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*NM Occupation
Projections & Labor
Market Information*

*New Mexico Data Users
Conference*

November 19, 2025



Economic Research & Analysis Bureau



ER&A is the principal source of labor market information (LMI) for the state. ER&A collects, analyzes, and disseminates data in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS); Employment and Training Administration (ETA); and Unemployment Insurance Program

LMI is used by employers, job seekers, career counselors, students, researchers, policy makers, and businesses.

Questions we can help answer

Businesses, Economic Developers

1. My business is expanding and I need to hire an accountant. What is the average wage for accountants in Albuquerque?
2. I want to relocate my welding business to Torrance County. Will I have competition from other welding companies? Will I have trouble hiring welders?
3. How many jobs in New Mexico are supported by exports?

Parents, Job Seekers, Career Consultants

4. My child wants to become an RN. Is that a good job?
5. What occupations are expected to be in demand in the future?
6. What are the median earnings of people with less than a high school diploma?

Policy Analysts, Grant Writers, Program Administrators

7. Does the Department's work assistance programs improve the employment outcomes of those who participate?
8. What is the unemployment rate in Doña Ana County?
9. Are a disproportionate number of Native Americans unemployed compared to other racial and ethnic groups?
10. How did New Mexico's economy perform during the COVID pandemic?
11. If we lowered UI tax rates, how would that impact the solvency of the UI Trust Fund?

Why LMI is Important

- Ten Occupations Found on the 1850 Decennial Census That No Longer Exist

Carter	Driver of horse-drawn vehicle for transporting goods.
Chandlers	Household worker responsible for wax, candles, and soap.
Feather Dresser	Worker who cleaned feathers for sale.
Flax Dresser	Worker who broke flax to prepare it for the spinner.
Ostler	Person employed to look after the horses of people staying at an inn.
Pencil Makers	Maker of pencils.
Razor-Strop Maker	Maker of razor strops, or straps, used to straighten and polish the blade of a straight razor.
Salaeraturus Maker	Maker of baking soda.
Suspender Maker	Maker of suspenders.
Wagon Maker	Maker of wagons.

Background



- Ten-year projections are produced every two years.
- Presented for over 100 industries and close to 750 detailed occupations.
- Prepared for New Mexico, its four metropolitan statistical areas (Albuquerque, Farmington, Las Cruces, and Santa Fe) and four Workforce Regions (Central, Northern, Eastern, and Southwestern).
- Industry projections are used to identify business activities that are expected to contribute significantly and positively to an area's economy.
- Occupational projections provide an outlook for targeted and in-demand occupations within the economy that are expected to provide some of the best employment opportunities.
- Projections can be used to help align programs with the needs and demands of businesses, ultimately helping bridge supply and demand gaps within the workforce.

Limitations and Assumptions



Long-term projections report what is likely to happen if historical and state-level employment patterns continue their historical growth trends; this includes trends in population, labor force, productivity, and economic growth.



Long-term projections do not take into consideration major shocks to the economy and assume that employment will ultimately return to levels that fit long-term growth trends.



The projections process assumes the (1) institutional framework of the economy will not radically change; (2) current technological, scientific, and social trends will continue; (3) and major events (e.g. natural disasters, terrorist attacks, conventional wars, the COVID-19 pandemic) will not be significant enough to alter the industrial structure of the economy or its growth.

Industry Projections

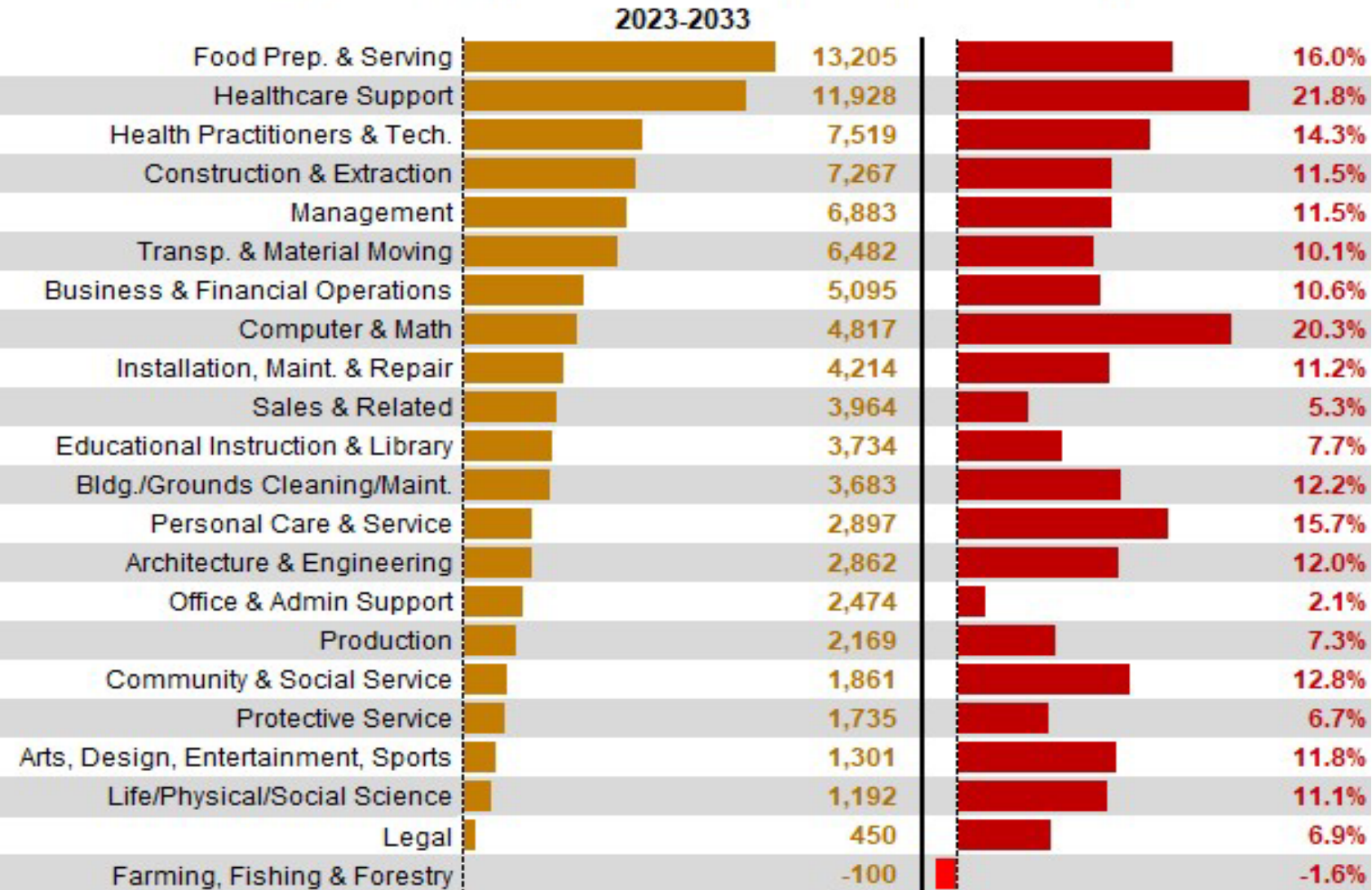
Projected Employment Growth by Major Industry
2023-2033

