

Economic Overview

Lea, Chaves, and Eddy

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Demographic Profile

The population in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy was 198,714 per American Community Survey data for 2019-2023.

The region has a civilian labor force of 90,206 with a participation rate of 59.8%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy, 17.2% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 36.5% in the nation.

The median household income in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy is \$66,756 and the median house value is \$173,101.

Summary¹

		Percent		Value				
	Lea, Chaves, and Eddy	EAWDB	New Mexico	Lea, Chaves, and Eddy	EAWDB	New Mexico		
Demographics								
Population (ACS)	_	_	_	198,714	373,472	2,114,768		
Male	51.3%	51.4%	49.7%	101,958	191,800	1,050,368		
Female	48.7%	48.6%	50.3%	96,756	181,672	1,064,400		
Median Age ²	_	_	_	35.0	36.1	39.2		
Under 18 Years	27.1%	25.2%	22.1%	53,869	94,183	466,617		
18 to 24 Years	9.7%	10.1%	9.3%	19,227	37,637	197,152		
25 to 34 Years	13.7%	14.0%	13.2%	27,226	52,227	279,227		
35 to 44 Years	13.4%	12.7%	12.7%	26,556	47,342	267,554		
45 to 54 Years	10.9%	10.4%	11.2%	21,612	38,927	236,766		
55 to 64 Years	11.4%	11.8%	12.8%	22,613	44,067	270,296		
65 to 74 Years	8.5%	9.4%	11.3%	16,802	35,182	239,187		
75 Years and Over	5.4%	6.4%	7.5%	10,809	23,907	157,969		
Race: White	59.9%	60.9%	53.6%	119,053	227,309	1,133,871		
Race: Black or African American	2.4%	2.8%	2.1%	4,814	10,627	44,709		
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	1.2%	2.4%	9.5%	2,300	8,798	201,346		
Race: Asian	1.0%	1.0%	1.7%	1,914	3,850	36,065		
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	67	267	2,049		
Race: Some Other Race	11.1%	11.8%	12.0%	22,069	43,893	253,794		
Race: Two or More Races	24.4%	21.1%	20.9%	48,497	78,728	442,934		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	57.1%	50.1%	48.2%	113,524	187,036	1,018,321		
Population Growth								
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	_	_	_	195,937	369,857	2,114,371		
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	558	214	2,154		
People per Square Mile ⁴	_	_	_	13.4	8.4	17.4		
Economic								
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	59.8%	57.6%	57.4%	90,206	162,256	970,453		
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	74.6%	73.9%	77.6%	56,206	98,787	600,912		
Work from Home	4.9%	5.3%	11.0%	4,095	8,273	100,080		
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.1%	2.9%	0.9%	173	8,416	14,637		
Veterans, Age 18-64	3.4%	5.9%	5.2%	3,971	12,510	64,775		
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	72.6%	75.2%	73.7%	2,882	9,410	47,755		
Median Household Income ²	_	_	_	\$66,756	\$59,760	\$62,125		
Per Capita Income	_	_	_	\$32,379	\$31,003	\$34,823		
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	_	_	_	21.4	20.4	23.2		
Commute via Public Transportation	0.2%	0.2%	0.7%	151	287	6,182		
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64								
No High School Diploma	19.5%	16.7%	11.7%	19,093	30,472	123,551		
High School Graduate	29.5%	29.2%	26.1%	28,906	53,268	275,245		

