

RETURN ON INVESTMENT TO SOCIETY

Demonstrating the Economic Value of Southwest Texas Junior College

DECEMBER 2014



Benefits created by SWTJC extend to far more people than just its students. As students and employers enjoy higher income and increased output, society as a whole benefits from an expanded economy and a range of savings associated with the students' improved quality of life.

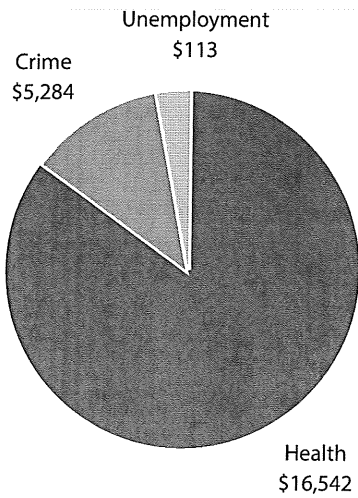
SWTJC RAISES PROSPERITY IN THE STATE

- Students earn more because of the skills and qualifications they acquire at SWTJC. Further, employers earn more because the added skills of the students they hire make their businesses more productive.
- Together, increases in earnings and business output stimulate corresponding increases in income and employment throughout the state. Over their working lives, SWTJC's 2012-13 student population will generate a present value of **\$1.4 BILLION** in added income in the state of Texas.

SWTJC IMPROVES QUALITY OF LIFE

- As SWTJC students achieve higher levels of education, they are statistically more likely to develop good health habits. This leads to a present value of **\$16.5 MILLION** in savings to students and to society as a whole for medical treatment related to smoking, alcoholism, obesity, drug abuse, and mental disorders.

PRESENT VALUE OF SOCIAL SAVINGS (THOUSANDS)



- Students enjoy better employment opportunities as a result of their education at SWTJC. This makes them less likely to require income assistance and less likely to commit crimes. These effects translate to a present value of **\$112,854** in unemployment-related savings and **\$5.3 MILLION** in law enforcement savings to society as a whole.
- Altogether, savings to society amount to a present value of \$21.9 million, equal to the sum of avoided costs related to health, crime, and unemployment.



BENEFITS TO SOCIETY OUTWEIGH SOCIAL COSTS

- In FY 2012-13, society invested **\$68.7 MILLION** in SWTJC educations. This includes all SWTJC expenditures, all student expenditures, and all student opportunity costs. In return for this investment, society as a whole will receive a present value of **\$1.5 BILLION** in benefits, the sum of the added income and social savings that SWTJC’s 2012-13 student population will generate in the state.
- For every dollar spent on SWTJC educations, society as a whole in Texas will receive a cumulative value of **\$21.10** in benefits, for as long as SWTJC’s 2012-13 students remain active in the state workforce.