

# The Economic Impact and Benefit-Cost Analysis of Dohn Community High School



Dohn  
Community  
High  
School



ECONOMICS CENTER  
RESEARCH AND CONSULTING



# About Dohn

Dohn Community High School is a non-profit high school serving at-risk youth and adult students in the Cincinnati Region. Dohn was created in 2001 to help students recovering from drug and alcohol addiction gain an adequate education. By serving as a dropout recovery school, students are able to earn fully accredited high school diplomas. Offered across eight campuses, Dohn's programs encourage community engagement, social development, and career satisfaction after graduation.



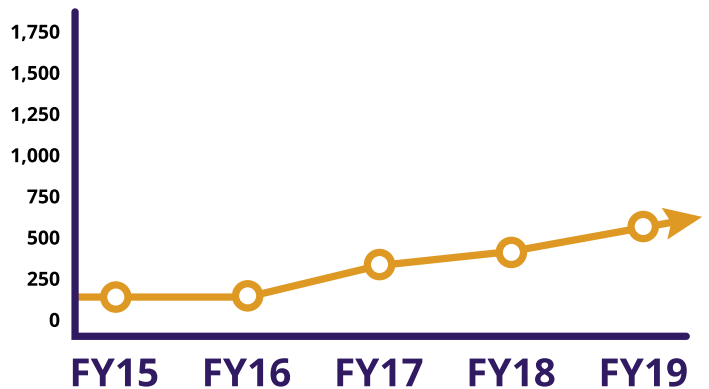
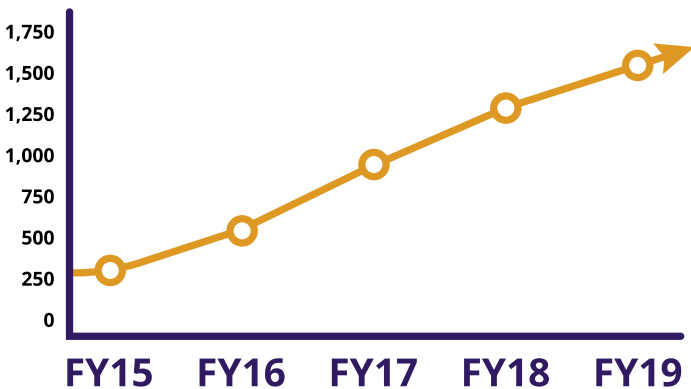
## Enrollment and Graduates

**4,531 Students Enrolled  
During FY15-19**

**1,507 Graduates  
During FY15-19**

Enrollment grew from **261** students in fiscal year 2015 to **1,569** students in fiscal year 2019, or an average of 56.6 percent per year.

The number of graduates grew from **114** in fiscal year 2015 to **560** in fiscal year 2019, or an average of 48.9 percent per year.



## Most Popular Program

The 22+ program was created in 2016 to offer students 22 years of age and older the opportunity to earn a fully accredited high school diploma. Students of the program must fulfill the graduation requirements in effect when they entered ninth grade. All prior earned credits and test results are retained. The 22+ program is one of 20 programs offered in Ohio and the only one in Cincinnati. Approximately 52.8 percent of the graduates from Dohn between fiscal years 2015 and 2019 have graduated from the 22+ program. Graduates from the 22+ program comprised 61.1 percent of all Dohn graduates in fiscal year 2019.

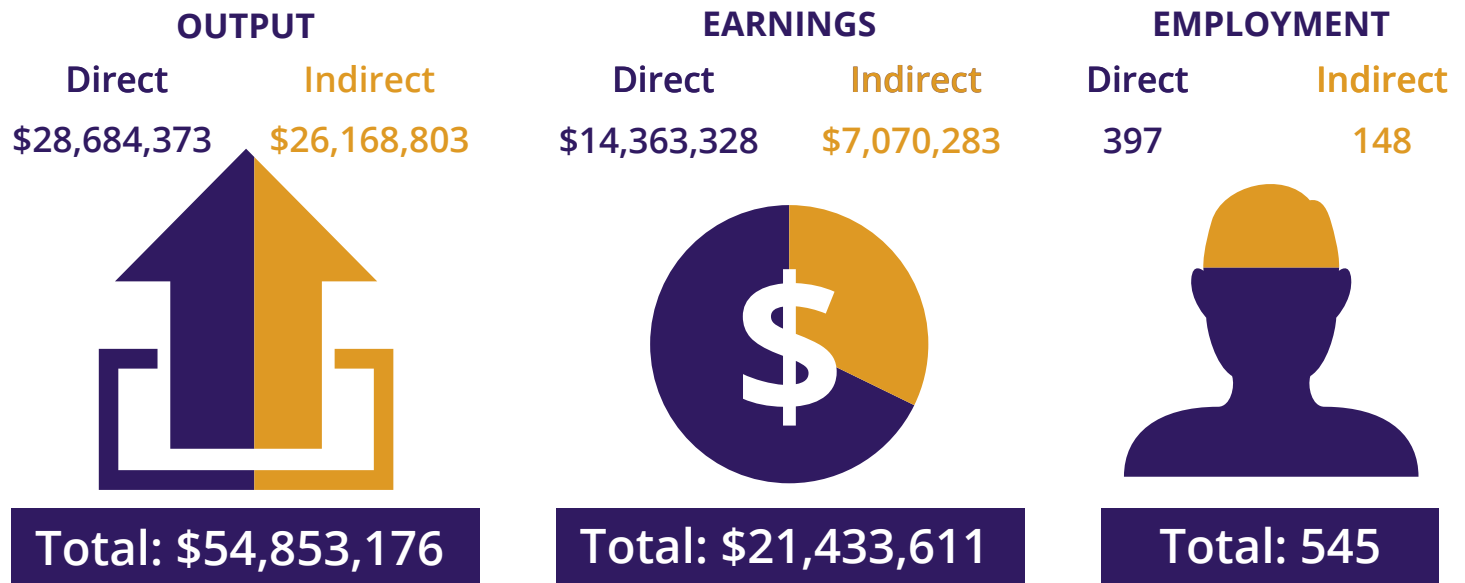


# Economic and Fiscal Impact of Capital Investments and Operations



## Economic Impact

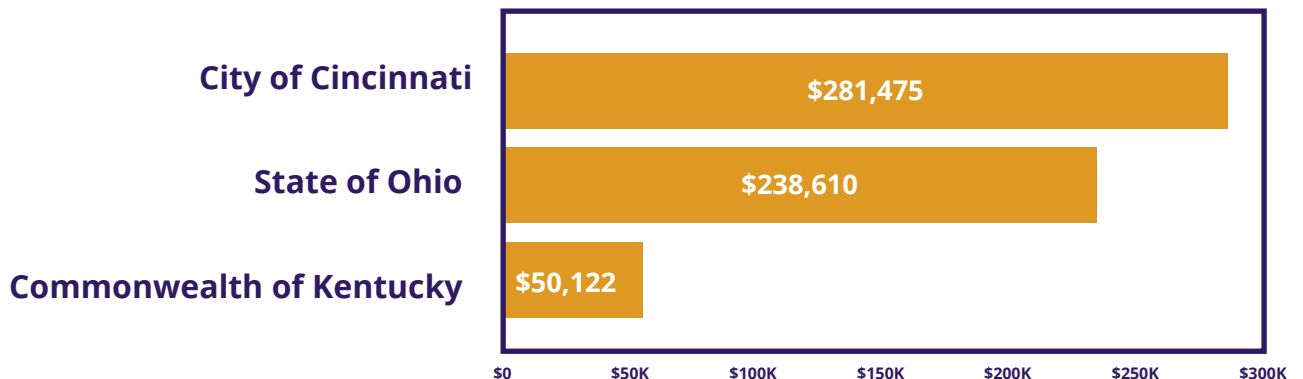
Through Dohn's investments in capital and annual operations, the community is benefiting from the economic activity generated by Dohn in the Cincinnati Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The expenditures made by Dohn and its employees stimulate economic activity for other businesses and industries. Between fiscal years 2015 and 2019, Dohn had an economic impact of **\$54.9 million**, an earnings impact of **\$21.4 million**, and supported **545** jobs.



## Fiscal Impact

Employees of Dohn contributed **\$570,207** in income tax revenue to state and local governments between fiscal years 2015 and 2019.

### Direct Fiscal Impact During FY15-19



# Economic and Fiscal Benefits of High School Graduation

## Earnings

In addition to the economic activity generated by Dohn through its capital investments and operations, Dohn's efforts to educate students generates additional economic activity through students earning a high school diploma. The primary economic benefit to students of receiving a high school diploma is increased earnings.

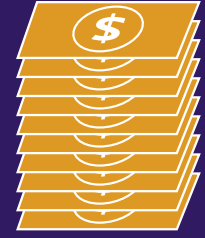
A high school dropout in the Cincinnati MSA earns **\$10,303 per year.**



A high school graduate in the Cincinnati MSA earns **\$20,334 per year.**



A high school graduate earns an additional **\$10,031 per year.**



A graduate from Dohn will earn an additional **\$387,777** over their remaining time in the workforce, on average, compared to if he or she had not earned a high school diploma. Educating and graduating 1,507 students during fiscal years 2015 through 2019 has allowed Dohn to help these individuals earn an additional **\$584.4 million** throughout the remainder of their working careers.

## Income Tax Revenue<sup>1</sup>

Compared to a high school dropout, a graduate will contribute an additional **\$211** in income taxes to the City of Cincinnati each year. By earning a high school diploma, Dohn graduates will contribute an additional **\$317,977** in income taxes to the City of Cincinnati annually. Over the remainder of their working careers, Dohn graduates are estimated to contribute an additional **\$12.3 million** in City of Cincinnati income taxes and **\$8.6 million** in State of Ohio income taxes.

## Sales Tax Revenue<sup>2</sup>

A high school graduate will pay an average of \$597 in sales tax to Hamilton County and the State of Ohio per year, while a high school dropout will pay \$406. This represents an additional **\$191** in sales tax paid by high school graduates each year. Dohn graduates are estimated to pay an additional **\$287,837** in sales tax per year to Hamilton County and the State of Ohio compared to if they had not graduated.

<sup>1</sup> Assumes graduates live and work within the City of Cincinnati.

<sup>2</sup> Assumes all taxable purchases were made within Hamilton County.

# Economic and Fiscal Benefits of High School Graduation

## Public Assistance

A high school dropout in the Cincinnati MSA receives an average of \$113 per year in public assistance.



A high school graduate in the Cincinnati MSA receives an average of \$43 per year in public assistance.



A high school graduate saves taxpayers \$70 per year in public assistance.



By educating and graduating 1,507 students between fiscal years 2015 and 2019, Dohn saves taxpayers **\$105,490** annually. On average, a graduate of Dohn will save taxpayers **\$3,623** in public assistance during his or her remaining time in the workforce. In total, Dohn will save taxpayers **\$5.5 million** throughout the remainder of their graduates' working careers.

## Crime

High school dropouts are three and a half times more likely to be arrested and more than eight times as likely to be incarcerated compared to high school graduates. By educating and graduating students from high school, Dohn is preventing the incarceration of **16** of their graduates annually. This saves taxpayers **\$474,067** annually in incarceration costs.



# Economic and Fiscal Costs of High School Graduation

Although the benefits of high school graduation are numerous, there are also associated costs that must be considered. The costs associated with high school graduation include the expenditures made by Dohn to educate students and the earnings foregone by students while in school.

When a student decides to remain in school to earn a high school diploma, the student foregoes the earning that could have been earned by dropping out of school and working. This represents the opportunity cost of high school graduation. The total cost of earning a high school diploma for Dohn graduates during fiscal years 2015 through 2019 was **\$21.5 million**.



## Pupil Expenditures

The average cost to educate a student at Dohn was **\$7,784 per year**. The total costs to educate Dohn graduates between fiscal years 2015 and 2019 was **\$16.9 million**.



## Foregone Earnings

Each graduate sacrificed an average of **\$3,094** in earnings during their time at Dohn. Graduates from fiscal year 2015 through fiscal year 2019 sacrificed **\$4.7 million** in earnings during their time at Dohn.



# Net Benefits of High School Graduation

## Benefits

### Earnings

Over the five years after graduation, Dohn graduates are estimated to earn an additional **\$75.6 million**.

### Income Tax Revenue

Assuming these graduates live and work within the City of Cincinnati, they will contribute **\$1.6 million** more in income taxes to the City of Cincinnati during the five years following graduation.

### Sales Tax Revenue

Dohn graduates are estimated to pay an additional **\$1.4 million** in sales tax revenue to Hamilton County and the State of Ohio, given all taxable purchases were made in Hamilton County.

### Public Assistance

By earning a high school diploma, graduates of Dohn will save taxpayers **\$527,450** in public assistance over the five years after their graduation.

### Crime

Over the five years following graduation, Dohn graduates will save taxpayers **\$2.4 million** in incarcerations costs.



## Costs

### Pupil Expenditures

The cost to educate the graduates of Dohn during fiscal years 2015 through 2019 was **\$16.9 million**.

### Foregone Earnings

The graduates of Dohn sacrificed **\$4.7 million** in earnings by attending school instead of working.

## Net Benefits

### Net Benefits

By Dohn graduating 1,507 students between fiscal years 2015 and 2019, they are providing **\$60.0 million** in net benefits during the five years after students graduate.

### Benefit-Cost Ratio

Every **\$1** spent on education at Dohn for these graduates during fiscal years 2015 through 2019 leads to **\$3.79** in benefits to society during the five years following their high school graduation.





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Dohn Community High School is a non-profit high school serving at-risk youth and adult students in the Cincinnati Region across eight campuses. Dohn provides an opportunity for education that meets the needs of urban, inner-city youth while attending to a full spectrum of learning needs. Through promoting community engagement, social development, and career satisfaction, Dohn emphasizes its focus on preparing students for post-secondary education, vocational training, or fulfilling careers after graduation.



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