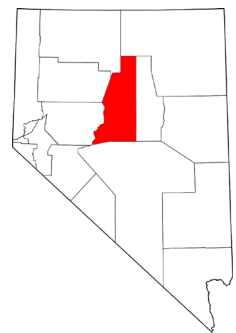


**THE 2022 ANNUAL UPDATE TO THE COMPREHENSIVE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR LANDER
COUNTY, NEVADA, 2020 THROUGH 2025**



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Lander County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2020 through 2025

Economic Development Vision

What We Want: While respecting our community’s existing cultural identity, Lander County will enhance the quality of life of our various communities.

How We Get It: Lander County will aggressively pursue, create and implement programs and projects that create business opportunities and economic prosperity through the diversification of the County’s local economy.

Lander County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2020 through 2025

Reprioritized Strategic Economic Development Goals for 2022 through 2023

Existing Goal No. 1: Establish broadband connectivity throughout the county by July 2021 in partnership with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and other communities throughout northeastern Nevada and the state of Nevada.

Existing Goal No. 2: Complete the needed infrastructure for the Battle Mountain industrial park by 2022 in order to increase the overall size and capacity of the Battle Mountain industrial park by 20 percent.

Existing Goal No. 3: Create a multi-use vehicle testing facility in Lander County by 2024.

Existing Goal No. 4: Attract alternative agriculture manufacturing that creates and provides greater than ten new jobs at \$500,000 within five years.

Existing Goal No. 5: Establish a new workforce development program that exposes trade skills to 6 through 12 grades with graduation program that creates +5 graduates annually by 2022/2023 in partnership with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority, neighboring counties and communities in northeastern Nevada, and key educational institutions.

Existing Goal No. 6: Increase availability and access to basic and expanded healthcare services across Lander County within three years.

Existing Goal No. 7: Provide broad technical and financial support for new small business and entrepreneurial-based development.

Existing Goal No. 8: Attract an alternative financial institution to Battle Mountain to provide citizens with more banking options.

Lander County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2020 through 2025

Reprioritized Strategic Economic Development Goals for 2022 through 2023

Existing Goal No. 9: Complete "Safe Routes to School" initiative providing safe sidewalks for students walking to and from school.

Existing Goal No. 10a: Develop StoreFront enhancement plan to assist local businesses within the county with storefront and curbside appeal.

Existing Goal No. 10b: Determine total amount needed for execution of program. Determine amount to request from County Commission and appeal accordingly.

Existing Goal No. 11: Establish An Amtrack stop in Battle Mountain.

Existing Goal No. 12: Expand three-phase power to Battle Mountain Airport industrial area by December 2020.

Existing Goal No. 13: Create and complete a new sewer system near the Battle Mountain Airport by June 2023.

Completed: Increase tourism revenue by 20 percent in Lander County during a five-year period.

Completed: Expand the existing water line to the airport in Battle Mountain by July 2020.

1.0 Introduction

Overview

What is strategy? According to John E. Gamble, Margaret A. Peteraf, and Arthur A. Thompson, in their 2015 book, *Essentials of Strategic Management: The Quest for Competitive Advantage*, “A strategy is a way of describing **how** you are going to get things done. It is less specific than an action plan (which tells the who-what-when); instead, it tries to broadly answer the question, ‘How do we get there from here?’ Do we want to take the train? Fly? Walk?” In short, a strategic plan provides an organization or community with a fundamental affirmation of the organization or community’s core values, strategic mission, and strategic vision while outlining the goals, objectives, and implementation measures the organization or community will attempt to achieve and implement over the strategic planning horizon.

Typically, a strategic plan includes three basic elements. First, the strategic plan is a recognition of the existing barriers an organization or community faces and the resources the organization or community has at its disposal to achieve strategic objectives. Second, the strategic plan is generally tied to an overall vision, mission, and a set of clearly defined objectives. And third, the strategic plan provides direction to the organization or community for the organization or community’s future planned initiatives focusing on providing information, enhancing support, removing barriers, and providing resources to different parts of the organization or community and key stakeholders who have an interest in the achievement of the strategic plan.

When evaluating and developing a strategic plan, five basic questions must be answered, including:

- Does the strategic plan give overall direction to the organization? The strategic plan should point out the overall path without dictating a particular narrow approach.
- Does the strategic plan realistically fit available resources with identified opportunities? The strategic plan should take advantage of current resources and assets while embracing new opportunities for growth and success.
- Does the strategic plan minimize existing and future resistance and barriers the organization currently confronts and may have to address in the future? The strategic plan should keep in mind that opposition and resistance to implementation of the strategic plan is inevitable. Good strategic plans should attract allies and deter opponents.
- Does the strategic plan reach those that may be affected, positively and negatively, by implementing the strategic plan? The strategic plan should connect the intervention with those who it should benefit while minimizing potential negative impacts to those impacted by the plan.

-
- Does the strategic plan advance the strategic mission of the organization? The strategy should make a difference on the mission of the organization while enabling the organization to achieve stated goals and objectives.

Unlike strategic plans for private sector firms, a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, as outlined in Title 13 Part 303 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, must focus on how a public sector economic development organization and authority will bring together the public and private sectors through the creation of an economic roadmap designed to diversify and strengthen regional and local economies. The inherent public sector nature of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy requires consideration of both economic and community development goals and objectives in order to support and facilitate an environment of growth, investment, and job creation.

Between July 2019 and September 2019, public sector, private sector, and non-profit organization representatives participated in a series of community strategic economic development planning workshops for the purpose of developing a series of community-level Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies aimed at guiding community-level and regional economic development efforts for the five-year 2020 through 2025 period. Individual Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy documents were developed for Elko County, Eureka County, Lander County, and White Pine County and for the individual communities of the City of Carlin, the City of Wells, and the City of West Wendover. These individual community-level and countywide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy documents, along with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's regional five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy were then successfully submitted to the U.S. Economic Development Administration's Seattle Regional Office in 2020 and the first set of annual assessments, evaluations, and updates to each existing Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy were completed in late 2021 and early 2022.

As required by the U.S. Economic Development Administration, faculty and staff from the University Center for Economic Development, part of the College of Business at the University of Nevada, Reno, worked with representatives from the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to complete a second annual assessment, evaluation, and update for each of the individual community level and countywide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies and for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's regional five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. This second round of annual assessments, evaluations, and updates was completed for the countywide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies for Eureka County, Lander County, and White Pine County, for the individual communities of the City of Carlin, the City of Wells, and the City of West Wendover, and for the remainder of Elko County which includes the City of Elko and the communities of Jackpot and Spring Creek.

The process used to complete this second round of annual assessments, evaluations, and updates to each individual community level and countywide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and to the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy was modified from the first round completed

in late 2021 and early 2022. Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff conducted a series of individual meetings with the designated Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee for each individual community and county and with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to complete an updated strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats analysis, to evaluate the progress that had been made over the past year of implementation in achieving each individual economic development goal, and to identify priority areas and priority projects for the coming year of implementation. Northern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff then surveyed various public sector, private sector, and several community-based and non-profit agency, firm, and organization stakeholders at the community, county, and regional level to gather additional input for the annual assessment, evaluation, and update of each individual Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

For the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the City of Wells, faculty from the University Center for Economic Development facilitated a half-day workshop in Wells, Nevada with representatives from the City of Wells, from various private sector firms, and with representatives of several community-based non-profit organizations on September 29, 2022. This workshop included a series of facilitated small group exercises including the development of a revised strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats analysis, an evaluation of the existing strategic economic development goals, and the development of a series of priority areas and priority projects that the City of Wells will pursue in partnership with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority over the coming year of implementation of the existing five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the City of Wells. For the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the remainder of Elko County, including the City of Elko and the communities of Jackpot and Spring Creek, Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff completed similar meetings with community and countywide stakeholders followed by a follow-up survey designed to gather additional information and insight regarding the existing five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. For the community of Spring Creek specifically, faculty from the University Center for Economic Development have been working with the Spring Creek Association to develop a new five-year community and organizational strategic plan for the community of Spring Creek and for the Spring Creek Association. The results of this Spring Creek Association specific strategic planning effort have been incorporated into the annual assessment, evaluation, and update of the five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the remainder of Elko County and for the City of Elko and the communities of Jackpot and Spring Creek.

This University Center for Economic Development technical report presents the completed annual assessment, evaluation, and update to the existing five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the City of Carlin covering the 2020 through 2025 period. Section 2.0 of this University Center for Economic Development technical report presents an updated socio-demographic and economic data profile of each county and community within the northeastern Nevada region. It should be noted that, while the University Center for Economic Development utilizes data primarily from the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey five-year estimates, a brief comparison between the data presented in Section 2.0 of this technical report and data certified by the Nevada State Demographer's Office often results in significant differences, especially in the estimation of total population and other demographic statistics. U.S. Census Bureau data is primarily used in this technical report in

compliance with U.S. Economic Development Administration requirements. Section 3.0 of this University Center for Economic Development technical report presents an overview of potential revisions to the goals and actionable items, and specific resiliency and recovery actions developed by community leaders and representatives.

2.0 Analysis: Existing Community and Regional Conditions

This section presents a comprehensive analysis of the level of economic distress for the northeastern Nevada region and a comprehensive overview of updated socio-demographic, economic, and industry and occupation sector data for individual communities and counties within the northeastern Nevada region. The results of this socio-demographic, economic, and industry and occupation sector data analysis were presented to the various public sector, private sector, and community-based non-profit sector representatives who participated in this second annual assessment, evaluation, and update of the various community level and countywide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies and of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's current five-year regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

2.1 Analysis of the Level of Economic Distress for Lander County

Estimates for the civilian unemployment rate and per capita income were evaluated for each of the individual communities within the northeastern Nevada region to identify the level of 'economic distress' for each community using applicable U.S. Economic Development Administration guidelines. Determination of the level and type of economic distress is used to evaluate specific community needs and will be incorporated into future comprehensive economic development strategy updates for this region.

