

# Economic Engine and Community Catalyst

Exploring the Economic and Social Impacts of the  
University of Rochester Consolidated Entity

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## Executive Summary

The University of Rochester, UR Medicine, and its affiliates stand as transformative economic forces in the City of Rochester, Monroe County, the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions, serving as anchor institutions that drive prosperity, innovation, and opportunity throughout their communities. The consolidated Institution yields substantial economic value through its commitment to excellence in education, research, health care delivery, and community engagement.

### Regional Economic Leadership

The University of Rochester, combined with UR Medicine and affiliates, represents the **largest employer in the Greater Rochester and Upstate New York regions**, establishing the institution as a cornerstone of regional economic stability and growth. This leadership position extends far beyond direct employment, creating ripple effects that strengthen the entire economic ecosystem.

The University's economic influence is remarkable in scope: **the University of Rochester directly or indirectly supports 32,200 jobs in Rochester, representing 1 in every 14 jobs located within the City**. This extraordinary job creation extends statewide, where **the University directly or indirectly supports 66,700 jobs, representing 1 in every 126 jobs throughout New York State**. These figures underscore the University's role as an economic multiplier, generating employment opportunities that extend well beyond its campus boundaries.

### Substantial Tax Revenue Generation

Despite its tax-exempt status as a nonprofit institution, the University of Rochester generates significant tax revenues for the state government through its economic activities. **The consolidated entity generates an approximate \$322 million annually in tax revenues for the State of New York.**<sup>1</sup> This contribution demonstrates how the University's presence directly supports essential services and infrastructure that benefit all residents.

### Health care Leadership and Regional Impact

UR Medicine operates as the largest health system in upstate New York, providing comprehensive medical services that extend far beyond the Rochester metropolitan area. The health system's hospitals serve as anchor employers throughout their respective regions, often ranking among the largest employers in smaller communities across upstate New York. This employment base provides stable, well-paying jobs in areas where such opportunities are often limited. UR Medicine's commitment to community health extends through substantial charity care programs, ensuring that essential health care services remain accessible to underserved populations. This

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to Figure 9.7 for detailed tax revenues due to income, sales, and business taxes.

dual role as both major employer and health care safety net demonstrates how UR Medicine functions as a critical economic and social stabilizer throughout upstate New York's communities.

## Research Excellence and Economic Risk

The University's research enterprise represents a critical economic asset for both the region and state. With an **annual research budget of \$488 million, approximately 96% of which comes from sources outside the city and state**, the University functions as a powerful economic engine that brings external capital into Rochester and New York State. This external funding—almost all of which would not otherwise flow into Rochester and New York State—demonstrates the University's unique ability to attract national resources to benefit local communities.

However, this economic contribution faces significant risk, as **74% of the research budget is derived from federal government sources**. These figures highlight the vulnerability of the economic contribution to federal policy changes. Reduction in research would create an outsized negative impact.

## Community Investment and Workforce Development

Beyond direct economic measures, the University of Rochester demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to community development through comprehensive initiatives totaling more than \$660 million in community benefits in FY2024. This substantial investment includes \$308 million in uncompensated medical costs and charity care; almost \$170 million in subsidized health services; and more than \$175 million in health professional workforce development. These programs and services directly address critical community needs while ensuring health care access for underserved populations throughout the region.

The Institution's role in workforce development extends throughout the region, with the School of Medicine and Dentistry training residents and fellows annually as part of its \$175 million investment in health professionals education. Additionally, the University contributes almost \$535,000 in community building activities and more than \$2 million in community health improvement services, exemplifying how the University leverages its position as a major employer and health care provider to strengthen the broader community through targeted programs that address housing, economic development, and public health initiatives.

## Conclusion

The University of Rochester economic impact study reveals an institution that serves as far more than an educational provider—it functions as a comprehensive economic development engine that strengthens communities, attracts external investment, and creates opportunities for residents throughout the region. From supporting 1 in 14 jobs in Rochester to generating millions in tax revenues and providing essential health care services, the University demonstrates how anchor institutions can drive sustained economic growth while advancing their core missions of education, research, and service.

As federal research funding faces potential challenges and economic conditions evolve, the University's continued success becomes increasingly critical to regional economic stability. The Institution's ability to attract external resources, develop human capital, foster arts and culture, and generate innovation positions it as an essential partner in ensuring the long-term prosperity of Rochester and New York State.



**“Knowledge is our most important business... but its value is not only economic. The pursuit, production, dissemination, application, and preservation of knowledge are the central activities of a civilization.”**

- Sarah C. Mangelsdorf, President

Summary of the University of Rochester’s economic impact: \$13.0B and 86,700 jobs supported in New York State; category impacts include operations, capital, ancillary spending, and wage premium, with additional tax revenue impacts. A longer description is available in the report text.



# University of Rochester

## ECONOMIC IMPACT JOBS SUPPORTED

**Rochester**  
 \$5.9 billion  
**Finger Lakes and Southern Tier**  
 \$11.8 billion  
**New York State**  
 \$13.0 billion



**Rochester**  
 32,200 jobs  
**Finger Lakes and Southern Tier**  
 62,000 jobs  
**New York State**  
 86,700 jobs



## ECONOMIC IMPACT BY CATEGORY

### OPERATIONS



**Rochester**  
 \$5.4 billion  
**Finger Lakes and Southern Tier**  
 \$10.8 billion  
**New York State**  
 \$11.4 billion

### CAPITAL



**Rochester**  
 \$322 million  
**Finger Lakes and Southern Tier**  
 \$370 million  
**New York State**  
 \$808 million

### ANCILLARY SPENDING



**Rochester**  
 \$82 million  
**Finger Lakes and Southern Tier**  
 \$185 million  
**New York State**  
 \$197 million

### WAGE PREMIUM



**Rochester**  
 \$78 million  
**Finger Lakes and Southern Tier**  
 \$410 million  
**New York State**  
 \$785 million

## ANNUAL TAX REVENUES

**NEW YORK STATE**  
 \$322 million

**CITY OF ROCHESTER**  
 \$23 million

# Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction..... 10
  - 1.1. Purpose of Report ..... 10
  - 1.2. About the University of Rochester and Related Entities..... 10
  - 1.4. Drivers of Economic Impacts..... 15
  - 1.5. Report Scope and Methodology..... 15
  - 1.6. Report Organization ..... 18
- 2. Economic Impact from Annual Operations..... 19
  - 2.1. Section Overview ..... 19
  - 2.2. Direct Operating Footprint..... 20
  - 2.3. University of Rochester Operations Leading to Economic Impact ..... 22
  - 2.4. Industry Distribution of Economic Impact from Annual Operations ..... 23
  - 2.5. Tax Revenue Impact from Annual Operations..... 25
  - 2.6. University of Rochester Research Leading to Economic Impact ..... 26
- 3. Economic Impact from Capital Investments ..... 31
  - 3.1. Section Overview ..... 31
  - 3.2. Direct Capital Investments..... 32
  - 3.3. Economic Impact from Capital Investments ..... 35
  - 3.4. Industry Distribution of Economic Impact from Capital Investments ..... 36
  - 3.5. Capital Investments Generate Tax Revenue ..... 37
- 4. Economic Impact from Ancillary Spending by Students, Patients, Visitors, and Athletics ..... 39
  - 4.1. Section Overview ..... 39
  - 4.2. Direct Student Spending ..... 39
  - 4.3. Direct Patient Spending..... 41
  - 4.4. Direct Visitor Spending..... 43
  - 4.5. Economic Impact from Ancillary Spending by Students, Patients, Visitors, and Athletics 45
  - 4.6. Industry Distribution of Economic Impact from Ancillary Spending by Students, Patients, and Visitors..... 46
  - 4.7. Ancillary Spending Generates Tax Revenue ..... 47
- 5. Economic Impact from Alumni Wage Premium ..... 49

5.1. Section Overview .....	49
5.2. Defining Alumni Wage Premium .....	49
5.3. Direct Alumni Wage Premium.....	50
5.4. Economic Impact from Alumni Wage Premium .....	53
5.5. Industry Distribution of Economic Impact from Alumni Wage Premium.....	54
5.6. Alumni Wage Premium Generates Tax Revenue .....	55
6. Local Engagement .....	57
6.1. Section Overview .....	57
6.2. Economic Opportunity .....	57
6.3. University of Rochester Campus as Community Amenity .....	59
6.4. Civic Engagement .....	61
6.5. Programs and Services within the Community .....	64
6.6. Conclusion: University of Rochester as a Vital Community Partner .....	67
7. Regional Competitiveness.....	68
7.1. Section Overview .....	68
7.2. Advancing Human Knowledge and Innovation.....	69
7.3. Supporting Entrepreneurship .....	75
7.4. Strengthening the Regional Workforce .....	81
7.5. Economic Development and Regional Partnership .....	84
7.6. Conclusion: Strengthening Regional Competitiveness .....	85
8. Broader Societal Impacts .....	86
8.1. Section Overview .....	86
8.2. An Accessible Education.....	86
8.3. A Commitment to Global Service.....	87
8.4. Conclusion: Creating Global Citizens .....	89
9. Conclusion .....	91
9.1. Aggregate Economic Impact.....	91
Appendix A: Supplementary Economic Impact Results – Operations.....	94
Appendix B: Supplementary Economic Impact Results – Capital Investments .....	97
Appendix C: Supplementary Economic Impact Results – Ancillary Spending from Students, Visitors, and Patients .....	99
Appendix D: Supplementary Economic Impact Results – Alumni Wage Premium.....	102

Appendix E: Supplementary Economic Impact Results – Research Expenditures..... 104  
Appendix F: Input-Output Methodology..... 105  
Appendix G: About Econsult Solutions, Inc. .... 108

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to articulate the economic impact of the University of Rochester consolidated entity on its surrounding regions by quantifying its annualized economic footprint—both through its university operations and academic activities, and through its extensive health system. In combination with a comprehensive analysis of the University of Rochester’s social contributions, these findings demonstrate the institution’s enduring mission to *Learn, Discover, Heal, Create—and Make the World Ever Better*.

Through detailed analyses of annual operations, capital investments, spending by students, visitors, and patients, and the enhanced purchasing power of alumni whose education at the University of Rochester elevates their earning potential, this report presents a unified picture of the university’s role in strengthening regional economic functions and enhancing the vitality of its host communities. It highlights how the pursuit of public good through economic and social initiatives generates lasting, positive societal change that extends far beyond the local region.

## 1.2. About the University of Rochester and Related Entities

As a community, the University of Rochester is defined by a deep commitment to *Meliora - Ever Better*. Embedded in that ideal are shared values: equity, leadership, integrity, openness, respect, and accountability. The University of Rochester and UR Medicine as a combined entity is the largest private employer in the Rochester Region and within the upstate New York region.



The University of Rochester



# University of Rochester

Founded in 1850 in western New York, the University of Rochester stands as one of the world's leading research universities. With more than 11,000 students, the University maintains a low student-to-faculty ratio, fostering an intimate academic environment within a comprehensive research institution. The University's mission to *Learn, Discover, Heal, Create—and Make the World Ever Better* is embodied through its motto *Meliora* (ever better) and reflected in its diverse

academic offerings and deep integration with the Rochester community. As both the largest employer in the Rochester region and a Carnegie R1 Very High Research University, the University of Rochester serves as a vital anchor institution that contributes significantly to regional economic development, health care delivery, and cultural enrichment through institutions like the renowned Eastman School of Music—while maintaining its commitment to values of *equity, leadership, integrity, openness, respect, and accountability*. The Memorial Art Gallery—the region's largest art gallery—enriches the cultural landscape with more than 5,000 years of art history through its collection of over 12,000 objects and year-round programming of exhibitions, lectures, concerts, tours, and family activities on its 14-acre campus that serves as a popular destination for both Rochester residents and visitors.

***As a world-leading research institution, the University of Rochester connects creative problem solvers across disciplines to drive transformational discoveries. From humanities to healthcare, business to education, and music to engineering, we accelerate innovation and impact.***

***Together, we pursue breakthroughs that make our lives—and the future—ever better.***

## UR Medicine



UR Medicine—the University of Rochester's comprehensive health system—stands as the safety-net provider and most specialized academic health care system in upstate New York, delivering over 2.9 million outpatient visits, a quarter million emergency room visits, 70,000 hospital admissions annually across its eight hospitals and numerous clinical locations. Serving more than 15 counties, UR Medicine combines compassionate clinical care, educational excellence, and innovative research while addressing critical community needs in one of the nation's most economically challenged regions—where Rochester has the third-highest poverty rate in the U.S. The health system demonstrates its commitment to equity by providing hundreds of millions in community benefit annually, including charity and uncompensated care, while training almost 1,000 medical residents and fellows as the leading source of new physicians for the region. Through specialized services, UR Medicine extends quality health care to both urban and rural populations while creating pathways for youth from all backgrounds to explore health care careers.

### Affiliates

The University of Rochester's extensive network of affiliates demonstrates the Institution's broad reach across upstate New York's health care ecosystem, extending its mission of healing and community service far beyond the main Rochester campus. This diverse consortium includes critical access hospitals like Jones Memorial Hospital—the only birthing center serving Allegany County—and regional health care anchors such as F.F. Thompson Hospital in Canandaigua, Nicholas H. Noyes Memorial Hospital in Dansville, St. James Hospital in Hornell, and Finger Lakes Health (including Geneva General Hospital in Geneva; and Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital in Penn Yan)—collectively ensuring that quality medical care reaches both urban and rural populations in upstate New York. Complementing the clinical mission, NextCorps serves as an innovation catalyst, fostering entrepreneurship, technology commercialization, and manufacturing growth in the region; while UR Medicine Home Care extends compassionate care directly into patients' homes, ensuring continuity of treatment across the care continuum. Together, these affiliates form a comprehensive safety net that amplifies the University of Rochester's impact as the region's leading health care provider and economic anchor, delivering essential services to underserved communities while driving innovation and workforce development throughout western New York.

### Spotlight: Boundless Possibility: 2030 Strategic Plan



The University of Rochester's "Boundless Possibility" strategic plan, launched in 2023 and extending through 2030, embodies President Sarah C. Mangelsdorf's vision that "The University of Rochester will continue to frame and solve the greatest challenges of the future" through a collaborative "One University" approach that leverages talent and expertise across the institution. Built upon the university's foundational motto of *Meliora* (ever better) and mission to *Learn, Discover, Heal, Create—and Make the World Ever Better*, the plan is structured around three core beliefs: strengthening the university's reputation as a global research university, contributing to and

benefiting from a just and vibrant city of Rochester and surrounding region, and advancing *Progress with Purpose* by opening doors and removing barriers so every member of the community can thrive and power the University of Rochester's mission and vision. The plan emphasizes that the University's future is "inextricably linked to the city we call home" and commits to continued economic, educational, social, and cultural partnerships with the greater Rochester community, operationalizing President Mangelsdorf's declaration that Rochester is "not just a University *in* this community" but "a University *of* this community." The comprehensive roadmap guides bold and transformational goals designed to position Rochester as a leader among competitive peers while removing barriers so that every community member can thrive—reflecting the Institution's entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to creating conditions where all can pursue their highest objectives for themselves, their community, and the world.

### 1.3. Economic Engine, Community Catalyst and Regional Anchor

Although the University of Rochester is a not-for-profit institution dedicated to its core mission of education, research, medical care, and service, its size and influence make it a powerful economic engine for Rochester, Monroe County, the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions, New York State, and the entire United States. As the largest employer in the region.<sup>2</sup> and a major purchaser of goods and services, the University of Rochester plays a critical role in the region's competitiveness, attracting human talent, investment, and visitors that strengthen the regional workforce and stimulate economic opportunity. With its expansive reach, the University of Rochester serves as a vital partner for workforce development and regional economic growth, shaping the local economy.

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<sup>2</sup> Federal Reserve Bank of New York. "Rochester Metro Economic Indicators." Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Research & Statistics Group, [www.newyorkfed.org/medialibrary/media/research/regional\\_economy/charts/Regional\\_Rochester](http://www.newyorkfed.org/medialibrary/media/research/regional_economy/charts/Regional_Rochester).



The consolidated entity's economic impact is evident across multiple dimensions, from student, patient, and visitor spending that fuels local businesses, to the increased earning potential of the University of Rochester graduates, which boosts household incomes and contributes to a more competitive labor market. Additionally, the innovation generated by the University of Rochester's research breakthroughs positions the region as a hub for cutting-edge advancements.

From its founding, the University of Rochester has remained steadfast in its resolve to driving positive change through education, innovation, and economic opportunity. The University's decisions about hiring, purchasing, investing, and developing real estate are made with careful consideration of their potential to lift up surrounding communities and create lasting economic value for the region.

Today, this resolve toward local investments and partnerships is more vital than ever, as the University of Rochester's growth fuels the region's prosperity. Yet the University's true measure of success lies not just in the scale of its economic impact, but in how that impact transforms lives and communities. Through strategic partnerships, workforce development initiatives, and the success of its graduates, the University of Rochester demonstrates daily what it means to be an engaged university—one that grows by growing its community and succeeds by creating opportunity for others. This dedication to shared prosperity and inclusive growth remains at the heart of the University of Rochester's identity and will continue to shape its future as Rochester's most influential anchor institution.

As highlighted in this report, the University of Rochester’s current contributions to the local, regional, state, and national economies are significant. By driving talent attraction, fostering innovation, and enhancing economic vibrancy, the University of Rochester is a cornerstone of the region’s economy. With ongoing expansions, the University of Rochester continues to elevate its economic impact, further cementing its role as an essential driver of regional progress.

## 1.4. Drivers of Economic Impacts

As an anchor institution that attracts people and resources from all over the world, the University of Rochester plays a crucial role in the regional economy. Specific economic contributions can be broken into four distinct categories:

1. Annual operations, which include procurement and employee wages, as well as research and innovation expenditures;
2. Capital investments, including new construction and major renovation projects;
3. Ancillary spending by students, visitors, and patients (ancillary spending); and
4. The wage premium enjoyed by the University of Rochester alumni, who pay taxes and spend a portion of their added earnings in the local, statewide, and national economies.

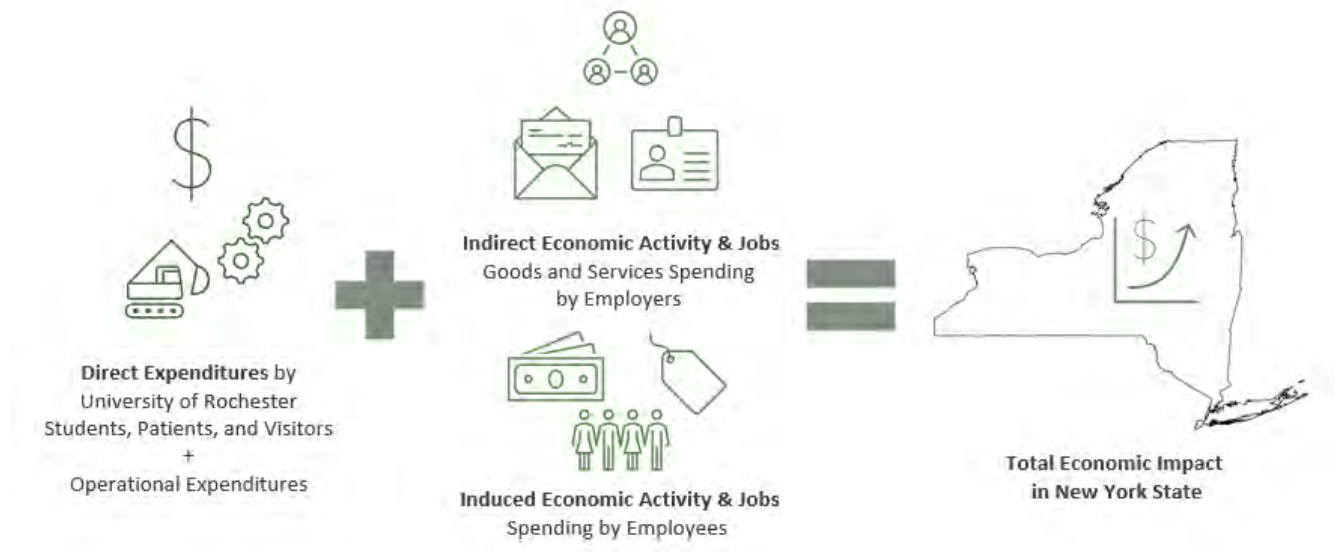


## 1.5. Report Scope and Methodology

Econsult Solutions, Inc. (ESI) utilizes standard economic modeling techniques to assess the direct economic activity generated by the University of Rochester and translates that activity into overall economic output, employment, earnings, and tax revenue impact. Detailed information on the approach and methodology employed is provided in the appendices of this report.

The study covers the University of Rochester as a consolidated entity, including both the Academic component (University), Health System (UR Medicine), and Affiliates. Data inputs regarding the University of Rochester’s institutional activity were provided by the University and supplemented with verified information from public sources and necessary assumptions. Utilizing the most recent and appropriate datasets, from fiscal year 2024, each input was carefully assessed.

Figure 1.1: Economic Impact Methodology



Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

The economic impact of the University of Rochester encompasses three distinct types of effects. Direct impacts are the immediate results of University of Rochester's spending and activities, such as salaries paid to faculty and staff, purchases of research equipment, spending by students and visitors, or construction of new campus facilities. Indirect impacts occur when the University of Rochester's direct spending ripples through the supply chain—for example, when the University of Rochester's food service vendors purchase ingredients from local farms, or when construction contractors buy materials from New York State suppliers. Induced impacts arise when the University of Rochester's employees and contractors spend their wages in the local economy, such as when professors dine at Rochester restaurants, researchers purchase homes in the region, or maintenance staff shop at local retail stores (Figure 1.1). Together, these three layers of impact create a multiplier effect that amplifies the University of Rochester's economic contribution throughout Rochester, Monroe County, the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions, the State of New York, and the United States. Throughout the study, fiscal revenues are recorded separately, following each economic impact category. Additionally, the report is primarily narrated for the City of Rochester and New York State geographies. Additional impact tables for additional geographic regions can be found in the appendices.

ESI employs IMPLAN modeling software to estimate these indirect and induced impacts, which are then combined with the direct activity to determine total economic impacts. IMPLAN is a sophisticated economic modeling system that analyzes how money flows through an economy. At its core, IMPLAN tracks how money moves between different sectors of the economy, like a giant spreadsheet showing all the economic relationships. When one industry spends money, IMPLAN tracks that spending ripple out to affect other industries. IMPLAN breaks this spending movement down into 528 different industry sectors based on NAICS (North American Industry Classification

System) codes. For each sector, it calculates the regional purchase coefficient (RPC), which measures the proportion of local demand for a good or service that is met by local suppliers.

