



# North Central

NEW MEXICO  
Economic Development District

*CEDS Best Practices*

*September 2, 2021*



# About Us

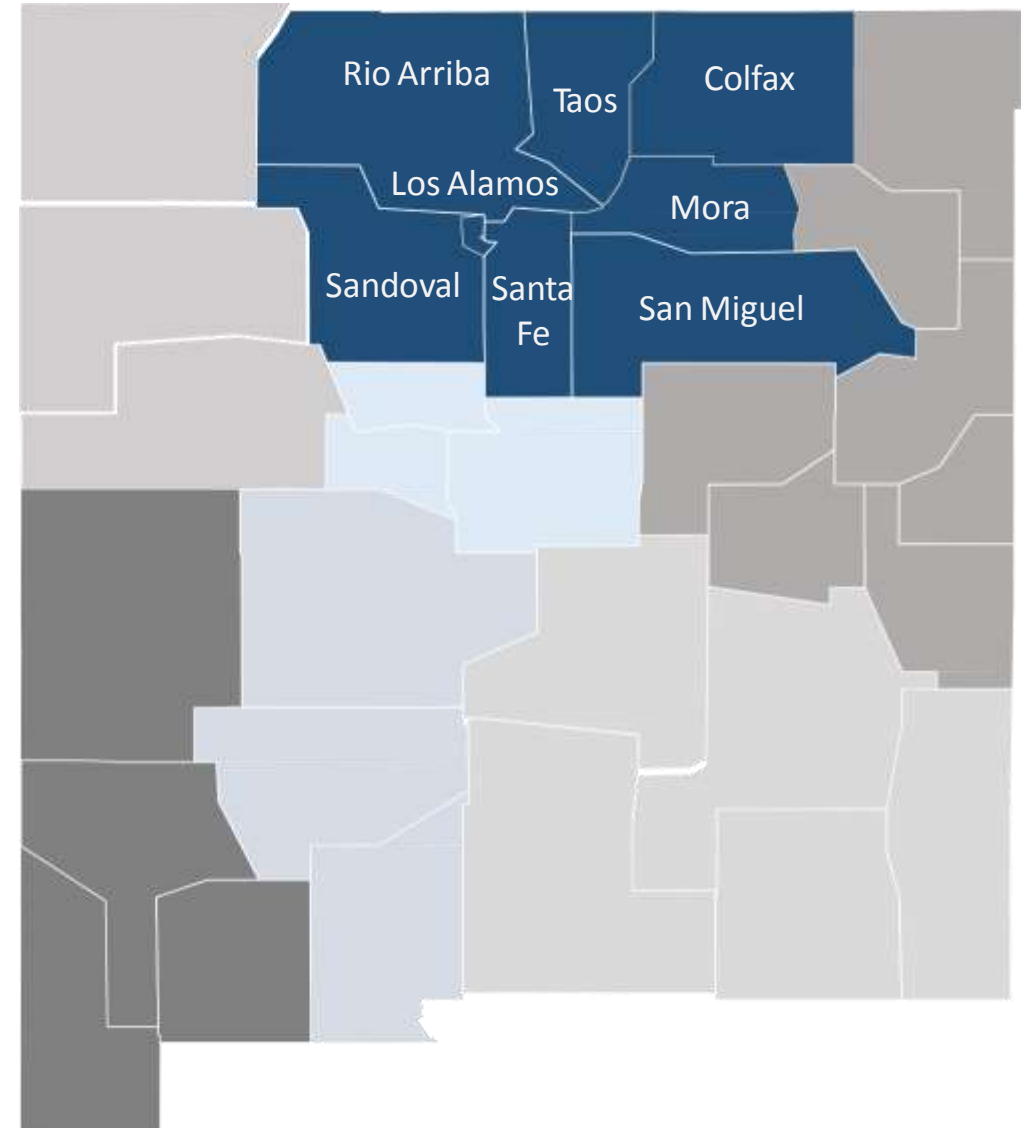
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Created in 1967 through a Joint Powers Agreement signed by Colfax, Los Alamos, Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Sandoval, Santa Fe and Taos counties.

Recognized by EDA as an economic development district in 1968.

We operate the following programs:

- EDA technical assistance and grant/project management
- CDBG technical assistance and grant/project management
- State of NM Capital Outlay technical assistance and grant/project management
- Technical assistance for water, wastewater, community facilities, housing and broadband
- Grant navigation and grant writing assistance
- Administration of two Regional Transportation & Planning Organizations (RTPOs)
- VISTA host site (15 VISTA members) for the region
- EDA and NCNMEDD Revolving Loan Funds
- Non-Metro Area Agency on Aging for 32 of 33 NM counties



