

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF QUALCOMM

Driving San Diego's Technology Growth



An economic impact report on Qualcomm and the Telecommunications and Information Technology industries in San Diego, including a workforce needs assessment.

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San Diego Workforce Partnership
San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation



NEARLY
ONE IN THREE
PEOPLE IN
SAN DIEGO'S
TELECOMMUNI-
CATIONS SECTOR
WORKS FOR
QUALCOMM.

FAST FACTS

A world leader in 3G, 4G and next-generation wireless technologies, Qualcomm is San Diego County's largest for-profit, private sector employer and largest telecommunications employer:

Qualcomm employs 21,000 people worldwide, including 11,775 local workers.

Nearly one in three people in San Diego's telecommunications sector works for Qualcomm.

Nearly one in five people in San Diego's T&IT sectors works for Qualcomm.

Qualcomm's presence in the regional economy adds \$4.53 billion in direct and indirect economic activity annually, equal to about three percent of the county's Gross Regional Product (GRP) in 2010. Every year Qualcomm creates the economic impact of about one and half 2012 London Olympic Games. The combined effect is larger than six other major industry sectors in the region:

Supports 27,365 jobs paying an average annual wage of more than \$70,000.

Every job created at Qualcomm generates about 2.3 jobs in the region.

Every dollar generated directly by Qualcomm generates almost \$2 of economic activity in the region.

Qualcomm also provides significant philanthropic support throughout the San Diego community:

Qualcomm and the Qualcomm Foundation donated an estimated \$85 million to San Diego County charities between 2000 and 2011.

Qualcomm employees gave an estimated \$20 million more to San Diego charities in 2011.

Qualcomm employees gave an estimated 165,000 hours, with a conservatively estimated value of \$4.1 million, to local charities in 2011.

Since its founding in 1985, Qualcomm has been a principal driver of San Diego's T&IT sectors, spurring numerous start-up companies and attracting other major industry players to San Diego:

Telecommunications and the broader IT sectors directly account for almost 2,000 business establishments and more than 65,000 jobs in the county.

Average income among San Diego telecom jobs is \$108,050. Compared to four other high-tech metro areas, only San Jose has a higher average at \$130,500.

T&IT sectors generate approximately 179,020 jobs and \$38.11 billion annually in direct and indirect economic output, contributing about 22 percent of San Diego's GRP in 2010.

Qualcomm and the telecom industry currently employ or are responsible for the employment of one in every 12 jobs in the county.

The T&IT sectors combined currently employ or are responsible for the employment of one in every seven jobs in the county.

Every job created in telecom generates about three other jobs in the region.

Every dollar invested directly in the telecom industry generates an additional \$1.70 of economic activity in the region.

Despite the disruptive impact of the great recession on industries and employers across the nation – in San Diego County alone, total employment declined approximately 10 percent from 2008 to 2011 – the region's T&IT employers that survived this period experienced a slowing of growth rather than a decline in employment. And, while this should be a loose labor market, Qualcomm and other T&IT employers report difficulty finding talent with the skills they need:

San Diego County's T&IT employers increased employment, on average by about two percent, from 2008 to 2011.

Like T&IT companies in Silicon Valley, Qualcomm and other employers in San Diego's telecom and IT industries place a premium on finding and developing talent.

Almost three out of five (58 percent) T&IT employers indicated difficulty finding qualified applicants for non-entry level jobs.

More than two out of five (44 percent) T&IT employers indicated difficulty finding qualified applicants for entry-level jobs.

Good business and governmental policies enable companies like Qualcomm to grow, prosper, create new jobs, and contribute mightily to the San Diego region's economy.

This region needs and will continue to need smart, talented, qualified workers. A high priority for Qualcomm and other T&IT employers in the region is to be able to find these workers quickly.

Policies must be in place to attract the talent required to continue innovating.

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