When modeling the University of Rochester's impact, IMPLAN takes the University's direct spending data and:

1. Maps it to the appropriate industry sectors;
2. Applies the local RPCs to determine how much spending stays in the region;
3. Uses its matrix of industry relationships to calculate the indirect impacts as that spending ripples through local supply chains;
4. Calculates induced impacts as employees spend their wages locally; and
5. Aggregates all these effects to show total impact on output, employment, and labor income

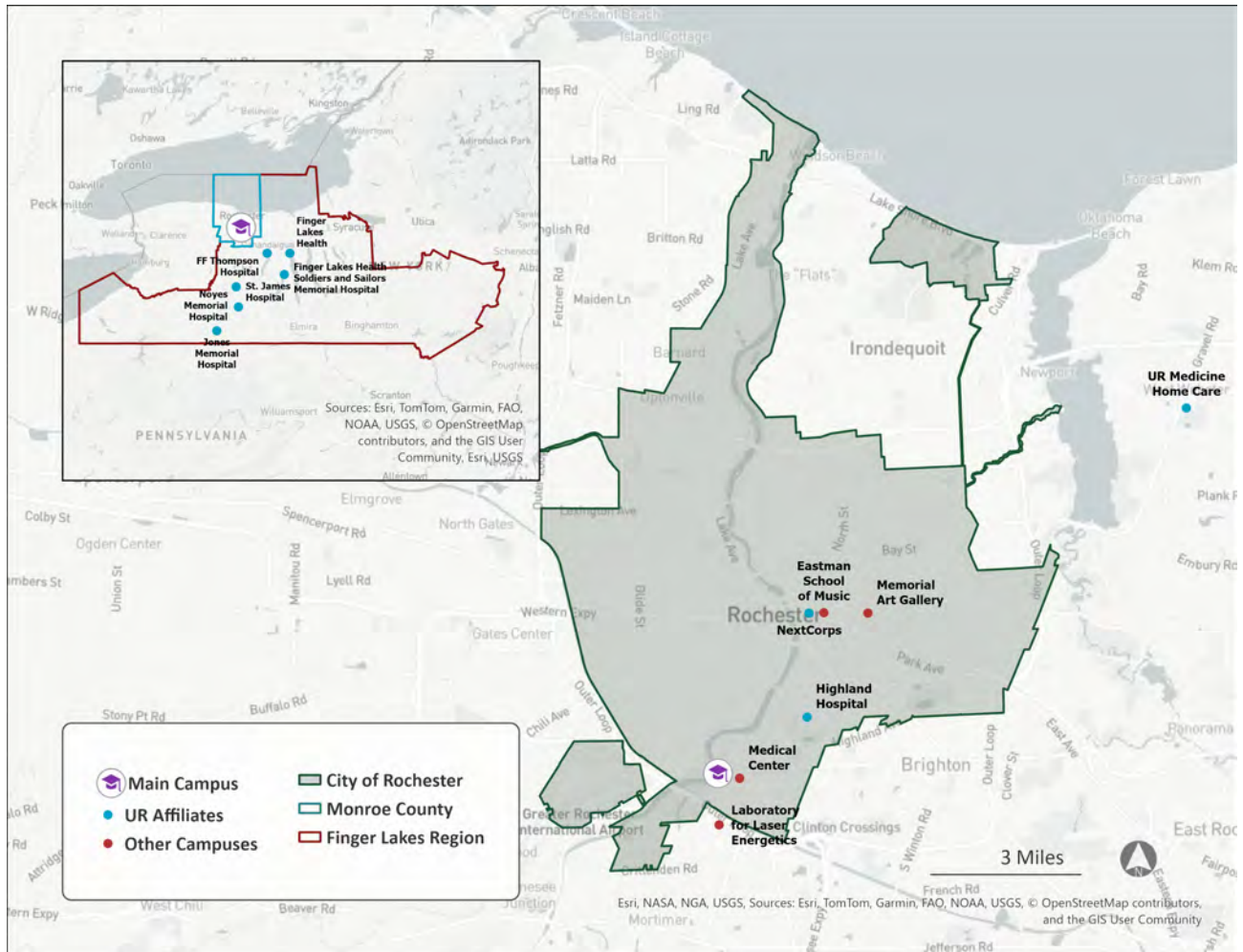
IMPLAN incorporates leakage, which is the flow of money leaving a local economy through imports or taxes, to provide a realistic analysis of economic impacts within a specific area. Its advanced modeling capabilities make it a trusted tool for economic impact analysis, widely used by governments, universities, and consulting firms to assess how changes in one sector influence the broader economic system. This reliability has established IMPLAN as a standard in the field.

For the University of Rochester economic impact study, the economic impacts are assessed at five concentric geographic levels:

- **City of Rochester**
- **Monroe County**
- **Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions** (22-county region of Cayuga, Chemung, Cortland, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, Yates, Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego, and Schoharie counties)
- **State of New York**
- **United States**

Figure 1.2 displays some of the major entities of the University of Rochester, UR Medicine, and related affiliates.

Figure 1.2: Geographies and Entities of Interest



Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

## 1.6. Report Organization

- **Section 2** quantifies the economic impact of the University of Rochester’s consolidated annual operations, which encompasses significant direct employment and spending on various goods and services. This spending ripples through the regional and state economies, amplifying its impact. Additionally, this section shines a spotlight on University of Rochester’s innovation-based economic development, including the impact of sponsored research and commercialization of research.
- **Section 3** describes the University of Rochester’s capital expenditures and translates that footprint into economic impact.

- **Section 4** estimates the ancillary spending by University of Rochester students, patients, and visitors. Their commensurate effect on local economic output, employment supported, and tax revenues generated are analyzed.
- **Section 5** estimates the aggregate alumni wage premium enjoyed by the University of Rochester alumni living and working in the region, and the positive impact of a portion of that additional household earnings being spent in the regional economy.
- **Section 6** expresses the importance of the University of Rochester engagement and investment in the surrounding community.
- **Section 7** dives into the impact of the University of Rochester as a vital player in the region as a premier research institution that attracts human capital, new businesses, and investors to the area.
- **Section 8** touches upon the University of Rochester’s mission toward societal advancement, showing how the Institution positively impacts places around the world.
- **Section 9** provides comprehensive aggregate economic impacts at various geographic levels.



## 2. Economic Impact from Annual Operations

### 2.1. Section Overview

As Rochester's premier anchor institution, the University of Rochester makes a substantial contribution to its local, regional, and state economies primarily through its sizeable and expanding annual operations. The University of Rochester as a consolidated entity has net annual operating expenditures of \$6.8 billion—a figure that reflects the University’s positive economic contribution to the geographies in which its locations reside—and positively affecting the City of Rochester, the entire Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions, and the State of New York. The economic impact is largely dependent on where expenditure is allocated, i.e., spending in New York State positively affects its economy, while out-of-state spending has no substantial impact.

Employing tens of thousands and operating with a multi-billion-dollar budget, the University of Rochester's contributions manifest through robust economic activity, job creation, and tax revenues. What makes the University of Rochester particularly impactful is that many of the financial resources fueling this growth, such as tuition payments and research grants, are sourced from outside the region. In this way, the University of Rochester acts as a vital "importer" of not only knowledge and innovation, but also dollars that are then circulated within the local economies. The University of Rochester then contributes to its regional economies, particularly by sourcing goods and services locally. This direct economic impact ripples throughout the economy, creating opportunities and enhancing several tax revenues at both local and state levels.



A large portion of the University of Rochester's consolidated operating expenditure is allocated toward employee wages and benefits, which constitute approximately 59 percent of all the expenses.

In total, the University of Rochester's consolidated annual operations generated over \$5.4 billion in economic output within the City of Rochester; and \$11.4 billion within the State of New York. Their

consolidated operations further support more than 58,000 full-time equivalent jobs with almost \$4.8 billion in direct, indirect, and induced compensation within the State of New York.<sup>3</sup>

## 2.2. Direct Operating Footprint

The University of Rochester creates a sizable impact for the regional and state economies, primarily through its annual operating expenditures which continue to grow each year. In FY2024, the net operating expenditure totaled \$6.8 billion across consolidated entity, with \$789 million spent by the University; more than \$4.7 billion by UR Medicine; and an additional \$1.3 billion spent on operations by University of Rochester affiliates.

The consolidated annual operations span the core missions of education, research, health care, and service, encompassing the university, health system, and affiliates. Together, these entities employ tens of thousands of full-time, part-time, and adjunct staff, including faculty, administrators, health care providers, support personnel and student employees, with the primary concentration in the City of Rochester and a significant footprint across the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions. Compensation for these employees totaled \$4 billion in FY2024, forming the largest share of the University of Rochester budget and generating far-reaching economic ripple effects across sectors such as health care, housing, and the arts.

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<sup>3</sup> Economic impact results for the other three geographies of interest—Monroe County, the 22-county Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Region, and the United States, can be found in Appendix A.

In total, the University of Rochester’s consolidated operating expenditure reached \$6.8 billion in FY2024, reinforcing its role as a major economic engine for its related geographies, and especially for the City of Rochester and New York State. To accurately model economic impact, non-circulating expenditures such as depreciation, totaling \$317 million—and interest, totaling \$59 million—are excluded, totaling more than \$376 million combined. Depreciation does not involve actual expenditures, and financing costs do not benefit the local or state economies. The resulting \$6.4 billion in modellable spending reflects the portion of the budget that flows into the local economy, supporting direct, indirect, and induced effects.

Figure 2.1: Summary of the University of Rochester Consolidated Annual Operating Expenditures, FY2024 (\$ Million)

Category	Modeled	UR			Total
		University	Medicine	Affiliates	
Salaries and Wages	Modeled	\$457	\$2,055	\$638	\$3,150
Fringe Benefits	Modeled	\$139	\$576	\$142	\$857
Supplies	Modeled	\$36	\$1,136	\$206	\$1,377
Business and Professional	Modeled	\$112	\$361	\$147	\$620
Utilities	Modeled	\$52	\$19	\$11	\$82
Maintenance and Facilities					
Costs	Modeled	\$47	\$142	\$50	\$239
Other	Modeled	(\$39)	\$120	\$35	\$116
Allocations	Modeled	(\$134)	\$134	\$0	\$0
<b>Net Expenses Modeled</b>		<b>\$669</b>	<b>\$4,543</b>	<b>\$1,230</b>	<b>\$6,442</b>
Depreciation	Not Modeled	\$87	\$160	\$69	\$317
Interest	Not Modeled	\$33	\$21	\$6	\$59
<b>Net Expenses</b>	<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$789</b>	<b>\$4,724</b>	<b>\$1,305</b>	<b>\$6,819</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

Since the University of Rochester operates across multiple jurisdictions, expenditures are geographically apportioned based on entity, vendor, and employee salary zip code data. Most modelled operating expenses—\$4.5 billion—are carried out locally within the City of Rochester. Enlarging the geography to include all of Monroe County—including Rochester expenditures—\$5.1 billion is spent within Monroe County. As the largest direct geography of interest, all modelled expenditures take place in the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions, summing to more than \$6.4 billion (Figure 2.2).

Figure 2.2: University of Rochester Modelled Cumulative Consolidated Annual Operating Expenditures, FY2024, by Direct Geography of Expenditure (\$ Million)

Geography of Direct Expenditure	Total
City of Rochester	\$4,502
Monroe County	\$5,078

Finger Lakes and Southern Tier  
Regions

\$6,442

Source: *University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)*

## 2.3. University of Rochester Operations Leading to Economic Impact

Consolidated direct operational spending has substantial influence on local and regional economies by stimulating business growth and supporting higher employment levels across various industries. The overall economic impact is a combination of direct spending by the University of Rochester, the indirect effects generated by purchases from a wide range of suppliers, and the induced spending as the University of Rochester employees spend their wages within their communities. These indirect and induced effects expand as the geographic scope widens, driven by increased purchasing and recirculation within larger areas, which also amplifies the multiplier effect.

**The total annual economic impact within the City of Rochester is \$5.4 billion, comprised of (Figure 2.3):**

- Direct impact of \$4.5 billion, which includes the University of Rochester’s spending on salaries, research equipment, and patient care costs;
- Indirect and induced impact of \$919 million, which includes business-to-business expenditures within the supply chain, such as catering company purchases of raw food materials (indirect); and employee spending at Rochester restaurants and stores (induced); and
- More than 29,000 direct, indirect, and induced full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs.<sup>4</sup> with more than \$2.8 billion in employee compensation.

**The total annual economic impact within New York State is \$11.4 billion, comprised of (Figure 2.4):**

- Direct impact of \$6.4 billion, which demonstrates additional direct impacts beyond Rochester, such as spending with vendors throughout the State; and some salaries that are located outside of Rochester, within the State;
- Indirect and induced impact of almost \$5 billion, which demonstrates the supply chain extending to other cities within New York State (indirect), and University of Rochester employees living and spending in suburban areas outside of Rochester (indirect); and

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<sup>4</sup> Direct jobs include positions directly created and paid for by the University of Rochester itself. These are employees on the University of Rochester’s payroll, such as professors, nurses, administrators, and facilities staff. Indirect jobs are created through the University of Rochester’s purchasing and contracting—when the University of Rochester buys supplies or services, this supports jobs at vendor companies, which include medical equipment manufacturers, construction contractors, and food service providers. Induced jobs are created the University of Rochester employees spending their wages in the local economy. As the University of Rochester’s direct employees spend money on housing, restaurants, retail, etc., this creates additional jobs in those sectors.

- Almost 59,000 direct, indirect, and induced jobs with almost \$4.8 billion in employee compensation.

Figure 2.3: Annual Economic Impact of the University of Rochester’s Consolidated Operations within Rochester (\$ Million)

Impact Type	University	UR Medicine	Affiliates	Total
Direct Impact (\$M)	\$669	\$3,833	\$0.0	\$4,502
Indirect & Induced Impact (\$M)	\$67	\$740	\$112	\$919
<b>Total Economic Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$736</b>	<b>\$4,573</b>	<b>\$112</b>	<b>\$5,422</b>
<b>Annual Employment Supported (FTE)</b>	<b>5,531</b>	<b>23,412</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>29,473</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$472</b>	<b>\$2,343</b>	<b>\$34</b>	<b>\$2,849</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure 2.4: Annual Economic Impact of University of Rochester’s Consolidated Operations within New York State (\$ Million)

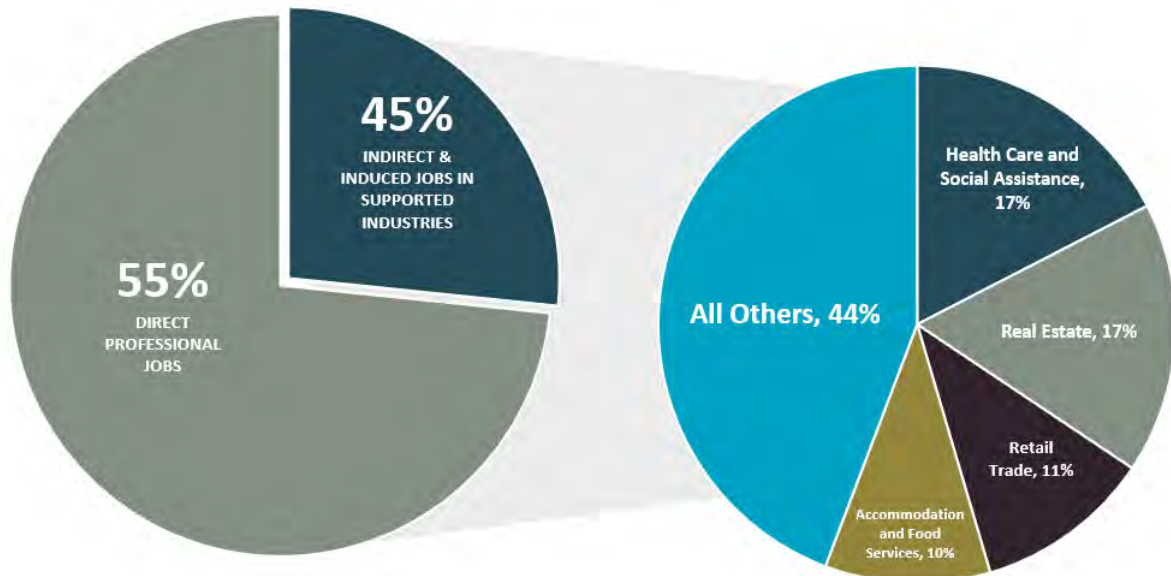
Impact Type	University	UR Medicine	Affiliates	Total
Direct Impact (\$M)	\$669	\$4,543	\$1,230	\$6,442
Indirect & Induced Impact (\$M)	\$354	\$3,622	\$1,012	\$4,989
<b>Total Economic Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$1,024</b>	<b>\$8,165</b>	<b>\$2,242</b>	<b>\$11,431</b>
<b>Annual Employment Supported (FTE)</b>	<b>6,796</b>	<b>38,249</b>	<b>13,620</b>	<b>58,664</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$547</b>	<b>\$3,305</b>	<b>\$927</b>	<b>\$4,780</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025), Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025), IMPLAN (2023)

## 2.4. Industry Distribution of Economic Impact from Annual Operations

University of Rochester operations support various industries through the purchase of goods and services and the circulation of salaries paid to University employees. The direct impact of the University of Rochester’s operations—examining only the academic University—is concentrated in the education sector (64 percent). The indirect and induced impacts of the University of Rochester’s operations are distributed across sectors including health care (15 percent), real estate (15 percent), retail (10 percent), and administrative and support services (7 percent) (Figure 2.5).

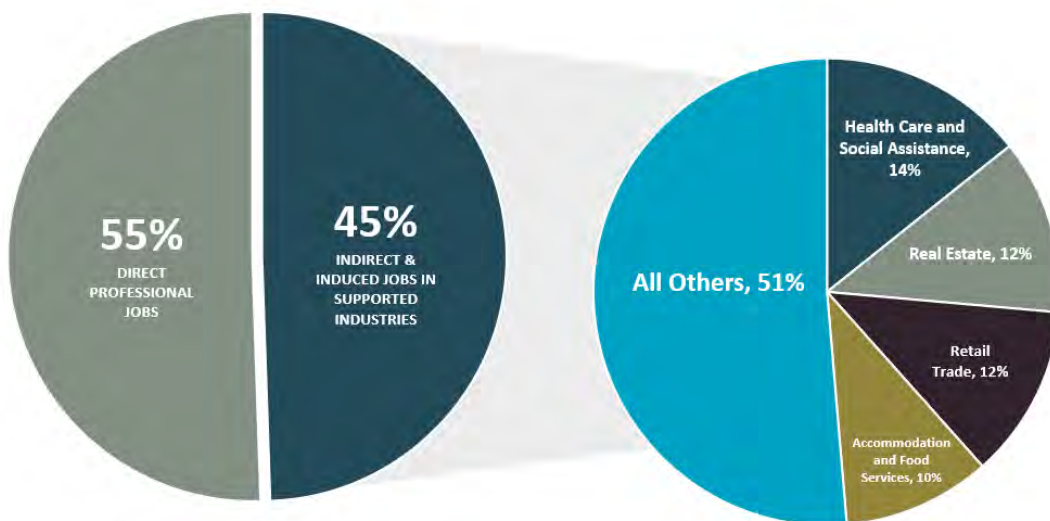
Figure 2.5: Industry Distribution of Employment Generated by the University of Rochester’s Academic Annual Operations within New York State



Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

UR Medicine’s employment distribution is made up of 55 percent of jobs that are professional positions within the health system itself. Indirect impacts employ workers in real estate (12 percent), health care (14 percent), retail (12 percent), and accommodation and food services (10 percent) (Figure 2.6).

Figure 2.6: Industry Distribution of Employment Generated by UR Medicine’s Annual Operations within the US



Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

## 2.5. Tax Revenue Impact from Annual Operations

Although the University of Rochester operates as a not-for-profit and is legally exempt from property taxes on mission-related land, the University of Rochester's economic footprint directly and indirectly results in significant tax revenue impacts at the city and state levels. Additionally, the University of Rochester pays some property taxes on select properties. In sum, the University of Rochester generates substantial fiscal impact to the City of Rochester and New York State.

Local tax mix in municipalities within states like New York State tends to be constrained to just property tax, so exempt institutions tend to not directly or indirectly produce similarly significant tax revenue impact at the local level. The University of Rochester does pay some property tax on non-exempt properties, but it does not pay property tax on exempt properties.

The reason for their exemption is that, as a not-for-profit institution, they exist for public good and not private gain. The University of Rochester's operations include important societal initiatives like education and scholarship; and research and health care. These initiatives are the core functions of the university and health system—all of which produce public good at a societal, local, and regional level (which we discuss in Sections 6 - 8). For the University, operations also include service and engagement, which produces additional public good at a local level (which will be discussed in Section 6).

At the City level, direct property taxes of select non-exempt properties are paid to Rochester. Property taxes by University of Rochester employees are estimated at \$31 million, as the institution employs people who either directly or indirectly pay property taxes. To estimate employee property taxes, ESI calculated the total number of University of Rochester employees living in the City of Rochester (more than 18,000 employees) and the estimated percentage of those employees that are homeowners (54 percent—based upon homeownership data within each City zip code, corresponding to employee residence). Then using Rochester's property tax rate (1.1 percent), we calculate that the estimated property tax by those employees living in the City of Rochester is \$21 million. The University of Rochester also provides income to employees who rent, thereby indirectly paying property taxes of those employees that rent instead of own property within the City of Rochester. To estimate these additional property tax impacts in a conservative fashion, we assign 50 percent of the property taxes assigned as estimated homeowner property taxes to the estimated renters, which results in \$10 million. In this way, we account for those employees who live in multi-family homes.

Direct property taxes paid by the University are an additional \$2 million (Figure 2.7). As a result of its consolidated annual operations, the University of Rochester is responsible for \$31 million in estimated tax revenues to the City of Rochester; and \$251 million to New York State (Figure 2.8).