# Interesting Facts

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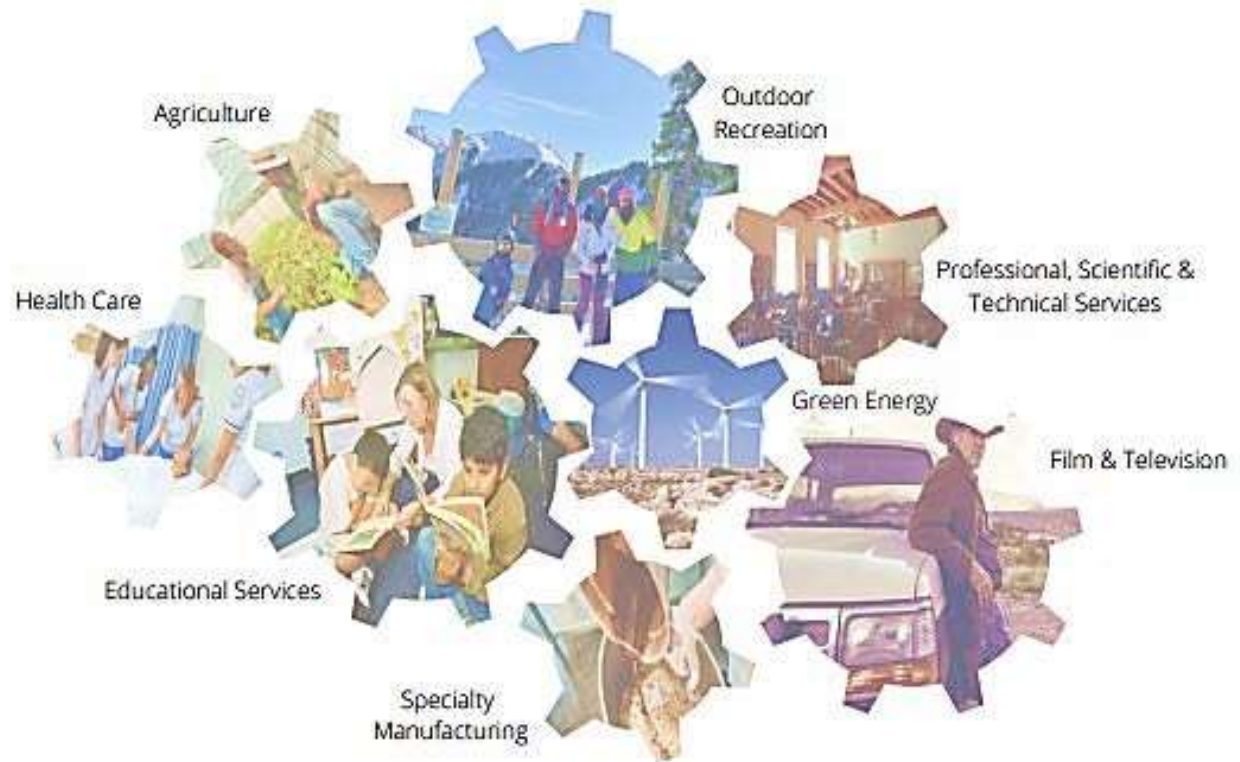
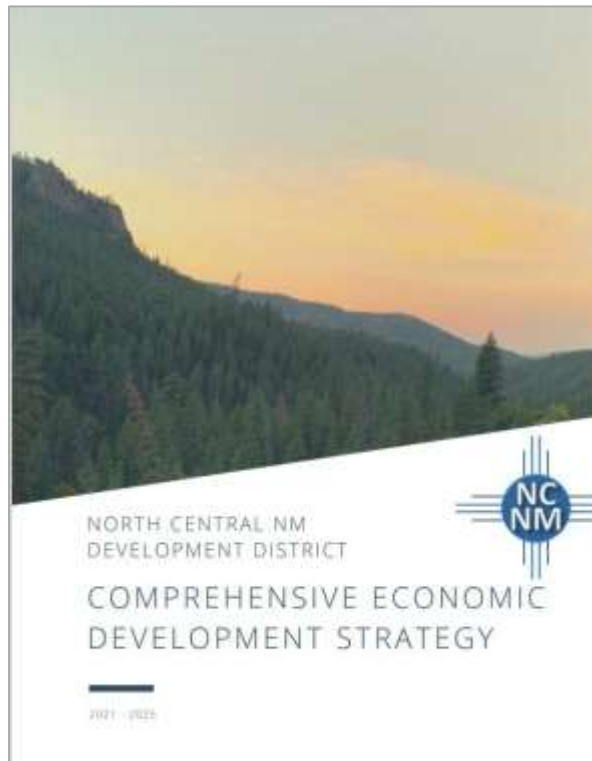
- Our region is home to eight Pueblos and the Jicarilla Apache Nation-- 9 of the 22 federally recognized tribes in NM.
- The majority of our counties are low-income but exist alongside Los Alamos County, which has one of the highest median household incomes in the nation.
- Most areas have very low population density and are extremely rural, posing barriers for centralized infrastructure development including broadband.
- The majority of the state's high-cost housing is concentrated in our region, especially in communities with tourism-based economies.





# Industry Sectors

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## STRENGTHS

- Small business & creative economy
- Accessible education & job training
- Public lands
- Cultural backbone
- Quality of life
- Technology assets
- Traditional livelihoods
- Transportation networks

## WEAKNESSES

- Infrastructure
- Income inequality
- Limited tax base

- Aging population
- Reliance on tourism

- Drought & climate change
- Brain drain & outmigration

## OPPORTUNITIES

## THREATS



# Economic Resilience

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## COVID-19

- Health Care
- Broadband
- Small Business Opportunities

## Climate Change

- Drought
- Wildfires



# Another Facet of Recovery & Resilience

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- All communities in NM lack the resources, capacity and facilities to adequately address the substance abuse epidemic.
- NCNMEDD was one of ten regions in the nation to participate with the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) on the Mobility, Economic Resilience and Substance Use Disorder Workshop Series earlier this year.



# Action Plan

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## Build on Existing Strengths

1. Continue to foster tourism by promoting the region's authenticity and leveraging assets toward economic diversification.
2. Support industries rooted in traditional livelihoods. (Agriculture and Timber)
3. Increase collaboration with LANL for local procurement and trades employment.





# Action Plan

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## Go Big with Emerging Opportunities

1. Employ the region's natural assets to become a major player in the renewable energy sector.
2. Expand emerging technologies and associated manufacturing, particularly in bioscience.
3. Expand local manufacturing and associated opportunities for warehousing, distribution, and global trade through the region's transportation network.



# Action Plan

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## Enhance Regional Infrastructure & Partnerships

1. Provide robust broadband to every household in the region.
2. Ensure that quality affordable housing options exist for young adults, families and the workforce.
3. Bolster small business support services throughout the region.





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