



DIVISION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

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AUGUST 25, 2026



CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE

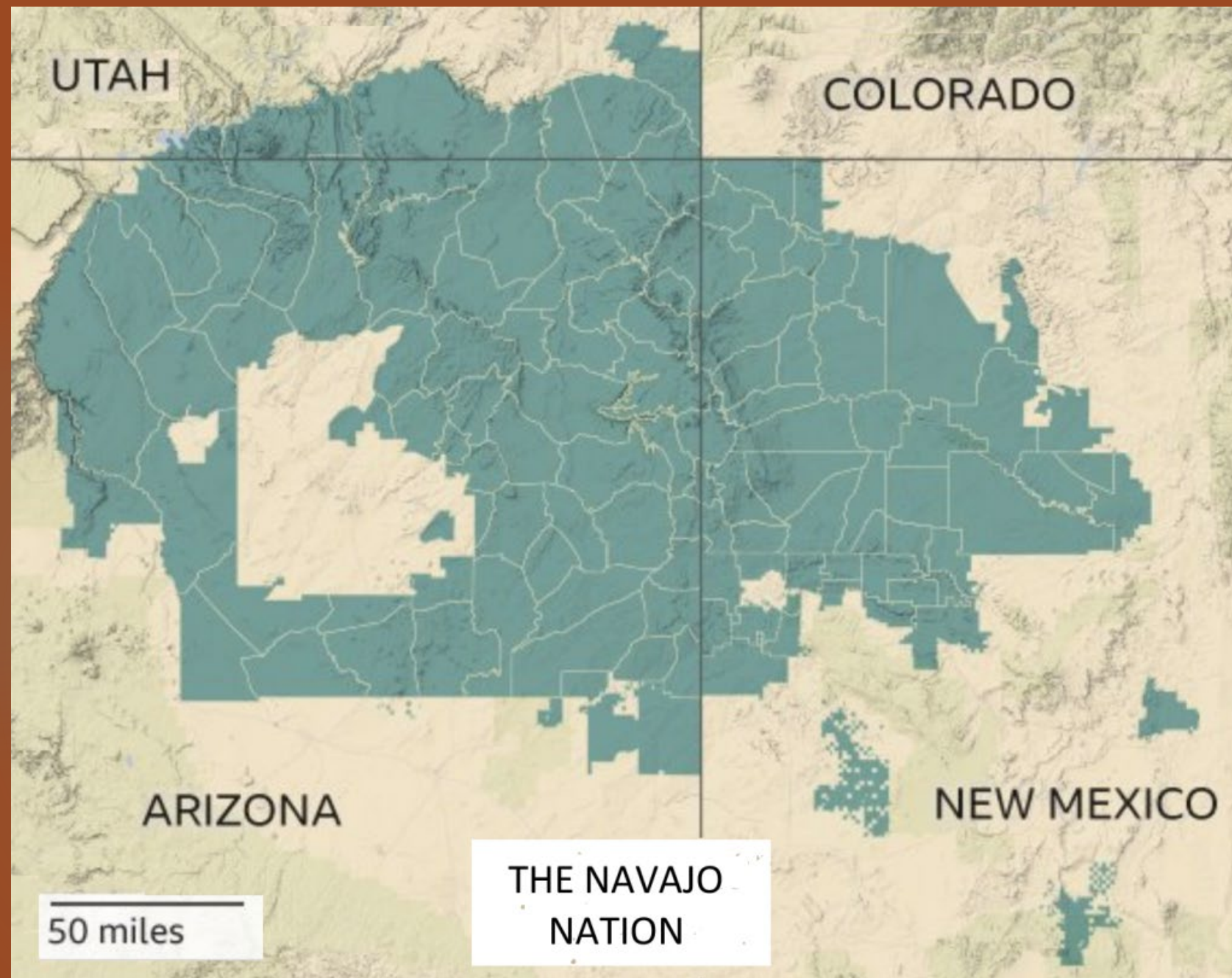


The Navajo Nation Economic Development (NNED) Division is one of 14 Offices and Divisions within the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation Government. The main purpose of this Division is to create an environment that is conducive to promoting and developing businesses in the Commercial, Tourism, Industrial, Small Business, and other sectors of the Navajo Nation economy, thereby creating jobs and business opportunities.

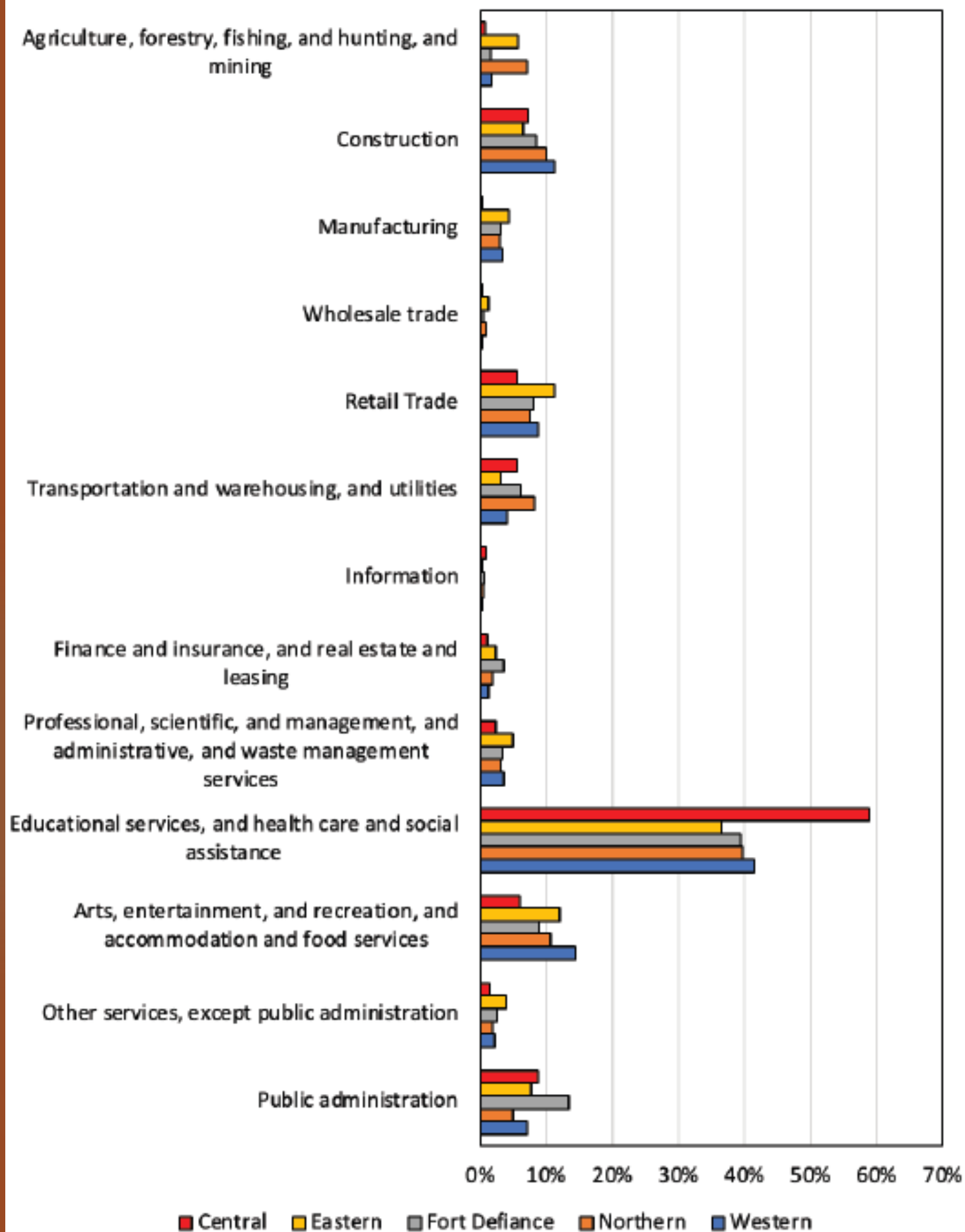
We are available to Navajo and non-Navajo individuals and companies that wish to do business with or on the Navajo Nation. The DED works hand-in-hand with you to assist your application process, review, and approvals.

NAVAJO NATION

Largest American Indian Tribe in the United States



- ▶ Population 415,863
143,300 reside on the reservation
- ▶ Land Base 17.02 Million Acres
 - ▶ New Mexico 4.19 Million Acres
 - ▶ Arizona 11.60 Million Acres
 - ▶ Utah 1.23 Million Acres
- ▶ Median Age 31
- ▶ 39% Below Poverty
- ▶ Labor Force 56,476



EMPLOYMENT FOR THE POPULATION BY INDUSTRY AND AGENCY FOR THE RESIDENT WORKFORCE

NAVAJO NATION

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

- Navajo Nation Government
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Indian Health Service
- Burger King
- Coca-Cola Bottling Company
- Bashas' Dine Markets
- Marathon Oil
- Holiday Inn
- Raytheon Technologies
- Frontier Communications Company
- Wells Fargo Bank
- Navajo Oil & Gas Company
- Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority
- NTC-Navajo Mine
- APS-Four Corners Power Plant
- U. S. Postal Service
- Navajo Tribal Utility Authority
- U.S. Public Health Service
- Hampton Inn
- Days Inn
- Denny's Restaurants
- Kinder-Morgan Natural Gas Company
- McDonalds Restaurant
- Private Businesses

OUR MISSION IS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES:



- ▶ To create employment for the Navajo people and business opportunities by promoting commercial, industrial, tourism, and other private sector business development.
- ▶ To enhance economic development on the Navajo Nation and to create a positive business environment.
- ▶ To provide business services and programs designed and tailored to assist with developing, expanding, managing, or doing business with the Navajo Nation.
- ▶ To develop and manage a comprehensive financing program to expand or develop new economic enterprises for the Navajo Nation.

DED FY 26

PERSONNEL INFORMATION

- ▶ Budget: 69
- ▶ Occupied: 65
- ▶ Vacant: 4
- ▶ Advertising: 6



NYGREN ADMINISTRATION GOALS



LEASING REFORM

Cut the red tape and make land easily accessible by working to Resolve federal and tribal laws that hinder land development.

ANCILLARY DEVELOPMENT

Develop more gravel pits to make it easier to pave and repair dirt roads. Create and maintain a workforce of heavy equipment personnel.

REGIONAL & STATE PARTNERSHIP

Work to secure more funding for our local states.

AGRICULTURAL EXPANSION

Establish a program to increase the number of local farmers and Ranchers.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Develop business and entrepreneur incubators to empower risk takers, and support Navajo businesses through technology, innovation, and mentorship

MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISES

Work on the manufacturing and training of our people to build and assemble solar panels and windmill parts to create jobs.

SUSTAINABLE FOUNDATIONS

Develop an energy plan that includes clean energy sources, such as solar and wind farms, and to provide sustainable energy for homes and revenues back to the Navajo Nation.

TOURISM

Develop the tourism industry to create jobs and bring in new revenue. Tourism offers opportunities for the development of dining, entertainment, outdoor recreation, and hotel facilities.

BROADBAND EQUITY

Improve broadband technology, internet service and cell phone signal for our people in their homes, businesses, healthcare centers, public safety, education facilities, and all 110 chapters.

RECENT INITIATIVES

Hotel Development:

- ▶ Shonto (83 rooms): The facility is complete. Soft opening was August 13th, 34 jobs.
- ▶ Shiprock Pinnacle (83 rooms): Plans to finish construction in December 2026. A \$22M investment by the NN.
- ▶ Crownpoint (40 rooms): Phase I: Grant Agreement with Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise is in process to begin A/E- Phase I in September
- ▶ Cameron Hozho Resort & Hotel (80 to 100 rooms): 40% complete on Design & working on utility planning and Financing in place for the development .of the hotel structure.
- ▶ Cameron Horseman's Lodge: Phase I to begin in January 2026.

Access to Capital:

- ▶ NN SSBCI: Received an \$ 88M grant from Treasury. The first tranche has already come to the NN with \$ 26 million. \$ 7 million has been deployed to Change Labs – loans to very small businesses. \$1.8M loaned with Change Labs. For the Division, we working with two banks, TransPecos Bank and Bank of the Southwest serve as participating lenders. \$11M has been to three Navajo businesses.
- ▶ DED Business Industrial Development Fund: The Micro Loan fund will launch in September for Navajo small businesses with a cap of \$10,000 for a loan with no collateral expectations.



RECENT INITIATIVES - CONTINUED

Leasing Reform:

Five (5) major changes via amendments to the Business Site Lease Regulations occurred in February. They are:

- ▶ 1. Permits/EOA's now signed by the RBDO Program Manager. The intent is the Manager knows the needs of the community and avoids controversy.
- ▶ 2. No Review of the Business Site Lease Package by the Real Estate Department. Real Estate now receives the approved and executed lease after the President's signature.
- ▶ 3. Added Management Agreements and Tenant Agreements to the leasing process.
- ▶ 4. Procurement Clearances now from only two (2) NN offices (OOC/Accounts Receivable & Office of Navajo Taxation) vs. five (5) NN Offices.
- ▶ 5. Change in the Amount of Administrative Fees was increased.

DED Projects:

- ▶ Projects related to current business site properties. The entire need is about \$600M for all five (5) agencies. However, only \$54M is available. Each agency will be allocated \$10M but next year there will be only \$5M to be divided by each agency.

On-going Work with Tenants

- ▶ Leasing transaction continue with our employers, and we respond to their needs so that they can grow and employ more of our Navajo People.

RDCMA-06-26

RESOLUTION OF THE
RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Fourth Year, 2026

AN ACTION

RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE; APPROVING THE
DIVISION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS SITE LEASE
ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN AND MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENTS

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Resources and Development Committee is established as a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with oversight authority over land and community development, to promulgate rules and regulations for the development of Navajo Nation lands, and to provide final approval for land permits. 2 N.N.C. §§ 500 (A), 501 (B) (1) and 501 (B) (2).
- B. The Resources and Development Committee serves as the Legislative oversight authority for the Division of Economic Development. 2 N.N.C. § 501 (C) (1).
- C. References in the Navajo Nation Code and other official documents to the Economic Development Committee shall mean the Resources and Development Committee. CAP-10-11, Section 5

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Division of Economic Development has asked for amendments to the Division of Economic Development Administrative Plan and Management Plan approved by EDCAU-39-09.
- B. The Division of Economic Development Business Site Lease Administrative Plan Amendments and Management Plan Amendments are attached as **Exhibit A**.
- C. Redline copies of the Division of Economic Development Business Site Lease Administrative Plan Amendments and Management Plan Amendments are attached as **Exhibit B**.
- D. The Executive Official Review Document No. 025825 is attached as **Exhibit C**.

LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANCE

- ▶ Tax Compacts with the States the Navajo Nation resides in - New Mexico, Arizona & Utah – on Dual Taxation for Non-Navajo Businesses who locate on our Reservation
- ▶ Re-evaluate the Tribal Infrastructure Fund – Fund Economic Development Infrastructure not just Community Development Infrastructure
- ▶ Support For Navajo Nation ICIP Project Requests – these requests come from Navajo Nation Government programs, not from Navajo Chapter Requests which are difference in scope and estimate costs of a project.
- ▶ Encourage the Continued Government to Government Relationship with each other – communication is important