The U.S. Economic Development Administration's guidelines for 'economic distress' are defined in Title 13 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Section 301.3 Part 301 Subpart C and are as follows:

- An unemployment rate that is, for the most recent twenty-four (24) month period for which data is available, at least one (1) percentage point greater than the national average unemployment rate;
- Per capita income that is, for the most recent period for which data are available, eighty (80) percent or less of the national average per capita income; or
- A Special Need, as determined by the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

Table 2.1 presents a comparison of the most recent twenty-four (24) month period for which unemployment data is available for both Lander County and for the United States, as well as per capita income for both Lander County and the United States for 2020 and 2021. In order to estimate the twenty-four (24) month unemployment rate, the unemployment rates for both Lander County and for the United States for both 2020 and 2021 were averaged and compared.

Over the 2020 and 2021 period, the estimated average civilian unemployment rate for Lander County was an estimated 10.0 percent. Nationally, the estimated average civilian unemployment rate for the entire United States was an estimated 5.4 percent. Over the past twenty-four (24) months of available data, the estimated civilian unemployment rate for Lander County was an estimated **4.6 percent greater than the national estimated average**. Based upon this estimate, the Lander County **qualifies** as an economically distressed community under the unemployment rate definition outlined in Title 13 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Section 301.3 Part 301 Subpart C.

Table 2.1 – Comparison of Unemployment and Per Capita Income Lander County and United States 2020 and 2021			
	2020	2021	2020 and 2021 Average
Civilian Unemployment Rate			
Lander County	9.2%	10.8%	10.0%
Difference between Lander County and National Estimates	3.8%	5.3%	4.6%
United States National	5.4%	5.5%	5.4%
Per Capita Income			
Lander County	\$34,911	\$38,632	\$36,772
Percentage of U.S. National Estimate	98.7%	102.6%	100.7%
United States National	\$35,384	\$37,638	\$36,511

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2020 and 2021

Over the two-year 2020 and 2021 period, the estimated average per capita income for Lander County was an estimated \$36,772. Nationally, the estimated average per capita income for the entire United States was an estimated \$36,511. Over the past twenty-four (24) months of available data, the estimated per capita income for Lander County was an estimated **100.7 percent of the national average**. Based upon this estimate, Lander County **does not qualify** as an economically distressed community under the per capita income definition outlined in Title 13 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Section 301.3 Part 301 Subpart C.

In addition to these unemployment rate and per capita income estimates, representatives from Lander County, several individual communities from across the county, various private sector and industry representatives, and representatives from the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority, during a series of facilitated strategic economic development planning workshops held between October 2022 and December 2022, identified a number of additional special needs. These additional special needs include a need to address increased population of individuals living below the poverty line and the need to better diversify the county's underlying economic base. These and other special needs are detailed throughout this University Center for Economic Development technical report.

2.2 Socio-Demographic and Economic Trends for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Region

As part of the 2022 annual assessment, evaluation, and update of this current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, eleven separate socio-demographic, economic, and industry and occupation sector data categories were examined in order to evaluate and identify potential special needs as part of the 'economic distress' definition outlined in Title 13 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Section 301.3 Part 301 Subpart C. These categories include total population, median age, total number of households and average household size, median household income, median family income, and per capita income, the percentage of total population living below the poverty line, civilian workforce and the civilian unemployment rate, and total civilian employment by major industry sector. Whenever possible, comparison of local and countywide trends to statewide and national trends are provided for the 2013 to 2021 period.

2.2.a Total Population

Table 2.2 presents the change in total population for each county within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, for the state of Nevada, and for the United States between 2013 and 2021. Lander County is highlighted.

Between 2013 and 2021, the total population for all of Elko County increased from an estimated 50,023 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 53,420 total individuals in 2021, a net increase of 3,397 total individuals or by 6.8 percent. For the City of Carlin, total population decreased between 2013 and 2021, decreasing from an estimated 2,701 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 2,279 total individuals in 2021, a net decrease of 422 total individuals or by -15.6 percent. Total population for the City of Elko increased from an estimated 37,670 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 42,179 total individuals in 2021, a net increase of 4,509 total individuals or by 12.0 percent while total population for the City of Wells decreased from an estimated 1,986 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 1,917 total individuals in 2021, a net decrease of 69 total individuals or by -3.5 percent. The total population for the City of West Wendover increased from an estimated 4,442 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 4,517 total individuals in 2021, a net increase of 75 total individuals or by 1.7 percent.

For all of Eureka County, the total population countywide decreased from an estimated 1,804 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 1,603 total individuals in 2021, a net decrease of 201

total individuals or by -11.1 percent and the total population for just the town of Eureka decreased from an estimated 1,340 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 1,040 total individuals in 2021, a net decrease of 300 total individuals or by -22.4 percent. The total population for all of Lander County decreased from an estimated 5,844 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 5,729 total individuals in 2021, a net decrease of 115 total individuals or by a percentage decrease of -2.0 percent. For the town of Austin, located in southern Lander County, the total population decreased from an estimated 580 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 258 total individuals in 2021, a net decrease of 322 total individuals or by a percentage decrease of -55.5 percent while the total population for the town of Battle Mountain, located in northern Lander County, increased from an estimated 5,264 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 5,471 total individuals in 2021, a net increase of 207 total individuals or by 3.9 percent.

Table 2.2 – Total Population				
Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2013	2021	2013-2021 Actual Change	2013-2021 Percent Change
Elko County	50,023	53,420	3,397	6.8%
Carlin	2,701	2,279	-422	-15.6%
Elko	37,670	42,179	4,509	12.0%
Wells	1,986	1,917	-69	-3.5%
West Wendover	4,442	4,517	75	1.7%
Eureka County	1,804	1,603	-201	-11.1%
Eureka	1,340	1,040	-300	-22.4%
Lander County	5,844	5,729	-115	-2.0%
Austin	580	258	-322	-55.5%
Battle Mountain	5,264	5,471	207	3.9%
White Pine County	10,023	9,192	-831	-8.3%
Ely	5,718	5,574	-144	-2.5%
State of Nevada	2,730,066	3,059,238	329,172	12.1%
United States	311,536,594	329,725,481	18,188,887	5.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2013 and 2021

For White Pine County, the countywide population decreased from an estimated 10,023 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 9,192 total individuals in 2021, a net decrease of 831 total individuals or by a percentage decrease of -8.3 percent. The total population of the City of Ely, located in White Pine County, decreased between 2013 and 2021, decreasing from an estimated 5,718 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 5,574 total individuals in 2021, a net decrease of 144 total individuals or by a percentage decrease of 2.5 percent.

Comparatively, the total population for the entire state of Nevada increased between 2013 and 2021, increasing from an estimated 2.73 million total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 3.06 million total individuals in 2021, a net increase of 329,172 total individuals or by 12.1 percent. Nationwide, the total population for the entire United States increased from an estimated 311.54

million total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 329.73 million total individuals in 2021, a net increase of approximately 18.19 million total individuals or by 5.8 percent.

2.2.b Median Age

Table 2.3 presents the change in median age for each county within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States between 2013 and 2021. Lander County is highlighted.

Table 2.3 – Median Age				
Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2013	2021	2013-2021 Actual Change	2013-2021 Percent Change
Elko County	33.3	34.9	1.6	4.8%
Carlin	35.2	38.5	3.3	9.4%
Elko	33.1	33.9	0.8	2.4%
Wells	39.5	45.5	6.0	15.2%
West Wendover	26.1	36.6	10.5	40.2%
Eureka County	38.3	42.5	4.2	11.0%
Eureka	34.9	27.1	-7.8	-22.3%
Lander County	37.3	38.9	1.6	4.3%
Austin	34.2	35.0	0.8	2.3%
Battle Mountain	37.8	39.3	1.5	4.0%
White Pine County	40.9	41.3	0.4	1.0%
Ely	43.1	41.7	-1.4	-3.2%
State of Nevada	36.6	38.3	1.7	4.6%
United States	37.3	38.4	1.1	2.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2013 and 2021

The estimated median age for all of Elko County increased between 2013 and 2021, increasing from an estimated median age of 33.3 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 34.9 years of age in 2021, a net increase of 1.6 years of age or by 4.8 percent. For the City of Carlin, the estimated median age increased from an estimated 35.2 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 38.5 years of age in 2021, a net increase of 3.3 years of age or by 9.4 percent. The median age for the City of Elko increased from an estimated 33.1 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 33.9 years of age in 2021, a net increase of 0.8 years of age or by 2.4 percent while the median age for the City of Wells increased between 2013 and 2021, from an estimated 39.5 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 45.5 years of age in 2021, a net increase of 6.0 years of age or by 15.2 percent. For the City of West Wendover, the estimated median age increased significantly, increasing from an estimated 26.1 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 36.6 years of age in 2021, a net increase of 10.5 years of age or by 40.2 percent.

For all of Eureka County, the estimated median age increased between 2013 and 2021, from an estimated 38.3 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 42.5 years of age in 2021, a net increase of

4.2 years of age or by 11.0 percent. The estimated median age for just the town of Eureka also decreased between 2013 and 2021, decreasing from an estimated 34.9 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 27.1 years of age in 2021, a net decrease of 7.8 years of age or by -22.3 percent. For all of Lander County, the estimated median age increased only slightly between 2013 and 2021, increasing from an estimated 37.3 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 38.9 years of age in 2021, a net increase of 1.6 years of age or by 4.3 percent. For just the town of Austin, the estimated median age increased slightly between 2013 and 2021 from an estimated 34.2 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 35.0 years of age in 2021, a net increase of just 0.8 years of age or by 2.3 percent, while the estimated median age for just the town of Battle Mountain increased from an estimated 37.8 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 39.3 years of age in 2021, a net increase of 1.5 years of age or by 4.0 percent.

The estimated median age for all of White Pine County increased slightly from an estimated 40.9 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 41.3 years of age in 2021, a net increase of 0.4 years of age or by a percentage increase of 1.0 percent. For just the City of Ely, the estimated median age decreased between 2013 and 2021, decreasing from an estimated 43.1 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 41.7 years of age in 2021, a net decrease of 1.4 years of age or by a percentage decrease of -3.2 percent. Comparatively, the estimated median age for the entire state of Nevada increased between 2013 and 2021, increasing from an estimated 36.6 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 38.3 years of age in 2021, a net increase of 1.7 years of age or by 4.6 percent. Nationwide, the estimated median age for the entire United States increased from an estimated 37.3 years of age in 2013 to an estimated 38.4 years of age in 2021, a net increase of 1.1 years of age or by 2.9 percent.

2.2.c Total Number of Households

Table 2.4 presents the change in the total number of households for each county and community within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States between 2013 and 2021. Lander County is highlighted.

Between 2013 and 2021, the total number of households in all of Elko County increased from an estimated 17,599 total households in 2013 to an estimated 18,614 total households in 2021, a net increase of 1,015 total households or by 5.8 percent. For just the City of Carlin, the total number of households decreased between 2013 and 2021, decreasing from an estimated 937 total households in 2013 to an estimated 757 total households in 2021, a net decrease of 180 total households or by a percentage decrease of -19.2 percent. For just the City of Elko, the total number of households increased from an estimated 13,287 total households in 2013 to an estimated 14,640 total households in 2021, a net increase of 1,353 total households or by 10.2 percent while the total number of households for just the City of Wells decreased significantly, decreasing from an estimated 800 total households in 2013 to an estimated 589 total households in 2021, a net decrease of 211 total households or by a percentage decrease of -26.4 percent. For just the City of West Wendover, the total number of households increased significantly between 2013 and 2021, increasing from an estimated 1,362 total households in 2013 to an estimated 1,845 total households in 2021, a net increase of 483 total households or by 35.5 percent.

Table 2.4 – Total Number of Households Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2013	2021	2013-2021 Actual Change	2013-2021 Percent Change
Elko County	17,599	18,614	1,015	5.8%
Carlin	937	757	-180	-19.2%
Elko	13,287	14,640	1,353	10.2%
Wells	800	589	-211	-26.4%
West Wendover	1,362	1,845	483	35.5%
Eureka County	733	555	-178	-24.3%
Eureka	504	274	-230	-45.6%
Lander County	2,010	2,298	288	14.3%
Austin	207	157	-50	-24.2%
Battle Mountain	1,803	2,141	338	18.7%
White Pine County	3,357	3,482	125	3.7%
Ely	2,155	2,478	323	15.0%
State of Nevada	999,016	1,141,952	142,936	14.3%
United States	115,610,216	124,010,992	8,400,776	7.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2013 and 2021

For all of Eureka County, the total number of households decreased between 2013 and 2021, decreasing from 733 total households in 2013 to 555 total households in 2021, a net decrease of 178 total households or by -24.3 percent while the total number of households for just the town of Eureka decreased significantly from 504 total households in 2013 to 274 total households in 2021, a net decrease of 230 total households or by -45.6 percent. For all of Lander County, the total number of households increased between 2013 and 2021, increasing from an estimated 2,010 total households in 2013 to an estimated 2,298 total households in 2021, a net increase of 288 total households or by 14.3 percent. For just the town of Austin, the total number of households decreased from an estimated 207 total households in 2013 to an estimated 157 total households in 2021, a net decrease of 50 total households or by -24.2 percent while the total number of households for just the town of Battle Mountain increased significantly from an estimated 1,803 total households in 2013 to an estimated 2,141 total households in 2021, a net increase of 338 total households or by 18.7 percent.

Between 2013 and 2021, the total number of households for all of White Pine County increased from an estimated 3,357 total households in 2013 to an estimated 3,482 total households in 2021, a net increase of 125 total households or by 3.7 percent. For just the City of Ely, the total number of households also increased between 2013 and 2021, increasing from an estimated 2,155 total households in 2013 to an estimated 2,478 total households in 2021, a net increase of 323 total households or by 15.0 percent. Statewide, the total number of households for the entire state of Nevada increased from an estimated 999,016 total households in 2013 to an estimated 1.14 million total households in 2021, a net increase of 142,936 total households or by 14.3 percent. Nationwide, the total number of households for the entire United States increased from an estimated 115.61 million total households in 2013 to an estimated 124.01 million total

households in 2021, a net increase of 8.4 million total households or by a percentage increase of 7.3 percent.

2.2.d Average Household Size

Table 2.5 presents the change in average household size for each county within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States between 2013 and 2021. Lander County is highlighted.

Table 2.5 – Average Household Size				
Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2013	2021	2013-2021 Actual Change	2013-2021 Percent Change
Elko County	2.80	2.82	0.02	0.7%
Carlin	2.70	2.80	0.10	3.7%
Elko	2.81	2.86	0.05	1.8%
Wells	2.34	3.04	0.70	29.9%
West Wendover	3.26	2.45	-0.81	-24.8%
Eureka County	2.43	2.88	0.45	18.5%
Eureka	2.61	3.78	1.17	44.8%
Lander County	2.87	2.47	-0.40	-13.9%
Austin	2.78	1.61	-1.17	-42.1%
Battle Mountain	2.88	2.54	-0.34	-11.8%
White Pine County	2.74	2.19	-0.55	-20.1%
Ely	2.60	2.22	-0.38	-14.6%
State of Nevada	2.70	2.65	-0.05	-1.9%
United States	2.63	2.60	-0.03	-1.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2013 and 2021

For all of Elko County, the estimated average household size increased from an estimated 2.80 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 2.82 people per household in 2021, a net increase of 0.02 people per household or by 0.7 percent. For just the City of Carlin, the estimated average household size increased from an estimated 2.70 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 2.80 people per household in 2021, a net increase of 0.10 people per household or by 3.7 percent, while the estimated average household size for the City of Elko increased from an estimated 2.81 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 2.86 people per household in 2021, a net increase of 0.05 people per household or by 1.8 percent. For the City of Wells, the estimated average household size increased from an estimated 2.34 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 3.34 people per household in 2021, a net increase of 0.70 people per household or by 29.9 percent while the average household size for the City of West Wendover decreased from an estimated 3.26 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 2.45 people per household in 2021, a net decrease of 0.81 people per household or by -24.8 percent.

Between 2013 and 2021, the estimated average household size increased from an estimated 2.43 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 2.88 people per household in 2021, a net increase of 0.45 people per household or by 18.5 percent, while the average household size for just the town of Eureka increased significantly, increasing from an estimated 2.61 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 3.78 people per household in 2021, a net increase of 1.17 people per household or by 44.8 percent. For all of Lander County, the estimated average household size decreased from an estimated 2.87 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 2.47 people per household in 2021, a net decrease of 0.40 people per household or by -13.9 percent. The average household size for just the town of Austin decreased from an estimated 2.78 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 1.61 people per household in 2021, a net decrease of 1.17 people per household or by -42.1 percent. For just the town of Battle Mountain, the estimated average household size decreased from an estimated 2.88 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 2.54 people per household in 2021, a net decrease of 0.34 people per household or by a percentage decrease of -11.8 percent.

Between 2013 and 2021, the estimated average household size for all of White Pine County decreased from an estimated 2.74 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 2.19 people per household in 2021, a net decrease of 0.55 people per household or by -20.1 percent. For just the City of Ely, the estimated average household size decreased from an estimated 2.60 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 2.22 people per household in 2021, a net decrease of 0.38 people per household or by a percentage decrease of -11.8 percent. Statewide, the estimated average household size for the entire state of Nevada decreased slightly, decreasing from an estimated 2.70 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 2.65 people per household in 2021, a net decrease of just 0.05 people per household or by -1.9 percent. Nationwide, the estimated average household size for the entire United States also decreased only slightly, decreasing from an estimated 2.63 people per household in 2013 to an estimated 2.60 people per household in 2021, a net decrease of just 0.03 people per household or by a percentage decrease of -1.1 percent.

2.2.e Median Household Income

Table 2.6 presents the change in median household income (in 2021 inflation-adjusted dollars) for each county and community within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States between 2013 and 2021. Lander County is highlighted.

Between 2013 and 2021, the estimated median household income for all Elko County increased from an estimated \$70,238 in 2013 to an estimated \$82,462 in 2021, a net increase of \$12,224 or by 17.4 percent. Over the same 2013 to 2021 period, the estimated median household income for the City of Carlin, the City of Elko, the City of Wells, and the City of West Wendover all increased. For the City of Carlin, the estimated median household income increased by a total of \$3,627 or by 5.2 percent between 2013 and 2021, increased by an estimated \$15,326 or by a percentage increase of 20.2 percent for the City of Elko, increased by an estimated \$7,500 or by a percentage increase of 16.0 percent for the City of Wells, and increased significantly by an estimated \$15,335 or by 43.3 percent for the City of West Wendover.

Table 2.6 – Median Household Income (2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2013	2021	2013-2021 Actual Change	2013-2021 Percent Change
Elko County	\$70,238	\$82,462	\$12,224	17.4%
Carlin	\$69,107	\$72,734	\$3,627	5.2%
Elko	\$75,989	\$91,315	\$15,326	20.2%
Wells	\$46,875	\$54,375	\$7,500	16.0%
West Wendover	\$37,740	\$54,075	\$16,335	43.3%
Eureka County	\$64,632	\$68,307	\$3,675	5.7%
Eureka	\$50,268	\$82,917	\$32,649	64.9%
Lander County	\$72,742	\$92,543	\$19,801	27.2%
Austin	\$43,809	\$26,563	-\$17,246	-39.4%
Battle Mountain	\$76,090	\$93,859	\$17,769	23.4%
White Pine County	\$48,586	\$63,590	\$15,004	30.9%
Ely	\$49,316	\$64,987	\$15,671	31.8%
State of Nevada	\$52,800	\$65,686	\$12,886	24.4%
United States	\$53,046	\$69,021	\$15,975	30.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2013 and 2021

For all of Eureka County, the estimated median household income increased from an estimated \$64,632 in 2013 to an estimated \$68,307 in 2021, a net increase of \$3,675 or by a percentage increase of 5.7 percent while the estimated median household income for just the town of Eureka increased significantly between 2013 and 2021, increasing by an estimated \$32,649 or by a percentage increase of 64.9 percent. For all of Lander County, the estimated median household income increased from an estimated \$72,742 in 2013 to an estimated \$92,543 in 2021, a net increase of \$19,801 or by 27.2 percent. The estimated median household income for the town of Austin decreased from an estimated \$43,809 in 2013 to an estimated \$26,563 in 2021, a net decrease of \$17,246 or by -39.4 percent. The estimated median household income for just the town of Battle Mountain increased between 2013 and 2021, increasing by an estimated \$17,769 or by a percentage increase of 23.4 percent.

Between 2013 and 2021, the estimated median household income for all of White Pine County increased from an estimated \$48,586 in 2013 to an estimated \$63,590 in 2021, a net increase of \$15,004 or by an estimated 30.9 percent. For just the City of Ely, the estimated median household income also increased between 2013 and 2021, increasing by an estimated \$15,671 or by a percentage increase of 31.8 percent.

Statewide, the estimated median household income for the entire state of Nevada increased from an estimated \$52,800 in 2013 to an estimated \$65,686 in 2021, a net increase of \$12,886 or by a percentage increase of 24.4 percent. Nationwide, the estimated median household income for the entire United States increased from an estimated \$53,046 in 2013 to an estimated \$69,021 in 2021, a net increase of \$15,975 or by a percentage increase of 30.1 percent.

2.2.f Median Family Income

Table 2.7 presents the change in median family income (in 2021 inflation-adjusted dollars) for each county and community within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States between 2013 and 2021. Lander County is highlighted.

Table 2.7 – Median Family Income (2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2013	2021	2013-2021 Actual Change	2013-2021 Percent Change
Elko County	\$75,231	\$95,153	\$19,922	26.5%
Carlin	\$75,046	\$90,441	\$15,395	20.5%
Elko	\$84,458	\$100,675	\$16,217	19.2%
Wells	\$55,500	\$71,610	\$16,110	29.0%
West Wendover	\$41,208	\$85,710	\$44,502	108.0%
Eureka County	\$94,648	\$69,271	-\$25,377	-26.8%
Eureka	\$64,853	\$86,250	\$21,397	33.0%
Lander County	\$75,857	\$94,475	\$18,618	24.5%
Austin	\$60,278	NA	NA	NA
Battle Mountain	\$80,313	\$94,503	\$14,190	17.7%
White Pine County	\$63,982	\$83,529	\$19,547	30.6%
Ely	\$63,459	\$86,865	\$23,406	36.9%
State of Nevada	\$61,359	\$78,456	\$17,097	27.9%
United States	\$64,719	\$85,028	\$20,309	31.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2013 and 2021

Between 2013 and 2021, median family income for all of Elko County increased from an estimated \$75,231 in 2013 to an estimated \$95,153 in 2021, a net increase of \$19,922 or by 26.5 percent. Median family income for just the City of Carlin increased by an estimated \$15,395 or by 20.5 percent between 2013 and 2021, increased by an estimated \$16,217 or by 19.2 percent for the City of Elko, increased by an estimated \$16,110 or by 29.0 percent for the City of Wells, and increased very significantly by an estimated \$44,502 or by 108.0 percent for the City of West Wendover. For just Eureka County, median family income decreased between 2013 and 2021, decreasing from an estimated \$94,648 in 2013 to an estimated \$69,271 in 2021, a net decrease of \$25,377 or by a percentage decrease of -26.8 percent. For just the town of Eureka, median family income increased significantly from an estimated \$64,853 in 2013 to an estimated \$86,250 in 2021, a net increase of \$21,397 or by 33.0 percent.

For all of Lander County, median family income increased significantly between 2013 and 2021, increasing from an estimated \$75,857 in 2013 to an estimated \$94,475 in 2021, a net increase of \$18,618 or by 24.5 percent. While median family income was unavailable for the town of Austin in 2021, the median family income for the town of Austin in 2013 was an estimated \$60,278 and increased for the town of Battle Mountain by an estimated \$14,190 or by 17.7

percent between 2013 and 2021. For all of White Pine County, median family income increased from an estimated \$63,982 in 2013 to an estimated \$83,529 in 2021, a net increase of \$19,547 or by 30.6 percent and, for the City of Ely, median family income increased from an estimated \$63,459 in 2013 to an estimated \$86,865 in 2021, a net increase of \$23,406 or by 36.9 percent.

Comparatively, median family income for the entire state of Nevada increased from an estimated \$61,359 in 2013 to an estimated \$78,456 in 2021, a net increase of \$17,097 or by 27.9 percent. Nationwide, median family income for the entire United States increased from an estimated \$64,719 in 2013 to an estimated \$85,028 in 2021, a net increase of \$20,309 or by 31.4 percent.

2.2.g Per Capita (Mean) Income

Table 2.8 presents the change in per capita income (in 2021 inflation-adjusted dollars) for each county and community within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States between 2013 and 2021. Lander County is highlighted.

Table 2.8 – Per Capita (Mean) Income, Individuals (2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2013	2021	2013-2021 Actual Change	2013-2021 Percent Change
Elko County	\$28,358	\$36,273	\$7,915	27.9%
Carlin	\$29,339	\$30,696	\$1,357	4.6%
Elko	\$31,042	\$38,307	\$7,265	23.4%
Wells	\$23,401	\$23,809	\$408	1.7%
West Wendover	\$14,982	\$30,315	\$15,333	102.3%
Eureka County	\$28,056	\$26,443	-\$1,613	-5.7%
Eureka	\$24,700	\$23,657	-\$1,043	-4.2%
Lander County	\$29,800	\$38,632	\$8,832	29.6%
Austin	\$17,523	\$22,983	\$5,460	31.2%
Battle Mountain	\$31,153	\$39,370	\$8,217	26.4%
White Pine County	\$24,435	\$30,626	\$6,191	25.3%
Ely	\$28,226	\$34,306	\$6,080	21.5%
State of Nevada	\$26,589	\$34,621	\$8,032	30.2%
United States	\$28,155	\$37,638	\$9,483	33.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2013 and 2021

Between 2013 and 2021, per capita income for all of Elko County increased significantly from an estimated \$28,358 in 2013 to an estimated \$36,273 in 2021, a net increase of \$7,915 or by 27.9 percent. For just the City of Carlin, per capita income increased by an estimated \$1,357 or by 4.6 percent between 2013 and 2021, increased by an estimated \$7,265 or by 23.4 percent for the City of Elko, increased slightly by an estimated \$408 or by 1.7 percent for the City of Wells, and increased dramatically by an estimated \$15,333 or by 102.3 percent for the City of West Wendover. For all of Eureka County, per capita income decreased from an estimated \$28,056 in

2013 to an estimated \$26,632 in 2021, a net decrease of \$1,613 or by 5.7 percent and, for just the town of Eureka, per capita income decreased from an estimated \$24,700 in 2013 to an estimated \$23,657 in 2021, a net decrease of \$1,043 or by -4.2 percent.

For all of Lander County, per capita income increased from an estimated \$29,800 in 2013 to an estimated \$38,632 in 2021, a net increase of \$8,832 or by 29.6 percent. For the town of Austin, the estimated per capita income increased by an estimated \$5,460 or 31.2 percent and increased for the town of Battle Mountain by an estimated \$8,217 or by 26.4 percent between 2013 and 2021. For all of White Pine County, per capita income increased from an estimated \$24,435 in 2013 to an estimated \$30,626 in 2021, a net increase of \$6,191 or by 25.3 percent and increased for the City of Ely from an estimated \$28,226 in 2013 to an estimated \$34,306 in 2021, a net increase of \$6,080 or by a percentage increase of 21.5 percent.

Statewide, per capita income for the entire state of Nevada increased from an estimated \$26,589 in 2013 to an estimated \$34,621 in 2021, a net increase of \$8,032 or by an estimated 30.2 percent. Nationwide, per capita income for the entire United States increased from an estimated \$28,155 in 2013 to an estimated \$37,638 in 2021, a net increase of \$9,483 or by an estimated 33.7 percent.

2.2.h Percent of Total Population Living Below the Poverty Line

Table 2.9 presents the change in the percentage of total population living below the poverty line for each county and community within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States between 2013 and 2021. Lander County is highlighted.

Between 2013 and 2021, the percentage of total population living below the poverty line throughout all of Elko County increased from an estimated 8.8 percent in 2013 to an estimated 11.6 percent in 2021, a net increase of 2.8 percent or by a percentage increase of 31.8 percent. For just the City of Carlin, the percentage of total population living below the poverty line increased between 2013 and 2021, increasing by a net 1.5 percent or by a percentage increase of 25.4 percent, increased for the City of Elko by a net 3.6 percent or by a percentage increase of 57.1 percent, increased significantly for the City of Wells by a net 23.1 percent or by a percentage increase of 292.4 percent, and decreased for the City of West Wendover by a net 10.5 percent or by a percentage decrease of -42.3 percent. The percentage of total population living below the poverty line for all of Eureka County increased between 2013 and 2021, increasing from an estimated 13.9 percent in 2013 to an estimated 18.3 percent in 2021, a net increase of 4.4 percent or by a percentage increase of 31.7 percent, and increased by an estimated 5.0 percent or by a percentage increase of 29.6 percent for just the town of Eureka between 2013 and 2021.

For all Lander County, the percentage of total population living below the poverty line increased from an estimated 9.3 percent in 2013 to an estimated 18.3 percent in 2021, a net increase of 1.6 percent or by a percentage increase of 17.2 percent. The percentage of total population living below the poverty line for the town of Austin decreased from an estimated 15.2 percent in 2013 to an estimated 15.1 percent in 2021, a net decrease of 0.1 percent or by a percentage decrease of -0.7 percent. The percentage of total population living below the poverty line for just the town

of Battle Mountain increased by an estimated 2.0 percent or by a percentage increase of 23.0 percent between 2013 and 2021. Between 2013 and 2021, the percentage of total population living below the poverty line for all White Pine County decreased from an estimated 12.9 percent in 2013 to an estimated 11.1 percent in 2021, a net decrease of 1.8 percent or by a percentage decrease of -14.0 percent, and increased for just the City of Ely between 2013 and 2021, increasing by a net 0.3 percent or by a percentage increase of 2.7 percent.

Table 2.9 – Percent of Total Population Living Below the Poverty Line Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2013	2021	2013-2021 Actual Change	2013-2021 Percent Change
Elko County	8.8%	11.6%	2.8%	31.8%
Carlin	5.9%	7.4%	1.5%	25.4%
Elko	6.3%	9.9%	3.6%	57.1%
Wells	7.9%	31.0%	23.1%	292.4%
West Wendover	24.8%	14.3%	-10.5%	-42.3%
Eureka County	13.9%	18.3%	4.4%	31.7%
Eureka	16.9%	21.9%	5.0%	29.6%
Lander County	9.3%	10.9%	1.6%	17.2%
Austin	15.2%	15.1%	-0.1%	-0.7%
Battle Mountain	8.7%	10.7%	2.0%	23.0%
White Pine County	12.9%	11.1%	-1.8%	-14.0%
Ely	11.2%	11.5%	0.3%	2.7%
State of Nevada	15.0%	12.9%	-2.1%	-14.0%
United States	15.4%	12.6%	-2.8%	-18.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2013 and 2021

Statewide, the percentage of total population living below the poverty line for the entire state of Nevada decreased from an estimated 15.0 percent in 2013 to an estimated 12.9 percent in 2021, a net decrease of 2.1 percent or by a percentage decrease of -14.0 percent. Nationwide, the percentage of total population living below the poverty line for the entire United States decreased from an estimated 15.4 percent in 2013 to an estimated 12.6 percent in 2021, a net decrease of 2.8 percent or by a percentage decrease of -18.2 percent.

2.2.i Civilian Workforce (Individuals 16 Years or Older)

Table 2.10 presents the change in the size of the civilian workforce (individuals aged 16 years or older) for each county and community within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States between 2013 and 2021. Lander County is highlighted.

Between 2013 and 2021, the civilian workforce for all of Elko County increased from an estimated 26,271 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 27,701 in 2021, a net increase of 1,430 total individuals or by 5.4 percent. For just the City of Carlin, the civilian workforce decreased

by an estimated 161 total individuals or by a percentage decrease of -12.0 percent between 2013 and 2021, increased by an estimated 1,650 total individuals or by 8.2 percent for just the City of Elko, decreased by an estimated 239 total individuals or by a percentage decrease of -23.8 percent for just the City of Wells, and increased by an estimated 451 total individuals or by 20.9 percent for just the City of West Wendover. For all of Eureka County, the civilian workforce decreased significantly from an estimated 845 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 587 total individuals in 2021, a net decrease of 258 total individuals or by -30.5 percent and decreased for just the town of Eureka by an estimated 224 total individuals or by a significant -36.5 percent between 2013 and 2021.

Table 2.10 – Civilian Workforce (Individuals 16 Years or Older)				
Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2013	2021	2013-2021 Actual Change	2013-2021 Percent Change
Elko County	26,271	27,701	1,430	5.4%
Carlin	1,345	1,184	-161	-12.0%
Elko	20,106	21,756	1,650	8.2%
Wells	1,004	765	-239	-23.8%
West Wendover	2,163	2,614	451	20.9%
Eureka County	845	587	-258	-30.5%
Eureka	613	389	-224	-36.5%
Lander County	2,830	2,848	18	0.6%
Austin	192	125	-67	-34.9%
Battle Mountain	2,638	2,723	85	3.2%
White Pine County	4,464	3,688	-776	-17.4%
Ely	2,707	2,815	108	4.0%
State of Nevada	1,404,746	1,538,959	134,213	9.6%
United States	157,113,886	166,672,597	9,558,711	6.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2013 and 2021

For all of Lander County, the civilian workforce increased very slightly between 2013 and 2021, increasing from an estimated 2,830 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 2,848 total individuals in 2021, a net increase of 18 total individuals or by just 0.6 percent. Between 2013 and 2021, the estimated civilian workforce for the town of Austin decreased by 67 total individuals or -34.9 percent and increased by an estimated 85 total individuals or by a percentage increase of 3.2 percent for just the town of Battle Mountain. Between 2013 and 2021, the civilian workforce for all of White Pine County decreased from an estimated 4,464 total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 3,688 total individuals in 2021, a net decrease of 776 total individuals or by -17.4 percent and increased by an estimated 108 total individuals or by a percentage increase of 4.0 percent for just the town of Ely between 2013 and 2021.

The civilian workforce for the entire state of Nevada increased from an estimated 1.40 million total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 1.54 million total individuals in 2021, a net increase of 134,213 total individuals or by 9.6 percent between 2013 and 2021. Nationwide, the civilian

workforce for the entire United States increased from an estimated 157.11 million total individuals in 2013 to an estimated 166.67 million total individuals in 2021, a net increase of 9.56 million total individuals or by 6.1 percent.

2.2.j Civilian Unemployment Rate (Individuals 16 Years or Older)

Table 2.11 presents the change in the estimated civilian unemployment rate (individuals aged 16 years or older) for each county and community within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States between 2013 and 2021. Lander County is highlighted.

Table 2.11 – Civilian Unemployment Rate (Individuals 16 Years or Older) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2013	2021	2013-2021 Actual Change	2013-2021 Percent Change
Elko County	5.7%	4.6%	-1.1%	-19.3%
Carlin	10.6%	7.3%	-3.3%	-31.1%
Elko	4.8%	5.0%	0.2%	4.2%
Wells	7.4%	1.2%	-6.2%	-83.8%
West Wendover	7.6%	0.0%	-7.6%	-100.0%
Eureka County	5.4%	0.0%	-5.4%	-100.0%
Eureka	1.6%	0.0%	-1.6%	-100.0%
Lander County	11.2%	10.8%	-0.4%	-3.6%
Austin	17.7%	0.0%	-17.7%	-100.0%
Battle Mountain	10.7%	11.3%	0.6%	5.6%
White Pine County	9.9%	3.8%	-6.1%	-61.6%
Ely	8.8%	3.2%	-5.6%	-63.6%
State of Nevada	12.5%	7.1%	-5.4%	-43.2%
United States	9.7%	5.5%	-4.2%	-43.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2013 and 2021

Between 2013 and 2021, the civilian unemployment rate for all of Elko County decreased from an estimated 5.7 percent in 2013 to an estimated 4.6 percent in 2021, a net decrease of 1.1 percent or by a percentage decrease of -19.3 percent. For just the City of Carlin, the civilian unemployment rate decreased by a net 3.3 percent or by a percentage decrease of -31.1 percent between 2013 and 2021, increased by a net 0.2 percent or by a percentage increase of 4.2 percent for just the City of Elko, and decreased significantly by a net 6.2 percent or by a percentage decrease of -83.8 percent for just the City of Wells. The estimated civilian unemployment rate for the City of West Wendover, Eureka County, and the City of Eureka in 2021 was 0.0 percent, a decrease of 7.6 percent, 5.4, percent, and 1.6 percent respectively from 2013.

For all of Lander County, the civilian unemployment rate decreased from an estimated 11.2 percent in 2013 to an estimated 10.8 percent in 2021, a net decrease of just 0.4 percent or by a percentage decrease of -3.6 percent. The civilian unemployment rate for the town of Austin was

an estimated 0.0 percent in 2021, down from 17.7 percent in 2013. For just the town of Battle Mountain, the civilian unemployment rate increased from an estimated 10.7 percent in 2013 to an estimated 11.3 percent in 2021, a net increase of 0.6 percent or by a percentage increase of 5.6 percent. Between 2013 and 2021, the civilian unemployment rate for all of White Pine County declined from an estimated 9.9 percent in 2013 to an estimated 3.8 percent in 2021, a net decrease of 6.1 percent or by a percentage decrease of -61.6 percent and decreased by a net 5.6 percent or by a percentage decrease of -63.6 percent for just the City of Ely between 2013 and 2021.

For the entire state of Nevada, the civilian unemployment rate declined significantly between 2013 and 2021, declining from an estimated 12.5 percent in 2013 to an estimated 7.1 percent in 2021, a net decrease of 5.4 percent or by a percentage decrease of -43.2 percent. Nationwide, the civilian unemployment rate for the entire United States decreased significantly between 2013 and 2021, decreasing from an estimated 9.7 percent in 2013 to an estimated 5.5 percent in 2021, a net decrease of 4.2 percent or by a percentage decrease of -43.3 percent.

2.2.k Total Employment by Major Industry Sector

Table 2.12 presents the total number of individuals employed by major industry sector for Elko County, Eureka County, Lander County, White Pine County, and for the entire state of Nevada and for the entire United States in 2021. The four largest major industry sectors, in-terms of the total number of individuals employed by each individual industry sector, are highlighted for each geographic area.

For Elko County, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining was the single largest major industry sector in 2021, employing an estimated 6,307 total individuals. Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance was the second largest major industry sector, employing an estimated 4,125 total individuals; Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services was the third largest major industry sector, employing an estimated 3,573 total individuals; and Retail Trade was the fourth largest major industry sector for Elko County in 2021, employing an estimated 2,889 total individuals.

For Eureka County, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining was the single largest major industry sector in 2021, employing an estimated 283 total individuals. Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance was the second largest major industry sector in Eureka County in 2021, employing an estimated 130 total individuals, and Construction was the third largest major industry sector in Eureka County in 2021, employing an estimated 44 total individuals. Retail Trade was the fourth largest industry, employing an estimated 39 individuals in Eureka County in 2021.

In 2021, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining was the single largest major industry sector for Lander County, employing an estimated 960 total individuals, and Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance was the second largest major industry sector, employing an estimated 338 total individuals. Public Administration was the third largest major industry sector in Lander County in 2021, employing an estimated 258 total

individuals, and Construction was the fourth largest major industry sector, employing an estimated 244 total individuals.

Table 2.12 – Civilian Employment (Population 16 Years and Over) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority 2021						
Industry Sector	Elko County	Eureka County	Lander County	White Pine County	State of Nevada	United States
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining	6,307	283	960	707	19,870	2,614,109
Construction	2,054	44	244	212	106,802	10,717,186
Manufacturing	677	16	81	73	71,225	15,786,008
Wholesale Trade	501	0	58	54	28,386	3,916,817
Retail Trade	2,889	39	113	292	164,069	17,253,259
Transportation and Warehousing, and Utilities	1,261	30	206	257	93,914	8,905,978
Information	212	0	18	17	21,731	3,031,263
Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	819	0	0	56	82,334	10,483,270
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative Waste Management Services	1,430	17	161	160	165,311	18,817,926
Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance	4,125	130	338	562	239,111	36,753,702
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services	3,573	5	94	584	310,206	14,346,635
Other Services, Except Public Administration	1,217	17	9	159	65,052	7,485,169
Public Administration	1,353	6	258	416	61,436	7,399,660
Total	26,418	587	2,540	3,549	1,429,447	157,510,982

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2021

For White Pine County, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining was the single largest major industry sector in 2021, employing an estimated 707 total individuals, and Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services was the second largest major industry sector, employing an estimated 584 total individuals in 2021. Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance was the third largest major industry sector in White Pine County in 2021, employing an estimated 562 total individuals, and Public Administration was the fourth largest major industry sector, employing an estimated 416 total individuals in 2021.

Statewide, Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services was the single largest major industry sector in 2021 for the entire state of Nevada, employing an estimated 310,206 total individuals. Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance was the second largest major industry sector in 2021 for the entire state of Nevada, employing an estimated 239,111 total individuals, and Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative Waste Management Services was the third largest major industry sector in 2021 for the entire state of Nevada, employing an estimated 165,311 total individuals. Retail Trade was the fourth largest major industry sector for the entire state of Nevada in 2021, employing an estimated 164,069 total individuals.

For the entire United States, Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance was the single largest major industry sector in 2021, employing an estimated 36.75 million total individuals. Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative Waste Management Services was the second largest major industry sector for the entire United States in 2021, employing an estimated 18.81 million total individuals, and Retail Trade was the third largest major industry sector for the entire United States in 2021, employing an estimated 17.25 million total individuals. Manufacturing was the fourth largest major industry sector in 2021 for the entire United States, employing an estimated 15.79 million total individuals.

2.3 An Updated Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis

Participants of the October 25, 2022 annual update and evaluation workshop of the five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander County and recipients of the online Survey Monkey form were asked to complete an updated Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis for Lander County. The results of this SWOT analysis are presented in this sub-section.

Strengths are defined as characteristics of Lander County that give the community an economic development advantage over others and weaknesses are defined as characteristics of the community that place it at an economic development competitive disadvantage relative to other communities both within and outside the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region. Opportunities are elements within the external environment that Lander County could potentially take advantage of, and threats are elements within the external environment that may derail the economic development efforts of the community over the next five years.

2.3.a Strengths

Figure 2.1 presents a word cloud of the various economic development strengths of Lander County as identified by feedback from workshop participants for the 2022 annual update of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander County. Neither survey respondent contributed to the list of strengths.

Workshop participants noted a wide variety of recreation and beautification assets as strengths for the county and communities. Some examples include a well maintained and continuously

From a business-friendly environment, regulatory structure, and tax structure perspective, workshop participants noted that Lander County’s existing county government structure provides new and existing businesses with direct access to a variety of county services and technical support resources. Workshop participants further noted that Lander County has developed a business-friendly regulatory and tax structure that encourages new business creation and attraction formation and encourages existing businesses to stay in Lander County and expand their existing operations with little to no government intrusion. Specific support from chambers of commerce and the Lander Economic Development Authority (LEDA) are a major strength and residents are proud of their purchasing policy to support local businesses first – buying local and using local services – which has benefitted local businesses immensely.

Health services strengths include hospice, the Austin Medical Center, and the county health department plans to provide options for county residents. There is also strong support for Search and Rescue, ambulance support and Volunteer Fire Department funding for engines and a new building. Other safety strengths include the Safe Schools grant to establish sidewalks, and crosswalks and flashing lights to enhance pedestrian safety. There is also ongoing collaboration with the Federal Bureau of Land Management for fire suppression and with the Nevada Department of Agriculture for mosquito and Mormon cricket abatement. Businesses and even individual citizens can easily access key county government personnel and receive assistance across a variety of development and planning areas. The open-door policy and direct communication with county commissioners and other government representatives supports the encouragement of total transparency and fiscal responsibility. Participants noted ongoing updates to sewer and water infrastructure and that fiber optics installation has begun in some areas. There have also been ongoing Airport improvements in Battle Mountain and Austin.

2.3.b Weaknesses

Workshop participants for the 2022 annual update of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander County maintained original list of weaknesses from the 2021 annual update and neither survey respondent contributed to the list of weaknesses. Figure 2.2 presents a word cloud of these various economic development weaknesses.

In addition to maintaining the key economic development weaknesses for Lander County as identified by workshop participants in 2021 that generally focused on a ‘lack of’ various services, resources, and capabilities needed to support continued economic growth and diversification of the county’s existing economic base, 2022 participants strongly emphasized the increasing apathy and skepticism toward correcting some of the region’s most major weaknesses limiting economic development. Workshop participants noted that more definitive decisiveness and action by Lander County representatives about community and economic development policy, including the planning and completion of critical infrastructure projects, is needed to support the sustainable growth and diversification of the county’s economic base. A ‘lack of’ diverse commercial retail services, banks and financial services, emergency preparedness and response, and general communication from key public officials continue to impede the further implementation of the key elements and goals and objectives of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander County.

**Figure 2.2 – Economic Development Weaknesses
Lander County**



2.3.c Opportunities

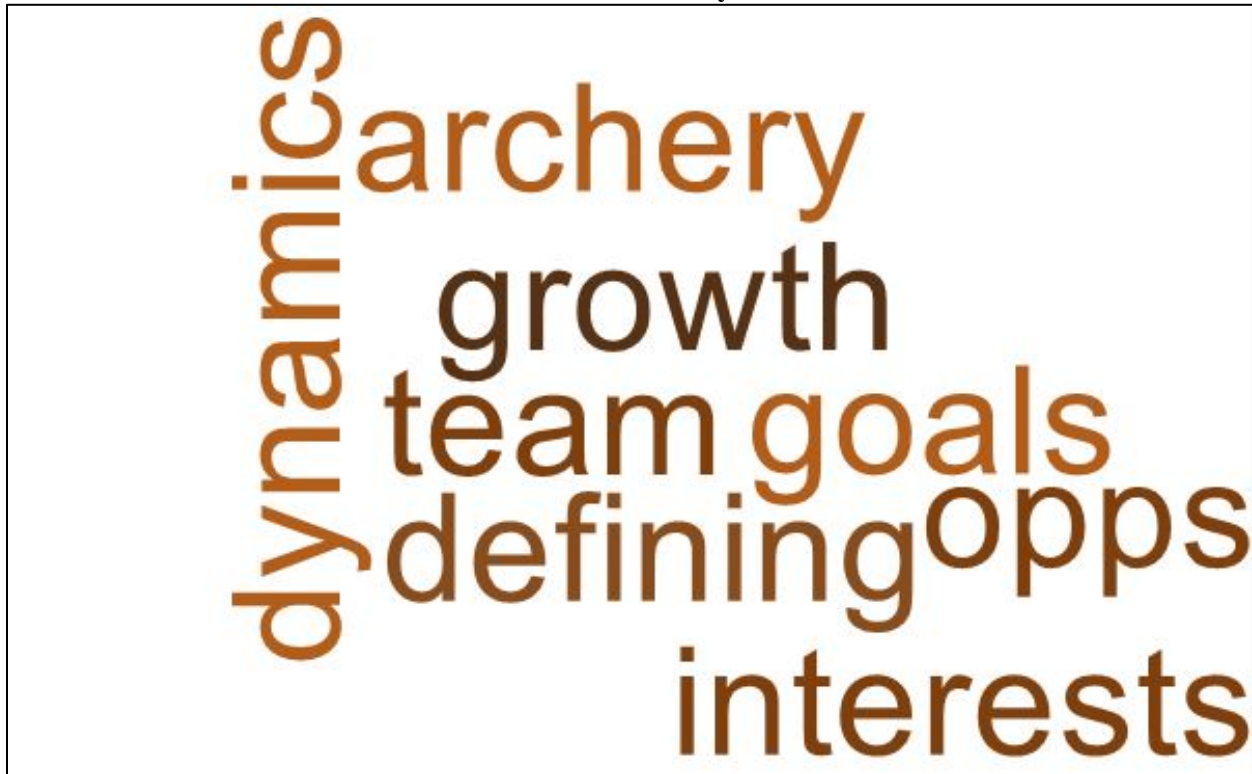
Figure 2.3 presents a word cloud of the various economic development opportunities of Lander County as identified by feedback from workshop participants for the 2022 annual update of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander County. Neither survey respondent contributed to the list of opportunities.

In March 2022, the Nevada Department of Wildlife and the Nevada Division of State Lands announced acquisition of 1,500 acres near Battle Mountain that will become a Wildlife Management Area to protect wetlands associated with Rock Creek and Humboldt River. The project will create miles of canals and streams to support the diverse wildlife and vegetation. While the property has been open to public use, this designation is expected to increase ecotourism for the area.

Workshop participants noted that improved and increased tourism and outdoor recreation assets within the county, such as the increased interest in archery, could help further diversify the existing economic base. Local and regional trails, campsites, and historic sites throughout the county provide outdoor recreation enthusiasts with a wide range of choices. Improving related infrastructure and support services, including access roads, additional motel and hotel room capacity, and additional commercial retail and dining options, is an essential first step in growing and diversifying Lander County’s existing tourism and outdoor recreation sector. Improved marketing of Lander County’s tourism and outdoor recreation assets, either independently or in

partnership with key organizations such as the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, will also be needed in order to expand and grow tourism and outdoor recreation opportunities throughout the county

**Figure 2.3 – Economic Development Opportunities
Lander County**



Workshop participants also noted the opportunity to grow county support staff and strengthen dynamics among partners that are motivated by refined goals and opportunities to strengthen communities across the county.

2.3.d Threats

Workshop participants for the 2022 annual update of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander County maintained the original list of threats from the 2021 annual update and neither survey respondent contributed to the list of threats. Figure 2.4 presents a word cloud of these various economic development threats.

In 2021, workshop participants further noted that Lander County is particularly vulnerable to possible legislative action that the Nevada State Legislature could take regarding the regulation and taxation of the state’s mining and natural resource extraction industry sector. Increased regulation and a restructuring of how the net proceeds tax is levied on mining and natural resource extraction activities may discourage future mining activities in and around Lander County and may significantly reduce the amount of collected net proceeds revenue that Lander County and the Lander County School District currently depend upon in order to fund critical

services. As both Lander County and the Lander County School District are highly dependent on net proceeds revenue, a reduction in net proceeds revenue could result in the cancelation of needed infrastructure modernization and improvement efforts and even the reduction and possible elimination of critical public services that support necessary community and economic development efforts.

**Figure 2.4 – Economic Development Threats
Lander County**



The only addition to this list noted by participants of the 2022 workshop is the threat of a breakdown in communication. Building on the growing apathy that real progress can be made, some participants have removed themselves from the conversation which potentially threatens to further stall progress.

3.0 Evaluation of the Vision, Goals, and Objectives

This section presents a summary of the evaluation of the existing strategic economic development vision and goals for Lander County completed by workshop participants who participated in the October 25, 2022 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy annual update and evaluation workshop or responded to the 2022 online survey distributed via Survey Monkey. This section also presents a general overview of the reprioritized goals and objectives for Lander County for the coming year of implementation.

3.1 Evaluation of the Strategic Economic Development Vision

The current strategic economic development vision for Lander County, developed as part of Carlin's current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for 2020 through 2025, is:

***What We Want:** While respecting our community's existing cultural identity, Lander County will enhance the quality of life of our various communities.*

***How We Get It:** Lander County will aggressively pursue, create and implement programs and projects that create business opportunities and economic prosperity through the diversification of the County's local economy.*

As part of the evaluation of this current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, workshop participants who participated in the October 25, 2022 annual update and evaluation workshop were asked to evaluate the current strategic economic development vision. Workshop participants agreed that the current strategic economic development vision statements for Lander County are still relevant.

Workshop participants and survey respondents generally agreed that Lander County and the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority have each made some progress in some areas toward achieving key elements of the current strategic economic development vision. The partnership with the Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation, and Technology (GOSIT) and the initiation of the installation of 15,000 linear feet of underground conduit is a major first step in expanding high-speed internet access to all residents of the county. On the tourism front, the continued enthusiasm for outdoor recreation has maintained increased tourism across Lander County. Expanded capacity for motel, hotel, and untraditional lodging will be crucial in order to fully leverage this gain.

While building out the necessary infrastructure at the Battle Mountain industrial park has been slow, participants were encouraged by conclusion of the Strategic Rail Finance evaluation and

look forward to pursuing recommendations in 2023. Participants are optimistic the end of the election cycle will result in increased progress on a number of initiatives that require federal support.

Concerning how the economic development vision for Lander County has changed over the past year, the focus to address the immediate and longer-term impacts of the COVID-19 global pandemic have begun to wane. While the repercussions and resulting hardships of the pandemic have been acutely felt by many in the community, particularly the community's senior population, much of the community has rapidly recovered. Continued barriers and challenges are characterized more by the need to strengthen foundational infrastructure, including healthcare infrastructure, and regional competitiveness rather than the acute response to the health and resulting economic crisis.

3.2 Evaluation of the Strategic Economic Development Goals

In evaluating the current strategic economic development goals participants of the October 25, 2022 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy annual update and evaluation workshop for Lander County or recipients of the online survey were asked to evaluate the progress that has been made in achieving each of the original strategic economic development goals developed as part of this current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. This sub-section presents a general overview of the evaluation of Lander County's current strategic economic development goals and objectives.

3.2.a Evaluation of the Current Strategic Goals and Objectives

As part of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander County for the 2020 through 2025 period, 11 separate strategic economic development goals were initially developed. During the 2021 update, those goals were adjusted and reprioritized to the following:

- **Previous Goal No. 1:** Establish broadband connectivity throughout the county by July 2021 in partnership with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and other communities throughout northeastern Nevada and the state of Nevada.
- **Previous Goal No. 2:** Complete the needed infrastructure for the Battle Mountain industrial park by 2022 in order to increase the overall size and capacity of the Battle Mountain industrial park by 20 percent.
- **Previous Goal No. 3:** Create a multi-use vehicle testing facility in Lander County by 2024.
- **Previous Goal No. 4:** Attract alternative agriculture manufacturing that creates and provides greater than ten new jobs at \$500,000 within five years.

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- **Previous Goal No. 5:** Establish a new workforce development program that exposes trade skills to 6 through 12 grades with graduation program that creates +5 graduates annually by 2022/2023 in partnership with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority, neighboring counties and communities in northeastern Nevada, and key educational institutions.
 - **Previous Goal No. 6:** Increase tourism revenue by 20 percent in Lander County during a five-year period.
 - **Previous Goal No. 7:** Increase availability and access to basic and expanded healthcare services across Lander County within three years.
 - **Previous Goal No. 8:** Provide broad technical and financial support for new small business and entrepreneurial-based development.
 - **Previous Goal No. 9:** Expand three-phase power to Battle Mountain Airport industrial area by December 2020.
 - **Previous Goal No. 10:** Create and complete a new sewer system near the Battle Mountain Airport by June 2023.
 - **COMPLETE:** Expand the existing water line to the airport in Battle Mountain by July 2020.

As part of the annual Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy update and evaluation workshop held on October 25, 2022, workshop participants were asked to evaluate each individual goal by answering three separate questions, including: (1) has progress been made in achieving this goal?, (2) how relevant is the goal moving forward?, and (3) what can be done to make additional progress moving forward? The resulting evaluation of each individual goal was then used to reprioritize the eight existing strategic economic development goals for the coming year.

Regarding *Goal No. 1: Establish broadband connectivity throughout the county by July 2021 in partnership with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and other communities throughout northeastern Nevada and the state of Nevada*, workshop participants and survey respondents generally agreed that Lander County has made some progress in achieving this goal over the past year. After being stalled the previous year, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority (NNRDA) collaborated with the Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation & Technology (GOSIT) to establish broadband in industrial parks that would anchor future development. NNRDA has produced a map of the park with access routes indicated. These maps have been shared with GOSIT for consideration and Lander County has allocated funds for first- and middle- mile service to the county. Installation of over 15,000 linear feet of underground conduit has been initiated. As this goal remains integral to achieving other goals within the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, workshop participants noted support from the Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation & Technology over the next year will be essential in order to continue progress

toward achieving this goal. Engagement with the area’s largest employers and key public sector leaders, including representatives from both Lander County and the Lander County School District, will also be essential steps in achieving this goal.

For **Goal No. 2:** *Complete the needed infrastructure for the Battle Mountain industrial park by 2022 in order to increase the overall size and capacity of the Battle Mountain industrial park by 20 percent*, workshop participants and survey respondents noted Lander County officials will collaborate with Union Pacific Railroad to designate the industrial park as a Focus Site. Sites that are equipped for large-scale development with 125 acres or more, have utilities and roads accessible, have local development support, and are controlled by a single landowner can be considered for a Focus Site. The system is designed to facilitate logistics for rail travel through appropriately developed locations. Once the designation is granted, additional action on the part of the County may be taken. In the meantime, Lander County has contracted with Strategic Rail Finance (SRF) to identify opportunities within the Industrial Rail Park. SRF's analysis was completed in late October 2022 and county officials are evaluating the results.

Workshop participants and survey respondents both noted stalled progress on **Goal No. 3:** *Create a multi-use vehicle testing facility in Lander County by 2024*. While a significant amount of progress had been made in achieving this goal last year as the federal lands bill that was introduced in the U.S. Congress in May 2021 would provide the necessary land to support development of the new multi-use vehicle testing facility in Lander County. The bill has passed through committee and a congressional vote is imminent. It is anticipated the progress will continue after the 2022 election. In the meantime, Lander County and Lander Economic Development Authority officials and representatives continue to work with key private sector and public sector stakeholders at the local, state and federal level to ensure continued progress in achieving this still very relevant strategic economic development goal. As progress on passage of this federal lands bill is made, the Lander Economic Development Authority and other key stakeholders continue to engage other partners locally, statewide, nationally, and even internationally, who will eventually utilize the completed multi-use vehicle testing facility.

As agriculture remains a primary industry and occupation sector for Lander County, workshop participants noted that **Goal No. 4:** *Attract alternative agriculture manufacturing that creates and provides greater than ten new jobs at \$500,000 within five years* remains very relevant to Lander County’s general community and economic development strategy. The University of Nevada, Reno Wolf Pack Meats facility is a unique meat processing plant that has specialized in student and professor interactions and educational opportunities since 1967. Students have the opportunity to learn about meat processing and get first-hand experience in meat production, retail distribution, and packaging. When the facility in Reno shut down, Lander County officials contacted Dean William Payne of the University of Nevada, Reno’s College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources who expressed some interest in relocating the Wolf Pack Meats facility to Lander County, but further conversations will be required. Additionally, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority (NNRDA) created an Alt-Ag informational sheet in 2020 to help promote this goal for Lander County’s community and economic development strategy and they continue to market the region to potential alt-ag producers nationwide. The information can be found on the Lander County subpage of the NNRDA website.

While some progress had been made in 2021, workshop participants and survey respondents agree little progress has been made toward **Goal No. 5: *Establish a new workforce development program that exposes trade skills to 6 through 12 grades with graduation program that creates +5 graduates annually by 2022/2023 in partnership with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority, neighboring counties and communities in northeastern Nevada, and key educational institutions*** this past year. However, as this goal remains a top priority for both Lander County and for the entire northeastern Nevada region, workshop participants expressed their strong support for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to aggressively pursue the development of a new region-wide workforce development program in partnership with the various communities, school districts, and major employers operating throughout the region.

Largely due to an increased demand for outdoor recreation and tourism-related activities and Lander County's unique existing mix of outdoor recreation assets, tourism has increased by 25 percent since 2019, according to the convention on tourism. With that, **Goal No. 6: *Increase tourism revenue by 20 percent in Lander County during a five-year period***, is complete and is anticipated to further exceed the original goal as the Lander County Tourist Association plans to continue to encourage and enhance tourism opportunities throughout the region. Because the tourism and hospitality sector accounts for a significant portion of Lander County's existing economic base, this goal remains a top priority for Lander County, for the Lander Economic Development Authority, and for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority. Continued improvements including increased access to Lander County's collection of outdoor recreation and tourism related assets, continued support of ongoing motel and hotel rehabilitation and improvement projects, and support of new motel and hotel property development remain important, in conjunction with the development of new special events and the promotion and expansion of existing special events over the next year.

The ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic has made access to healthcare services, and subsequently the achievement of **Goal No. 7: *Acquire four telemedicine units (two in Battle Mountain, one in Austin, one in Kingston) within three years***, an increasingly important and relevant goal for Lander County. As access to basic and expanded healthcare services remains very relevant, workshop participants suggested modifying this goal to focus more broadly on improved access to more basic and expanded healthcare services. In 2022, construction began on an expansion of the hospital to enhance the swing rooms, the emergency room, and laboratory. Further, the county clinic has staffed a full-time doctor to support local healthcare needs.

For **Goal No. 8: *Establish entrepreneurial work spaces with five rentable units by 2020***, workshop participants noted that some progress has been made in achieving this specific goal over the past year. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's (NNRDA) Ready Aim program was launched in 2022 with Lander County hosting the first class. Overall participation has been slow but is expected to increase as more people become aware of the program. NNRDA plans to record the courses so they can be provided on demand online. Lander County Convention and Tourism Authority secured funding from Congressman Amodei to support the creation of a small business incubator in the Lamaire building which is anticipated

to open in late 2023. Rent will be reduced for startups and other occupants utilizing the incubator. Workshop participants recommended clarifying the language of this goal to the following: provide broad technical and financial support for new small business and entrepreneurial-based development.

Workshop participants noted that **Goal No. 9:** *Expand three-phase power to Battle Mountain Airport industrial area by December 2020* and **Goal No. 10** *Create and complete a new sewer system near the Battle Mountain Airport by June 2023*, have been put on hold while discussions regarding how the Battle Mountain Airport should be used to support broader community and economic development efforts continue.

Five new goals were added to Lander County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy by participants of the 2022 update workshop as a reflection of some of the changing community and economic development needs of Lander County and Lander County's economic relationship to the broader northeastern Nevada region. These five new goals, that will be pursued as part of the broader effort to further implement elements of this five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander County, are:

- **New Goal No. 1:** *Attract an alternative financial institution to Battle Mountain to provide citizens with more banking options.* As economic activity expands, businesses and residents would benefit from greater accessibility and diversity of financial institutes that are available for banking and lending. In the spring and summer of 2022, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority (NNRDA) contacted D.L. Evans bank in Twin Falls, Idaho to propose potential sites in Northern Nevada, including Battle Mountain, for possible expansion. Unfortunately, the D.L. Evans business development manager has not decided to pursue this expansion but NNRDA will continue to explore more options for the Battle Mountain area.
- **New Goal No. 2:** *Complete "Safe Routes to School" initiative providing safe sidewalks for students walking to and from school.* Lander County is currently working to enhance pathways for students within the Lander County School District. Various paths have been identified and work continues to move forward within this initiative.
- **New Goal No. 3a:** *Develop StoreFront enhancement plan to assist local businesses within the county with storefront and curbside appeal.* Lander County's contract engineer has partnered with the Lander County Development Authority's team to begin to develop this program and discuss deployment details. Once complete, the team will engage the County Commission for support and funding.
- **New Goal No. 3b:** *Determine total amount needed for execution of program. Determine amount to request from County Commission and appeal accordingly.* This is an actionable item related to New Goal No. 3.
- **New Goal No. 4:** *Establish An Amtrack stop in Battle Mountain.* Lander County staff have submitted a formal request to Amtrack for Battle Mountain to be considered for a full passenger stop along their trans-Nevada route.

3.2.c Reprioritizing the Existing Strategic Economic Development Goals for the Coming Year

Workshop participants and survey recipients were asked to reprioritize each of the 15 existing strategic economic development goals for the coming year as Lander County continues to implement elements of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The following list outlines the results of this effort:

- **Priority Goal No. 1:** Previous Goal No. 1, Establish broadband connectivity throughout the county by July 2021 in partnership with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and other communities throughout northeastern Nevada and the state of Nevada.

Continued development of Lander County’s broadband and telecommunication infrastructure remains a top priority for Lander County, for the Lander Economic Development Authority, and for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority. Continued engagement with the Nevada Governor’s Office of Science, Innovation & Technology, and major existing employers with operations in and around Lander County will be a key actionable item over the next year.

- **Priority Goal No. 2:** Previous Goal No. 2, Complete the needed infrastructure for the Battle Mountain industrial park by 2022 in order to increase the overall size and capacity of the Battle Mountain industrial park by 20 percent.

The development of physical infrastructure to support additional industrial development is a critical economic development goal for Lander County, for the Lander Economic Development Authority, and for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority. Formalizing the collaboration with the Union Pacific Railroad and completing the necessary infrastructure improvements will be a primary actionable item for 2023.

- **Priority Goal No. 3:** Previous Goal No. 3, Create a multi-use vehicle testing facility in Lander County by 2024.

Completion of the new multi-use vehicle testing facility is a top priority for the Lander Economic Development Authority and for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority. Not only will the facility significantly expand and grow Lander County’s existing tourism and hospitality sector and support businesses already operating throughout the county, the facility could lead to the development of a new industry and occupation sector for Lander County and for all of northeastern Nevada. The Lander Economic Development Authority will continue to work with key local, state, and federal government partners to support the pending lands bill currently before the U.S. Congress in order to secure the necessary land and then begin the necessary planning to support construction and opening activities over the next year and for the remainder of the current five-year strategic planning horizon.

- **Priority Goal No. 4:** Previous Goal No. 4, Attract alternative agriculture manufacturing that creates and provides greater than ten new jobs at \$500,000 within five years.

Because the agricultural sector accounts for a significant portion of Lander County’s existing economic base, both the Lander Economic Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will continue to focus on diversifying and growing the county’s agricultural sector through alternative agriculture manufacturing and production. Both the Lander Economic Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will continue to engage with Wolf Pack Meats and other direct new business creation and attraction efforts in this area as well as work with existing agricultural producers to explore adding alternative agricultural manufacturing and production activities to their existing operations over the next year.

- **Priority Goal No. 5:** Previous Goal No. 5, Establish a new workforce development program that exposes trade skills to 6 through 12 grades with graduation program that creates +5 graduates annually by 2022/2023 in partnership with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority, neighboring counties and communities in northeastern Nevada, and key educational institutions.

While workforce development remains a critical part of Lander County’s current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, ownership of this goal will remain with the Lander County School District. Regional collaboration and development of a comprehensive regional workforce development program will be achieved through the increased leadership of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority.

- **Priority Goal No. 6:** Previous Goal No. 7, Increase availability and access to basic and expanded healthcare services across Lander County within three years.

The language of this goal was changed from, “acquire four telemedicine units (two in Battle Mountain, one in Austin, one in Kingston).” The focus of this goal will be changed from the development of new telemedicine services to increasing the overall availability and access to additional basic and expanded healthcare services. While the Battle Mountain General Hospital will be the primary owner of this goal, the Lander Economic Development Authority will work with key partners to identify specific healthcare needs and identify potential partners and funding sources over the next year.

- **Priority Goal No. 7:** Previous Goal No. 8, Provide broad technical and financial support for new small business and entrepreneurial-based development.

The language of this goal was changed from, “Establish entrepreneurial work spaces with five rentable units by 2020” to shift the focus from establishing the space to supporting the businesses themselves. The Lander Economic Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will continue to work with key local and regional partners to identify specific small business and entrepreneurial-based technical and financial needs and to provide the necessary technical and financial support in order to grow Lander County’s small business and entrepreneurial community

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- **Priority Goal No. 8:** New Goal, Attract an alternative financial institution to Battle Mountain to provide citizens with more banking options.

As economic activity expands, businesses and residents would benefit from greater accessibility and diversity of financial institutes that are available for banking and lending. While this is an important piece of the economic landscape of the region, it is one that will take quite a bit of time to develop relationships and make the case for expanding an institution's market to Battle Mountain.

- **Priority Goal No. 9:** New Goal, Complete "Safe Routes to School" initiative providing safe sidewalks for students walking to and from school.

Public safety is critical to quality of life and sustained economic development. Completing this very public campaign to ensure children have safe routes to and from school contributes to the actual and sense of safety and community for residents.

- **Priority Goal No. 10a:** New Goal, Develop StoreFront enhancement plan to assist local businesses within the county with storefront and curbside appeal.

The success of this goal also contributes to overall quality of life and beautification supporting the attraction and retention of both residents and businesses.

- **Priority Goal No. 10b:** New Goal, Determine total amount needed for execution of program. Determine amount to request from County Commission and appeal accordingly.

This action item of Priority Goal No. 10a was established as a stand-alone goal by workshop participants.

- **Priority Goal No. 11:** New Goal, Establish An Amtrack stop in Battle Mountain.

Establishing a new Amtrack stop in Battle Mountain will support East-West transportation for residents and may help increase tourism along this popular route.

- **Priority Goal No. 12:** Previous Goal No. 9, Expand three-phase power to Battle Mountain Airport industrial area by December 2020.

Activity toward this goal has been put on hold until airport enhancements can be discussed holistically.

- **Priority Goal No. 13:** Previous Goal No. 10, Create and complete a new sewer system near the Battle Mountain Airport by June 2023.

Activity toward this goal has been put on hold until airport enhancements can be discussed holistically.

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- **COMPLETE:** Expand the existing water line to the airport in Battle Mountain by July 2020.
 - **COMPLETE:** Increase tourism revenue by 20 percent in Lander County during a five-year period.

For the coming 2023 through 2024 year of continued implementation of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander county, workshop participants have decided to focus on completing critical infrastructure projects relating to the successful development of the new industrial park and commercial center in Battle Mountain. Improved broadband and telecommunication infrastructure, the completion of major tourism, visitor, and outdoor recreation assets, and the development of a comprehensive local and regional workforce development program also remain top priorities for the Lander Economic Development Authority and for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority.