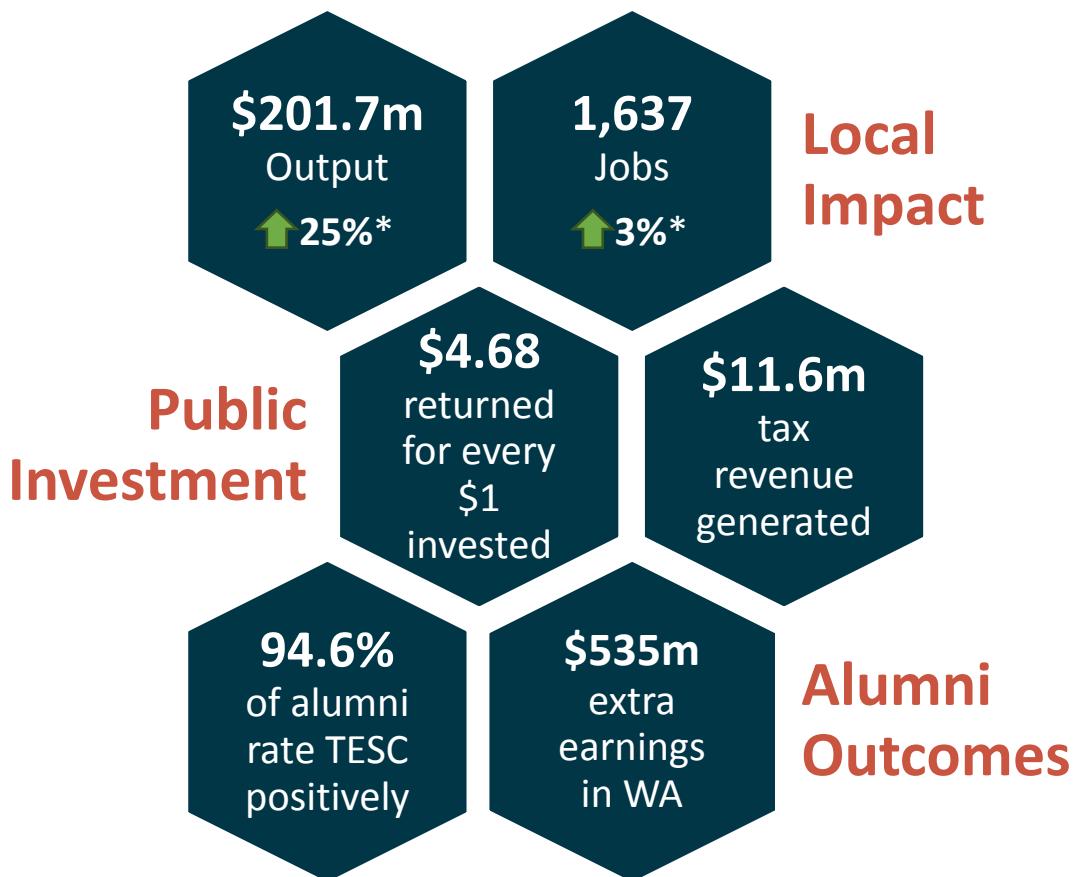
Lastly, a special thanks to the staff at the Thurston Economic Development Council.

“My education at Evergreen was the best thing I ever did.”*

*Quotes scattered throughout this report were provided directly by Evergreen alumni in the Thurston Economic Development Council Alumni Survey, 2018

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Evergreen State College (hereafter referred to as “Evergreen”) recently contracted with the Thurston Economic Development Council to review and update Evergreen’s economic impact study previously conducted in 2012 by ECONorthwest. The following data is representative of the 2016-2017 academic year, which was the most recent year on record at the time of this report. This report assessed economic impacts using the IMPLAN I/O model’s 2016 dataset. The report findings are highlighted below.



*Increases represent a % change from the 2012 impact assessment conducted by ECONorthwest.

TOTAL LOCAL IMPACTS

Evergreen’s total economic contribution to Thurston County is valued at \$201,793,988 and includes \$109,478,924 in income and 1,637.25 jobs. These impacts accrue from local operational and capital spending by Evergreen, local spending by Evergreen’s student body and local spending by visitors that come from out of town to one of Evergreen’s many events hosted in Olympia. When compared with 2012, total economic output has increased approximately 25% and total jobs have increased approximately 3%. These increases are largely attributed to increases in capital spending in 2016 compared with 2012 (approximately \$8 million in 2012 and \$16.7 million in 2016).

