



**The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2004-2005 Academic Year:
A Statistical Analysis**

NAFSA estimates that foreign students and their dependents contributed approximately \$13.29 billion to the U.S. economy during the 2004-2005 academic year. This conservative figure is based on tuition figures from the College Board, enrollment figures from the Institute of International Education's *Open Doors 2005* report, living expenses calculated from College Board figures and analysis of the data by Lynn Schoch and Jason Baumgartner at Indiana University – Bloomington's Office of International Services.

NAFSA's annual *Economic Impact Statements* estimate the amount of money foreign students bring to the United States to support their education. This report does not rely on a "multiplier effect." Although this might provide a more accurate estimate of actual economic impact, there is no consensus on the appropriate size of such a multiplier. Along with our partners at the Institute of International Education, the College Board, and Indiana University, we are committed to continuing efforts to improve our data and methodology. By any measure, international education makes a significant contribution to the U.S. economy.

Georgia

Total Number of Foreign Students: 12,111

Part 1: Net Contribution to State Economy by Foreign Students (2004-05)

Contribution from Tuition and Fees to State Economy:	\$182,850,000
Contribution from Living Expenses:	\$182,400,000
Total Contribution by Foreign Students:	\$365,250,000
Less U.S. Support of 32.9%	- \$120,299,000
Plus Dependents' Living Expenses:	+ \$8,249,000

Net Contribution to State Economy by Foreign Students and their Families:

\$253,200,000

Part 2: Contribution to State Economy by Foreign Students' Dependents (2004-05)

Spouses' Contribution

Percent of Married Students:	12.1%
Percent of Spouses in the U.S.:	85.0%
Number of Spouses in the U.S.:	1,461
Additional Expenses for a Spouse: (% of student living expenses)	25.0%
Spouses' Contribution:	\$5,566,000

Children's Contribution

Number of Couples in the U.S.:	1,461
Number of Children per Couple:	0.6
Number of Children in the U.S.:	879
Additional Expenses for a Child: (% of student living expenses)	20.0%
Children's Contribution:	\$2,682,000

Net Contribution to State Economy by Foreign Students' Dependents:

\$8,249,000

Part 3: Foreign Student Contribution from Tuition/Fees and Living Expenses (2004-05)

Institution and City	# of Foreign Students	Tuition and Fees (thousands)	Living Expenses and Dependents (thousands)	Less U.S. Support (thousands)	Total Contribution (thousands)
Agnes Scott College, Decatur	74	\$1,631.7	\$1,394.8	\$1,055.4	\$1,971.2
Albany State University, Albany	17	\$167.7	\$207.3	\$44.9	\$330.1
American InterContinental University, Atlanta	155	\$3,169.7	\$3,980.8	\$524.2	\$6,626.2
Andrew College, Cuthbert	10	\$85.5	\$118.3	\$10.2	\$193.6
Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah	98	\$925.3	\$1,018.1	\$240.3	\$1,703.0
Art Institute of Atlanta, Atlanta	83	\$1,414.3	\$1,268.6	\$135.1	\$2,547.8
Atlanta Metropolitan College, Atlanta	52	\$305.3	\$694.7	\$50.1	\$949.9
Augusta State University, Augusta	66	\$628.0	\$855.8	\$185.3	\$1,298.4
Bainbridge College, Bainbridge	1	\$5.9	\$13.1	\$1.0	\$18.0
Beulah Heights Bible College, Atlanta	89	\$593.5	\$1,382.1	\$741.3	\$1,234.3
Brenau University, Gainesville	24	\$350.6	\$443.4	\$96.8	\$697.2
Brewton-Parker College, Mount Vernon	17	\$221.6	\$263.3	\$146.3	\$338.7
Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta	95	\$1,281.2	\$1,504.9	\$274.1	\$2,511.9

Clayton College and State University, Morrow	79	\$733.9	\$1,055.1	\$379.7	\$1,409.3
Coastal Georgia Community College, Brunswick	3	\$17.6	\$39.2	\$2.9	\$53.9
Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur	13	\$87.1	\$208.4	\$98.7	\$196.8
Columbus State University, Columbus	99	\$947.6	\$1,230.1	\$275.5	\$1,902.2
Columbus Technical College, Columbus	53	\$274.8	\$707.8	\$49.2	\$933.3
Covenant College, Lookout Mountain	5	\$93.8	\$64.4	\$48.4	\$109.7
Dalton State College, Dalton	13	\$76.3	\$173.2	\$12.5	\$237.0
Darton College, Albany	67	\$393.4	\$894.0	\$64.6	\$1,222.9
Dekalb Technical College, Clarkston	20	\$137.2	\$267.3	\$20.3	\$384.3
DeVry University, Alpharetta	29	\$199.0	\$388.2	\$48.1	\$539.1
DeVry University, Atlanta	8	\$105.8	\$131.6	\$84.3	\$153.1
DeVry University, Decatur	50	\$557.2	\$699.3	\$34.9	\$1,221.6
Emmanuel College, Franklin Springs	4	\$37.2	\$38.7	\$23.2	\$52.7
Emory University, Atlanta	1,031	\$28,535.1	\$26,483.8	\$22,532.0	\$32,487.0
Floyd College, Rome	10	\$58.7	\$134.0	\$9.6	\$183.1
Fort Valley State University, Fort Valley	62	\$576.0	\$834.2	\$168.9	\$1,241.3
Gainesville College, Gainesville	57	\$334.7	\$760.1	\$54.9	\$1,039.8
Georgia College and State University, Milledgeville	135	\$1,860.9	\$2,390.8	\$540.2	\$3,711.5
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta	2,568	\$43,355.3	\$38,826.6	\$41,127.4	\$41,054.5
Georgia Military College, Milledgeville	5	\$54.2	\$43.2	\$5.0	\$92.4
Georgia Perimeter College, Clarkston	625	\$3,670.0	\$8,353.4	\$602.5	\$11,420.9
Georgia Southern University, Statesboro	237	\$2,311.2	\$3,161.1	\$714.9	\$4,757.4
Georgia Southwestern State University, Americus	63	\$592.7	\$655.5	\$153.2	\$1,094.9
Georgia State University, Atlanta	1,700	\$25,162.4	\$20,527.2	\$17,289.1	\$28,400.4
Gordon College, Barnesville	22	\$129.2	\$234.4	\$18.3	\$345.3
Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta	23	\$153.0	\$374.2	\$174.2	\$353.0
Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw	515	\$5,085.0	\$5,988.0	\$1,479.5	\$9,593.5
LaGrange College, LaGrange	19	\$288.9	\$276.5	\$171.0	\$394.4
Life University, Marietta	161	\$1,618.2	\$2,552.0	\$98.6	\$4,071.5
Macon State College, Macon	105	\$616.6	\$1,402.5	\$101.2	\$1,917.8
Medical College of Georgia, Augusta	58	\$894.7	\$931.2	\$949.5	\$876.4
Mercer University, Macon	199	\$4,388.0	\$3,289.8	\$1,052.0	\$6,625.7
Middle Georgia College, Cochran	13	\$76.3	\$124.0	\$10.1	\$190.3
Morehouse College, Atlanta	88	\$1,260.0	\$1,768.5	\$1,053.6	\$1,974.9
Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta	9	\$138.8	\$143.2	\$126.7	\$155.4
North Georgia College & State University, Dahlonega	91	\$854.7	\$1,233.8	\$255.2	\$1,833.3
Oglethorpe University, Atlanta	25	\$522.5	\$410.6	\$324.6	\$608.4
Paine College, Augusta	5	\$44.8	\$66.9	\$39.3	\$72.3
Piedmont College, Demorest	37	\$499.5	\$559.8	\$131.3	\$928.1
Reinhardt College, Waleska	28	\$336.0	\$374.5	\$150.9	\$559.6
Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah	550	\$11,247.3	\$14,423.9	\$1,934.3	\$23,736.9
Shorter College, Rome	52	\$650.0	\$940.8	\$467.8	\$1,123.0
South Georgia College, Douglas	7	\$41.1	\$91.5	\$6.7	\$125.9
South University, Savannah	5	\$34.3	\$68.6	\$42.5	\$60.4
Southern Polytechnic State University, Marietta	626	\$6,499.4	\$8,793.4	\$1,053.0	\$14,239.8
Spelman College, Atlanta	43	\$547.4	\$798.7	\$466.7	\$879.4

State University of West Georgia, Carrollton	169	\$1,629.4	\$1,901.4	\$456.5	\$3,074.4
Thomas University, Thomasville	43	\$399.9	\$577.1	\$48.9	\$928.0
Toccoa Falls College, Toccoa Falls	17	\$194.7	\$174.7	\$111.6	\$257.8
Truett-McConnell College, Cleveland	5	\$53.9	\$49.5	\$5.3	\$98.2
University of Georgia, Athens	1,311	\$22,109.1	\$19,877.7	\$21,311.2	\$20,675.6
Valdosta State University, Valdosta	158	\$1,467.8	\$1,875.2	\$400.4	\$2,942.5
Waycross College, Waycross	2	\$11.7	\$26.1	\$1.9	\$36.0
Young Harris College, Young Harris	8	\$105.6	\$107.9	\$10.9	\$202.6

Methodology: How We Compute Economic Impact 2005

We define economic impact as the amount of money that foreign students collectively bring into the United States to pay for their education and to support themselves while they (and in some cases, their families) are here. The goal of our economic impact formulas is to use data already collected for other purposes to provide a reasonable estimate of the economic resources that foreign students import to the United States to support their education here each year.

The data sets used for these reports come from two sources:

1. The Institute of International Education's *Open Doors 2005* report, funded by the Department of State, provides numbers of foreign students at universities and colleges throughout the United States during the 2004-05 academic year. In many cases, this data provide separate totals for undergraduate, graduate, and non degree students.
2. The College Board provides cost figures for tuition, living, and miscellaneous expenses at U.S. institutions for the 2004-05 academic year.

The extensive data provided by these two sources (which collect it directly from surveys of the institutions involved) allow us to make our estimates sensitive to differences between institutions. However, there are still areas where our estimates and formulas could be improved. For example, we compute economic impact only for students reported in *Open Doors*. Universities that do not provide information to the Institute of International Education are not represented. Also, enrollment reports represent peak enrollment, and not necessarily enrollment levels throughout the year.

Tuition, fees, living expenses, and dollar estimates are derived from College Board data collected on surveys completed by institutions every year. We try to make our calculations sensitive not only to differing costs at institutions, but differing costs for ESL students, undergraduates, graduate students, and students on practical training.

Students on Practical Training: We assume these students earn enough in their U.S. jobs to pay living and educational expenses for the year, and so import no funds for their support. Therefore, net economic impact of students in practical training is zero.

Undergraduates and English Language Programs: The number of undergraduate students at an institution is specified by *Open Doors* data. College Board data provide undergraduate tuition and fee amounts, on-campus room and board amounts, and miscellaneous expenses. These categories are sometimes broken down into averages for international, out-of-state, flat rate, and in-state, students. When multiple averages are available, we choose averages in the order given above.

Economic impact of an undergraduate equals tuition and fees, plus room and board, plus miscellaneous figured at 50 percent of room and board, less U.S. support. We assume: (1) that spring enrollment figures are the same as the fall figures reported, (2) that all students are enrolled full time for two semesters or three quarters a year, and (3) that students live on campus for the full year. Miscellaneous expenses, enumerated in College Board data, average about 40 percent of room and board expenses. We use a 50 percent figure as an approximation that includes *all* extra expenses except for travel. The percentage of U.S. support for an undergraduate is based upon the institution type. For example, research institutions (based on Carnegie code) provide on average 10.7 percent support for undergraduates; community colleges provide 7.8 percent for undergraduates.

Estimating Support. The *Open Doors survey* asks schools to report the percentage of their students who are self-funded, the percentage who have U.S. source income, etc. We use these percentages, adjusted for different types of institutions, as though they represented percentages of funding, not percentages of individuals. This aspect of our analysis could benefit from further study. We have done local comparisons to data reported to SEVIS and the percentages align closely, but wider research into funding percentages could be valuable.

NOTE: “U.S. support” includes funding from a U.S. college or university, the U.S. Government, a U.S. private sponsor and current employment.