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## 01/17/1987 - EIU Economy Study Part One

University Marketing and Communications

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
Charleston, Illinois

# news

January 17, 1987  
Part one of three

HARRY READ, Director of Information and Publications (217) 581-5981

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, Ill.--Eastern Illinois University had a direct economic impact of \$119,844,066 on Charleston and Mattoon in 1985.

In addition to the direct impact, the re-spending of the money in the two communities results in an additional indirect impact of \$119,844.066. This results in a total direct and indirect impact of Eastern on Charleston and Mattoon of \$239,708,132, according to Dr. Robert Meier, faculty member who prepared the report.

Meier, a Professor of Management and Marketing, College of Business, made the study at the request of President Stanley Rives.

Rives said the last economic impact study covered the year 1981 and "I asked Dr. Meier to prepare a new report so we would know where we are going in that regard. I am pleased to note that the impact on the two largest communities in Coles County has increased by about 10 percent."

Rives added: "Let me say as strongly as I can that Eastern's contribution to the economy of Mattoon and Charleston would not be possible to this extent without the tremendous support by area residents. Your sons and daughters attend the University and that shows your confidence in us in the ultimate way.

"But in addition, you attend our events and games and you generously give your dollars to support our programs. For this we thank you."

A breakdown of the direct impact figure shows \$102,440,828 credited to Charleston and \$17,413,238 credited to Mattoon. The corresponding figures for the 1981 study were \$93,663,567 for

Charleston and \$15,010,738 for Mattoon. Total direct impact for 1981 was \$108,674,305.

To arrive at his impact figure for 1985, Meier considered expenditures by faculty, staff and students; money spent by visitors to the University, earnings on University investments in local banks and savings and loan associations, taxes and federal revenue sharing funds to the two cities, and Eastern's expenditures for goods and services.

Data used by Meier for his study were based on the calendar year 1985. University sources used by Meier included accounting and departmental records and thorough results of questionnaires sent to students, faculty and staff.

From outside Eastern information was gathered from governmental offices in Mattoon and Charleston, census data, the Mattoon Association of Commerce, the Charleston Area Chamber of Commerce, banks and thrift institutions, and local businesses.

Meier began work on the project during the spring semester of 1986 and completed it in late December.