The U Effect

The benefits of getting a college degree are immense. It leads to increased earnings, economic mobility, healthier lifestyles, volunteering, even voter participation. But what about beyond the individual benefits? Researchers at the U’s Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute looked past the basics and quantified the impact of having a Tier 1 research institution right here in Utah. Not surprisingly, they found that the U has an enormous economic and societal impact on the entire state, making it one of Utah’s largest and most important economic assets. Here are just a few highlights.

Esteemed Education
- 28,000+ students
- 8,600+ graduates last year
- 100 undergraduate and 90 graduate fields of study
- 30+ nationally ranked programs
- Trained two-thirds of practicing physicians in Utah

Start-up & Commercialization
- 40% inventors
- 5 new startups from technologies developed by faculty and students
- Top 10 in the country for entrepreneurship
- 54 new issued U.S. patents

Driving Discovery
- Joining Harvard, Stanford, MIT, and others, the U was invited to the Association of American Universities
- $603 million in research funding in fiscal year 2020
- 3,809 papers published in peer-reviewed journals

Patient Care
- 8 million patient visits
- 5 hospitals, 12 community health centers
- No. 1 hospital in Utah
- Contributed $180 million in uncompensated patient care

Arts & Entertainment
- The U makes Utah a better place to live in many ways—not the least of which is being home to premier venues, including:
  - Kingsbury Hall
  - Simmons Pioneer Memorial Theatre
  - Red Butte Garden
  - Utah Museum of Fine Arts
  - Natural History Museum of Utah
  - Rice-Eccles Stadium
  - Huntsman Center

$4.6 billion paid in wages and benefits

39,000+ employees, largest employer in the state

$56.6 million annual off-campus spending by nonresident students