To better understand its role in Alaska’s economy, the university contracted with McKinley Research Group to analyze its economic contributions to the state. Following are key findings from the study:

- The university fuels Alaska’s economy through spending with local businesses and the employment of Alaska residents. These direct impacts support “multiplier effects” (indirect and induced impacts) when these dollars are re-spent in the economy by businesses and employees. In total, the university’s programs and services resulted in nearly $1 billion in economic activity in FY22.

- The university directly spent nearly $100 million with more than 2,600 Alaska businesses in FY22, impacting dozens of communities across the state.

- If UA were a private employer, it would be the state’s largest. Roughly 6,200 people were employed by UA in FY22, in full-time or part-time positions. Total payroll for FY22 was $438 million.

- Adding direct and indirect impacts, UA supported nearly 9,200 jobs and $608 million in payroll in Alaska in FY22. Total spending attributable to UA was about $650 million in FY22, including instate purchases and payroll. An additional $350 million was supported in indirect and induced spending.

- Systemwide, staff represented 52% of employment, and faculty was 30%. UA also employed nearly 1,100 students (18% of total employment).

- In FY22, total UA revenue was $774 million. The State’s investment of $273 million allows the university to generate more than $500 million in revenue from other sources.

- For each dollar in Unrestricted General Funds (UGF) appropriated to UA, the university raised an additional $1.85 in FY22.

- FY22 funding included $198.1 million in federal funding and $17.3 million generated from other sources.

- The University of Alaska Land Management Office (UALM) generated $6.5 million in FY22 through land sales, leases, royalties, natural resource development, and easements.

- In FY22, $109.4 million was generated in student tuition and fees (14% of the budget).

- In FY22, the UA expense budget was $773.9 million. The largest expense category was instruction-related expenses, followed by research.

- Nearly $100 million was spent with Alaska businesses in FY22 on a wide range of goods and services. Spending was spread across 2,652 vendors, reaching every economic region and numerous communities in the state. The vast majority of these vendors (estimated at more than 80%) qualify as small businesses.

- Additional economic impacts are generated by student spending and people traveling to Alaska for UA athletics, conferences, events, and commencement.