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Economist

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*NM Occupation
Projections & Labor
Market Information*

*New Mexico Data Users
Conference*

November 20, 2024



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
2022-2032

Industry	Projected Employment Growth (2022-2032)	Percentage
Healthcare and Social Assistance	33,940	24.8%
Accommodation and Food Services	19,850	22.3%
Professional/Scientific/Tech. Services	10,790	16.8%
Retail Trade	6,820	7.3%
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation	5,960	51.8%
Construction	5,660	11.4%
Self Employed	4,300	8.7%
Educational Services	4,170	5.6%
Admin & Support/Waste Mgmt.	3,880	8.4%
Mining	3,830	18.1%
Manufacturing	3,670	12.7%
Transportation & Warehousing	3,160	12.1%
Local Government	2,910	6.9%
Finance & Insurance	1,970	8.7%
Other Services (except Govt)	1,830	8.9%
Information	1,710	15.9%
Wholesale Trade	790	3.8%
Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	730	7.1%
Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing/Hunting	330	3.3%
Mgmt. of Companies	310	5.5%
Utilities	110	2.5%
Federal Government	-430	-1.8%
State Government	-600	-2.8%

- 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.
- The large growth in accommodation and food service is caused by the need for workers by New Mexico businesses as they recover from the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Arts, entertainment, and recreation, mining (which includes oil and gas), and information services are projected to grow at or above New Mexico's all-industry average of 13.1 percent.
- Federal and state government are both expected to see a decline, with the most expected in state government. Local government is expected to increase as they recover from the pandemic.

Occupational Projections

Projected Employment Growth by Major Occupational Group | NEW MEXICO

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.

- Employment in healthcare support is projected to grow the most, by 17,850 jobs.
- 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.
- Next fastest growth: computer and math at 23.9% and personal care and service at 20.2 percent.
- Food preparation (15,400 jobs) and health practitioners & technical (10,530 jobs) with both have large growth
- Farming, fishing, and forestry is projected to have the smallest increase of 300 jobs by 2032.
- Office and administrative support has the largest current employment but is expected minimal growth(3,180, or 2.7%).

Occupational Projections













Detailed Occupations With the Most and Fastest Projected Employment Growth | NEW MEXICO

MOST GROWTH			FASTEST GROWTH		
Home Health & Personal Care Aides	13,310		64.5%	Nurse Practitioners	
Fast Food & Counter Workers	4,370		55.6%	Music Directors and Composers	
Cooks, Restaurant	3,890		51.2%	Solar Photovoltaic Installers	
Registered Nurses	2,910		47.4%	Physical Therapist Assistants	
Stockers & Order Fillers	2,460		46.6%	Physician Assistants	
General & Operations Mgrs.	2,380		45.7%	Information Security Analysts	
Medical Assistants	2,210		45.4%	Tour and Travel Guides	
Construction Laborers	2,090		44.8%	Exercise Trainers & Group Instructors	
Retail Salespersons	2,070		44.4%	Baggage Porters & Bellhops	
Waiters & Waitresses	1,960		43.1%	Cooks, Restaurant	
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,630		42.2%	Medical & Health Service Managers	
Software Developers	1,520		42.1%	Gambling Dealers	
Supervisors of Food Prep & Serving	1,510		42.0%	Data Scientists	
Janitors & Cleaners	1,500		41.0%	Musicians & Singers	
Maids & Housekeepers	1,370		40.9%	Statisticians	

- Home health and personal care aides are projected to have the most growth with 13,310 jobs.
- Fast food and counter workers are expected to increase by the next largest number (4,370) followed by restaurant cooks (3,890)
- Nurse practitioners, the detailed occupation with the fastest projected growth, is expected to increase by 64.5 percent by 2032.
- Music directors and composers, with an employment of about 50 in 2022, are expected to increase by 55.6% percent in 2032.
- Of the occupations listed as having the fastest growth, only one other had 2022 employment of less than 100 workers –baggage porters and bellhops (50).

Occupational Projections

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























MOST GROWTH		FASTEST GROWTH	
CENTRAL*			
Home Health & Personal Care Aides		4,540	68.5% Tour & Travel Guides
Fast Food & Counter Workers		2,050	64.3% Musicians & Singers
Cooks, Restaurant		1,590	53.8% Solar Photovoltaic Installers
EASTERN			
Home Health & Personal Care Aides		2,010	74.7% Nurse Practitioners
Fast Food & Counter Workers		860	54.6% Physical Therapist Assistants
Cooks, Restaurant		700	50.0% Wind Turbine Technicians
NORTHERN			
Home Health & Personal Care Aides		3,070	76.6% Nurse Practitioners
Cooks, Restaurant		1,130	59.0% Physician Assistants
Fast Food & Counter Workers		900	53.8% Physical Therapist Assistants
SOUTHWESTERN			
Home Health & Personal Care Aides		3,580	97.9% Nurse Practitioners
Fast Food & Counter Workers		530	74.9% Physical Therapist Assistants
Registered Nurses		520	69.9% Physician Assistants

- Employment for home health and personal care aides is expected to have the most growth in all workforce regions.
- Fast food and counter workers and restaurant cooks have the next highest growth.
- One exception is registered nurses. They are expected to increase employment by 520 jobs in the Southwestern region.
- Nurse practitioners and physical therapist assistants is expected to have the fastest growth in all regions except Central region.
- Tour & travel guides, musicians & singers, and solar photovoltaic installers will experience the fastest growth in Central region.

