



New Mexico DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
MOBILITY FOR EVERYONE

Modal Programs

Transportation Infrastructure
Revenue Subcommittee
October 8, 2025

David Harris
Executive Director of Modal Programs





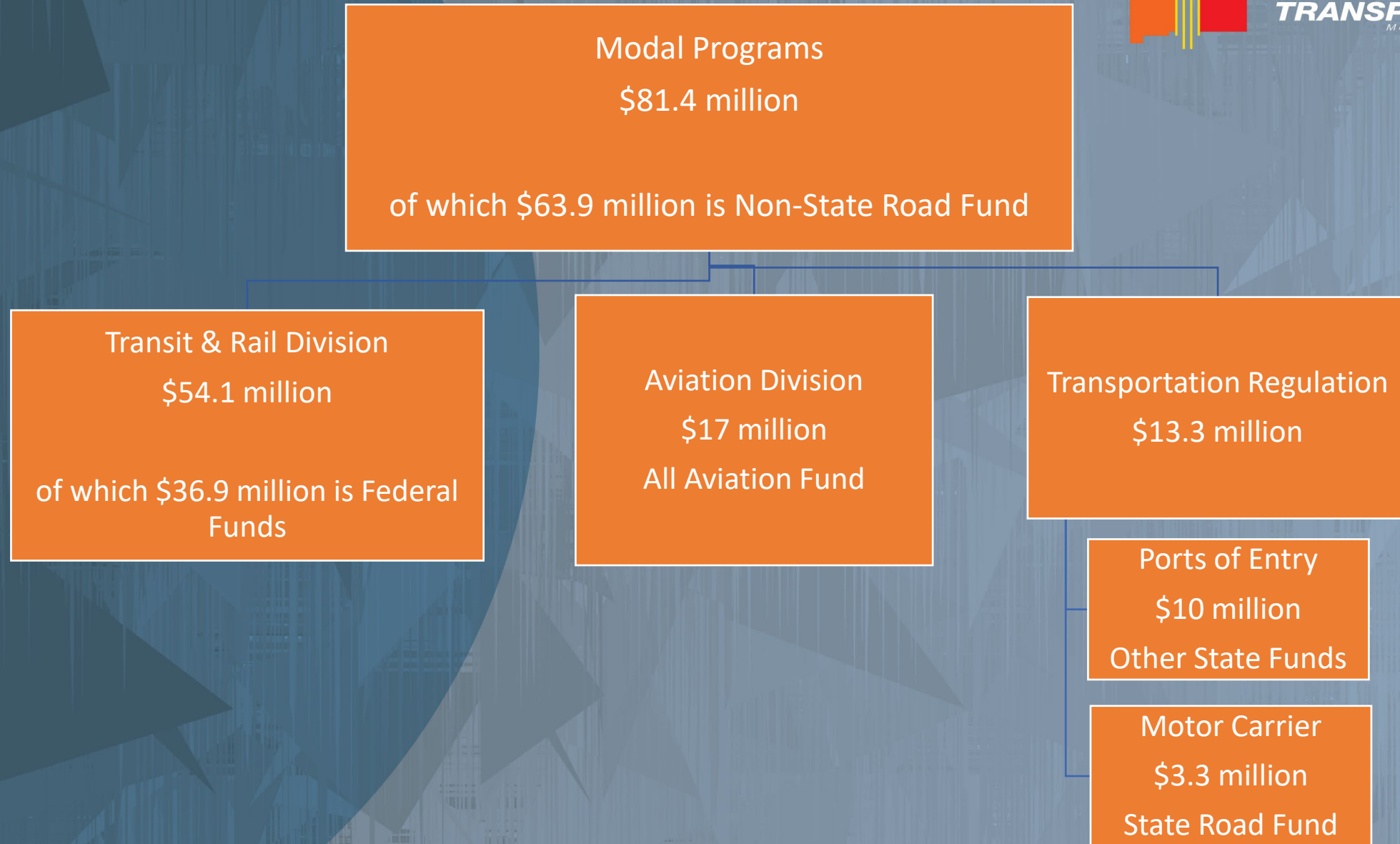
David Harris
Modal Programs
Executive Director
152 FTEs

Kevin Olinger
Transit & Rail Division
25 FTEs

Jessi Litz-Rowden
Aviation Division
6 FTEs

Alicia Ortiz
Transportation Regulation
Division
121 FTEs

Modal Programs Budget



State of New Mexico Aviation Division



New Mexico Airport System

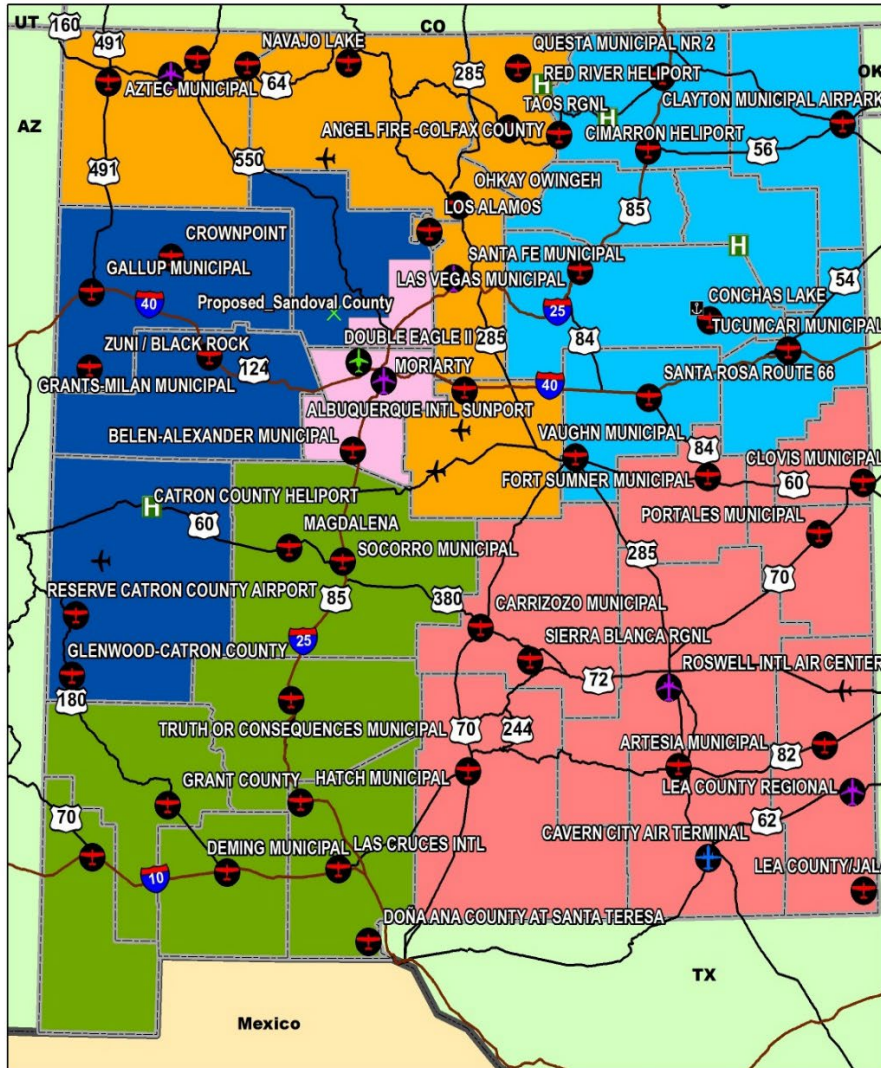
54 public owned, public use airports

41 - NPIAS (Eligible for FAA Funds)

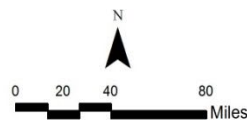
13 – with commercial service to include: Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Hobbs, Carlsbad, Gallup, Las Cruces, Silver City (Grant County), Clovis, Taos, Roswell, Angel Fire, Farmington & Ruidoso

3 – Heliports

1 - Sea Plane Base (Conchas Lake)



NPIAS Service Level		Non-NPIAS		NMDOT District	
	Commercial Service Primary (5)		Airport (5)		1
	Commercial Service Non Primary (1)		Heliport (4)		2
	Reliever (1)		Seaplane Base (1)		3
	General Aviation (43)		Proposed (1)		4
					5
					6



Aviation Division Functions



New Mexico DEPARTMENT OF
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- Issues grants for **construction, development, and planning projects**, and provides technical support to all 54 paved public-use airports in New Mexico, along with various rural airstrips, landing fields, and designated private airports.
- Coordinates with **federal, state, and local governments** to improve aviation infrastructure statewide.
- Oversees a **comprehensive safety program** to maintain pavements, navigational aids, fixed assets, and equipment. Conducts regular **regulatory and compliance inspections**, including FAA 5010 Airfield Safety Inspections.
- Publishes the **New Mexico Aeronautical Chart** and a **quarterly newsletter** to keep stakeholders informed.

Aviation Division Functions



Community Outreach & Engagement

- **Annual Aviation Convention** – Hosted in partnership with the New Mexico Municipal League (NMML) and the New Mexico Airport Managers Association (NMAMA).
- **Public Events & Partnerships** – Supports and participates in fly-ins, collaborates with government and private agencies, coordinates the youth Aviation Art Contest, and engages in New Mexico’s *Aviation Day*.
- **Industry Conferences** – Represents New Mexico aviation at major events including the NBAA Convention, AAAE Conference, EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, WI, and the NASAO Conference.
- **Balloon Fiesta** – Coordinates and participates in one of New Mexico’s most recognized aviation events.
- **Educational Outreach** – Delivers lectures, presentations, and safety education programs; provides continuing education in airport operations to include engineering, planning, and other STEAM related careers.
- **Regulatory Role** – Adopts and enforces rules for the application of state aviation laws.

Aviation Division Functions



FY26 Aviation Division Budget: **\$29 million total**

\$12 million RASE Funding

\$17 million remaining for FY26 Aviation Division Budget

Total proposed FY26 Capital Plan Requests: **\$114 million**

- To date, CIP Airport Sponsor Requests: **~\$38 million**
- *Projected* FAA matching fund need: **~\$69.7 million**
- *Actual* expected FAA matching funding: **~\$20 million**
- *Projected* Community match requirement: **\$7.1 million**

Aviation Division Obligations



AVIATION ACT (64-1-13)

1. Cooperate with all agencies (government & private) and organizations to **“encourage and advance aviation in this state**
2. **Assemble and Distribute information relating to Aviation, landing fields,** beacons and other matters relating to aviation
3. **Authorize expenditures for construction,** development, and maintenance of **public-use airport facilities**
4. As to State-owned airports, all of the above and power to acquire personal and real property and own and operate airports
5. Issue RASE grants (Rural Air Service Enhancement Program)

State Aviation Fund

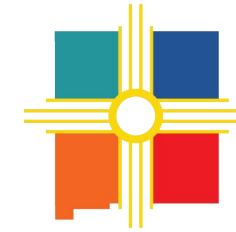


PERMANENT ANNUAL

Total funding is appx. \$9 million

- NMSA 1978, 7-1-6.7A - 4.79 % GRT Specialty fuel for use in turboprop or jet-type engines, **AND**
- NMSA 1978, 7-1-6.7B - 0.26 % Gasoline Tax Act, **AND**
- NMSA 1978, 7-1-6.7C - 0.046 % General Fund, **AND**
- NMSA 1978, 7-1-6.7D - \$6,000,000 fixed **AND**
- NMSA 1978, 64-4-1 - Aircraft Registration

Uses of the State Aviation Fund



New Mexico DEPARTMENT OF
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- Airport Capital Improvement Projects (ACIP) - *FAA Participation*
- Air Service Assistance Program (ASAP) grants – *Marketing of Air Service to NM communities*
- State Only Aviation Projects
- Division Operations and Administration
- Maintenance of two State owned airports (Conchas Lake and Navajo Lake)

Special Appropriations



Since 2021, NMDOT Aviation Division has received more than \$110M in special appropriations, which included \$65M for facility upgrades at eligible airports. The remainder has supported the Rural Air Service Enhancement Program.

Laws	Appropriation	Spent/Obligated	% Committed	Notes
Laws of 2021	\$ 9,000,000.00	\$ 8,761,958.79	97%	HB2- Aviation- RASE
Laws of 2021- SS	\$ 10,000,000.00	\$ 9,079,151.00	91%	ARPA- Upgrades at Airports
Laws of 2022	\$ 5,000,000.00	\$ 5,000,000.00	100%	HB2- Aviation- RASE
Laws of 2022	\$ 5,000,000.00	\$ 4,594,524.10	92%	HB2- Upgrades at Airports
Laws of 2023	\$ 55,000,000.00	\$ 54,963,839.00	100%	HB2- Aviation- Capital
Laws of 2024	\$ 15,000,000.00	\$ 15,000,000.00	100%	HB2- Aviation- RASE
	\$ 99,000,000.00	\$ 97,399,472.89	98%	

Future Aviation Division Policy Priorities



AVIATION ACT (64)

Amend 64-1-12- definition “Aircraft” currently defined as airplane and/or helicopter. Replace current “aircraft” definition with “In this act [64-1-21 to 64-1-23 NMSA 1978], “aircraft” means any contrivance now known or hereafter invented, used or designed for navigation of or flight in the air, or other contrivance designed for such navigation.”

Amend 64-1-1- Expanding definition of uses of the state aviation fund be utilized to encourage and advance aviation in New Mexico.

Amend 64-1-2- Remove “taxation” and replace with “fee”- Aircraft Registration collections are based on assessed fees, not through taxation.

Repeal and replace 64-1-5.1 to increase efficiency in collection of unpaid registration fees. Removes leins, hearings, and seizures as the Department lacks collections and resolution enforcement and allows the past due invoices to be submitted to a collection agency.

Future Aviation Division Policy Priorities



AVIATION ACT (64)

Amend 64-4-6- Remove requirement for distinct certificate numbers issued by Aircraft Registration and issues a current year certificate to the aircraft tail number.

64-4-7- Add requirement for departmental review and adjust aircraft registration fees every three years. **Current fee schedule has been in place since 1963.**

64-4-9 Remove duplicate certificate payment requirement- certificates are now digital and can be emailed.

64-4-10 Clarify aircraft transfer requirements by defining acceptable documentation.

What is the Transit and Rail Division?



Transit Bureau

- Supports the development of transit and ridesharing as viable transportation choices in New Mexico
- Administers federal transit grant funding and programs and provides technical and coordination assistance to public and private non-profit public transit systems
- Administers federal transit planning funds used by the state's larger municipalities and MPOs for public transit-related programs
- Manages the NMDOT Park and Ride intercity bus service and the NMGo! vanpool program
- Assists local governments to establish Regional Transit Districts (RTDs) and assists RTDs with planning, coordinating, and implementing service

Rail Bureau

- Supports the development of transit and ridesharing as viable transportation choices in New Mexico
- Administers federal transit grant funding and programs and provides technical and coordination assistance to public and private non-profit public transit systems
- Administers federal transit planning funds used by the state's larger municipalities and MPOs for public transit-related programs
- Manages the NMDOT Park and Ride intercity bus service and the NMGo! vanpool program
- Assists local governments to establish Regional Transit Districts (RTDs) and assists RTDs with planning, coordinating, and implementing service

Transit Bureau



Budget

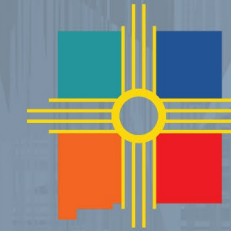
- Consists primarily of Federal Transit Administration formula funding
- Majority is passed through to local transportation providers
- Includes competitive capital and construction awards to local transit programs
- \$36,851,900 (Federal)
- \$8,362,300 (State)
- \$45,214,200 TOTAL
- 14 FTEs
 - 7 Federal
 - 7 State (propose moving 3 to Federal)

Key Functions

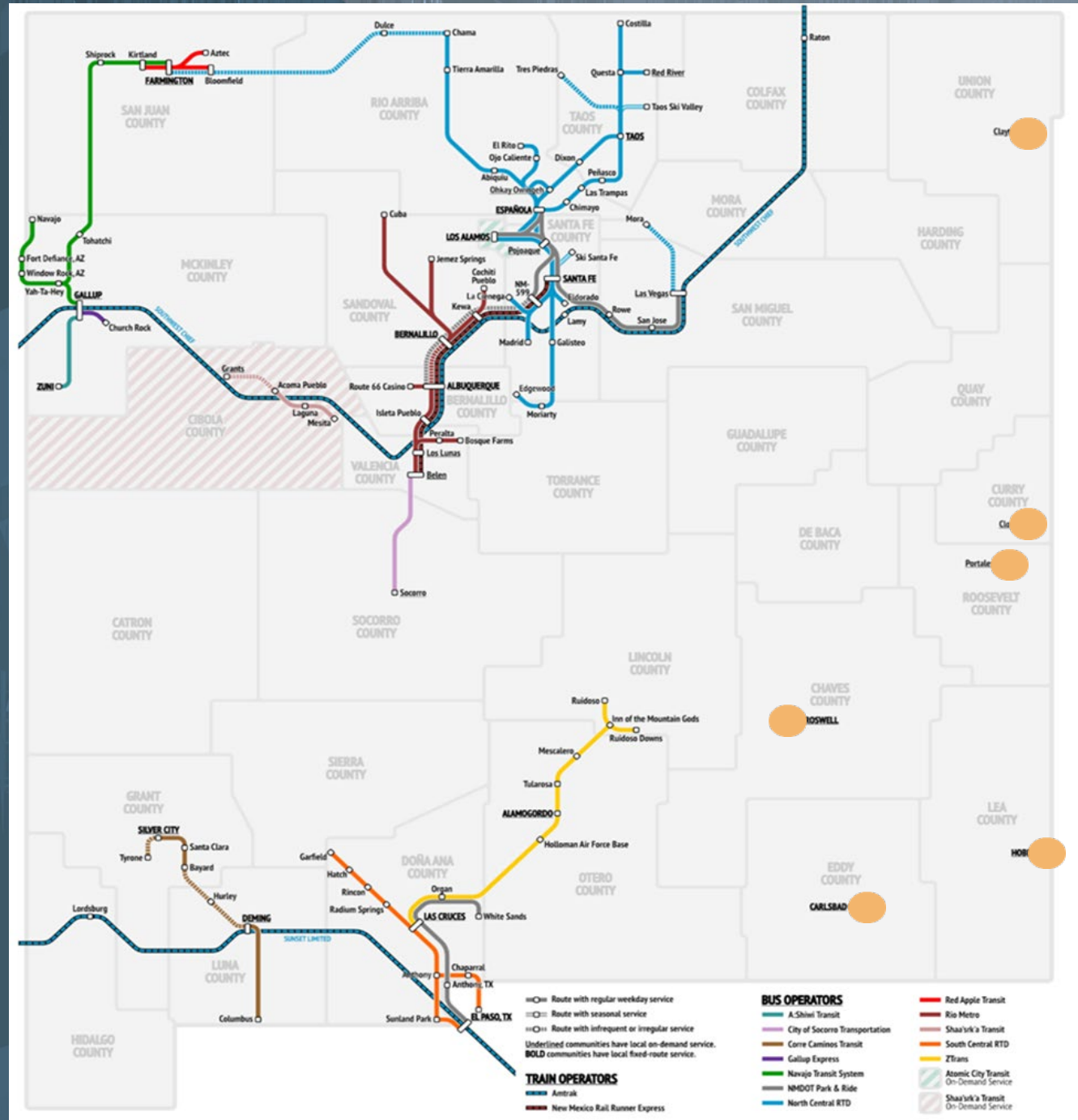
- Distribute Federal formula funding to local transportation operators
- Maintain compliance with Federal regulations
- Apply for competitive grant funding opportunities and provide oversight of awards
- Operate the NMDOT Park and Ride intercity bus service and the NMGo! vanpool program

Why It Matters

- Mobility and accessibility – connects isolated communities and vulnerable populations to jobs, local businesses, and services
- Program delivery – reduces traffic congestion and improves air quality
- Economic growth – provides local jobs for drivers, mechanics, and dispatchers



New Mexico Public Transportation Network



State Funding for Transit Operations (2023)

Source: AASHTO



- ❖ In 2023, New Mexico provided \$6,600,000 in state funding for transit operating expenses
 - 35th out of 50 states and District of Columbia
 - 100% of funding used for NMDOT Park and Ride

- ❖ Per capita state spending on transit operations was \$3.11
 - 32nd out of 50 states and District of Columbia

- ❖ New Mexico is one of four states (Alabama, Hawaii, and Nevada) that does not provide any recurring state funding to localities to match federal funds for operating and capital expenses

- ❖ Support for non-operating expenses
 - State Road Funds for NM Rail Runner bond debt service
 - About \$40 million per year through FY 2029
 - Roughly \$25.3 million in FY 2030

Rail Bureau



Budget

- 100% state-funded
- Includes two state rail inspection positions transferred from PRC in 2024
- \$8,916,700 TOTAL
- 11 FTEs

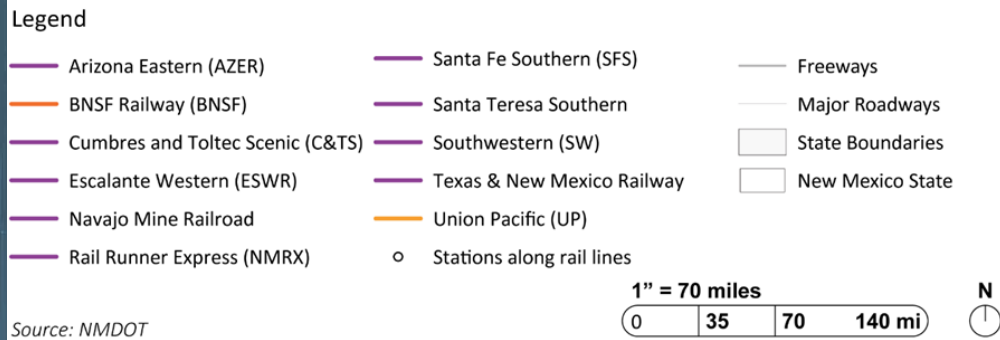
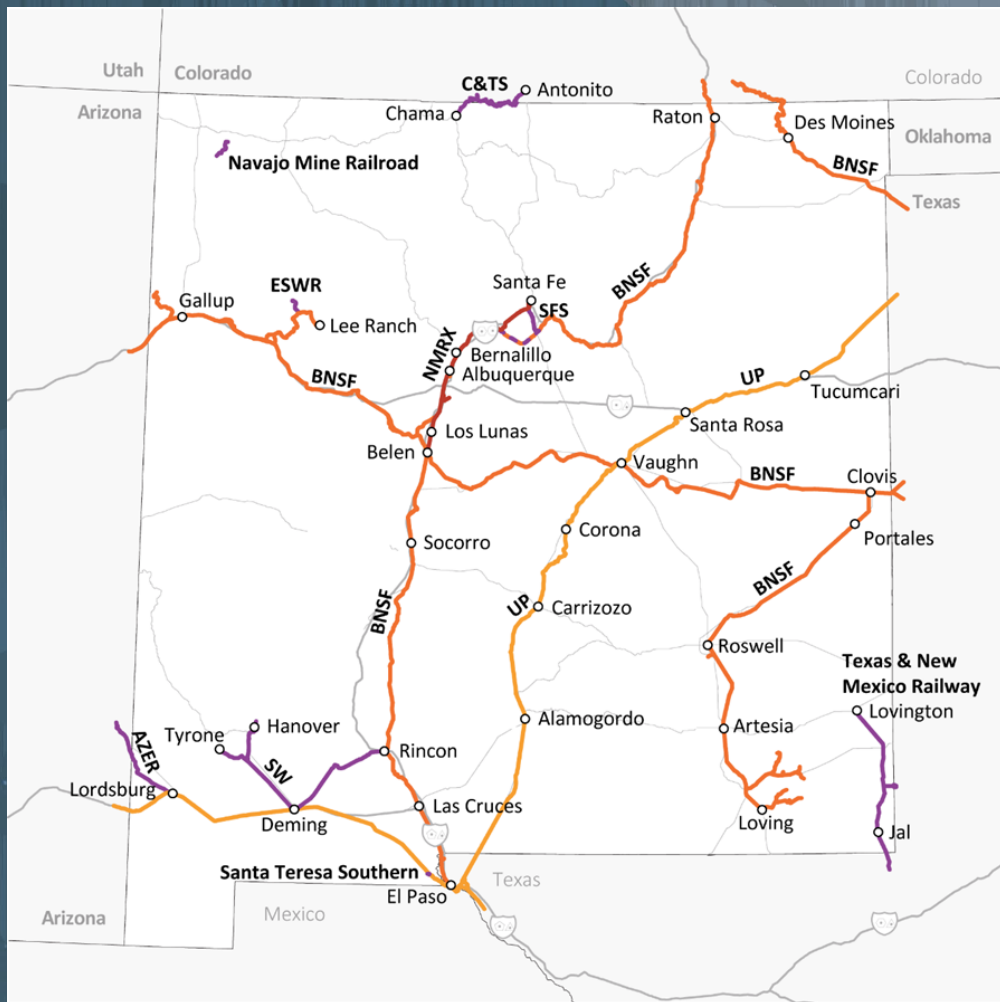


Key Functions

- Manages the inspection, maintenance, and improvement of NMDOT-owned railroad property
- Manages the Federal Highway Administration Statewide Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Safety Improvement program (Section 130)
- Manages permit processes for access to NMDOT-owned railroad property
- Manages NMRX passenger rail service in partnership with Rio Metro
- Maintains the New Mexico State Rail Plan

Why It Matters

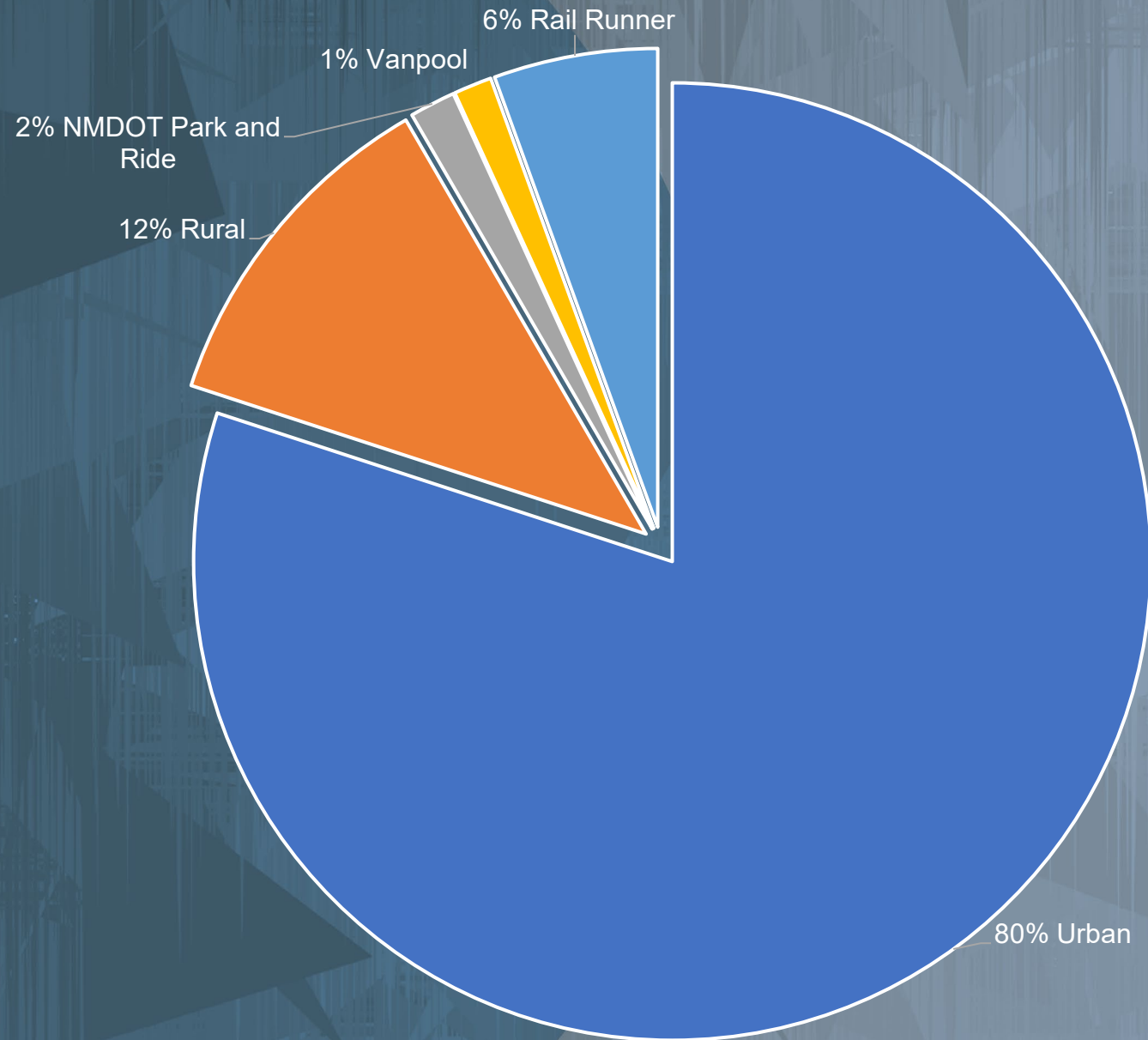
- Economic growth – ensures the efficient and reliable movement of freight
- Program delivery – provides passenger rail service that reduces traffic congestion
- Target Zero – eliminate highway-rail at-grade crossings



Source: NMDOT

New Mexico Rail Network

Transit and Rail Ridership (2024) 10.7 million trips



Transit and Rail Division Planning Activities



Statewide Public Transportation Plan

- Evaluate the needs of New Mexico's rural, urban, and intercity public transportation services
- Identify, define, and prioritize transit programs and investments to fill gaps in the existing network of services across the state
- Present transit investment projects and programs for the next ten years
- Provide recommendations that align with goals of the New Mexico 2045 Plan: Safety, Mobility and Accessibility, Program Delivery, and Asset Management

State Rail Plan

- Draft plan available for public comment through November 30, 2025
 - Presentation of draft plan
- Include both freight and passenger rail
- Guide decisions and investments affecting the NM rail system
- Describe the current status of the NM rail system
- Demonstrate the demand for and benefits of the rail system
- Identify capital infrastructure and operating needs



What Is The Transportation Regulation Division?

PORTS OF ENTRY

Regulate **INTERSTATE** commercial vehicles as they cross New Mexico's boundaries



MOTOR CARRIER REGULATION

Authorize and regulate **INTRASTATE** motor carriers across the state



Ports of Entry:

Ensure safe, legal and efficient commercial transportation across the state by enforcing state statutes and regulations.

Jenifer Block, Director
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History & Background

- Transferred to DOT from DPS in 2016
- Manages 12 Ports of Entry across the state
- Includes the Oversize/Overweight (OS/OW) Permit Office

Key Functions

- Customer service and technical assistance
- OS/OW permit sales for legal dimensional loads
- Regulatory compliance of commercial motor vehicles
- Collaboration with NM State Police, who conduct commercial vehicle inspections at ports
- Maintain facilities and ensure operational efficiencies
- Facilitate efficient permit processing and tax collection at ports

Why It Matters

- Protect infrastructure – ensure roads and bridges are not damaged
- Target Zero – keep safe and non-compliant vehicles off the road
- Economic growth – support legal transport of goods
- Revenue generation – sell permits and collect taxes

Budget - OSF

\$8,480,000 – 200s

\$1,520,000 – 300/400s

\$10,000,000 - TOTAL

FTE = 100

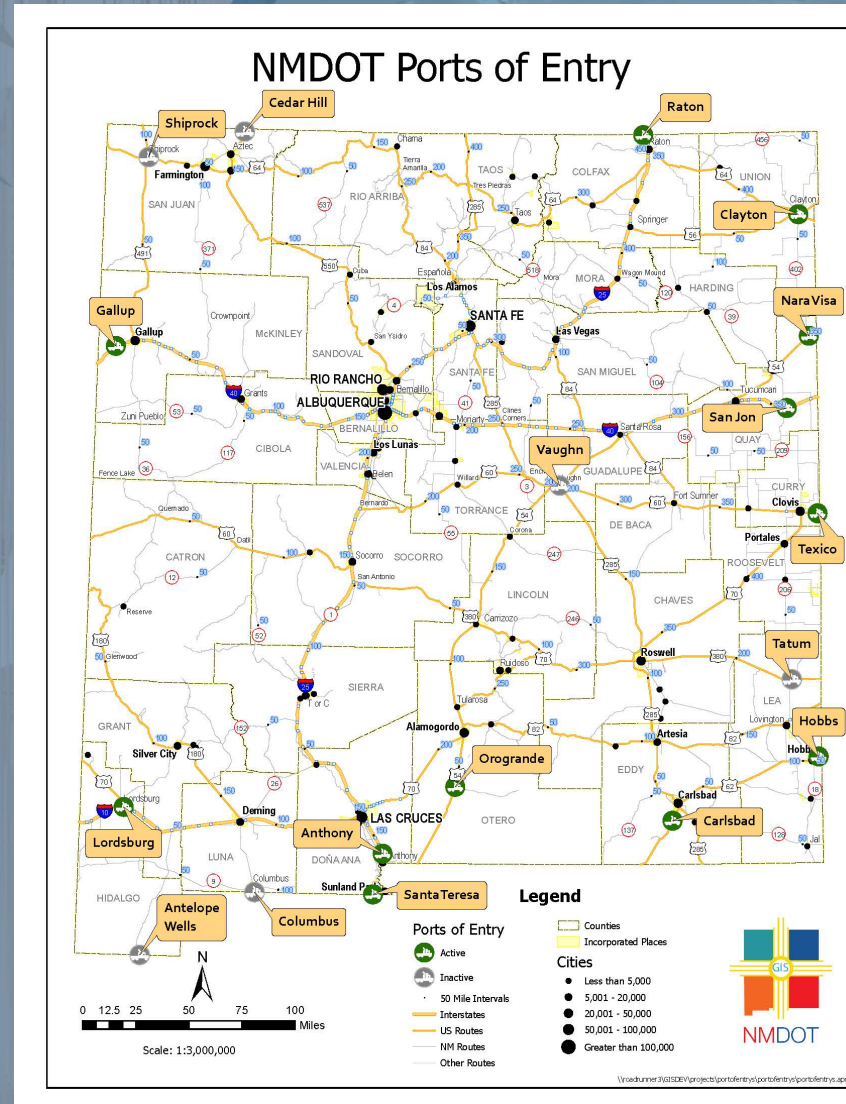
Locations:

12 Active Ports

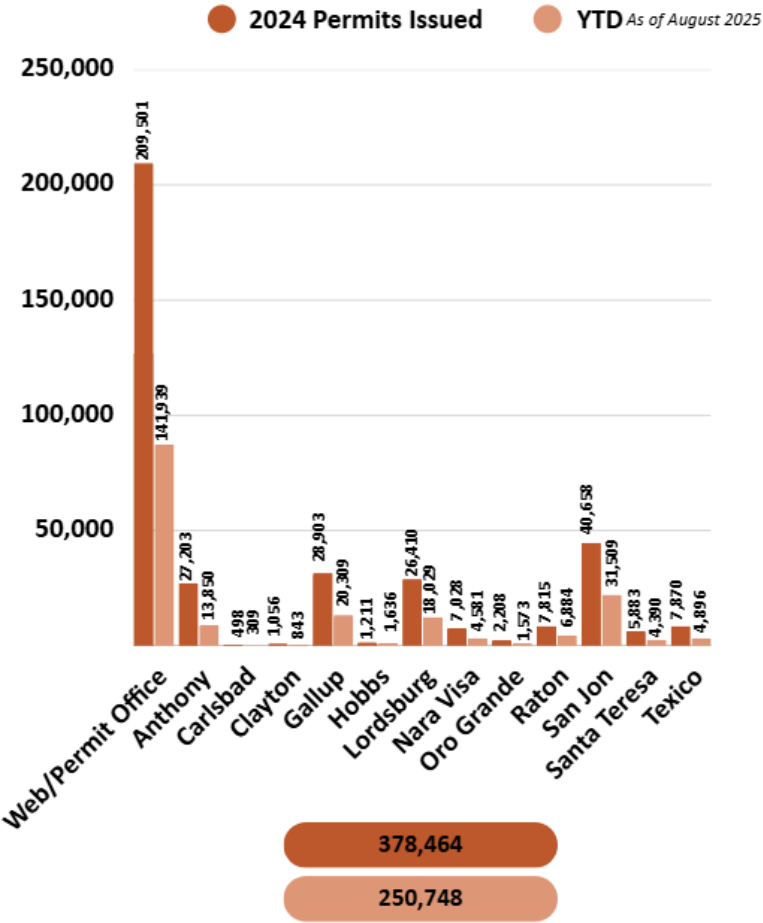
1. Anthony
2. Carlsbad
3. Clayton
4. Gallup
5. Hobbs
6. Lordsburg
7. Nara Visa
8. Oro Grande
9. Raton
10. San Jon
11. Santa Teresa
12. Texico



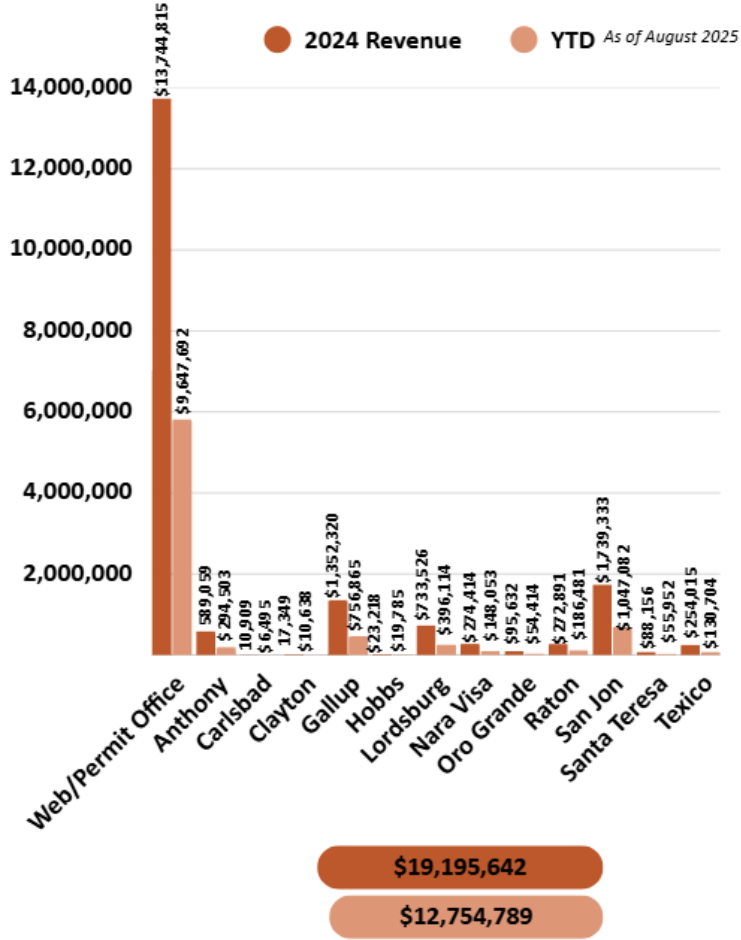
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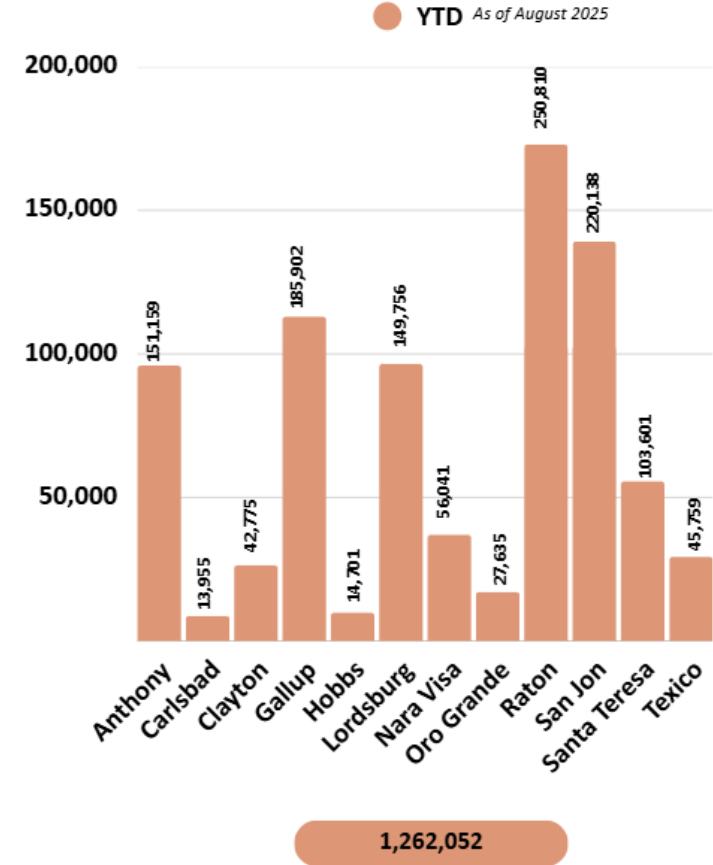
Permits



Revenue



Truck Counts



Motor Carrier Regulation:

Through the enforcement of the MCA, the ASA and NMDOT's rules, ensure motor carrier safety, availability of necessary public transportation services and fair practices statewide.

Alicia Ortiz, Director
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History & Background

- Transferred to DOT from PRC in 2024
- Regulates 1,900 motor carriers

Key Functions

- Provide technical assistance
- Process applications
- Issue operating authorities
- Participate in hearings and legal proceedings
- Verify compliance
- Conduct inspections
- Investigate complaints
- Facilitate enforcement actions
- Collaborate with state and federal partners, including trade organizations

Why It Matters

- Target Zero – focus is on motor carrier vehicle and driver safety
- Meeting public health and community needs - ensure ambulance, non-emergency medical transport and other services are available throughout the state
- Consumer protection - promote fair practices across motor carrier industries
- Supports economic growth

Budget - SRF

\$2,406,900 – 200s

\$894,600 – 300/400s

\$3,301,500 - TOTAL

FTE = 20

Motor Carrier Regulation Operating Authorities



4 Permits (People)

Transportation Network Companies

309 Certificates (People)

Full Service:

Municipal taxi

Scheduled shuttle

Ambulance (88)

General Service:

Taxi services

Shuttle

Specialized passenger

Household goods

1,586 Warrants (Property)

Charter

Towing

Transportation of property, excluding household goods