Summary¹

		Percent			Value			
	Lea, Chaves, and		ı	Lea, Chaves, and				
	Eddy	EAWDB	New Mexico	Eddy	EAWDB	New Mexico		
Some College, No Degree	24.3%	25.2%	22.9%	23,849	46,023	241,079		
Associate's Degree	9.5%	10.0%	10.1%	9,327	18,229	106,395		
Bachelor's Degree	10.4%	11.9%	16.8%	10,149	21,784	176,932		
Postgraduate Degree	6.8%	7.0%	12.4%	6,683	12,787	130,641		
Housing								
Total Housing Units	_	_	_	81,552	172,925	949,524		
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ^{2,5}	_	_	_	\$173,101	\$164,756	\$232,200		
Homeowner Vacancy	1.1%	1.6%	1.1%	583	1,609	6,424		
Rental Vacancy	7.7%	8.3%	6.1%	1,792	4,026	16,660		
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	29.1%	31.2%	30.7%	20,778	43,285	252,957		
Owner-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	70.9%	68.8%	69.3%	50,640	95,542	572,064		
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	4.9%	5.1%	5.7%	3,497	7,133	47,041		
Social								
Poverty Level (of all people)	17.9%	19.0%	18.1%	34,460	68,373	375,381		
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	18.1%	19.4%	18.7%	12,929	26,936	153,928		
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	2,831	5,178	28,864		
Disconnected Youth ³	1.0%	3.5%	3.7%	116	735	4,261		
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	40.8%	40.7%	44.5%	20,476	35,599	194,011		
Uninsured	11.1%	10.4%	9.5%	21,700	37,089	196,921		
With a Disability, Age 18-64	14.3%	16.4%	14.3%	16,331	33,746	174,511		
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	42.3%	45.1%	43.8%	6,916	15,208	76,369		
Foreign Born	12.0%	10.1%	9.2%	23,933	37,859	195,484		
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	10.7%	8.9%	8.7%	19,822	31,017	173,410		

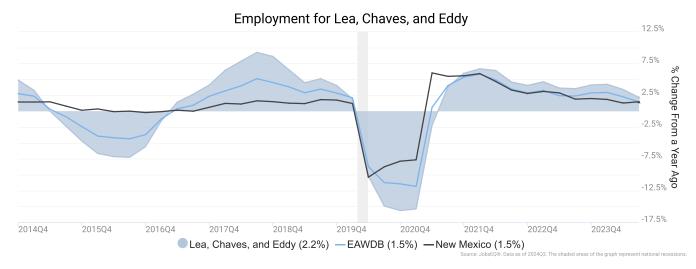
Source: JobsEQ®

^{1.} American Community Survey 2019-2023, unless noted otherwise

^{1.} Anterican Commitments Survey 2019-2025, unless into otherwise
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.
3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.
4. Census Population Estimate for 2023, annual average growth rate since 2013.
5. The Census's method for calculating median house values changed with the 2022 data set, so pre-2022 values are not directly comparable with later data.

Employment Trends

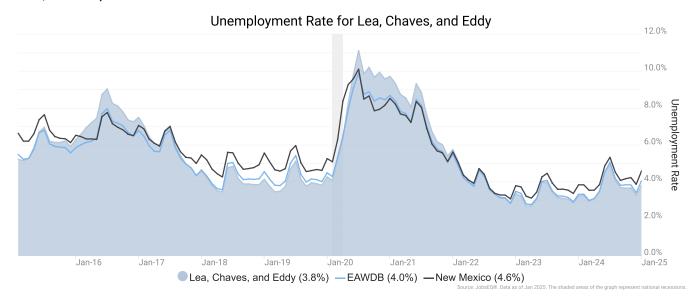
As of 2024Q3, total employment for the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy was 91,611 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2024Q3, employment increased 2.2% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2024Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q3.

Unemployment Rate

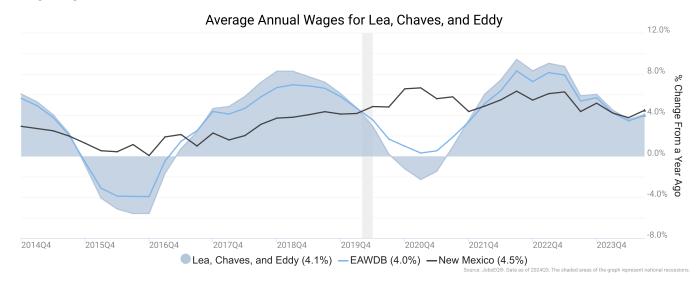
The unemployment rate for the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy was 3.8% as of January 2025. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 4.4%. One year earlier, in January 2024, the unemployment rate in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy was 3.2%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through January 2025.

Wage Trends

The average worker in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy earned annual wages of \$65,182 as of 2024Q3. Average annual wages per worker increased 4.1% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$72,609 in the nation as of 2024Q3.