Occupational Projections

- Employment for home health and personal care aides is still expected to have the most growth in majority of the MSAs.
- Fast food and counter workers and restaurant cooks are expected to have the next highest growth in most MSAs.
- Employment of nurse practitioners is expected to have the fastest growth in nearly all areas.
- Physician assistants and physical therapist assistants are projected to grow faster in Farmington and Las Cruces.
- Other occupations projected to exhibit fast-growing employment in the substate areas include tour and travel guides, solar photovoltaic installers, and medical and health service managers.

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

	MOST GROWTH		FASTEST GROWTH	
ALBUQUERQUE *				
Home Health & Personal Care Aides		4,540		68.5% Tour & Travel Guides
Fast Food & Counter Workers		2,050		64.3% Musicians & Singers
Cooks, Restaurant		1,590		53.8% Solar Photovoltaic Installers
FARMINGTON				
Home Health & Personal Care Aides		910		66.1% Nurse Practitioners
Fast Food & Counter Workers		290		49.1% Home Health & Personal Care Aides
Construction Laborers		200		43.0% Medical & Health Services Manager
LAS CRUCES				
Home Health & Personal Care Aides		2,610		96.6% Nurse Practitioners
Fast Food & Counter Workers		450		71.5% Physical Therapist Assistants
Medical Assistants		390		69.2% Physician Assistants
SANTA FE				
Cooks, Restaurant		530		72.1% Nurse Practitioners
Home Health & Personal Care Aides		410		56.4% Physician Assistants
Fast Food & Counter Workers		280		54.2% Physical Therapist Assistants

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

	Annual Job Openings Due To Growth	Annual Job Openings Due to Transfers & Exits	TOTAL
Food Prep. & Serving	1,540	16,490	18,030
Office & Admin. Support	320	13,660	13,980
Healthcare Support	1,790	9,150	10,940
Sales & Related	510	10,350	10,860
Transp. & Material Moving	810	8,460	9,270
Construction & Extraction	840	5,660	6,500
Management	770	4,820	5,590
Educational Instruction & Library	380	4,400	4,780
Bldg./Grounds Cleaning/Maint.	420	4,210	4,630
Business & Financial Ops.	510	3,690	4,200
Health Practitioners & Tech.	1,050	3,140	4,190
Installation, Maint, & Repair	460	3,460	3,920
Personal Care & Service	340	3,180	3,520
Production	240	3,140	3,380
Protective Service	150	2,630	2,780
Computer & Mathematical	540	1,500	2,040
Architecture & Engineering	270	1,630	1,900
Community & Social Service	240	1,300	1,540
Arts, Design, Entertainment	190	1,150	1,340
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	30	1,200	1,230
Life/Physical/Social Science	120	880	1,000
Legal	70	460	530

Numeric openings are rounded.

- Food preparation and serving is projected to have the most annual job openings in the state due to transfers and exits (16,490 jobs).
- When combined with growth openings, food preparation and serving will have the most annual job openings (18,030 jobs).
- Minimal job growth is expected in office and administrative support but, it will have the second-largest number of total annual job openings (13,980 jobs) because of the large number leaving the occupation (13,660).
- Farming, fishing, and forestry (30 jobs) and legal (70 jobs) are expected to have minimal job growth. Legal is also expected to have the least number of job openings due to transfers and exits (460 jobs).

Occupational Projections

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.	2,860	35,070	37,930	71	494
High School Diploma or Eqv.	3,960	41,080	45,040	224	183
Some College, No Degree/Postsecondary Nondegree Award	970	8,410	9,380	43	196
Associate's	240	1,790	2,030	39	46
Bachelor's	2,530	13,910	16,440	145	96
Master's	320	1,140	1,460	31	37
Doctoral/Professional	340	1,090	1,430	56	19

Numeric openings are rounded. 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.
- Occupations that typically do not require a formal educational credential have an annual average of 494 openings due to transfers and exits.
- Conversely, occupations that typically require a doctoral or professional degree have an annual average of 19 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.

In-Demand Occupations

In-Demand occupations are those that are projected to have more job openings and see faster employment growth than most other occupations.

How are In-Demand Occupations Identified?

In-Demand occupations are determined using ten-year employment projections produced by the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions' (NMDWS) Economic Research and Analysis Bureau (ER&A). Employment projections are produced using methodologies developed by the U.S. Department of Labor.

An In-Demand occupation is any occupation that meets both of these two criteria:

1 | MORE JOB OPENINGS
Projected annual openings are greater than or equal to the openings of at least 75 percent of all occupations (i.e., in the top 25th percentile for openings) for the area.

2 | FASTER JOB GROWTH
The projected percentage growth of employment in the occupation is higher than or equal to the average percentage growth for all occupations in the area.

In-Demand occupations are specific to each workforce region and metropolitan statistical area, or MSA, in New Mexico because each area has a different set of occupations and different projected job growth and growth rates. Here is a reference chart that gives the exact measurements used to identify In-Demand occupations by substate area.

An occupation is considered to be IN DEMAND if it meets these two criteria

Area	Total Projected ANNUAL <u>job openings</u> are greater than or equal to:	Projected ANNUAL <u>job growth</u> is greater than or equal to:
New Mexico	90	13.1%
Albuquerque MSA	40	11.2%
Farmington MSA	10	11.9%
Las Cruces MSA	10	14.8%
Santa Fe MSA	10	12.0%
Central Region	40	11.2%
Eastern Region	20	12.2%
Northern Region	20	14.0%
Southwestern Region	10	14.6%

In-Demand Occupations

NEW MEXICO IN-DEMAND OCCUPATIONS 2024

Projected Average ANNUAL Job Openings

90 or more

This represents the projected number of job openings from both new jobs and existing jobs that become available.

AND

Projected Employment Growth

13.1% or more

This represents how fast employment is projected to grow, with a higher percentage meaning faster growth.

Occupation Code & Title	Jobs as of 2022	Projected Employment Growth	Projected Avg. Annual Job Openings	2024 Wage			High Demand	Wage & Star Level
				Entry	Median	Experienced		
All Occupations	883,100	13.1%	116,110	\$29,000	\$43,620	\$71,780	n/a	
Master's Degree or Higher								
25-1071 Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	1,810	25.7%	210	\$48,460	\$102,500	\$213,450	\$\$\$	★4
29-1171 Nurse Practitioners	1,590	64.5%	200	\$102,110	\$133,090	\$154,110	\$\$\$	★4
29-1051 Pharmacists	2,020	13.4%	110	\$96,470	\$134,890	\$148,890	\$\$\$	★4
29-1123 Physical Therapists	1,470	31.5%	110	\$66,050	\$100,440	\$114,410	\$\$\$	★4
15-1221 Computer and Information Research Scientists	STEM	***	***	\$129,420	\$172,190	\$190,400	\$\$\$	★4
29-1127 Speech-Language Pathologists	1,080	29.2%	100	\$70,390	\$102,890	\$115,510	\$\$\$	★4
21-1022 Healthcare Social Workers	770	22.2%	90	\$40,900	\$61,440	\$72,790	\$	★3

STAR Occupations

STAR Occupations



High-Demand

Projected annual openings are greater than or equal to the openings of at least 90 percent of all occupations

AND

Percentage growth is higher than or equal to the growth of 75 percent of all occupations.



Top Wage

The median wage is above or equal to the median of all occupations

AND

above or equal to the median of all occupations with the same minimum education requirement.



High-Demand

Projected annual openings are greater than or equal to the openings of at least 90 percent of all occupations

AND

Percentage growth is higher than or equal to the growth of 75 percent of all occupations.



High Wage

The median wage is above or equal to the median of all occupations.

OR

In-Demand

Projected annual openings are greater than or equal to the openings of at least 75 percent of all occupations

AND

Percentage growth is higher than or equal to the average growth of all occupations.



Top Wage

The median wage is above or equal to the median of all occupations

AND

above or equal to the median of all occupations with the same minimum education requirement.



High-Demand

Projected annual openings are greater than or equal to the openings of at least 90 percent of all occupations

AND

Percentage growth is higher than or equal to the growth of 75 percent of all occupations.



Education Wage

The median wage is above or equal to the median of all occupations with the same minimum education requirement.

OR

In-Demand

Projected annual openings are greater than or equal to the openings of at least 75 percent of all occupations

AND

Percentage growth is higher than or equal to the average growth of all occupations.

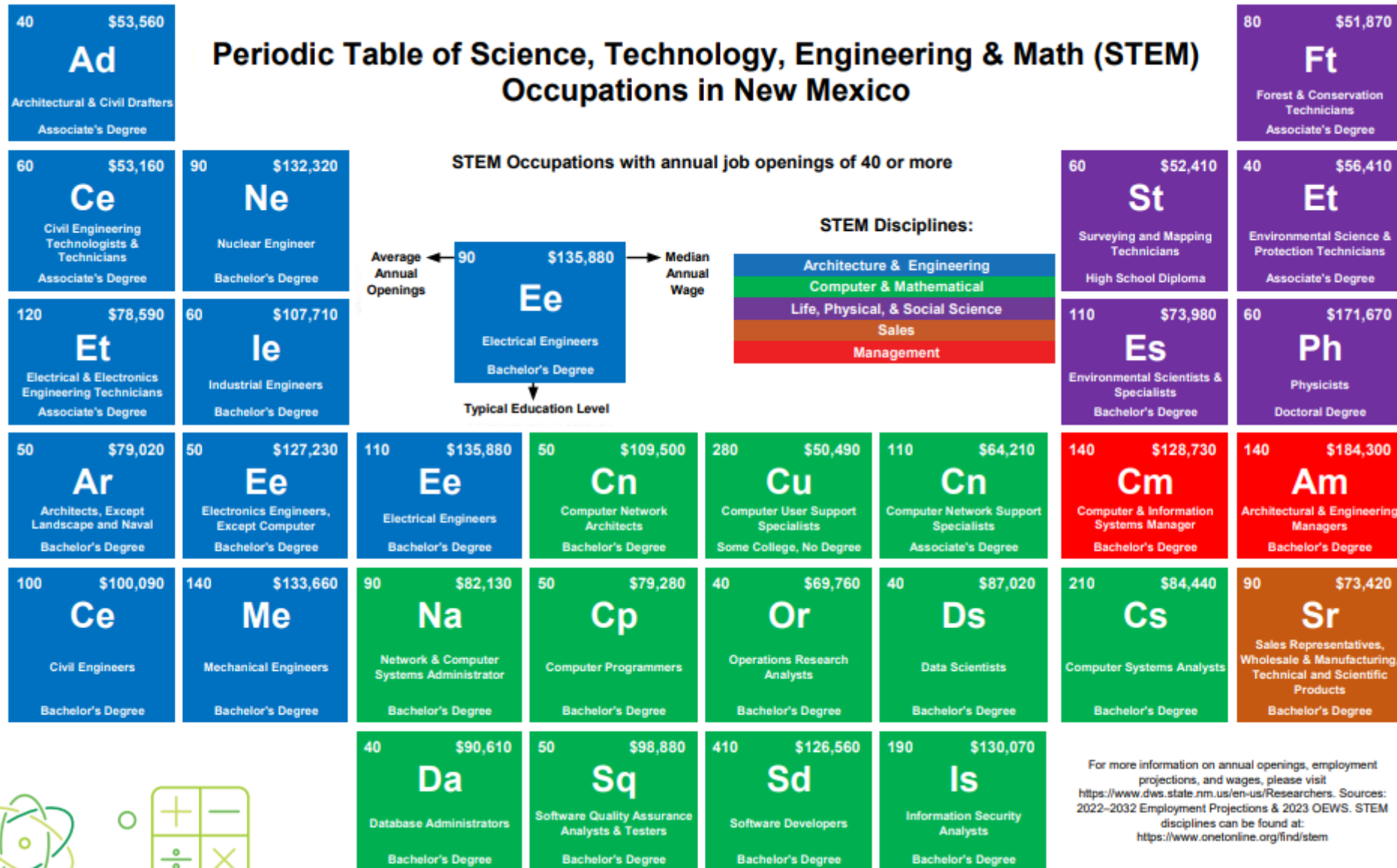


High Wage

The median wage is above or equal to the median of all occupations.

STEM Occupations

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

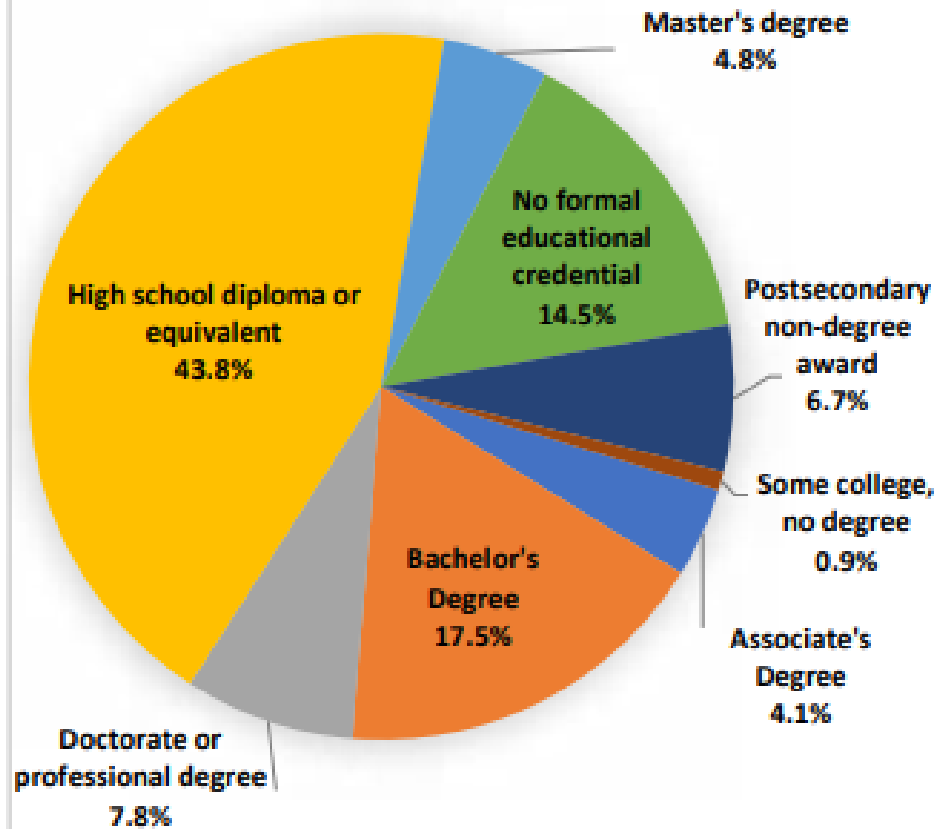


For more information on annual openings, employment projections, and wages, please visit <https://www.dws.state.nm.us/en-us/Researchers>. Sources: 2022-2032 Employment Projections & 2023 OEWS. STEM disciplines can be found at: <https://www.onetonline.org/find/stem>

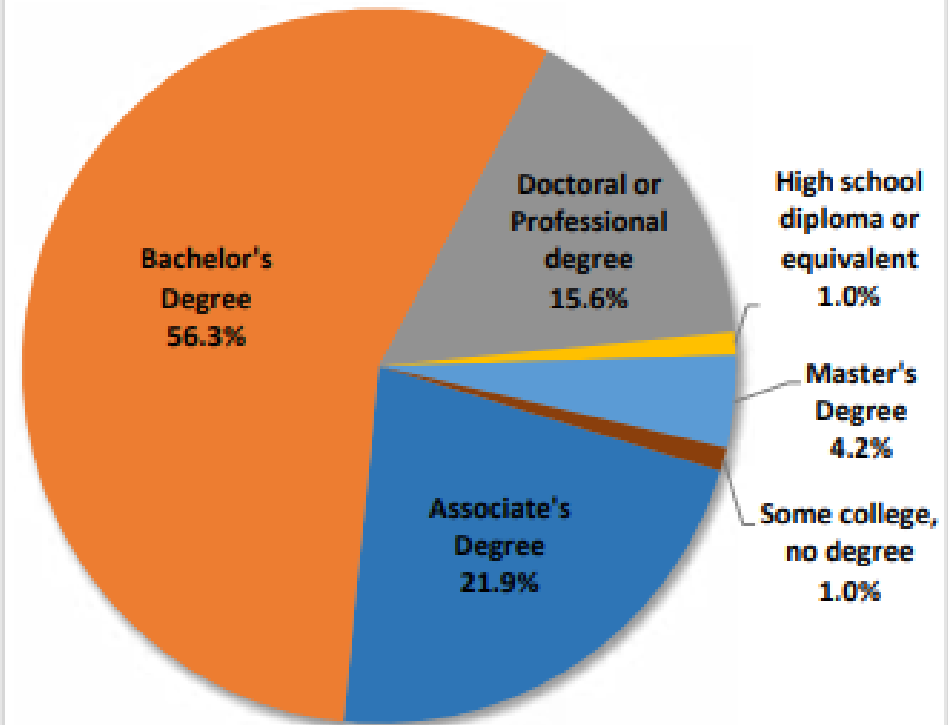


STEM Occupations

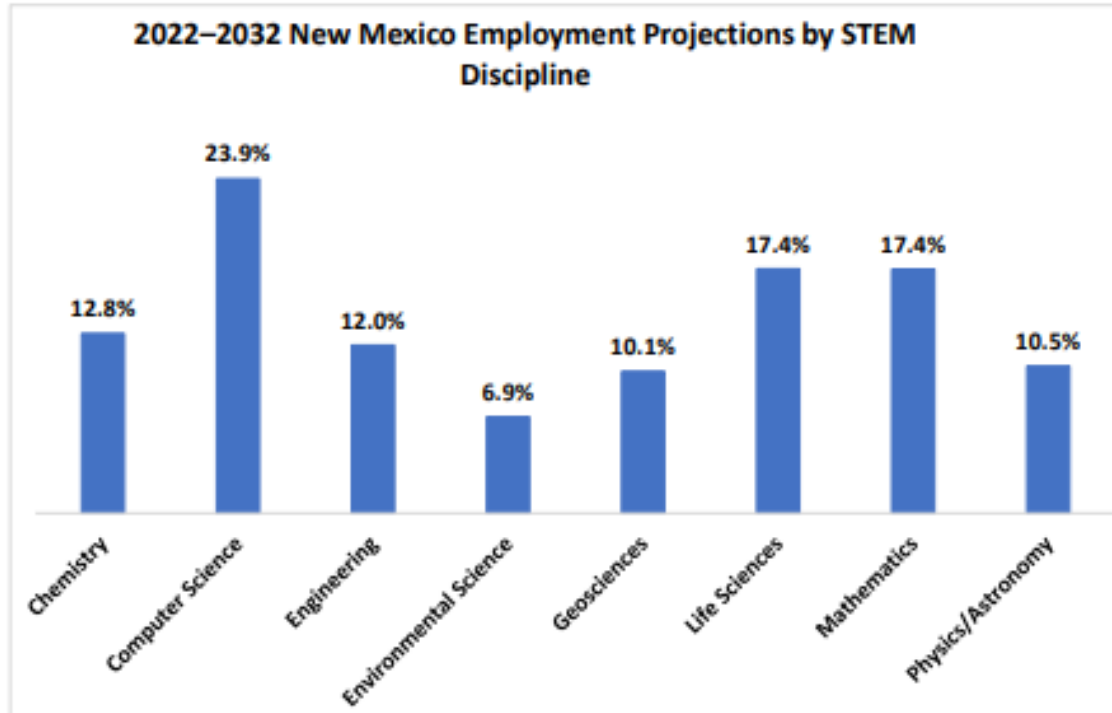
Non-STEM Occupations in New Mexico by Typical Education Needed for Entry



