

Alumni Impact

Middle Tennessee State University



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Executive Summary

Established in 1911, Middle Tennessee State University was originally a two-year teachers college. Over the years, MTSU as an educational institution has grown in size and established a reputation for academic breadth and excellence. The University's programs are nationally recognized and regionally acclaimed at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels, and several specialized programs receive international recognition. MTSU has consistently been an influential part of the community and its economy. The quality of an MTSU education and the large number of MTSU graduates ensure an immense impact on the communities in which alumni live and work. In estimating the impact of MTSU alumni on both the state and local economies, this study analyzes core impact plus economic and extended economic contributions.

Major Study Findings:

Human Capital Formation by State

- ▶ A total of 114,906 MTSU alumni lived and worked in Tennessee in 2022.
- ► Georgia (4,013), Florida (3,616), Texas (2,488), and Alabama (2,453) have the largest MTSU alumni populations after Tennessee.

Human Capital Formation Within Tennessee

- ► From 2021 to 2022, MTSU alumni accounted for 52.4% of the human capital growth in Rutherford County, 11.5% of that in the Nashville MSA, and nearly 7.3% in Tennessee.
- ➤ Rutherford, Bedford, Cannon, Coffee, and Warren counties currently have the highest percentage of alumni among degree-holders at 41.69%, 45%, 37.61%, 35.18%, and 34.22%, respectively.
- ► Rutherford (32,501), Davidson (19,329), Williamson (10,019), Wilson (6,044), and Maury (4,434) counties have the highest number of alumni.

Core Impact

- Over \$4.79 billion in total business revenue was generated within Tennessee by the added value of MTSU degrees earned.
- ➤ The Nashville, Memphis, and Knoxville MSAs had additional total business revenue of \$3.64 billion, \$183 million, and \$167 million, respectively.
- ► Rutherford County and Davidson County benefitted the most, with over \$1 billion in total additional business revenue.

Economic Contributions

- Over \$12.9 billion in business revenue resulted from activities of MTSU alumni within Tennessee.
- MTSU alumni in Nashville, Knoxville, and Memphis MSAs generated \$9.7 billion, \$435 million, and \$430 million, respectively, in business revenue.
- Rutherford County had the highest total business revenue generated by MTSU alumni among counties with over \$3.5 billion, followed by Davidson County with over \$2.5 billion.

Extended Economic Contributions

- MTSU alumni, including alumni-owned businesses, generated over \$15.2 billion in business revenue within Tennessee.
- ► The Nashville, Knoxville, and Chattanooga MSAs had totals of \$11.3 billion, \$509 million, and \$504 million, respectively, in total business revenue impact by MTSU alumni and their businesses.
- ▶ Rutherford County had the highest total business revenue generated by MTSU alumni (including that generated by alumni-owned businesses) at over \$4.1 billion, followed by Davidson County (\$2.9 billion).



I. Introduction

Since its beginning in 1911 as a two-year teachers college, MTSU has attained university status, increased its campus size to 500-plus acres, and graduated more than 120,000 students. It has also grown in reputation for academic breadth and excellence. The University houses eight undergraduate colleges with nearly 40 departments and more 200 undergraduate majors and concentrations. The College of Graduate Studies offers more than 100 degree programs. MTSU's programs are nationally recognized and regionally acclaimed at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels. Several unique, specialized programs receive international recognition, including Concrete Industry Management, Horse Science, Recording Industry, and Aerospace. MTSU is a regional leader in quality programs such as agricultural science, education, and nursing. Additionally, MTSU has garnered national acclaim from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and the Chronicle of Higher Education has recognized MTSU for the number of Fulbright Scholars it produces.

Middle Tennessee State University has consistently been an influential part of the community. From 2018 to 2021, the University spent over \$210 million on new projects such as the Academic Classroom Building and the School of Concrete and Construction Management. The \$147 million Science Corridor of Innovation includes a renowned Science Building and serves as a beacon of the state's and the University's dedication to science and technology education. As the state's top university for adult learners and the largest producer of graduates among the locally governed institutions, with 4,942 degrees conferred in the 2022–23 academic year, MTSU is helping the state reach its goal to increase the percentage of postsecondary degrees among Tennesseans to 55% by 2025. MTSU has an estimated economic impact of \$1.42 billion and supports almost 11,500 jobs in the state economy. Considering the overall impact of an MTSU education on the local community and state economy, this study aims to specifically measure the impact of MTSU alumni on the regional, state, and local economies. This is an update of a similar study completed in 2018.

This study aims to answer:

- What impact does the difference in potential earning power between high school and MTSU graduates have on Tennessee's economy?
- ▶ What is the economic impact of MTSU alumni's income?
- How do entrepreneurial alumni impact the regional economy?

The study is organized as follows: a short review of the literature on similar studies, describing their methodologies and their relevance to the current study; an explanation of the methodology used in this study followed by a discussion on MTSU's economic role in Tennessee and the Nashville MSA in the context of migration



trends; a description of the alumni population and its distribution at the national and global levels and an exploration of the dynamics of alumni who remain in Tennessee including county-level distribution. It also includes the results from the impact analysis for the study area followed by a summary of the findings.

II. Study Goals and Methodology

Literature Review

Examining the value a university degree delivers to individuals and the broader state and local economies has garnered significant attention in recent years. Campuses are striving to boost enrollment while also highlighting their community impact. This data underscores the advantages of an education from their institution for potential students and strengthens their economic ties within the community. Economic studies frequently note that, on average, individuals with a bachelor's degree earn more than their peers in the same field who possess only a high school diploma. In one such study, titled "What Colleges Do for Local Economies: A Direct Measure Based on Consumption," the researcher concluded that, on average, an American household with a bachelor's degree holder earned \$84,628 pre-tax and spent \$31,568 locally, while the average household with a high-school diploma holder earned \$40,260

pre-tax and spent \$18,806 locally. In a 2020 case study titled "The Economic Impact of Indiana University," the research team found that its alumni produced more than \$7 billion in added income for the state economy in FY 2018–19. They also found that the average bachelor's degree graduate from IU will see an increase in earnings of \$22,500 each year compared to a person with a high school diploma working in Indiana, showing the degree increases an individual's salary and positively impacts the state economy.

As suggested in the literature, BERC considered alumni wages and entrepreneurial activities in its impact assessment. A

Harvard study revealed the school's alumni founded 146,429 businesses, generating annual revenue of \$1.9 trillion and

employing nearly 11 million people within the U.S.
In another case study by Tripp Umbach, "The Economic Impact of the University of Nebraska System," the researchers found that graduates who

that on average, individuals with a bachelor's degree earn more than their peers in the same field who possess only a high school

diploma.

stayed in Nebraska maintained an economic impact of \$2.9 billion on the state's economy in 2021. The study also concluded that former students who remained in the state had supported an additional 30,416 jobs. Researchers in a 2021 study titled "The Impact of the California State University" found that the spending power of CSU alumni supported nearly 474,000 jobs, \$88.3 billion in industry activity, and almost \$6 billion in state and local tax revenue. In a 2022 case study titled "Economic and Community Impacts of the University of Missouri-St. Louis," it was estimated that alumni from the UMSL generated \$13.4 billion for the state economy the previous year. Each of these studies shows how vital university alumni are to the community and the state, with graduates generating thousands of jobs and millions in revenue.

Modeling Approach and Methodology

- **Economic Impact.** This refers to activities that are new to the local economy. In measuring the impact of an entity (government, business, organization), researchers calculate the number of jobs and variety of industries, plus business revenue stimulated by the entity's spending. Impact assessments often distinguish between direct, indirect, and induced effects to give a complete picture of obvious and less apparent effects on the economy.
- ► **Economic Contribution.** This captures an entity or activity's overall presence in the regional economy; it may include existing economic activities.



MTSU ALUMNI IMPACT 8 MTSU ALUMNI IMPACT 9

- IMPLAN Model. BERC uses this nationally recognized inputoutput model to estimate the indirect and induced effects of economic activities.
- Alumni Purchasing Power. BERC retrieved data through a comprehensive alumni survey in addition to obtaining alumni statistics by location from the MTSU Alumni Office website.

 BERC calculated median wages for bachelor's and above degree holders for each Tennessee county. Total purchasing power of MTSU alumni was calculated by multiplying the median wage for each county by the number of MTSU alumni. Using median wages rather than the mean eliminated the influence of outliers in smaller geographies and using the mid-point wage kept estimates conservative. BERC assumes retirees constitute a sizable portion of the alumni population.

Conceptual Framework

In analyzing the economic and fiscal impact and contribution of MTSU alumni to regional economies, BERC reported business revenue, employment, and personal income associated with MTSU alumni spending. BERC assumed IMPLAN regional purchasing coefficients (RPC) accurately represented the current situation and that the difference between 100% local purchasing and default-model RPCs determined leakages to economies outside Tennessee.

Assessments Covered

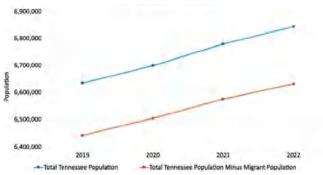
- Alumni Core Impact: BERC aimed to capture the value an MTSU degree adds to the state and local economies, using median wages earned by educational attainment level multiplied by the number of alumni to calculate the difference between economic contributions of MTSU alumni and those same individuals had they earned only a high school diploma.
- ▶ Alumni Contributions: BERC estimated the total earnings of MTSU alumni by multiplying the number of alumni by the median income for degree-holders in each area. BERC assumes income is equal to spending and the area of residence is the primary area of spending activity.
- literature suggests employees of alumni-owned businesses are a significant source of extended contributions. Keeping this in mind, BERC sought to calculate the estimated contribution of entrepreneurial alumni based on estimated numbers of entrepreneurial alumni and their employees from a recent alumni survey. BERC first calculated the percentage of MTSU alumni entrepreneurs from the recently concluded survey (i.e., 17.22%). Keeping a 10% margin of error with 99% confidence (i.e., 7.22%), BERC calculated the number of alumni entrepreneurs by each Tennessee county. Assuming that each entrepreneur generates employment by three counts, BERC

calculated the alumni entrepreneurs' employment generation by county followed by the total contribution of alumni entrepreneurs by county. The contribution of the alumni entrepreneurs is calculated by multiplying the number of total employments generated by alumni entrepreneurs with the average median wage by county.

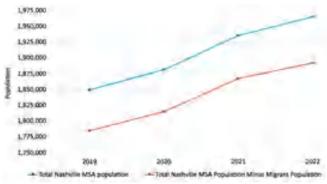
III. Migration Patterns and Human Capital Flow

The rapid economic growth of the Nashville area and its surrounding principal cities has led to an increasing migrant population from other states. For this study, the term migrants refer to U.S. citizens who have moved across state borders into Tennessee and its metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs). According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the total population of migrants in Tennessee increased from approximately 192,405 in 2019 to 212,167 in 2022. The growing popularity of Tennessee's cities is likely to continue with more of Tennessee's population consisting of migrants from out of state. This trend is especially obvious in Nashville MSA.

Migrant Patterns in Tennessee



Migrant Patterns in the Nashville MSA



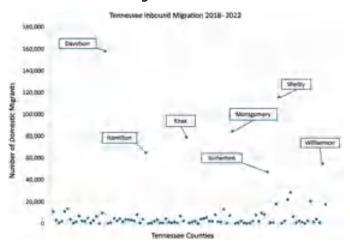
Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2022 ACS 5 Yr Data)

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To better understand where migrants are settling in Tennessee, BERC examined Census data corresponding to the state's inbound migration from 2018 to 2022. The counties that experienced significant inflows of migrants are Davidson (157,884), Shelby (116,068), Montgomery (84,873), Knox (79,291), Hamilton (65,279),

Tennessee Inbound Migration 2018-2022

Williamson (54,803), and Rutherford (47,457).



Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2022 ACS 5 Yr Data)

The growing influx of migrants has many effects on Tennessee's economy, including an increase in the competitiveness of the job market as more highly skilled people enter the workforce. In 2022, the percentage of people with a bachelor's degree for Tennesseans is 20%, which is 7 percentage points lower than the migrant population with a bachelor's degree, i.e., 27%. This difference is much lower than the difference in comparison with the previous study (2018), which found that migrant population with a bachelor's degree was 11 percentage points higher than the percentage of Tennesseans with a bachelor's degree.

The significant increase for Tennesseans with a bachelor's degree or higher reinforces the role MTSU has played as a higher education institution, especially in

terms of providing and enhancing the education of the state's residents. However, with Tennessee continuing to experience more

The significant increase for Tennesseans with a bachelor's degree or higher reinforces the role MTSU has played as a higher education institution.

population growth, it is apparent that migrants, on average, tend to be more educated than Tennessee's residents. Despite progress, this difference in educational attainment has serious implications. If the job market does not increase in tandem with the growing competitive population, residents will face difficulty in finding employment, especially in industries seeking skilled labor.

An increase in degree-holding applicants will lead employers to be more stringent in their requirements and selective in hiring. Markets favoring employers tend to keep wages low and

push candidates into positions for which they are overqualified. However, this competition would allow and attract industries to grow and thrive in Tennessee, particularly those requiring skilled labor, because of a capable and plentiful labor base. Those with the right qualifications will find Tennessee an attractive option for employment. As the competition for educated, skilled workers in the job market increases, so too will the importance of MTSU as it provides a vital learning environment for people from across the state.



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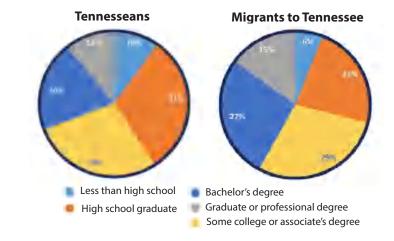
Regional Human Capital Flow Dynamics (2021-2022)

Population of Degree-Holders					MTSU Alu	imni	Migrants	
Region	2021	2022	Total Change	Growth Rate	Remaining	Change Associated	Inflow	Change Associated
Tennessee	1,434,835	1,485,116	51,281	3.57%	3,723	7,26%	2,837	5,53%
Nashville MSA	538,759	561,807	23,048	4.28%	2,644	11,47%	1,162	5,04%
Rutherford County	75,964	77,955	1,991	2.62%	1,043	52.39%	554	27.83%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Data, MTSU Alumni Association Data, MTSU IEPR Data, and BERC calculations.

Educational Attainment 2022

If migrants are anticipated to have a significant impact on the growth of human capital in Tennessee, what then is the impact of MTSU alumni? The table above illustrates the growth of the population holding a bachelor's degree or above in Tennessee, the Nashville MSA, and Rutherford County. MTSU alumni contribute immensely to this growth. As shown in the table, MTSU alumni accounted for 52.4% of the growth in Rutherford County's degree-holding population during the 2021–2022 period. Further, MTSU alumni constitute an 11.5% growth in Nashville's degree-holding population. Migrants, on the other hand, have accounted for 27.8% of the growth in Rutherford County and 5% of the growth in Nashville's degree-holding population.





III. Migration Patterns and Human Capital Flow

Total MTSU Alumni in U.S. (2022)

Region	MTSU Alumni	Percentage
Global (U.S.)	145,447	100%
Tennessee	114,906	79%
Nashville MSA	81,332	71%
Rutherford County	32,501	28%

Source: MTSU Alumni Association Data

Human Capital Formation

For the 2021–2022 academic year, Middle Tennessee State University conferred 3,783 undergraduate degrees and 877 graduate degrees. As of July 2022, nearly 79% of the total MTSU alumni population, or 114,906 of the 145,447 alumni globally, lived in Tennessee. The largest portion of alumni, i.e., 71%, live in the Nashville MSA, while 28% live in Rutherford County.

Within the U.S., MTSU alumni live in all 50 states. Apart from Tennessee, Georgia, with 4,013, has the highest MTSU alumni population followed by Florida (3,616) and Texas (2,488). Alumni tend to reside in larger counties across the U.S. As of 2022, excluding Tennessee, the U.S. has an MTSU alumni population of 30,541. Outside the U.S., MTSU is represented internationally by 2,734 alumni distributed across 133 countries.

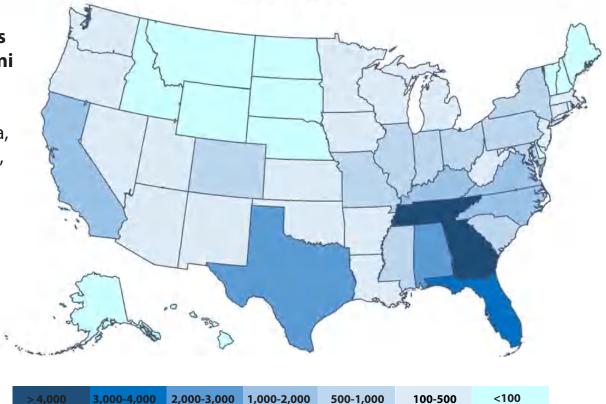
MTSU Alumni Population in U.S. (2022)

State	Alumni	State	Alumni	State	Alumni	State	Alumni	State	Alumni
Alabama	2,453	Hawaii	71	Massachusetts	223	New Mexico	126	South Dakota	35
Alaska	68	Idaho	89	Michigan	494	New York	577	Tennessee	114,906
Arizona	424	Illinois	76B	Minnesota	.197	North Carolina	1,566	Texas	2,488
Arkansas	426	Indiana	645	Miss ssippi	569	North Dakota	26	Litah	127
California	1,439	lowa	163	Missouri	558	Ohla	834	Vermont	26
Colorado	760	Kansas	183	Montana	68	Oklahoma	270	Virginia	1,346
Connecticut	128	Kentucky	1,507	Nebraska	54	Oregon	239	Washington	459
Delaware	64	Louisiana	373	Nevada	214	Pennsylvania	516	West Virginia	143
Florida	3,616	Maine	47	New Hampshire	71	Rhode Island	38	Wisconsin	188
Georgia	4,013	Maryland	917	New Jersey	212	South Carolina	986	Wyaming	37

Source: MTSU Alumni Association Data

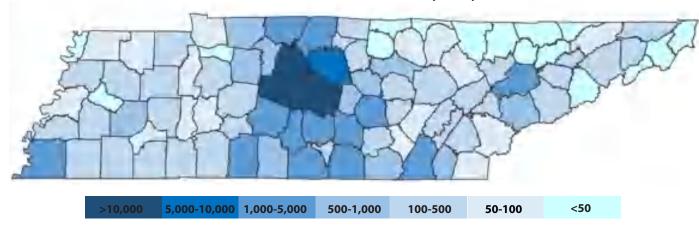
MTSU Alumni Population in US (2022)

The highest concentrations of MTSU alumni are found in Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Texas, Kentucky, North Carolina, California, Virginia, South Carolina, and Ohio.



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MTSU Alumni in TN Counties (2022)



Within Tennessee, most of the MTSU graduates stay in the Middle Tennessee Region, not surprising, since counties in and around the Nashville MSA are some of the fastest growing and host an array of opportunities for recent graduates. In 2022, Rutherford County had the largest number of MTSU alumni residents, 32,501. Davidson follows closely behind with 19,329. Williamson, Wilson, and Maury

counties are next with 10,019, 6,044, and 4,434, respectively. In addition, Bedford County had the largest proportion of resident alumni as a percentage of the degree-holding population at 45.08% followed by Rutherford, Cannon, Coffee, and Warren counties with 41.69%, 37.61%, 35.18%, and 34.22% respectively.

MTSU Alumni as Percent of Degree-Holding Population by County (2022)

County	Percent	County	Percent	County	Percent	County	Percent	County	Percent
Anderson	2.43%	Decatur	5.38%	Henderson	5.57%	Maury	23.40%	Sequatchie	3.78%
Bedford	45.08%	DeKalb	20.62%	Henry	2.87%	McMinn	3.19%	Sevier	1.78%
Benton	6.06%	Dickson	9.97%	Hickman	19.88%	McNairy	6,09%	Shelby	1.43%
Bledsoe	4.31%	Dyer	2.58%	Houston	7.25%	Meigs	4,67%	smith	13.95%
Biolint	7.29%	Fayette	2.17%	Humpfireys.	7.16%	Monroe	1.83%	Stewart	3.16%
Bradley	3.10%	Fentress	3.86%	Jackson	3 42%	Montgomery	2.23%	Sullivan	0.95%
Campbell	1.06%	Franklin	21.61%	Tefferson	1.51%	Maore	16.67%	Sumner	9.84%
Cannon	37.61%	Glbson	3.85%	Johnson	0.92%	Morgan	3.70%	Tipton	1.83%
Carroll	2.88%	Giles	16.13%	Knox	1.58%	Obion	2,39%	Trousdale	18,84%
Carter	0.49%	Grainger	1,18%	Lake	0,52%	Overton	3.23%	Unicol	0.79%
Cheatham	10.80%	Greene	1.18%	Lauderdale	4.57%	Perry	15.67%	Union	1,14%
Chester	3.41%	Grundy	20.88%	Lawrence	22.08%	Pickett	2.10%	Van Buren	24.00%
Claiborne	0.79%	Hamblen	1.54%	Lewis	31.74%	Palk	4.30%	Warten	34.22%
Clay-	7.08%	Hamilton	2.73%	Lincoln	25.71%	Putnam	3.52%	Washington	0.91%
Cocke	1.44%	Hancock:	1.36%	Toudon	2.33%	Rhea	2.53%	Wayne	16.02%
Coffee	35.18%	Hardeman	5.41%	Macon	12.42%	Roane	2,76%	Weakley	1.29%
Crockett	2./4%	Hardin	5.29%	Madison	4.68%	Robertson	10,87%	White	8.31%
Cumberland	4.35%	Hawkins	0.90%	Marion	16.07%	Rutherford:	41.69%	Williamson	9.49%
Davidson	7.95%	Haywood	7 62%	Marshall	27.67%	Scott	2.76%	Wilson	15.46%
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau Data, MTSU Alumni Association Data, and BERC calculations.

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IV. Economic Impact of MTSU Alumni

Core Impact

In 2022, MTSU alumni with bachelor's degrees in Tennessee generated over \$4.7 billion in added business revenue, \$3.2 billion in personal income, \$151.88 million in local and state taxes, and \$162.55 million in federal taxes and 127,069 jobs, including those held by MTSU alumni. The largest business revenue impact was seen in the Nashville MSA (\$ 3.6 billion), followed by Rutherford, Davidson, Williamson, Wilson, Sumner, Maury, Shelby, Hamilton, Coffee, and Knox counties.

Core Economic Impact of MTSU Alumni by MSA

Area	Total Employment Impact	Total Personal Income Impact	Total Business Revenue Impact	Total State and Local Tax Impact	Total Federal Tax Impact
Tennessee	127,069	\$3,234,226,766	\$4,791,253,897	\$151,886,907	\$162,558,141
Nashville MSA	90,433	\$2,458,231,545	\$3,646,914,305	\$115,878,680	\$126,389,982
Memphis MSA	3,979	\$116,491,611	5183,797,049	\$5,782,182	\$7,008,532
Knoxville MSA	4,247	\$109,763,179	\$167,927,683	\$5,415,037	\$6,264,369
Chattanooga MSA	3,686	\$107,968,191	\$164,808,525	\$5,511,542	\$5,799,024
Jackson MSA	1,328	\$28,495,920	541,691,216	\$1,374,786	\$1,222,830
Clarksville MSA	1,093	\$16,186,069	\$23,736,018	\$758,322	\$701,981
Cleveland MSA	707	\$11,072,708	\$16,064,980	\$555,137	\$487,259
Johnson City MSA	407	\$9,595,755	\$14,227,388	\$470,680	\$474,560
Kingsport MSA	399	58,040,349	\$11,774,676	\$368,601	\$403,932
Morristown MSA	279	\$4,455,389	\$6,255,992	\$181.381	\$175,969

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Data, MTSU Alumni Survey and BERC calculations.

In 2022, MTSU alumni with bachelor's degrees generated over \$4.7B in added business revenue in TN.

Core Economic Impact of MTSU Alumni by County

Davidson County 21,943 \$697,825,076 \$1,053,288,284 \$32,851,582 \$42,168 Williamson County 11,843 \$559,624,218 \$800,044,838 \$23,814,100 \$30,903 Wilson County 1,651 \$166,802,699 \$238,776,242 \$7,427,040 \$6,634 \$500,044,838 \$23,814,100 \$30,903 \$50,004 \$50,004 \$50,004 \$6,634 \$50,004 \$6,004 \$6,634 \$50,004 \$6,004 \$6,634 \$6,004 \$6,	Tennessee County	Total Employment Impact	Total Personal Income Impact	Total Business Revenue Impact	Total State and Local Tax Impact	Total Federal Tax Impact
Williamsum County 11,843 \$559,624,218 \$800,044,838 \$23,814,100 \$30,900 Wilson County 5,651 \$166,802,699 \$738,76,242 \$7,427,040 \$6,634 \$500,044,838 \$124,565,036 \$183,810,495 \$5,879,740 \$6,104 \$6,634 \$124,565,036 \$183,810,495 \$5,879,740 \$6,104 \$100,000 \$100	Rutherlord County	35,369	5706,098,877	51,072,108,427	536,935,700	\$33,035,200
Wilson County	Davidion County	21,943	\$692,825,076	51,053,288,284	\$32,851,582	\$42,168,900
Summer County 4,880 \$124,565,036 \$181,810,495 \$5,879,740 \$6,104 Maury County 4,882 \$174,108,058 \$175,972,384 \$5,692,290 \$4,915 She by County 3,619 \$107,406,347 \$171,577,991 \$5,429,980 \$6,746 Hamilton County 3,041 \$93,612,356 \$144,832,333 \$4,882,830 \$5,343 Coffee County 3,726 \$98,343,637 \$143,726,416 \$4,497,804 \$3,965 Knox County 2,502 \$76,402,826 \$121,717,458 \$4,074,260 \$5,032 Sectional County 2,889 \$49,025,028 \$69,547,011 \$7,194,299 \$1,824 Lincoln County 1,381 \$36,730,463 \$50,397,796 \$1,499,250 \$1,284 Robertsum County 1,266 \$26,425,981 \$36,847,532 \$1,193,648 \$866 Madisum County 943 \$22,157,812 \$32,979,624 \$1,126,880 \$1,005 Warren County 1,442 \$17,235,079 \$24,560,015 \$797,522 \$744 La	Williamson County	11,843	\$559,624,218	\$800,014,838	\$23,814,100	\$30,903,500
Maury Countly 4,882 \$174,108,058 \$175,577,384 \$5,692,290 \$4,915 She by Countly 3,619 \$107,406,347 \$171,577,991 \$5,429,980 \$6,766 Hamilton Countly 3,041 \$93,612,356 \$144,832,333 \$4,882,830 \$5,343 Coffice Countly 3,726 \$98,343,637 \$143,726,416 \$4,497,804 \$3,905 Knox Countly 2,502 \$76,402,826 \$121,717,458 \$4,074,260 \$5,037 Section Countly 2,889 \$49,025,028 \$69,547,011 \$2,194,299 \$1,824 Lincoln Countly 1,381 \$36,730,463 \$50,397,796 \$1,499,250 \$1,284 Roburtsun Countly 1,266 \$26,425,981 \$36,847,532 \$1,193,648 \$866 Madisun Countly 943 \$22,157,812 \$32,979,624 \$1,126,880 \$1,005 Warren Countly 1,442 \$17,235,079 \$24,560,015 \$797,522 \$744 Luwrence Countly 1,444 \$16,196,397 \$23,436,504 \$753,740 \$688	Wilson Enunty	6,651	5166,802,699	\$138,776,242	\$7,427,040	\$6,634,160
She by County 3,619 \$107,406,347 \$171,577,991 \$5,429,980 \$6,746 etamilton County 9,041 \$93,612,356 \$144,832,333 \$4,882,830 \$5,343 \$4,862,830 \$5,343 \$4,862,830 \$5,343 \$4,862,830 \$5,343 \$4,862,830 \$5,343 \$4,862,830 \$5,343 \$4,862,830 \$5,343 \$4,862,830 \$5,343 \$4,862,830 \$5,343 \$4,862,830 \$5,343 \$4,862,830 \$5,343 \$4,974,804 \$3,900 \$4,900 \$6,000 \$4,000 \$6,000 \$4,000 \$6,	Sunione County-	4,880	\$124,565,036	\$183,810,495	\$5,879,740	\$6,104,360
Hamilton County 9,041 \$93,612,356 \$144,832,333 \$4,882,830 \$5,343 Coffee County 9,726 \$98,343,637 \$143,726,416 \$4,497,804 \$3,905 \$100 \$60 \$1,005 \$100 \$1,726 \$143,726,416 \$4,074,260 \$5,037 \$143,726,416 \$2,074,260 \$5,037 \$1,000 \$1,000 \$1,381 \$36,730,463 \$50,397,796 \$1,499,250 \$1,284 \$1,000 \$1,381 \$36,730,463 \$50,397,796 \$1,499,250 \$1,284 \$1,000 \$1,266 \$26,425,981 \$36,847,537 \$1,193,648 \$866 \$1,005 \$1,	Maury County	4,882	\$124,108,058	\$175,577,384	\$5,692,290	\$4,919,510
Coffee County 3,726 \$98,343,637 \$143,726,416 \$4,497,804 \$3,905 Knox County 2,502 \$76,402,826 \$121,717,458 \$4,074,260 \$5,037 Bedford County 2,889 \$49,025,028 \$69,547,011 \$2,194,299 \$1,824 Lincoth County 1,381 \$36,730,463 \$50,397,796 \$1,499,250 \$1,284 Robertsum County 1,266 \$26,425,981 \$36,847,532 \$1,193,648 \$866 Madisum County 943 \$22,157,812 \$32,979,624 \$1,126,880 \$1,005 Warren County 1,442 \$17,235,079 \$24,560,015 \$797,522 \$744 Lawrence County 1,144 \$16,196,397 \$23,436,504 \$753,740 \$688 Miuntgomery County 1,034 \$15,623,920 \$28,011,935 \$740,595 \$690 Cannon County 772 \$14,731,820 \$19,273,392 \$491,153 \$393	Shelby County	3,619	\$107,406,347	\$171,577,991	\$5,429,980	\$6,748,920
Know County 2,502 \$76,402,826 \$121,717,458 \$4,074,260 \$5,032 \$560 \$5,032 \$560 \$60 \$60 \$60 \$60 \$60 \$60 \$60 \$60 \$60 \$	Hamilton County	9,041	\$93,612,356	\$144,832,333	\$4,882,830	\$5,343,670
Sedical County 2,889 \$49,025,028 \$69,547,011 \$2,194,299 \$1,824 Lincoln County 1,381 \$36,730,463 \$50,397,796 \$1,499,250 \$1,284 Robertsum County 1,266 \$26,425,981 \$36,847,532 \$1,193,648 \$866 Madisum County 943 \$22,157,812 \$32,979,624 \$1,126,880 \$1,005 Warren County 1,442 \$17,235,079 \$24,560,015 \$797,522 \$784 Lawrence County 1,144 \$16,196,397 \$23,436,504 \$753,740 \$688 Minitignimity County 1,034 \$15,623,920 \$28,011,935 \$740,595 \$690 Cannon County 777 \$14,731,870 \$19,773,392 \$491,153 \$393	Coffee County	3,720	\$98,343,637	\$143,726,416	\$4,497,804	\$3,965,683
Lincoln County 1,381 \$36,730,463 \$50,397,796 \$1,499,250 \$1,286 Robertsum County 1,266 \$26,425,981 \$36,847,532 \$1,193,648 \$866 Madisum County 943 \$22,157,812 \$32,979,624 \$1,126,880 \$1,005 Warren County 1,442 \$17,235,079 \$24,560,015 \$797,572 \$7A6 Lawrence County 1,144 \$16,196,397 \$23,436,504 \$753,740 \$688 Minitgomery County 1,034 \$15,623,920 \$28,011,935 \$740,595 \$690 Connect County 777 \$14,731,870 \$19,773,392 \$491,153 \$393	Keros County	2,502	\$76,402,826	\$121,717,458	\$4,074,260	\$5,037,510
Robertsum County 1,266 \$26,425,981 \$36,847,532 \$1,193,648 \$866 Madison Chunty 943 \$22,157,812 \$32,979,624 \$1,126,880 \$1,005 Warren County 1,442 \$17,235,079 \$24,560,015 \$797,572 \$784 Luwrence County 1,144 \$16,196,397 \$23,436,504 \$753,740 \$686 Montgomery County 1,074 \$15,623,920 \$28,011,935 \$740,595 \$690 Connon County 772 \$14,731,820 \$19,273,392 \$491,153 \$393	sedford County	2,889	\$49,025,028	\$69,547,011	\$2,194,299	\$1,824,648
Madisun Crumity 943 \$22,157,812 \$32,979,624 \$1,126,880 \$1,005 Warren County 1,442 \$17,235,079 \$24,560,015 \$797,522 \$74 Luwrence County 1,144 \$16,196,397 \$23,436,504 \$753,740 \$686 Muntgommy County 1,074 \$15,623,920 \$28,011,935 \$740,595 \$690 Cannon County 772 \$14,731,820 \$19,273,392 \$491,153 \$393	Lincoln County	1,381	\$36,730,463	\$50,397,796	\$1,499,250	\$1,284,960
Warren County 1,442 \$17,235,079 \$24,560,015 \$797,522 \$7A4 Luwrence County 1,144 \$16,196,397 \$23,436,504 \$753,740 \$688 Muntgomery County 1,034 \$15,623,920 \$28,011,935 \$740,595 \$690 Cannon County 772 \$14,731,820 \$19,773,392 \$491,153 \$393	Robertson County	1,266	\$26,425,981	\$36,847,532	51,193,648	5866,032
Lawrence County 1,144 \$16,196,397 \$23,436,504 \$753,740 \$688 Miningnining County 1,034 \$15,623,920 \$28,011,935 \$740,595 \$690 Cannon County 777 \$14,731,870 \$19,773,392 \$491,153 \$393	Madisun Chunty	943	\$22,157,812	532,979,624	\$1,126,880	\$1,005,940
Mintgnining County 1,034 \$15,623,920 \$23,011,935 \$740,595 \$690 Cannon County 777 \$14,731,870 \$19,773,392 \$491,153 \$393	Warren County	1,442	517,235,079	\$74,560,015	\$797,572	5744,358
Cannon County 777 \$14,731,870 \$19,273,392 \$491,153 \$393	Lawrence County	1,144	\$16,196,397	523,436,504	5753,740	\$688,790
	Montgomery County	1,034	\$15,623,920	528,011,935	\$740,595	\$690,295
Cheithum County 796 \$13,698,483 \$18,098,417 \$482,957 \$355	Cannon County	772	514,731,820	\$19,273,392	\$491,153	\$393,184
	Cheatham County	796	\$13,698,483	518,098,417	\$482,957	\$355,299
DeKalb County 682 \$13,194,384 \$48,004,283 \$471,657 \$468	DeKalli County	682	\$13,194,384	\$18,004,283	5471,657	\$468,900
All Other Counties 16,264 \$259,418,269 \$360,642,520 \$10,649,880 \$9,374	All Other Counties	16,264	\$259,418,269	\$360,642,520	\$10,649,880	\$9,374,313

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Data, MTSU Alumni Survey and BERC calculations.

Economic Contributions

The following tables show the overall economic contribution of MTSU alumni with bachelor's degrees at the county and MSA levels. MTSU alumni have a large impact in the Nashville MSA, with 105,795

jobs supported and a total business revenue of over \$9.7 billion. The 10 counties with the highest alumni-generated revenue are Rutherford, Davidson, Williamson, Wilson, Sumner, Maury, Shelby, Hamilton, Coffee, and Knox counties.

Overall Economic Contribution of MTSU Alumni by MSA

Area	Total Employment Impact	Total Personal Income Impact	Total Business Revenue Impact	Total State and Local Tax Impact	Total Federal Tax Impact
Tennessee	147,810	58,737,735,343	\$12,927,911,411	\$411,975,115	\$428,258,960
Nashville MSA	105,795	\$6,537,009,474	\$9,710,639,997	\$311,343,959	\$329,350,642
Knoxville MSA	4,986	\$286,895,279	\$435,144,173	\$13,947,150	\$15,873,125
Memphis MSA	4,699	\$273,608,424	\$430,934,391	\$13,552,941	\$16,365,411
Chattanooga MSA	4,310	\$254,394,915	\$387,475,287	\$12,969,235	\$13,502,492
Jackson MSA	1,526	\$78,485,467	\$114,616,728	\$3,733,053	\$3,318,864
Clarksville MSA	1,273	\$63,167,272	\$92,556,658	\$2,953,007	\$2,730,052
Cleveland MSA	825	\$39,160,812	\$56,682,789	\$1,946,644	\$1,704,841
Johnson City MSA	472	\$24,864,232	\$36,844,212	\$1,217,469	\$1,225,912
Kingsport M5A	459	\$23,072,578	\$33,610,967	\$1,039,972	\$1,128,986
Marristown MSA	317	\$15,249,657	\$21,371,731	\$616,634	\$591,654

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Data, MTSU Alumni Survey and BERC calculations.

Overall Economic Contribution of MTSU Alumni by County

Tennessee County	Total Employment Impact	Total Personal Income Impact	Total Business Revenue Impact	Total State and Local Tax Impact	Total Federal Tax Impact
Rutherford County	41,901	\$2,313,972,955	\$3,513,431,255	\$121,043,000	\$108,260,000
Davidson County	75,557	\$1,650,968,339	\$2,509,934,572	578,283,717	\$100,486,429
Williamson County	13,702	51,130,144,595	\$1,633,842,175	548,091,300	\$62,408,700
Wilson County	7,758	\$470,765,583	\$673,895,804	\$20,961,300	\$18,723,500
Summer County	5,779	5350,823,296	\$517,681,410	516,559,700	\$17,192,200
Maury County	5,611	\$325,816,290	5460,923,670	\$14,943,800	\$12,915,000
Shelliy County	4,299	\$249,404,302	\$398,414,895	\$12,608,900	\$15,671,400
Hamilton County	3,588	\$214,880,524	\$332,451,208	\$11,228,800	\$12,245,300
Coffee County	4,234	\$224,412,425	\$327,972,347	\$10,263,636	\$9,049,375
Knox County	3,006	5181,083,764	5288,484,817	\$9,656,500	\$11,939,400
Bedford County	3,237	\$152,848,612	\$216,831,372	\$6,841,311	\$5,688,828
Involvi County	1,555	\$94,509,948	\$129,676,914	\$3,859,680	\$3,306,300
Robertson County	1,431	\$79,895,830	\$110,706,976	\$3,586,270	\$2,601,960
Warren County	1,661	\$74,658,070	\$106,387,855	\$3,454,710	\$3,224,370
Franklin County	1,675	\$74,5/1,972	\$105,347,913	\$3,087,030	52,929,240
Manhall County	1,583	576,047,303	5101,806,440	\$2,802,560	51,998,700
Montgomery County	1,209	\$60,568,581	\$89,209,380	\$2,871,060	\$2,676,030
Lawrence County.	1,315	\$60,833,982	\$88,027,964	52,831,070	\$2,587,100
Madison County	1,093	\$56,776,163	\$84,431,058	\$2,884,930	52,575,320
Dickson County	951	549,333,771	\$70,360,697	\$1,983,340	52,091,420
All Other Counties	16,665	\$845,969,038	51,168,097,684	534,132,501	\$29,688,388

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Data, MTSU Alumni Survey and BERC calculations.

MTSU Alumni Impact in the Nashville MSA: 105,795 jobs supported \$9.7 billion total business revenue

MTSU ALUMNI IMPACT 22 MTSU ALUMNI IMPACT 23

Extended Economic Contributions

In Tennessee, total extended employment, including employees of MTSU alumni entrepreneurs, numbered 178,476, while total business revenue generated by alumni and their employees exceeded \$15.2 billion. The Nashville MSA remained the center of economic

activity with business revenue of over \$11.39 billion, followed by the Knoxville and Chattanooga MSAs. Rutherford County also remained the top county with a total business revenue of over \$4.14 billion followed by Davidson (\$2.95 billion) and Williamson counties (\$1.94 billion).

Extended Economic Contribution of MTSU Alumni Entrepreneurs by MSA

Area	Total Employment Impact	Total Personal Income Impact	Total Business Revenue Impact	Total State and Local Tax Impact	Total Federal Tax Impact
Tennessea	178,476	\$10,275,134,383	\$15,203,874,287	\$780,919,552	\$503,798,384
Nashville MSA	126,772	\$7,665,368,449	\$11,390,360,709	\$365,125,909	\$386,874,685
Knoxville MSA	6,009	\$336,066,886	\$509,747,431	\$16,340,368	\$18,597,373
Chattanooga MSA	6,153	\$334,517,793	\$504,597,193	\$16,818,948	\$16,946,414
Memphis MSA	5,652	\$318,626,581	\$501,881,132	\$312,163,091	\$19,064,100
Jackson MSA	1,982	\$96,823,659	\$141,540,643	\$4,622,981	\$4,109,715
Clarksville MSA	1,541	\$75,167,284	\$110,142,670	\$3,514,340	\$3,249,046
Cleveland MSA	997	\$46,328,357	\$67,057,670	\$2,302,976	\$2,016,917
Johnson City MSA	568	\$29,052,400	\$43,048,500	\$1,422,359	\$1,432,096
Kingsport MSA	553	\$27,032,137	539,372,572	\$1,217,802	\$1,321,632
Morristown MSA	385	\$18,002,596	525,228,144	\$727,778	\$698,017

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Data, MTSU Alumni Survey and BERC calculations.



Extended Economic Contribution of MTSU Alumni Entrepreneurs by County

Tennessee County	Total Employment Impact	Total Personal Income Impact	Total Business Revenue Impact	Total State and Local Tax Impact	Total Federal Tax Impact
Rutherford County	50,635	\$2,730,936,315	\$4,146,529,485	\$142,854,000	\$127,768,000
Davidson County	30,857	\$1,945,802,433	\$2,958,165,024	\$92,263,821	\$118,431,549
Williamson County	16,582	\$1,348,066,167	\$1,948,889,877	\$57,365,200	\$74,442,800
Wilson County	9,377	\$555,793,831	\$795,612,814	\$24,747,300	\$22,105,300
Sumner County	6,961	\$409,070,188	\$603,631,609	\$19,309,100	\$20,046,600
Shelby County	5,169	\$290,613,759	\$464,245,598	\$311,070,300	\$18,260,800
Maury County	5,645	\$327,439.313	\$463,219,723	\$15,018,300	\$12,979,300
Hamilton County	4,313	\$249,920,196	\$386,662,642	\$13,059,900	\$14,242,100
Coffee County	5,093	\$258,506,011	\$377,799,150	\$11,822,926	\$10,424,191
Knox County	3,617	\$212,164,858	\$338,000,151	\$11,313,900	\$13,988,700
Bedford County	3,914	\$178,892,235	\$253,776,911	\$8,006,990	\$6,658,139
Lincoln County	1,871	\$107,941,943	\$148,106,928	\$4,405,940	\$3,776,200
Robertson County	1,730	\$93,072.186	\$129,776,844	\$4,204,020	\$3,050,160
Franklin County	2,034	\$89,721,643	\$126,743,855	\$3,713,450	\$3,525,060
Warren County	2,010	\$88,074,653	\$125,506,516	\$4,075,540	\$3,803,810
Marion County	1,723	\$79,002,590	\$110,274,156	\$3,545,240	\$2,538,940
Madison County	1,457	\$71,428,501	\$106,313,975	\$3,632,640	\$3.242,800
Montgomery County	1,464	\$72,090,285	\$106,179,301	\$3,417,310	\$3,185,080
Marshall County	1,635	\$78,278,422	\$104,829,441	\$2,885,780	\$2,058,050
Lawrence County	1,590	\$71,599,188	\$103,605,429	\$3,332.050	\$3,044,920
All Other Counties	20,797	\$1,016,719,667	\$1,406,004,859	\$40,875,845	\$36,225,885

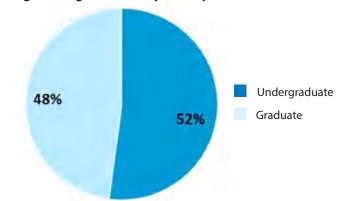
V. MTSU Alumni Survey: Selected Responses

As part of the MTSU alumni economic impact research, BERC conducted a short survey of MTSU alumni in the 2021-22 year.

Education Level and College Representation

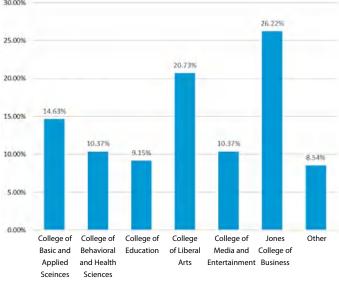
Among the total survey participants, 52% have an undergraduate degree, and 48% have a postgraduate degree. Out of all the participants who have earned their highest degree at MTSU, 71% obtained an undergraduate degree, and 29% obtained a postgraduate degree.

Highest Degree of Survey Participants



The survey participants include alumni from different MTSU colleges, including the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, the College of Behavioral and Health Sciences, the College of Education, the College of Graduate Studies, the College of Liberal Arts, the College of Media and Enterntainment, and the Jennings A. Jones College of Business. The highest number of survey participants are alumni from the Jones College of Business, with 26.22%, and the College of Liberal Arts, with 20.73%.

MTSU Alumni College Representation



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Data, MTSU Alumni Survey and BERC calculations.

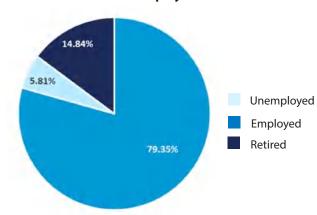
Income Level and Net Worth

Among the survey participants who have earned their highest degree from MTSU, the majority of them (27.62%) have income between \$50,000-\$99,000, 25.71% earn between \$100,000-\$149,000 and 18% have household income between \$150,000-\$199,000.

Employment and Industry

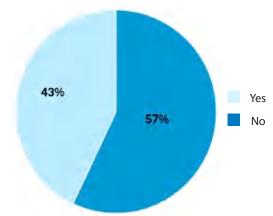
Among the survey participants, 79.3% are currently employed, 14.8% are retired, and 5.8% are looking for jobs. Among those employed, 54% have an undergraduate degree, and 46% hold a postgraduate degree.

MTSU Alumni Current Employment



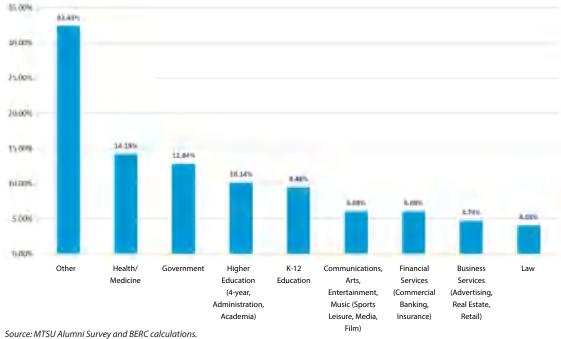
Source: MTSU Alumni Survey and BERC calculations.

Degree Related to Current Job



Source: MTSU Alumni Survey and BERC calculations.

MTSU Alumni Industry Representation



The top represented industries by the survey participants include health and medicine, government, higher education, K-12 education, and others.

MTSU Alumni Entrepreneurs

Of the survey respondents indicating yes to establishing any for-profit or not-for-profit organization or company, 24.5% have established a for-profit organization and 3.3% have established a not-for-profit organization. Further 16.6% are self-employed and 10.6% are employed through their startup and nonprofit. BERC has calculated the total alumni entrepreneurs by counting those who have either established a for-profit or not-for profit business, excluding the alumni who are self-employed in the startups or for-profit businesses. Further, using a conservative estimate of the 10% margin of error, BERC has calculated the adjusted percentage of alumni entrepreneurs. As shown in the table below, 7.22% is the alumni entrepreneurs rate among the survey participants. This conservative estimate has been used to calculate the core. economic, and extended contribution of MTSU alumni in this report.

Alumni Entrepreneur

Established for-profit/startup company	24.50%
Established not-for-profit company	3.30%
Self-employed	16.60%
Self-employed and startup	10.60%
Total entrepreneur	17.20%
Adjusted % of entrepreneurs*	7.22%

^{*} With 10% margin of error at 99% confidence

Source: MTSU Alumni Survey and BERC calculations.

Direct Investment

MTSU alumni are also making direct investment (18%) into startup companies and supporting crowdfunding initiatives. While 46% are directly investing through friends and family-owned start-ups, 7% are investing as venture capitalists.

Made a Direct Investment into a Startup Company

No	82%
Yes	18%
Not as Founder or Early Employee	39%
MTSU Affiliated Founder	7%
Friends and Family Contribution	46%
As a Venture Capitalist	7%

Source: MTSU Alumni Survey and BERC calculations.

Crowdfunding

Among the survey participants, 15% have also participated in some form of crowdfunding activities for some kind of business invention or products.

Early Employee, Developing New Product

Among the survey participants, 26% have worked as early employees in a company and 23% have worked on new business ventures or product developments.

Served on the Board of Directors

Among the participants, 12% have also served on official company boards with 61% of them on the board of directors.

Served on an Official Company Board

No		889
Yes		129
Board of Directors (Private Company)	619
Board of Directors (Public Company)	28%
Scientific Board		119

Source: MTSU Alumni Survey and BERC calculations.

Entrepreneurial Intention

The majority of the MTSU alumni (52%) are also interested in founding some sort of business initiative; 19% of them are seriously considering, while 16% are giving some thought to founding a new company or organization.

Considered Founding a New Company or Organization

No	489
Yes	52
I have spent a LITTLE time	17
I have spent A LOT of time	19
I have spent SOME time	16

Source: MTSU Alumni Survey and BERC calculations.

of survey participants have worked as early employees.

have worked on **new business** or **product developments**.



Select Open-Ended Responses

The survey included an open-ended response section, and seven broad clusters of suggestions emerged from the analysis of these responses. These clusters provide insight into how MTSU could better support innovative activities for students and alumni.

Mentorship and Networking

Several respondents highlighted the need for more structured mentorship programs that connect students and alumni with experienced professionals. One respondent suggested, "Create a formal mentoring program connecting undergrad/grads with alumni." Another emphasized the importance of "engaging mentorship programs connecting students and professionals as well as MTSU alumni."

Improved Communication and Alumni Engagement
A recurring theme was the need for better communication between the University and its alumni. One alumnus mentioned, "Communication with alumni is key," while another expressed the desire for consistent communication, saying, "Unless somebody at MTSU is soliciting money, we hear very little." This suggests a gap in ongoing, non-monetary engagement.

Support for Startups and Innovation Funding There were suggestions related to financial support for innovative activities, such as helping alumni and students access grants for startups or not-for-profit organizations. One respondent recommended that MTSU "help us obtain grants to start not-for-profit organizations," while another proposed "programs to match potential investors with inventors."

Career Services and Job Placement

The need for better job placement services was also mentioned, with a focus on connecting graduates to local organizations. For example, one respondent mentioned, "Do a better job of placing graduates in local organizations." Others suggested hosting job fairs and providing clearer pathways to career opportunities, especially for underrepresented groups.

Events and Competitions

The idea of hosting more innovation-related events on campus was another cluster. One respondent suggested that MTSU should "host conferences pertaining to various steps needed for successful innovation." Another mentioned providing "opportunities for innovative activities to take place on campus where there is a monetary prize or opportunity to intern with other innovators."

Alumni Centers and Physical Spaces

A few respondents emphasized the need for physical spaces where alumni can gather, perform research, and engage with the community. One suggested that "MTSU needs a physical center for alumni to gather, perform research, and give back to the community."

Educational Resources and Workshops

There were also calls for MTSU to offer more educational resources, such as online business classes or workshops on starting a business and managing taxes. One respondent mentioned the need for "online business classes on starting a business, taxes, etc."

VI. Conclusion and Future Directions

This study aimed to estimate the impact of an MTSU degree on the local and state economy. To understand the economic impact of an MTSU degree, this study looked at the potential purchasing power of a college degree compared to that of a high school diploma. It further looked at MTSU alumni entrepreneurial initiatives' impact on the state's economy. It uses the county-level distribution of MTSU alumni within the commonly used economic impact analysis model to measure the total economic impact of MTSU alumni. It is difficult to perfectly model the economic impact of a dynamic community such as MTSU alumni. Hence, this study is limited in its scope. However, within its limited scope, this study has implied several important trends.

This report has shown the necessity of a college education for the increasingly competitive Tennessee job market. The monetary value of a college degree from MTSU was established by showing that the earning potential of MTSU alumni is substantially higher than that of individuals holding only a high school diploma. MTSU alumni contribute immensely to the local and state economies through spending and business ownership. BERC examined the impact of the value of a degree from MTSU, the spending of alumni, and that of alumni plus their employees under three different lenses in this report, with the extended total revenue of MTSU alumni amounting to over \$15.2 billion. When measuring MTSU alumni's entrepreneurial activities, this project relied on data from a 2021–22 survey of MTSU alumni. Using the survey data of MTSU alumni regarding for-profit/not-for-profit business owners and self-employed alumni, BERC has estimated the MTSU alumni entrepreneurship rate at 7.22%, keeping the margin of error at 10%. This report quantifies overall economic contributions to local economies across Tennessee and provides a complete strategic assessment of MTSU graduates' role in Tennessee's occupational clusters and broader industrial clusters.

The study findings indicate that MTSU alumni have significantly contributed to Tennessee's growing workforce, especially in the top MSAs. The high concentration of MTSU alumni is in counties surrounding major cities and the state's largest MSAs—Nashville, Knoxville, Memphis, and Chattanooga. The total business revenue of the MTSU alumni in the top 20 counties accounts for 89% of MTSU



alumni's total business revenue in Tennessee. Rutherford County, with the highest total extended business revenue, accounted for 22% of MTSU alumni-generated business revenue in Tennessee. The MSAs combined represent 89.27% of MTSU alumni's total business revenue in the state in terms of core economic contributions.

In 2022, the total business revenue of alumni in the top 20 counties (including that generated by alumni-owned businesses) accounted for 91% of MTSU alumni's total business revenue impact in Tennessee. The total business revenue generated by MTSU alumni in the Nashville MSA accounted for 75% of MTSU alumni's total business revenue impact in Tennessee, while MTSU alumni in Rutherford County alone represented 27% of MTSU alumni's total business revenue impact in Tennessee.

In terms of future direction, BERC suggests that the periodic study of MTSU alumni is important for a better understanding of the economic contribution of an MTSU degree. Also, as suggested by the MTSU alumni survey, structured mentorship and networking programs should be developed among alumni and current students to foster connectivity, engagement, and business innovation. As the survey findings indicate, there is a greater need to develop a supportive environment for startups and innovation as part of an MTSU education.

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VIII. Appendix MTSU Alumni Core Economic Contributions by County

County	Employment	Personal Income	Business Revenue	Taxes
Anderson	367	\$8,125,666	\$11,558,867	\$19,694,533
Bedford	2,889	\$49,025,028	569,547,011	5118,572,039
Benton	94	\$3,109,752	\$4,335,387	\$7,445,139
Riedsoe	57	5971,439	\$1,219,414	52,110,853
Bloum	646	510,975,861	515,427,436	\$26,403,297
Bradley	630	\$10,200,591	\$14,932,053	\$25,132,644
Campbell	42	\$506,105	\$698,423	51,204,528
Cannon	172	\$14,731,820	519,273,392	\$34,005,212
Carroll	120	\$1,766,357	\$2,509,561	\$4,275,918
Carter	-47	5686,619	\$930,591	\$1,617,210
Choatham	796	513,698,483	518,098,417	531,796,900
Chester	71	51,169,932	\$1,576,668	\$2,746,600
Chibome	38	5376,558	5521,178	\$897,736
Clay	50	5580,112	\$770,678	\$1,350,790
Cocke	48	5500,914	\$691,198	\$1,192,112
Coffee	1.726	598,343,637	\$143,726,416	5242,070,053
Crockett	43	5604,106	\$789,879	\$1,393,985
Cumberland	394	53,986,718	\$5,736,403	59,723,121
Davidson	71,943	\$692,825,076	\$1,053,288,284	\$1,746,113,360
Decatur	79	51,580,274	52,116,282	\$3,696,556
DeKalb	687	513,194,384	518,004,283	\$31,198,667
Dickson	804	511,340,115	\$16,173,473	\$27,513,588
Dyer	163	55,194,122	57,279,911	\$17,424,033
Fayette	198	\$6,310,014	\$8,508,628	514,818,642

County	Employment	Personal Income	Business Revenue	Taxes
Fentress	-94	\$7,438,270	53,375,609	\$5,813,879
Franklin	1,463	511,762,087	\$16,515,526	528,377,613
Cibsor	271	54,564,070	\$6,345,045	510,909,115
Gles	720	\$11,705,645	\$16,553,813	\$28,259,458
Grainger	31	\$634,807	5814,375	\$1,449,187
Grirone	11/	52,001,609	52,849,079	\$4,850,688
Crundy-	301	57,419,197	510,124,515	517,543,712
Hamblen	143	\$2,540,166	\$3,636,198	\$6,176,364
Hamilton	3,041	593,612,356	5144,832,333	5238,444,689
Hamurck	1	5123,301	\$158,044	5281,345
Hardeman	107	\$472,464	\$629,562	\$1,102,026
Hardin	168	\$837,131	\$1,185,178	\$2,022,259
Hawkire-	68	5779,942	\$1,026,852	\$1,806,794
Haywood	125	52,353,797	53,188,431	\$5,542,228
Hender son	164	52,997,958	\$4,185,625	\$7,183,583
History	176	\$1,715,717	\$2,433,740	\$4,149,457
Hickman	499	511,056,324	\$14,365,364	525,421,688
Houston	17	\$165,603	5222,677	\$388,280
Humphrays	112	\$1,312,065	\$1,767,932	\$3,079,997
Jackson	45	\$782,597	\$1,001,267	\$1,783,864
Hittieson	146	51,915,223	52,619,794	\$4,535,017
Jöhnson	-20	5349,575	\$474,997	\$824,572
Knac-	7,502	575,402,826	\$121,717,458	\$198,120,284
Lakon		\$71,699	\$91,481	\$163,180

County	Employment	Personal Income	Business Revenue	Taxes
Lauderdale	85	\$322,433	5433,684	\$756,117
Lawrence	1,144	\$16,196,397	523,436,504	\$39,632,901
Levyis	306	\$9,037,318	512,/15,/43	521./53,061
lincoln	1.381	\$36,710,461	\$50,397,795	587,128,259
Inadon	299	56,785,260	\$9,308,553	\$16,093,813
Mircon	215	\$2,672,630	\$3,746,362	\$6,418,992
Madison	943	\$22,157,812	532,979,624	555,137,436
Marion	555	\$12,028,019	\$16,789,066	\$28,817,085
Marshall	1,421	\$13,023,296	\$17,434,615	\$30,457,911
Maury	-4,887	\$124,108,058	5175,572,384	\$299,680,442
M: Minn	778	54,183,323	\$5,910,823	\$10,094,146
McNairy	142	51,855,790	\$2,540,662	\$4,396,452
Mirigs	51	5219,427	\$275,598	\$495,025
Monroe	101	5794,514	\$1,103,548	51,898,062
Mentgomery	1,034	\$15,623,920.	\$73,011,935	\$38,635,855
Moore	199	\$6,592,804	58,334,511	\$14,927,115
Margan	78	51,595,717	\$1,993,784	53,589,501
Obion	98	\$1,668,480	\$2,426,692	\$4,095,172
Overfore	82	51,713,670	52,385,987	54,099,657
Perry	97	\$88,217	\$119,008	\$207,225
Pickett	16	5323,748	5421,475	5745,223
Polk	27	5872,117	\$1,132,927	52,005,044
Putram	593	510,614,424	\$15,603,157	\$26,217,581
Rhea	109	51,683,269	52,283,101	53,966,370

Taxes	Business Revenue	Personal Income	Employment	unty
\$10,823,355	56,223,182	\$4,600,173	250	sarje.
\$63,273,513	\$36,847,532	526,425,981	1,260	durtson:
\$1,778,207,304	51,072,108,427	5706,098,877	35,369	nharford
52,772,069	\$1,612,726	51,159,343	48	ott-
55,514,947	\$3,187,126	52,827,816	90	guan ble
\$12,325,284	\$7,267,164	\$5,058,120	281	vier
\$278,984,338	5171,577,991	5107,406,347	1,619	el by
57,387,215	\$4,269,664	53,117,551	351	sish-
\$1,285,232	5724,083	\$562,149	59	mert-
518,008,231	\$10,747,824	57,260,407	331	llivan
\$308,375,531	\$183,810,495	\$124,565,036	4,880	meer
\$6,485,680	\$3,710,430	\$2,775,250	162	pton
52,704,108	\$1,539,431	51,164,677	192	ousdal -
51,125,889	5625,627	\$500,262	20	icai
\$312,369	5175,605	\$135,764	22	non
51,233,438	\$671,358	\$562,080	131	iri Burion
\$41,795,094	\$24,560,015	\$17,215,079	1,442	arren
\$71,080,044	\$12,671,170	\$8,408,874	340	ashington
59,842,201	\$5,564,708	54,277,493	261	ayne
\$1,324,758	5773,486	\$551,272	61	nakley
511,415,836	\$6,518,756	54,897,080	7.45	Ni bo
\$1,368,669,056	5889,044,838	5559,624,218	111,843	Illiamster
\$405,578,941	5238,776,242	5166,802,699	6,651	Hadri

MTSU Alumni Overall Economic Contribution	ons by County

County	Employment	Personal income	Business Revenue	Taxes
Anderson	420	\$22,756,244	\$32,399,064	\$1,794,110
Bedford	3,237	\$152,848,612	\$216,831,372	\$12,530,139
Benton	104	\$6,251,582	58,715,496	\$460,562
Bledsoe	60.	\$2,613,024	\$3,280,039	\$116,719
Blumm	748	\$40,383,626	\$56,762,361	\$3,574,319
Bradley	741	\$35,262,199	\$51,618,283	\$3,439,548
Campbell	47	\$2,112,519	\$2,915,268	\$157,609
Cannon	855	\$48,717,643	\$63,736,469	52,924,473
Carroll	136	56,140,179	58,723,694	\$485,036
Carter	52	52,238,525	\$3,033,925	\$154,444
Cheatham.	888	\$49,430,250	\$65,307,176	53,024,804
Chester	79	\$4,092,810	\$5,515,707	5278,752
Claiborne	.43	\$1,882,746	\$2,505,828	\$145,191
Clay	54	\$2,254,656	\$2,995,321	\$146,008
Cocke	53	\$2,180,585	\$3,000,932	\$166,453
Cultee	4,234	\$724,412,425	5327/972.347	\$19,313,011
Crnckett	147	52,330,276	\$3,046,879	\$146,255
Cumberland	453	\$20,257,986	\$29,148,779	51,828,180
Davinson	25,557	\$1,650,968,339	\$2,509,934,572	\$178,770,146
Decatur	87	54,231,329	\$5,666,540	\$268,333
DeKalb	751	≤39,455,168	553,838,207	52,812,577
Dirkson	951	549,333,771	\$70,360,697	\$4,074,760
Diet	186	511,647,174	\$15,717,178	5978,805
Favette	718	\$13,896,795	\$18,738,893	5924,012

County	Employment	Personal Income	Business Revenue	Taxes
Emitems	102	\$5,089,052	\$7,045,426	5401,930
Franklin	1,675	574371972	\$105,347,913	\$6,016,270
Gibson	307	\$15,336,218	\$21,623,084	\$1,166,660
Gles-	815	\$39,925,997	\$56,462,285	53,111,040
Gratinger	54	\$1,625,175	\$2,084,891	\$81,694
Greene	132	\$6,189,976	\$8,810,777	\$506,066
Grandy	826.	\$16,755,200	\$22,864,775	51,104,870
Hamblen	164	\$8,050,868	\$11,524,657	\$725,501
Hamilton-	3,588	5214,880,524	\$332,451,208	\$23,474,100
Hancock	.8	\$317,802	5407,350	\$15,161
Härdemän	119	\$4,541,010	\$6,050,931	5260,309
Haridin	193	57,733,260	510,948,000	\$615,069
Hawkins	75	53.327,826	54,374,750	5186,768
Haywood	1.39	\$6,576,371	58,908,290	\$442,190
Henderson	18).	59,955,546	\$13,899,524	\$776,833
Henry-	155	\$6,911,465	\$9,803,896	\$587,448
Mickman	-542	\$28,388,398	\$37,166,590	\$1,786,970
Houston	18	\$807,911	\$1,086,351	354,800
Humphreys	189	57,084,804	59.546,371	\$502,801
Jackson	87	\$2,093,185	\$2,678,052	\$107,592
Jeffers on	153	57,198,789	\$9,847,074	\$482,787
Johnson	7.2	5924,444	\$1,256,120	\$59,227
Knox	3,006	5181,083,764	\$288,484,812	521,595,900
late	4	\$185,256	\$236,368	\$9,119

County	Employment	Personal Income	Business Revenue	Taxes
Läuderdale	95	53,979,997	\$5,353,231	\$9,233,228
Lawrence	1,315	\$60,833,982	588,027,964	5148,861,946
lewis	\$15	\$18,346,419	525,813,891	\$44,160,310
Lincoln	1,555	\$94,509,948	\$129,676,914	\$224,186,862
Loudon	337	\$19,197,480	\$26,336,613	\$45,534,093
Macon	.241	\$10,949,744	\$15,348,819	\$26,298,563
Madison	1,093	\$56,726,163	584,431,058	\$141,157,221
Marian	625	\$34,594,074	548,287,435	\$82,881,509
Marshall	1,583	\$76,047,103	\$101,806,440	\$177,853,743
Maury	5,611	\$325,816,290	\$460,923,670	\$786,739,960
McMino	263	\$13,955,347	\$19,718,197	533,673,544
McNairy	159	\$7,481,267	510,242,202	\$17,723,469
Moigs	55	53,307,750	52,898,499	\$5,205,249
Monroe	145	\$4,910,015	56,819,814	\$11,729,829
Montgomery	1,209	\$60,568,581	\$89,209,380	5149,777,961
Moore -	210	\$13,579,748	\$17,166.876	530,746,624
Morgan	84	\$4,561,485	\$5,699,393	\$10,260,878
Obion	113	\$5,448,990	57,925,190	513,374,180
Overton	92	54,711,303	56,559,669	\$11,270,972
Perry	108	54,023,782	\$5,428,233	\$9,452,015
Pickest.	17	5776,996	\$1,011,541	\$1,788,537
Polk	84	\$3,898,613	\$5,064,506	\$8,963,119
Putnam	695	\$34,740,378	\$51,068,201	585,808,579
Rhea	121	\$5,899,167	58,001,330	\$13,900,497

County	Employment	Personal Income	Business Revenue	Taxes
Roane	286	314,198,729	\$19,208,249	\$33,406,978
Robertson	1,431	\$79,395,830	\$110,706,976	\$190,102,806
Rutherford	41,901	\$2,313,972,955	53,513,431,255	55,827,404,210
Scott	52	\$2,536,062	\$3,527,838	\$6,063,900
Sequitchie.	97	\$4,970,317	\$6,736,644	511,656,951
Sevier	317	514,865,727	521,358,070	536,223,797
shelby	4,299	5249,404,307	\$398,414,895	\$647,819,197
Smith	398	\$18,721,594	\$25,640,295	\$44,361,889
Stewart	64	52,598,691	\$3,347,278	\$5,945,969
Sullivan	384	\$19,749,752	\$29,236,217	548,985,969
Summer	5,779	5350,823,296	\$517,681,410	5868 504,706
lipton	182	\$10,307,327	\$13,780,603	\$24,087,930
Trousdate	181	\$9,581,186	\$12,664,089	522,245,275
Unicol	22	\$1,107,963	\$1,385,618	\$2,493,581
Unition	74	\$976,257	51,253,522	52,339,779
Van Buren	126	\$4,909,356	\$5,863,818	\$10,773,174
Wairin	1,661	\$74,658,070	5106,387,865	5181,045,935
Washington	398	\$21,519,744	\$32,424,669	\$53,942,413
Wayoe	783	\$13,300,617	\$17,303,137	\$30,603,754
Weakley	69	52,913,841	\$4,088,385	57,002,226
White	270	\$13,252,441	\$17,641,011	530,893,452
Williamson	13,702	\$1,130,144,595	\$1,633,847,175	52,763,986,770
Wilson	1,758	\$470,765,583	5673,895,804	\$1,144,661,387

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MTSU Alumni Entrepreneur Extended Economic Contribution by County

County	Employment	Personal Income	Business Revenue	Taxes	County	Employment	Personal income	Business Revenue	Taxes
Anderson	507	\$26,597,779	517,868,427	\$2,096,978	Fentres s	123	\$5,771.013	\$7,989,551	\$455,790
Bedford:	3,914	\$178,892,235	\$253,776,911	514,665,129	Franklin	2,034	\$89,721,643	\$126,743,855	\$7,238,510
Beinkirn	125	57,050,860	59,829,791	\$519,446	Gibson	371	\$17,877,682	\$25,206,385	\$1,360,000
Blimbum	73	53,006,272	\$3,773,671	5134,285	Giles	987	\$47,161,559	\$66,694,625	53,674,840
Bloure	905	547,568,026	\$66,860,600	\$4,210,204	Grainger	90.	\$1,858,992	52,384,847	\$93,447
Bradley	896	541,718,093	561,068,692	\$4,069,269	Greene.	161	\$7,250,783	\$10,320,724	\$592,793
Campbell	57	52,493,122	\$3,440,498	\$186,005	Grundy	394	\$19,035,142	\$25,976,069	\$1,255,220
Carrion	1,033	\$56,717,580	\$74,202,651	\$3,404,702	Hamblen	199	\$9,477,366	\$13,566,660	\$854,050
Carroll	165	57,271,535	\$10,331,075	\$574,394	Hamilton	4,313	5249,920,196	\$386,667,642	527,302,000
Carter	63.	\$2,650,361	\$3,592,096	5182,858	Hancock	10	\$363,139	\$465,462	\$17,324
Choarlium	1,075	557,955,955	5/6,571,326	\$3,546,521	Hardiman	144	\$5,462,158	57,278,368	5313,113
Chester	96	\$4,759,533	\$6,414,221	\$374,161	Hardin	234	\$9,275,030	\$13,130,689	\$737,695
Claiborne	52	52,227,725	\$3,083,298	5172,978	Hawkins	90	53,932,634	\$5,177,607	5271,044
Clay	65	52,647,844	\$3,517,656	\$171,470	Haywood	168	57,614,987	\$10,315,190	\$512,025
Cocke	64	52,577,011	\$3,555,950	5196,714	Henderson	226	\$11,560,327	\$16,140,053	\$902,055
Coffee	5,093	\$258,506,011	\$377,799,150	522,247,117	Henry	188	\$8,151,393	\$11,562,732	\$692,837
Crockett	58	\$2,757,943	\$3,006,062	\$173,096	Hickman	654	\$32,552,003	\$42,617,654	\$2,049,060
Combed land	'548	573,812,778	\$34,263,691	\$7,148,982	Houston	22	5953,210	\$1,281,726	\$64,655
Davidson	30,857	51,945,802,433	\$2,958,165,024	\$210,695,370	Humohreys	229	\$8,538,967	\$11,505,773	\$606,002
Decativ	105	\$4,912,860	\$6,579,238	\$311,553	lackson.	57	52,445,102	53,128,300	\$125,682
DeKalb	919	\$45,681,796	562,334,698	\$3,256,444	Joffmrs on	186	58,525,230	\$11,661,484	\$571,745
Dicksen	1,152	558,590,859	\$83,563,320	\$4,839,360	Johnson	26	51,079,674	\$1,467,042	\$69,173
Dyer	293	513,258,090	\$18,454,477	\$1,114,180	Knnx	3,617	\$212,164,858	5338,000,151	\$25,302,600
Fayette.	263	\$15,983,360	\$21,552,484	\$1,062,750	lake	5	\$206,322	\$263,245	\$10,156

County	Employment	Personal Income	Business Revenue	Taxes
lauderdale	(15	\$4,794,971	\$6,449,399	\$309,859
lawrence	1,590	5/1,599,188	\$103,605,429	\$6,376,970
Levels .	403	520,959,632	\$29,490,750	51,707,600
urcaln	1,8/1	\$107,941,943	\$148,105,928	\$8,187,140
Loudon	406	522,201,910	530,458,325	51,589,880
Macter	368	315,720,154	\$22,035,747	\$1,246,400
Madison	1,457	571,428,501	\$105,313,975	\$6,875,440
Mirrion	1,773	579,002,590	\$110,274,156	\$6,084,180
Marshall	1,635	578,778,427	5104,829,441	54,943,830
Misry-	5,645	5327,439,313	\$463,219,723	\$27,997,600
McMinn	316	516,196,388	\$22,884,674	\$1,259,310
McNatry	368	\$16,038,252	521,957,112	51,156,630
Meigs	67	52,763,257	53,470,611	\$125,942
Монгон	340	55,841,398	\$8,113,467	\$457,950
Montgomery	1,464	\$72,090,285	\$106,179,301	\$6,502,390
Moore	255	\$15,637,272	\$19,767,901	\$668,719
Morgan-	101	55,281,736	\$6,599,318	\$220,323
Obion	136	\$6,356,707	\$9,245,405	\$589,779
Clym fon	311	55,472,033	57,618,854	\$437,850
Perry	1.42	54,925,958	\$6,645,301	\$339,960
Pickett	20	5902,393	51,174,790	\$67,236
Patk.	101	\$4,610,264	55,988,978	\$250,624
Putnam	8.59	\$40,674,367	\$59,791,140	\$4,045,310
Rhea	147	\$6,846,197	59,285,832	\$453,931

County	Employment	Personal Income	Business Revenue	Taxes
Roane	347	\$16,726,965	522,628,484	\$1,073,970
Robertson	1,730	\$93,072,186	\$129,776,844	\$7,254,180
Rutherford	50,635	\$2,730,936,315	\$4,146,529,485	\$270,622,000
Scott	64	\$2,924,403	\$4,068,047	\$225,420
Sequatchie .	317	\$5,595,007	\$7,660,395	\$379,182
Sevier	382	517,304,187	\$24,861,483	\$1,552,330
Shelby	5,169	\$290,613,759	\$464,245,598	5329,331,100
Smith	483	\$22,289,997	\$30,527,427	\$1,650,160
Stowart	78	\$3,076,999	53,963,369	5160,996
Sultivan	463	\$23,099,503	\$34,194,965	\$2,318,390
Sumner	6,961	\$409,070,188	\$603,631,609	\$39,355,700
Tipton	220	\$12,029,463	\$16,083,051	\$833,341
Trousdale.	219	511361,471	\$15,017,211	5678.941
Unical	.26	\$1,281,076	\$1,602,113	\$64,307
Union	29	\$1,173,496	\$1,506,779	\$64,334
Van Buren	123	\$5,895,893	\$7,042,154	\$227,929
Warren	2,010	\$88,074,653	\$125,506,516	\$7,879,350
Washington	479	\$25,120,964	\$37,854,292	\$2,607,290
Wayne	343	\$15,547,084	\$20,425,627	51,014,260
Weakley	84	\$3,480,613	\$4,883,618	5279,611
White:	326	\$15,257,564	\$20,310,134	\$1,073,910
Williamson	16,582	\$1,348,056,167	\$1,948,889,877	\$131,808,000
Wilson	9,377	\$555,793,831	\$795,612,814	\$46,852,600

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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY