



UNIVERSITY OF
**DETROIT
MERCY**

2024

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY IMPACT ON METRO DETROIT

udmercy.edu

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Detroit, MI 48221-3038





University of Detroit Mercy, a Catholic university in the Jesuit and Mercy traditions, exists to provide excellent student-centered undergraduate, graduate and professional education in an urban context.

This year, *The Wall Street Journal/College Pulse* ranked UDM No. 52 in the nation, which makes UDM Michigan's second highest-ranked university. In addition, Georgetown University's study *A First Look at ROI: Ranking 4,500 Colleges* ranked UDM in the top 10% of all colleges and universities for return-on-investment. UDM also ranked among the top national universities by *U.S. News & World Report* for a fifth year in a row, earning a No. 185 rank in the National Universities category of the publication's "Best Colleges" 2024 edition.

As an urban university, we are committed to nurturing the well-being of our community in metro Detroit through educational initiatives, professional services and community investments. Since 1877, the University has been a valuable higher education resource to both Detroit and southeastern Michigan.



ECONOMIC IMPACT ON METRO DETROIT

The 2023-24 fiscal year operating budget totaled \$171 million.

- Detroit Mercy has 1,353 employees.
- Employee compensation for the 2023-24 fiscal year totaled \$106 million.
- Detroit Mercy has a service-learning curriculum component that contributed more than 16,000 student volunteer hours to more than 100 metro Detroit community service agencies during fiscal year 2023-24.
- Detroit Mercy invested \$15 million in renovations and new facilities projects on its campuses in fiscal year 2023-24.
- Approximately \$20 million in contracts were awarded to Detroit vendors in the 2023-24 fiscal year.
- Detroit Mercy has an estimated annual economic impact of more than \$344,840,000 on the metro Detroit community.



BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

In 2015, Detroit Mercy and The Kresge Foundation co-founded Live6 Alliance to strengthen the Livernois Avenue and McNichols Road commercial corridor and Northwest Detroit. The organization has implemented a variety of revitalization strategies, including establishing the Live6 Community Advisory Board; collaborating with community organizations to produce events in the corridor; providing tours of the area to foundation representatives and others; and holding workshops on neighborhood revitalization. Detroit Mercy also was a member of the application team that proposed and received the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Reimagining the Civic Commons Grant, which is being implemented in the Live6 neighborhoods.

The **Detroit Collaborative Design Center (DCDC)** is a program of the School of Architecture & Community Development (SACD) that

provides professional community-engaged design services to nonprofit community and civic organizations citywide. Over the years, DCDC has worked with partners on a range of projects, including designs for outdoor community landscapes, architectural design projects, neighborhood planning and citywide infrastructure and community engagement efforts. Notable projects have included community-engaged design for a neighborhood resource center in Southwest Detroit; conceptual design for an equestrian center in Northwest Detroit; and a reflection garden on the Detroit Mercy campus, among many others. DCDC has worked on more than 30 projects and initiatives in the past few years, which included contributions from Detroit Mercy architecture students through the cooperative education program. In addition, the SACD co-op program is the second oldest in the nation and generates hours of work on real projects around the world, with many right in Detroit. In 2023, the SACD and College of Engineering & Science won a \$3.79 million grant from Department of Energy's Office of State and Community Energy Program's (SCEP) Renew America's Nonprofits grant program to support energy efficiency in the country's nonprofit sector. This program will enlist scores of UDM students and faculty to help 13 nonprofits in Detroit and southeast Michigan reduce their carbon footprint. In addition, this ground-breaking DOE investment represents a significant step toward a new strategic future envisioned by President Donald B. Taylor. Also in 2023, the SACD won more than \$600,000 in other grant funding to support a number of projects that will bring positive impact to the community. DCDC has also participated in many national and local conversations about community engagement practices during this time, with an emphasis on how community-engaged design is integrated and linked to racial equity work to create more equitable communities.

The **Vehicle Cyber Engineering Certificate program**, available through the College of Engineering & Science, was developed in conjunction with Ford Motor Company to educate aspiring automotive engineers, providing them with the skills and expertise to develop the next generation of advanced electric and hybrid electric vehicles. Additionally, the College of Engineering & Science offers a certificate program in **Systems Engineering**.

The **College of Health Professions (CHP)** and **McAuley School of Nursing (MSON)** partner with health systems and medical centers throughout Michigan to provide clinical placements and internships to more than 900 students in undergraduate Nursing, and graduate Executive Leadership, Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Nurse Anesthesia, doctor of Nurs-

ing Practice, Physician Assistant, Healthcare Operations Management and Health Information Management programs.

In recent years, the MSON successfully launched two new programs: the Master's Entry Advanced Generalist Nursing (MEAGN) and Emergency Nurse Practitioner (ENP) programs. The MEAGN program is located at the Novi campus.

Students from the School of Law provided more than 35,000 hours annually of **pro bono legal services** to residents of Detroit and surrounding communities through clinics and externships.

Detroit Mercy's **Institute for Advanced Continuing Dental Education** offers more than 80 continuing education courses annually for oral health professionals across the globe, including free continuing education courses to support practitioners in managing stress and mental health.



ACADEMIC OUTREACH

Detroit Mercy's colleges and schools provide a variety of academic outreach programs to serve community needs, including the following examples:

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Over the last several years, Master of Community Development (MCD) students have made a positive impact in Detroit neighborhoods by partnering with 15 community organizations or projects, such as Grandmont Rosedale Development Corporation, Bailey Park Project, Southwest Housing Solutions and Facelift Detroit.



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Service Learning: 250 students in 10 business courses performed service-learning during the year, using skills developed in the classroom to give back to the community. One example is Volunteer Income Tax Assistance: after completing Internal Revenue Service (IRS) training, Accounting students and faculty provided free income tax services to 125 low and moderate-income community residents.

Outreach to High School Students: The business school provided free college courses to many high school juniors and seniors through its Business Leaders' Accelerated Start (BLAST) program. These courses allow qualified high school students to learn from College faculty and work on projects with matriculated college students while earning credits toward college degrees. Separately, the College partnered with Saturday Scholars, a tutoring program that helps middle school and high school students prepare for college. And the College's Center for Practice & Research in Management & Ethics (PRIME) awarded \$13,000 in cash and scholarships to the winners of its statewide Business Ethics Essay Contest for high school students.

The Center for Social Entrepreneurship (CSE): The CSE works with entrepreneurs using business techniques to find sustainable solutions to social problems. The CSE has provided nine-week workshops, followed by extensive mentoring from seasoned entrepreneurs to more than 65 new

business ventures, helping them raise more than \$3.2 million in financing. Seventy-one percent of clients have been females, and 69% have been minorities. The CSE, in conjunction with the College's Charlton Center for Responsible Investing, is launching a new Social Innovation Fund to provide seed-money loans to start-ups that complete business training available through the College. The CSE also hosts major conferences, including the Detroit Nonprofit Day and the Empower-Her Symposium. In all, CSE activities impact approximately 7,000 individuals per year.

Community Outreach by Students and Alumni: Freshman business students raised \$860 for charity through class projects during the year. The Alumni Board raised approximately \$700 in cash and in-kind donations for needy parents and children during holiday drives.

Community Service by Faculty: The College's faculty members volunteered in approximately 30 community service activities during the year. Examples included volunteering at schools, churches, Boys & Girls Clubs, the Mercy Education Project, the Oakland County Employment Diversity Council, and the Women of Windsor Mentorship Program.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

From July 1, 2022, through October 31, 2023, the Detroit Mercy Dental Center completed 99,321 patient visits, which included \$871,386 in uncompensated care. Additional under-reimbursed care was provided through Medicaid rates made possible via institutional support of \$6,625,596, state support of \$1.33 million, and federal cost-based reimbursement of \$62,803. Additionally, Detroit Mercy Dental also received a one-time special appropriation from the state of \$4 million to support dental education and provide oral care to individuals and communities in need. Moreover, students engaged in various outreach initiatives throughout the year, which is vital to broadening access to care for those who need it most. There are 11 clinical service-learning programs that reach a diverse range of patients. Through these programs, students facilitated 14,320 patient visits, addressing the healthcare needs of 8,541 unique patients.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & SCIENCE

The **College of Engineering & Science** continues to be a leader in workforce development for the region, offering re-skilling and upskilling through the availability of graduate certificates and degrees developed in partnership with industry and government input and support. These certificates and degrees include programs in Vehicle Cyber Engineering, Advanced Electric Vehicles, Systems Engineering, Data Science, Smart and Autonomous Vehicles, Technical Management, and Product Development. Awards from the Department of Defense totaling more than \$1.7 million over the past two years continue to support curriculum and scholarships for students to pursue Vehicle Cyber Security.