Industry	Projected Employment Growth (2023-2033)	Percentage Change
Healthcare and Social Assistance	22,751	16.2%
Accommodation and Food Services	17,112	18.3%
Professional/Scientific/Tech. Services	11,038	16.2%
Retail Trade	6,189	6.6%
Construction	5,650	10.7%
Educational Services	5,235	6.8%
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation	4,517	36.6%
Admin & Support/Waste Mgmt.	3,560	7.6%
Manufacturing	3,075	10.7%
Self Employed	2,846	5.9%
Local Government	2,610	6.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	2,316	9.0%
Mining	2,250	9.6%
Other Services (except Govt)	1,831	8.6%
Wholesale Trade	1,125	5.4%
Finance & Insurance	759	3.0%
Federal Government	705	3.4%
Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	692	6.7%
Information	685	1.9%
State Government	429	6.6%
Mgmt. of Companies	309	6.0%
Utilities	250	5.9%
Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing/Hunting	-302	-3.2%

- The large growth in health care and social assistance is due to increased care for the aging population and the desire for increased health care services.
- Nearly 51 percent of all projected employment growth is anticipated to occur in just three major sectors- health care and social assistance, accommodation and food services, and professional, scientific, and tech services.
- Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting is the only sector projected to see a decline in employment.

Occupational Projections

Projected Employment Growth by Major Occupational Group



- Employment in food preparation and serving is projected to grow the most, by 13,205 jobs.
- Healthcare support has the fastest growth, at 21.8 percent, a rate about two times that of the statewide average of 10.6 percent.
- Next fastest growth: computer and math at 20.3% and personal care and service at 15.7 percent.
- Healthcare support (11,928 jobs) and health practitioners & technical (7,519 jobs) will both have large growth.
- Farming, fishing, and forestry is projected to have a slight decrease of 100 jobs by 2033.
- Office and administrative support has the largest current employment but is expected minimal growth (2,474, or 2.1%).

Occupational Projections

Detailed Occupations With the Largest and Fastest Projected Employment Growth

MOST GROWTH		FASTEST GROWTH	
Home Health & Personal Care Aides	9,369	79.4%	Wind Turbine Service Techs
Fast Food & Counter Workers	4,051	48.8%	Nurse Practitioners
Cooks, Restaurant	2,712	43.9%	Information Security Analysts
Registered Nurses	2,389	40.1%	Data Scientists
Stockers & Order Fillers	2,048	39.8%	Exercise Trainers & Group Instructors
Construction Laborers	1,964	37.4%	Solar Photovoltaic Installers
Retail Salespersons	1,932	37.3%	Umpires, Refs, & Other Sport Officials
General & Operations Mgrs.	1,891	34.5%	Medical & Health Service Managers
Waiters & Waitresses	1,815	34.3%	Gambling Managers
Janitors & Cleaners	1,451	33.4%	Gambling Dealers
Secretaries & Admin Assistants	1,366	33.3%	Gambling Service Workers
Medical Assistants	1,309	33.3%	Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks
Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	1,295	33.2%	Lodging Managers
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,232	31.2%	Cooks, Restaurant
Software Developers	1,137	29.2%	Amusement & Recreation Attendants
Supervisors of Food Prep & Serving	1,129	29.0%	Entertainment & Rec Managers
Medical and Health Services Managers	1,095	28.4%	Supervisors of Gambling Service Workers
Maids & Housekeepers	1,082	28.1%	Physician Assistants
Electricians	975	27.0%	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary
Nurse Practitioners	968	26.9%	Operations Research Analyst

- Occupations with the most growth, that required at least a bachelor's degree, include registered nurses, general and operations managers, software developers, and nurse practitioners.
- Most occupations with high growth do not require more than a high school diploma.
- Health services and computer and mathematical occupations are estimated to be the fastest growing occupations with at least 40% increases or higher by 2033.

Occupational Projections

3 Detailed Occupations With the Most and Fastest Projected Employment Growth | REGIONS

MOST GROWTH		FASTEST GROWTH	
CENTRAL *			
Home Health, Personal Care Aides	4,286	50.0%	Nurse Practitioners
Fast Food & Counter Workers	1,870	47.2%	Information Security Analysts
Registered Nurses	1,449	45.8%	Hotel, Motel, & Resort Desk Clerks
EASTERN			
Home Health, Personal Care Aides	1,255	101.4%	Wind Turbine Service Technicians
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	436	49.7%	Nurse Practitioners
Construction Laborers	401	35.6%	Data Scientists
NORTHERN			
Home Health, Personal Care Aides	1,758	49.3%	Nurse Practitioners
Fast Food & Counter Workers	1,143	43.0%	Data Scientists
Cooks, Restaurant	855	40.5%	Exercise Trainers & Fitness Instructors
SOUTHWESTERN			
Home Health, Personal Care Aides	1,867	50.6%	Exercise Trainers & Fitness Instructors
Fast Food & Counter Workers	634	47.4%	Nurse Practitioners
Cooks, Restaurant	378	46.9%	Amusement & Recreation Attendants

* Central Region is the same as Albuquerque MSA.

Occupational Projections

4 Detailed Occupations With the Most and Fastest Projected Employment Growth | MSAs

MOST GROWTH		FASTEST GROWTH	
ALBUQUERQUE *			
Home Health, Personal Care Aides	4,286	50.0%	Nurse Practitioners
Fast Food & Counter Workers	1,870	47.2%	Information Security Analysts
Registered Nurses	1,449	45.8%	Hotel, Motel, & Resort Desk Clerks
FARMINGTON			
Home Health, Personal Care Aides	625	45.5%	Data Scientists
Fast Food & Counter Workers	177	42.9%	Nurse Practitioners
Construction Laborers	136	41.9%	Exercise Trainers & Fitness Instructors
LAS CRUCES			
Home Health, Personal Care Aides	1,325	61.4%	Amusement & Recreation Attendants
Fast Food & Counter Workers	455	55.9%	Exercise Trainers & Fitness Instructors
Cooks, Restaurant	256	48.2%	Nurse Practitioners
SANTA FE			
Fast Food and Counter Workers	468	50.3%	Nurse Practitioners
Cooks, Restaurant	466	43.2%	Exercise Trainers & Fitness Instructors
Waiters and Waitresses	357	39.5%	Amusement & Recreation Attendants

* Albuquerque MSA is the same as Central Region.

Job Openings, Transfers, and Exits

Growth/Growth Openings: Openings that are completely new, not having been filled previously by a worker who left the occupation. Total annual openings from growth equal the numeric growth of the occupation.

Transfers/Transfer Openings: Openings that are the result of workers leaving an occupation and transferring to a different occupation. Transfers represent permanent separations from an occupation, not temporary movements where the worker is expected to return to the same occupation in the future.

Exits/Exit Openings: Openings that are the result of workers leaving an occupation and exiting the labor force entirely. Labor force exits are not necessarily permanent exits from the labor force but are permanent separations from an occupation.

Occupational Projections

Projected Annual Job Openings by Major Occupational Group

	2023-2033		TOTAL
	Annual Job Openings Due To Growth	Annual Job Openings Due to Transfers & Exits	
Food Prep. & Serving	1,320	17,094	18,414
Office & Admin. Support	247	13,384	13,631
Sales & Related	396	10,168	10,564
Healthcare Support	1,193	8,656	9,849
Transp. & Material Moving	648	8,456	9,104
Construction & Extraction	727	5,666	6,393
Management	688	5,022	5,710
Educational Instruction & Library	373	4,421	4,794
Bldg./Grounds Cleaning/Maint.	368	4,337	4,705
Business & Financial Ops.	510	3,967	4,477
Installation, Maint. & Repair	421	3,454	3,875
Personal Care & Service	290	3,518	3,808
Health Practitioners & Tech.	752	3,042	3,794
Production	217	3,404	3,621
Protective Service	174	2,894	3,068
Computer & Mathematical	482	1,497	1,979
Architecture & Engineering	286	1,635	1,921
Community & Social Service	186	1,321	1,507
Arts, Design, Entertainment	130	1,049	1,179
Life/Physical/Social Science	119	974	1,093
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	-10	951	941
Legal	45	391	436

- Food preparation and serving is projected to have the most annual job openings in the state due to transfers and exits (17,094 jobs).
- When combined with growth openings, food preparation and serving will have the most annual job openings (18,414 jobs).
- Minimal job growth is expected in office and administrative support but, it will have the second-largest number of total annual job openings (13,631 jobs) because of the large number leaving the occupation (13,384).
- Legal (45 jobs) is expected to have minimal job growth and the least number of job openings due to transfers and exits (391 jobs).

Occupational Projections

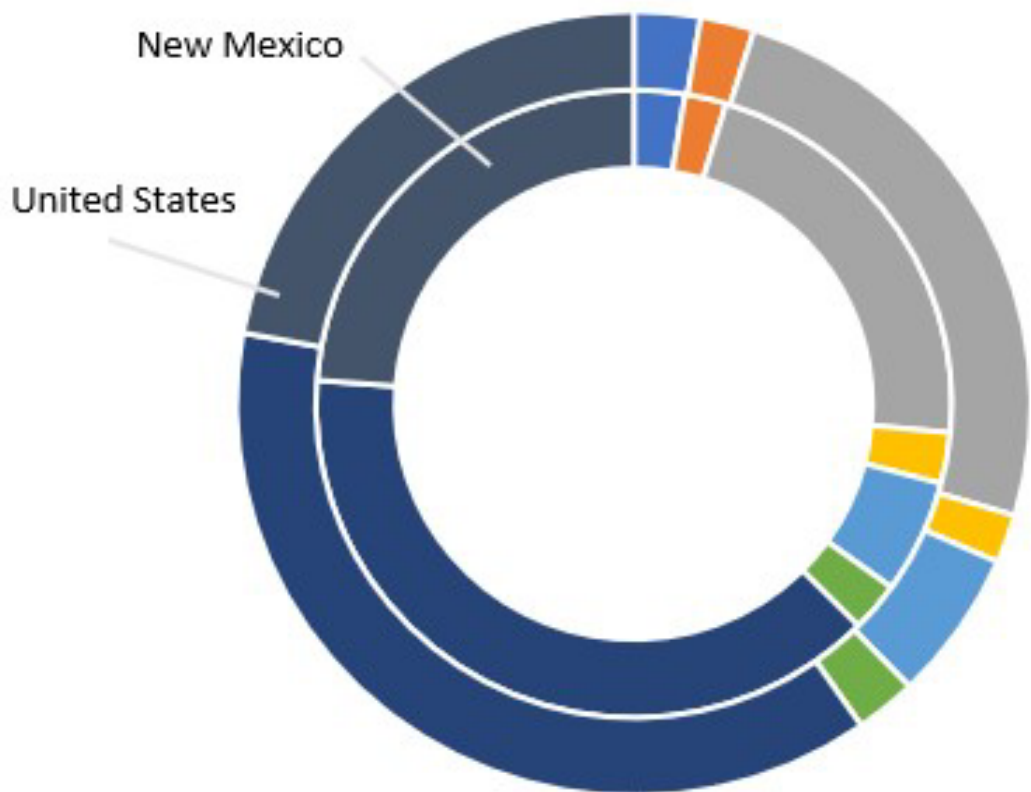
8 Annual Job Openings by Typical Education Level | NEW MEXICO

	Annual Job Openings Due To Growth	Annual Job Openings Due to Transfers & Exits	TOTAL	Number of Occupations	Average Annual Job Openings Due to Transfers & Exits
No Formal Educational Cred.	2,435	35,590	38,025	78	456
High School Diploma or Eqv.	3,204	41,211	44,415	236	175
Some College, No Degree/Postsecondary					
Nondegree Award	696	8,137	8,833	47	173
Associate's	196	1,635	1,831	39	42
Bachelor's	2,217	14,112	16,329	147	96
Master's	312	1,317	1,629	29	45
Doctoral/Professional	250	1,029	1,279	58	18

Excludes occupations in which education level is not available. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Education and Training data

- Occupations with lower educational requirements have the largest number of job openings due to transfers and exits.
- Conversely, occupations that typically require a doctoral or professional degree have an annual average of 18 job opportunities due to transfers and exits.
- Occupations that require a high level of education, and a large amount of time and financial investment, have lower levels of transfers and exits, since the education and skills needed to do the job may not be easily transferrable to other occupations.

Employment by Typical Entry-Level Educational Requirement as a Percentage of Total Employment, 2024

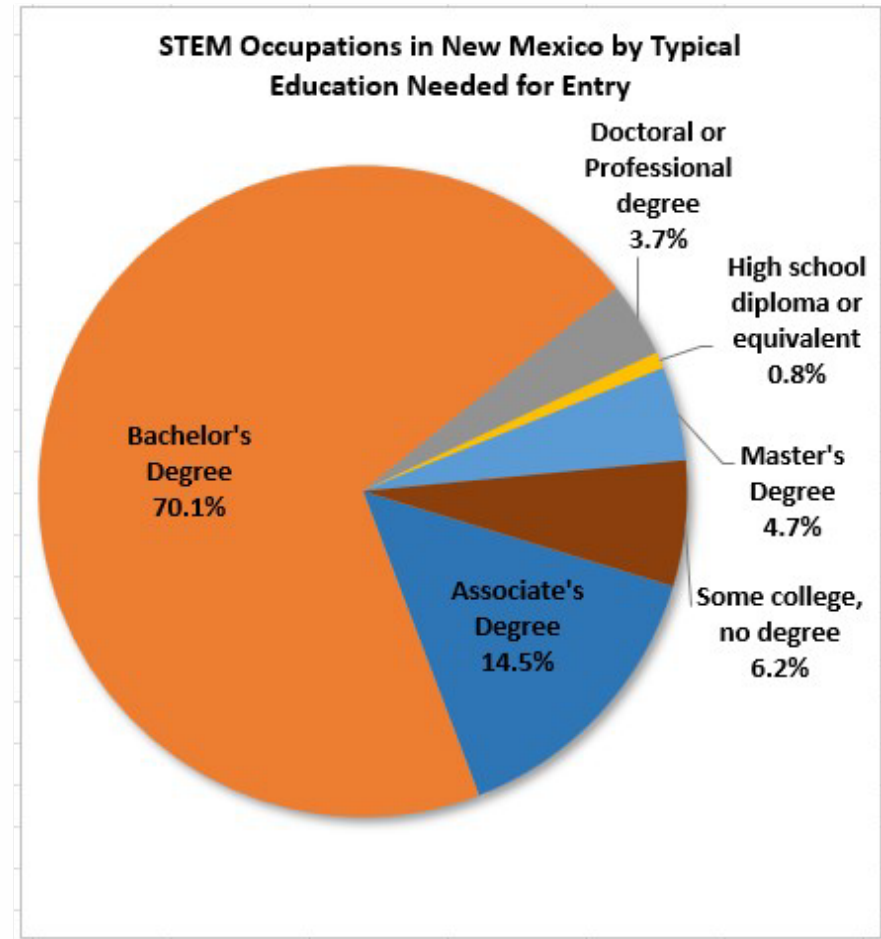
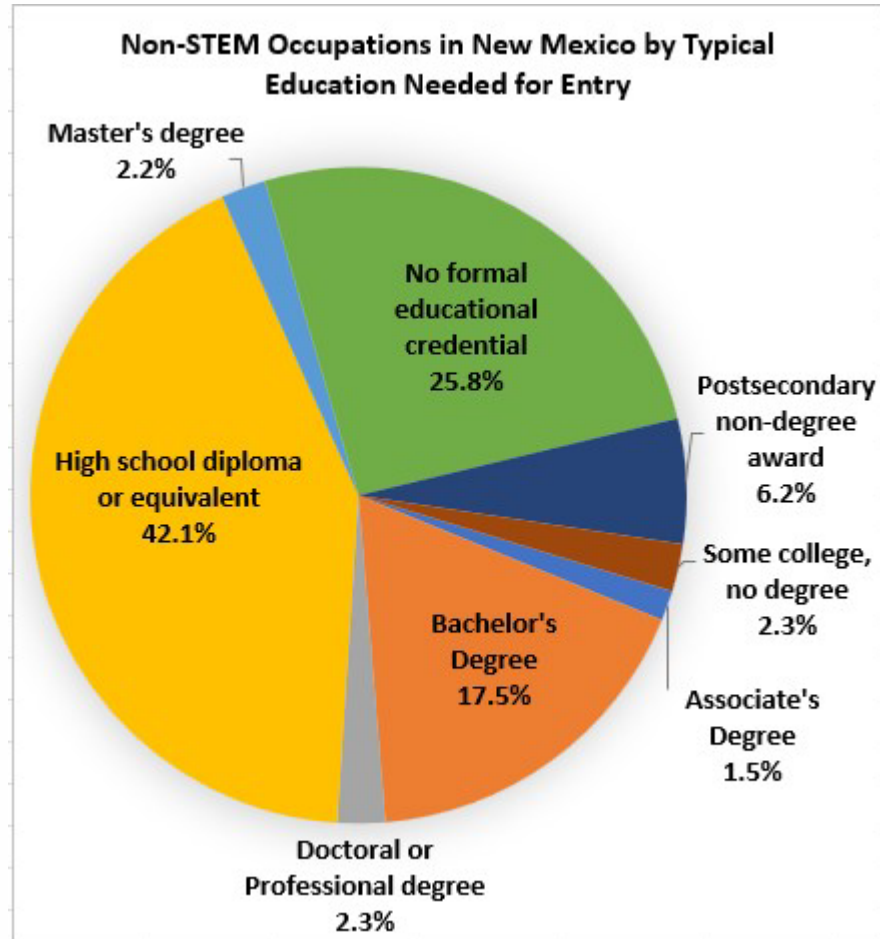


	N.M.	U.S.
No formal educational credential	23.7%	22.1%
High school diploma or eqv.	38.4%	37.6%
Some college, no degree	2.6%	2.5%
Postsecondary nondegree award	5.7%	6.2%
Associate's degree	2.0%	2.0%
Bachelor's degree	21.0%	24.7%
Master's degree	2.1%	2.2%
Doctoral/professional degree	2.4%	2.7%

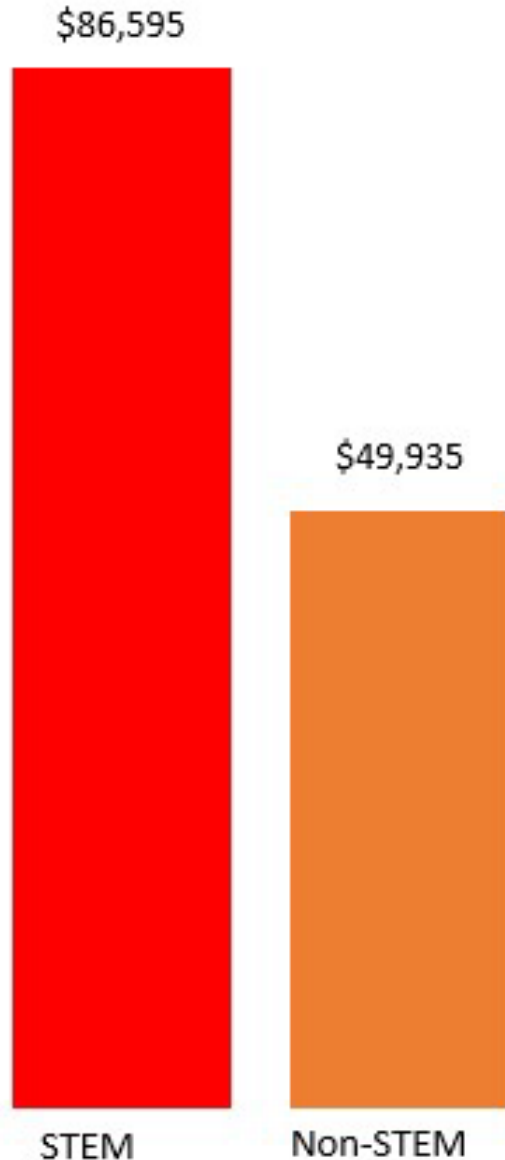
Occupational Employment

- Occupations typically requiring no formal education made up 23.7 percent of employment in New Mexico, slightly higher than the share of employment in the United States (22.1 percent).
- Compared to the nation, New Mexico also had a higher share of employment in occupations that typically required no formal educational credential, a high school diploma or the equivalent, or some college, no degree.
- New Mexico had a lower share of employment in occupations that typically required a postsecondary nondegree award, bachelor's degree, master's degree, and doctoral/professional degree.

STEM Occupations



Annual Median Wages for STEM and Non-STEM Occupations

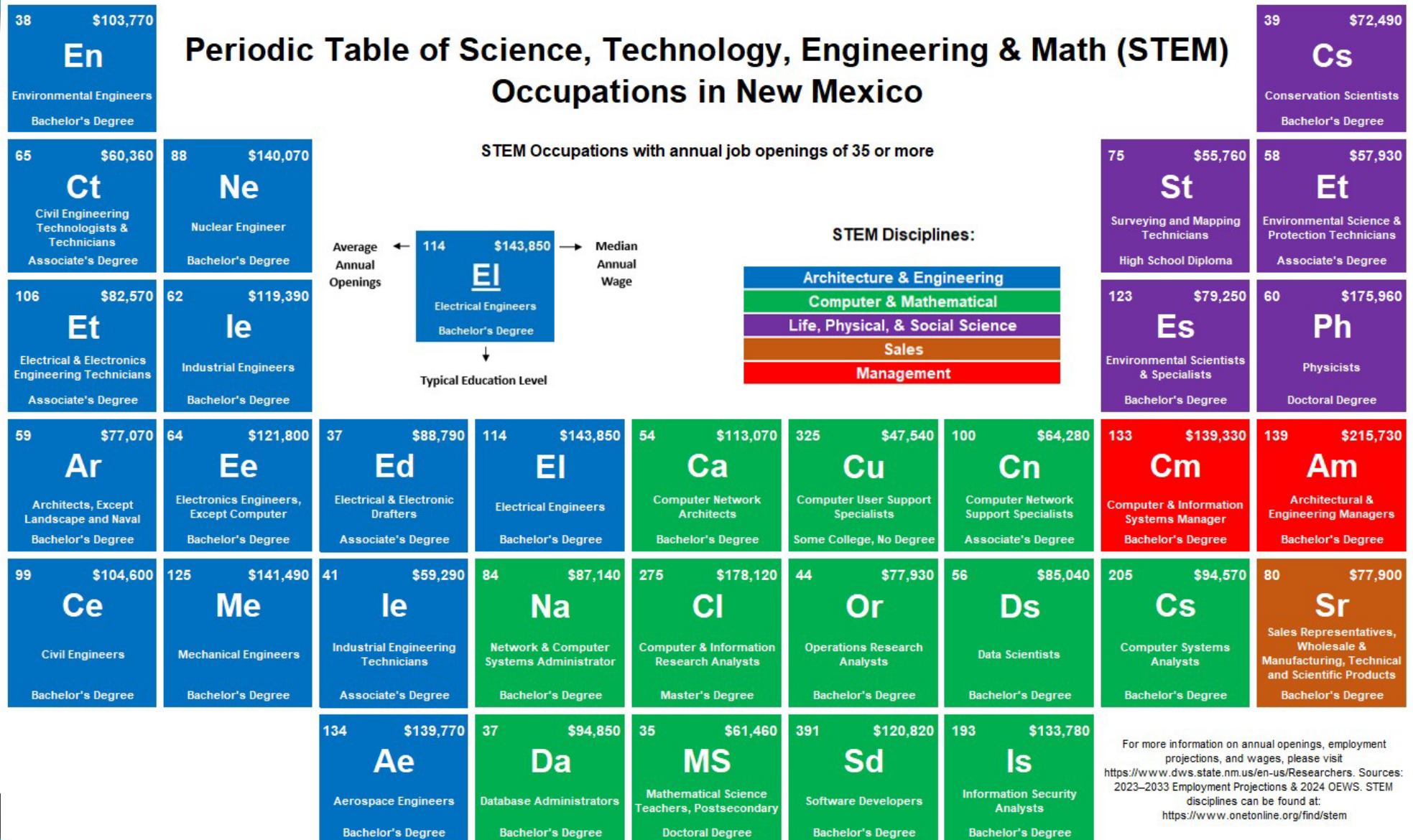


- Produced using Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics(OEWS).
- OEWS program produces employment and wage estimates for approximately 830 occupations based on a survey of business establishments.
- The OEWS survey covers wage and salary workers in nonfarm establishments and does not include the self-employed, owners and partners in unincorporated firms, household workers, or unpaid family workers.

STEM Occupations

Periodic Table of Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) Occupations in New Mexico

STEM Occupations with annual job openings of 35 or more



For more information on annual openings, employment projections, and wages, please visit <https://www.dws.state.nm.us/en-us/Researchers>. Sources: 2023-2033 Employment Projections & 2024 OEWS. STEM disciplines can be found at: <https://www.onetonline.org/find/stem>

Where we are on the DWS home page

https://www.dws.state.nm.us/en-us/



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- Employment & Industry
- Occupations & Wages
- Employment Projections**
- Occupational Outlook
- US Consumer Price Index
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- Publication Email Notifications
- LASER
- Career Solutions
- Why I Work

Publications

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- Understanding LMI
- 2022 Publication Schedule

What is Labor Market Information

What is Labor Market Information (LMI)?



www.dws.state.nm.us

Publications



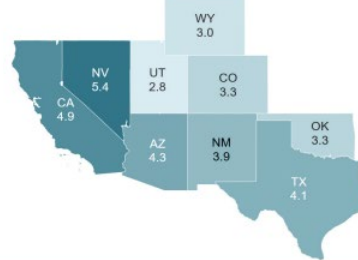
NEW MEXICO LABOR MARKET REVIEW NOVEMBER 2023

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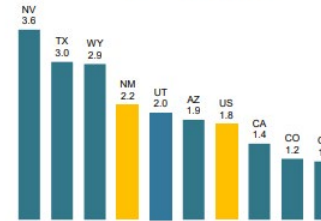


The New Mexico Labor Market Review (LMR) presents the most up-to-date labor market highlights and happenings. The LMR is produced and published monthly and includes data on the labor force, jobs, and unemployment for the state and select substate areas. Additional information and historical data are available at our website: www.dws.state.nm.us/LMI.

3.9%
Unemployment Rate



+18,800 jobs / 2.2%
Over-the-Year Change in Total Nonfarm Employment



Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham Secretary Sarita Nair

New Mexico 2023 State of the Workforce

A Report Highlighting New Mexico's Current and Future Workforce

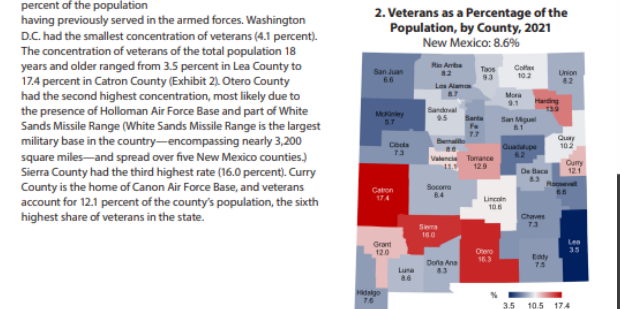
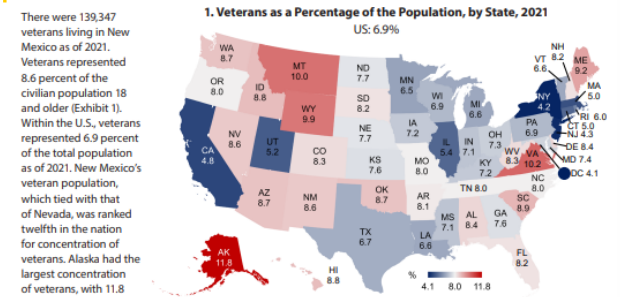
September 2023 | www.dws.state.nm.us



2023 VETERANS PROFILE

In honor of Veterans Day, we are releasing the 2023 Veterans Profile, a publication that provides basic demographic and economic data on New Mexicans who have served in the United States Armed Forces. To all our veterans: thank you for your service.

VETERANS AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL POPULATION



Special Article

2022–2032 Occupational Employment Projections

Raymond Sena, Economist

The New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions' (NMDWS) Economic Research and Analysis Bureau (ER&A) produces long-term industry and occupational employment projections every two years. Data are produced in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) and are available for New Mexico, its four metropolitan statistical areas (Albuquerque, Farmington, Las Cruces, and Santa Fe), and four workforce regions (Central, Northern, Eastern, and Southwestern, as defined by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and referred to as "regions"). The recently released data project employment across the ten-year period of 2022 to 2032 and are available for over 90 industry subsectors and close to 800 detailed occupations at the state and substate levels.

Employment projections are used for a variety of purposes. Individuals often use projections when exploring future career opportunities and making employment decisions. Businesses and public entities use the data when making decisions related to future workforce needs and demand for occupations and skill sets. Employment projections are critical for educational institutions that are developing programs and determining the allocation of resources. All in all, employment growth and occupational demand provide insight into key growth sectors and potential areas of decline across New Mexico's industries and occupations. Such insight assists policymakers, individuals, employers, and educators in making informed decisions that will ultimately help align the supply of and demand for workers in New Mexico.

This article provides a summary of occupational employment projections for New Mexico and its substate areas (regions and MSAs). ER&A prepares industry projections but is not included in this article. For that information, please visit the links shown below.

ACCESSING PROJECTIONS DATA AND METHODOLOGY AND VIEWING INTERACTIVE DATA VISUALIZATIONS

Projections data are available in downloadable formats at the NMDWS interactive data site, LASER, at www.jobs.state.nm.us/analyzer.

To access both the industry and occupational employment projections dashboards, visit <https://www.dws.state.nm.us/en-us/Researchers/Data/Employment-Projections>.

PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT GROWTH BY MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUP

1 Projected Employment Growth by Major Occupational Group | NEW MEXICO

Occupational Group	Projected Employment Growth	Percentage of Total
Healthcare Support	17,850	32.5%
Food Prep. & Serving	15,400	19.6%
Health Practitioners & Tech.	10,530	20.1%
Construction & Extraction	8,410	13.7%
Transp. & Material Moving	8,080	12.8%
Management	7,720	13.3%
Computer & Math	5,370	23.9%
Business & Financial Operations	5,120	11.5%
Sales & Related	5,120	7.0%
Installation, Maint. & Repair	4,580	12.3%
Bldg./Grounds Cleaning/Maint.	4,180	14.3%
Educational Instruction & Library	3,760	7.7%
Personal Care & Service	3,360	20.2%
Office & Admin Support	3,180	2.7%
Architecture & Engineering	2,690	11.6%
Community & Social Service	2,390	16.8%
Production	2,370	8.7%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports	1,910	17.3%
Protective Service	1,470	6.1%
Life/Physical/Social Science	1,150	11.6%
Legal	730	10.3%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	300	3.7%

Numeric growth is rounded.

New Mexico's 2022 employment of 883,100 is projected to grow to 998,770 by 2032. This increase represents an additional 115,670 jobs expected to be created and a 13.1 percent growth. (Employment estimates, projections, and numeric growth are rounded.) Exhibit 1 illustrates projected employment growth by major occupational group in New Mexico. Employment growth is defined as the number of positions that are completely new and have not been filled previously by a worker who left the occupation. Employment in healthcare support is projected to grow the most, by 17,850 jobs, making up slightly over 15 percent of total statewide growth. Healthcare support also has the fastest growth, at 32.5 percent, a rate over two times that of the statewide average of 13.1 percent. Occupations with the next fastest growth included computer

Data Dashboards

Dashboards are available at www.dws.state.nm.us
 Hover over the Researchers menu.
 The dashboards are available within the Data submenu.

Occupational Employment Projections Dashboard

- Growth | Major Group
- Growth | Detailed Occupation
- Job Openings | Major Group
- Job Openings | Detailed Occupation
- Notes

Projected Employment Growth by MAJOR OCCUPATION GROUP

SELECT ↓ What type of growth do you want to see? Numeric Percent

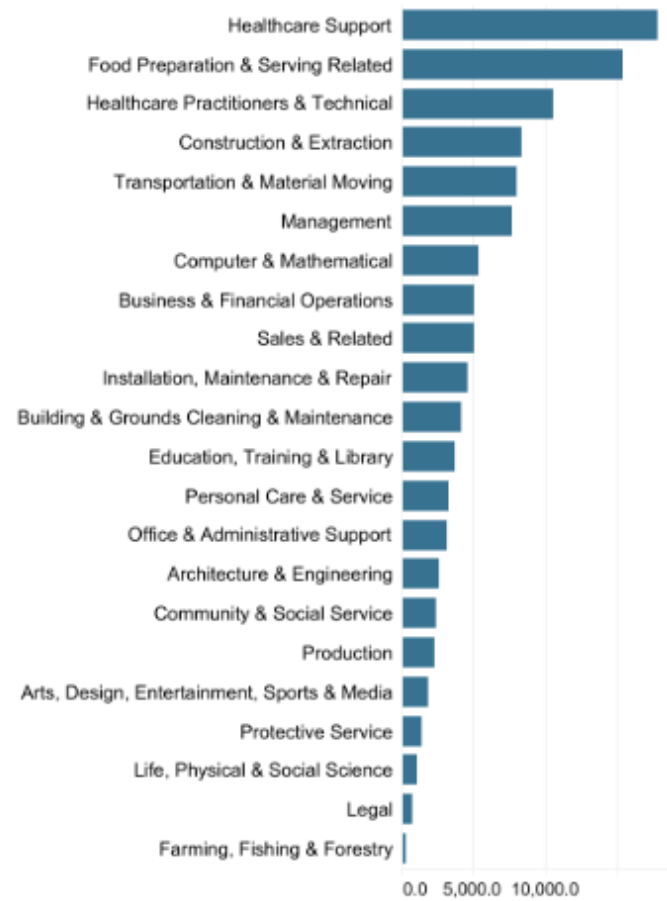
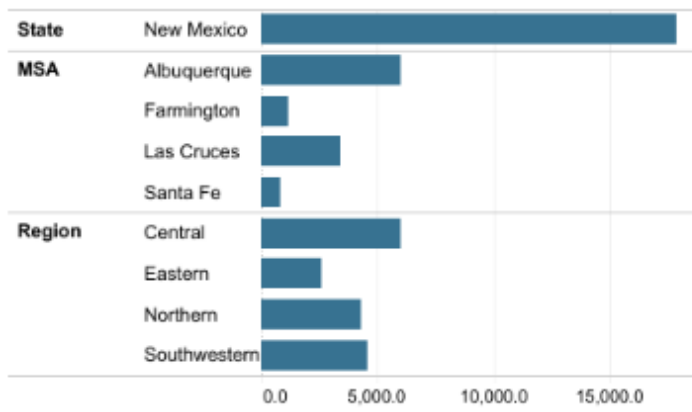
? Help

↓ An **AREA** below to see occupation detail

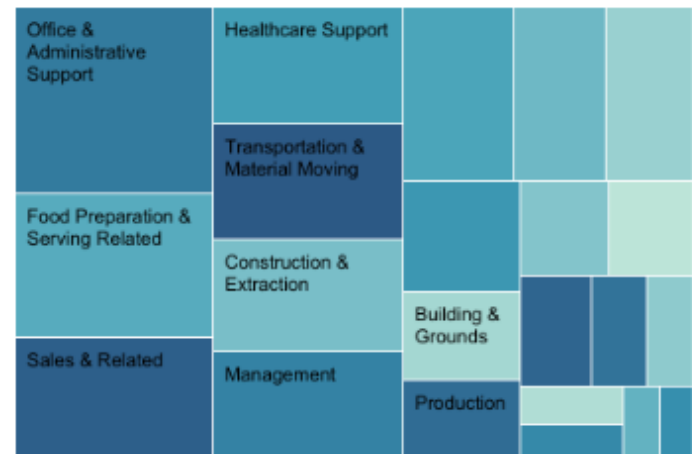
↓ An **OCCUPATION** below to see area detail

Current Occupation | Healthcare Support

Current Area | New Mexico



Occupation Share of Projected 2032 Employment
 Current Area | New Mexico



**Nulls represent suppressed industries with suppressed data.



Employers

Access recruitment assistance and services to find the perfect candidate.





