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# **Executive Summary**

With more than 100 years of serving Alaska, the University of Alaska (UA) is the largest provider of public postsecondary education in our state, and one of its most valued institutions. The UA system currently includes three universities with 13 community campuses and learning centers across the state.



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.

### **Economic Contributions**

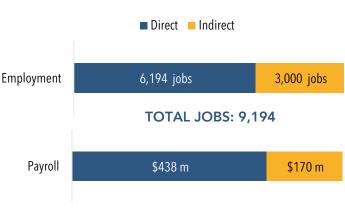
The university fuels Alaska's economy through spending with local businesses and the employment of Alaska residents. These direct impacts support "multiplier effects" (indirect and induced impacts) when these dollars are re-spent in the economy by businesses and employees.

In total, the university's programs and services resulted in nearly **\$1 billion** in total economic activity in FY2022.

The university directly spent nearly **\$100 million** with more than **2,600** Alaska businesses in FY2022, 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 FY2022, in full-

### **Economic Impacts of the University, FY2022**



**TOTAL PAYROLL: \$608 MILLION** 

time or part-time positions. Total payroll for FY2022 was \$438 million.

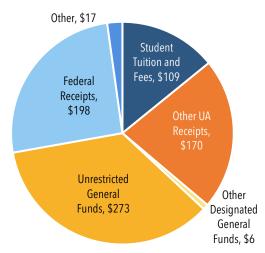
Adding direct and indirect impacts, UA supported nearly **9,200** jobs and **\$608 million** in payroll in Alaska in FY2022. Total spending attributable to UA was about **\$650 million** in FY2022, including instate purchases and payroll. An additional **\$350 million** was supported through indirect and induced spending.

### **University Funding**

In FY2022, total UA revenue was **\$774 million.** Funding sources included government appropriations and revenue generated from tuition, student fees, research funding, investment income, private donations, and other sources. The State's investment of **\$273 million** allows the university to generate more than **\$500 million** in revenue from other sources such as tuition and federal research funding.

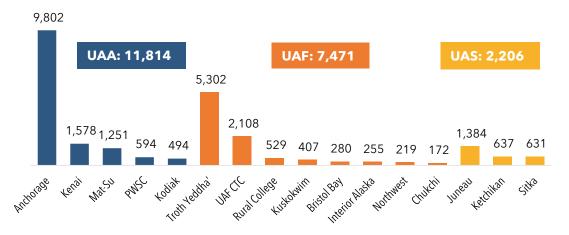
For each dollar in Unrestricted General Funds appropriated to UA, the university raised an additional **\$1.85** in FY2022.

# UA Revenue by Source, FY2022 (\$millions)



### **Student Enrollment**

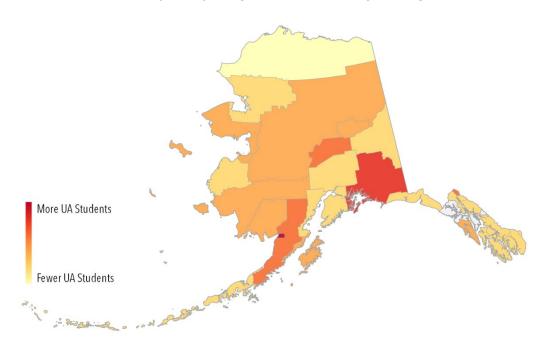
Systemwide, more than **20,700** full- and part-time students were enrolled in the 2021-22 academic year, studying among **500** unique degree, certificate, or endorsement programs. Enrollment was highest at UAA, representing **11,814** students, followed by UAF with **7,471** students and UAS with **2,206** students. (Some students are enrolled at more than one campus.)



2021-22 Student Enrollment, by Campus/Learning Center

Nearly nine out of ten 2021-22 students (87%) were Alaska residents, while 12% were from out-of-state, and 2% from international countries. Alaska students were most likely to be from Anchorage (31%) or Fairbanks (14%), but hailed from all regions of the state, as seen in the following map.

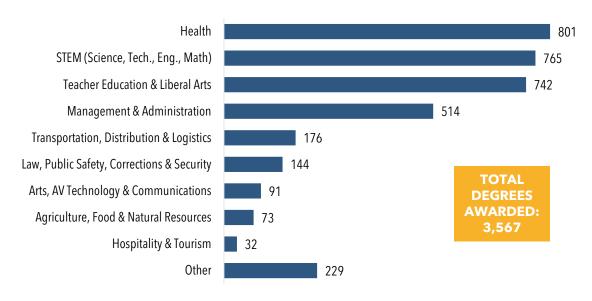
UA Students per Capita by Alaska Community of Origin, 2021-22



## **Degrees Awarded by Industry Cluster**

UA awarded nearly 3,600 degrees, licenses, and certificates in spring 2022 representing a wide variety of industries. The most common "industry cluster" was Health (23%) followed by STEM (21%) and Teacher Education & Liberal Arts (21%).

Degrees Awarded by Industry Clusters, Spring 2022



### **Empowering Alaska**

The economic numbers tell only a part of the university's story of how it fuels the economy and contributes to our state.

**UA** provides affordable and accessible education for Alaskans. More than half (56%) of UA middle college students (high school students earning college credits) go on to obtain a UA degree. Most UA grads (70-90%) stay in Alaska after graduation. Their degrees and certifications allow them to earn higher salaries. A two-year process technology credential provides an average salary of \$130,000 within five years, and 90% of program graduates stay in Alaska.

"Over the last 20 years I've been here, all of the graduates to date have been successful professionals, and many have gone on to be leaders in the oil industry."

> Dr. Abhijit Dandekar, Chair of UAF Department of Petroleum Engineering

**UA advances nationwide research in critical areas of study.** The university conducts pioneering research on the Arctic, drones, petroleum and mineral extraction, fisheries, and other areas. UAF's Petroleum Engineering Department has developed an oil-recovery method that could provide millions of dollars to the state. UAF's Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration (ACUASI) is working with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on studies that could lead to drones taking a larger role in commercial aviation. Poker Flat Research Range is the world's largest land-based rocket range and the only scientific rocket launching facility owned by a university. UAF produces more citations on Arctic research than any other university in the country.