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2024Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q3.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 10.3% lower in Lea, Chaves, and Eddy than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

		Cost of Living Inde	x
	Annual Average Salary	(Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Lea, Chaves, and Eddy	\$65,182	89.7	\$72,688
EAWDB	\$57,902	87.8	\$65,954
New Mexico	\$58,633	93.0	\$63,017
USA	\$72,609	100.0	\$72,609

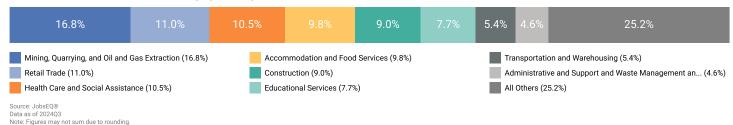
Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 202403

Cost of Living per COLI, data as of 2024Q4, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy is Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction, employing 15,401 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (10,034 workers) and Health Care and Social Assistance (9,626). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (LQ = 46.15), Utilities (2.57), and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (2.04).

Total Workers for Lea, Chaves, and Eddy by Industry



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2024Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q3.

Sectors in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy with the highest average wages per worker are Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (\$103,667), Utilities (\$98,596), and Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$92,004). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Retail Trade (+661 jobs), Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (+478), and Educational Services (+472).

Over the next 5 years, employment in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy is projected to contract by 1,484 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +0.4% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+204 jobs), Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+28), and Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (+11).

Lea, Chaves, and Eddy, 2024Q31

			Current		5-Year History		5-Year Forecast				
			Avg Ann		Empl		Total			Empl	Ann %
NAICS	Industry	Empl	Wages	LQ	Change	Ann %	Demand	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Growth
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	15,401	\$103,667	46.15	-1,387	-1.7%	6,849	2,431	4,636	-219	-0.3%
44	Retail Trade	10,034	\$36,328	1.12	661	1.4%	6,219	2,807	3,885	-473	-1.0%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	9,626	\$49,701	0.70	357	0.8%	4,928	2,153	2,571	204	0.4%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	8,936	\$25,557	1.12	83	0.2%	7,795	3,357	4,526	-87	-0.2%
23	Construction	8,278	\$71,279	1.51	-768	-1.8%	3,517	1,300	2,225	-9	0.0%
61	Educational Services	7,075	\$59,698	0.96	472	1.4%	2,722	1,448	1,751	-477	-1.4%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	4,991	\$78,131	1.09	156	0.6%	2,600	1,086	1,593	-79	-0.3%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	4,181	\$67,318	0.75	478	2.5%	2,319	942	1,417	-39	-0.2%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	3,625	\$43,280	0.93	55	0.3%	2,046	839	1,214	-7	0.0%
92	Public Administration	3,438	\$80,685	0.80	223	1.3%	1,485	623	933	-71	-0.4%
31	Manufacturing	2,806	\$87,575	0.39	128	0.9%	1,349	516	885	-51	-0.4%
42	Wholesale Trade	2,482	\$76,660	0.72	-23	-0.2%	1,177	457	768	-48	-0.4%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,449	\$68,142	0.37	-351	-2.6%	1,015	366	622	28	0.2%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	2,253	\$70,048	2.04	-352	-2.9%	1,257	639	713	-94	-0.9%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1,500	\$73,525	0.92	125	1.8%	684	314	395	-25	-0.3%
52	Finance and Insurance	1,462	\$65,819	0.41	-325	-3.9%	569	228	367	-27	-0.4%
22	Utilities	1,220	\$98,596	2.57	300	5.8%	509	196	333	-20	-0.3%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	917	\$34,770	0.49	83	1.9%	687	270	407	11	0.2%
51	Information	628	\$55,360	0.35	-77	-2.3%	237	97	168	-28	-0.9%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	308	\$92,004	0.22	15	1.0%	131	48	81	2	0.1%
	Total - All Industries	91,611	\$65,182	1.00	-148	0.0%	47,737	20,254	28,967	-1,484	-0.3%

Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2024Q3

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Exits and transfers are approximate estimates based upon occupation separation rates.

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2024Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q3. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

^{1.} All data based upon a four-quarter moving average

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy is Construction and Extraction Occupations, employing 13,285 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (10,488 workers) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (10,381). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Construction and Extraction Occupations (LQ = 3.24), Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (2.11), and Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations (1.48).

Occupation groups in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$119,400), Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$109,500), and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (\$108,800). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.0% among Legal Occupations to 7.2% among Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +1.0% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Support Occupations (+171 jobs) and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (+39). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (7,403 jobs) and Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (6,082).

Lea, Chaves, and Eddy, 2024Q31

			Current					5-Year History				5-Year Forecast		
soc	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	13,285	\$57,500	3.24	557	4.1%	123	-1,708	-2.4%	5,907	1,946	3,996	-35	-0.1%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	10,488	\$50,400	1.32	473	4.3%	352	643	1.3%	5,975	2,318	3,764	-108	-0.2%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	10,381	\$45,200	0.97	301	2.9%	221	-553	-1.0%	5,034	2,463	3,079	-509	-1.0%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	7,767	\$33,900	1.03	473	5.6%	359	-24	-0.1%	7,296	3,217	4,186	-107	-0.3%
41-0000	Sales and Related	7,393	\$45,800	0.92	354	4.7%	537	219	0.6%	4,526	2,126	2,751	-352	-1.0%
11-0000	Management	5,954	\$119,400	0.84	80	1.4%	310	380	1.3%	2,326	894	1,486	-53	-0.2%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	5,286	\$60,300	1.48	140	2.5%	321	186	0.7%	2,260	909	1,339	12	0.0%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	5,011	\$63,900	1.01	114	2.3%	149	341	1.4%	1,749	938	1,106	-295	-1.2%
51-0000	Production	3,751	\$56,700	0.75	146	3.6%	95	-64	-0.3%	1,861	693	1,272	-105	-0.6%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	3,592	\$83,100	0.61	70	2.2%	127	222	1.3%	1,400	494	922	-16	-0.1%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	3,319	\$35,000	0.78	117	3.2%	317	326	2.1%	2,472	1,076	1,225	171	1.0%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	3,149	\$108,800	0.58	40	1.2%	1,881	136	0.9%	907	444	424	39	0.2%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	2,532	\$38,000	0.84	128	4.5%	86	52	0.4%	1,635	759	924	-48	-0.4%
33-0000	Protective Service	1,524	\$56,400	0.77	41	2.9%	90	77	1.0%	737	310	465	-39	-0.5%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	1,455	\$109,500	1.00	23	2.1%	69	-239	-3.0%	459	167	300	-8	-0.1%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	1,410	\$38,300	0.60	49	4.1%	54	70	1.0%	1,199	459	745	-5	-0.1%

Lea, Chaves, and Eddy, 2024Q31

			Current				5-Year	History		5-Year Forecast				
SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
21-0000	Community and Social Service	1,217	\$63,100	0.72	27	2.3%	161	11	0.2%	549	226	312	11	0.2%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	1,121	\$41,800	2.11	87	7.2%	8	-128	-2.1%	763	332	483	-52	-1.0%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	986	\$98,100	0.34	19	2.3%	69	27	0.6%	283	107	175	1	0.0%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	794	\$85,000	0.95	14	2.5%	66	-19	-0.5%	360	63	297	-1	0.0%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	774	\$58,300	0.46	16	3.3%	61	0	0.0%	356	152	217	-13	-0.3%
23-0000	Legal	423	\$97,000	0.56	3	1.0%	22	-102	-4.2%	119	52	75	-8	-0.4%
	Total - All Occupations	91,611	\$59,500	1.00	3,271	3.5%	5,478	-148	0.0%	48,200	20,147	29,545	-1,491	-0.3%

Source: JobsEQ®

Data as of 2024Q3 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

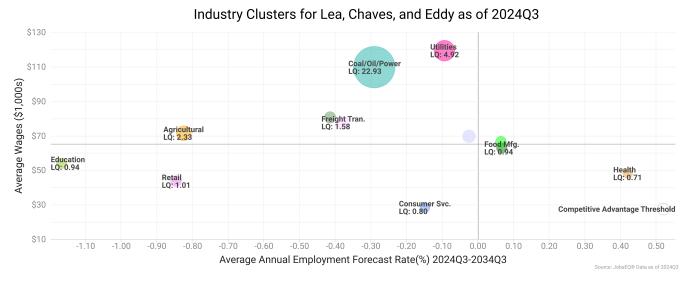
- Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.
- 2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2024Q2, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q3. Wages by occupation are as of 2024 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

^{3.} Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list). Ad counts for ZCTA-based regions are estimates.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy with the highest relative concentration is Coal/Oil/Power with a location quotient of 22.93. This cluster employs 17,159 workers in the region with an average wage of \$109,770. Employment in the Coal/Oil/Power cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.3% per year over the next ten years.

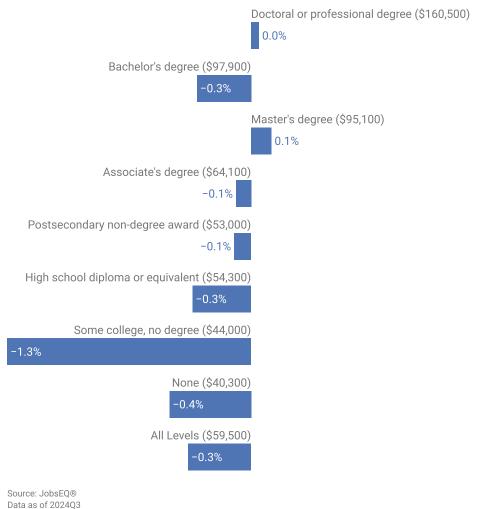


Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2024Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2024Q3. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy is projected to contract 0.3% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.0% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to contract 0.3% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to contract 0.1% per year.

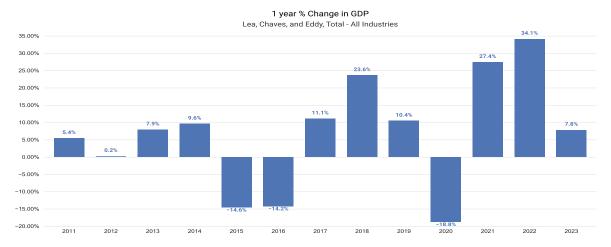
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels



Employment by occupation data are estimates are as of 2024Q3. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2023, nominal GDP in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy expanded 7.8%. This follows growth of 34.1% in 2022. As of 2023, total GDP in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy was \$21,504,124,000.



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2023.

Of the sectors in the Lea, Chaves, and Eddy, Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2023, \$11,882,487,000 The next-largest contributions came from Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$1,146,936,000); Transportation and Warehousing (\$808,794,000); and Construction (\$792,653,000).

GDP (in \$ millions)

Lea, Chaves, and Eddy, 2023

Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (21)

\$11,882

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (53)



\$1,147

Transportation and Warehousing (48)



\$809

Construction (23)



\$793

Manufacturing (31)



Retail Trade (44)



Educational Services (61)



Health Care and Social Assistance (62)



Public Administration (92)

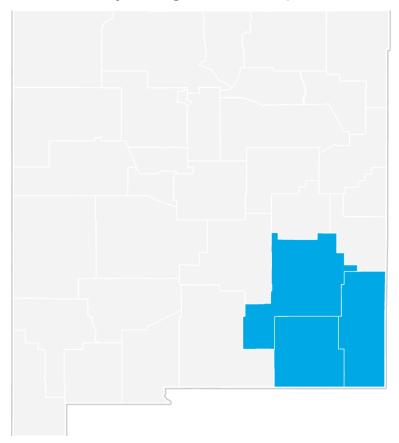
\$570

Utilities (22)

\$497

Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2023.

Lea, Chaves, and Eddy Regional Map



Region Definition

Lea, Chaves, and Eddy is defined as the following counties:

Chaves County, New Mexico	Lea County, New Mexico
Eddy County, New Mexico	
EAWDB is defined as the following counties:	
Chaves County, New Mexico	Lea County, New Mexico
Curry County, New Mexico	Lincoln County, New Mexico
De Baca County, New Mexico	Otero County, New Mexico
Eddy County, New Mexico	Quay County, New Mexico
Guadalupe County, New Mexico	Roosevelt County, New Mexico
Harding County, New Mexico	Union County, New Mexico

FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the "all industry" level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the "sector," which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

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