Enter a keyword and/or location to find jobs.

Search Jobs Search

[[Additional Search Options](#)]

★ Explore New Mexico Workforce Connection

 **Individual**
Access career resources and services. Apply or certify for Unemployment Insurance benefits.

 **Employer**
Access recruitment assistance and services to find the perfect candidate.

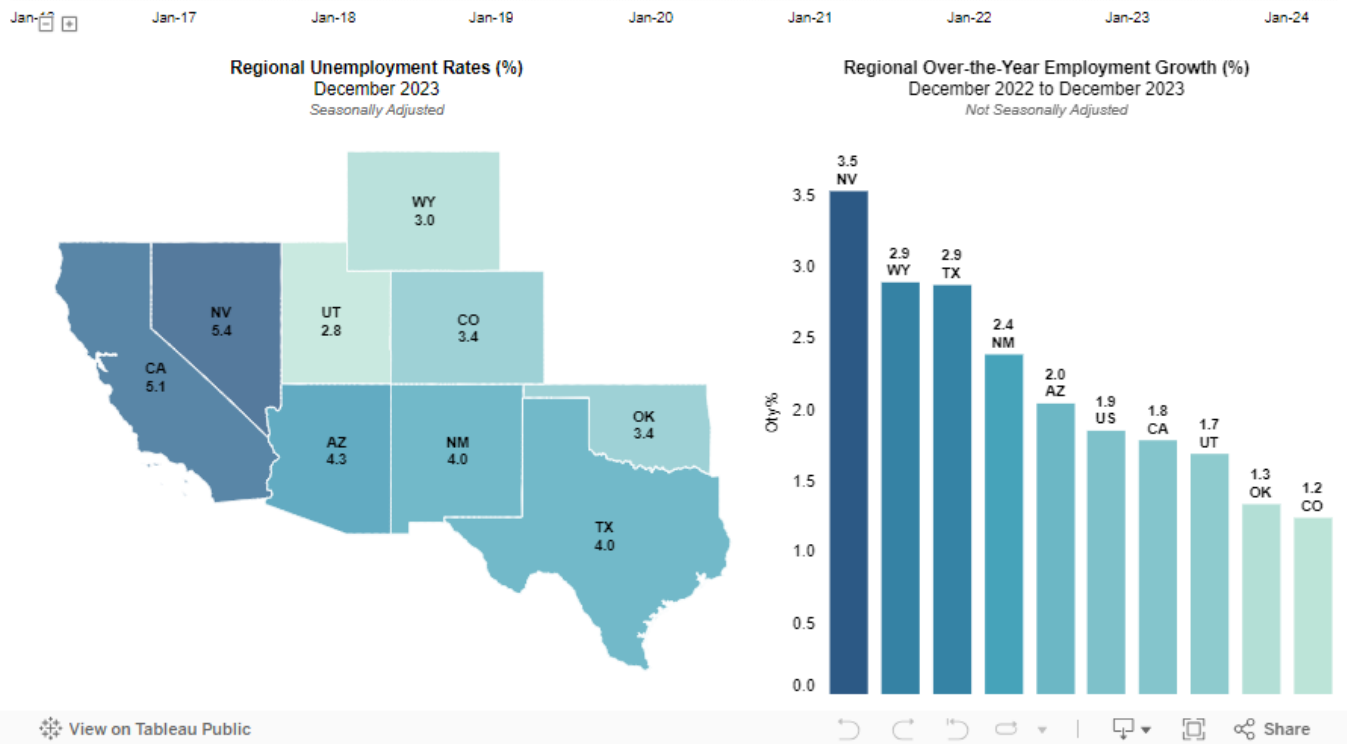
 **Training Providers**
Post training opportunities and register to apply for provider services.

 **Labor Market Information**
Your source for economic and workforce data and analysis to help you make informed decisions.

Where we are on the JOBS site



Where we are on the JOBS site



Videos showing how to find and use labor market information

Data & Statistics

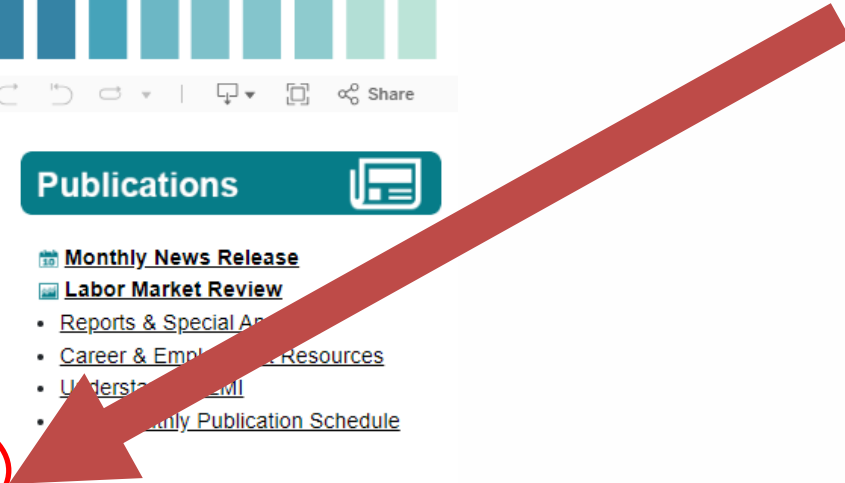
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[LAUS Local Area Unemployment Statistics](#)
- Employment & Industry**
[CES Current Employment Statistics](#)
[QCEW Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages](#)
- Occupations & Wages**
[OEWS Wages Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics](#)
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Online Resources for LMI

LABOR MARKET INFO

NMDWS LMI Website:
www.dws.state.nm.us/LMI

Interactive and easy-to-use, this site is for those who need answers quickly. Online data visualizations such as charts and graphs can be customized.

CAREER EXPLORATION

Career Solutions:
www.NMCareerSolutions.com

Interactive career exploration website that incorporates labor market information so students and job seekers can make informed decisions about their future.

LASER:
www.jobs.state.nm.us/analyzer

Good for experienced users such as economic developers and researchers who want to get the data and format it themselves.

Why I Work:
<https://whyiwork.dws.state.nm.us/>

A budgeting tool that shows how much money a person needs to make to afford the things he or she wants and needs.



Thank you!

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS