



Confused by Broadband Infrastructure? Where to Start?

The NM Broadband Collective's Community/Regional Efforts Workgroup is a committee working with the NM Broadband Program. The group is conducting a survey of all counties, looking for more effective ways to plan and deploy sustainable, digital equity, and affordable broadband solutions focused on the hardest-to-connect communities. The more counties that respond to the survey, the better handle the group will have on which counties need the most help with the underserved. They want to

help close the broadband gap between the state legislature funding and the ARPA funding by providing resources that fit your county needs. As a group, they have expertise, money, and a passion for connecting all New Mexicans. If your county has not responded, please fill out the [broadband survey here](#) as soon as practicable. Please use this group as a resource by contacting Jacqueline Miramontes, 505-306-2299, Jacqueline@groundworksnm.org. The last mile of broadband delivers telecommunication services to your communities, connectivity to all 33 counties.

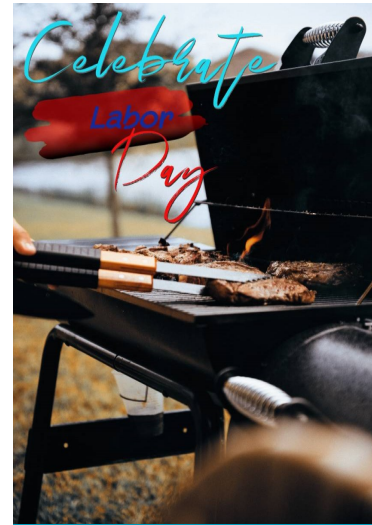
We Have Way Too Many Counties in America. Or Do We?

~Governing.com

Counties range in size from thousands of residents to millions, with varied levels of responsibility and efficiency. Some advocate shrinking the number of them, but that raises questions both practical and sentimental.

- The 2020 census revealed 53% of counties had lost population
- Georgia has the most counties at 159
- Los Angeles County serves 10M residents
- Massachusetts' counties no longer do much except for a few that conduct limited law enforcement and register deeds
- Connecticut and Rhode Island have no county government at all; former counties merely serve as geographical boundaries
- Most counties run prisons and mental institutions, hospitals and welfare offices
- Counties are the repository of emotion and memory for people who live there
- In most counties, the courthouse square has served generations as the focal point of social life; the courthouse allows citizens to feel that they live in a place with stature and dignity, even if it keeps losing population

Saving money or saving public culture...



Labor Day & Family Time

Labor Day became a federal holiday in 1894, under President Grover Cleveland, during the Industrial Revolution where the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to earn a basic living. Labor Day

weekend also symbolizes the end of summer for many Americans and is the start of the back-to-school season. It is still celebrated in cities and counties across the U. S. with parades, picnics, barbecues, fireworks displays, and other public gatherings.



NMC offices closed Monday, September 6, 2021 to spend time with family and friends



Happy Labor Day



NMC Deputy Executive Director on the Radio

Tune in Thursday, September 9 at 9 AM to hear Joy Esparsen chat about the NM State Fair, history, and importance of the Gathering of Counties Day with host Grant County Assessor Raul Turrieta streaming at GMCR.org. Also, there could be some live radio streaming from the Grant County booth on Thursday, Sept. 16 with some elected officials. So stay tuned in...



Gathering of Counties Booth Registration Link <https://statefair.exponm.com/p/things-to-do/mainstreet/application-sept-16>



NMC Hosts First Line Supervisor Class

The NMC Loss Prevention Department hosted a training in

Albuquerque this week for first line supervisors. Counties in attendance included Bernalillo, Chaves, Curry, Luna, Rio Arriba, Santa Fe, and Valencia Counties. Loss prevention trainings are open to all county law enforcement and detention employees.



You can still register for [virtual attendance](#) Conference [Agenda HERE](#) Special [Events](#)

Before you leave for the long weekend, don't forget to enroll in September Honing Your NM EDGE Classes

September 9, 14, 16, 28 and 30

- Classes are live and online
- Take from the comfort of your home or office
- Zoom platform is used

September 20 and 21

- Join us **IN PERSON** at the NMC Annual Conference in Hobbs, NM



NM EDGE Roadmap

[Treasury Department provides update on revenue calculation in Recovery Fund reporting portal](#)

[Waters of the U.S. survey](#) Share your experience

[ARPA funds update on compound interest](#)

Link to NMC Meetings [Annual Calendar](#)

Link to NMC Loss Prevention Trainings [RSVP](#)

- All trainings open to county elected officials & employees
- Wed Sep 1-3 NMML 64th Annual Conference Albuquerque
 - Wed Sep 8-9 Postponed: OSHA 10 Hr Outreach 8AM-4PM McKinley County
 - Wed Sep 15-16 Postponed: OSHA 10 Hr Outreach 8AM-4PM De Baca County
 - Thu Sep 16 Gathering of Counties, NM State Fair—Booth setup 6AM-8:30AM; ends 3PM, vaccination proof required & masks
 - Tue, Thu in Sep NM EDGE classes 9/14, 9/16, 9/23, 9/28, 9/30 Live online; in-person 9/20-9/21
 - Tue Sep 21-23 NMC 84th Annual Conference, Lea County (Hobbs) hybrid in-person and virtual
 - Wed Sep 29 Legislative Initiatives Review 10AM-Noon
 - Thu Oct 7-8 NMC Board of Directors legislative meeting 2PM & Board meeting 8:30AM Bernalillo County, Albuquerque
 - Mon Oct 25-26 Virtual Infrastructure Finance Conference
 - Thu Oct 28-29 Virtual Wildland Urban Fire Summit (WUFS)
 - Thu Nov 4-5 NMCIA Retreat and Board meeting location TBD
 - Nov NMC Executive Committee meeting 2PM
 - Nov NMC Office Date TBD
 - Nov NMC /NMML Joint Legislative meeting 9AM Santa Fe County Date TBD
 - Tue Nov 30 Advisory Council meeting 11 AM TBD
 - Wed Dec 8 NMCIA Board meeting 8:30 AM NMC Santa Fe TBD

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