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# **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **WCJC INJECTS MORE THAN \$200 MILLION INTO LOCAL ECONOMY**

WHARTON, TEXAS – A recently released study on WCJC's impact on the local economy says the college and its students added \$202.9 million in net income to the economy in fiscal year 2012-13. Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI) conducted the study.

According to the report, WCJC created this income through operations spending of \$30.7 million, student spending of \$755.6 thousand and alumni employment of \$171.4 million.

Operations spending included the college's 2012-13 payroll of \$27.3 million for 927 full- and part-time employees, as well as \$3.4 million in day-to-day expenditures. EMSI reports that much of the added income is due to the 80 percent of WCJC employees who live in the college's service area spending their earnings in the region. The WCJC Service Area encompasses all of Wharton, Matagorda and Colorado Counties, the majority of Fort Bend County and portions of Austin and Jackson Counties.

"WCJC's business operations provide economic value every day when our employees buy groceries and other household goods and services, as well as big-ticket items for themselves and their families," said WCJC President Betty McCrohan. "Along with our payroll stimulating the economy are expenditures for facilities, professional services and supplies that enable us to provide our students with an outstanding education."

Current students who relocate to the WCJC Service Area also boost the local economy through purchases of food, transportation and rent. During fiscal year 2012-13, these expenditures added approximately \$755.6 thousand in income to the local economy.

The third economic contribution cited in the study is the significant impact of former WCJC students employed in the WCJC Service Area. According to EMSI, the accumulated contribution of these students employed in the state workforce during the analysis year amounted to \$171.4 million in added income.

This figure represents the higher wages that former students earned during the analysis year, the increased output of businesses that employed them and the multiplier effect that occurred as they and their employers spent money at other businesses.

"At WCJC, we strive to give every student tangible work skills that enable them to achieve their dreams and earn the highest wages possible while supplying area businesses with a steady flow of qualified, trained workers to increase their productivity," said McCrohan.

To read EMSI's executive summary, visit [www.wcjc.edu](http://www.wcjc.edu)

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