**UA leverages state funding to maximize value to residents.** The university's research programs leverage state funding at an even higher rate than the university's overall 2:1 ratio. For example, the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences receives \$3 million of its \$45 million budget from the state, for a ratio of 15:1.

**UA** preserves and celebrates Alaska's history and culture. UA's Museum of the North is the primary repository for archaeological collections from the State of Alaska. The museum houses 2.5 million artifacts and specimens, as well as comprehensive collections of Alaska Native and non-Native art. The UAA/Alaska Pacific University (APU) Consortium Library preserves the late U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens' collection of documents on the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.



### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Look for the lightbulb icon and blue boxes throughout this report to learn more about unique ways in which the university enriches Alaska.

# Introduction and Methodology

The University of Alaska (UA) contracted with McKinley Research Group, formerly McDowell Group, to analyze economic contributions generated from employment and expenditures in Alaska. In addition, the study provides an overview of university facilities and student enrollment, and highlights for selected programs. Similar studies were conducted by McDowell Group in 1998, 2003, 2007, 2012, and 2016.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

Information presented in this report was developed from several sources. Data and information was provided by UA in the following areas:

- Employment and payroll data, statewide and by MAU
- Capital and operating budgets, statewide and by MAU
- Expenditures in Alaska
- UA revenues, by source
- Student enrollment trends
- UA land sales, leases, and development
- UA research programs
- UA Foundation and philanthropic programs

Interviews and insights were provided by numerous UA faculty, staff, and community and business partners including:

- Chancellors Sean Parnell (UAA), Dr. Daniel White (UAF), and Dr. Karen Carey (UAS).
- University faculty and staff including Dr. Tod Burnet, Teri Cothren, Dr. Debbie Craig, Dr. Abhijit Dandekar, Dr. Robert McCoy, Dr. Brad Moran, Megan Riebe, Adrienne Stolpe, and Dave Woodley.
- Community and business partners including Florian Borowski (Providence), Cari-Ann Carty (Alaska Safety Alliance), Sarah Leonard (Alaska Travel Industry Association), and Brenna Schaake (Kinross/Fort Knox).

Data on direct UA employment and goods and services spending with Alaska-based vendors were used to analyze the multiplier effects of the university. IMPLAN, an industry-standard input-output economic modeling tool, was used to assess the multiplier impacts of this spending on the Alaska economy. Multiplier effects are expressed in terms of employment (part- and full-time jobs), labor income (wages, salaries, and employer-paid benefits), and total spending in the Alaska economy.

# **University of Alaska Overview**

The University of Alaska (UA) began in 1917 as the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines in Fairbanks. Doors were opened to students in 1922, with 12 students and seven faculty. Enrollment grew as research, teaching, and public service expanded. By 1935, the Alaska Territorial Legislature changed its name to the University of Alaska.<sup>1</sup>

The university played an important role in Alaska's statehood movement. The state



University of Alaska, 1938. Source: Alaska Digital Archives.

constitution was drafted and signed on the Fairbanks campus. Nearly a thousand people witnessed the historic signing, resulting in moving the event to the gymnasium (later renamed Signer's Hall).

As Anchorage's population and community college enrollment grew in the 1960s and 1970s, community support developed for a four-year college. In 1977, the community college known as the Anchorage Senior College became a four-year college and was named University of Alaska, Anchorage (UAA). Ten years later, UAA merged with other two-year colleges to offer a broader suite of programs.<sup>2</sup>

The University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) was incorporated into the UA system in 1987, following the consolidation of the University of Alaska Juneau, Ketchikan Community College, and Sitka's Islands Community College.<sup>3</sup>

An 11-member Board of Regents governs UA. Regents are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Alaska Legislature. The Regents appoint the UA President, who serves as the chief executive officer and holds responsibility for management of the university's finances, educational programs, employees, public and government relations, and facilities.

Systemwide administration is located at the Fairbanks campus and is designed to minimize redundant functions and streamline service delivery across the state.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> University of Alaska Fairbanks. https://www.uaf.edu/uaf/about/history.php

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> University of Alaska Anchorage. <u>History < CourseLeaf (alaska.edu)</u>

 $<sup>^3</sup>$  University of Alaska Southeast. https://catalog.uas.alaska.edu/campuses/#juneaucampustext

## **Major Administrative Units**

Today the University of Alaska has three separately accredited universities or major administrative units (MAUs):

- University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) serves Interior, Western, and Northern Alaska
- University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) serves Southcentral Alaska
- University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) serves Southeast Alaska

Each MAU has its own Chancellor, offers in-person and online programs, and has several campuses, extension sites, and associated facilities. In 2021-2022, total student enrollment was 20,745.

The following section describes each MAU in further detail, including enrollment. (Because students are commonly enrolled at more than one MAU in the same academic year, totaling MAU enrollment will overstate enrollment.)

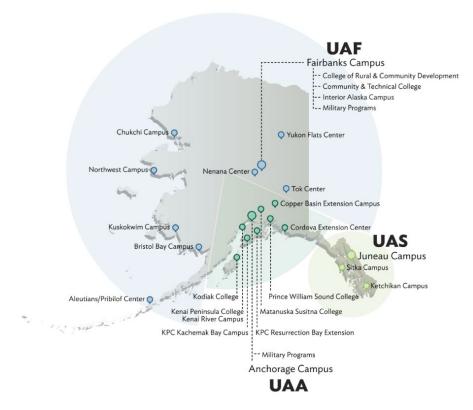


Figure 1. UA Systemwide Campuses

Source: University of Alaska.

### **University of Alaska Anchorage**

UAA's main campus is in Anchorage, with four additional campuses in Southcentral:

- **Kenai Peninsula College** (KPC) has campuses in Soldotna and Homer, and an extension site in Seward.
- **Kodiak College** serves Kodiak, seven nearby rural communities, and the U.S. Coast Guard base.
- Matanuska-Susitna College is in Palmer.
- **Prince William Sound College**'s main facility is in Valdez and serves Copper Basin and Cordova.

