We help stimulate the local economy.

UC Santa Cruz brings money into the community. With 4,700 faculty and staff, we’re Santa Cruz County’s largest employer. Roughly 19,500 alumni also live, work, and play here. And between the university itself and our staff, faculty, students, and visitors, we spend more than half a billion dollars here every year.

- **$271M** Staff and faculty spending
- **$195M** Student spending
- **$178M** Campus purchases & capital expenditures
- **$28M** Visitor spending

**$672 million**
Spent by UC Santa Cruz employees, students, and visitors (2014–15)

We enrich the community’s culture.

Being a good neighbor means serving as a vital member of the community. And that’s precisely our intention. As enrollment climbs, we expand our area’s cultural diversity. With growing Latino/a enrollment, the student body now more closely represents California. We also capitalize on every opportunity to educate and inspire the community through arts and sciences, public lectures, volunteer services, K–12 programs, and more.

Easing the squeeze on housing is a top priority.

From the beginning, UC Santa Cruz has embraced an innovative residential approach. Today, our campus housing continues to offer intimate “living and learning” environments. Every undergraduate is affiliated with one of our 10 residential colleges. Nearly all first-year students live in campus housing. Each student is guaranteed housing for two years. And among all UC campuses, we house the highest percentage of students.

- **52%** of undergraduate students are housed on campus

Our plans don’t end there. In the coming years, we’ll be adding even more housing. Preparations are underway for new construction and remodels that will add more than 3,000 new beds. We’re also exploring ways to streamline financing and construction of future housing projects.
No one wants to minimize traffic more than we do.

Today, thanks to aggressive traffic reduction and alternative commuting programs, we experience roughly the same number of vehicle trips as we did 17 years ago.

Our students, faculty, and staff make up 54% of the county’s Metro ridership.

Campus shuttles transport 12,600 people each and every day.

Weekday traffic to campus has declined by 2,901 vehicle trips per year since 2005.

Our road work, however, is never finished. As enrollment grows, the campus will continue to establish sustainable transportation policies that preserve the environment, reduce emissions, and minimize impacts on the community.

Water-wise practices sustain our growing campus.

Water is one resource we simply can’t afford to waste. That’s why we’ve been planning carefully, investing in modern infrastructure, and promoting conservation for better than a decade. Our campus now uses less water than it did 25 years ago, and our efforts are helping us steadily reduce water consumption to reach sustainable levels.

In 2014-15, compared to the previous year, we cut our water use by:

- 27%
- 30% since 2013
- 40% since 2005

We’ve reduced our water use by:

If total Santa Cruz Water Department consumption were an eight-ounce glass, UC Santa Cruz’s portion of that would be roughly two tablespoons.

Meanwhile, our research is reshaping the global community.

If there’s one thing we know, it’s research. Our environmental scientists are studying climate change’s influence on marine and coastal ecosystems. Our research and fieldwork have also contributed to breakthroughs and novel discoveries in cancer genomics, sustainable agriculture, historic and cultural influences on immigration, high-tech innovation, and the partnership of engineering and the arts.

We feel it’s not enough to be a good neighbor. Being a good global citizen is also our responsibility. So whether the focus is climate change, cancer genomics, or sustainable agriculture, we’re determined to have our research be part of building a better future for Santa Cruz—and beyond.

Most important, we never forget what Santa Cruz does for us.

We’re very fortunate—we know that. The Monterey Bay is a rare and enviable place to lead our lives. Naturally, we’ll continue doing our part to keep it that way. We’ll continue to foster an open dialogue about the future of our community. We’ll strengthen our partnerships with local government and businesses so we can face challenges together. And we’ll contribute in any way we can to the vibrancy and sustainability of our community’s economy, culture, and education.

For more information about UC Santa Cruz and its community involvement, visit ucs.edu.