What impact do ASU graduate degree holders have on the economy?

ASU graduate degree holders across the world earned an estimated $11.5 billion in aggregate annual earnings, with the vast majority of earnings accrued in the United States and about half in the state of Arizona. In 2017, ASU graduate degree holders living in Arizona paid between $398 and $476 million in state and local taxes, of which $225 to $270 million was paid to the state government.

Over 130,000 of ASU’s 142,000 graduate degree holders in the world live in Arizona. More than 64,000 of these live in metropolitan Phoenix, primarily in the City of Phoenix and the East Valley. One in five ASU graduate degree holders live in other western states, 4% live outside of the United States, and the remainder live in other regions of the country.

Nearly two-thirds of living ASU graduate degree holders earned their degrees between the year 2000 and the present, demonstrating ASU’s effectiveness in increasing graduate degree production. Three-quarters of aggregate earnings can be attributed to those with master’s degrees, who represent about 84% of the graduate degree holder pool.

For more information, please visit: economist.asu.edu