Leveraging College Graduate Retention for Continued Growth in Greater Philadelphia

THE PHILADELPHIA REGION IS HOME TO APPROXIMATELY 130 POST-SECONDARY SCHOOLS, producing a talent pool among the largest in the nation. And that talent is increasingly looking to live and work in Greater Philadelphia after graduation. A Campus Philly study, produced in partnership with The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia, highlights the trends.

180,000+ increase of college-educated 25 to 34-year-olds in the Greater Philadelphia region from 2000 to 2021

40% increase in college-educated 25 to 34-year-olds in the region

155% increase in college-educated 25 to 34-year-olds in the City of Philadelphia. *This increase in the Philadelphia population is the highest among peer cities and compared to a 62% national average.*

50% of college students stay in the Region Post-Graduation

57% RETENTION RATE
for International Business students participating in Optional Practical Training (OPT)

41% RETENTION RATE
for International Medicine students participating in Optional Practical Training (OPT)

A Leader in Producing Life Sciences Graduates Among U.S. Metros

#4 for life sciences program completions (Total # among eight target programs)

#3 for life sciences share of total completions (3.21%)

campusphilly THE CHAMBER of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia

About Campus Philly's Philadelphia Momentum Report – This analysis was produced with the assistance of Econsult Solutions, Inc. (ESI). Information sources include the American Community and the Decennial Census from the U.S. Census Bureau, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Lightcast labor market data. Economic impact analysis is conducted using the industry standard IMPLAN modeling framework.

Data in this report was collected for two geographic regions: the City of Philadelphia (which is contiguous with Philadelphia County) and the remainder of the Greater Philadelphia region (defined as the ten suburban counties included in the 11-county Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)). As of 2021, 6.23 million people reside in the Philadelphia MSA.