Total enrollment for academic year 2021-2022 was 11,814.

## **University of Alaska Fairbanks**

UAF courses and programs are accessible at seven campuses and nine learning centers across Alaska. Fairbanks is home to three campuses, including the main campus at Troth Yeddha', the Community and Technical College (CTC), and the Interior Alaska Campus (IAC). The remaining four campuses are in Dillingham, Bethel, Nome, and Kotzebue. Enrollment across all UAF campuses in 2021-2022 totaled 7,471 students.



Figure 2. UAF Locations

Source: University of Alaska Fairbanks.

### **University of Alaska Southeast**

UAS has three campuses including the main facility in Juneau and campuses in Ketchikan and Sitka. Total enrollment for academic year 2021-2022 was 2,206.



The industry-driven Alaska Safety Alliance (ASA) began working with UA more than 20 years ago to develop an Alaska-based workforce for the oil and gas, fisheries, and maritime industries. ASA collaborated with the university on curriculum and has now graduated more than 1,300 participants from its workforce-development programs.

This type of industry-university partnership is a big reason why Kinross Gold Corporation has contributed more than \$4 million to the university. More than \$600,000 of that has gone into mining and engineering scholarship programs, which have been part of an educational pipeline carrying Alaska youth from high school through the university and into in-state jobs.

Similar university relationships exist with the oil and gas and the fishing industries, among others.

"It speaks volumes that private industry puts resources into the university because we trust and rely on them as a cutting-edge university," said Brenna Schaake of Kinross Gold Corporation.

Sources for this and all subsequent "Did you know?" sections can be found in the References chapter.

# **University Funding and Expenses**

## **University Funding**

In FY2022, total UA revenue was \$773.9 million. Funding sources included government appropriations and revenue generated from tuition, student fees, research funding, investment income, private donations, and other sources. Intra-agency receipts are excluded.

Table 1. UA Revenue by Source, FY2022 (\$Millions)

	Revenue	Percentage of Total
Designated General Funds	\$285.9	37%
Student Tuition and Fees	\$109.4	14%
Other UA Receipts	\$170.4	22%
Other Designated General Funds	\$6.1	1%
Unrestricted General Funds	\$272.6	35%
Federal Receipts	\$198.1	26%
Other	\$17.3	2%
Total Revenue	\$773.9	100%

Source: University of Alaska.

Notes: Based on UA FY2022 Actual Budget. Federal funds include \$32 million in federal COVID relief funding. "Other" includes Mental Health Trust Authority receipts and select capital improvement project receipts.

The State's investment of \$273 million allows the university to generate more than \$500 million in revenue from other sources such as tuition and federal research funding. For each dollar in Unrestricted General Funds (UGF) appropriated to UA, the university raised an additional \$1.85 in FY2022.

Additional detail about various funding sources is provided below.

### **Designated General Funds**

In FY2022, \$285.9 million (37% of total funding) was appropriated from Designated General Funds (DGF) including:

- Student tuition and fees (laboratory fees, activity fees, health center, student assistance, and study materials).
- UA-generated revenues including housing, bookstore, food service, recreational facilities, publications, and short-term investment income.
- Donations from corporations, local governments, and individuals.

### **Unrestricted General Funds**

FY2022 funding also included \$272.7 million in UGF. Representing 35% of total funding, UGF averaged \$13,000 per student and \$370 per Alaska resident.

The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority provides funding for the UAA Master of Social Work program, designed to provide specialized curriculum for working with MHTA beneficiary groups.

### **Other Funding**

FY2022 funding included \$198.1 million in federal funding and \$17.3 million generated from other sources (26% and 2% of total funding, respectively). Federal funds include \$32 million in COVID relief funding.

### DID YOU KNOW?



### Advancing Drones to Enhance the Alaska Economy

Delivering medicine and groceries to Alaska villages when planes cannot fly. Monitoring the 800 miles of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. Surveying caribou to protect herds.

These are just a few capabilities of drones, or unmanned aircraft systems, that can strengthen Alaska's economy and increase quality of life, particularly in remote communities. UAF's Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration (ACUASI) has become one of the country's leaders in drone research, opening the way for drones to be used transporting goods, conducting research, monitoring critical infrastructure, and bolstering national security.

In 2019, ACUASI conducted the first official beyond-visual-line-of-sight drone flight in the country approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Alaska tests helped FAA officials draft regulations to allow drone flights in the national air space.

UAS also offers environmental studies using drones for research.

### **Endowments, Investments, and Donations**

### **UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FOUNDATION**

The University of Alaska Foundation is a private nonprofit corporation that solicits and manages donations for the benefit of the university. While they operate independently from UA, they work in partnership with university advancement teams. In FY2022, the Foundation distributed \$14.5 million in philanthropic donations for programs and student aid.

Table 2. University of Alaska Foundation, Program Distributions, and Student Support, FY2022

	Distribution	Share of Total
Athletics	\$601,801	4%
Business & Management	\$778,013	5%
Campus Support	\$1,425,897	10%
Community & Technical College	\$298,328	2%
Education	\$24,181	<1%
General Support	\$32,652	<1%
Health	\$580,795	4%
Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	\$698,312	5%
Science & Engineering	\$2,373,666	16%
Total Program Distributions	\$6,813,645	47%
Student Aid	\$4,819,941	33%
Students & Public Support	\$2,824,812	20%
Total Student Support	\$7,644,753	53%
Grand Total	\$14,458,398	100%

Source: University of Alaska.

By December 2022, the *For Alaska* fundraising campaign (coordinated by the Foundation for the university) exceeded its \$200 million goal, with a total of \$210 million in private contributions, making it the single largest philanthropic campaign in Alaska's history. Half of the 18,900 donors were first-time contributors, with about 9,500 new donors and 7,300 alumni donors. Seventy-seven donors contributed \$500,000 or more.

Total contributions allowed for the creation of about 400 new funds to support the universities, 198 new scholarships, 151 new endowed funds, and two new endowed chairs. Annual average giving rose during the eight-year campaign from \$26.3 million in FY2012-2016 to \$33.2 million in FY2017-2022. The campaign is scheduled to continue through June 2024.

One administrator shared, "The UA Foundation is enormously critical. Our donor community is particularly interested in supporting rural and Alaska Native students and communities. The UA Foundation's private, philanthropic support, scholarships, paid internships, and followships illustrate the university's commitment to providing an affordable education."

# DID YOU KNOW? Working with NASA to Explore Auroras and Atmosphere

UA's Poker Flat Research Range has launched NASA rockets into active auroras to learn how energy behaves and how Earth is protected from solar winds.

These launches are among more than 1,700 conducted at Poker Flat since it opened in 1972. The facility is the world's largest land-based rocket range and the only scientific rocket launching facility owned by a university.

UA's Geophysical Institute (GI) operates Poker Flat 30 miles northeast of Fairbanks. Scientists at the range have conducted research on plasma physics, solar winds, Earth's magnetic field, ultraviolet radiation, the ozone layer, and solar proton events, among other topics.

Poker Flat is operated under a contract with NASA, which is one of the Geophysical Institute's largest customers. The GI brings \$5 million to \$10 million into the state per year. The range also draws researchers from universities across the country.

#### LAND GRANT ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND

The University of Alaska Land Management Office (UALM) manages about 150,000 acres of land including federal lands granted in 1915 and 1929, property donated to the university, and purchased lands.

The land is valued today at \$171.3 million. Most of the land is managed as investment property with revenues kept in the university's Land Grant Endowment Trust Fund (Fund).<sup>4</sup> The Fund is managed by UA Foundation Trustees and revenue is distributed based on how the lands were acquired or at the direction of the Board of Regents.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> University of Alaska. <u>Stewardship</u>, <u>Land Grant Trust Fund | Land Management (alaska.edu)</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> University of Alaska Land Management. FY2022 Annual Report

UALM generated \$6.5 million in FY2022 through land sales, leases, royalties, natural resource development, and easements. The original grant lands generated \$2 million.

Table 3. Endowment Fund: Land Management Gross Receipts, FY2022

	Gross Receipts		
University Trust Land	\$2,095,730		
Foundation Land	\$43,273		
Other University Land	\$4,343,637		
Other Receipts	\$31,331		
Total Receipts	\$6,513,971		

Source: University of Alaska.

### **Student Tuition**

In FY2022, \$109.4 million was generated in student tuition and fees (14% of the budget). The cost per credit hour varied by level of study, campus, and residency. Most tuition rates remained the same from FY2021, although UAF upper division increased 2.5% per credit hour and UAF graduate rates increased 5% per credit hour.

In academic year 2021-2022, average in-state tuition and fees for Alaska resident undergraduates was \$8,775, 18% below the U.S. average of \$10,740 for all public, four-year institutions. A vast network of Alaskan organizations helps make UA even more affordable including Alaska Native Corporation Education Foundations, the Alaska Performance Scholarship, industry associations, private foundations, and UA initiatives.

UAF Chancellor Dan White: "At the same time that UAF's tuition has risen in recent years, the net cost to students and the average student loan amount have gone down. This is a product of new UAF initiatives to financially support students. UAF started the Nanook Pledge, a 4-year, merit-based scholarship ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per year. UAF also offers the Nanook Commitment, which is a needs-based scholarship. These initiatives have made UAF one of the most affordable universities in the country, and as a research university, the cost to students is well below its peers."

Table 4. UA Resident Tuition Rates per Credit Hour, 2021-2022

	UAA	UAS	UAF
Undergraduate			
Lower Division Courses	\$234	\$234	\$234
Upper Division Courses	\$282	\$282	\$289
Graduate Studies	\$513	\$513	\$539

Source: University of Alaska.

UAA Chancellor Sean Parnell: "UAA is a comprehensive public access university. Anybody with a high school diploma or GED can come and pursue an education. We want to work with each person on their next steps in creating their brighter future. One of our key messages is 'You belong here.' We want this to be a place for everybody."

# DID YOU KNOW? Preparing Alaska's Youth to Teach the Next Generation

Marjorie Baker grew up in Kotzebue, where she now teaches first grade and coaches high school students who want to become teachers like her.

She is part of UA's Educators Rising Alaska program that aims to inspire high school and college students to teach, especially in their own communities. The organization offers students volunteer teaching experience in classrooms and opportunities to attend education conferences. The group also sponsors after-school clubs, competition tutorials, and competitions in which young people learn teaching skills and compete against other aspiring teachers in-state or nationally.

Eighteen Alaska students – from Wales to Palmer – placed high at the national competition for lesson planning and delivery, public speaking, and children's literature.

## **University Expenditures**

Payroll, operating expenses, goods and services, and capital expenditures represent the major expense categories for UA.

### **Operating Expenditures**

In FY2022, the UA expense budget was \$773.9 million. By MAU, 56% was spent through UAF, 34% through UAA, and 6% through UAS. The UA System Office includes the President's office, university relations, business offices, property management, human resources, payroll, facility maintenance, and shared services.

Table 5. UA Operating Expenditures by MAU, FY2022

	Expenditure	Percentage of Total
UAA	\$259.4 million	34%
UAF	\$436.5 million	56%
UAS	\$47.2 million	6%
UA System Office	\$26.7 million	3%
Other	\$4.1 million	1%
Total	\$773.9 million	100%

Source: University of Alaska.

The largest expense category was instruction-related expenses (\$308.3 million), followed by research (\$168.7 million). Institutional support, totaling \$134.1 million, includes the President and Chancellors' offices, budget and accounting, human resources, facilities planning and construction, legal counsel, risk management, and support for the Board of Regents.

Table 6. UA Operating Expenditures by Component, FY2022

	Expenditure	Percentage of Total
Instruction and Student Related	\$308.3 million	40%
Research	\$168.7 million	22%
Institutional Support	\$134.1 million	17%
Physical Plant	\$94.5 million	12%
Public Service	\$46.5 million	6%
Auxiliary Services	\$21.6 million	3%
Total	\$773.9 million	100%

Source: University of Alaska.

## **Capital Expenditures**

In FY2022, \$9.7 million was appropriated for deferred maintenance, renovation, and facility repairs statewide. In prior years, facility construction and expansion resulted in much larger capital budgets and funding from non-state sources.

Table 7. UA Capital Appropriations, FY2013-FY2022 (\$Millions)

	State Funding	Other Funding	Total Appropriation
FY2013	\$154.9	\$18.0	\$172.9
FY2014	\$62.6	\$1.3	\$63.9
FY2015	\$232.4	\$75.0	\$307.4
FY2016	\$3.0	-	\$3.0
FY2017	-	-	-
FY2018	\$5.0	-	\$5.0
FY2019	\$5.0	-	\$5.0
FY2020	\$5.0	-	\$5.0
FY2021	-	-	-
FY2022	\$9.7	-	\$9.7
Total	\$477.6	\$94.3	\$571.9

Source: University of Alaska.



Alaska has about 50,000 earthquakes per year, 54 active volcanoes, and 1 million square miles of sea ice that are rapidly changing.

Monitoring these volatile phenomenon are among the many jobs at the Geophysical Institute (GI). U.S. Congress established the GI under UAF in 1946 to study the aurora borealis. The GI continues to provide an aurora forecast, as well as forecasts and updates on earthquakes, volcanoes wildfire smoke, weather, changes in permafrost, and coastal erosion.

The GI oversees 13 facilities and labs, including the Alaska Satellite Facility, whose mission is to make satellite data available to users around the world. Another GI facility is the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration, one of the top drone research programs in the country.

# **University Economic Impacts**

## **Direct Impacts**

### **Employment and Payroll**

Nearly 6,200 people were employed by UA in Fall 2022, in full-time or part-time positions. Total payroll for FY2022 was \$437.8 million, including \$324.1 million from Unrestricted Funds and \$113.7 million from Restricted/Designated Funds.

More than half of all UA employees were affiliated with UAF, representing \$222.5 million in payroll. UAA's share of employment and payroll was 38% and \$163.7 million. UAS had 7% of employment and \$28.4 million in payroll.

UA's total employment of 6,194 represented 2% of all wage and salary employment in Alaska in FY2022. If UA were a private employer, it would be the state's largest.<sup>6</sup>

Table 8. Total Employment and Payroll by MAU and Entity, FY2022

			PAYF	ROLL FY2022 (Millio	ons)
	Fall 2022 Employment	Share of Total Employment	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted/ Designated Funds	Total Payroll
UAF	3,188	51%	\$144.0	\$78.5	\$222.5
UAA	2,358	38%	\$132.3	\$31.4	\$163.7
UAS	437	7%	\$24.8	\$3.6	\$28.4
UA System Office	211	3%	\$23.0	\$0.2	\$23.2
UA Total	6,194	100%	\$324.1	\$113.7	\$437.8

Source: University of Alaska.

Note: UA System Office includes UA Enterprise Entities.

#### **FACULTY AND STAFF**

Faculty employment includes academic and teaching positions including professors, instructors, and researchers. Staff employment includes administration, IT, maintenance, and other support functions.

See table, next page.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Based on data from the Alaska Business Power List describing the largest corporations in Alaska, https://digital.akbizmag.com/power-list/2022-power-list/

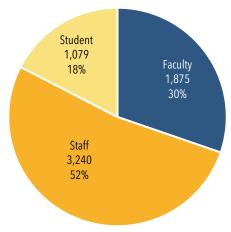
Table 9. Faculty, Staff, and Student Employment, FY2022

	Faculty	Staff	Student
UAF	25%	53%	22%
UAA	38%	49%	13%
UAS	41%	43%	16%
UA System Office	NA	96%	4%
Total	30%	52%	18%

Source: University of Alaska.

Figure 3. Faculty, Staff, and Student Employment, Share of Total, Fall 2022

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



Source: University of Alaska.

# DID YOU KNOW? Training Captains and Crew for Work at Sea

Students at UAS's Ketchikan Maritime Training Center can have an almost-real-life experience piloting a ship without ever leaving land.

They can view six-foot monitors as they steer the ship through stormy or calm waters in the university's Bridge Simulator Lab, which includes electronic chart displays and a full complement of consoles and hardware that would be on a real vessel. The center also has comprehensive welding, diesel, and electronics labs.

"Our maritime training program in Ketchikan that we do with the U.S. Coast Guard is great since it prepares people to work for both the Coast Guard and AMHS," UAS Chancellor Karen Carey said. The program's Coast Guard-approved status gives seafarers advantages when seeking entry into a maritime field, such as reducing required sea service days from 180 to 120.

### **Spending on Goods and Services**

Nearly \$100 million was spent with Alaska businesses in FY2022 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.

Fairbanks vendors earned the most at \$41.0 million, followed by Anchorage vendors at \$37.5 million. The remaining expenditures were with businesses located in more than 20 Alaska communities. Top Alaska vendors in FY2022 included Saltchuk, ABM Janitorial Services, Usibelli Coal Mine, Golden Valley Electric Association, Enstar, and Chuqach Electric Association.

Table 10. University Spending on Goods and Services by Alaska Community, FY2022 (\$Millions)

Community	Purchases	Percent of Total
Fairbanks	\$41.0	42%
Anchorage	\$37.5	39%
Juneau	\$4.3	4%
Wasilla	\$2.6	3%
North Pole	\$2.0	2%
Palmer	\$1.5	2%
Soldotna	\$1.2	1%
Sitka	\$0.7	1%
Glennallen	\$0.6	1%
Homer	\$0.6	1%
Kodiak	\$0.6	1%
Ketchikan	\$0.5	1%
Other Alaska communities	\$3.5	4%
Total	\$96.6	100%

Source: University of Alaska.

In FY2022, nearly 40% of UA spending was on utilities, followed by facility maintenance and construction (25%), and engineering, architecture, and other professional services (9%).

UAS Chancellor Karen Carey: "We got \$4 million to expand our mariculture program and want to expand it from Sitka to Juneau and Ketchikan."

UA spending includes research initiatives at all three MAUs and includes undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate programs.

UAA Chancellor Sean Parnell: "At UAA, we work at the intersection of real-world challenges by providing real-world solutions. For example, we innovate in areas related

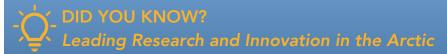
to transportation and street lighting, using remote sensors to gain efficiencies and provide lower-cost lighting solutions. We work in the field to ensure Alaska's salmon stocks are sustainable, and we are leaders in health care and Arctic policy. ... we change the trajectory of people's lives and add value to Alaska communities."

Table 11. University Spending by Sector, FY2022 (\$Millions)

	Purchases	Percent of Total
Utilities (Electricity, Heat, and Related Fuels)	\$35.6	36.9%
Building and Facilities Repair, Maintenance, and Construction	\$23.9	24.7%
Engineering, Architecture, and Other Professional Services	\$8.5	8.8%
Partnerships	\$6.2	6.4%
Food services	\$5.0	5.3%
Telecommunications	\$3.9	4.0%
Vehicles, Equipment, and Related Fuel	\$3.8	3.9%
Advertising, Marketing, and Public Relations	\$3.7	3.8%
Facility and Equipment Rental	\$3.1	3.2%
Janitorial, Security, and Groundskeeping	\$1.5	1.6%
Other	\$1.4	1.4%
Total	\$96.6	100%

Source: University of Alaska.

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



UAF scientists were featured in the television series Nova in 2022 for their research into mysterious and enormous sinkholes that are appearing across the Arctic as methane explodes underground.

The phenomenon has potential ramifications for climate change and is just one of the many ways UA scientists are making significant contributions to Arctic studies.

The university aims to become a global leader in Arctic research and policy studies. UAF produces more citations on Arctic research than any university in the country and is second in the world in publications on Artic climate and geophysical sciences.

UA partners include the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Energy, and the Department of Defense, among others.

## **Multiplier Impacts**

The university supports additional economic activity across Alaska as the institution purchases goods and services from Alaskan businesses, employees spend wages locally, and students and visitors bring new dollars to the economy.

Commonly called "economic multipliers," UA's full impact can be measured at three levels:

- Direct impacts describe employment and wages paid by UA.
- Indirect impacts are jobs, wages, and spending supported as UA purchases products and services from Alaska vendors.
- Induced impacts refer to jobs, wages, and spending supported as UA employees, students, and visitors spend money in the local economy.

UA directly or indirectly supported nearly 9,200 jobs and \$607.8 million in payroll in Alaska in FY2022. Total spending attributable to UA was about \$650 million in FY2022, including instate purchases and payroll. An additional \$350 million was supported through indirect and induced spending, resulting in nearly \$1 billion in total economic activity in FY2022 generated by UA's programs and services.

Table 12. Total Employment and Payroll Impacts of the University of Alaska, FY2022

Impact	Direct	Indirect	Total
Employment	6,194	3,000	9,194
Payroll (\$ million)	\$437.8	\$170.0	\$607.8



UAF's Petroleum Engineering Department has developed an oil-recovery method that could open the way to extracting millions more barrels of North Slope oil while minimizing the industry's footprint.

This extraction method could extend the lifespan of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline and provide millions of dollars to the State of Alaska.

UAF researchers led a \$10 million project, co-funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and Hilcorp Alaska, proving injection of a synthetic polymer can be used to produce heavy oil in Alaska's challenging arctic environment. This oil has been difficult to effectively extract in the past.

The project's success motivated UAF researchers to embark on a \$5 million project funded by the State of Alaska to test a novel concept called polymer alternating solvent that could unlock even heavier North Slope oils.

"Our field is very applied in that we don't want to stay in our cubicles and publish papers. We want to do something that will benefit society as a whole," said Professor Abhijit Dandekar, Chair of UAF's Department of Petroleum Engineering.

# **Student Enrollment and Graduation**

There were nearly 21,000 students enrolled at UA in Fall 2021. Enrollment declined by 25% over the five-year period of 2017-2021. The largest enrollment drop came in Fall 2020, after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 13. UA System Enrollment Trend, 2017-2021

	Fall Semester Enrollment
2017	27,823
2018	26,641
2019	24,943
2020	22,093
2021	20,745
2017-2021 change	-25%

Source: University of Alaska.

## **Campus Enrollment**

In Fall 2021, UAA had 11,814 students (57% of systemwide enrollment). UAF had 7,471 students, and UAS had 2,206 students (36% and 11%, respectively).

The largest decline in enrollment between 2017 and 2021 was at UAA, which decreased by 32% or 5,453 students. UAF enrollment decreased by 14% and UAS by 18%.

Percentages in the tables below may exceed 100% because students are commonly enrolled in courses across the UA system.

Table 14. Percentage of Total Enrollment by MAU, 2017-2021

	UAA	UAF	UAS
2017	62%	31%	10%
2018	62%	31%	10%
2019	60%	33%	10%
2020	59%	34%	10%
2021	57%	36%	11%

Source: University of Alaska.



Blue Babe, the world's only restored Ice Age steppe bison mummy, and Bus 142, famous from the book and movie "Into The Wild," are among the 2.5 million artifacts and specimens preserved at UA's Museum of the North.

The Fairbanks museum is the primary repository for archaeological collections from the State of Alaska. "There are more marine mammal specimens in the museum than in the Smithsonian and the next three largest museums combined," UAF Chancellor Dan White said.

The university preserves other significant historical collections as well. The UAA/Alaska Pacific University (APU) Consortium Library houses papers from Alaska leaders including the late U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens' collection of documents detailing the history and process leading to passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

UAA is partnering with the Ted Stevens Foundation and the Don Young Leadership Institute to establish the Alaska Leaders' Archive and Institute for Public Policy and Leadership. The institute will be an academic center that leads study and discourse on business and public policy, using archival collections of Alaska's congressional delegations and prominent Alaskans as resources.

### **Enrollment Trends by Community Campus**

In Fall 2021, 83% of UAA students were at the Anchorage campus. While all UAA campuses experienced enrollment declines of 25% or more over the five-year period, the percentage of students attending each campus remained fairly consistent.

Table 15. Percentage of Total Enrollment, UAA Campuses, 2017-2021

	Anchorage	КРС	Kodiak	Mat-Su	Prince William Sound	UAA Total
2017	79%	15%	4%	10%	5%	17,267
2018	80%	15%	4%	9%	5%	16,530
2019	79%	14%	4%	9%	5%	14,989
2020	85%	13%	4%	11%	3%	13,142
2021	83%	13%	4%	11%	5%	11,814

Source: University of Alaska.

The Troth Yeddha' campus in Fairbanks accounted for 71% of UAF enrollment in Fall 2021. UAF experienced a 14% enrollment decline between 2017 and 2021.

Table 16. Percentage of Total Enrollment, UAF Campuses, 2017-2021

			College of Rural & Community Development						
	Troth Yeddha'	СТС	Bristol Bay	Chukchi	Interior Alaska	Kuskokwim	Northwest	Rural College	UAF Total
2017	65%	28%	6%	2%	5%	6%	4%	9%	8,720
2018	64%	29%	5%	2%	5%	6%	3%	10%	8,336
2019	66%	31%	5%	3%	4%	5%	4%	5%	8,207
2020	71%	29%	3%	3%	4%	7%	3%	5%	7,490
2021	71%	28%	4%	2%	3%	5%	3%	7%	7,471

Source: University of Alaska.

Enrollment at the Juneau campus represented 63% of UAS students in Fall 2021.

Table 17. Percentage of Total Enrollment, UAS Campuses, 2017-2021

	Juneau	Ketchikan	Sitka	UAS Total
2017	64%	23%	33%	2,676
2018	64%	26%	31%	2,561
2019	64%	25%	29%	2,548
2020	64%	30%	32%	2,292
2021	63%	29%	29%	2,206

Source: University of Alaska.



UAF operates a 261-foot ship that cuts through 2.5-foot-thick sea ice and allows U.S. and international scientists to conduct research in ice-choked waters off Alaska.

Owned by the National Science Foundation, the R/V Sikuliaq is one of the most advanced research vessels in the world. The ship carries up to 24 scientists and students, while allowing students elsewhere to participate in expeditions virtually and in real-time. The Sikuliaq supports remotely operated research vehicles, water-column and sea-bottom surveys, and collection of sediment samples from the ocean floor. The ship's low underwater radiated noise signature is one of the reasons the vessel has low impact on marine mammals and other sea life.

Only a few other U.S. institutions, such as the University of Washington, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and Wood's Hole Oceanographic Institution, have global-class vessels similar to the Sikuliaq.

"These institutions have budgets far greater than UAF's, so it is significant that UAF is entrusted to operate the only ice-capable vessel in the U.S. Academic Research Fleet," said Professor Brad Moran, Dean of UAF College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences.

### **Student Demographics**

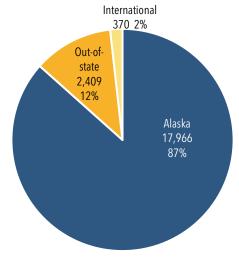
#### **ENROLLMENT BY ORIGIN**

Origin is defined by student's physical location at the time of enrollment. In Fall 2021, 87% of students were from Alaska, while 12% were from out-of-state and 2% from international countries.

Nearly a third of UA's systemwide enrollees were from Anchorage, 14% from the Fairbanks area, and 9% from communities in the Mat-Su Borough. Student enrollment ranges from the North Slope Borough, to the Aleutians, and throughout Southeast.

See table, next page.

Figure 4. Enrollment by Place of Origin, UA Systemwide, Fall 2021



Source: University of Alaska

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Table 18. Enrollment by Alaska Borough/Census Area, UA Systemwide, Fall 2021

Borough/Census Area	Fall Semester Enrollment	Share of Total Enrollment
Municipality of Anchorage	6,470	31%
Fairbanks North Star Borough	2,994	14%
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	1,932	9%
Kenai Peninsula Borough	1,135	5%
Juneau, City and Borough	818	4%
Remaining Alaska Communities	4,234	22%
Bethel Census Area	589	3%
*Valdez-Cordova	516	2%
Kodiak Island	412	2%
Nome Census Area	356	2%
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	319	2%
Sitka, City and Borough	276	2%
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	204	1%
Northwest Arctic Borough	196	1%
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	196	1%
Dillingham Census Area	190	1%
**Kusilvak Census Area	158	1%
North Slope Borough	121	1%
***Wrangell-Petersburg	107	1%
Prince Of Wales-Hyder Census Area	105	1%
Aleutians West Census Area	92	<1%
Denali Borough	70	<1%
Lake & Peninsula Borough	65	<1%
Bristol Bay Borough	59	<1%
Municipality of Skagway	53	<1%
Aleutians East Borough	47	<1%
Haines Borough	46	<1%
Yakutat, City and Borough	17	<1%
Unknown	423	2%
Alaska Student Total	17,966	87%

Source: University of Alaska.
\*Includes Chugach Census Area and Copper River Census Area.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Formerly Wade Hampton Census Area.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Includes Petersburg Borough and City and Borough of Wrangell.

Nearly 2,500 students were from other U.S. states in 2021, with California and Washington leading at 12% each.

Table 19. Enrollment by Top 5 States of Origin (After Alaska), UA Systemwide, Fall 2021

U.S. State	Fall Semester Enrollment	Percent of Out-of-State
California	299	12%
Washington	286	12%
Florida	225	9%
Texas	151	6%
Oregon	125	5%

Source: University of Alaska.



The University of Alaska serves a much broader swath of the population than many university systems. "The university calls us nontraditional, but we are actually your average student," a middle-aged UAF grad said.

UA student diversity is due to more affordable programs, the large number of campuses across the state, more than 50 online programs, and student scholarships and support from the University of Alaska Foundation.

Fifty percent of enrolled students at UAF are first-generation students, meaning the first of their family to attend college. "If no one in your family has gone to college, understanding what college offers is challenging," said UAF Chancellor Dan White.

### **MILITARY ENROLLMENT**

All three universities have been recognized as "military friendly schools" by Viqtory, a company that connects veterans to education and employment opportunities. UAS has established a partnership with the Coast Guard, offering training while attending school. UAA has a relationship with Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (JBER), with a number of classes taught on base and military support offices to help service members. UAF has educational offices at Fort Wainwright Army Base and Eielson Force Base to assist in student training and support. In 2018, UAF was designated a Purple Heart Campus in recognition of the number of veterans pursuing their education at UAF.

#### **AGE AND GENDER**

In Fall 2021, more than half of all UA students (52%) were 25 years or older, and nearly two-thirds of students (62%) were female.

Figure 5. UA Student Age, Fall 2021

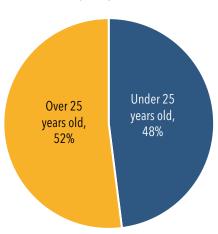
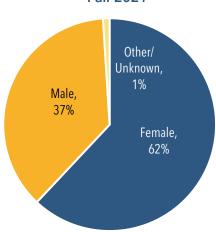


Figure 6. UA Student Gender, Fall 2021

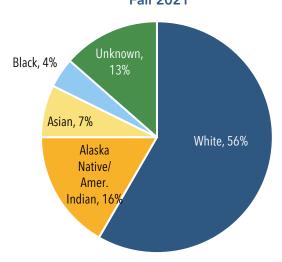


Source: University of Alaska.

**RACE** 

Over one-half of 2021 UA students identified themselves as white (56%), 16% as Alaska Native/American Indian, 8% as Asian, and 4% as Black.

Figure 7. UA Student Race, Fall 2021



Source: University of Alaska.

### **UA Enrollment by Degree**

In Fall 2021, nearly 10,000 students in the UA system were considered degree-seeking. Two-thirds (68%) of degree-seeking students were pursuing Bachelor's degrees.

Table 20. Degree-Seeking Students, UA Systemwide, Fall 2021

	Number	% of Total
Occupational Endorsement Certificate*	134	1%
Certificate (1 & 2 year)	284	3%
Associate	1,720	18%
Bachelor's	6,609	68%
Licensure	105	1%
Master's	654	7%
Doctorate	161	2%
Total	9,667	100%

Source: University of Alaska.

### **UA Degrees Awarded**

In Spring 2022, over 3,500 students completed degrees, certificates, or licensure. Bachelor's degrees were the most common type of degrees/certificates awarded in Spring 2022 (42%) followed by Associate (25%), Master's (12%), and Occupational Endorsement Certificates (10%).

Table 21. Degrees Awarded, UA Systemwide, Spring 2022

	Number	% of Total
Occupational Endorsement Certificate	345	10%
Certificate (1 & 2 year)	244	7%
Associate	888	25%
Bachelor's	1,490	42%
Licensure	134	4%
Master's	430	12%
Doctorate	36	1%
Total	3,567	100%

Source: University of Alaska.

<sup>\*</sup>Certificates requiring up to 30 credit hours such as certified nurse aide, accounting, and welding, among others.

Among degrees awarded in Spring 2022, the most popular fields were in Health (23%), STEM fields (21%), and Teacher Education & Liberal Arts (21%).

Table 22. Degrees Awarded by Industry Cluster, UA Systemwide, Spring 2022

	Number	% of Total
Health	801	23%
Health Science - Clinical & Allied	568	16%
Human Services - Behavioral Health	233	7%
STEM	765	21%
Science, Engineering & Mathematics	529	15%
Applied Technology - Engineering, Mining, Construction	162	5%
Information Technology	74	2%
Teacher Education & Liberal Arts	742	21%
Management & Administration	514	14%
Business Management & Administration	305	9%
Government & Public Administration	50	1%
Finance	142	4%
Marketing	17	1%
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics	176	5%
Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security	144	4%
Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications	91	3%
Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	73	2%
Hospitality & Tourism	32	1%
Other	229	6%
UA System Total	3,567	100%

Source: University of Alaska.

## **Retaining High School Graduates**

Having an instate university positively impacts Alaska's ability to retain high school graduates. For example, 10 years following high school graduation, Alaska high school graduates who are eligible for the state's Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) have higher residency rates compared to APS-eligible students who did not stay in-state (64% compared to 34% for the class of 2011, respectively).<sup>7</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Based on Alaska Performance Scholarship Outcomes Report 2022.

# DID YOU KNOW? Cultivating Home-Grown Health Care Workers

Studying to become a nurse is so much more affordable at UAA than at many Lower 48 universities that applications for the program far exceed the number of available positions.

UA offers more than 40 certificate or degree programs and has nursing program sites in 14 Alaska communities, with most of the students coming from the community where they are studying. The intention is for them to learn in their communities and stay to work there after they graduate.

"It's challenging to get people to move to Alaska and stay, so we've firmly dug into the Grow Your Own mentality as far as building the healthcare workforce," said Debbie Craig, Dean of the College of Health.

UA also has a \$1 million pilot project that helps students who have to leave their hometowns to get clinical experience. This helps them complete an education and helps Alaska, which experiences the same shortages of health-care workers as other states.

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# **Glossary of Terms**

**Direct impacts** describe employment and wages paid by UA.

**Indirect impacts** are jobs, wages, and spending supported as UA purchases products and services from Alaska vendors.

**Induced impacts** refer to jobs, wages, and spending supported as UA employees, students, and visitors spend money in the local economy.

**Multiplier effects** refer to indirect and induced impacts combined.

**Small businesses** are those falling under a certain employment threshold as determined by the US Small Business Administration; these vary from industry to industry.

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