The College also provides accessible pathways for the next generation of STEM professionals with pre-college programming and high school dual-enrollment programs that attract a diverse group of students to successfully pursue technical, research, and health-oriented careers. A \$1-million award from the National Science Foundation (NSF) supports the College's Science and Engineering Equity Development (SEED) program, along with an National Science Foundation S-STEM grant that supports the Innovating Detroit's Robotic Agile Workforce (iDRAW) program. iDRAW and dual-enrollment continue to build on classroom experiences by offering additional services for students including STEM-focused field trips, connections with industry partners and camp experiences. Since fall 2019 more than 400 students have participated in iDRAW courses through their local high

school and have earned 864 college credits. These programs leverage the successful programming and support developed through a \$21.2-million award from the National Institutes of Health for the College's ReBUILDetroit Program. ReBUILDetroit provided support for students, faculty, and institutional change to improve outcomes for underrepresented and financially disadvantaged students pursuing research careers in biomedical sciences.

This year, the College also partnered with Hubbel, Roth & Clark, Inc. (HRC), a professional firm that works to address today's engineering challenges, to provide a scholarship/co-op opportunity to students. In addition, Engineering & Science partnered with Ghafari, a global architecture, engineering, and consulting firm, to establish a scholarship/co-op opportunity focused on civil engineering and sustainability.

Engineering & Science's commitment to high-impact practices such as undergraduate research, co-operative work experiences and hands-on projects throughout the undergraduate curriculum significantly contributes to the College's exceptionally high retention rates. In addition, the College's high retention rates exceed the national average acceptance rates to professional programs, which helps UDM yield graduates who are sought by companies and graduate programs throughout the country and world.

Faces on Design, a mission-driven collaboration between Engineering and Nursing students, produced three fully functional devices in 2023 that were designed to enhance the lives of community members with physical disabilities and improve their quality of life. The presentation event garnered attention from the local community and numerous media outlets, some of which is available at <https://youtu.be/GvpnGN1GUB8>.



COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS/ McAULEY SCHOOL OF NURSING

The College of Health Professions' revised mission statement and guiding values will provide the direction for strategic planning to transform healthcare education for the 21st Century. The completed renovation and redesign of the simulation area and labs provide a foundation for interprofessional education, simulation and virtual reality. These plans increase the College's capacity to move educational platforms forward. State-of-the-art simulation space and innovation labs will support student recruitment and program excellence. CHP and MSON graduates will be more than ready to enter the workforce. Strategic goals for the CHP and MSON include recruiting and preparing a diverse workforce, continuing to develop new and innovative programs, and building upon scholarship and grantsmanship to enhance the College's national reputation. The CHP and MSON will be poised to meet the changing needs of the healthcare environment and produce leaders who are flexible and innovative.

SCHOOL OF LAW

The School of Law is fully immersed in the metro-Detroit community. The Riverfront Campus is located in the heart of downtown Detroit steps from a major international border. Many students have connections to the area, launch their careers in the community, and continue to serve and lead in the community as alumni. The career services office directly supports employers, including law firms, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and government entities, by connecting them with students and graduates.

The Law School is also committed to advancing social justice within metro Detroit. Each year, students provide more than 35,000 hours of pro bono legal services to the community through the externship and clinic programs. The externship program provides support to nonprofit and government employers. The clinic program provides pro bono legal services to under-resourced metro-Detroit residents and communities through 12 clinics: Appellate Veterans Law Clinic, Conviction Integrity Clinic, Criminal Trial Clinic, Environmental Law Clinic, Family Law Clinic, Federal Pro Se Legal Assistance Clinic, Arts & Entertainment Law Clinic, Immigration Law Clinic, International Patent Law Clinic, Juvenile Appellate Clinic, Trademark and Entrepreneur Clinic, and Veterans Law Clinic.

In addition, the School is committed to increasing access to legal education for the community. The faculty provide free legal education programming to the community throughout the year. The Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging, the admissions team, and student organizations collaborate to support programming for local high school and college students. Law also partners with the AccessLex Institute to offer the LexScholars program to applicants from underrepresented groups in the legal profession. This program provides students with additional preparation and academic support prior to starting law school.



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & EDUCATION

The **Psychology Clinic** serves approximately 300 clients annually. The Counseling Clinic serves approximately 250 individuals each year, providing no-cost counseling to Detroit and greater Wayne County residents who otherwise would not have access to mental health services.

The Carney Latin American Solidarity Archive raised more than \$8,000 for the UCA Jesuit Martyrs Scholarship Fund which helps El Salvadoran students in financial need attend the José Simeón Cañas Central American University (UCA), the Jesuit university in San Salvador.

The **Detroit Mercy Writing Center** served 533 students through 1,504 appointments which included 512 synchronous online appointments and 267 English Language Learner appointments.

The **Department of Counseling and Addiction Studies** was awarded an \$862,000 grant from the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) for specialized training that will address the complex needs of the region's most vulnerable adolescents and young adults.

CAREER JOB PLACEMENT OFFICE

The **Center for Career & Professional Development** (CCPD) helps students transition from school to career through such resources as Handshake, campus interviews and career fairs. The CCPD engages with thousands of employers seeking candidates for full-time and part-time professional job opportunities. CCPD employer partners also provide career education services to Detroit Mercy students through on-campus workshops and company site tours. The Center for Career & Professional Development administers a yearly First Destination Survey for prior academic year graduates to gauge alumni success and showcase the value of a Detroit Mercy education. The First Destination Survey is conducted in accordance with the standards set by the National Association of Colleges & Employers and results are available at www.udmercy.edu/ccpd.

The **University Ministry Office** runs Service in the City, a program where students volunteer weekly at one of two Detroit-based schools, Loyola High School and La Casa Guadalupeana. Students also volunteer at or partner with several local nonprofits and community organizations such as the Pope Francis Center, Capuchin Soup Kitchen, Farmacy Foods, local block clubs, and Keep Growing Detroit.

UNIVERSITY INITIATIVES

Detroit Mercy's partnership with Macomb University Center as well as Detroit Mercy's 12 online programs, offer community residents the opportunity to further their education at or close to home.

Detroit Mercy has educational partnerships with University of Windsor, Aquinas College, Henry Ford College, Oakland Community College and Cornerstone University as well as affiliation agreements with additional area community colleges to facilitate the transfer of academic credits.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

The University's libraries hold a combined collection of nearly 2 million items, which include print and electronic books and journals, films on DVD and in streaming format, government document, databases and archival materials. The McNichols Campus Library has been designated the Dudley Randall Literary Landmark by the American Library Association. The Archives Research Center (ARC) is home to several special collections, including the Black Abolitionist Archive, the Padre Guadalupe Carney Latin American Solidarity Archive & the Fr. Edward J. Dowling, S.J., Marine Historical Collection.

Through a grant from the Ford Motor Company Fund, Detroit Mercy's **Institute for Leadership & Service** supported 13 faculty-student teams that created service-learning projects in which 10 student leaders coordinated projects that allowed 432 Detroit Mercy students to serve more than 7,578 individuals in our community.

Detroit Mercy's Institute for Leadership & Service has **partnerships with area community organizations and agencies** such as the Pope Francis Center, Auntie Na's, Gleaners, Loyola High School and Arts & Scraps. These partnerships allow students, faculty and staff to volunteer their support to address some of the area's social problems and injustices. Each school year, approximately 1,600 student volunteers provide service at more than 100 community service agencies.

Student-athletes from the Women's Lacrosse Team helped with recess duty and tutoring in the classroom for students at Gesu Catholic School. Additionally, players from the Women's Softball Team read to students at elementary schools during the year and volunteered with Special Olympics, among many other community activities.



The Titan Equity Nourish Network (TENN) finds solutions to challenges in the Detroit food system by engaging student passion and community wisdom. The program provided opportunities for more than 533 students to address immediate needs and engage in critical thinking about the systemic causes of these challenges.

TENN is run by a team of six student staff, eight interns, and 10 regular student leaders, and engaged 201 other volunteers who provided more than 1,095 hours of service. TENN partnered with neighborhood organizations and businesses such as the Princeton Street Block Club, Make Food Not Waste, Theresa Maxis Apartments, and the TENN campus garden to distribute more than 12,000 lbs. of food to more than 300 Detroiters.



CULTURAL & ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Detroit Mercy Theatre Company's 52nd season presented three main stage productions including the Michigan Premiere of "Airmess," "Pride and Prejudice" and the world premiere of "Unheard Voices: Afro-Brazilian Diaspora," which raised \$5,000 for a Brazilian Quilombo community.

The Language & Cultural Training program, which holds foreign language and cultural awareness programs with companies and high schools, held cultural business seminars for corporations in the Detroit area. These included Doing Business in China, Doing Business in Austria/Germany, and Doing Business in Mexico. Additionally, several private language training programs were offered in a variety of contexts in Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and Portuguese. The program won its fourth Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad to Brazil.

Rx for Reading Detroit distributed 220,000 books in Detroit and surrounding communities since 2014. Supported by donations and in collaboration with community partners, including Head Start preschools, community

centers and low-income health clinics, Rx for Reading Detroit works to expand access to high-quality children's books and supports low-income families in reading with their children.

The McNichols Campus Library and the Genevieve Loranger Exhibition Center present the **works of local artists**, as well as those of faculty and students, and are open to the public.

Detroit Mercy offers a variety of **lectures and programs** that are open to the public, including the Architecture Lecture Series, the annual Cushing Distinguished Lecture in Religious Studies, the annual McElroy Lecture on Law and Religion, DeWitt C. Holbrook Lecture on Social Justice, the annual Carney Latin American Solidarity Archive Lecture Series, Black Abolitionist Archive and African American Studies Program special presentations and Business Alumni Week Keynote Speaker.

In addition, the University offers service opportunities in celebration of MLK Jr. Day each year and celebrates Black History Month with a vast array of speakers and special events throughout February. Detroit Mercy also hosts the annual Interfaith Dinner, annual International Dinner & Celebration and Faith in the D excursions, which provide participants opportunities to visit many sacred spaces throughout Detroit.

Detroit Mercy's 17 NCAA Division I athletic teams provide year-round sports activities with exhibition and league play held on the McNichols Campus; the sports events are open to the public.



DETROIT MERCY PROFILE

University of Detroit Mercy is Michigan's largest independent Catholic university with more than 105 academic majors and programs. Sponsored by the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) and the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, the University has four campuses located in downtown, northwest Detroit, Corktown and in Novi.

Detroit Mercy is one of 28 Jesuit colleges and universities, and the largest of 17 Mercy institutions of higher education in the United States. This year, *The Wall Street Journal/College Pulse* ranked UDM No. 52 in the nation, which makes UDM Michigan's second highest-ranked university. UDM also ranked among the top national universities by *U.S. News & World Report* for a fifth year in a row, earning a No. 185 rank in the National Universities category of the publication's "Best Colleges" 2024 edition.

2023-24 Demographic Facts

- Detroit Mercy enrolled 3,352 undergraduate, 959 graduate and 1,217 professional school students in fall 2023 for a total enrollment of 5,528.
- About 69% of Detroit Mercy students are Michigan residents; 6% are out-of-state residents (from 41 states) and 25% are international students.
- Detroit Mercy offers degrees in 105 programs, including five-year master's and certificate programs. At the graduate level, the University offers 44 master's degree programs, one specialist program and 8 doctoral/professional-level programs, including law and dentistry. Additionally, the University awards graduate certificates in 22 programs. These programs of study are provided by seven colleges and schools: School of Architecture & Community Development, College of Business Administration, School of Dentistry, College of Engineering & Science, College of Health Professions/McAuley School of Nursing, School of Law and College of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences.
- Detroit Mercy has more than 89,465 living alumni, represented in every state in the nation and in 78 countries around the world.



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION about University of Detroit Mercy's academic programs or about its community outreach activities, please contact the Marketing & Communications Department at 313-993-1254 or email marcom@udmercy.edu. Through academic programs, professional clinics and joint ventures with business and community organizations, the University contributes to the general well-being of the metro Detroit community and Southeast Michigan. This commitment reflects the University's mission, which emphasizes concern for the dignity of the individual and for the common good of the world community.



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