Figure 2.7: Estimated Annual Tax Revenue Impact from University of Rochester Consolidated Annual Operations within the City of Rochester (\$ Million)

<u>Tax Type</u>	<u>Total Taxes</u>
-----------------	--------------------

UR-Owned Property Tax <sup>5</sup>	\$2
Total Estimated Property Taxes by UR Employees <sup>6</sup>	\$31
<b>Aggregate Tax Impact</b>	<b>\$33</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); IMPLAN (2023); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); City of Rochester ACFR (2024)

Figure 2.8: Estimated Annual Tax Revenue Impact from University of Rochester Consolidated Annual Operations within New York State (\$ Million)

Tax Type	University	UR Medicine	Affiliates	Total
Business Tax (\$M)	\$7	\$38	\$10	\$55
Income Tax (\$M)	\$6	\$48	\$26	\$80
Sales Tax (\$M)	\$12	\$80	\$23	\$116
<b>Aggregate Tax Impact</b>	<b>\$25</b>	<b>\$166</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>\$251</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); IMPLAN (2023); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); New York State ACFR (2024)

## 2.6. University of Rochester Research Leading to Economic Impact

As a premier R1 research university with the highest Carnegie Classification for research activity, the University of Rochester stands as a vital force in driving regional innovation and economic development throughout the region and state. With annual research expenditures of \$488 million in FY2024, the University of Rochester’s research enterprise represents a significant catalyst for knowledge creation, technology transfer, and economic growth.

The University of Rochester's research activities include world-renowned programs in medicine, health sciences, engineering, and business, to name a few. The University's research infrastructure includes laboratories, research centers, and specialized facilities that support breakthrough discoveries in areas ranging from biomedical sciences and public health to materials science and urban studies. This extensive research ecosystem not only advances human knowledge but also generates substantial economic impact through direct spending, job creation, and the attraction of external grant funding to the region.

As an anchor institution in the City of Rochester and the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions, the University of Rochester plays a crucial role in positioning the region as a competitive force in the global knowledge economy. The University's research excellence attracts top faculty, students, and industry partners from around the world, creating a dynamic innovation ecosystem that benefits both the local community and the broader regional economy. Through technology commercialization, startup creation, and industry partnerships, the University of Rochester's research enterprise generates ripple effects that extend far beyond traditional academic boundaries.

<sup>5</sup> Based upon FY2024 data from the University of Rochester.

<sup>6</sup> The \$31M total represents estimated property taxes contributed by UR employees residing in the City of Rochester. Of this, approximately \$21M is attributable to homeowners and \$10M to renters. A detailed explanation of the methodology used to derive these estimates is provided in the Appendix A.

## Direct Operating Footprint

The University of Rochester operates as a major net importer of research funding, bringing significant external resources into the region through its \$486 million in annual research grants. This external funding flows primarily from federal agencies, along with substantial contributions from foundations and corporations. These research dollars create immediate economic impact through direct spending on research personnel salaries, equipment and supply purchases from local vendors, facility investments, and support for innovation and commercialization activities.



The multiplier effect of the University of Rochester's research funding creates additional economic activity as these dollars circulate through the regional economy via employee spending, business-to-business transactions, and new venture development. This positions the University of Rochester as a key economic driver that brings external resources into the region while supporting local economic growth and job creation. The University's research enterprise also

attracts complementary investments from industry partners and helps establish the region as a destination for research and development activities. The University of Rochester's research activities support not only immediate economic benefits but also long-term regional competitiveness by fostering innovation, attracting talent, and building the knowledge infrastructure necessary for sustained economic growth.

## Sponsored Research

The University of Rochester demonstrates exceptional capability in securing competitive research funding from diverse sources, making it a premier destination for sponsored research activities. By successfully attracting \$486 million in research funding in FY2024, the University of Rochester significantly enriches the regional economy, sustains high-quality employment, and strengthens the local tax base by bringing external resources that would otherwise be allocated to other regions. Research not only advances scientific knowledge and elevates the region's economic competitiveness but also brings dollars into the region to support local jobs and tax revenues.

Federal funding represents the largest component of the University of Rochester's research portfolio, with U.S. federal government agencies providing \$360 million in FY2024. Corporations contributed \$43 million, demonstrating the University of Rochester's substantial partnerships with industry. Foundations and health organizations provided approximately \$25 million, supporting diverse research initiatives across multiple disciplines (Figures 2.9 and 2.10).

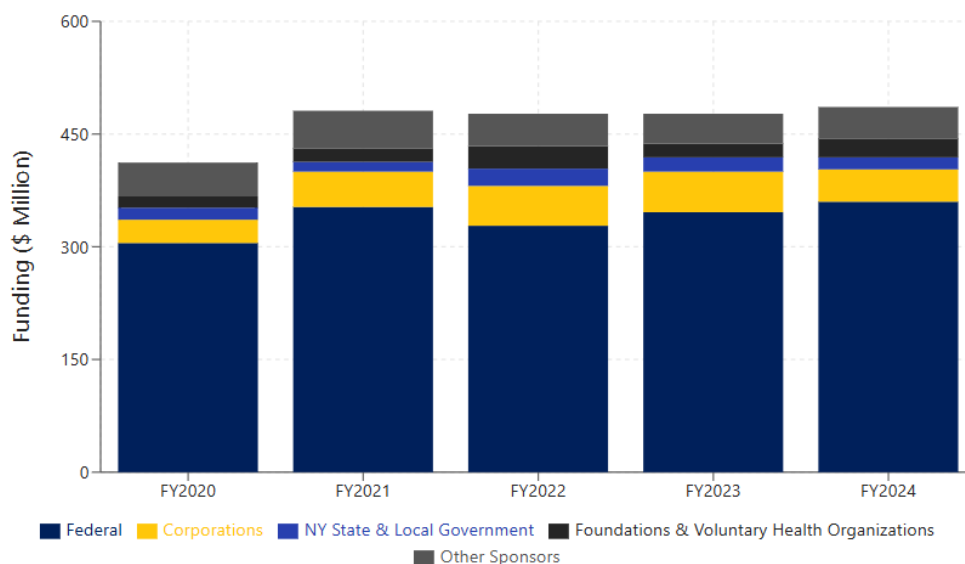
Figure 2.9: Research and Development Grants by Funding Agency, FY2020 – FY2024 (\$ Million)

Agency Type	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Federal	\$305	\$353	\$328	\$346	\$360
Corporations	\$31	\$47	\$53	\$54	\$43

NY State & Local Government	\$16	\$13	\$23	\$19	\$16
Foundations & Voluntary Health Organizations	\$15	\$18	\$30	\$18	\$25
Other Sponsors	\$45	\$50	\$43	\$40	\$42
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$413</b>	<b>\$482</b>	<b>\$477</b>	<b>\$476</b>	<b>\$486</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

Figure 2.10: Research and Development Grants by Funding Agency, FY2020 – FY2024 (\$ Million)



Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

Previous figures 2.9 and 2.10 display the external research funding—or sources—that flow into the University of Rochester region for the purpose of innovation, discovery, and making the world a better place. Figure 2.11 displays the Institution’s research expenditures—or uses—as a result of carrying out the research.

Figure 2.11: Research Spending by UR Entity, FY2024 (\$ Million)

<b>Entity</b>	<b>Research Expenditures</b>
Central Administration	\$0.1
River Campus Colleges	\$11.0
School of Arts and Sciences	\$55.0
Hajim School of Engineering	\$31.0
LLE	\$110.0
Simon Business School	\$0.0
Warner School of Education	\$4.0
Eastman School of Music	\$0.7
School of Medicine and Dentistry	\$267.0
Strong Memorial Hospital	\$0.1
School of Nursing	\$4.3

Memorial Art Gallery	\$0.3
Health Sciences	\$0.0
UR Medical Faculty Group	\$0.5
Eastman Institute for Oral Health	\$4.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$488.0</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025)

## Economic Impact from Sponsored Research

The University of Rochester's research expenditures create substantial economic benefits that extend well beyond the University campuses and health system, generating sustained economic activity that advances human knowledge while driving regional innovation and growth. The University of Rochester's research activities represent a significant injection of external funding into the local economy, supporting employment across multiple sectors and generating substantial economic output.

Based on the University of Rochester's FY2024 research funding levels, the University's sponsored research activities generated:

- \$623 million in total annual output within the City of Rochester, supporting almost 2,400 direct, indirect, and induced jobs and \$201 million in employee compensation; and
- \$952 million in total annual output within New York State, supporting more than 3,800 direct, indirect, and induced jobs and \$298 million in employee compensation.

Figure 2.11: Annual Economic Impact of University of Rochester's Consolidated Research Operations (\$ Million)

<b>Impact Type</b>	<b>City of Rochester</b>	<b>New York State</b>
Direct Impact (\$M)	\$488	\$488
Indirect & Induced Impact (\$M)	\$134	\$464
<b>Total Economic Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$623</b>	<b>\$952</b>
<b>Annual Employment Supported (FTE)</b>	<b>2,356</b>	<b>3,818</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$201</b>	<b>\$298</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

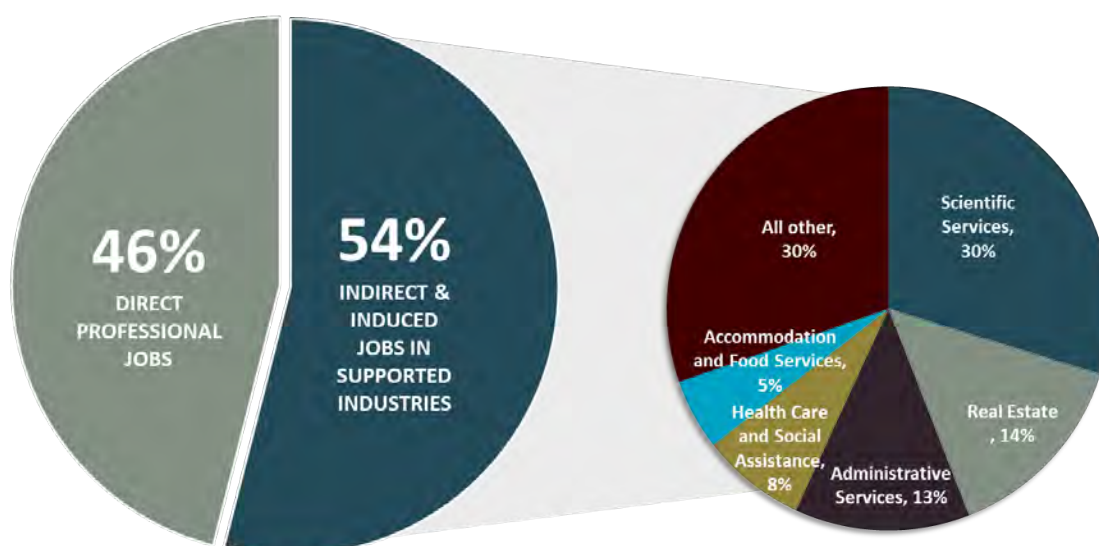
## Industry Distribution of Economic Impact from Sponsored Research

The University of Rochester's consolidated research funding in fiscal year 2024 generated significant employment across diverse economic sectors, demonstrating the broad impact of university research activities. Direct sponsored research positions accounted for 46 percent of total employment impact, while indirect and induced jobs in supporting industries comprised the remaining 54 percent.

The distribution of indirect employment shows the University of Rochester's research activities stimulating job growth across key sectors of the regional economy. Scientific services captured the largest share of indirect employment at 30 percent, reflecting the high-skill, knowledge-intensive nature of research support activities. Real estate followed with 14 percent of indirect jobs. Health care accounted for 8 percent of indirect employment, while administrative services contributed 13 percent of the indirect job creation and other non-government services contributed (Figure 2.12).

This employment distribution illustrates how the University of Rochester's research funding creates immediate research positions while simultaneously generating job opportunities across a diverse range of supporting sectors throughout the broader regional economy, amplifying the economic impact well beyond its direct research activities.

Figure 2.12: Industry Distribution of Employment Generated by University Research Expenditures within New York State



Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

## Research Generates Tax Revenue

The University of Rochester's research activities generate tax revenue for both local and state government jurisdictions, contributing significantly to public finances while demonstrating the fiscal benefits of university research investment. The University's sponsored research enterprise creates tax revenue through income taxes from research personnel, sales taxes from equipment and supply purchases, and business taxes from research-related economic activity.

The University of Rochester's consolidated research activities generate an estimated \$19 million in state tax revenue for New York State (Figure 2.13). Tax revenue generated by University of Rochester research provides fiscal benefits for the New York State government while supporting public services and infrastructure development.

Figure 2.13: Estimated Annual Tax Revenue Impact from University of Rochester Research Expenditures within New York State

Tax Type	New York State
Business Tax (\$M)	\$5
Income Tax (\$M)	\$5
Sales Tax (\$M)	\$9
<b>Aggregate Tax Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$19</b>

Source: IMPLAN (2023); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); City of Rochester ACFR (2024), New York State ACFR (2024)

### 3. Economic Impact from Capital Investments

#### 3.1. Section Overview

The University of Rochester invests in campus capital projects and improvements each year. In FY2024, the University of Rochester invested almost \$383 million in new buildings and renovations. These capital expenditures serve as a major boost to the local construction industry while also contributing to local government revenue by way of taxes.



The University of Rochester's consolidated capital investments are more than just contributions to its physical infrastructure; they represent a strategic commitment to community engagement, job creation, and neighborhood revitalization. As the University of Rochester expands its facilities, these capital projects create significant job opportunities across various industries, from construction to professional services and health care. These investments not only support economic growth but also directly contribute to improved public resources, including health services, educational opportunities, and the enhancement of local infrastructure. The University of Rochester's capital spending infuses hundreds of millions of dollars annually into the region's economy, with attendant ripple effects to a variety of vendors and industries throughout the region.

The University of Rochester's consolidated capital investments result in \$608 million in total economic impact within New York State, supporting over 3,000 full-time jobs with \$219 million in employee compensation—and \$14 million in statewide tax revenues. In the City of Rochester, this generates \$312 million in total economic impact, supporting over 1,700 full-time jobs with \$126 million in employee compensation.

## 3.2. Direct Capital Investments

The University of Rochester, UR Medicine, and its affiliates make sustained, large-scale capital investments each year to support continued institutional growth and deepen its economic and community impact. The consolidated entity is currently undertaking significant capital investments that demonstrate its commitment to advancing health care, education, and research infrastructure. The University will deliver a comprehensive 15-month master plan later in 2025 as part of its 2030 strategic plan *Boundless Possibility*, which will create a framework for campus design and construction covering the next five years and serve as a responsive framework for decision-making over the next 20 years. The master plan focuses on enhancement of clinical, research, and academic facilities; student housing, gathering, and recreational spaces; as well as the integration of sustainable practices to promote environmental stewardship. The plan will also address modernization of infrastructure and transportation systems to improve accessibility and connectivity across the University's campuses.



In FY2024, the University of Rochester invested \$383 million in capital investments, with \$280 million taking place in the City of Rochester; \$54 million in Monroe County (outside of Rochester); and \$49 million in the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions (outside of Monroe County). Within these nested geographies, UR Medicine invested \$172 million in new capital projects—with the University spending \$140 million on capital projects and improvements; and affiliates investing an additional \$71 million (Figure 3.1). It is worth noting that the model does not consider non-capitalized costs and assets.

Figure 3.1: University of Rochester Consolidated Capital Expenditures, FY2024 (\$ Million)

Geography of Direct Expenditure	University	UR Medicine	Affiliates	Total
Rochester	\$117	\$141	\$22	\$280
Monroe County	\$23	\$31	-	\$54
Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions	-	-	\$49	\$49
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$140</b>	<b>\$172</b>	<b>\$71</b>	<b>\$383</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

**Capital Project Spotlight: Transformational Materials and Technologies (TMT) / Natural Sciences Expansion (NSE) Building**

The University of Rochester is advancing its most ambitious capital project to date with the planned Transformational Materials and Technologies (TMT) / Natural Sciences Expansion (NSE) Building, a transformative approximately \$650 million investment located on the River Campus. This groundbreaking facility addresses the critical need to modernize research infrastructure, positioning the University as a world leader in quantum information, quantum materials, optics and photonics, semiconductors, and high energy density sciences. The interdisciplinary TMT component will foster unprecedented collaboration across departments while supporting industry partnerships and restricted research capabilities, including a significantly expanded URNano nanofabrication facility with state-of-the-art cleanroom and metrology spaces. Spanning 500,000 to 670,000 gross square feet and scheduled for construction from 2027 to 2030, this facility represents the University's largest investment in science education and research, directly supporting faculty recruitment, student experiential learning, and regional economic development while establishing Rochester as a hub for next-generation materials and technology innovation.

**Project Economic Impact to the State of New York:**

- Direct investment/impact: \$650 million
- Indirect and induced impact: \$380 million
- FTE Jobs: 5,200
- Total economic impact: \$1.03 billion



The University of Rochester Medical Center's \$650 million Strong Memorial Hospital Emergency Department expansion represents the largest capital project in the University's history and a transformative investment in regional health care infrastructure that will fundamentally address critical capacity challenges faced by the Finger Lakes region's

only Level 1 trauma center and safety-net hospital. The project will more than triple the size of the existing emergency department, expanding from 32,000 to 120,000 square feet and adding over 200 examination, treatment, and patient observation stations to serve a facility that currently receives more than 100,000 emergency department visitors annually. The comprehensive expansion includes a new nine-story inpatient bed tower that will provide more than 100 private inpatient rooms, floors for cardiovascular specialties and future operating rooms, and enhanced psychiatric emergency care capabilities, with completion scheduled for 2027. Supported by \$50 million in state funding through the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program IV and \$1 million in federal funding, this project directly supports the University of Rochester Medical Center's mission as the safety-net provider for upstate New York, serving a population of over 2.6 million across more than 15 counties, while addressing the acute health care needs of Rochester, where 40% of Strong's patients have Medicaid coverage, are uninsured, or underinsured.

#### Capital Project Spotlight: NSF OPAL



The University of Rochester is positioning itself to become the global epicenter for laser science through the transformational NSF OPAL (Optical Petawatt Advanced Laser) facility, a \$400 million capital investment that will revolutionize high-intensity physics research at the renowned Laboratory for Laser Energetics (LLE). Building upon LLE's existing world-class capabilities, NSF OPAL will feature two groundbreaking 25 petawatt Alpha beams capable of achieving unprecedented on-target intensities,

alongside a complementary 2.0 petawatt Beta beam—creating the most powerful laser system ever constructed for scientific research. The facility will integrate seamlessly with the existing OMEGA EP laser system, with all four OMEGA EP beams transported to the new NSF OPAL building and converted to UV for use as compression beams. The project includes approximately \$200 million for the advanced laser system itself and an additional \$200 million for specialized facility construction designed to house this extraordinary equipment along with expanded office and laboratory space. NSF OPAL will serve national and international research communities for decades to come, enabling scientists to study extreme physical conditions that represent the frontier of matter in the Universe. Scheduled for construction from 2029-2034 following the NSF's final design award process, this world-leading facility will cement Rochester's position as an

international hub for laser innovation while supporting regional economic development through expanded partnerships with Rochester-area optics companies; and will create new opportunities for high-tech workforce development in one of the region's most strategic industries.

**Project Economic Impact:**

- Direct investment/direct impact: \$400 million
- Indirect and induced impact: \$230 million
- FTE Jobs: 3,200
- Total economic impact: \$630 million

### 3.3. Economic Impact from Capital Investments

Direct capital expenditures are concentrated within the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions, with the majority taking place within the City of Rochester, where the University of Rochester maintains its primary campus and health care facilities. This level of spending impacts a broad network of local industries, reinforcing the University of Rochester's substantial economic footprint in the region.

In total, the University of Rochester's direct consolidated capital expenditures generate:

- \$322 million in total annual output within the City of Rochester, supporting more than 1,700 direct, indirect, and induced jobs and \$126 million in employee compensation (Figure 3.2); and
- \$608 million in total annual output within New York State, supporting more than 3,000 direct, indirect, and induced jobs and \$219 million in employee compensation (Figure 3.3).

In the context of capital investments, direct economic impact is due to the University of Rochester's direct expenditures, predominantly in the construction industry; and direct employment includes those overseeing the construction projects. Indirect impact is due to those construction companies purchasing materials; and indirect employment includes the construction company employees. Induced economic impact takes place when those construction workers purchase a meal on the way home from work, and induced employment in this case refers to the restaurant workers.

Figure 3.2: Economic Impact from FY2024 Capital Investments within the City of Rochester (\$ Million)

	University	UR Medicine	Affiliates	Total
Direct Impact (\$M)	\$117	\$141	\$22	\$280
Indirect & Induced Impact (\$M)	\$18	\$22	\$3	\$43
<b>Total Economic Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$135</b>	<b>\$163</b>	<b>\$25</b>	<b>\$322</b>
<b>Annual Employment Supported (FTE)</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>883</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>1,747</b>

<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$52</b>	<b>\$64</b>	<b>\$10</b>	<b>\$126</b>
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Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure 3.3: Economic Impact from FY2024 Capital Investments within New York State (\$ Million)

<b>Impact Type</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>UR Medicine</b>	<b>Affiliates</b>	<b>Total</b>
Direct Impact (\$M)	\$140	\$172	\$71	\$383
Indirect & Induced Impact (\$M)	\$81	\$100	\$45	\$226
<b>Total Economic Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$221</b>	<b>\$272</b>	<b>\$116</b>	<b>\$608</b>
<b>Annual Employment Supported (FTE)</b>	<b>1,116</b>	<b>1,373</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>3,114</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$80</b>	<b>\$98</b>	<b>\$41</b>	<b>\$219</b>

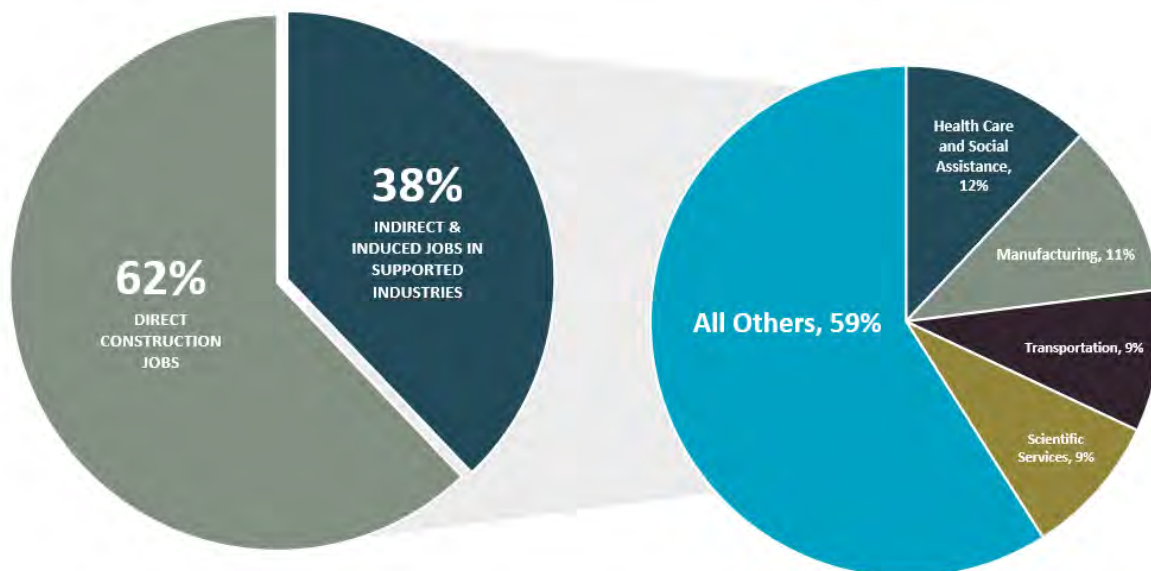
Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

### 3.4. Industry Distribution of Economic Impact from Capital Investments

The economic effects of the University of Rochester’s capital investments extend across many industries, reaching far beyond the construction sector alone. While the construction industry remains the primary industry (62 percent direct construction jobs), other sectors, including health care, transportation, and scientific services also see notable gains from both indirect supply chain activity and induced spending by employees. For instance, when contractors purchase materials like paint or hardware, local suppliers and retail stores benefit directly.

Figure 3.4 illustrates that approximately 38 percent of employment linked to the University of Rochester’s capital investments is spread across diverse industries in New York State, showcasing a broad distribution of benefits beyond construction alone.

Figure 3.4: Industry Distribution of Employment Generated by University of Rochester Annualized Capital Investments within New York State



Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

### 3.5. Capital Investments Generate Tax Revenue

Though the University of Rochester operates as a non-profit institution, its consolidated capital investments make a substantial contribution to tax revenues for New York State. These investments create construction jobs and bolster local construction companies and their suppliers, collectively generating income, sales, and business tax revenues at the state level. Overall, the University of Rochester's direct capital investments are projected to contribute almost \$14 million to New York State (Figure 3.5).<sup>7</sup>

Figure 3.5: Estimated Annual Tax Revenue Impact from University of Rochester Consolidated Capital Investments within the State of New York (\$ Million)

Tax Type	UR			Total
	University	Medicine	Affiliates	
Business Tax	\$1.1	\$1.4	\$0.6	\$3.1
Income Tax	\$1.9	\$2.4	\$1.4	\$5.7
Sales Tax	\$1.7	\$2.1	\$1.0	\$4.8
<b>Aggregate Tax Impact</b>	<b>\$4.7</b>	<b>\$5.9</b>	<b>\$3.0</b>	<b>\$13.6</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023); New York State ACFR (2024)

<sup>7</sup> As the only taxes collected at the City of Rochester level are property taxes, there are no city-level fiscal impacts in this case—property taxes were already represented in Section 2 (Operations).



## 4. Economic Impact from Ancillary Spending by Students, Patients, Visitors, and Athletics

### 4.1. Section Overview

The University of Rochester's presence as a premier higher education, health system, and cultural institution generates substantial economic benefits beyond its direct operational and capital investments through significant ancillary spending in the region. When students, patients, and visitors spend money off-campus—whether at local restaurants, retail stores, hotels, or entertainment venues—they create economic opportunities that support thousands of jobs and generate significant tax revenues for both the City of Rochester and New York State. While core spending like tuition and housing is captured in the University of Rochester's operational impact, the additional off-campus spending by the University's diverse student body and visitors creates vital economic opportunities for local businesses, particularly in retail, hospitality, and food service sectors. Based on conservative estimates combining the University's direct data and research-based assumptions, this ancillary spending generates a considerable economic impact within the City of Rochester and New York State.

In aggregate, the economic impact of ancillary spending by students, visitors, and patients is approximately \$92 million in total output within Rochester, supporting almost 700 jobs and generating \$19 million in employee compensation each year. Within New York State, this ancillary spending generates approximately \$197 million in total output, supporting more than 1,400 jobs with \$47 million in earnings.

### 4.2. Direct Student Spending

Students' economic impact on the University of Rochester's surrounding region extends beyond tuition payments to include significant off-campus or "ancillary" spending on necessities and entertainment. This spending, which does not flow directly to the University and is therefore distinct from the operational impact detailed in Section 2, represents either new economic activity from out-of-state students or retained spending from local students who might otherwise have attended universities outside the state.



The analysis carefully distinguishes between spending that flows to the University of Rochester (such as on-campus housing payments and tuition) and true ancillary spending in the community. For instance, while off-campus housing payments by non-commuter students are counted as ancillary spending as they represent new economic activity, rent paid by commuter students is excluded since

they would likely incur those housing costs regardless of the University of Rochester enrollment. The model does, however, account for commuter students' additional food and retail purchases made while attending the University.

Figure 4.1 demonstrates the number of University students within each of the student categories (on-campus, off-campus, and commuters). This approach yields annual average aggregate ancillary spending estimates of \$18 million for on-campus students, \$79 million for off-campus students, and \$300,000 for commuter students. Based on the University of Rochester's enrollment of more than 11,000 students, it is estimated that the University of Rochester student ancillary spending amounts to almost \$98 million annually, over and above the amount that goes directly to the University of Rochester for tuition and other expenses.

Figure 4.1: Estimated Annual Aggregate Ancillary Student Spending by Student Type

Student Type	# of Students	Per Student Ancillary Spending	Aggregate Ancillary Spending (\$M)
On-Campus	5,363	\$3,407	\$18.3
Off-Campus	5,834	\$13,589	\$79.3
Commuters	59	\$5,895	\$0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,256</b>		<b>\$97.9</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

The analysis accounts for geographic distribution of student spending, recognizing that not all expenditures remain within the immediate area, particularly given online shopping patterns. A portion of this spending exits the region immediately, thus lacking a multiplier effect within the regional economy. To address this, ESI's modeling approach conservatively incorporates only the retail margin (i.e., the difference between the purchase price for the retailer and the sales price for the customer). Of the estimated \$98 million in annual student ancillary spending, approximately \$70 million circulates within Rochester's economy; while \$12 million is retained within the rest of Monroe County. Altogether, \$82 million flows throughout the Monroe County geography each year due to student ancillary spending (Figure 4.2). These figures reflect careful consideration of spending patterns across different geographic boundaries.



Figure 4.2: Estimated Annual Aggregate Ancillary Student Spending Capture within the City of Rochester and Monroe County (\$ Million).<sup>8</sup>

Student Type	Number of students	Spending within Rochester (\$M)	Spending within Monroe County, minus Rochester (\$M)	Total Monroe County Spending (\$M)
On-Campus	5,363	\$8.0	\$2.3	\$10.3
Off-Campus	5,834	\$61.9	\$9.2	\$71.1
Commuters	59	\$154.3	\$0.1	\$0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,256</b>	<b>\$70.1</b>	<b>\$11.6</b>	<b>\$81.7</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

### 4.3. Direct Patient Spending

UR Medicine's role as a world-class health care provider draws significant patient and visitor spending to the region, creating substantial economic ripple effects throughout Rochester, the Region, and New York State. When patients travel to UR Medicine's medical facilities for treatment, whether for routine care or specialized procedures, they—along with their accompanying family members or caregivers—generate economic activity through spending on lodging, meals, transportation, and other necessities. This is particularly impactful when considering UR Medicine's status as a leading academic medical center that attracts patients from afar for specialized care in areas such as cancer care, pediatric health care, and specialized clinical trials. These medical visitors can stay for extended periods, especially for complex procedures or ongoing treatment regimens, resulting in sustained spending that supports local hotels, restaurants, retailers, and various service providers. The concentration of this spending in areas surrounding UR Medicine's medical facilities creates particular economic vibrancy in Rochester for those visiting Strong Memorial Hospital, Highland Hospital, or Golisano Children's Hospital; while the broader network of UR Medicine locations—including FF Thompson Hospital, Geneva General Hospital, Noyes Memorial Hospital, St. James Hospital, Jones Memorial Hospital, and Soldiers & Sailors

<sup>8</sup> Sums may not total due to rounding.

Memorial Hospital—disperses these economic benefits across multiple communities throughout the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions.

Visitor spending varies significantly between these groups due to the nature of the procedures. Inpatient surgeries often require overnight hospital stays, leading to higher visitor spending on accommodations such as hotels. In contrast, outpatient procedures typically involve shorter visits, with very few associated overnight stays. Figure 4.3 outlines the number of patients that went to UR Medicine facilities in FY2023. Estimates were then made using publicly available data on the number of patients visiting hospitals within geographies of interest, including Rochester (almost 1.3 million patients); Monroe County minus Rochester (more than 800,000 patients); and the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions, minus Monroe County (more than 1.1 million patients). In sum, an estimated more than 3.2 million patient visits are estimated each year for those receiving health care services at a UR Medicine facility.

Figure 4.3: Annual Aggregate Patients, FY2024, by Location, Including Estimated Aggregate Visitors

Geography	Total	Inpatient	Outpatient	Emergency
City of Rochester	1,292,800	28,400	1,160,000	104,400
Monroe County minus Rochester	808,000	17,750	725,000	65,250
Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions minus Monroe County	1,131,200	24,850	1,015,000	91,350
<b>Total Visitors to University Rochester Medical Centers</b>	<b>3,232,000</b>	<b>71,000</b>	<b>2,900,000</b>	<b>261,000</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

Using publicly available data, estimated visitors per patient were calculated; and then further broken down into UR Medicine location geography visited. Unique spending categories were created and aggregate patient visitor spending was thereby calculated by region visited (Figure 4.4).

Figure 4.4: Estimated Annual Aggregate Spending by UR Medicine Patient Visitors, by Location (\$ Million)

Category	City of Rochester	Monroe County minus Rochester	Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions minus Monroe County	Total Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions
Hotel	\$0.3	\$0.2	\$0.3	\$0.9
Food	\$32	\$20	\$28	\$81
Retail	\$13	\$8	\$12	\$34
Transportation	\$11	\$7	\$9	\$27
<b>Total Spend</b>	<b>\$57</b>	<b>\$35</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>\$142</b>
<b>Direct Leakage</b>	<b>\$29</b>	<b>\$18</b>	<b>\$26</b>	<b>\$73</b>
<b>Total Spend Modeled</b>	<b>\$28</b>	<b>\$17</b>	<b>\$24</b>	<b>\$69</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

## 4.4. Direct Visitor Spending

University of Rochester serves as a significant visitor destination throughout the year, drawing diverse audiences to both its campus and medical facilities from around the world. These visitors contribute substantially to Rochester's economy through spending that supports local employment and generates tax revenue for New York State. The visitor population includes alumni, parents, sports enthusiasts, and cultural event attendees, as well as participants in various programs and camps. To accurately assess the economic impact of these visitors, detailed spending profiles were developed that account for various factors including visit purpose, trip duration, travel distance, and event type, recognizing that different visitor categories have distinct spending patterns. This visitor spending analysis accounted for the following visitor types:

- Visitors of students and large sponsored events, such as ;
- Prospective students via open houses, info sessions, and tours;
- Athletics visitors; and
- All other events, encompassing academic, college, center, and school-specific events that bring visitors to the University of Rochester's campus.

Aggregate annual visitor spending estimates were calculated using attendance data and guest counts from the University of Rochester. These figures were combined with detailed per-visitor spending profiles broken down by industry sector. As with student spending analysis, conservative geographic adjustments were applied to determine spending captured within Rochester, and the rest of Monroe County. The analysis reveals that the University of Rochester's campuses and medical facilities attract almost 338,000 visits annually. Visitors are broken out by visitor type that indicates estimated travel distance—and further informs the spending profile for each visitor. Local visitors are assumed to travel no more than 50 miles to arrive at the University of Rochester. Day trip visitors are assumed to travel between 50 and 100 miles; and Overnight visitors are assumed to travel more than 100 miles to attend an event (Figure 4.5).

Figure 4.5: Programs and Events with Subsequent Attendee Totals, FY2024, by Entity/Department

School/Department	Local	Day Trip	Overnight	Total Attendees
Athletics Attendance	14,083	7,824	9,389	31,296
Center for Experiential Learning	1,055	114	28	1,197
Graduate Admissions	203	113	1,651	1,967
Laser Energetics	256	394	1,252	1,902
Simon Business School	40	10	147	197
University Sponsored Events <sup>9</sup>	150,000	90,000	60,000	300,000
URMC - Medical Student Visit	150	433	433	1,015
Warner	47	2	9	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>165,834</b>	<b>98,890</b>	<b>72,909</b>	<b>337,632</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

Visitor spending profiles by distance were then multiplied by the number of visitors within each category to estimate ancillary spending totals and geographic distribution. Overall, University of Rochester visitors are estimated to spend \$8.1 million within Monroe County, with \$6.9 million of those expenditures taking place in the City of Rochester. After accounting for leakage—or expenditures that leave the local geography—the modelled spend sums to \$5.5 million within Monroe County; of which, \$4.6 million is spent in the City of Rochester (Figure 4.6).

Figure 4.6: Estimated Aggregate Annual Spending by University of Rochester Visitors, by Geography

Category	Monroe County	Monroe County minus	
	Total	Rochester	Rochester
Hotel (\$M)	\$3.2	\$2.9	\$0.3
Food (\$M)	\$2.7	\$2.5	\$0.3
Retail (\$M)	\$1.5	\$1.2	\$0.3
Transportation (\$M)	\$0.6	\$0.4	\$0.3
Total Spend (\$M)	\$8.1	\$6.9	\$1.2
Direct Leakage (\$M)	\$2.6	\$2.3	\$0.3
<b>Total Modeled Spend (\$M)</b>	<b>\$5.5</b>	<b>\$4.6</b>	<b>\$0.8</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)

<sup>9</sup> Includes University of Rochester sponsored events such as the Rochester International Jazz Festival, the Rochester Fringe Festival, Meliora Weekend, and the M&T Bank Clothesline Art Festival. More detailed information on events located in Appendix C.

### Spotlight: Rochester International Jazz Festival



The Rochester International Jazz Festival stands as one of the world's leading jazz festivals, transforming downtown Rochester into a vibrant musical destination every June. Since its founding in 2002, this nine-day celebration has grown from 15,000 attendees in its inaugural year to more than 200,000 jazz enthusiasts. The 2025 festival showcased the remarkable scope and accessibility that defines the festival, featuring over 1,750 artists from nine countries performing in 285+ shows

across 18 venues, all within walking distance within Rochester's East End Cultural District. From ticketed headliners like Smokey Robinson and Thundercat at Eastman Theatre to free performances by Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue and Lettuce at outdoor stages, the festival's European-style format allows visitors to "park once and walk" between intimate clubs, elegant concert halls, and bustling outdoor stages. This unique approach to presenting all genres of creative improvised music—from traditional jazz to funk, soul, and world music—celebrates international artists' interpretations of America's only truly indigenous art form while fostering an inclusive, community-centered atmosphere that has made RIJF a cornerstone of Rochester's cultural identity.

## 4.5. Economic Impact from Ancillary Spending by Students, Patients, Visitors, and Athletics

Ancillary spending by students, visitors, and patients has a multiplier effect throughout the region, generating the following annual economic impacts (Figure 4.7):

- More than \$92 million in total output, supporting more than 670 jobs with \$19 million in earnings within the City of Rochester; and
- An estimated \$197 million in total output, supporting more than 1,400 jobs with \$47 million in earnings within New York State.

Figure 4.7: Estimated Annual Economic Impact from Ancillary Spending by Students, Patients, Visitors, and Athletics (\$ Million)

<b>Impact Type</b>	<b>City of Rochester</b>	<b>New York State</b>
Direct Impact (\$M)	\$80	\$130
Indirect & Induced Impact (\$M)	\$12	\$67
<b>Total Economic Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$92</b>	<b>\$197</b>
<b>Annual Employment Supported (FTE)</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>1,416</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$19</b>	<b>\$47</b>

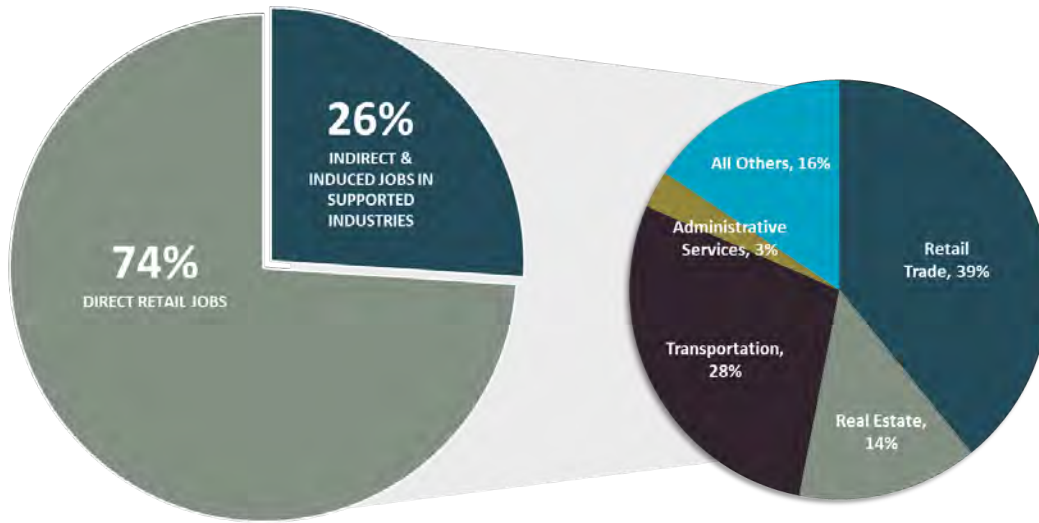
Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

#### 4.6. Industry Distribution of Economic Impact from Ancillary Spending by Students, Patients, and Visitors

Spending by students, patients, and their visitors directly impacts a number of industries, and in turn creates a multiplier effect that benefits additional industries. This influx of spending directly supports jobs in New York State within retail (74 percent); and additional indirect and induced jobs in a wide range of sectors statewide, including transportation (28 percent), retail trade (39 percent), and real estate (14 percent) (Figure 4.8).



Figure 4.8: Industry Distribution of the Employment Impact of the University of Rochester’s Ancillary Spending within New York State



Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

## 4.7. Ancillary Spending Generates Tax Revenue

In aggregate, ancillary spending by students, patients, and their visitors generates approximately \$8.8 million in statewide tax revenues annually to New York State annually (Figure 4.9).

Figure 4.9: Estimated Aggregate Annual Tax Revenue Impact from University of Rochester Ancillary Spending to the State of New York (\$Million)

Tax Type	Total Tax
Business Tax	\$2.0
Income Tax	\$1.5
Sales Tax	\$5.3
<b>Aggregate Tax Impact</b>	<b>\$8.8</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

### Spotlight: Men's and Women's Basketball



The University of Rochester's men's and women's basketball programs serve as powerful catalysts for regional economic activity, exemplifying how athletic excellence translates directly into ancillary spending that benefits the greater Rochester area. With standout performers like women's basketball graduate student Abby Gress and men's basketball senior Logan Jagodzinski earning USBWA All-Rochester Area First-Team honors, the Yellowjackets' competitive success attracts visitors from across New York State and neighboring states who contribute significantly to the local economy through spending on lodging, dining, retail, and entertainment. As highlighted previously, athletics programming draws visitors whose discretionary spending enriches the regional economy, and successful seasons create the kind of exciting, high-quality basketball that brings alumni, opposing fans, and basketball enthusiasts to Rochester. These athletics-driven visitors represent a crucial component of the University's broader economic footprint, millions of dollars annually into the Rochester economy while reinforcing the Institution's role as a premier anchor that attracts people and resources from around the world to the Rochester and Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions.

## 5. Economic Impact from Alumni Wage Premium

### 5.1. Section Overview

This section explores the economic value of the University of Rochester's role in educating and credentialing students. Economic and societal benefits from education are vast, including the increased productivity and earning power of UR alumni. The University of Rochester educates, credentials, and retains students within the regional and state economies, which translates to enhanced earning potential, and therefore higher household income within those respective economies. Some of that additional household income is spent locally, producing additional economic activity, and supporting local indirect and induced jobs and state tax revenue.

The University has more than 118,000 alumni with undergraduate and advanced degrees who now live within the United States, roughly 44,000 of whom reside in New York State. Advanced degrees are defined as master's, PhD, and other terminal degrees.

Alumni are estimated to earn a premium each year because of their University of Rochester education. This translates to an aggregate economic impact of more than \$79 million within the City of Rochester, supporting 330 direct, indirect, and induced full-time jobs; and more than \$785 million within New York State, supporting approximately 3,480 jobs and \$239 million in employee earnings. These impacts are especially important because they create a virtuous cycle within the local, regional, and state economies, producing more business and job opportunities, and additional tax revenue for New York State.

### 5.2. Defining Alumni Wage Premium

In a knowledge economy, the education and intellectual capabilities of workers are treated as assets that determine a company's productivity and output. Workers who are credentialed, have expertise in highly in-demand skills, and matriculate from a higher education institution are more valued; and, in turn, receive higher wages for their work.

The alumni wage premium is the average difference between the wages of college graduates and those with less education. Wage premium analysis utilizes this framework to estimate the gain to the city, state, and regional economies. Additional earnings attributable to the University of Rochester within these geographies are estimated and translated into additional spending power within the local economy, which supports local employment and earnings. In aggregate, the additional earning potential means hundreds of millions more dollars are circulating within the regional and state economy.

### 5.3. Direct Alumni Wage Premium

To estimate the magnitude of alumni wage premium impacts from the University of Rochester on the volume of earnings and associated household spending within the City of Rochester and New York State, we first estimate the number of UR alumni in the workforce, detailed by educational attainment level and geography. We then estimate the annual wage premium associated with the University for each of those attainment levels and combine them to arrive at the aggregate impact number. These estimates rely primarily on data provided by the University regarding the number of alumni by geography, and then federal data sources where applicable.

Figure 5.1 shows the geographic distribution of alumni in the workforce. We assume that of the total number of University of Rochester alumni within each region, 70 percent are currently employed, as opposed to retired, unemployed, or otherwise out of the workforce.<sup>10</sup>

Figure 5.1: Geographic Distribution of University of Rochester Alumni in the Workforce

<b>Degree Type</b>	<b>Residing in the City of Rochester</b>	<b>Total Residing in New York State</b>
Certificate	4,248	19,807
Bachelor's	2,890	23,597
Advanced	91	674
<b>Total Alumni</b>	<b>7,229</b>	<b>44,078</b>
Labor Force Participation Rate	70.10%	70.10%
<b>Estimated Total Working Alumni</b>	<b>5,068</b>	<b>30,899</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

An aggregate increase in earning potential across each geography can be estimated by analyzing both the overall rise in educational attainment within the workforce and the wage premium specifically associated with a University of Rochester degree. Drawing on federal data and institutional analysis, the average annual individual wage premium attributable to increased educational attainment for University of Rochester alumni is estimated to be approximately \$22,534 for alumni who received a professional certificate; \$46,247 for bachelor’s degree holders; and \$64,868 for advanced degree holders within the City of Rochester. The individual wage premium was calculated to be the difference between median earnings for University of Rochester alumni of various degree attainment levels and the median earnings for all residents at one degree attainment level below within the City. For example, the wage premium for a University of Rochester alumnus(a) with a bachelor’s degree living in the City of Rochester equals the median earnings of a University of Rochester alumnus(a) with a bachelor’s degrees minus the median earnings for all Rochester residents with a professional certificate, which yields an individual wage premium of \$46,247 (Figure 5.2).

<sup>10</sup> U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, “Employment Status of the Civilian Population 25 Years and Over by Educational Attainment”, <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t04.htm>

Figure 5.2: Estimated Wage Premium for Alumni Residing in the City of Rochester

Degree Type	University of Rochester Earnings	City of Rochester Median Earnings	University of Rochester Alumni Wage Premium
High School	-	\$32,795	-
Certificate	\$55,329	\$36,493	\$22,534
Bachelor's Degree	\$79,042	\$53,814	\$42,549
Advanced Degree	\$97,663	\$63,251	\$43,849

Source: American Community Survey (2023); College Scorecard (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

The wage premiums for alumni in the City of Rochester, Monroe County, the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions, and the Rest of the State of New York are then applied to the estimated number of University of Rochester alumni working within each geography, segmented by degree level. The resulting aggregate wage premium reflects the additional household income earned by UR alumni as a direct outcome of the education and credentials they received at the University of Rochester. In total, this aggregate annual alumni wage premium is estimated to generate almost \$218 million in additional earnings within the City of Rochester; \$338 million within the rest of Monroe County; \$161 million within the rest of the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions; and approximately \$1.0 billion total statewide (or almost \$311 million in New York State, minus the Finger Lakes Region)—representing a significant and sustained contribution to economic growth (Figure 5.3).



Figure 5.3: Aggregate Annual Wage Premium Associated with University of Rochester Alumni in the Workforce

Degree Type		Residing in the City of Rochester	Residing in the Rest of Monroe County	Residing in the Rest of the Finger Lakes Region	Residing in the Rest of the State of New York
Certificate	# of Working Alumni	64	195	151	62
	Estimated Wage Premium	\$22,534	\$17,928	\$17,232	\$15,514
	<b>(# of Working Alumni x Estimated Wage Premium) (\$M)</b>	<b>\$1.4</b>	<b>\$3.5</b>	<b>\$2.6</b>	<b>\$1.0</b>
Bachelors	# of Working Alumni	2,026	4,378	2,449	7,689
	Estimated Wage Premium	\$42,549	\$33,924	\$34,544	\$30,678
	<b>(# of Working Alumni x Estimated Wage Premium) (\$M)</b>	<b>\$86.2</b>	<b>\$148.5</b>	<b>\$84.6</b>	<b>\$235.9</b>
Advanced	# of Working Alumni	2,978	5,698	2,069	3,139
	Estimated Wage Premium	\$43,849	\$32,547	\$35,670	\$23,567
	<b>(# of Working Alumni x Estimated Wage Premium) (\$M)</b>	<b>\$130.6</b>	<b>\$185.5</b>	<b>\$73.8</b>	<b>\$74.0</b>
<b>Aggregate Wage Premium (\$M)</b>		<b>\$218.2</b>	<b>\$337.5</b>	<b>\$161.0</b>	<b>\$310.8</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

Validation of the wage premium enjoyed by University of Rochester alumni comes from a rigorous 2022 analysis of 4,500 colleges and universities performed by Georgetown University on the return on investment from degrees earned from academic institutions throughout the U.S. Their research demonstrates that University of Rochester graduates not only recover their educational investment but secure substantial lifetime earnings premiums that set them apart in the marketplace. This return on investment creates ripple effects far beyond individual prosperity—it generates broader societal and economic gains as alumni advance in their careers, invest in their communities, and contribute to regional growth. Over a 40-year career, the average University of Rochester bachelor’s degree is expected to yield over \$1.4 million in return on investment, per alumnus(a) (Figure 5.4).



Figure 5.4: Return on Investment for an Average University of Rochester Graduate Over a 10-, 15-, 20-, 30- and 40-Year Time Horizon.<sup>11</sup>

<b>Time Horizon after Graduation</b>	<b>Net Present Value of Earnings</b>
10-Year	\$134,000
15-Year	\$404,000
20-Year	\$648,000
30-Year	\$1,069,000
40-Year	\$1,415,000

*Source: Georgetown University (2022)*

## 5.4. Economic Impact from Alumni Wage Premium

This additional earning potential has both direct and consequential impacts to University of Rochester alumni. Additionally, the wage premium produced by University of Rochester alumni produces a spillover impact to other local economies, both because alumni are able to contribute to these economies at a higher level; and because alumni have more disposable income to spend within these economies.

The effects of this additional household spending are estimated to generate on an annual basis (Figure 5.5):

- \$79 million in total output within Rochester, supporting 330 induced jobs and \$22 million in employee compensation; and
- \$785 million in total output within New York State, supporting 3,480 induced jobs and \$239 million in employee compensation.

<sup>11</sup> Georgetown University conducted a study on the return on investment for over 4,500 colleges and universities, using data from the expanded College Scorecard. The study calculates the net present value by assigning that earnings 10 years after first attending are a reasonable proxy for future earnings, using the average annual net price provided by College Scorecard. <https://cew.georgetown.edu/cew-reports/roi2022/>

Figure 5.5: Annual Economic Impact Attributable to University of Rochester Wage Premium Effects within the City of Rochester and the State of New York

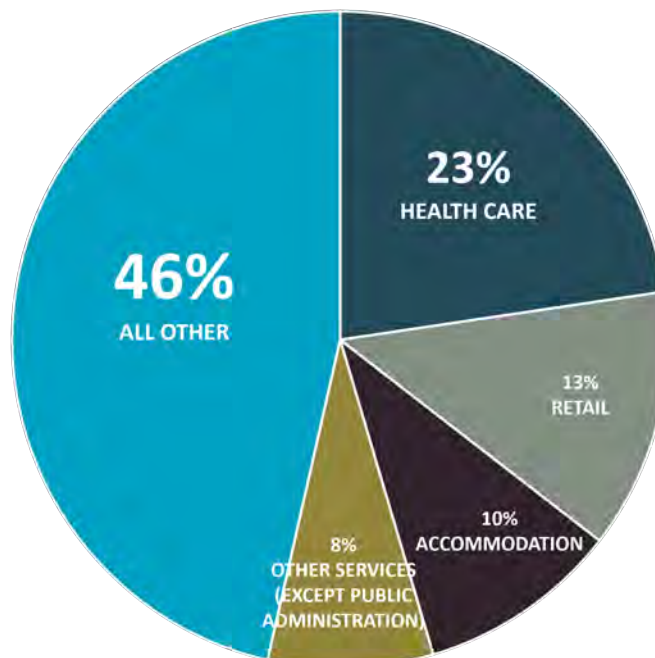
Impact Type	City of Rochester	State of New York
Aggregate Wage Premium (\$M)	\$218	\$1,028
<b>Total Induced Output (\$M)</b>	<b>\$79</b>	<b>\$785</b>
<b>Total Employment (FTE)</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>3,480</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$22</b>	<b>\$239</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

## 5.5. Industry Distribution of Economic Impact from Alumni Wage Premium

The economic benefits of the University of Rochester's alumni wage premium flow through diverse sectors of the economy, with health care capturing the largest share at 23 percent of the total impact. Retail accounts for 13 percent of the industry distribution, demonstrating how alumni spending power supports local businesses and commercial activity. Other services comprise 8 percent of the impact, while accommodation represents 10 percent, showing how alumni earnings support hospitality and service industries throughout the region. This diverse distribution highlights how the enhanced earning power of University of Rochester graduates creates ripple effects across the entire economic spectrum, from high-skilled professional services to everyday consumer spending that sustains local businesses and communities (Figure 5.6).

Figure 5.6: Industry Distribution of Employment Generated from Alumni Wage Premium



Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

## 5.6. Alumni Wage Premium Generates Tax Revenue

In addition to economic impacts, the State of New York benefits from additional tax revenue generated directly from the wage premium associated with University of Rochester graduates. The higher wage premium paid to University of Rochester alumni directly impacts personal income tax revenue and indirectly generates revenue in terms of income, sales, and business taxes collected from graduate spending. In New York State, \$49.3 million is generated by the additional wages enjoyed by University of Rochester alumni (Figure 5.7).

Figure 5.7: Fiscal Impacts of the Wage Premium Associated with University of Rochester in the State of New York

Tax Type	State of New York
Income Tax (Directly Paid by Alumni) (\$M)	\$21.6
Income Tax (From Alumni Spending) (\$M)	\$7.4
Aggregate Income Tax (\$M)	\$29.0
Sales Tax (\$M)	\$13.2
Business Tax <sup>14</sup> (\$M)	\$7.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$49.3</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023); State of New York ACFR (2024)

### Impact Spotlight: Steven Chu '70, Nobel Laureate and Energy Innovation Pioneer



Nobel Prize winner Steven Chu exemplifies the University of Rochester's commitment to producing world-changing leaders who bridge scientific excellence with public service. After earning dual degrees in mathematics and physics from the University of Rochester, Chu revolutionized atomic physics through his groundbreaking work in laser cooling and optical trapping, earning the 1997 Nobel Prize in Physics. His trajectory from Bell Labs researcher to Stanford professor to U.S. Secretary of

Energy under President Obama demonstrates how Rochester alumni translate scientific discovery into transformative policy impact. As the first scientist to serve in a presidential Cabinet, Chu launched game-changing initiatives including ARPA-E and the Energy Innovation Hubs while personally leading the response to the BP oil spill crisis. Today, as a distinguished professor at Stanford, he continues advancing biophysics and battery research while embodying Rochester's tradition of graduates who apply rigorous scientific thinking to humanity's greatest challenges, from climate change to sustainable energy solutions.

### **Impact Spotlight: Renée Fleming '83E, Cultural Ambassador and Arts-Health Pioneer**



Five-time Grammy winner Renée Fleming has transformed from Rochester's Eastman School of Music into one of the world's most celebrated artists, demonstrating how the University's commitment to artistic excellence produces graduates who redefine entire fields. Fleming's journey from Eastman to the stages of the world's great opera houses culminated in her historic 2014 Super Bowl performance—the first classical artist ever to sing the National Anthem at the Super Bowl—bringing her Rochester-trained voice to over 100 million viewers worldwide. Beyond her acclaimed recordings spanning opera to indie rock collaborations with Elton John and Paul Simon, Fleming has pioneered an entirely new field as a leading advocate for arts and health research. Her groundbreaking partnership between the Kennedy Center and the National Institutes of Health

exemplifies how Rochester alumni don't just succeed in their fields but create new ones, while her appointment as a World Health Organization Goodwill Ambassador for Arts and Health showcases the global impact of University of Rochester graduates who leverage their platform for societal benefit.

### **Governor Josh Shapiro '95, Trailblazing Public Servant**



Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro has become the first University of Rochester alumnus to serve as a state's chief executive, demonstrating how the University's emphasis on leadership and public service cultivates graduates who reach the highest levels of American governance. Shapiro's path from studying political science in Rochester to becoming one of the nation's most prominent governors illustrates the University's ability to develop leaders who combine analytical rigor

with effective public communication. His successful tenure as Pennsylvania Attorney General, where he took on major corporations and fought for consumer protection, showcased the ethical leadership and commitment to justice that Rochester instills in its graduates. As governor of America's fifth-most populous state, Shapiro has implemented policies affecting millions while maintaining the collaborative, evidence-based approach to problem-solving that reflects his Rochester education. His return to campus in 2023 to deliver the commencement address symbolizes the ongoing connection between the University and its graduates who are shaping the future of American democracy and public policy.

## 6. Local Engagement

### 6.1. Section Overview

The University of Rochester's role as an anchor institution extends far beyond its direct economic contributions. Through intentional community engagement, local partnerships, and civic leadership, the University, URM, and affiliate hospitals create lasting value that strengthens neighborhoods, supports local businesses, and improves quality of life throughout the Rochester and Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions. As a cornerstone institution deeply rooted in the community, the University of Rochester demonstrates its commitment to shared prosperity through strategic partnerships, local procurement, workforce development, and comprehensive community health initiatives.



### 6.2. Economic Opportunity

As the largest employer in the region, the University of Rochester, UR Medicine, and its affiliates wield significant economic influence that extends far beyond its direct payroll and purchasing power. The institution has embraced its role as an anchor institution by implementing deliberate strategies that ensure its economic activity generates maximum benefit for local communities. Through intentional procurement practices that prioritize diverse suppliers, comprehensive workforce development programs that create pathways to economic mobility, and innovative approaches to health care access that address fundamental barriers to community prosperity, University of Rochester demonstrates how large institutions can leverage their economic footprint to drive inclusive growth. This commitment to shared economic opportunity reflects the understanding that institutional success and community vitality are fundamentally interconnected, with each strengthening the other in a virtuous cycle of mutual prosperity.

## Supplier Diversity

The University of Rochester leverages its significant purchasing power to create opportunities for regional businesses. Through intentional procurement strategies, the University of Rochester ensures that its economic impact directly benefits the diverse communities it serves.

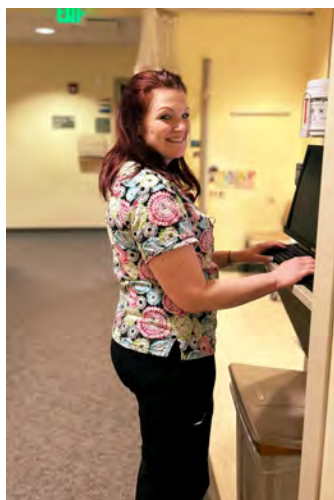
Diverse businesses are typically categorized by the demographics of their ownership, with the most common categories including: Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (MBEs), Women-Owned Business Enterprises (WBEs), and Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises (VBEs). To qualify for these classifications, the business must be at least 51% owned and controlled by individuals who belong to the designated demographic. Each year, the University of Rochester, UR Medicine, and affiliates spend a combined almost \$24 million with diverse businesses and service providers (Figure 6.1).

Figure 6.1: Diverse Spending by Entity, FY2024

Entity	Minority	Veteran	Woman	Total
University	\$1,658,161	\$31,277	\$9,000,029	\$10,689,466
URMC	\$891,423	\$13,420	\$7,874,378	\$8,779,221
Affiliates	\$731,012	\$9,640	\$3,447,130	\$4,187,792
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,280,596</b>	<b>\$54,337</b>	<b>\$20,321,537</b>	<b>\$23,656,479</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

## Career Path Modernization



The University's commitment to equitable employment extends far beyond competitive wages to encompass a comprehensive transformation of how the Institution approaches workforce development and career advancement. The Career Path Modernization initiative represents one of the most significant human resources transformations in the University's history, emerging from a principled commitment to ensuring that every employee, regardless of their starting position or background, has access to meaningful career advancement opportunities.

This sweeping reform was catalyzed by the University's partnership with the Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative and its commitment to establishing a \$17 per hour minimum wage for all employees, including students. However, what began as a wage equity initiative evolved into a fundamental reimagining of the University's approach to human capital development. Recognizing that simply raising wages without addressing systemic barriers to advancement would fall short of true equity, University of Rochester leadership embarked on a comprehensive overhaul of policies, procedures, and organizational structures that had inadvertently limited career mobility for many employees.

### 6.3. University of Rochester Campus as Community Amenity

The University of Rochester campus serves as a significant community asset, providing educational, cultural, and recreational resources that enhance quality of life for residents throughout the region while functioning as a vibrant cultural and intellectual hub that extends far beyond its role as an academic institution. The University's commitment to community access reflects a deep understanding that great universities thrive when they are integrated into the fabric of their communities rather than existing as isolated enclaves. This philosophy manifests through extensive programming that makes world-class educational and cultural resources accessible to regional residents regardless of their formal connection to the University.

#### Educational and Cultural Resources



The University regularly hosts public lectures and symposiums featuring world-renowned researchers and scholars, creating opportunities for community members to engage with cutting-edge research and thought leadership across disciplines ranging from medical science to public policy to the arts. These events serve not only as educational opportunities but also as forums for community dialogue about critical issues affecting the region and beyond. Community education programs specifically designed to address local health and social challenges demonstrate the University's commitment to applying its expertise to community-identified needs, whether through health education initiatives that help residents navigate complex health care systems or financial literacy programs that build economic capacity.

The University's extensive cultural programming opens its doors to regional residents through performances, exhibitions, and artistic events that would otherwise be inaccessible in a mid-sized metropolitan area. The Eastman School of Music serves as a major cultural asset for the entire region, offering concerts, recitals, and educational programs that enrich the cultural life of Rochester while providing community members with access to world-class musical performances and education. The University's libraries and research resources are made accessible to community members, recognizing that knowledge resources should serve broader community needs beyond formal academic requirements. The Memorial Art Gallery of the University of Rochester removes the financial barriers to visiting the museum, including free school tours, transportation of students to the museum, and free memberships for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program cardholders. Additionally, athletic facilities and youth development programs create additional pathways for community engagement, providing recreational opportunities and structured programming that supports healthy youth development throughout the region.

## Campus Infrastructure and Development



The University's significant real estate investments and campus development projects contribute to neighborhood revitalization while demonstrating how institutional development can support broader urban development goals when planned strategically and implemented with community consideration. Rather than treating campus development as an internal institutional matter, the University approaches infrastructure investment as

an opportunity to model best practices and contribute to regional development patterns that benefit the broader community.

Sustainable building practices implemented across University facilities extend beyond regulatory compliance to showcase innovative approaches to energy efficiency, waste reduction, and environmental stewardship. Transportation infrastructure improvements implemented as part of campus development projects often benefit the broader community by improving traffic flow, enhancing pedestrian safety, and creating transportation connections that serve regional mobility needs beyond campus-specific requirements.

The University's public safety initiatives extend beyond campus boundaries to create safer neighborhoods for all residents, recognizing that campus safety and community safety are interconnected rather than separate concerns. Through collaborative relationships with local law enforcement and community organizations, the University contributes to comprehensive approaches to public safety that benefit entire neighborhoods rather than just the campus community. Green space development and maintenance undertaken as part of campus planning enhances neighborhood aesthetics while providing environmental benefits such as stormwater

management, air quality improvement, and urban heat island mitigation that serve broader community environmental health needs.

The University's approach to campus infrastructure development also considers economic impact on surrounding neighborhoods, working to ensure that institutional growth contributes to neighborhood economic vitality rather than displacement or gentrification that harms existing residents. This includes supporting local businesses, considering housing affordability impacts, and engaging with neighborhood organizations to ensure that campus development supports rather than undermines community economic stability and growth.

## 6.4. Civic Engagement

The University of Rochester demonstrates civic leadership through active participation in regional planning, economic development, and social equity initiatives, with University leadership serving on numerous boards and committees addressing community challenges and opportunities. The University maintains ongoing collaboration with city and county governments on economic development initiatives, leveraging its position as the region's largest employer to support broader economic growth strategies. University leaders also play key roles in regional health care planning and coordination, working with public health officials and community organizations to address health disparities and improve health care access across the region. Additionally, the University provides substantial support for K-12 education through teacher training programs and curriculum development initiatives, recognizing that educational quality is fundamental to long-term community prosperity. The Institution's partnership with community organizations addressing social determinants of health demonstrates its understanding that health outcomes are deeply connected to housing, education, employment, and other community conditions that require collaborative, cross-sector approaches to address effectively.

### Spotlight: Center for Community Engagement



The University of Rochester's Center for Community Engagement (CCE), founded in 2005, serves as a comprehensive hub fostering collaborative leadership among students, faculty, staff, and community partners to discover transformative solutions and create equitable social change in the Rochester community and beyond. The Center coordinates an impressive array of programs that

engage nearly half of all undergraduate students in community service activities, contributing over 50,000 hours annually to the Rochester community. The Center's flagship initiatives include the historic Wilson Day of Engagement—the oldest community service day among colleges in the country with over 30 years of tradition—which introduces incoming students to community engagement during Welcome Week and continues throughout the academic year with workshops and community-based activities.

**50,000+ Hours Annually  
Community Service Activities**

The Center operates three primary program areas that create pathways for meaningful community engagement across the educational experience. Through its Civic Engagement programs, CCE manages volunteer opportunities, the Medallion leadership development program, and Community Engagement Challenge grants of up to \$500 that support student organizations in building stronger University-community connections. The Community-Engaged Learning initiative offers a formal Certificate in Community-Engaged Learning program requiring 16 credits of coursework and a capstone project, with over 100 community-engaged courses available across disciplines ranging from environmental science to dance. Additionally, the Center provides extensive professional development through Community-Based Participatory Research Training, Community Engagement Studios, and collaborative programs that build capacity among both University personnel and community partners, creating sustainable partnerships that address local challenges while providing students with hands-on learning experiences that prepare them for lives of civic leadership and social responsibility.

## Policy Advocacy and Community Voice



The University leverages its extensive research expertise to inform public policy and advocate for evidence-based solutions to community challenges, with faculty members regularly contributing to policy discussions at local, state, and national levels. This policy engagement encompasses health care access and health equity policy development, where University researchers and clinicians work with government officials and community organizations to develop policies that address systemic barriers to health care access and improve health outcomes for underserved populations. The University's involvement in economic development and workforce policy reflects its understanding that sustainable community prosperity requires coordinated approaches to business development, workforce training, and employment creation. Faculty members also contribute significantly to education policy and funding advocacy, using their expertise in pedagogy, child development, and educational outcomes to inform policy decisions that affect students from pre-K through higher education. Environmental sustainability and climate policy represent another major area of University engagement, with researchers contributing scientific expertise to policy discussions about environmental protection, renewable energy, and climate change adaptation strategies. Finally, the University's commitment to social justice and community equity initiatives is reflected in faculty involvement in policy discussions about criminal justice reform, housing policy, immigration policy, and other areas where research can inform more equitable and effective policy solutions.

## 6.5. Programs and Services within the Community

The University of Rochester has demonstrated significant commitment to community engagement, receiving the prestigious Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement. This classification recognizes institutions for their dedication to collaborating with their surrounding communities for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources. The Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement highlights the University of Rochester's commitment to being a responsible and engaged member of its local and broader community, leading to benefits that extend far beyond the campus borders.



