

EXECUTIVE REPORT



About the University of Alabama at Birmingham

The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) became an autonomous campus within The University of Alabama System in 1969. In only five decades, UAB has grown into a world-renowned research university and medical center, occupying more than 100 city blocks in Alabama’s largest metropolitan area. UAB is the most significant driver of the Alabama economy, and it is also Alabama’s largest employer.

UAB’s daily operations provide economic and social benefits to the state’s economy. UAB generated more than **\$12.1 billion** in economic impact to the state in FY22, supported **107,687 jobs** statewide, and generated **\$371.5 million** in local taxes to the state and municipalities throughout Alabama. The university significantly strengthens the statewide economy through expenditures, state and local taxes, and residents’ employment and personal income. Beyond these financial benefits, UAB is preparing the workforce of the future and creating stronger communities throughout Alabama. This report also demonstrates that UAB is a driving force in research, innovation, and service that improves people’s lives throughout Alabama, the nation, and the world.

Dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, and service, UAB is among the most extensive research institutions in the nation. UAB’s mission is to serve students, patients, and the community and the global need for discovery, knowledge dissemination, education, creativity, and the application of groundbreaking solutions. In 2021, UAB was named America’s No. 1 Best Large Employer by Forbes, topping the list of more than 500 public and private corporations, hospitals, universities, and Fortune 500 companies in dozens of industries. In addition, UAB is consistently recognized for achievements in diversity, being one of few universities recognized annually as a Diversity Champion by Insight into Diversity, and America’s No. 4 Best Employer for Diversity by Forbes in 2021.

UAB’s vision, mission, and shared values provide a foundation for the strategic plan, “Forging the Future.” The UAB Grand Challenge, a signature initiative in the strategic plan, aims to identify and participate in solving complex societal problems by energizing the talent on and around UAB’s campus.¹ Live HealthSmart Alabama, the inaugural UAB Grand Challenge, aims to make Alabama a model of healthy living. By expanding proven innovations and changing policies, neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces, Healthy Alabama 2030: Live HealthSmart aims to dramatically improve the health of all Alabamians by elevating the state out of the bottom 10 in national health rankings by 2030.

¹ See link to grand challenge: <https://www.uab.edu/plan/grand-challenge>