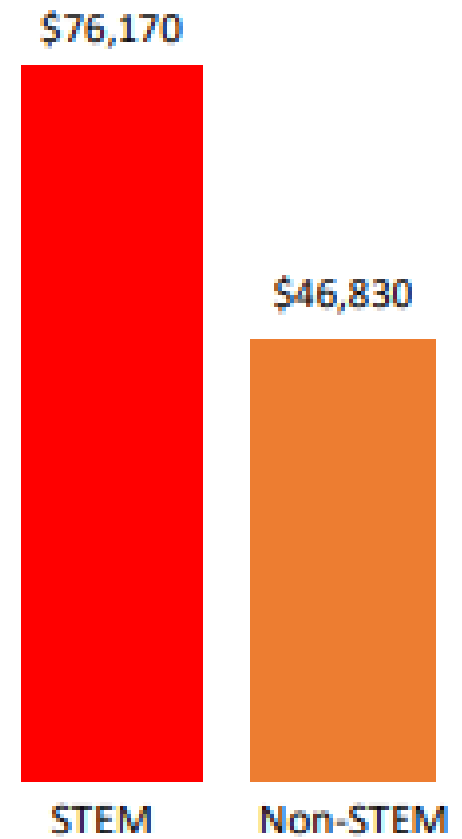
STEM Occupations in New Mexico by Typical Education Needed for Entry



STEM Occupations



Annual Median Wages for STEM and Non-STEM Occupations



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Resources

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- Publication Email Notifications
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- Why I Work

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- Economic News
- Labor Market Review
- Reports & Special Analysis
- Career & Employment Resources
- Veteran-Specific Resources
- Understanding LMI
- 2022 Publication Schedule

What is Labor Market Information

What is Labor Market Information (LMI)?



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Publications



Volume 52 No. 11 Published January 5, 2024



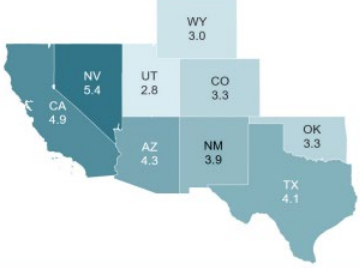
NEW MEXICO LABOR MARKET REVIEW NOVEMBER 2023

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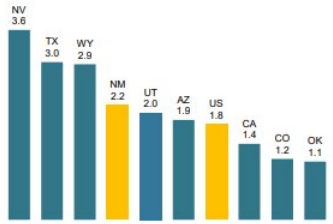


The New Mexico Labor Market Review (LMR) presents the most up-to-date labor market highlights and happenings. The LMR is produced and published monthly and includes data on the labor force, jobs, and unemployment for the state and select substate areas. Additional information and historical data are 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

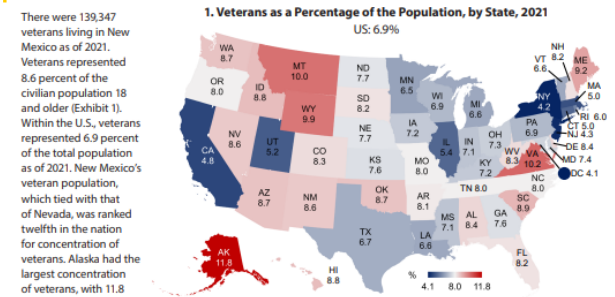
September 2023 | www.dws.state.nm.us



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



Data Dashboards

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

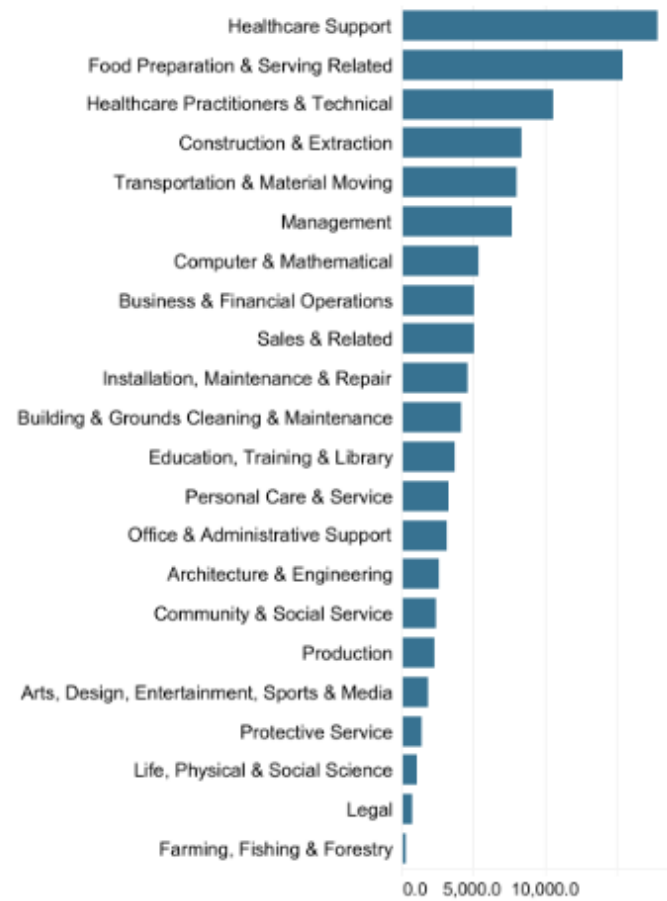
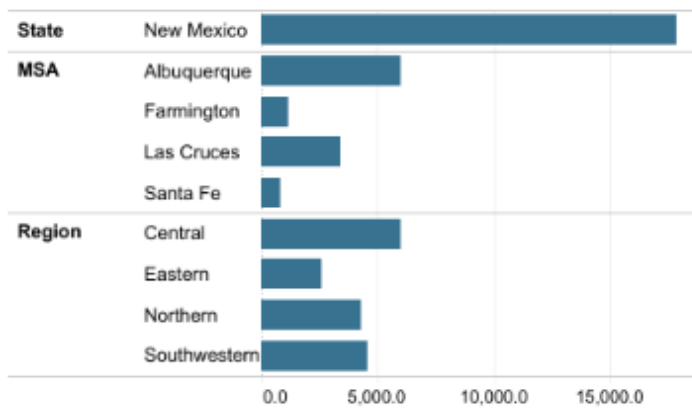
? Help

An AREA below to see occupation detail

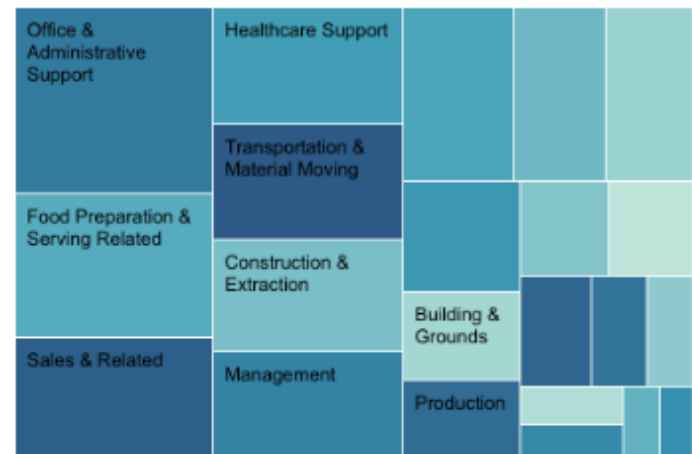
An OCCUPATION below to see area detail

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.

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





Employers

Access recruitment assistance and services to find the perfect candidate.

Enter a keyword and/or location to find jobs.

[\[Additional Search Options \]](#)

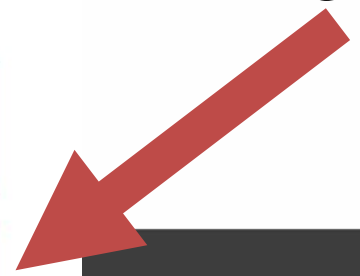
★ Explore New Mexico Workforce Connection

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

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

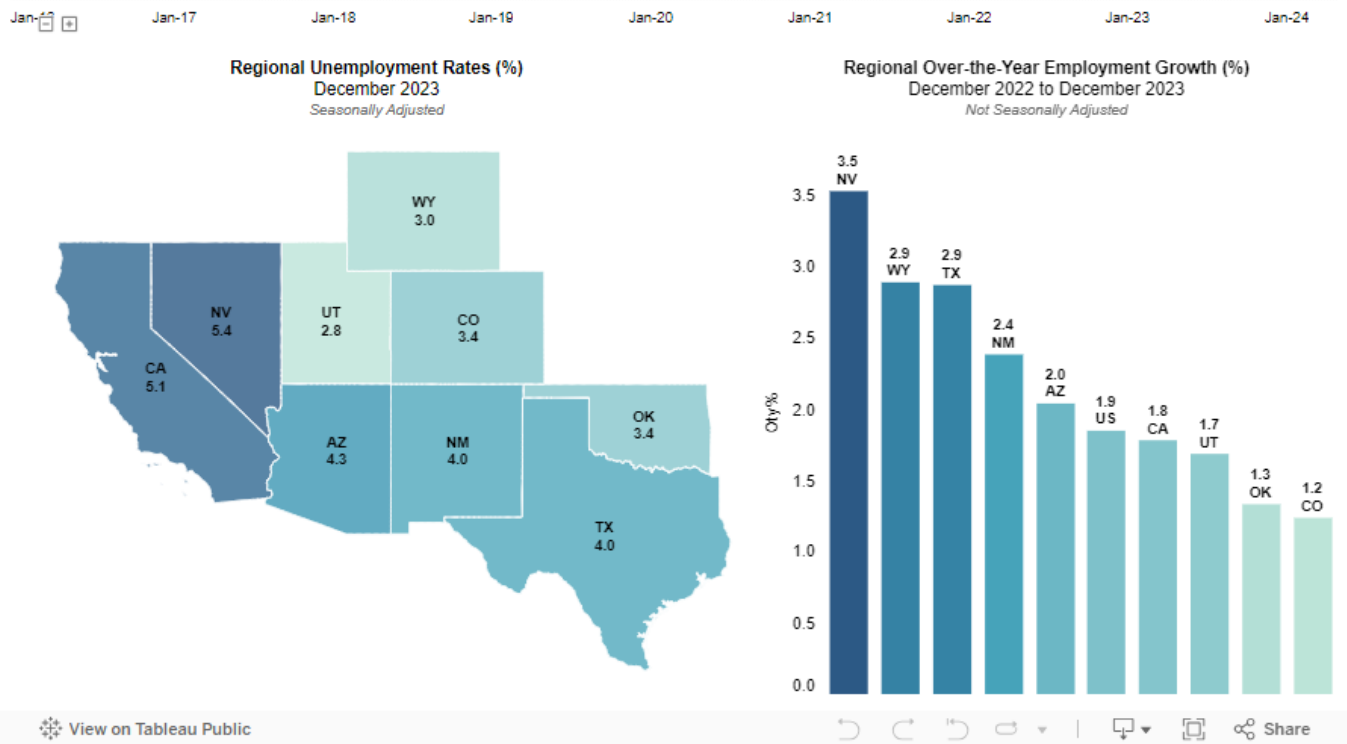
Training Providers
Post training opportunities and register to apply for provider services.

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

- Labor Force & Unemployment**
[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](#)
- Employment Projections (2020-2030)**
[Industry](#)
[Occupation](#)
[Occupational Outlook](#)

Resources

- [Career Solutions](#)
- [Why I Work](#)
- [Internship Portal](#)
- [Apprenticeship Resources](#)
- [Other Data Resources](#)
- [Request to be Added to LMI Publication Email Notifications](#)
- [Labor Market Information Tips \(How-to Videos\)](#)

Publications

- Monthly News Release**
- Labor Market Review**
 - [Reports & Special Announcements](#)
 - [Career & Employment Resources](#)
 - [Understanding LMI](#)
 - [Monthly Publication Schedule](#)

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.

Answers to the questions we can help answer

1. In 2023 it was \$79,430.
2. No, you will not have much competition. In 2023 there were only 3 companies that did welding in Torrance County. But welders make good money and are sought after by many different types of companies.
3. Just over 15,000; see: https://www.dws.state.nm.us/Portals/0/DM/LMI/NM_Exports_and_Jobs_Supported.pdf
4. Yes. They get paid well, are in-demand, are a STAR occupation, and have numerous job opportunities.
5. See: <https://www.dws.state.nm.us/en-us/Researchers/Data/Occupational-Outlook>
6. \$24,742 in 2022. See: https://www.dws.state.nm.us/Portals/0/DM/LMI/State_of_the_Workforce_2024.pdf
7. Yes; see: <https://www.dws.state.nm.us/en-us/WIOA/WIOA-Plans-and-Reports>
8. In August 2024 it was 4.8%. See <https://www.dws.state.nm.us/en-us/Researchers/Data/Labor-Force-Unemployment>
9. Unfortunately yes. The rate for Native Americans in 2022 was 10.4%, higher than all other races and ethnicities. See: https://www.dws.state.nm.us/Portals/0/DM/LMI/State_of_the_Workforce_2024.pdf
10. New Mexico's employment level took five months longer than the national average to recover from the COVID recession.



Thank you!

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS