CSU The California State University

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

SDSU provides transformative experiences for its more than 44,000 students and ranks among the top public research universities in California. In addition to academic offerings at campuses in San Diego, Brawley, Calexico, and Tbilisi, Georgia, SDSU is expanding access across the California-Mexico border. SDSU is nationally recognized for its study abroad programs and global presence, robust veterans' initiatives, entrepreneurship, and powerhouse Division I Athletics. The university's rich campus life and location offer opportunities for students to lead and engage in the arts, connect with SDSU's more than 500,000 alumni, and experience the vibrant culture of the greater San Diego and U.S.-Mexico region.

San Diego State University serves the San Diego region

INPUTS

$815M	$225.1M	$433.7M	$591.8M
Operational Expenditures	**Capital Expenditures**	**Auxiliary Costs**	**Student Spending**

REGIONAL IMPACT

25,100	$3B	$1.2B	$225.9M
Jobs	**Industry Activity**	**Wages Earned**	**State & Local Tax Revenue**

STATE-LEVEL IMPACT

26,000	$3.3B	$1.3B	$239.8M
Jobs	**Industry Activity**	**Wages Earned**	**State & Local Tax Revenue**

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

During the 2023-2024 academic year, the state's investment in **San Diego State University** (operating and average capital appropriations) totaled **$258.8 million**

For every dollar the state invests in the campus,	When the impact of the enhanced alumni earnings is included
$12.66	**$38.28**
in statewide **Industry Activity** is generated	in statewide **Industry Activity** is generated

Source: CSU Economic Impact Study, 2025

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WHAT IS R1?

R1 is the highest distinction given to doctoral universities in the Carnegie Classifications of Institutions of Higher Education.

SDSU'S RESEARCH IMPACT IS ON THE RISE

- SDSU researchers successfully garnered more than $620 million in external funding in the last three years
- More than 85% of all graduating students participated in research or an internship while at SDSU

WHY R1 MATTERS

- More research opportunities for students across all disciplines
- Increased access to paid internships and hands-on learning
- Enhanced ability to attract top-tier faculty and funding
- Expanded interdisciplinary collaborations and innovation
- Boosts the value of an SDSU degree

Learn more: https://www.sdsu.edu/r1

SDSU San Diego State University

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ALUMNI

San Diego State University alumni had higher median income attributed to their CSU degree, totaling **$5.3 billion** which supported statewide impacts of:

31,300	$6.6B	$2.3B	$519M
Jobs	Industry Activity	Wages Earned	State & Local Tax Revenue

SDSU IS R1

SDSU IS UNIQUE—IN CALIFORNIA AND IN THE NATION

- One of only 16 Research 1 institutions nationwide that are also federally recognized as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) and a Minority Serving Institution
- Of which, only SDSU and 6 others qualify as a Community-Engaged Institution by Carnegie (those who have a deep economic and civic relationship with their home communities)
- Of which, only 3 are designated as Opportunity Colleges by Carnegie, which have low cost of attendance relative to high earnings for their graduates
- Of which, only 1 is home to a D1 athletic program—SDSU!

SDSU: A STRONG RETURN ON INVESTMENT

- The average graduate earns an additional $505,286 in present-value earnings over their career compared to peers without a bachelor's degree—an impressive benefit-cost ratio of 10.2 to 1
- In other words, every $1,000 invested in an SDSU education yields approximately $10,200 in higher earnings. The corresponding annual rate of return stands at 26.7%, far exceeding the U.S. stock market's 30-year average of 10.1%
- Graduates recover and exceed their full educational investment, including the opportunity cost of potential lost earnings while enrolled, in just six years after graduating

Scan QR code for more information.