Specialized community services address critical gaps in regional health care infrastructure. Thanks to federal support, URMCM maintains labor and delivery services at Jones Memorial Hospital, which serves as the only birthing center serving Allegany County, ensuring that women in rural areas have access to essential maternal health care without traveling significant distances during critical periods. Additionally, the Institution provides transitional supportive

housing for discharged high-risk patients who might otherwise experience homelessness or inadequate housing that could lead to readmission, addressing social determinants of health that significantly impact health outcomes and health care costs. SMILEmobiles—providing comprehensive dental health services that serve over 8,000 children and adults annually—brings essential oral health services directly to communities that lack adequate dental care infrastructure.

The University of Rochester Medical Center's community benefit activities represent significant contributions to social welfare, providing comprehensive community health support across multiple categories. Overall, the University of Rochester provides almost \$2 billion annually on these community-focused health care initiatives. Including revenue that offsets some of those expenses, the University of Rochester provides a net benefit of almost \$661 million that is not compensated by medical assistance programs (Figure 6.2).



Figure 6.2: Aggregate Community Benefits, FY2024 (\$ Millions)

Category	Community Impact	Total Expense	Direct Revenue	Net Benefit
Charity Care at Cost	Free health care for uninsured patients	\$27.50	\$2.20	\$25.40
Unreimbursed Medicaid	Health care access for low-income families	\$771.50	\$488.90	\$282.60
Unreimbursed Government Programs	Support for programs for low-income families	\$8.10	\$3.10	\$5.10
Community Health Improvement	Population health initiatives	\$2.10	\$0.00	\$2.10
Health Profession Education	Training next generation of health care workers	\$185.90	\$10.70	\$175.20
Subsidized Health Services	Essential services for underserved populations	\$736.00	\$566.30	\$169.80
Research	Medical research benefiting global health	\$229.70	\$229.70	\$0.00
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	Direct community support	\$0.20	\$0.00	\$0.20
Community Building Activities	Community development and support initiatives	\$0.50	\$0.00	\$0.50
<b>Total Community Benefit</b>	<b>Comprehensive community health support</b>	<b>\$1,961.60</b>	<b>\$1,300.90</b>	<b>\$660.80</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

### Spotlight: 340B Drug Discount Program Impact

The University of Rochester Medical Center's participation in the federal 340B Drug Discount Program enables significant community health investments that extend health care access throughout the region. This program allows safety-net providers to stretch scarce resources and support comprehensive community health initiatives, creating a foundation for expanded health care access that reaches far beyond traditional service delivery models.

The program's impact on charity care and medication access represents one of its most direct benefits to community health and economic stability. Through 340B savings, URMC provides millions of dollars annually in no-cost and discounted medications to patients in need, enabling robust charity care programs that serve uninsured and underinsured populations who would otherwise face impossible choices between medication costs and other basic needs. These medication assistance programs also support comprehensive medication compliance initiatives that reduce hospital readmissions, creating both health benefits for patients and cost savings for the health care system while reducing the economic burden of repeated hospitalizations on families and communities.

### Training Tomorrow's Rural Doctors

The training of 960 residents and fellows annually in medical specialties represents not only immediate economic impact through the educational activities themselves but also long-term investment in regional health care infrastructure, as many of these trainees remain in the region following completion of their programs.



To further the efforts to provide doctors in some of New York State's most rural areas, the School of Medicine & Dentistry is launching the Rural Residency Program, offering a Rural Training track in 2027. Research has demonstrated that family physicians who train in rural settings are 2 to 3 times more likely to establish rural practices compared to general family medicine graduates. The program provides comprehensive training through rotations at rural hospitals within the URMC system—including Noyes Hospital in Dansville, St. James Hospital in Hornell, and Jones Memorial Hospital in Wellsville—combining inpatient hospital work with outpatient rotations in hospital-affiliated specialty practices serving residents of Allegany, Livingston, and Steuben counties. A cornerstone of the program is robust obstetrics training, which addresses the severe shortage of maternity care in rural areas where residents travel 1.5 to 3 times farther than the state average to reach birthing hospitals, creating dangerous "maternity care deserts." By training family physicians

with advanced obstetrics skills in rural settings and recruiting similarly trained physicians to these communities, the program represents a strategic, evidence-based approach to closing critical health care access gaps while supporting both immediate patient care needs and long-term rural community sustainability in upstate western New York and beyond.

## 6.6. Conclusion: University of Rochester as a Vital Community Partner

The University of Rochester's local engagement demonstrates the transformative power of anchor institutions that fully embrace their role as catalysts for community prosperity and social equity. Through comprehensive community benefit programs, strategic local procurement and hiring practices, innovative workforce development initiatives, and more, the University exemplifies how large institutions can leverage their resources, expertise, and influence to create sustainable, inclusive growth that benefits entire communities. The Institution's commitment extends far beyond traditional measures of community engagement to encompass systemic approaches addressing social determinants of health, economic inequality, and educational access barriers, positioning the University not simply as an economic anchor but as a collaborative partner in building a more equitable and prosperous future for all Rochester-area residents.



## 7. Regional Competitiveness

### 7.1. Section Overview

Research, innovation, and entrepreneurship play crucial roles in the competitiveness of regions. University of Rochester is vital player in the region as a premier research institution that attracts human capital, new businesses, and investors to the area. While University of Rochester’s investment in research, innovation, and entrepreneurship is a part of the University’s operational footprint and therefore included in the economic impacts described in Section 2, there are broader impacts that advance the region’s competitiveness and are important to describe in further detail.

Through world-class research facilities, cutting-edge academic programs, and strategic partnerships with industry, the University positions the Rochester region as a global leader in key sectors including optics and photonics, health care and life sciences, advanced manufacturing, and emerging technologies. The University’s research enterprise, innovation ecosystem, and educational programs create a foundation for sustained regional growth and competitive advantage.

This section explores the ways in which University of Rochester’s research and development efforts contribute to a local ecosystem of innovators and creators who are driving the region’s economic future. This includes a close look into their research efforts, cultivation of intellectual property output, commercialization and entrepreneurship, and collaboration with regional economic development initiatives.



## 7.2. Advancing Human Knowledge and Innovation

The University of Rochester stands among the world's leading research universities, recognized as a Very High Research University (R1) by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. The University of Rochester conducts groundbreaking research that advances human knowledge and drives technological innovation. With nearly half a billion dollars in annual research funding, the University maintains research programs of international significance across multiple disciplines. The University's research enterprise, innovation ecosystem, and educational programs create a foundation for sustained regional growth and competitive advantage. The University's commitment to transdisciplinary research and emerging technologies positions Rochester as a national leader in next-generation innovation ecosystems.

### Research Infrastructure and World-Class Facilities



The University of Rochester's position as a Tier 1 research university is supported by an extraordinary array of world-class research facilities and technologies that empower bold ideas and drive breakthrough discoveries. With more than 3,000 researchers and over 500 laboratories dedicated to scientific research, the University creates an ecosystem where students, faculty, and staff conduct some of the highest volume of research activity in the United States. This extensive research infrastructure serves not only internal discovery needs but also provides critical resources for regional industry partnerships and economic development initiatives.



The Center for Integrated Research Computing represents the computational backbone of the University's research enterprise, providing hardware and software computational and data analytics technologies that drive research activities across all areas of academic scholarship.

The Center operates one of the world's top 500 supercomputers, giving the University of Rochester researchers access to computing power that rivals the most advanced research institutions globally. This facility supports users across the Medical Center and River Campus from over 110 departments and centers, spanning disciplines from medicine and engineering to biological and physical sciences. The Center's capabilities enable sophisticated modeling, data analysis, and computational research that would be impossible for individual departments to maintain independently, creating economies of scale that benefit the entire regional research ecosystem.

The University's commitment to cutting-edge research infrastructure is exemplified by facilities like the Visualization-Innovation-Science-Technology-Application Collaboratory, a 1,000-square-foot data visualization laboratory featuring an array of 24 monitors spanning 20 feet wide and 8 feet tall with 50-megapixel resolution approaching that of IMAX theaters. This facility enables researchers to visualize complex data sets and collaborate on challenging problems in ways that traditional computing environments cannot support. Additionally, the Laboratory for Laser Energetics (LLE) completed a \$46 million, 66,600-square-foot building expansion that houses advanced clean room facilities, the largest optical coating facility of its kind in the country, and space for next-generation laser systems. The expansion enhances the facility's capabilities for fusion research, national security efforts, and advanced materials science while supporting the domestic supply chain for the world's largest lasers.

### Spotlight: STELLAR Project: National Recognition for Regional Innovation



The University of Rochester's Science, Technology and Engineering for Laser and Laser Applications Research (STELLAR) project represents a transformative initiative that has gained national recognition for its potential to position Rochester as America's laser innovation hub. Selected as one of only 15 finalists from nearly 300 initial proposals nationwide in the NSF Regional Innovation Engines competition, STELLAR demonstrates the University's capacity to compete at the highest levels of federal research and development competitions while building comprehensive regional partnerships that span academia, industry, and community organizations.

The STELLAR project's advancement to finalist status represents far more than recognition of individual research excellence. Led by Thomas Brown, Director of the Institute of Optics, and Jonathan Zuegel from the Laboratory for Laser Energetics, STELLAR exemplifies successful regional coalition building that brings together the University of Rochester as lead institution, Rochester Institute of Technology, Monroe Community College, NextCorps/Luminate startup accelerator, Greater Rochester Enterprise, AmeriCOM, New York State, and numerous regional industry partners.<sup>12</sup> This coalition approach demonstrates how universities can serve as anchors for comprehensive regional innovation ecosystems that address workforce development, business creation, and technology commercialization simultaneously.

### Breakthrough Research Centers and Interdisciplinary Collaboration

The University of Rochester's research excellence is organized through an extensive network of centers and institutes that foster interdisciplinary collaboration while addressing critical challenges facing society and the regional economy—establishing the University as a premier research institution driving significant impact across New York State. The Center for RNA Biology,

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<sup>12</sup> "University-led STELLAR Project Named a Finalist in National 'Innovation Engines' Competition." University of Rochester Newscenter, <https://www.rochester.edu/newscenter/stellar-project-finalist-nsf-innovation-engines-competition-668362/>.

led by internationally recognized expert Lynne Maquat, PhD, who has been elected to both the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Medicine, conducts research into RNA function, structure, and processing that has led to breakthrough therapeutic applications. The Center's work exemplifies how University research addresses global health challenges while creating opportunities for biotechnology development and pharmaceutical industry partnerships in the region. Additionally, the University recently partnered with University at Albany to establish the Center of Excellence in RNA Research and Therapeutics (CERRT), marking New York State's 13th Center of Excellence. This designation will drive biotechnology workforce development while partnering with major companies like Regeneron and Pfizer.

The Center for Emerging and Innovative Sciences (CEIS) is the University of Rochester's designated New York State Center for Advanced Technology (CAT), which receives approximately \$1 million in state funding annually to work with New York State-based companies on research and development and commercialization projects. As part of New York State's economic development infrastructure, CEIS serves as a bridge between academic research capabilities and industry needs, facilitating partnerships that translate university innovations into practical applications while supporting regional economic growth and technology advancement. CEIS efforts span a diverse range of scientific and technological fields, including optics, photonics, imaging, AI, and biomedical engineering.



The Center for Health + Technology (CHeT) demonstrates the University's leadership in translating research discoveries into practical applications with significant economic and social impact. Over the past 30 years, the Center has supported clinical studies that have led to 12 FDA approvals. The Center's six specialized units provide expertise in clinical trials coordination, clinical materials services, patient-reported outcome measures, technology research and innovation, data modeling and predictive analytics, and advancing community health, creating a comprehensive infrastructure for translational research that supports both academic discovery and regional economic development in health care and biotechnology sectors.



The Goergen Institute for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence serves as home to New York State Center of Excellence distinguished researchers, and functions as a hub for interdisciplinary data science and AI research. The Institute houses and oversees the Center of Excellence in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, funded by the New York State Department of Economic Development's Division of Science, Technology and Innovation, creating direct connections between University research capabilities and State economic development priorities. This integration of academic research with state economic development initiatives demonstrates how University research infrastructure can serve dual purposes of advancing scientific knowledge while contributing to regional competitiveness in emerging technology sectors.

## Transdisciplinary Research Centers

University of Rochester's research infrastructure includes specialized facilities that support advanced discovery across multiple disciplines. The University of Rochester Center for Advanced Brain Imaging & Neurophysiology provides multimodal imaging capabilities that support both human and preclinical imaging research, enabling scientific discoveries spanning basic to clinical neuroscience. The Del Monte Institute for Neuroscience leverages the University's historic and current expertise in optics, vision research, electrical engineering, and computer science as well as clinical care and education to advance augmented reality and virtual reality (AR/VR) research applications. These specialized research capabilities create unique regional assets that attract industry partnerships, federal funding, and collaborative research opportunities that benefit the broader regional economy.

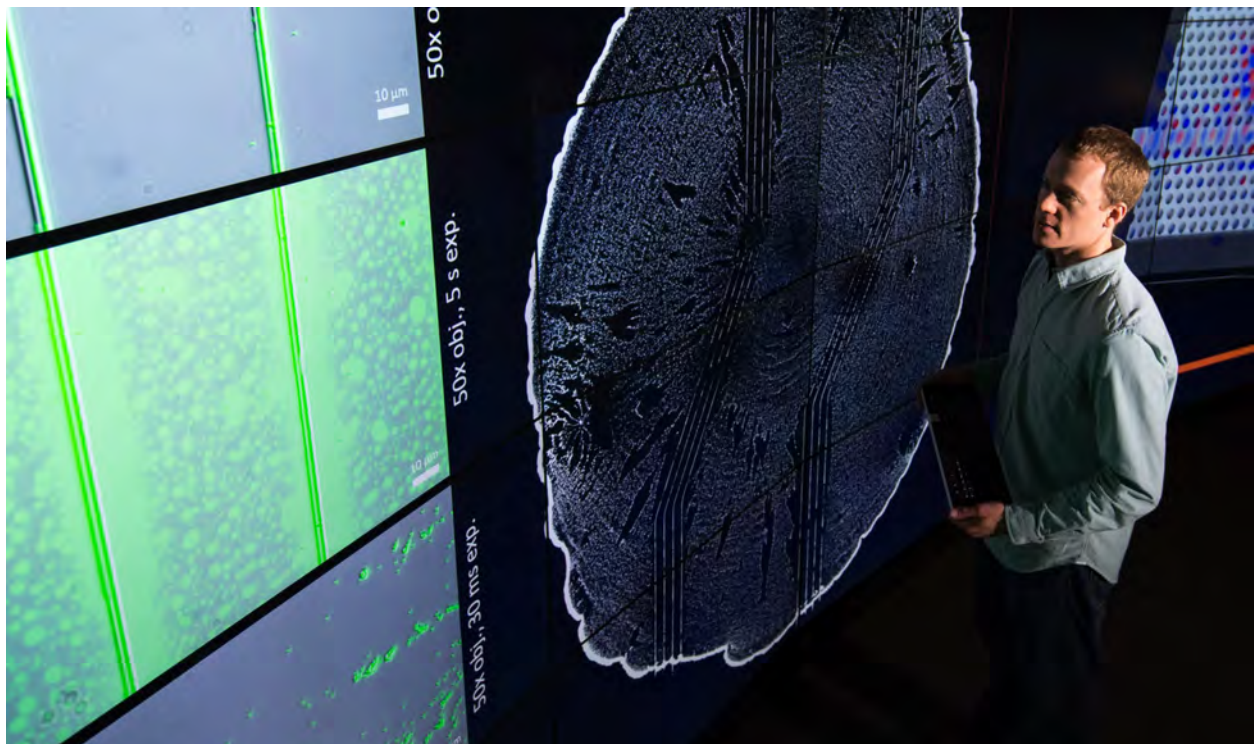
In 2025, the University announced a groundbreaking \$8.5 million investment in four new transdisciplinary research centers, demonstrating institutional commitment to addressing humanity's most complex challenges through collaborative innovation. The four funded centers reflect the University's strategic approach to building research capacity in areas where interdisciplinary collaboration can generate breakthrough discoveries.

- Soundspace combines Rochester's strengths in music, engineering, and science to develop a best-in-class hub for research, education, performance, and public engagement while pushing artistic and technical boundaries at the intersection of music, sound, and technology.

- Extended Reality Research and Application (EXTRRA) integrates optics, computing, neuroscience, and education to develop immersive platforms improving learning, accessibility, and workforce training, reshaping how individuals engage with digital and natural environments.
- The University of Rochester Resilience Research Center (UR<sup>3</sup>C) studies mechanisms enabling recovery and thriving following adversity, identifying sociocultural factors perpetuating stress-related health issues and developing novel interventions preventing or reversing stress-related conditions.
- The Center for Coherence and Quantum Science (CCQS) advances quantum technologies through light-matter interaction, pushing frontiers of quantum science and classical coherence while enabling practical applications in optical science and engineering.

These centers demonstrate how strategic institutional investment can create research capacity that addresses both fundamental scientific questions and practical applications with regional economic development potential.

### **Spotlight: Center of Excellence in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence**



The University of Rochester serves as home to New York State's Center of Excellence in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, establishing the region as a recognized leader in AI development and application. According to the Brookings Institution's comprehensive analysis "Mapping the AI Economy: Which Regions are Ready for the Next Technology Leap," Rochester stands as the only "emerging AI center" in New York State outside of New York City, highlighting the University's role in positioning the region for AI-driven economic growth.

Established in 2014 with continued state investment and renewal, the Center of Excellence has supported New York businesses through data science and AI tools addressing complex challenges. Housed in the Goergen Institute for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, the Center facilitates public-private partnerships driving regional economic development while maintaining advanced computing infrastructure, including one of the most powerful and energy-efficient computer systems in the world supporting fusion research—demonstrating how AI capabilities can support multiple research domains simultaneously.

## Laboratory for Laser Energetics: A National Research Asset

The University of Rochester's Laboratory for Laser Energetics (LLE) represents one of the most significant research assets in the region and the nation. Established in 1970, LLE is the largest university-based U.S. Department of Energy research program, hosting the OMEGA Laser Facility with the two largest and most capable academic lasers in the world. With total square footage of 350,000, 450 employees, and 100+ students, the laboratory has an extensive local footprint.



LLE's research impact extends far beyond academic achievement to encompass national security, clean energy development, and regional economic development. In FY2024, the laboratory was awarded a \$503 million Cooperative Agreement over five years from the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). The substantial research activity generates economic impact for the region

while positioning Rochester as an international center for advanced physics research.

LLE's regional innovation impact extends through strategic partnerships with Rochester-area optics companies that leverage the region's historical strengths in optics and photonics. The laboratory creates technology transfer opportunities with potential for local business development. LLE demonstrates how major research facilities can serve dual purposes of advancing fundamental science while supporting regional industry development. LLE focuses more than \$20 million annually on expenditures within the United States; and of that, more than \$6.3 million is spent with vendors within New York State, focusing procurement efforts locally.

## 7.3. Supporting Entrepreneurship

### Entrepreneurship Education and Support

The University provides comprehensive support for student, faculty, and community entrepreneurship through academic programs, business incubation services, and mentorship opportunities that create pathways from research discovery to commercial application. Academic programs integrate entrepreneurship education across disciplines, recognizing that innovation requires both technical expertise and business acumen. Alumni mentorship networks connect

emerging entrepreneurs with experienced business leaders, creating knowledge transfer and relationship development opportunities that support long-term business success.

### **Spotlight: Ain Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Rochester**



The Ain Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation is a dynamic hub that empowers students to transform visionary ideas into reality through comprehensive entrepreneurial support and experiential learning. Named after Mark Ain, the late founder of Kronos Incorporated, the Center reflects his deep belief in hands-on entrepreneurship education and risk-taking as pathways to innovation. The Center offers students access to initiatives like pitch competitions, business plan competitions, and mentorship from Entrepreneurs-in-Residence, creating a collaborative ecosystem where aspiring entrepreneurs can develop their ventures from concept to launch. At its heart is the annual Mark Ain Business Model Competition, which has

become a cornerstone of Rochester's student startup ecosystem, providing funding, visibility, and real-world testing opportunities for student founders while embodying Mark Ain's philosophy that the best way to learn was by doing.

The University's innovation infrastructure includes research facilities available for collaborative industry partnerships, shared laboratory and fabrication facilities that reduce barriers to technology development, and business incubation spaces supporting early-stage company development. University expertise and resources provide emerging businesses with technical support, market analysis, and strategic guidance that significantly improves their chances of commercial success.

### **Innovation and Technology Transfer Impact**

The University of Rochester's research enterprise generates substantial intellectual property and innovation outcomes that directly contribute to regional economic development and technology commercialization. Over the past ten years spanning fiscal years 2015-2024, University researchers and innovators have generated 317 licenses, secured 408 U.S. patents, and launched 37 new companies, demonstrating the institution's capacity to translate academic research into commercial applications. These metrics represent not merely academic achievements but concrete contributions to regional innovation ecosystems and economic diversification efforts.

The creation of 37 new companies over the past decade demonstrates the University's role as an incubator for entrepreneurship and business development. These spin-off companies represent the translation of academic research into viable business enterprises that create employment opportunities, attract investment capital, and contribute to regional economic diversification. Many of these companies remain in the Rochester region, creating a multiplier effect where University research generates not only immediate economic activity but also long-term business development and employment creation.

## UR Ventures



UR Ventures serves as the University of Rochester's dedicated technology transfer office, functioning as a critical bridge between groundbreaking academic research and real-world commercial applications that benefit society while generating economic value for both the Institution and the broader region. As the essential resource for researchers seeking to translate their laboratory innovations into marketplace solutions, UR Ventures protects, develops, and commercializes intellectual property arising from University research through a comprehensive process that includes invention disclosure evaluation, patent protection, licensing agreement facilitation, and strategic partnership development with

industry. The office's specialized team of technology licensing specialists, each with deep expertise in specific sectors ranging from optics and quantum technologies to life sciences and biomedical applications, works collaboratively with faculty, staff, and students to identify innovations with commercial potential while ensuring proper intellectual property protection and compliance with University policies and federal regulations.

UR Ventures' impact extends far beyond traditional technology transfer through innovative programs like the Technology Development Fund, which has provided over \$5 million in funding to 65 projects since 2010, helping researchers advance their discoveries to market-ready stages through grants. The office facilitates multiple partnership models including licensing agreements, co-development partnerships, and confidential disclosure agreements that enable established corporations and emerging startups to access University innovations while creating revenue streams that support continued research and development. By offering investors access to vetted, high-potential technologies and providing comprehensive expertise in intellectual property management, commercialization strategies, and market connections, UR Ventures ensures that University of Rochester innovations not only enrich the local community and improve society but

also contribute to the institution's mission of making the world ever better through the practical application of academic research and discovery.

### **Spotlight: NextCorps: Regional Innovation and Entrepreneurship Hub**



A cornerstone of the University of Rochester's commitment to regional economic development is its affiliate NextCorps, the region's only state- and federally-designated business incubator that serves as the anchor of Rochester's Downtown Innovation Zone. As a University affiliate, NextCorps operates as a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping innovative technology companies launch and grow, directly translating the University's research and educational capabilities into tangible economic development outcomes for the Rochester region. Since establishing its headquarters in the historic Sibley Square in downtown Rochester in 2018, NextCorps has demonstrated remarkable impact, supporting almost 800 companies and creating more than 900 jobs while helping startups raise \$733 million in funding between 2018 and 2024. The organization's comprehensive approach includes sector-specific accelerator programs in optics/photonics/imaging through Luminare (the world's largest accelerator in this field), climate technology through Venture for Scale for ClimateTech, and software development through Embark, positioning Rochester as a national leader in emerging technology sectors.

### **Spotlight: Excell**

Excell serves as a strategic affiliate of the University of Rochester, representing a unique public-private partnership that has transformed regional economic development since 2006 through a unique partnership between the University of Rochester and New York State Empire State Development. As a venture capital fund specifically focused on high-tech, high-growth startups in New York State with particular emphasis on Upstate New York, Excell combines top-quartile financial returns with meaningful regional impact by investing up to \$1.5 million per round in companies across sectors including medical devices, materials, energy, biotech, agtech, imaging,

and IT/software. Beyond capital provision, Excell provides portfolio companies with comprehensive support including hands-on mentorship and strategic connections.

<b>Excell by the Numbers</b>	
Assets under management (AUM)	\$83M
Jobs in the Portfolio	1,596
Follow-on Funding	\$846M
Exits	15
Portfolio Companies	39
Team	6
FTEs	5.5

## Industry Partnerships and Collaborative Research

The University's strategic partnerships with industry create opportunities for collaborative research, workforce development, and regional economic diversification while ensuring that academic research addresses real-world challenges and market opportunities. Collaboration with Regeneron and Pfizer through the Center of Excellence in RNA Research and Therapeutics (CERRT) demonstrates how major pharmaceutical companies can partner with universities to advance both basic research and commercial development in cutting-edge therapeutic areas.



Partnerships with regional optics and photonics companies leverage Rochester's historical strengths in these sectors while building on the University's research capabilities to maintain regional competitive advantages in emerging technology applications. Health care industry collaborations through Medical Center clinical research create opportunities for medical device development, pharmaceutical testing, and health care technology

advancement that benefit both the University's research mission and regional health care industry development.

Advanced manufacturing partnerships leverage University research expertise in materials science, engineering, and manufacturing processes to support regional manufacturing competitiveness while providing University researchers with real-world applications for their discoveries. These partnerships often result in collaborative research agreements, workforce development programs, and technology transfer opportunities that create sustained economic relationships between the University and regional industry.

## Regional Innovation Districts and Ecosystem Development

The University contributes to regional innovation district development through strategic partnerships, shared research facilities, and collaborative workspace development that supports university-industry interaction while fostering entrepreneurship and business development. The University's involvement in NextCorps and other regional innovation organizations demonstrates how academic institutions can participate in broader ecosystem development while maintaining their core educational and research missions.



Shared research facilities accessible to industry partners create opportunities for collaborative research and development while reducing the costs and barriers associated with advanced technology access for regional businesses. Collaborative workspace development supports university-industry interaction by providing physical spaces where students, faculty, and industry professionals can work together on challenging problems and innovative solutions.

Support for supply chain development connects regional businesses with University research capabilities while creating opportunities for local sourcing and partnership development that strengthen the regional economy. These initiatives often result in long-term relationships between University researchers and regional businesses that continue to generate economic benefits well beyond initial project completion.

## 7.4. Strengthening the Regional Workforce

The University of Rochester offers academic programs strategically aligned with regional economic development priorities, ensuring graduates possess skills needed for emerging industries and high-growth sectors while maintaining the broad-based liberal arts education that fosters critical thinking and adaptability.

### Continuing Education and Professional Development

The University provides comprehensive continuing education and professional development programs serving the regional workforce while supporting economic competitiveness through skills development, career advancement, and professional certification programs that address evolving industry needs.

Executive education programs serve regional business leaders by providing advanced management training, strategic planning capabilities, and leadership development that strengthen regional business competitiveness while building ongoing relationships between the University and regional business community. Certificate programs address emerging industry needs by providing focused training in specific technical areas, regulatory compliance, and professional specializations that enable regional workers to adapt to changing economic conditions and technological developments. Customized training programs developed for regional employers address specific workforce development needs while demonstrating the University's responsiveness to regional economic development priorities and industry requirements.

### Health Care Workforce Development and Regional Impact

The University of Rochester Medical Center's workforce development efforts address one of the most critical challenges facing the region: the shortage of qualified health care professionals. As the leading source of new physicians for the region, URMCM trains 960 residents and fellows annually, representing a substantial investment in regional workforce capacity that extends far beyond the immediate economic impact of the training programs themselves.

The School of Medicine and Dentistry operates comprehensive workforce development programs that address health care staffing challenges throughout upstate New York. The Institution provides clinical training opportunities for nursing and other health professions students from colleges and universities across the region, creating a network of collaborative relationships that strengthen the entire regional health care workforce pipeline. This collaborative approach recognizes that health care workforce development is a regional challenge requiring coordinated responses from multiple institutions.



The Hoekelman Center exemplifies the University's innovative approach to health care workforce development through programs that combine clinical training with community engagement. The Pediatric Links with the Community (PLC) program provides a two-week summer rotation during which residents and students

learn about critical factors affecting child health while interacting with medical and non-medical providers at various community-based organizations. This program not only enhances the clinical skills of participants but also builds their understanding of social determinants of health and community-based approaches to health care delivery.

The Community Health and Advocacy Resident Education (CARE) Track represents an even more intensive approach to workforce development, offering a two-year longitudinal experience that begins with a comprehensive mini-Master of Public Health block. Participants in this program develop specialized skills in community health and advocacy while working on capacity-building projects that benefit community organizations. This approach ensures that health care workforce development contributes directly to community capacity building while preparing clinicians who understand the broader social context of health and illness.

URMC's workforce development efforts also extend to addressing the digital divide through programs that prepare community members for success in technology-dependent industries. Working in collaboration with community partners, URMC provides digital literacy training, computer access programs, and technical support services that enable residents to develop competitive skills for employment in the modern economy. These programs recognize that effective workforce development must address both the technical skills required for specific occupations and the broader digital literacy skills that are increasingly essential for economic participation.

### **Spotlight: Advance 2 Apprenticeship Program**

The Advance 2 Apprenticeship (A2A) program, operated through the University of Rochester Medical Center's Strong Center for Developmental Disabilities, is an innovative pre-apprenticeship employment initiative designed to break down barriers and improve access to high-wage manufacturing careers for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Through strategic partnerships with Mohawk Valley Community College, the Manufacturers Association of Central New York, Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES Center for Workforce Development, and the Rochester Technology & Manufacturing Association, the program offers comprehensive pre-apprenticeship courses in manufacturing fundamentals, machining, industrial operations, and welding, providing wraparound support services to ensure student success. Graduates have the opportunity to earn industry-recognized credentials including the Certified Manufacturing Associate and National Career Readiness Certificate, with direct pathways to interviews for

manufacturing positions such as production operator, machine operator, inspection technician, and welder, demonstrating how targeted workforce development programs can create meaningful career opportunities while addressing both disability employment barriers and regional manufacturing workforce needs.

## Regional Workforce Pipeline Development and Talent Retention

The University of Rochester's workforce development efforts are strategically designed to address a critical question for regional economic development: whether the Institution serves as a net importer or exporter of talent. Through comprehensive programs that span from K-12 engagement through professional development, the University works to ensure that its educational and training activities contribute to regional talent retention and attraction rather than simply preparing students for opportunities elsewhere.

The Institution's approach to workforce pipeline development begins with extensive engagement with regional K-12 educational systems. Through collaborations with local schools, particularly those serving underserved neighborhoods, the University helps enhance educational opportunities and prepare students for post-secondary education and career success. These partnerships recognize that effective workforce development requires long-term investment in educational systems that serve as feeder programs for higher education and professional training. The Teen Health and Success Partnership (THSP) is an innovative workforce development program that connects Rochester City high school students with employment opportunities at the University of Rochester Medical Center and across UR facilities. Operating as part of the EAST-UR Collaborative, this employment program provides students with entry-level health care jobs while offering comprehensive support through hiring navigators, employment navigators, and wrap-around services to overcome obstacles at home, school, and work. The program has demonstrated remarkable success, with 100% of participating 2024 seniors graduating from high school, 65% enrolling in college, and approximately 50% of participants remaining employed at UR after graduation.



The University's commitment to regional workforce development is perhaps most evident in its approach to student financial aid and accessibility programs. The Handler Scholarship program and other financial aid initiatives are designed not only to ensure that talented students have access to quality education regardless of their economic background, but also to strengthen connections between students and the regional community. By removing financial barriers to education, these programs help ensure that regional talent has opportunities to develop skills and capabilities locally rather than being forced to seek opportunities elsewhere due to economic constraints.

The Rochester Youth Year Fellowship, an AmeriCorps VISTA-sponsored year of service program,



serves as a particularly innovative approach to talent retention, creating structured opportunities for students to engage with the community while developing professional skills and networks that encourage them to remain in the region following graduation. This program recognizes that talent retention requires more than just educational opportunities; it requires helping students develop personal and professional connections to the community that make remaining locally an attractive

option.

For current University of Rochester employees, the UR Career Pathways Program is an innovative workforce development initiative that supports University of Rochester employees in transitioning to high-demand positions by providing upfront tuition payments rather than traditional reimbursement. The program covers tuition costs at partnering community colleges and internal/external training programs for any future role relevant to high-demand positions, even when unrelated to an employee's current job, and includes up to eight hours of paid release time per week for studies along with certified career coaching support for individualized career navigation. This comprehensive approach represents a strategic investment in workforce development that helps employees advance their careers while addressing the University's staffing needs in critical areas, demonstrating a commitment to internal talent development and career mobility that strengthens both individual prospects and institutional capacity.

## 7.5. Economic Development and Regional Partnership

The University actively participates in regional economic development initiatives, leveraging resources and expertise to support broader regional competitiveness goals through collaborative relationships with economic development organizations, government agencies, and community

partners. The University collaborates with OneROC, the Greater Rochester Enterprise, the Rochester Chamber of Business, and the Rochester Downtown Development Corporation by providing more than \$480,000 in annual support. Partnership with Monroe County and New York State economic development agencies ensures that University activities align with broader regional and state economic development priorities while maximizing the impact of public investments in higher education and research.

Participation in regional workforce development initiatives demonstrates the University's commitment to addressing regional challenges through collaborative approaches that recognize the interconnected nature of economic development, workforce preparation, and business competitiveness. Support for small business development and growth reflects the University's understanding that sustainable regional economic development requires broad-based participation and opportunity creation across diverse communities and business sectors.

## 7.6. Conclusion: Strengthening Regional Competitiveness

The University of Rochester's contributions to regional competitiveness extend across multiple dimensions, from groundbreaking research that positions the region as a global leader in key technologies to comprehensive workforce development programs that ensure regional employers have access to skilled talent. Through nearly half a billion dollars in annual research funding, world-class facilities like the Laboratory for Laser Energetics, and strategic partnerships with industry leaders, the University serves as a catalyst for regional economic transformation.

The University's research enterprise creates new knowledge and technologies with commercial potential while training the next generation of researchers and innovators. Academic programs aligned with regional economic priorities ensure graduates possess skills needed for emerging industries, while comprehensive internship and experiential learning programs connect students with regional employers and create talent pipelines supporting business growth.

As the region continues to evolve and adapt to changing economic conditions, the University of Rochester's role as a driver of innovation, talent development, and economic opportunity—validated by national recognition and federal investment—ensures that the entire region remains positioned for long-term prosperity and competitive advantage in key growth sectors of the 21st century economy.



## 8. Broader Societal Impacts

### 8.1. Section Overview

The University of Rochester's impact extends far beyond its immediate economic contributions to the Rochester region and New York State. As an institution guided by its Boundless Possibility strategic plan, the University demonstrates its commitment to creating positive change on both local and global scales. While deeply rooted in the Rochester community, the University of Rochester has evolved into a transformative force that drives knowledge creation, innovation, and service with implications that resonate around the world.

The University's broader societal impact manifests through its role as a premier research institution that tackles humanity's greatest challenges. With faculty and students engaged in groundbreaking studies that have global implications—from cancer treatments and artificial intelligence to climate change research—the University contributes to the worldwide exchange of knowledge and innovation that benefits communities far beyond Western New York. This research excellence, combined with the University's R1 research classification, positions Rochester as a vital player in advancing human knowledge.

Through comprehensive educational accessibility programs, international research collaborations, and service opportunities that foster global citizenship, the University of Rochester demonstrates that higher education serves as a powerful catalyst for social mobility, cross-cultural understanding, and community development on a global scale.

### 8.2. An Accessible Education

The University of Rochester's commitment to educational accessibility represents one of its most significant contributions to societal progress, ensuring that talented students from diverse backgrounds can access world-class education regardless of their economic circumstances or personal challenges.

#### Signature Scholarship Programs

The University's most notable accessibility initiative is the Handler Scholarship, a full-expense scholarship program that provides comprehensive support to incoming students who have encountered significant personal and structural challenges yet demonstrate extraordinary potential. Funded by the University's chair of the board of trustees, Richard Handler, this program provides funding for at least one percent of students in each incoming class and continues support through completion of their undergraduate degrees. Recipients receive guidance from an advising team that includes the director of the Center for Community Engagement, making community engagement an integral part of their educational identity.

## Supporting Underrepresented Students



The Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP), funded by New York State, increases access for underrepresented minority and first-generation students. This program features a highly successful early connection opportunity summer program that introduces students to community engagement opportunities from the outset of their university experience. Once enrolled, a coalition of departments led by the David T. Kearns Center works collaboratively to support first-generation students, providing academic support through an advising network designed to achieve strong retention and graduation rates.

### 8.3. A Commitment to Global Service

The University of Rochester's global service commitment extends the Institution's mission of knowledge creation and community engagement across international boundaries, creating opportunities for students to become engaged global citizens while contributing meaningfully to communities worldwide.

#### Study Abroad and International Engagement



The University's Center for Education Abroad supports global opportunities for students to learn and engage in the communities of their host countries. These programs integrate community engagement activities directly into their curricula, ensuring that international education includes meaningful service components. Notable examples include faculty-led programs in Procida, Italy, where students engage in hands-on learning and cultural immersion through field studies,

community projects, and cultural exchanges. Similarly, programs like the Smith's Island archaeological initiative in Bermuda combine academic research with cultural preservation efforts that benefit local communities.

## Global Research with Local Impact

The University's research enterprise extends its impact globally through partnerships with institutions in Europe, Asia, and Africa. Faculty members and students contribute to groundbreaking studies with worldwide implications, including research on cancer treatments, artificial intelligence, and climate change. This research not only advances human knowledge but also creates solutions that benefit communities globally.

## International Community Building

The University attracts students, scholars, and visitors from around the world, creating a diverse and inclusive international community on campus. This global diversity enriches the educational experience for all students while fostering cross-cultural understanding and collaboration. International students and scholars bring global perspectives to local community engagement efforts, while Rochester students gain international experience that prepares them for global citizenship.

### Spotlight: Office for Global Engagement



The University of Rochester's Office for Global Engagement serves as the central hub for coordinating and supporting the institution's international activities and global connections. With the mission of "Connecting Rochester and the World," the office operates as the primary point of contact for navigating international travel, partnerships, research collaborations, and various global initiatives undertaken by the university community. The Office plays a crucial role in managing the University of Rochester's extensive international presence, which includes over

4,000 international community members and more than 100 institutional partnerships worldwide. By serving as a centralized resource, the Office for Global Engagement helps faculty, staff, and students access information and support for global endeavors, ensuring that the University's commitment to making a worldwide impact is effectively coordinated and executed across all areas of the institution.

## Specialized Global Health and Service Programs

Through its medical center and research programs, the University contributes to global health initiatives that address critical needs in underserved communities worldwide. The Office of Health Equity Research supports innovative health equity research that fosters deeper understanding of the root causes of health disparities, with findings that inform more equitable care practices both locally and internationally.

### 8.4. Conclusion: Creating Global Citizens

The University of Rochester's broader societal impacts demonstrate how an institution rooted in place-based community engagement can simultaneously create positive change that extends far beyond its geographic boundaries. Through comprehensive accessibility programs that remove barriers to higher education, robust international service opportunities that foster global citizenship, and a commitment to research excellence that addresses worldwide challenges, the University fulfills its mission as both a community anchor and a global research university.

The University's commitment to creating global citizens is further reinforced through its Boundless Possibility strategic plan, which positions the Institution as simultaneously strengthening its reputation as a global research university while deepening its commitment to the local Rochester community. This dual focus ensures that graduates leave Rochester with both the global perspective necessary to address complex worldwide challenges and the grounding in community engagement that enables them to create positive change wherever their careers take them.

Through its dedication to accessible education, meaningful international service, and research that addresses humanity's greatest challenges, the University of Rochester demonstrates how higher education institutions can serve as catalysts for positive social change that strengthens communities, reduces inequality, and promotes understanding across cultural and economic divides worldwide. The University's graduates carry forward this mission, becoming leaders who contribute to positive social change throughout their careers and creating ripple effects that extend the University's impact far beyond the boundaries of any single community or nation.



## 9. Conclusion

### 9.1. Aggregate Economic Impact

The University of Rochester’s aggregate economic impact derives from direct, indirect, and induced effects in four categories of economic activity directly attributable to the institution, including operations and research; capital investments; ancillary spending; and alumni wage premium. In total, these impacts represent the local and statewide economic impact of the University, UR Medicine, and affiliates.

- Within Rochester, the Institution’s activity generates over \$5.9 billion in economic impact, supporting over 32,000 jobs with over \$3.0 billion in employee earnings (Figure 9.1).
- In Monroe County, the Institution’s activity generates nearly \$9.2 billion in economic impact, supporting nearly 49,000 jobs with roughly \$4.1 billion in employee earnings (Figure 9.2).
- Within the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions, the Institution’s activity generates almost \$11.8 billion in economic impact, supporting over 62,000 jobs with almost \$4.9 billion in employee earnings (Figure 9.3).
- Throughout New York State, the University of Rochester generates over \$13 billion in economic impact, supporting nearly than 67,000 jobs with almost \$5.3 billion in employee earnings (Figure 9.4).
- Throughout the United States, the consolidated Institution’s activity generates almost \$17.9 billion in economic impact, supporting over 86,000 jobs with almost \$6.6 billion in employee earnings (Figure 9.5).

Figure 9.1: Aggregate Annualized Economic Impact in the City of Rochester

<b>Economic Impact</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>UR Medicine</b>	<b>Affiliates</b>	<b>Total</b>
Direct Output (\$M)	\$866	\$3,974	\$22	<b>\$4,862</b>
Indirect & Induced Output (\$M)	\$175	\$762	\$115	<b>\$1,053</b>
<b>Total Output (\$M)</b>	<b>\$1,041</b>	<b>\$4,737</b>	<b>\$137</b>	<b>\$5,915</b>
Annual Employment Supported (FTE)	7,260	24,294	666	<b>32,221</b>
Employee Compensation (\$M)	\$565	\$2,406	\$44	<b>\$3,015</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure 9.2: Aggregate Annualized Economic Impact in Monroe County

<b>Economic Impact</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>UR Medicine</b>	<b>Affiliates</b>	<b>Total</b>
Direct Output (\$M)	\$915	\$4,005	\$598	\$5,518
Indirect & Induced Output (\$M)	\$634	\$2,618	\$395	\$3,646
<b>Total Output (\$M)</b>	<b>\$1,549</b>	<b>\$6,623</b>	<b>\$993</b>	<b>\$9,165</b>
Annual Employment Supported (FTE)	9,742	33,398	5,710	48,850
Employee Compensation (\$M)	\$703	\$2,978	\$408	\$4,089

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure 9.3: Aggregate Annualized Economic Impact in the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions

<b>Economic Impact</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>UR Medicine</b>	<b>Affiliates</b>	<b>Total</b>
Direct Output (\$M)	\$939	\$4,715	\$1,301	\$6,955
Indirect & Induced Output (\$M)	\$828	\$3,146	\$854	\$4,829
<b>Total Output (\$M)</b>	<b>\$1,768</b>	<b>\$7,861</b>	<b>\$2,155</b>	<b>\$11,784</b>
Annual Employment Supported (FTE)	10,966	37,570	13,505	62,041
Employee Compensation (\$M)	\$764	\$3,227	\$904	\$4,895

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure 9.4: Aggregate Annualized Economic Impact in New York State

<b>Economic Impact</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>UR Medicine</b>	<b>Affiliates</b>	<b>Total</b>
Direct Output (\$M)	\$939	\$4,715	\$1,301	\$6,955
Indirect & Induced Output (\$M)	\$1,286	\$3,722	\$1,057	\$6,066
<b>Total Output (\$M)</b>	<b>\$2,226</b>	<b>\$8,437</b>	<b>\$2,358</b>	<b>\$13,021</b>
Annual Employment Supported (FTE)	12,805	39,622	14,245	66,672
Employee Compensation (\$M)	\$912	\$3,403	\$968	\$5,284

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure 9.5: Aggregate Annualized Economic Impact in the United States

<b>Economic Impact</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>UR Medicine</b>	<b>Affiliates</b>	<b>Total</b>
Direct Output (\$M)	\$939	\$4,715	\$1,301	\$6,955
Indirect & Induced Output (\$M)	\$4,573	\$4,919	\$1,441	\$10,933
<b>Total Output (\$M)</b>	<b>\$5,512</b>	<b>\$9,634</b>	<b>\$2,742</b>	<b>\$17,888</b>
Annual Employment Supported (FTE)	26,639	43,818	15,644	86,101
Employee Compensation (\$M)	\$1,822	\$3,707	\$1,069	\$6,598

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

These economic impacts additionally produce tax revenues for various government jurisdictions, contributing to the funding of essential public services and public education. Therefore, while the

University of Rochester is tax-exempt, they are still tax-generating. In particular, the Institution produces a significant amount of tax revenues for New York State and the United States via economic impact resulting from its annual operations, capital investments, spending of students, patients, and visitors to its campuses and facilities, and the increased household earnings enjoyed by its alumni. Across the four economic impact categories analyzed in this report, it is estimated that the University of Rochester generates approximately \$322 million for New York State (Figure 9.6); and \$313 in tax revenues to the United States government (Figure 9.7).

Figure 9.6: Aggregate Tax Revenue Impact to New York State

<b>Tax Type</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>UR Medicine</b>	<b>Affiliates</b>	<b>Total</b>
Income Tax (Directly Paid by Alumni) (\$M)	\$22	\$0	\$0	\$22
Income Tax (from Increased Economic Activity) (\$M)	\$17	\$50	\$28	\$94
Sales Tax (\$M)	\$33	\$82	\$24	\$139
Business Tax (\$M)	\$17	\$40	\$11	\$67
<b>Total Tax Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$88</b>	<b>\$172</b>	<b>\$63</b>	<b>\$322</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2025)

Figure 9.7: Aggregate Tax Revenue Impact to the United States

<b>Tax Type</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>UR Medicine</b>	<b>Affiliates</b>	<b>Total</b>
Income Tax (Directly Paid by Alumni) (\$M)	\$111	\$0	\$0	\$111
Income Tax (from Increased Economic Activity) (\$M)	\$133	\$12	\$6	\$151
Business Tax (\$M)	\$46	\$4	\$2	\$52
<b>Total Tax Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$289</b>	<b>\$16</b>	<b>\$8</b>	<b>\$313</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2025)

## Appendix A: Supplementary Economic Impact Results – Operations

Appendix A details the operations results for the other geographies that are analyzed in the study—including Monroe County; the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions (22-county region of Cayuga, Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, Yates, Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, and Schoharie counties); and the United States.

Figure A.1: Annual Economic Impact of the University of Rochester’s Consolidated Operations within Monroe County

Impact Type	University	UR Medicine	Affiliates	Total
Direct Impact (\$M)	\$669	\$3,833	\$576	\$5,079
Indirect & Induced Impact (\$M)	\$257	\$2,547	\$385	\$3,189
<b>Total Economic Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$927</b>	<b>\$6,380</b>	<b>\$961</b>	<b>\$8,268</b>
<b>Annual Employment Supported (FTE)</b>	<b>6,404</b>	<b>32,130</b>	<b>5,546</b>	<b>44,080</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$521</b>	<b>\$2,888</b>	<b>\$396</b>	<b>\$3,805</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025), IMPLAN (2023)

Figure A.2: Annual Economic Impact of the University of Rochester’s Consolidated Operations within the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions

Impact Type	University	UR Medicine	Affiliates	Total
Direct Impact (\$M)	\$669	\$4,543	\$1,230	\$6,442
Indirect & Induced Impact (\$M)	\$296	\$3,063	\$818	\$4,177
<b>Total Economic Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$965</b>	<b>\$7,606</b>	<b>\$2,048</b>	<b>\$10,619</b>
<b>Annual Employment Supported (FTE)</b>	<b>6,593</b>	<b>36,250</b>	<b>12,909</b>	<b>55,752</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$532</b>	<b>\$3,134</b>	<b>\$865</b>	<b>\$4,530</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025), IMPLAN (2023)

Figure A.3: Annual Economic Impact of the University of Rochester’s Consolidated Operations within the United States

Impact Type	University	UR Medicine	Affiliates	Total
Direct Impact (\$M)	\$669	\$4,543	\$1,230	\$6,442
Indirect & Induced Impact (\$M)	\$461	\$4,761	\$1,366	\$6,588
<b>Total Economic Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$1,130</b>	<b>\$9,303</b>	<b>\$2,597</b>	<b>\$13,030</b>
<b>Annual Employment Supported (FTE)</b>	<b>7,161</b>	<b>42,265</b>	<b>14,927</b>	<b>64,352</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$572</b>	<b>\$3,595</b>	<b>\$1,021</b>	<b>\$5,188</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025), IMPLAN (2023)

Figure A.4: Annual Fiscal Impact of the University of Rochester’s Consolidated Operations within the United States

<b>Tax Type</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>UR Medicine</b>	<b>Affiliates</b>	<b>Total</b>
Business Tax (\$M)	\$0.20	\$1.80	\$0.60	\$2.50
Income Tax (\$M)	\$0.20	\$2.30	\$0.80	\$3.30
<b>Aggregate Tax Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$0.40</b>	<b>\$4.10</b>	<b>\$1.40</b>	<b>\$5.90</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025), IMPLAN (2023)

**Methodology: Estimated Annual Tax Revenue Impact from University of Rochester Consolidated Annual Operations within the City of Rochester**

In this section, full methodology of property taxes derived from UR employees living within the City of Rochester is documented, including for those who own; including methodology for deriving the amount of property taxes attributable to University of Rochester for those who rent.

The estimate of annual property tax revenue attributable to UR employees living within the City of Rochester was derived by identifying the number of UR employees residing in the city. Using ZIP code–level employee wages data, homeownership rates from Census were applied to estimate the share of employees who own homes. Median home values by ZIP were then used to calculate the aggregate home value of UR homeowners. Since the City of Rochester’s 2024 equalization rate and level of assessment are both 100, market value is treated as assessed value for tax purposes. Then the total aggregate home value of UR homeowners was multiplied by the city’s effective property tax rate to estimate total property tax contributions from this group.

For renters, property tax contributions were estimated indirectly. A ratio of renter-to-owner tax contributions was applied, based on average effective tax burdens passed through rental housing. This allowed us to capture the share of property taxes attributable to UR employees who rent, complementing the direct homeowner calculation.

Together, these calculations yield an estimated \$21 million from homeowners and \$10 million from renters, for a total annual property tax impact of \$31 million from UR employees residing in the City of Rochester.

Figure A.5: Estimated Property Taxes Represented by University of Rochester Employees Living in Rochester

<b>Category</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>Homeowners</b>	Total UR Employees Living in Rochester	18,395
	Estimated % Who Are Homeowners (weighted by ZIP)	54%
	Estimated Homeowners	9,949
	Median House Value (by ZIP, weighted)	Varies
	Total Home Value of UR Homeowners (\$B). <sup>13</sup>	\$1.85
	City Property Tax Rate. <sup>14</sup>	1.13%
	<b>Total Property Taxes (Homeowners) (\$M)</b>	<b>\$21</b>
<b>Renters</b>	Estimated Ratio to Owners	0.5
	<b>Total Property Taxes (Renters) (\$M)</b>	<b>\$10</b>
<b>Total Property Taxes Represented</b>		<b>\$31</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025), Census ACS 5-Year Estimates (2023), City of Rochester (2025)

<sup>13</sup> Median home values use ACS 5-Year Estimates. With Rochester’s 2024 equalization rate and level of assessment both at 100, market value equals assessed value for tax calculations.

<sup>14</sup> The property tax rate reflects the combined 2025–26 City (\$4.127 per \$1000) and School (\$7.169 per \$1000) rates, for a total of \$11.296 per \$1000 of assessed value.

## Appendix B: Supplementary Economic Impact Results – Capital Investments

Appendix B details the capital investment results for the other geographies that are analyzed in the study—including Monroe County; the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions (22-county region of Cayuga, Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, Yates, Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, and Schoharie counties); and the United States.

Figure B.1: Annual Economic Impact from the University of Rochester’s Capital Investments within Monroe County

Impact Type	University	UR Medicine	Affiliates	Total
Direct Impact (\$M)	\$140	\$172	\$22	\$333
Indirect & Induced Impact (\$M)	\$58	\$71	\$10	\$139
<b>Total Economic Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$198</b>	<b>\$243</b>	<b>\$32</b>	<b>\$473</b>
<b>Annual Employment Supported (FTE)</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>1,269</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>2,464</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$73</b>	<b>\$90</b>	<b>\$12</b>	<b>\$175</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure B.2: Annual Economic Impact from the University of Rochester’s Capital Investments within the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions

Impact Type	University	UR Medicine	Affiliates	Total
Direct Impact (\$M)	\$140	\$172	\$71	\$383
Indirect & Induced Impact (\$M)	\$67	\$83	\$37	\$187
<b>Total Economic Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$207</b>	<b>\$255</b>	<b>\$108</b>	<b>\$570</b>
<b>Annual Employment Supported (FTE)</b>	<b>1,073</b>	<b>1,320</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>2,990</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$76</b>	<b>\$93</b>	<b>\$39</b>	<b>\$208</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure B.3: Annual Economic Impact from University of Rochester’s Capital Investments within the United States

Impact Type	University	UR Medicine	Affiliates	Total
Direct Impact (\$M)	\$140	\$172	\$71	\$383
Indirect & Induced Impact (\$M)	\$129	\$158	\$75	\$362
<b>Total Economic Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$268</b>	<b>\$330</b>	<b>\$145</b>	<b>\$744</b>
<b>Annual Employment Supported (FTE)</b>	<b>1,262</b>	<b>1,553</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>3,532</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$91</b>	<b>\$111</b>	<b>\$48</b>	<b>\$251</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure B.4: Annual Fiscal Impact of University of Rochester’s Capital Investments within United States

<b>Tax Type</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>URMedicine</b>	<b>Affiliates</b>	<b>Total</b>
Business Tax (\$M)	\$2	\$2	\$1	\$5
Income Tax (\$M)	\$8	\$9	\$6	\$22
<b>Aggregate Tax Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$9</b>	<b>\$12</b>	<b>\$7</b>	<b>\$28</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

## Appendix C: Supplementary Economic Impact Results – Ancillary Spending from Students, Visitors, and Patients

Appendix C details the ancillary spending results for the other geographies that are analyzed in the study—including Monroe County; the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions (22-county region of Cayuga, Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, Yates, Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, and Schoharie counties); and the United States.

Figure C.1: Annual Economic Impact of the University of Rochester’s Ancillary Spending within Monroe County, Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions and United States

<b>Economic Impact</b>	<b>Monroe County</b>	<b>Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions</b>	<b>U.S.</b>
Direct Output (\$M)	\$106	\$130	\$130
Indirect & Induced Output (\$M)	\$39	\$55	\$89
<b>Total Output (\$M)</b>	<b>\$145</b>	<b>\$185</b>	<b>\$220</b>
Annual Employment Supported (FTE)	1,048	1,378	1,503
Employee Compensation (\$M)	<b>\$33</b>	<b>\$43</b>	<b>\$53</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure C.2: Annual Fiscal Impact of the University of Rochester’s Ancillary Spending within United States

<b>Tax Type</b>	<b>U.S.</b>
Business Tax (\$M)	\$2.8
Income Tax (\$M)	\$5.6
Sales Tax (\$M)	-
<b>Aggregate Tax Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$8.4</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure C.3: Detailed Programs and Events with Subsequent Attendee Totals, FY2024, by Entity/Department

School/Department	Event	Total Attendees	Local	Day Trip	Overnight
Center for Experiential Learning	Large-scale conferences	1,197	1,055	114	28
Athletics Attendance	Home sport games	31,296	14,083	7,824	9,389
	Discover URSMD Weekends	164	42	8	114
	Accelerate UR SMD-specific event	8	8	-	-
	Accelerate UR university-wide event (SMD numbers only)	13	13	-	-
	Chemistry Visitation Weekend	-	-	-	-
	Linguistics Admitted Student Visit	3	-	-	3
	Geoscience Graduate Student Open House	4	-	-	4
	Philosophy Admitted Student Weekend	4	-	-	4
	Computer Science Admitted Student Weekend	9	1	-	8
	Chemical Engineering Admitted Student Weekend	9	1	-	8
	Political Science Admitted Student Weekend	9	-	1	8
	Physics Admitted Student Weekend	37	-	1	36
	Biomedical Engineering Admitted Student Weekend 1	11	4	-	7
	Biomedical Engineering Admitted Student Weekend 2	13	2	1	10
	Chemistry Admitted Student Weekend	33	3	1	29
	Optics Admitted Student Weekend	21	2	-	19
	Mechanical Engineering Admitted Student Weekend	11	-	-	11
	ESM Admitted Student Day	26	2	4	20
	ESM Open Houses	91	18	14	59
	ESM Info Sessions and Tours	263	13	21	229
	ESM Upstate NY College Fair	128	13	24	91
	ESM On-Campus Auditions	1,052	34	36	982
Graduate Admissions	In-Person Warner	58	47	2	9
	Seminar visit	44	-	4	40
Simon Business School	Students visit Events	51	28	2	21
		102	12	4	86

Economic Engine and Community Catalyst: Exploring the Economic and Social Impacts of the University of Rochester  
 Consolidated Entity  
 December 11, 2025

	Admissions	315	-	158	158
URMC - Medical	White Coat Ceremony	200	50	75	75
Student Visit	Commencement	500	100	200	200
Alumni	Meliora Weekend	10,000	6,000	2,000	2,000
Memorial Art Gallery	M&T Bank Clothesline Art Festival	5,000	4,000	500	500
Warner	In-Person Prospect/Applicant	58	47	2	9
	Visits to Laboratory for Laser Energetics - Foreign Visits	1,091	-	11	1,080
Laser Energetics	Visits to Laboratory for Laser Energetics - Domestic Visits	811	256	383	172
University Sponsored Events	The Rochester International Jazz Festival	190,000	94,000	58,000	38,000
	The Rochester Fringe Festival	95,000	46,000	29,500	19,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>337,632</b>	<b>165,834</b>	<b>98,890</b>	<b>72,909</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

## Appendix D: Supplementary Economic Impact Results – Alumni Wage Premium

Appendix D details the alumni wage premium results for the other geographies that are analyzed in the study—including Monroe County; the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions (22-county region of Cayuga, Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, Yates, Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, and Schoharie counties); and the United States.

Figure A.1: Annual Economic Impact Attributable to University of Rochester Wage Premium Effects within Monroe County, the Finger Lakes Region, and the United States

Impact Type	Monroe County	Finger Lakes Region	United States
Aggregate Wage Premium (\$M)	\$556	\$717	\$2,674
<b>Total Induced Output (\$M)</b>	<b>\$279</b>	<b>\$410</b>	<b>\$3,894</b>
<b>Total Employment (FTE)</b>	<b>1,258</b>	<b>1,922</b>	<b>16,714</b>
<b>Employee Compensation (\$M)</b>	<b>\$76</b>	<b>\$113</b>	<b>\$1,107</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure A.2: Aggregate Annual Wage Premium Associated with University of Rochester Alumni in the Workforce in the Rest of the U.S. (outside of the State of New York)

Degree Type		Residing in the Rest of the U.S.
Certificate	# of Working Alumni	102
	Estimated Wage Premium	\$16,540
	<b>(# of Working Alumni x Estimated Wage Premium) (\$M)</b>	<b>\$1.7</b>
Bachelors	# of Working Alumni	30,240
	Estimated Wage Premium	\$33,202
	<b>(# of Working Alumni x Estimated Wage Premium) (\$M)</b>	<b>\$1,004.0</b>
Advanced	# of Working Alumni	21,495
	Estimated Wage Premium	\$29,814
	<b>(# of Working Alumni x Estimated Wage Premium) (\$M)</b>	<b>\$640.9</b>
<b>Aggregate Wage Premium (\$M)</b>		<b>\$1,646.6</b>

Source: University of Rochester (2025); Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)

Figure A.3: Fiscal Impacts of the Wage Premium Associated with University of Rochester in the United States

<b>Tax Type</b>	<b>United States</b>
Income Tax (Directly Paid by Alumni) (\$M)	\$110.7
Income Tax (From Alumni Spending) (\$M)	\$119.6
Aggregate Income Tax (\$M)	\$230.3
Sales Tax (\$M)	\$0.0
Business Tax (\$M)	\$41.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$271.2</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023); United States FR (2024)

## Appendix E: Supplementary Economic Impact Results – Research Expenditures

Appendix E details the research expenditure results for the other geographies that are analyzed in the study—including Monroe County; the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions (22-county region of Cayuga, Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, Yates, Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, and Schoharie counties); and the United States.

Figure E.1: Annual Economic Impact of University of Rochester’s Research Expenditures within Monroe County, Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions, and United States

<b>Economic Impact</b>	<b>Monroe County</b>	<b>Finger Lakes and Southern Tier Regions</b>	<b>U.S.</b>
Direct Output (\$M)	\$488	\$488	\$488
Indirect & Induced Output (\$M)	\$356	\$379	\$594
<b>Total Output (\$M)</b>	<b>\$844</b>	<b>\$867</b>	<b>\$1,083</b>
Annual Employment Supported (FTE)	<b>3,405</b>	<b>3,521</b>	<b>4,302</b>
Employee Compensation (\$M)	<b>\$266</b>	<b>\$272</b>	<b>\$333</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

Figure E.2: Annual Fiscal Impact of University of Rochester’s Research Expenditures within the United States

<b>Tax Type</b>	<b>U.S.</b>
Business Tax (\$M)	\$8
Income Tax (\$M)	\$21
Sales Tax (\$M)	-
<b>Aggregate Tax Impact (\$M)</b>	<b>\$29</b>

Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025); IMPLAN (2023)

## Appendix F: Input-Output Methodology

In an inter-connected economy, every direct dollar spent generates two spillover impacts:

- First, some amount of the proportion of that expenditure that goes to the purchase of goods and services gets circulated back into an economy when those goods and services are purchased from local vendors. This represents what is known as the **indirect effect** and reflects the fact that local purchases of goods and services support local vendors, who in turn require additional purchasing with their own set of vendors.
- Second, some amount of the proportion of that expenditure that goes to labor income gets circulated back into an economy when those employees spend some of their earnings on various goods and services. This represents what is known as the **induced effect** and reflects the fact that some of those goods and services will be purchased from local vendors, further stimulating the economy.

To model the impacts resulting from the direct expenditures of University of Rochester, ESI developed a customized economic impact model using IMPLAN's input/output modeling system. Utilizing an industry standard approach, IMPLAN's input/output modeling system allows users to assess the economic and job creation impacts of industry-based events and public policy changes within a county or its surrounding area. IMPLAN has developed a social accounting matrix (SAM) that accounts for the flow of commodities through economics. From this matrix, IMPLAN also determines the regional purchase coefficient (RPC), or the proportion of local supply that satisfies local demand. These values not only establish the types of goods and services supported by an industry or institution, but also the high level at which they are acquired locally. This assessment determines the multiplier basis for the local and regional models created in the IMPLAN modeling system. IMPLAN takes these multipliers and divides them into 546 industry categories in accordance with the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes.

### Explanation of Multipliers<sup>15</sup>

The use and application of multipliers are intuitive. Multipliers, in their most basic form, are the result of an algebraic analysis expressing how two inputs are interconnected in the production of an output. The result of the equation generates a multiplier that is broken down into direct, indirect, and induced effects. In a generalized example: if the multiplier for good *X* to good *Y* is 3, then the direct effect of good *X* on *Y* is 1, with indirect and induced effects of 2. Essentially, every unit of good *X* supports 2 units of good *Y*.

When implemented on a large complex scale, such as that of the US economy or any subsection of it, multiplier effects across industries can be complicated. However, the same general concept comes into play. Each industry has largely different and varied inputs into other industries. The quantity of the output is largely decided by the scale and efficiency of the industries involved. As a

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<sup>15</sup> Lahr, Michael. "Input-Output Analysis: Technical Description and Application." Rutgers University Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy.

result, the sum of those inputs equates to an output product plus a value added/component. By arranging these inputs and outputs by industry in a matrix and performing some algebra to find the Leontief inverse matrix, each industry's effect on final demand can be estimated. Additionally, the direct, indirect, and induced effects can also be determined. Direct effects include direct purchases for production, indirect effects include expenses during production, and induced effects concern the expenditures of employees directly involved with production. Using building construction as an example, the direct effects would include materials, brick, steel, and mortar; the indirect effects would involve the steel fabrication and concrete mixing; and the induced effects would consider purchases by construction workers using their wages. While impacts vary in size, each industry has rippling effects throughout the economy. By using an input-output model, these effects can be more accurately quantified and explained.

IMPLAN is one of several popular choices for regional input-output modeling. Each system has its own nuances in establishing proper location coefficients. IMPLAN uses a location quotient to determine its regional purchase coefficient (RPC). This represents the proportion of demand for a good that is filled locally; this assessment helps determine the multiplier for the localized region. Additionally, IMPLAN also accounts for inter-institutional transfers (e.g., firms to households, households to the government, etc.) through its social account matrix (SAM) multipliers. IMPLAN takes the multipliers and divides them into industry categories in accordance with the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes, allowing a comprehensive breakdown of a region's multipliers by industry to be shown.

Despite the usefulness of input/output modeling, there are some shortcomings to the system. Notably, input-output models ignore economies of scale. Input-output models assume that costs and inputs remain proportionate through different levels of production. Further, multipliers are not generally updated on a timely basis; most multipliers are prone to be outdated with the current economy. If the multipliers are sourced from a year of a recession economy, the multipliers may not accurately represent the flows from an economic boom period. Additionally, multipliers may not capture sudden legal or technological changes which may improve or decrease efficiency in the production process.

#### Glossary of Terms for Input/Output Models

**Multiplier Effect**– the notion that initial outlays have a ripple effect on a local economy, to the extent that direct output leads to indirect and induced output.

**Economic Impacts**– total expenditures, employment, and labor income generated.

**Tax Revenue Impacts**– local and/or state tax revenues generated.

**Direct Output**– initial outlays usually associated with the project or activity being modeled; examples: one-time upfront construction and related expenditures associated with a new or renovated facility, annual expenditures associated with ongoing facility maintenance and/or operating activity.

**Direct Employment**– the number of annual jobs associated with direct output (including full- and part-time employment)

**Direct Labor Income**– the salaries and wages earned by employees, contractors, and proprietors as part of the direct output.

**Indirect Output**– indirect and induced outlays resulting from the direct output; examples: vendors increasing production to meet new demand associated with the direct output, workers spending direct labor income on various purchases within the local economy.

**Indirect/Induced Employment**– the number of annual jobs associated with indirect/induced output (including full- and part-time employment)

**Indirect Labor Income**– the salaries and wages earned by employees, contractors, and proprietors as part of the indirect output.

**Total Output**– the sum of direct output and indirect output.

**Total Employment**– the sum of direct employment and indirect employment.

**Total Labor income**– the sum of direct labor income and indirect labor income.

*Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2025)*

## Appendix G: About Econsult Solutions, Inc.

This report was produced by Econsult Solutions, Inc. (ESI), providing businesses and public policy makers with consulting and thought leadership services in urban economics, real estate, transportation, public infrastructure, economic development, public policy and finance, strategic planning, as well as expert witness services for litigation support.

ESI combines robust quantitative analysis with trusted expert insights to create sustainable solutions. The firm works collaboratively with its clients, and draws in expertise, when necessary, from our network of experts and partners across industries, regions, and management practices. Based in Philadelphia, the firm supports clients nationwide.

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