Table 1: Total Thurston County Impact, 2017

Impact Type	Direct	Indirect	Induced	Total
Jobs	997.02	247.21	393.02	1,637.25
Income	\$73,365,881	\$13,936,939	\$22,176,104	\$109,478,924
Output	\$109,822,527	\$38,189,721	\$53,781,740	\$201,793,988
State & Local Taxes	\$5,537,548	\$1,982,252	\$4,163,603	\$11,683,403

Sources: Thurston EDC, The Evergreen State College and IMPLAN

DIRECT IMPACT

Evergreen's *direct impact* is the direct spending and purchasing by Evergreen on payroll, operations and capital expenditures. Also included in direct impact is spending by Evergreen's student body and tourist dollars generated by visitors to Evergreen's campus. **In total, \$109,822,527 in direct spending occurred in Thurston County due to the existence of Evergreen.**

INDIRECT IMPACT

Indirect impacts occur when businesses purchase inputs from other businesses to meet the needs of the direct-impact purchasing. Sometimes called *secondary impacts* or *supply-chain impacts*, indirect impacts demonstrate how money spent as a direct impact can circulate through a local economy multiple times. **The total indirect impact of Evergreen within Thurston County is \$38,189,721 in output, \$13,936,939 in new income and 247.21 new jobs.**

INDUCED IMPACT

Induced impacts are increases in spending by employees of the supply-chain businesses that benefit from direct and indirect purchases. Direct and indirect spending boosts the salaries of employees and proprietors who increase purchasing in their local economy on goods and services like food, healthcare and real estate as their incomes grow. **Induced impacts generated by Evergreen in Thurston County are valued at \$53,781,740 in total economic output, \$22,176,104 in new income and 393.02 new jobs.**

MULTIPLIERS

Multipliers signify the degree to which spending multiplies and circulates within the local economy before it leaks out of the area. The following calculations were done by the Thurston Economic Development Council using the IMPLAN I/O model.

Evergreen's output multiplier is 2.33. That means for every \$100 spent by Evergreen, \$233 in total economic output is added to Thurston County.

Evergreen's income multiplier is 1.72. That means for every \$100 spent by Evergreen on wages, \$172 in total income is added to Thurston County.

Evergreen's employment multiplier is 2.15. That means for every 100 jobs at Evergreen, a total of 215 jobs are added in Thurston County.

Output Multiplier Income Multiplier Employment Multiplier

2.33	1.72	2.15
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Source: Thurston EDC calculations. Numbers rounded to two significant digits.

ALUMNI IMPACTS

Spending by Evergreen alumni in Washington supports **3,336.83 jobs throughout Washington**, generates **\$535,627,041 in economic output and contributes an additional \$35,169,524 in state and local taxes.**

RETURN ON PUBLIC INVESTMENT

For every \$1 the state invests in Evergreen, approximately \$4.68 is generated in Thurston County. Public investment in Evergreen generates value for the local economy with **each job created costing the state only \$26,357.73. For every \$3.69 spent by the state to fund Evergreen, \$1 is returned to the public in state and local taxes.**

STUDENT OUTCOMES

As part of this report, the Thurston Economic Development Council conducted an electronic survey of Evergreen alumni to measure student outcomes. A total of 2,006 total responses were collected. According to alumni, **96.49% had a positive or very positive experience while attending Evergreen.**

The average reported salary for alumni graduating in 2016 was \$39,057.97 one year after graduation. Approximately **83% of 2016 graduates were currently employed**. Average salary among all Evergreen alumni was **\$60,755.67** and that **62.26% felt their daily work was “very creative”**.

The most represented employment sector was “educational services” with 25.63% of all respondents working in that field.

10.67% indicated they were executives or board members at a for-profit business while 16.46% indicated they were executives or board members at a non-profit organization.

***“Evergreen gave me an excellent undergraduate education...
that degree was pretty much an open ticket to graduate school.”***
