

# BROWN & PROVIDENCE: *Economic Impact*

Brown University is an anchor institution that plays a vital role in the economic well-being of the City of Providence, the state and its people.

We're a top employer of Rhode Island residents, with nearly 5,500 employees, and inject hundreds of millions of dollars into the local economy each year through research spending, visitors to campus, investments in new projects, entrepreneurial startups and spin offs based on Brown academic work. Brown tutors and mentors thousands of public school students, and provides Rhode Island undergraduates with deep financial support. And we're the largest voluntary financial contributor to the city, with more than \$80 million in direct payments from 2012 through 2022 alone.



At Building Futures headquarters, students split their time between classroom learning and hands-on training.

#### A SNAPSHOT

### \$477M

Annual payroll to faculty and staff living in Rhode Island in 2022

#### \$218M

Goods and services purchased from registered Rhode Island vendors in 2022

## \$13.3M

Average annual spending locally by visitors to Brown

### \$341M

Invested in Providence's Jewelry District to date

## \$619M

Spending on construction in Rhode Island between 2018 and 2022

## \$249M

Sponsored research spending annually

#### \$80M+

*Direct payments to the City of Providence between 2012 and 2022* 

## \$7.4M

University scholarship support to Rhode Island high school graduates in 2022

## \$6.5M

*Voluntary payments to the City of Providence in 2022* 

# MAKING AN IMPACT in Providence and Rhode Island

#### A TOP EMPLOYER

Brown is the 8th largest employer in Rhode Island employing nearly 5,500 residents living in the state, totaling \$477 million of payroll, resulting in \$20 million of withheld income tax paid to the state. The University has a long track record as an employer where residents want to work, averaging 1,000 open jobs each year, including roughly 900 staff member hires in 2022.



#### A DRIVER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Brown serves as a major economic engine for Providence and Rhode Island. The University brings research innovation and nearly \$250 million in research spending into the state economy each year; generates more than \$200 million in economic activity for its registered vendors and suppliers; and brings more than \$13 million in spending from many thousands of visitors to Providence annually. Construction projects on campus employ trades workers and apprentices, and the University sponsors a labor initiative benefitting lower-income construction workers, with approximately \$619 million in construction spending in the state between 2018 and 2022.

Brown has brought new life to Providence's Jewelry District, investing \$341 million to date, with plans to invest another \$35 million in the next three years. The University has also sparked public-private partnerships that led to the development of the neighborhood's most prominent projects, including South Street Landing, and helped to attract Wexford Science + Technology, Ancora L&G, the Cambridge Innovation Center and many other private partners to the state.

Through the Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship and Brown Technology Innovations, Brown is working to attract investors and launch faculty start-ups that can turn into thriving enterprises that fuel the local economy, helping to turn Providence into an emerging hub for entrepreneurship.



#### **INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY**

With a deep and longstanding commitment to investing in the community it calls home, the University is the largest voluntary financial contributor to the city. Brown is a tax-exempt nonprofit but has made more than \$80M in direct payments to the City of Providence in the last decade, in addition to tens of millions of dollars in fees.

Through its faculty expertise, technology resources, contributions to mentoring and training and direct financial support, Brown contributes extensive resources to the region that relieve tax burdens in a multitude of areas that rely on public funding. Community contributions that help bolster public resources include health clinics in urban communities, partnerships with government and civic organizations to address public health challenges and social determinants of health, and teacher training and placement of teaching assistants in public schools. Brown awarded \$1.7 million in scholarship support to Providence high school graduates in 2022 and also contributes an average of \$1 million in support to the Providence Public School District each year, in addition to tutoring and mentoring up to 5,000 students annually in K-12 public schools.

#### 2022 Voluntary Payments, Taxes and Fees:

- \$5.8M in voluntary payments and taxes to the City\*
- \$750K in transition payments to the City\*\*
- \$14M in utilities to the Providence Water Authority, National Grid and the Narragansett Bay Commission.

\*Brown makes voluntary payments through separate memoranda agreements with the City of Providence and pays taxes for its commercial properties.

\*\*Brown pays taxes during a lengthy transition period for tax-paying properties it acquires under its nonprofit status.