



LFC Presentation

*Increasing
Labor Force Participation*



Why is NM's Labor Force Participation Rate Low?

NM participation rate is 56.7%, 5% lower than the national average of 61.7%

Top Reasons:

1. Workers leaving the state. NM population between the ages of 25-54 fell nearly 3.8%, while this number grew for the rest of the country.
2. NM is aging at a faster rate than the rest of the country
3. More people are receiving disability. NM receiving SSI increased by 45.1% compared to 30.7% nationally
4. NM is the 6th highest in percentage of women with children 6-17 years of age not working.
5. Low cost of living making it possible for one income households.



NMDWS Response & Activities

- Targeted industry engagement (hospitality-tourism, entry level healthcare, municipal government, education and law enforcement)
- Community coordination to develop youth workforce participation (partnership with industry, school districts, youth development organizations)
- Career Transition Planning (model shifting interaction with unemployed)
- Investments to increase # and availability of short-term training programs



State Fund Allocation - \$10.0m

Youth workforce and apprenticeship development

- Mobile job simulator focused on trades
- Expansion of work-based learning activities statewide
- Apprenticeship pathway development – coordination with trades unions and Public Education

Enhance Workforce Case Management

- Review current infrastructure and processes across system
- Improve adult job seeker experience, increase participation with NMDWS tools/resources (*work underway*)
- Improve Business Engagement



Accomplishments To-Date

- **Ready.NM.gov** – provide easy access for people across NM to find training, education and employment resources.
- **Statewide Community Convenings**
- **Ongoing Statewide Hiring Events**
- **Northern & Central LWB** – State Corrections
- **Eastern LWB** – Co-Enrollment
- **NMPED/NMDWS Youth Work-Based Learning** summer program