

**THE 2023 ANNUAL REVIEW OF AND UPDATE TO THE
COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
FOR THE NOTHEASTERN NEVADA REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, 2020 THROUGH 2025**



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by:

Frederick A. Steinmann

Frederick A. Steinmann is the Director of the University Center for Economic Development,
College of Business at the University of Nevada, Reno.

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Frederick A. Steinmann, DPPD
University Center for Economic Development
University of Nevada, Reno
The College of Business
Mail Stop 0024
Reno, Nevada 89557
Phone: 775.784.1655



University Center for Economic Development
The College of Business
University of Nevada, Reno

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	iv
List of Tables	vi
List of Figures	viii
 Revised Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2020 through 2025	 1
1.0 Introduction	9
1.1 Overview	9
1.2 Recognizing Local and County-Level Priorities within the Region	10
1.3 Integration with State Economic Development Priorities	12
2.0 Analysis: Existing Community and Regional Conditions	14
2.1 Analysis of the Level of Economic Distress for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	14
2.2 Socio-Demographic Trends for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Region	16
2.2.a Total Population	16
2.2.b Median Age	18
2.2.c Total Population by Age	19
2.2.d Total Population by Race/Ethnicity	20
2.2.e Total Population by Gender	21
2.2.f Educational Attainment by Race/Ethnicity	22
2.2.g Educational Attainment by Gender	25
2.2.h Total Number of Households	27
2.2.i Average Household Size	28
2.3 Economic Trends for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Region	30
2.3.a Median Household Income	30
2.3.b Median Family Income	31
2.3.c Per Capita (Mean) Income	33
2.3.d Percent of Total Population Living Below the Poverty Line	34
2.3.e Civilian Workforce (Individuals 16 Years or Older)	35
2.3.f Civilian Unemployment Rate (Individuals 16 Years or Older)	37
2.3.g Total Employment by Major Industry Sector	38
2.3.h Educational Attainment for the Working Population	40
2.3.i Median Earnings by Educational Attainment Level	41
2.3.j Employment Status by Number of Hours Worked Per Week	43

3.0 Revised Priorities and Strategic Goals for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	45
3.1 Priority Issues and Key Trends for Individual Communities and Counties within the Northeastern Nevada Region	45
3.1.a Elko County, the City of Elko, and the Community of Jackpot	45
3.1.b City of Carlin, Part of Elko County	47
3.1.c City of Wells, Part of Elko County	49
3.1.d City of West Wendover, Part of Elko County	51
3.1.e Eureka County	53
3.1.f Lander County	56
3.1.g White Pine County	58
3.2 The Regional Strategic Economic Development Vision	60
3.3 Revised Regional Strategic Target Industry Sector Economic Development Goals and Priority Issues	60
3.3.a Targeted Industry Sector Strategic Goals, Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production	61
3.3.b Targeted Industry Sector Strategic Goals, Agriculture	64
3.3.c Targeted Industry Sector Strategic Goals, Healthcare	67
3.3.d Targeted Industry Sector Strategic Goals, Aerospace and Defense	69
3.3.e Targeted Industry Sector Strategic Goals, Vocational Trades and Construction	71
3.4 Revised Regional Strategic Economic Development Capacity Building Goals and Priority Issues	75
3.4.a Economic Development Capacity Building Strategic Goals, Housing and Development	75
3.4.b Economic Development Capacity Building Strategic Goals, Infrastructure Development	77
3.4.c Economic Development Capacity Building Strategic Goals, Marketing and Attraction	80
3.4.d Economic Development Capacity Building Strategic Goals, Small Business, Entrepreneurship, Innovation	81
3.4.e Economic Development Capacity Building Strategic Goals, Education and Training	85
Appendix A – Map of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District	87

LIST OF TABLES

2.1	Comparison of Unemployment and Per Capita Income; Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Counties and United States; 2021 and 2022	15
2.2	Total Population; Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	17
2.3	Median Age; Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	18
2.4	Total Population by Age; Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority; 2022	20
2.5	Total Population by Race/Ethnicity; Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority; 2022	21
2.6	Total Population by Gender; Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority; 2022	22
2.7	Educational Attainment Rates by Race/Ethnicity for Total Population Aged 18 Years of Age or Older; Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority; 2022	23
2.8	Educational Attainment by Gender for Individuals aged 18 Years of Age or Older; Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority; 2022	26
2.9	Total Number of Households; Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	27
2.10	Average Household Size; Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	29
2.11	Median Household Income (2022 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars); Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	30
2.12	Median Family Income (2022 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars); Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	32
2.13	Per Capita (Mean) Income, Individuals (2022 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars); Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	33
2.14	Percent of Total Population Living Below the Poverty Line; Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	34

2.15	Civilian Workforce (Individuals 16 Years or Older); Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	36
2.16	Civilian Unemployment Rate (Individuals 16 Years or Older); Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	37
2.17	Civilian Employment (Population 16 Years and Over); Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority; 2022	39
2.18	Educational Attainment for the Working Population (Population 25 Years and Over); Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority; 2022	41
2.19	Annual Median Earnings by Educational Attainment Level (Population 25 Years and Over); Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority; 2022	42
2.20	Work Status by Number of Hours Worked Per Week (Population 16 to 64 Years); Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority; 2022	43

LIST OF FIGURES

A.1	Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority; Elko, Eureka, Lander and White Pine Counties	88
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Revised Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2020 through 2025

Economic Development Vision

In order to overcome the impacts of a ‘boom and bust’ economic cycle, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will work to create sustainable economic growth through the promotion and support of the region’s targeted industry sectors while building long-term capacity in select economic development capacity building areas.

While respecting and seeking to preserve each community’s own values and culture and by working together, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will provide increased support and pursue increased expansion of the region’s existing workforce, business community, and residential population through capacity building, business recruitment, expansion and retention efforts, and improved sustainable development.

Revised Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2020 through 2025

Priority Goals – Targeted Industry Sectors

Targeted Industry Sector No. 1, *Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production*

Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production Goal No. 1: Each local and county within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will increase their utilization of industrial zoned property by 20.0 percent by providing the essential infrastructure to support new business across other targeted industry sectors by 2022.

Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production Goal No. 2: Increase wholesale trade for mining and natural resource extraction upstream and downstream within the industry’s supply chain by 25.0 percent by December 2024.

Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production Goal No. 3: Increase mining and natural resource extraction related supply chain companies by 20.0 percent and open “bricks and mortar” locations by 2022.

Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production Goal No. 4: Each part of the northeastern Nevada region will increase their utilization of industrial zoned property by 20.0 percent by providing the essential infrastructure to support new mining and natural resource extraction industry sector related business by 2022.

Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production Goal No. 5: Increase total local processing and utilization (i.e. making batteries and additional value-added production) of mined and extracted materials, metals, and minerals by 15.0 percent by December 2024.

Revised Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2020 through 2025

Priority Goals – Targeted Industry Sectors

Targeted Industry Sector No. 2, *Agriculture*

Agriculture Goal No. 1: Create five new agricultural product processing facilities within the region over four years by 2024.

Agriculture Goal No. 2: Identify new value-added diversified crop production, waste repurposing, and additional value-added opportunities for farmers in the region by December 2022.

Agriculture Goal No. 3: Increase sole proprietors growing or processing foods for sale to retail customers from 100.0 percent to 200.0 percent in the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region by December 2022.

Agriculture Goal No. 4: Partner with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other agriculture associations (Wool Growers, Nevada Cattlemen, etc.) to determine how to support and promote locally grown foods and agriculture products.

Targeted Industry Sector No. 3, *Healthcare*

Healthcare Goal No. 1: Partner with urban health care systems to bring specialized medicine to rural communities within the northeastern Nevada region, including women's health, senior living, and cancer treatment in the next five years.

Healthcare Goal No. 2: Establish a medical health educational and behavioral facility fully staffed by 2021.

Healthcare Goal No. 3: Work with regional healthcare providers to prepare a study of cost comparisons in rural Nevada areas without larger medical facilities within two years.

Revised Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2020 through 2025

Priority Goals – Targeted Industry Sectors

Targeted Industry Sector No. 4, *Aerospace and Defense*

Aerospace and Defense Goal No. 1: Identify and highlight regional assets that can be marketed to businesses and government entities specializing in and catering to the Aerospace and Defense industry sector.

Aerospace and Defense Goal No. 2: Recruit or support the establishment of a private business venture that caters to or specializes in Aerospace, Department of Defense, or National Security Agency support.

Targeted Industry Sector No. 5, *Vocational Trades and Construction*

Vocational Trades and Construction Goal No. 1: Work with local educators (high school, junior college, etc.) to implement and enhance vocational skills training programs to grow local community talent pools by 5.0 percent over the next five years.

Vocational Trades and Construction Goal No. 2: Establish thriving special trades programs in every community within the region by increasing the number of students and adults that reach graduation and achieve job placement by 50.0 percent by 2021.

Vocational Trades and Construction Goal No. 3: Develop vocational and construction training programs to support a 20.0 percent increase in the region's workforce by 2022.

Vocational Trades and Construction Goal No. 4: Identify workforce needs at the local community and regional levels and partner with education partners and providers to train the future workforce needed for the next five years.

Vocational Trades and Construction Goal No. 5: Develop and implement a regional approach with mining and natural resource extraction industry partners; partner with the mining and natural resource extraction industry sector and various educational partners to recruit a workforce; develop a recruiting process within the mining and natural resource extraction industry sector to meet the workforce demand for the next five years.

Revised Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2020 through 2025

Priority Goals – Selected Economic Development Capacity Building Areas

Selected Economic Development Capacity Building Area No. 1, *Housing and Development*

Housing and Development Goal No. 1: Identify and develop incentives for builders of housing for all income brackets of up to \$50,000 by December 2020; develop a regional assessment for housing needs to use as a marketing tool for developers in two years.

Housing and Development Goal No. 2: Development of multi-family housing for 300 families (units) by 2024.

Housing and Development Goal No. 3: Increase new home starts determined by identified need in each community located within the region; percentage to vary based on each individual community.

Revised Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2020 through 2025

Priority Goals – Selected Economic Development Capacity Building Areas

Selected Economic Development Capacity Building Area No. 2, *Infrastructure Development*

Infrastructure Development Goal No. 1: Identify and establish access points along the Union Pacific Mainline that allow for business development along the rail corridor.

Infrastructure Development Goal No. 2: Provide information and support to enhance the overall railroad upgrades along the Nevada Northern Railway, ultimately leading to the complete opening of the line between Ely and Shafter.

Infrastructure Development Goal No. 3: Improve the infrastructure of broadband availability throughout each community located within the region, increase overall Internet speed access by 20.0 percent annually over the next five years.

Infrastructure Development Goal No. 4: Provide information and support, grant opportunities, and promotion for the Elko Regional Airport to ensure sustainable flight service and add connections to both Las Vegas, Nevada and Reno, Nevada.

Infrastructure Development Goal No. 5: Provide information and support that leads to the further development of available natural gas, specifically at industrial sites within the northeastern Nevada region.

Infrastructure Development Goal No. 6: Spearhead efforts to educate, promote, and advance the research, development, and deployment of nuclear energy in northeastern Nevada.

Revised Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2020 through 2025

Priority Goals – Selected Economic Development Capacity Building Areas

Selected Economic Development Capacity Building Area No. 3, *Marketing and Attraction*

Marketing and Attraction Goal No. 1: Create an online marketing campaign highlighting the region's various economic opportunities that will increase Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority website visits by 30.0 percent over the next two years.

Selected Economic Development Capacity Building Area No. 4, *Small Business, Entrepreneurship, Innovation*

Small Business, Entrepreneurship, Innovation Goal No. 1: Offer a tax incentive program/break to small businesses employing more than 30 total employees, including the number of small businesses operating across the northeastern Nevada region by 30.0 percent by 2022.

Small Business, Entrepreneurship, Innovation Goal No. 2: Develop a competitive regional think tank for small businesses by 2022.

Small Business, Entrepreneurship, Innovation Goal No. 3: Educate the region's small business community on opportunities for closing the 'gap' in various industry sectors to stop the existing economic leakage in goods and services purchased by customers living within the region by 2021.

Small Business, Entrepreneurship, Innovation Goal No. 4: Partner with StartUpNV to grow rural entrepreneurship ecosystems by holding a rural pitch conference in May 2021. Promote and support regional communities who are enrolled and participating in the Nevada Main Street program.

Revised Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2020 through 2025

Priority Goals – Selected Economic Development Capacity Building Areas

Selected Economic Development Capacity Building Area No. 5, *Education and Training*

Education and Training Goal No. 1: Develop various new and expand existing vocational and construction training programs to support a 20.0 percent increase by 2022.

Education and Training Goal No. 2: Identify highest demands for training needs for secondary tier industry sectors (sectors that provide goods and services that support local needs) by 20.0 percent in two years.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Overview

This University Center for Economic Development technical report presents a comprehensive review of the existing five-year, 2022 through 2025, Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority. This comprehensive review, evaluation, and update to the region's existing five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy was complete by representatives of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority on April 16, 2024 and included an evaluation of the current set of strategic economic development goals, mission and vision statement, and a review of current socio-demographic, economic, and housing conditions within the region. This comprehensive review provides an evaluation of the progress that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority has made in achieving stated strategic economic development goals and a set of revised strategic economic development goals for the coming fourth year of implementation.

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northern Nevada Economic Development District, one of eight regional economic development authorities and one of two U.S. Economic Development Administration designated Economic Development Districts in Nevada, consists of four separate counties, including Elko County, Eureka County, Lander County, and White Pine County. Appendix A of this University Center for Economic Development technical report contains a map of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority, including the location of Census Designated Places, federally recognized Native American and Tribal colonies, communities, reservations, and federal trust lands, existing opportunity zones, designated U.S. Bureau of Land Management Wilderness Areas, and designated U.S. Bureau of Land Management Wilderness Study Areas.

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 eventually 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 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. A second annual evaluation and update to the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, along with the annual evaluations and updates to the various local community and county-level Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy documents, were completed in late 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 third 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 third 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 third 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. 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 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.

Section 2.0 of this University Center for Economic Development technical report presents an updated socio-demographic and economic 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 the

evaluated and updated strategic goals for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

1.2 Recognizing Local and County-Level Priorities within the Region

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District territory is a diverse region in-terms of its geographic characteristics, socio-demographic, economic, and housing profile, and various community and economic development challenges. Because of these factors, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District has a unique set of strategic economic development goals, divided into several specific targeted industry sectors and several specific economic development capacity building areas. Specific priority areas and summary backgrounds, an updated Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats analysis, an updated strategic direction and action plan including revised strategic economic development goals, and an evaluation framework for each of the four individual communities that comprise the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority but are also part of this regional five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy are presented in a series of separate University Center for Economic Development technical reports, including:

- *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the City of Carlin, Part of Elko County, Nevada, 2020 through 2025; UCED Technical Report 2023/24-23*
- *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Elko County, the City of Elko, and the Town of Jackpot, Nevada, 2020 through 2025; UCED Technical Report 2023/24-24*
- *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the City of Wells, Part of Elko County, Nevada, 2020 through 2025; UCED Technical Report 2023/24-25*
- *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the City of West Wendover, Part of Elko County, Nevada, 2020 through 2025; UCED Technical Report 2023/24-26*
- *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Eureka County, Nevada, 2020 through 2025; UCED Technical Report 2023/24-27*
- *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander County, Nevada, 2020 through 2025; UCED Technical Report 2023/24-28*
- *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for White Pine County, Nevada, 2020 through 2025; UCED Technical Report 2023/24-29*

Each of these individual University Center for Economic Development technical reports also links the achievement of local community and county-level strategic economic development goals to the regional goals outlined in this University Center for Economic Development technical report. A set of priorities that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District will assist with as part of the continued implementation of this regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy is also laid out in each of these individual companion local community and county-level Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy documents.

1.3 Integration with State Economic Development Priorities

As one of the eight existing regional economic development authorities operating throughout the state of Nevada that have been organized through the Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development, these various targeted industry sectors and specific economic development capacity building areas are designed to take into account specific goals and objectives outlined in the state of Nevada’s current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, *Realizing Nevada’s Electric, Innovative, and Connected Future*. The relationship between the Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development and the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority has led to the development of a regional water use and conservation strategy that has been incorporated into elements of this current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. In 2023, the Nevada State Legislature passed Assembly Bill 261, effectively modifying parts of Nevada Revised Statute Chapter 231 Section 053 to require each individual Regional Development Authority to incorporate “strategies to encourage the conservation of water resources” into their existing and future economic development strategic plans.

Each community within the northeastern Nevada region recognizes its water resources as unique and extremely valuable. Consequently, these communities are willing to go to great lengths to conserve and protect this resource, lending credence to the age-old mantra “whiskey is for drinkin’ and water is for fightin’.” Water conservation is paramount for cities and counties to ensure a sustainable and resilient future. As populations continue to grow, the demand for water escalates, placing stress on local water sources. Efficient water management is essential to prevent depletion of these resources and mitigate the risk of water shortages. Additionally, conservation measures contribute to environmental preservation by reducing the need for energy-intensive water treatment processes and minimizing the environmental impact of excessive water extraction. Cities and counties within the region will prioritize water conservation to safeguard the well-being of their communities, maintain ecological balance, and lay the foundation for long-term economic development.

To ensure that prospective businesses prioritize water conservation, local governments will consider implementing several key strategies. First and foremost, there will be the establishment and enforcement of water-use regulations that encourage businesses to adopt sustainable practices. This may include setting limits on water consumption, promoting the use of water-efficient technologies, and incentivizing the recycling and reuse of water within industrial

processes. Moreover, providing educational resources and outreach programs to businesses will raise awareness about the importance of water conservation and offer guidance on implementing water-saving measures. Collaborative efforts between government agencies, businesses, and community stakeholders will foster a culture of water consciousness, leading to a more resilient and environmentally responsible local economy. By integrating water conservation into the development and operation of businesses, our communities can play a pivotal role in securing water resources for future generations.

According to the state of Nevada's 2017 Statewide Groundwater Pumpage Inventory, water users across the northeastern Nevada region extract approximately 394,687 acre-feet of water annually, averaging to approximately 98,672 acre-feet per county. This is slightly more than the state average of 71,056 acre-feet of water per year but far less than neighboring Humboldt County located within the Nevada 95-80 Regional Development Authority. The estimated amount of annual pumping in Humboldt County is approximately 281,526 acre-feet of water per year, nearly triple that of any other county in Nevada. From an economic development perspective, Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff and various county government stakeholders and partners will collaborate with prospective water users and encourage them to adhere to and be consistent with existing Groundwater Management Plans. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and its associated communities will continue to support and adopt water use principles and practices that lead to the equilibrium of every water basin located within the Northeastern Nevada Region.

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 third 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 the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority

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 counties within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority counties and for the United States, as well as per capita income for

counties within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority counties and the United States for 2021 and 2022. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority per capita income and civilian unemployment are estimates based on the average of county level data for Elko County, Lander County, White Pine County, and Eureka County. To estimate the twenty-four (24) month unemployment rate, the unemployment rates for both the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority counties and for the United States for both 2021 and 2022 were averaged and compared.

Table 2.1 – Comparison of Unemployment and Per Capita Income Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Counties and United States 2021 and 2022			
	2021	2022	2021 and 2022 Average
Civilian Unemployment Rate			
Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	4.8%	5.1%	5.0%
Difference between NRRDA and National Estimates	-0.7%	-0.2%	-0.4%
United States National	5.5%	5.3%	5.4%
Per Capita Income			
Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority	\$32,994	\$35,854	\$34,424
Percentage of U.S. National Estimate	87.7%	86.9%	87.3%
United States National	\$37,638	\$41,261	\$39,450

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2021 and 2022

Over the 2021 and 2022 period, the estimated average civilian unemployment rate for Elko County was 4.7 percent, was an estimated 0.0 percent for Eureka County, was an estimated 11.3 percent for Lander County, and was an estimated 4.0 percent for White Pine County. The average of these four counties was calculated to determine the 2021 and 2022 estimated average civilian unemployment rate for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, an estimated 5.0 percent. Nationally, the estimated civilian unemployment rate for the entire United States over the 2021 and 2022 period was an estimated 5.4 percent. Over the past twenty-four (24) month of available data, the estimated civilian rate for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region was an estimated **-0.4 percent less than the national**

estimated average. Based upon this estimated, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region ***does not qualify*** 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.

Over the 2021 and 2022 period, the estimated average per capita income for Elko County was \$37,637, was an estimated \$29,315 for Eureka County, was an estimated \$40,097 for Lander County, and was an estimated \$30,647 for White Pine County. The average of these four counties was calculated to determine the 2021 and 2022 estimated average per capita income for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, an estimated \$34,424. Nationally, the estimated average per capita income for the entire United States over the 2021 and 2022 period was an estimated \$39,450. Over the past twenty-four (24) months of available data, the estimated per capita income for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region was an estimated ***87.3 percent of the national average.*** Based upon this estimate, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region ***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.

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

As part of the 2023 annual assessment, evaluation, and update of this current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, several separate socio-demographic categories were examined 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, among others, total population, median age, total number of households, and average household size. Whenever possible, comparison of local and countywide trends to statewide and national trends are provided for the five-year, 2017 through 2022, period used as part of this analysis.

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 2017 and 2022.

Between 2017 and 2022, the total population for all of Elko County increased from an estimated 52,377 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 53,600 total individuals in 2022, a net increase of 1,223 total individuals or by 2.3 percent. For the City of Carlin, the total population increased from an estimated 2,361 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 2,374 total individuals in 2022, a slight increase of just 13 total individuals or by 4.4 percent. The total population for the City of Elko increased from an estimated 40,311 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 42,095 total individuals in 2022, a net increase of 1,784 total individuals or by 4.4 percent while the total population for the City of Wells declined from an estimated 2,208 total individuals in 2017 to an

estimated 1,894 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 314 total individuals or by -14.2 percent. The total population for the City of West Wendover increased from an estimated 4,449 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 4,548 total individuals in 2022, a net increase of 99 total individuals or by 2.2 percent.

Table 2.2 – Total Population				
Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2017	2022	2017-2022 Actual Change	2017-2022 Percent Change
Elko County	52,377	53,600	1,223	2.3%
Carlin	2,361	2,374	13	0.6%
Elko	40,311	42,095	1,784	4.4%
Wells	2,208	1,894	-314	-14.2%
West Wendover	4,449	4,548	99	2.2%
Eureka County	1,728	1,622	-106	-6.1%
Eureka	1,230	1,036	-194	-15.8%
Lander County	5,887	5,728	-159	-2.7%
Austin	411	201	-210	-51.1%
Battle Mountain	5,476	5,527	51	0.9%
White Pine County	9,858	8,997	-861	-8.7%
Ely	5,876	5,460	-416	-7.1%
State of Nevada	2,887,725	3,104,817	217,092	7.5%
United States	321,004,407	331,097,593	10,093,186	3.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2017 and 2022

For all of Eureka County, the total population countywide decreased from an estimated 1,728 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 1,622 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 106 total individuals or by -6.1 percent and the total population for just the town of Eureka decreased from an estimated 1,230 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 1,036 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 194 total individuals or by -15.8 percent. The total population for all of Lander County decreased from an estimated 5,887 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 5,728 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 159 total individuals or by -2.7 percent. For the town of Austin, the total population declined from an estimated 411 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 201 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 210 total individuals or by -51.1 percent while the total population for the town of Battle Mountain increased from an estimated 5,476 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 5,527 total individuals in 2022, a net increase of 51 total individuals or by 0.9 percent.

For White Pine County, the countywide population decreased from an estimated 9,858 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 8,997 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 861 total individuals or by -8.7 percent and the total population for the City of Ely, located in White Pine County, decreased from an estimated 5,876 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 5,460 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 416 total individuals or by -7.1 percent. Comparatively, the total population for the entire state of Nevada increased between 2017 and 2022, increasing

from an estimated 2.9 million total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 3.1 million total individuals in 2022, a net increase of 217,092 total individuals or by 7.5 percent. Nationwide, the total population for the entire United States increased from an estimated 321.0 million total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 331.1 million total individuals in 2022, a net increase of approximately 10.1 million total individuals or by 3.1 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 2017 and 2022.

Table 2.3 – Median Age				
Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2017	2022	2017-2022 Actual Change	2017-2022 Percent Change
Elko County	34.1	34.9	0.8	2.3%
Carlin	38.1	36.4	-1.7	-4.5%
Elko	34.2	34.3	0.1	0.3%
Wells	35.1	45.3	10.2	29.1%
West Wendover	29.2	34.0	4.8	16.4%
Eureka County	47.3	48.4	1.1	2.3%
Eureka	46.5	33.9	-12.6	-27.1%
Lander County	37.8	40.0	2.2	5.8%
Austin	53.9	53.2	-0.7	-1.3%
Battle Mountain	36.8	39.3	2.5	6.8%
White Pine County	39.4	41.4	2.0	5.1%
Ely	39.1	39.2	0.1	0.3%
State of Nevada	37.7	38.5	0.8	2.1%
United States	37.8	38.5	0.7	1.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2017 and 2022

The estimated median age for all of Elko County increased from an estimated 34.1 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 34.9 years of age in 2022, a net increase of 0.8 years or by 2.3 percent. For the City of Carlin, the estimated median age decreased from an estimated 38.1 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 36.4 years of age in 2022, a net decrease of 1.7 years or by -4.5 percent. The median age for the City of Elko increased only slightly, increasing from an estimated 34.2 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 34.3 years of age in 2022, a net increase of 0.1 years or by 0.3 percent while the median age for the City of Wells increased significantly, increasing from an estimated 35.1 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 45.3 years of age in 2022, a net increase of 10.2 years or by 29.1 percent. The estimated median age for the City of West Wendover increased from an estimated 29.2 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 34.0 years of age in 2022, a net increase of 4.8 years or by 16.4 percent.

For all of Eureka County, the estimated median age increased from an estimated 47.3 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 48.14 years of age in 2022, a net increase of 1.1 years or by 2.3 percent but decrease for just the town of Eureka, decreasing from an estimated 46.5 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 33.9 years of age in 2022, a net decrease of 12.6 years or by -27.1 percent. For all of Lander County, the estimated median age countywide increased from an estimated 37.8 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 40.0 years of age in 2022, a net increase of 2.2 years or by 5.8 percent. The estimated median age decreased from an estimated 53.9 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 53.2 years of age in 2022 for just the town of Austin, a net decrease of 0.7 years or by -1.3 percent but increased from an estimated 36.8 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 39.3 years of age in 2022 for just the town of Battle Mountain, a net increase of 2.5 years or by 6.8 percent.

The estimated median age for all of White Pine County increased from an estimated 39.4 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 41.4 years of age in 2022, a net increase of 2.0 years or by 5.1 percent and increased only slightly for the City of Ely from an estimated 39.1 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 39.2 years of age in 2022, a net increase of just 0.1 years or by 0.3 percent. Comparatively, the estimated median age for the entire state of Nevada increased from an estimated 37.7 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 38.5 years of age in 2022, a net increase of 0.8 years or by 2.1 percent. Nationwide, the estimated median age for the entire United States increased from an estimated 37.8 years of age in 2017 to an estimated 38.5 years of age in 2022, a net increase of 0.7 years or by 1.9 percent.

2.2.c Total Population by Age

Table 2.4 presents the estimated total population by age for each county within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States in 2022. The largest age groups by total population are highlighted for each geographic area.

In 2022, the three largest age groups for Elko County were 25 to 34 years of age, with a total of 7,914 individuals or 14.8 percent of the county's total population, 35 to 44 years of age, with a total of 7,249 individuals or 13.5 percent, and 45 to 54 years of age, with a total of 6,369 individuals or 11.9 percent. The three largest age groups for Eureka County in 2022 were 65 to 74 years of age, 278 total individuals or 17.1 percent of the county's total population, 60 to 64 years of age, 219 total individuals or 13.5 percent, and 10 to 14 years of age, 153 total individuals or 9.4 percent. For Lander County, the three largest age groups in 2022 were 35 to 44 years of age, 754 total individuals or 13.2 percent, 45 to 54 years of age, 748 total individuals or 13.1 percent, and 25 to 34 years of age, 702 total individuals or 12.9 percent. The three largest age groups for White Pine County in 2022 were 35 to 44 years of age, 1,494 total individuals or 16.6 percent, 25 to 34 years of age, 1,214 total individuals or 13.5 percent, and 65 to 74 years of age, 1,034 total individuals or 11.5 percent.

Comparatively, the three largest age groups for the entire state of Nevada in 2022 were 25 to 34 years of age, 448,567 total individuals or 14.4 percent of the state's entire population, 35 to 44 years of age, 421,119 total individuals or 13.6 percent, and 45 to 54 years of age, 396,230 total individuals or 12.8 percent. Nationwide, the three largest age groups for the entire United States

in 2022 were 25 to 34 years of age, with approximately 45.4 million total individuals or 13.7 percent of the nationwide population, 35 to 44 years of age, with approximately 42.8 million total individuals or 12.9 percent, and 45 to 54 years of age, with approximately 14.1 million total individuals or 12.4 percent.

Table 2.4 – Total Population by Age Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority 2022						
Age Group	Elko County	Eureka County	Lander County	White Pine County	State of Nevada	United States
Under 5 Years	3,727	106	202	418	178,103	19,004,925
5 to 9 Years	4,265	108	529	457	188,397	19,938,148
10 to 14 Years	3,811	153	437	626	204,395	21,433,148
15 to 19 Years	3,512	108	478	375	189,637	21,880,801
20 to 24 Years	3,607	36	228	394	189,798	22,239,579
25 to 34 Years	7,914	101	702	1,214	448,567	45,388,153
35 to 44 Years	7,249	150	754	1,494	421,119	42,810,359
45 to 54 Years	6,369	107	748	1,000	396,230	41,087,357
55 to 59 Years	3,934	128	582	707	198,381	21,535,299
60 to 64 Years	2,658	219	265	581	186,956	21,042,176
65 to 74 Years	4,310	278	576	1,034	309,043	32,260,679
75 to 84 Years	1,782	88	141	579	148,401	15,966,862
85 Years and Over	462	40	86	118	45,790	6,510,107
Total	53,600	1,622	5,728	8,997	3,104,817	331,097,593

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2022

2.2.d Total Population by Race/Ethnicity

Table 2.5 presents the estimated total population by race/ethnicity for each county within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States in 2022. The largest race/ethnicity groups by total population are highlighted for each geographic area.

For just Elko County, the three largest population groups by race/ethnicity in 2022 were White Alone, with an estimated 34,089 total individuals or 63.6 percent of the county's total population, Hispanic or Latino (of any race), with an estimated 13,424 total individuals or 25.0 percent, and American Indian and Alaska Native Alone, with an estimated 2,326 total individuals or 4.3 percent. The three largest population groups by race/ethnicity in 2022 for just Eureka County in 2022 were White Alone, with an estimated 1,339 total individuals or 82.6 percent, Hispanic or Latino (of any race), with an estimated 201 total individuals or 12.4 percent, and American Indian and Alaska Native Alone, with an estimated 72 total individuals or 4.4 percent. For Lander County, the three largest population groups by race/ethnicity in 2022 were White Alone, with an estimated 3,951 total individuals or 69.0 percent, Hispanic or Latino (of any race), with an estimated 1,229 total individuals or 21.5 percent, and Two or More Races, with an estimated 348 total individuals or 21.5 percent. The three largest population groups by

race/ethnicity for White Pine County in 2022 were White Alone, with an estimated 6,382 total individuals or 70.9 percent of the countywide total population, Hispanic or Latino (of any race), with an estimated 1,544 total individuals or 17.2 percent, and Black or African American Alone, with an estimated 631 total individuals or 17.2 percent.

Table 2.5 – Total Population by Race/Ethnicity Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority 2022						
Race/Ethnicity	Elko County	Eureka County	Lander County	White Pine County	State of Nevada	United States
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	13,424	201	1,229	1,544	918,509	61,755,866
White Alone	34,089	1,339	3,951	6,382	1,439,924	194,886,464
Black or African American Alone	458	1	6	631	278,689	40,146,392
American Indian and Alaska Native Alone	2,326	72	171	279	22,068	1,826,286
Asian Alone	689	9	23	46	256,661	18,873,442
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone	92	0	0	0	19,991	561,561
Some Other Race Alone	371	0	0	0	15,375	1,418,481
Two or More Races	2,151	0	348	115	153,600	11,629,101
Total	53,600	1,622	5,728	8,997	3,104,817	331,097,593

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2022

Comparatively, the three largest population groups by race/ethnicity for the entire state of Nevada in 2022 were White Alone, with an estimated 1.4 million total individuals or 46.4 percent of the statewide total population, Hispanic or Latino (of any race), with an estimated 918,509 total individuals or 29.6 percent, and Black or African American Alone, with an estimated 278,689 total individuals or 9.0 percent. Nationwide, the three largest population groups by race/ethnicity for the entire United States in 2022 were White Alone, with an estimated 194.9 million total individuals or 58.9 percent of the nationwide total population, Hispanic or Latino (of any race), with an estimated 61.8 million total individuals or 18.7 percent, and Black or African American Alone, with an estimated 40.2 million total individuals or 12.1 percent.

2.2.e Total Population by Gender

Table 2.6 presents the estimated total population by gender for each county within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States in 2022.

Table 2.6 – Total Population by Gender Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority 2022						
Gender	Elko County	Eureka County	Lander County	White Pine County	State of Nevada	United States
Male	28,070	818	3,109	5,195	1,568,332	164,200,298
Female	25,530	804	2,619	3,802	1,536,485	166,897,295
Total	53,600	1,622	5,728	8,997	3,104,817	331,097,593

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2022

In 2022, of Elko County's total population of 53,600 total individuals, 28,070 total individuals or 52.4 percent were male and 25,530 total individuals or 47.6 percent were female and, for Eureka's total population of 1,622 total individuals in 2022, 818 total individuals or 50.4 percent were male and 804 total individuals or 49.6 percent were female. In 2022, of Lander County's total population of 5,728 total individuals, 3,109 total individuals or 54.3 percent were male and 2,619 total individuals or 45.7 percent were female and, for White Pine County's total population of 8,997 total individuals in 2022, 5,195 total individuals or 57.7 percent were male and 3,802 total individuals or 42.3 percent were female. Comparatively, of the state of Nevada's total population of approximately 3.1 million total individuals in 2022, an estimated 1.57 million total individuals or 50.5 percent were male and an estimated 1.54 million total individuals or 49.5 percent were female. Nationwide, of the total population of approximately 331.1 million total individuals for the entire United States, an estimated 164.2 million total individuals or 49.6 percent were male and an estimated 166.9 million total individuals or 50.4 percent were female.

2.2.f Educational Attainment by Race/Ethnicity

Table 2.7 presents educational attainment rates by race/ethnicity for each individual county in the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States in 2022.

For all of Elko County, an estimated 36,184 total individuals aged 18 years of age or older had a High School Graduate or Higher educational attainment level, or 85.1 percent of the county's total population, and 6,414 total individuals aged 18 years of age or older had a Bachelor's Degree or Higher, or 15.1 percent of the county's total population in 2022. An estimated 1,132 total individuals, or 87.0 percent of Eureka County's total population aged 18 years of age or older in 2022, had a High School Graduate or Higher educational attainment level, and an estimated 169 total individuals, or 13.0 percent of the county's total population, had a Bachelor's Degree or Higher educational attainment. For all of Lander County, an estimated 4,254 total individuals aged 18 years of age or older had a High School Graduate or Higher educational attainment level, or 86.7 percent, of the county's total population in 2022, and an estimated 650 total individuals, or 13.3 percent, had a Bachelor's Degree or Higher educational attainment level. An

Table 2.7 – Educational Attainment Rates by Race/Ethnicity for Total Population Aged 18 Years of Age or Older Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority 2022								
Race/ Ethnicity	Hispanic or Latino Origin	White Alone	Black or African American Alone	American Indian and Alaska Native Alone	Asian Alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone	Some Other Race Alone	Two or More Races
Elko County								
High School Graduate or Higher	5,355	23,707	276	1,597	266	60	1,727	3,196
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	516	5,012	176	77	106	3	118	406
Total	5,817	28,719	452	1,674	372	63	1,845	3,602
Eureka County								
High School Graduate or Higher	74	932	0	85	9	0	32	0
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	0	160	0	0	9	0	0	0
Total	74	1,092	0	85	18	0	32	0
Lander County								
High School Graduate or Higher	776	3,116	86	172	23	0	27	54
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	109	470	0	6	0	0	27	38
Total	885	3,586	86	178	23	0	54	92
White Pine County								
High School Graduate or Higher	897	5,006	391	245	40	0	101	225

Table 2.7 Cont'd – Educational Attainment Rates by Race/Ethnicity for Total Population Aged 18 Years of Age or Older Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority 2022								
Race/ Ethnicity	Hispanic or Latino Origin	White Alone	Black or African American Alone	American Indian and Alaska Native Alone	Asian Alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone	Some Other Race Alone	Two or More Races
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	103	753	0	15	17	0	86	24
Total	1,000	5,759	391	260	57	0	187	249
State of Nevada								
High School Graduate or Higher	394,604	1,120,634	176,125	22,032	201,787	12,127	156,470	254,886
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	71,463	382,580	39,701	2,815	89,247	2,771	20,905	63,193
Total	466,067	1,503,214	215,826	24,847	291,034	14,898	177,375	318,079
United States								
High School Graduate or Higher	27,334,912	138,438,953	23,598,992	1,571,495	12,515,216	370,154	10,159,948	19,227,315
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	7,605,138	57,557,419	6,787,114	339,145	8,143,954	83,507	2,409,185	6,588,010
Total	34,940,050	195,996,372	30,386,106	1,910,640	20,659,170	453,661	12,569,133	25,815,325

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2022

estimated 6,905 total individuals aged 18 years of age older in White Pine County in 2022, or 87.4 percent of the county's total population, had a High School Graduate or Higher educational attainment level and 998 total individuals, or 12.6 percent, had a Bachelor's Degree or Higher educational attainment level.

Comparatively, an estimated 2.3 million total individuals aged 18 years of age or older for the entire state of Nevada, or 77.7 percent of the statewide total population in 2022, had a High School Graduate or Higher educational attainment level, and an estimated 672,675 total individuals, or 22.3 percent, had a Bachelor's Degree or Higher educational attainment level.

Nationwide, an estimated 233.2 million total individuals aged 18 years of age or older for the entire United States, or 72.3 percent of the nationwide population in 2022, had a High School Graduate or Higher educational attainment level, and an estimated 89.5 million total individuals, or 27.7 percent, had a Bachelor's Degree or Higher educational attainment level.

2.2.g Educational Attainment by Gender

Table 2.8 presents educational attainment rates by gender for each individual county in the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development region, the state of Nevada, and for the United States in 2022. The three largest educational attainment levels for each geographic area and for each gender are highlighted.

For all of Elko County in 2022, the three largest educational attainment levels for males aged 18 years of age or older were High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 7,762 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 6,031 total individuals, and Associate's Degree with 2,056 total individuals. For females, the three largest educational attainment levels in 2022 for all of Elko County were High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 5,876 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 4,749 total individuals, and Associate's Degree with 2,112 total individuals. The three largest educational attainment levels for males aged 18 years of age or older for all of Eureka County in 2022 were High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 270 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 173 total individuals, and Bachelor's Degree with 60 total individuals. The three largest educational attainment levels for females aged 18 years of age or older for all of Eureka County in 2022 were High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 197 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 221 total individuals, and Associate's Degree with 65 total individuals.

For all of Lander County, the three largest educational attainment levels for males aged 18 years of age or older were High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 740 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 547 total individuals, and Associate's Degree with 452 total individuals. For females, the three largest educational attainment levels in 2022 for all of Lander County were High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 802 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 428 total individuals, and Associate's Degree with 231 total individuals. The three largest educational attainment levels for males aged 18 years of age or older for all of White Pine County in 2022 were High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 2,059 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 875 total individuals, and Associate's Degree with 354 total individuals. The three largest educational attainment levels for females aged 18 years of age or older for all of White Pine County in 2022 were High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 941 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 784 total individuals, and Bachelor's Degree with 412 total individuals.

Comparatively, the three largest educational attainment levels for males aged 18 years of age or older for the entire state of Nevada in 2022 were High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 385,533 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 305,383 total individuals, and Bachelor's Degree with 196,696 total individuals. The three largest educational attainment levels for females aged 18 years of age or older for the entire state of Nevada in 2022 were

Table 2.8 – Educational Attainment by Gender for Individuals aged 18 Years of Age or Older Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority 2022												
Educational Attainment Level	Elko County		Eureka County		Lander County		White Pine County		State of Nevada		United States	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Less than 9 th Grade	501	1,226	25	0	18	22	149	46	66,110	62,990	5,730,519	5,507,270
9 th to 12 th Grade, No Diploma	1,363	1,533	54	21	415	26	547	156	101,348	85,403	8,859,366	7,364,329
High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)	7,762	5,876	270	197	740	802	2,059	941	385,533	346,066	37,050,352	33,910,013
Some College, No Degree	6,031	4,749	173	221	547	428	875	784	305,383	305,299	26,390,175	27,986,332
Associate's Degree	2,056	2,112	5	65	452	231	354	392	94,848	114,455	9,705,049	12,357,215
Bachelor's Degree	1,927	1,967	60	48	93	162	252	412	196,696	211,513	25,271,959	28,200,470
Graduate or Professional Degree	1,111	1,239	26	35	88	198	39	192	99,453	113,022	15,167,117	17,461,749
Total	20,751	18,702	613	587	2,353	1,869	4,275	2,923	1,249,371	1,238,748	128,174,537	132,787,378

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2022

High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 346,066 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 305,299 total individuals, and Bachelor’s Degree with 211,513 total individuals. Nationwide, the three largest educational attainment levels for males aged 18 years of age or older in 2022 for the entire United States were High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with an estimated 33.9 million total individuals, Some College, No Degree with an estimated 28.0 million total individuals, and Bachelor’s Degree with an estimated 28.2 million total individuals.

2.2.h Total Number of Households

Table 2.9 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 2017 and 2022.

Table 2.9 – Total Number of Households				
Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2017	2022	2017-2022 Actual Change	2017-2022 Percent Change
Elko County	17,882	19,032	1,150	6.4%
Carlin	735	841	106	14.4%
Elko	13,886	14,958	1,072	7.7%
Wells	776	591	-185	-23.8%
West Wendover	1,361	1,789	428	31.4%
Eureka County	765	570	-195	-25.5%
Eureka	506	321	-185	-36.6%
Lander County	2,183	2,256	73	3.3%
Austin	228	144	-84	-36.8%
Battle Mountain	1,955	2,112	157	8.0%
White Pine County	3,343	3,363	20	0.6%
Ely	2,273	2,378	105	4.6%
State of Nevada	1,052,249	1,163,671	111,422	10.6%
United States	118,825,921	125,736,353	6,910,432	5.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2017 and 2022

Between 2017 and 2022, the total number of households for all of Elko County increased from an estimated 17,882 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 19,032 total individuals in 2022, a net increase of 1,150 total households or by 6.4 percent. For the City of Carlin, the total number of households increased from an estimated 735 total households in 2017 to an estimated 841 total households in 2022, a net increase of 106 total households and increased for the City of Elko from an estimated 13,886 total households in 2017 to an estimated 14,958 total households in 2022, a net increase of 1,072 total households or by 7.7 percent. The total number of households for the City of Wells declined significantly between 2017 and 2022, declining from an estimated 776 total households in 2017 to an estimated 591 total households in 2022, a net decrease of 185 total households or by -23.8 percent but increased significantly for the City of West Wendover,

increasing from an estimated 1,361 total households in 2017 to an estimated 1,789 total households in 2022, a net increase of 428 total households or by 31.4 percent.

For all of Eureka County, the total number of households decreased from an estimated 765 total households in 2017 to an estimated 570 total households in 2022, a net decrease of 195 total households or by -25.5 percent and decreased from an estimated 506 total households in 2017 to an estimated 321 total households in 2022 for the town of Eureka, a net decrease of 185 total households or by -36.6 percent. The total number of households for all of Lander County increased from an estimated 2,183 total households in 2017 to an estimated 2,256 total households in 2022, a net increase of 73 total households or by 3.3 percent. For just the town of Austin, the total number of households declined from an estimated 228 total households in 2017 to an estimated 144 total households in 2022, a net decrease of 84 total households or by -36.8 percent but increased from an estimated 1,955 total households in 2017 to an estimated 2,112 total households in 2022 for the town of Battle Mountain, a net increase of 157 total households or by 8.0 percent.

For all of White Pine County, the total number of households increased from an estimated 3,343 total households in 2017 to an estimated 2,256 total households in 2022, a net increase of 20 total households or by 0.6 percent and increased from an estimated 2,273 total households in 2017 to an estimated 2,378 total households in 2022 for the City of Ely, a net increase of 105 total households or by 4.6 percent. Comparatively, the total number of households for the entire state of Nevada increased from an estimated 1.1 million total households in 2017 to an estimated 1.2 million total households in 2022, a net increase of 111,422 total households or by 10.6 percent. Nationwide, the total number of households for the entire United States increased from an estimated 118.8 million total households in 2017 to an estimated 125.7 million total households in 2022, a net increase of approximately 6.9 million total households or by 5.8 percent.

2.2.i Average Household Size

Table 2.10 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 2017 and 2022.

Between 2017 and 2022, the average household size for all of Elko County declined from an estimated 2.88 people per household in 2017 to an estimated 2.77 people per household in 2022, a net decrease of 0.11 people per household or by -3.8 percent. For just the City of Carlin, the average household size decreased from an estimated 2.98 people per household in 2017 to an estimated 2.64 people per household in 2022, a net decrease of 0.34 people per household or by a percentage decrease of -11.4 percent and decreased from an estimated 2.87 people per household in 2017 to an estimated 2.78 people per household in 2022 for the City of Elko, a net decrease of 0.09 people per household or by -3.1 percent. The average household size for the City of Wells increased from an estimated 2.67 people per household in 2017 to an estimated 2.97 people per household in 2022, a net increase of 0.30 people per household or by 11.2 percent while the average household size decreased from an estimated 3.27 people per household in 2017 to an

estimated 2.54 people per household for the City of West Wendover, a net decrease of 0.73 people per household or by -22.3 percent.

Table 2.10 – Average Household Size Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2017	2022	2017-2022 Actual Change	2017-2022 Percent Change
Elko County	2.88	2.77	-0.11	-3.8%
Carlin	2.98	2.64	-0.34	-11.4%
Elko	2.87	2.78	-0.09	-3.1%
Wells	2.67	2.97	0.30	11.2%
West Wendover	3.27	2.54	-0.73	-22.3%
Eureka County	2.25	2.84	0.59	26.2%
Eureka	2.42	3.21	0.79	32.6%
Lander County	2.67	2.51	-0.16	-6.0%
Austin	1.79	1.35	-0.44	-24.6%
Battle Mountain	2.77	2.59	-0.18	-6.5%
White Pine County	2.50	2.22	-0.28	-11.2%
Ely	2.53	2.26	-0.27	-10.7%
State of Nevada	2.71	2.64	-0.07	-2.6%
United States	2.63	2.57	-0.06	-2.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2017 and 2022

For all of Eureka County, the estimated average household size increased from an estimated 2.25 people per household in 2017 to an estimated 2.84 people per household in 2022, a net increase of 0.59 people per household or by 26.2 percent and increased from an estimated 2.42 people per household in 2017 to an estimated 3.21 people per household for just the town of Eureka, a net increase of 0.79 people per household or by 32.6 percent. The average household size for all of Lander County decreased from an estimated 2.67 people per household in 2017 to an estimated 2.51 people per household in 2022, a net decrease of 0.16 people per household or by -6.0 percent. For just the town of Austin, the average household size decreased from an estimated 1.79 people per household in 2017 to an estimated 1.35 people per household in 2022, a net decrease of 0.44 people per household or by -24.6 percent and decrease from an estimated 2.77 people per household in 2017 to an estimated 2.59 people per household in 2022 for the town of Battle Mountain, a net decrease of 0.18 people per household or by -6.5 percent.

The average household size for all of White Pine County declined from an estimated 2.50 people per household in 2017 to an estimated 2.22 people per household in 2022, a net decrease of 0.28 people per household or by -11.2 percent and declined from an estimated 2.53 people per household to an estimated 2.26 people per household in 2022 for just the City of Ely, a net decrease of 0.27 people per household or by -10.7 percent. Comparatively, the average household size for the entire state of Nevada declined from an estimated 2.71 people per household in 2017 to an estimated 2.64 people per household in 2022, a net decrease of 0.07 people per household or by -2.6 percent. Nationwide, the average household size for the entire

United States declined from an estimated 2.63 people per household in 2017 to an estimated 2.57 people per household in 2022, a net decrease of 0.06 people per household or by -2.3 percent.

2.3 Economic Trends for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Region

As part of the 2023 annual assessment, evaluation, and update of this current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, several separate economic and industry and occupation sector data categories were examined 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, among others, 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 five-year, 2017 through 2022, period used as part of this analysis.

2.3.a Median Household Income

Table 2.11 presents the change in median household income (in 2022 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 2017 and 2022.

Table 2.11 – Median Household Income (2022 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2017	2022	2017-2022 Actual Change	2017-2022 Percent Change
Elko County	\$76,178	\$87,755	\$11,577	15.2%
Carlin	\$74,148	\$68,207	-\$5,941	-8.0%
Elko	\$85,530	\$94,505	\$8,975	10.5%
Wells	\$60,426	\$75,547	\$15,121	25.0%
West Wendover	\$48,429	\$80,394	\$31,965	66.0%
Eureka County	\$67,159	\$73,929	\$6,770	10.1%
Eureka	\$70,000	\$93,155	\$23,155	33.1%
Lander County	\$79,865	\$92,388	\$12,523	15.7%
Austin	\$45,570	N/A	N/A	N/A
Battle Mountain	\$83,521	\$100,446	\$16,925	20.3%
White Pine County	\$60,358	\$71,297	\$10,939	18.1%
Ely	\$61,339	\$75,804	\$14,465	23.6%
State of Nevada	\$55,434	\$71,646	\$16,212	29.2%
United States	\$57,652	\$75,149	\$17,497	30.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2017 and 2022

Between 2017 and 2022, median household income for all of Elko County increased from an estimated \$76,178 in 2017 to an estimated \$87,755 in 2022, a net increase of \$11,577 or by 15.2 percent. For just the City of Carlin, median household income declined from an estimated \$74,148 in 2017 to an estimated \$68,2074 in 2022, a net decrease of \$5,941 or by -8.0 percent but increased from an estimated \$85,530 in 2017 to an estimated \$94,505 in 2022 for the City of Elko, a net increase of \$8,975 or by 10.5 percent. Median household income for the City of Wells increased from an estimated \$60,426 in 2017 to an estimated \$75,547 in 2022, a net increase of \$15,121 or by 25.0 percent and increased from an estimated \$48,429 in 2017 to an estimated \$80,394 in 2022 for the City of West Wendover, a net increase of \$31,965 or by 66.0 percent.

For all of Eureka County, median household income increased from an estimated \$67,159 in 2017 to an estimated \$73,929 in 2022, a net increase of \$6,770 or by 10.1 percent and increased from an estimated \$70,000 in 2017 to an estimated \$93,155 in 2022 for the town of Eureka, a net increase of \$23,155 or by 33.1 percent. For all of Lander County, median household income increased from an estimated \$79,865 in 2017 to an estimated \$92,388 in 2022, a net increase of \$12,523 or by 15.7 percent. There was no estimate for median household income in 2022 for the town of Austin but the median household income for the town of Austin in 2017 was an estimated \$45,570. Between 2017 and 2022, median household income for the town of Battle Mountain increased from an estimated \$83,521 in 2017 to an estimated \$100,446 in 2022, a net increase of \$16,925 or by 20.3 percent.

Median household income for all of White Pine County increased from an estimated \$60,358 in 2017 to an estimated \$71,297 in 2022, a net increase of \$10,939 or by 18.1 percent and increased from an estimated \$61,339 in 2017 to an estimated \$75,804 in 2022 for the City of Ely. Comparatively, median household income for the entire state of Nevada increased from an estimated \$55,434 in 2017 to an estimated \$71,646 in 2022, a net increase of \$16,212 or by 29.2 percent. Nationwide, median household income for the entire United States increased from an estimated \$57,652 in 2017 to an estimated \$75,149 in 2022, a net increase of \$17,497 or by 30.3 percent.

2.3.b Median Family Income

Table 2.12 presents the change in median family income (in 2022 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.

Median family income for all of Elko County increased from an estimated \$86,421 in 2017 to an estimated \$100,342 in 2022, a net increase of \$13,921 or by 16.1 percent. For just the City of Carlin, median family income increased from an estimated \$75,060 in 2017 to an estimated \$95,652 in 2022, a net increase of \$20,592 or by 27.4 percent and increased from an estimated \$93,941 in 2017 to an estimated \$104,994 in 2022, a net increase of \$11,053 or by 11.8 percent. For just the City of Wells, median family income increased from an estimated \$66,111 in 2017 to an estimated \$88,182 in 2022, a net increase of \$22,071 or by 33.4 percent and increased from an

estimated \$48,960 in 2017 to an estimated \$81,560 in 2022 for the City of West Wendover, a net increase of \$32,600 or by 66.6 percent.

Table 2.12 – Median Family Income (2022 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2017	2022	2017-2022 Actual Change	2017-2022 Percent Change
Elko County	\$86,421	\$100,342	\$13,921	16.1%
Carlin	\$75,060	\$95,652	\$20,592	27.4%
Elko	\$93,941	\$104,994	\$11,053	11.8%
Wells	\$66,111	\$88,182	\$22,071	33.4%
West Wendover	\$48,960	\$81,560	\$32,600	66.6%
Eureka County	\$109,085	\$74,143	-\$34,942	-32.0%
Eureka	\$113,869	\$93,036	-\$20,833	-18.3%
Lander County	\$96,250	\$101,968	\$5,718	5.9%
Austin	\$107,639	\$91,607	-\$16,032	-14.9%
Battle Mountain	\$94,265	\$102,153	\$7,888	8.4%
White Pine County	\$69,481	\$93,684	\$24,203	34.8%
Ely	\$75,074	\$98,239	\$23,165	30.9%
State of Nevada	\$65,469	\$85,584	\$20,115	30.7%
United States	\$70,850	\$92,646	\$21,796	30.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2017 and 2022

Between 2017 and 2022, median family income for all of Eureka County declined from an estimated \$109,085 in 2017 to an estimated \$74,143 in 2022, a net decrease of \$34,942 or by a percentage decrease of -32.0 percent and declined from an estimated \$113,869 in 2017 to an estimated \$93,036 in 2022 for just the town of Eureka, a net decrease of \$20,833 or by -18.3 percent. For all of Lander County, median family income increased from an estimated \$96,250 in 2017 to an estimated \$101,968 in 2022, a net increase of \$5,718 or by 5.9 percent. Median family income for just the town of Austin declined from an estimated \$107,639 in 2017 to an estimated \$91,607 in 2022, a net decrease of \$16,032 or by -14.9 but increased from an estimated \$94,265 in 2017 to an estimated \$102,153 in 2022 for just the town of Battle Mountain, a net increase of \$7,888 or by 8.4 percent.

Median family income for all of White Pine County increased from an estimated \$69,481 in 2017 to an estimated \$93,684 in 2022, a net increase of \$24,203 or by 34.8 percent and increased from an estimated \$75,074 in 2017 to an estimated \$98,239 in 2022 for just the City of Ely, a net increase of \$23,165 or by 30.9 percent. Comparatively, median family income for the entire state of Nevada increased from an estimated \$65,469 in 2017 to an estimated \$85,584 in 2022, a net increase of \$20,115 or by 30.7 percent. Nationwide, median family income for the entire United States increased from an estimated \$70,850 in 2017 to an estimated \$92,646 in 2022, a net increase of \$21,796 or by 30.8 percent.

2.3.c Per Capita (Mean) Income

Table 2.13 presents the change in per capita income (in 2022 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 2017 and 2022.

Table 2.13 – Per Capita (Mean) Income, Individuals (2022 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2017	2022	2017-2022 Actual Change	2017-2022 Percent Change
Elko County	\$32,498	\$39,001	\$6,503	20.0%
Carlin	\$34,456	\$31,809	-\$2,647	-7.7%
Elko	\$35,066	\$41,677	\$6,611	18.9%
Wells	\$23,998	\$28,965	\$4,967	20.7%
West Wendover	\$22,701	\$28,927	\$6,226	27.4%
Eureka County	\$35,606	\$32,187	-\$3,419	-9.6%
Eureka	\$35,331	\$30,599	-\$4,732	-13.4%
Lander County	\$30,256	\$41,561	\$11,305	37.4%
Austin	\$35,814	\$36,177	\$363	1.0%
Battle Mountain	\$29,839	\$41,757	\$11,918	39.9%
White Pine County	\$25,350	\$30,668	\$5,318	21.0%
Ely	\$29,964	\$37,249	\$7,285	24.3%
State of Nevada	\$28,450	\$37,945	\$9,495	33.4%
United States	\$31,177	\$41,261	\$10,084	32.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2017 and 2022

Per capita income for all of Elko County increased from an estimated \$32,498 in 2017 to an estimated \$39,001 in 2022, a net increase of \$6,503 or by 20.0 percent. For just the City of Carlin, per capita income decreased from an estimated \$34,456 in 2017 to an estimated \$31,809 in 2022, a net decrease of \$2,647 or by -7.7 percent but increased for the City of Elko from an estimated \$35,066 in 2017 to an estimated \$41,677 in 2022, a net increase of \$6,611 or by 18.9 percent. Per capita income for the City of Wells increased from an estimated \$23,998 in 2017 to an estimated \$28,965 in 2022, a net increased of \$4,967 or by 20.7 percent and increased for the City of West Wendover, increasing from an estimated \$22,701 in 2017 to an estimated \$28,927 in 2022, a net increase of \$6,226 or by 27.4 percent. Between 2017 and 2022, per capita income for all of Eureka County declined from an estimated \$35,606 in 2017 to an estimated \$32,187 in 2022, a net decrease of \$3,419 or by -9.6 percent and decreased for the town of Eureka, declining from an estimated \$35,331 in 2017 to an estimated \$30,599 in 2022, a net decrease of \$4,732 or by -13.4 percent.

For all of Lander County, per capita income increased from an estimated \$30,256 in 2017 to an estimated \$41,561 in 2022, a net increase of \$11,305 or by 37.4 percent. Per capita income for just the town of Austin increased slightly from an estimated \$35,814 in 2017 to an estimated \$36,177 in 2022, a net increase of \$363 or by 1.0 percent but increased significantly for the town

of Battle Mountain, increasing from an estimated \$29,839 in 2017 to an estimated \$41,757 in 2022, a net increase of \$11,918 or by 39.9 percent. Per capita income for all of White Pine County increased from an estimated \$25,350 in 2017 to an estimated \$30,668 in 2022, a net increase of \$5,318 or by 21.0 percent and increased from an estimated \$29,964 in 2017 to an estimated \$37,249 in 2022 for just the City of Ely, a net increase of \$7,285 or by 24.3 percent. Comparatively, per capita income for the entire state of Nevada increased from an estimated \$28,450 in 2017 to an estimated \$37,945 in 2022, a net increase of \$9,495 or by 33.4 percent. Nationwide, per capita income for the entire United States increased from an estimated \$31,177 in 2017 to an estimated \$41,261 in 2022, a net increase of \$10,084 or by 32.3 percent.

2.3.d Percent of Total Population Living Below the Poverty Line

Table 2.14 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 2017 and 2022.

Table 2.14 – Percent of Total Population Living Below the Poverty Line Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2017	2022	2017-2022 Actual Change	2017-2022 Percent Change
Elko County	11.5%	10.4%	-1.1%	-9.6%
Carlin	5.7%	6.2%	0.5%	8.8%
Elko	9.7%	9.6%	-0.1%	-1.0%
Wells	5.2%	27.0%	21.8%	419.2%
West Wendover	15.3%	10.6%	-4.7%	-30.7%
Eureka County	10.0%	17.6%	7.6%	76.0%
Eureka	10.8%	21.4%	10.6%	98.1%
Lander County	13.2%	10.8%	-2.4%	-18.2%
Austin	0.2%	16.4%	16.2%	8,100.0%
Battle Mountain	14.1%	10.6%	-3.5%	-24.8%
White Pine County	13.0%	9.2%	-3.8%	-29.2%
Ely	15.0%	9.7%	-5.3%	-35.3%
State of Nevada	14.2%	12.7%	-1.5%	-10.6%
United States	14.6%	12.5%	-2.1%	-14.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2017 and 2022

Between 2017 and 2022, the percentage of the total population living below the poverty line for all of Elko County declined from 11.5 percent in 2017 to an estimated 10.4 percent in 2022, a net decrease of 1.1 percent or by a percentage decrease of -9.6 percent. For just the City of Carlin, the poverty rate increased from an estimated 5.7 percent in 2017 to an estimated 6.2 percent in 2022, a net increase of 0.5 percent or by a percentage increase of 8.8 percent but declined from an estimated 9.7 percent in 2017 to an estimated 9.6 percent in 2022 for just the City of Elko, a percentage decrease of just 0.1 percent or by a percentage decrease of -1.0 percent. The poverty rate for the City of Wells increased significantly between 2017 and 2022, increasing from an

estimated 5.2 percent in 2017 to an estimated 27.0 percent in 2022, a net increase of 21.8 percent or by a percentage increase of 419.2 percent but declined significantly from an estimated 15.3 percent in 2017 to an estimated 27.0 percent in 2022 for the City of West Wendover, a net decrease of 4.7 percent or by a percentage decrease of -30.7 percent.

For all of Eureka County, the poverty rate increased from an estimated 10.0 percent in 2017 to an estimated 17.6 percent in 2022, a net increase of 7.6 percent or by a percentage increase of 76.0 percent and increased from an estimated 10.8 percent in 2017 to an estimated 21.4 percent in 2022 for just the town of Eureka, a net increase of 10.6 percent or by a percentage increase of 98.1 percent. The poverty rate for all of Lander County decreased from an estimated 13.2 percent in 2017 to an estimated 10.8 percent in 2022, a net decrease of 2.4 percent or by a percentage decrease of -18.2 percent. For just the town of Austin, the poverty rate increased from just 0.2 percent in 2017 to an estimated 16.4 percent in 2022, a net increase of 16.2 percent, but decreased from an estimated 14.1 percent in 2017 to an estimated 10.6 percent in 2022 for just the town of Battle Mountain, a net decrease of 3.5 percent or by a -24.8 percentage decrease. The poverty rate for all of White Pine County declined from an estimated 13.0 percent in 2017 to an estimated 9.2 percent in 2022, a net decrease of 3.8 percent or by a -29.2 percentage decrease and declined from an estimated 15.0 percent in 2017 to an estimated 9.7 percent in 2022 for the City of Ely, a net decrease of 5.3 percent or by a percentage decrease of -35.3 percent.

Comparatively, the percentage of the total population living below the poverty line for the entire state of Nevada declined from an estimated 14.2 percent in 2017 to an estimated 12.7 percent in 2022, a net decrease of 1.5 percent or by a percentage decrease of -10.6 percent. Nationwide, the percentage of the total population living below the poverty line for the entire United States declined from an estimated 14.6 percent in 2017 to an estimated 12.5 percent in 2022, a net decrease of 2.1 percent or by a percentage decrease of -14.4 percent.

2.3.e Civilian Workforce (Individuals 16 Years or Older)

Table 2.15 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 2017 and 2022.

The civilian workforce, or the total number of individuals aged 16 years of age or older) for just Elko County declined from an estimated 27,702 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 27,585 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 117 total individuals or by -0.4 percent. For just the City of Carlin, the civilian workforce increased from an estimated 1,133 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 1,248 total individuals in 2022, a net increase of 115 total individuals or by 10.2 percent but declined from an estimated 21,710 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 21,503 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 207 total individuals or by -1.0 percent. For just the City of Wells, the civilian population declined from an estimated 986 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 803 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 183 total individuals or by -18.6 percent but increased from an estimated 2,359 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 2,524 total individuals in 2022 for the City of West Wendover, a net increase of 165 total individuals or by 7.0 percent. Between 2017 and 2022, the civilian workforce for all of Eureka County

declined significantly, declining from an estimated 904 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 579 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 325 total individuals or by -36.0 percent and also declined for just the town of Eureka, declining from an estimated 666 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 365 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 301 total individuals or by -45.2 percent.

Table 2.15 – Civilian Workforce (Individuals 16 Years or Older) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2017	2022	2017-2022 Actual Change	2017-2022 Percent Change
Elko County	27,702	27,585	-117	-0.4%
Carlin	1,133	1,248	115	10.2%
Elko	21,710	21,503	-207	-1.0%
Wells	986	803	-183	-18.6%
West Wendover	2,359	2,524	165	7.0%
Eureka County	904	579	-325	-36.0%
Eureka	666	365	-301	-45.2%
Lander County	2,905	2,643	-262	-9.0%
Austin	174	98	-76	-43.7%
Battle Mountain	2,731	2,545	-186	-6.8%
White Pine County	3,801	3,617	-184	-4.8%
Ely	2,624	2,854	230	8.8%
State of Nevada	1,457,643	1,566,279	108,636	7.5%
United States	161,159,470	167,857,207	6,697,737	4.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2017 and 2022

Between 2017 and 2022, the civilian workforce declined from an estimated 2,905 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 2,643 total individuals in 2022 for all of Lander County, a net decline of 262 total individuals or by -9.0 percent. For just the town of Austin, the civilian workforce declined from an estimated 174 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 98 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 76 total individuals or by -43.7 percent and declined from an estimated 2,731 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 2,545 total individuals in 2022 for the town of Battle Mountain, a net decrease of 186 total individuals or by -6.8 percent. The civilian workforce for all of White Pine County declined from an estimated 3,801 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 3,617 total individuals in 2022, a net decrease of 184 total individuals or by -4.8 percent but increased for the City of Ely, increasing from an estimated 2,624 total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 2,854 total individuals in 2022, a net increase of 230 total individuals or by 8.8 percent.

The civilian workforce for the entire state of Nevada increased from an estimated 1.5 million total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 1.6 million total individuals in 2022, a net increase of 108,636 total individuals statewide or by 7.5 percent. Nationwide, the civilian workforce for the entire United States increased by an estimated 6.7 million total individuals or by 4.2 percent

between 2017 and 2022, increasing from an estimated 161.2 million total individuals in 2017 to an estimated 167.9 million total individuals in 2022.

2.3.f Civilian Unemployment Rate (Individuals 16 Years or Older)

Table 2.16 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 2017 and 2022.

Table 2.16 – Civilian Unemployment Rate (Individuals 16 Years or Older) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority				
Community	2017	2022	2017-2022 Actual Change	2017-2022 Percent Change
Elko County	4.4%	4.7%	0.3%	6.8%
Carlin	11.8%	5.0%	-6.8%	-57.6%
Elko	3.7%	4.7%	1.0%	27.0%
Wells	4.9%	1.0%	-3.9%	-79.6%
West Wendover	1.3%	2.9%	1.6%	123.1%
Eureka County	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Eureka	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Lander County	7.6%	11.7%	4.1%	53.9%
Austin	12.1%	0.0%	-12.1%	-100.0%
Battle Mountain	7.4%	12.1%	4.7%	63.5%
White Pine County	6.2%	4.1%	-2.1%	-33.9%
Ely	6.7%	3.0%	-3.7%	-55.2%
State of Nevada	8.0%	7.0%	-1.0%	-12.5%
United States	6.6%	5.3%	-1.3%	-19.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2017 and 2022

The civilian unemployment rate among individuals aged 16 years of age or older for all of Elko County increased from an estimated 4.4 percent in 2017 to an estimated 4.7 percent in 2022, a net increase of 0.3 percent or by a percentage increase of 6.8 percent. For just the City of Carlin, the civilian unemployment rate decreased from an estimated 11.8 percent in 2017 to an estimated 5.0 percent in 2022, a net decrease of 6.8 percent or by a percentage decrease of -57.6 percent but increased between 2017 and 2022 for the City of Elko by an estimated 1.0 percent or by a percentage increase of 27.0 percent, increasing from an estimated 3.7 percent in 2017 to an estimated 4.7 percent in 2022. The civilian unemployment rate for the City of Wells declined from an estimated 4.9 percent in 2017 to an estimated 1.0 percent in 2022, a net decrease of 3.9 percent or by a percentage decrease of -79.6 percent but increased between 2017 and 2022 for the City of West Wendover, increasing from an estimated 1.3 percent in 2017 to an estimated 2.9 percent in 2022, a net increase of 1.6 percent or by a percentage increase of 123.1 percent. The civilian unemployment rate for all of Eureka County and for just the town of Eureka remained unchanged at an estimated 0.0 percent in both 2017 and 2022.

For all of Lander County, the civilian unemployment rate increased from an estimated 7.6 percent in 2017 to an estimated 11.7 percent in 2022, a net increase of 4.1 percent or by a percentage increase of 53.9 percent. The civilian unemployment rate for just the town of Austin declined from an estimated 12.1 percent in 2017 to an estimated 0.0 percent in 2022, a net decrease of 12.1 percent or by a percentage decrease of -100.0 percent but increased from an estimated 7.4 percent in 2017 to an estimated 12.1 percent in 2022 for the town of Battle Mountain, a net increase of 4.7 percent or by a percentage increase of 63.5 percent. Between 2017 and 2022, the civilian unemployment rate decreased from an estimated 6.2 percent in 2017 to an estimated 4.1 percent for all of White Pine County, a net decrease of 2.1 percent or by a percentage decrease of -33.9 percent and, for the City of Ely, declined from an estimated 6.7 percent in 2017 to an estimated 3.0 percent in 2022, a net decrease of 3.7 percent or by a percentage decrease of -55.2 percent.

Between 2017 and 2022, the civilian unemployment rate for the entire state of Nevada declined from an estimated 8.0 percent in 2017 to an estimated 7.0 percent in 2022, a net decrease of 1.0 percent or by a percentage decrease of -12.5 percent. The civilian unemployment rate of the entire United States nationwide declined from an estimated 6.6 percent in 2017 to an estimated 5.3 percent in 2022, a net decrease of 1.3 percent or by a percentage decrease of -19.7 percent.

2.3.g Total Employment by Major Industry Sector

Table 2.17 presents the total number of individuals employed by major industry sector for Elko County, Eureka County, Lander County, White Pine County, for the entire state of Nevada, and for the entire United States in 2022. The three largest major industry sectors are highlighted for each geographic area.

The three largest industry sectors in terms of total employment for all of Elko County in 2022 were Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining, with an estimated 6,047 total individuals employed, Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance, with an estimated 4,292 total individuals employed, and Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services, with an estimated 3,722 total individuals employed. Combined, these three industry sectors employed an estimated 53.5 percent of all individuals aged 16 years of age or older working in Elko County in 2022. For all of Eureka County, the three largest industry sectors in terms of total employment in 2022 were Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining, employing an estimated 259 total individuals, Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance, employing an estimated 94 total individuals, and Transportation and Warehousing, and Utilities, employing an estimated 62 total individuals. Combined, these three industry sectors employed an estimated 71.7 percent of all individuals aged 16 years of age or older working in Eureka County in 2022.

In 2022, the three largest industry sectors in terms of total employment for all of Lander County were Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining, employing an estimated 789 total individuals, Public Administration, employing an estimated 324 total individuals, and Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative Waste Management Services, employing

an estimated 286 total individuals. Combined, these three industry sectors employed an estimated 59.9 percent of all individuals aged 16 years of age or older working in Lander County. For all of White Pine County, the three largest industry sectors in terms of total employment in 2022 were Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance, employing an estimated 653 total individuals, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining, employing an estimated 636 total individuals, and Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services, employing an estimated 519 total individuals. Combined, these three industry sectors employed an estimated 52.1 percent of all individuals aged 16 years of age or older working in White Pine County.

Table 2.17 – Civilian Employment (Population 16 Years and Over) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority 2022						
Industry Sector	Elko County	Eureka County	Lander County	White Pine County	State of Nevada	United States
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, and Mining	6,047	259	789	636	19,772	2,605,614
Construction	2,269	47	80	248	110,300	10,927,582
Manufacturing	932	13	110	107	75,735	15,876,915
Wholesale Trade	643	0	54	67	28,549	3,816,197
Retail Trade	2,276	50	80	188	165,896	17,463,378
Transportation and Warehousing, and Utilities	1,329	62	212	266	99,290	9,190,548
Information	104	0	16	13	22,245	3,016,820
Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	901	0	19	72	84,324	10,582,227
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative Waste Management Services	1,542	30	286	171	174,317	19,285,652
Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance	4,292	94	282	653	244,487	36,948,956
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services	3,722	7	66	519	304,195	14,244,205
Other Services, Except Public Administration	1,160	16	17	160	66,657	7,509,732
Public Administration	1,058	1	324	370	60,603	7,445,378
Total	26,275	579	2,335	3,470	1,456,370	158,913,204

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2022

Statewide, the three largest employment industry sectors in 2022 for the entire state of Nevada were Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services, employing an estimated 304,195 total individuals, Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance, employing an estimated 244,487 total individuals, and Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative Waste Management Services, employing an estimated 174,317 total individuals. Combined, these three industry sectors employed an estimated 49.6 percent of individuals aged 16 years of age or older employed throughout the state of Nevada. Nationwide, the three largest employment industry sectors in 2022 for the entire United States were Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance, employing approximately 37.0 million total individuals, Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative Waste Services, employing approximately 19.3 million total individuals, and Retail Trade, employing approximately 17.5 million total individuals. These three industry sectors employed an estimated 46.4 percent of individuals aged 16 years of age or older employed across the entire United States.

2.3.h Educational Attainment for the Working Population

Table 2.18 presents the educational attainment levels for the working population aged 25 years of age or older for counties within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, including Elko County, Eureka County, Lander County, and White Pine County, for the entire state of Nevada, and for the entire United States in 2022. The three largest educational attainment levels for each geographic area are highlighted.

In 2022, the three largest educational attainment levels for the working population, individuals aged 25 years of age or older, for all of Elko County included High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 11,725 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 9,541 total individuals, and Associate's Degree with 3,665 total individuals. These three educational attainment levels accounted for approximately 71.9 percent of the working population of Elko County in 2022. The three largest educational attainment levels for all of Eureka County in 2022 were High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 467 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 379 total individuals, and Bachelor's Degree with 108 total individuals. These three educational attainment levels accounted for approximately 85.9 percent of the working population of Eureka County. For all of Lander County, the three largest educational attainment levels for the working population in 2022 included High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 1,334 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 962 total individuals, and Associate's Degree with 641 total individuals. These three educational attainment levels accounted for approximately 76.2 percent of the working population for all of Lander County in 2022. For all of White Pine County, the three largest educational attainment levels for the working population in 2022 included High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 2,851 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 1,516 total individuals, and Associate's Degree with 746 total individuals. These three educational attainment levels accounted for approximately 76.0 percent of the working population for all of White Pine County.

Table 2.18 – Educational Attainment for the Working Population (Population 25 Years and Over) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority 2022						
Educational Attainment Level	Elko County	Eureka County	Lander County	White Pine County	State of Nevada	United States
Less than 9th Grade	1,625	25	40	195	122,480	10,694,112
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	2,224	28	336	524	157,311	13,130,952
High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)	11,725	467	1,334	2,851	620,161	59,908,662
Some College, No Degree	9,541	379	962	1,516	529,301	43,842,184
Associate’s Degree	3,665	43	641	746	193,387	20,222,893
Bachelor’s Degree	3,642	108	255	664	390,872	49,641,033
Graduate or Professional Degree	2,256	61	286	231	210,340	32,276,301
Total	34,678	1,111	3,854	6,727	2,223,852	229,707,137

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2022

Statewide, the three largest educational attainment levels for the working population aged 25 years of age or older for the entire state of Nevada in 2022 included High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with 620,161 total individuals, Some College, No Degree with 529,301 total individuals, and Bachelor’s Degree with 390,872 total individuals. These three educational attainment levels accounted for approximately 69.3 percent of the statewide working population. Nationwide, the three largest educational attainment levels for the working population aged 25 years of age or older for the entire United States in 2022 included High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) with an estimated 59.9 million total individuals, Some College, No Degree with an estimated 49.6 million total individuals, and Bachelor’s Degree with 43.8 million total individuals. These three educational attainment levels accounted for approximately 66.8 percent of the nationwide working population.

2.3.i Median Earnings by Educational Attainment Level

Table 2.19 presents the estimated annual median earnings of individuals by educational attainment levels for the working population aged 25 years of age or older for counties within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, including Elko County, Eureka County, Lander County, and White Pine County, for the entire state of Nevada, and for the entire United States in 2022. The single largest educational attainment level by estimated annual median earnings for each geographic area are highlighted. Note that a significant number of estimated annual median earnings by educational attainment level for Eureka County and Lander County in 2022 were unavailable.

Table 2.19 – Annual Median Earnings by Educational Attainment Level (Population 25 Years and Over) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority 2022						
Educational Attainment Level	Elko County	Eureka County	Lander County	White Pine County	State of Nevada	United States
Less Than High School Graduate	\$32,368	N/A	N/A	\$53,088	\$34,591	\$30,788
High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)	\$48,906	\$68,911	N/A	\$58,958	\$37,581	\$37,290
Some College or Associate's Degree	\$60,556	N/A	\$90,660	\$50,649	\$43,743	\$44,080
Bachelor's Degree	\$64,429	N/A	\$45,000	\$70,982	\$59,999	\$64,911
Graduate or Professional Degree	\$78,000	N/A	\$77,706	\$56,413	\$75,253	\$84,118
Total	\$54,963	\$67,813	\$75,765	\$56,241	\$44,247	\$50,145

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2022

The estimated annual median earnings for individuals aged 25 years of age and over for all of Elko County in 2022 regardless of educational attainment level was an estimated \$54,963 with individuals with a Graduate or Professional Degree educational attainment level earning the highest annual median earnings at an estimated \$78,000. For Eureka County, the estimated annual median earnings for individuals aged 25 years of age and over regardless of educational level was an estimated \$67,813 in 2022. Data for just High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) was available for Eureka County in 2022, with individuals with this educational attainment level earning an estimated annual median earnings of \$68,911. For Lander County, annual median earnings for Less Than High School Graduate and High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency) was not available in 2022. The estimated annual median earnings for individuals aged 25 years of age and over for all of Lander County in 2022 regardless of educational attainment level was an estimated \$75,765 with Some College or Associate's Degree earning and estimated annual median earnings of \$90,660. For White Pine County, the estimated annual median earnings for individuals aged 25 years of age or older regardless of educational attainment level was \$56,241 with individuals with a Bachelor's Degree educational attainment level earning \$70,982.

Statewide, the estimated annual median earnings for individuals aged 25 years of age and over for the entire state of Nevada in 2022 was an estimated \$44,247 regardless of educational attainment level with Graduate or Professional Degree earning an estimated annual median earnings of \$75,253. Nationwide, the estimated annual median earnings for individuals aged 25 years of age and over for the entire United States in 2022 was an estimated \$50,145 regardless of educational attainment level with Graduate or Professional Degree earning an estimated annual median earnings of \$84,118.

2.3.j Employment Status by Number of Hours Worked Per Week

Table 2.20 presents the employment status of individuals aged 16 years of age to 64 years of age by the estimated number of hours worked per week for counties within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region, including Elko County, Eureka County, Lander County, and White Pine County, for the entire state of Nevada, and for the entire United States in 2022. The single largest category of the number of hours worked per work for each geographic area are highlighted.

Table 2.20 – Work Status by Number of Hours Worked Per Week (Population 16 to 64 Years) Communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority 2022						
Usual Hours Worked	Elko County	Eureka County	Lander County	White Pine County	State of Nevada	United States
Usually Worked 35 or More Hours Per Week	21,824	434	2,060	3,271	1,237,926	130,445,327
Usually Worked 15 to 34 Hours Per Week	4,609	63	341	418	260,237	27,334,754
Usually Worked 1 to 14 Hours Per Week	720	59	93	95	61,664	7,879,678
Did Not Work	7,442	293	1,103	1,819	473,705	46,073,244
Total	34,595	849	3,597	5,603	2,033,532	211,733,003

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; 2022

In 2022, an estimated 21,824 total individuals aged 16 years of age to 64 years of age in just Elko County worked between 35 or more hours per week, accounting for an estimated 63.1 percent of the 34,595 total individuals aged 16 years of age to 64 years of age. For Eureka County, an estimated 434 total individuals worked between 35 or more hours per week, accounting for an estimated 51.1 percent of Eureka County's total population of 849 total individuals aged 16 years of age to 64 years of age in 2022. For Lander County, an estimated 2,060 total individuals worked between 35 or more hours per week, accounting for an estimated 57.3 percent of Lander County's total population of 3,597 total individuals aged 16 years of age to 64 years of age in 2022. In 2022, an estimated 3,271 total individuals aged 16 years of age to 64 years of age worked between 35 or more hours per week, accounting for approximately 58.4 percent of the countywide 16 years of age to 64 years of age total population.

Statewide, an estimated 1.2 million total individuals aged 16 years of age to 64 years of age worked, on average, between 35 or more hours per week, accounting for approximately 60.9 percent of the state of Nevada's total population of approximately 2.0 million total individuals aged 16 years of age to 64 years of age. Nationwide, an estimated 130.5 million total individuals living and working throughout the United States aged 16 years of age to 64 years of age worked

between 35 or more hours per week, accounting for approximately 61.6 percent of the nationwide total population of approximately 211.7 million total individuals aged 16 years of age to 64 years of age.

3.0 Revised Priorities and Strategic Goals for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority

As previously mentioned in this University Center for Economic Development technical report, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District is responsible for coordinating a broad range of economic development efforts across the region's four counties, including Elko County, Eureka County, Lander County, and White Pine County. As part of the development and the ongoing annual evaluation and update to the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and Northeastern Nevada Economic Development Districts current five-year, 2020 through 2025, Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, companion community-level and county-level Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy documents were developed for each individual county and for individual communities and population centers located within and throughout the northeastern Nevada region, each with a unique set of strategic economic development goals and priority issues. This section of this University Center for Economic Development technical report presents a summary of the primary issues and key trends identified for individual community and counties within the northeastern Nevada region as well as a revised set of strategic economic development goals for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority for the fourth year of implementation of this current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

3.1 Priority Issues and Key Trends for Individual Communities and Counties within the Northeastern Nevada Region

Between December 2023 and March 2024, as part of this third annual assessment and update to the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District's current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, University Center for Economic Development faculty and staff met with local community and county-level representatives to identify priority issues and key trends for individual communities and counties within the northeastern Nevada region. Over the next year, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District will further develop and implement strategies designed to address these priority issues and key trends.

3.1.a Elko County, the City of Elko, and the Community of Jackpot

As part of the efforts of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to address broad community and economic development goals for the broader northeastern Nevada region,

representatives from Elko County and the City of Elko identified four priority goals for the county and for the City of Elko specifically, including:

- ***Priority Goal No. 1, Elko County and City of Elko:*** Increase commercial air service to and from Salt Lake City, Utah and Reno, Nevada by 2025. To have two additional airlines servicing the Elko area with direct flights from and to Reno, Nevada by July 1, 2024
- ***Priority Goal No. 2, Elko County and City of Elko:*** Increase access to reliable Internet (at least 15 MBPS consistently) through the recruitment of an additional provider to serve the City of Elko. To bring fiber supported Internet to the City of Elko by December 2020.
- ***Priority Goal No. 3, Elko County and City of Elko:*** Reduce the percentage of the population living below the poverty line by 20.0 percent in the City of Elko by July 1, 2024.
- ***Priority Goal No. 4, Elko County and City of Elko:*** Develop and produce skilled laborers throughout the gambit of existing and potential industry.

Four specific priority goals for just the town of Jackpot, located in Elko County, were also developed during this third annual evaluation and update, including:

- ***Priority Goal No. 1, Town of Jackpot:*** Identify, prioritize, develop and complete needed infrastructure to support selected community and economic development efforts and provide for the necessary financial resources to complete selected infrastructure projects.
- ***Priority Goal No. 2, Town of Jackpot:*** Increase affordable housing for middle to low-income buyers by 5 percent through the use of assistance organization by 2024.
- ***Priority Goal No. 3, Town of Jackpot:*** Increase overall access to expanded basic and more advanced physical and mental healthcare services for community members within the next four years through active recruitment of potential healthcare providers and by promoting area outdoor and recreational activities and opportunities.
- ***Priority Goal No. 4, Town of Jackpot:*** Research, identify, and deploy a networked broadcast medium that will allow for rapid and extensive communications across the entire community of Jackpot that can be utilized primarily for emergency updates but also community updates.

As part of the comprehensive summary background and economic assessment completed for Elko County, the City of Elko, and for the town of Jackpot, four specific priority issues and key trends were identified for the county and these two communities, including:

- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 1, Elko County, City of Elko, and Town of Jackpot:*** **The population is growing modestly.** While most rural counties and communities

within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region experienced a decline in population levels over the past several years, the populations of the City of Elko and Elko County increased.

- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 2, Elko County, City of Elko, and Town of Jackpot: The median age remains relatively young.*** While the median age in counties and most communities across the northeastern Nevada region increased significantly, the City of Elko’s median age and that of Elko County was nearly flat, increasing just 0.3 percent and 2.3 percent respectively. Both remain well below state and national estimated medians in 2022.
- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 3, Elko County, City of Elko, and Town of Jackpot: Families are smaller in overall size.*** While the total number of households increased over the past few years, the City of Elko and Elko County have each experienced a decrease in household density. This could indicate an increase in smaller families or in single young people relocating to the region or in multi-generational households separating.
- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 4, Elko County, City of Elko, and Town of Jackpot: All income metrics increased and remained relatively high.*** For the City of Elko, median household income increased by 10.5 percent, median family income increased by 11.8 percent, and mean per capita income increased by 18.9 percent. For Elko County, median household income increased by 15.2 percent, median family income increased by 16.1 percent, and mean per capita income increased by 20.0 percent. While these metrics varied across the entire northeastern Nevada region, most of these income metrics were near or exceeded state and national metrics but grew at a lower rate.

A complete discussion regarding the summary background and economic assessment completed for Elko County, the City of Elko, and for the town of Jackpot is presented in UCED Technical Report 2023/24-24, *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Elko County, the City of Elko, and the Town of Jackpot, Nevada, 2020 through 2025*. For the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy elements for Elko County, the City of Elko, and for the town of Jackpot, UCED Technical Report 2023/24-24 is published on the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority’s website, <https://nnrda.com/>, and has been circulated among Strategy Committee Members and other key stakeholders. For the coming fourth year of implementation of these Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy elements for Elko County, the City of Elko, and for the town of Jackpot, Strategy Committee Members have decided to focus on advancing foundational public infrastructure, services, and workforce development as the top priorities followed by pursuing and completing needed improvements to the existing housing stock and business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion.

3.1.b City of Carlin, Part of Elko County

As part of the efforts of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to address broad community and economic development goals for the broader northeastern Nevada region, representatives from the City of Carlin identified six specific strategic economic development goals for the community, some with unique individual subparts, including:

- **Priority Goal No. 1, City of Carlin:** By July 1, 2024, the City of Carlin will be actively and progressively moving toward completion of needed and identified infrastructure improvements.
- **Priority Goal No. 2a, City of Carlin:** By July 1, 2024, identify, plan, develop and complete one senior housing and/or assisted living project.
- **Priority Goal No. 2b, City of Carlin:** By July 1, 2023, identify, plan, and develop at least one market-rate housing project.
- **Priority Goal No. 3a, City of Carlin:** By 2025, develop a framework of incentives to recruit targeted industries.
- **Priority Goal No. 3b, City of Carlin:** Develop a Community Development Corporation (CDC) or equivalent economic development organization (Board, Chamber, or Business Association) by July 1, 2025, to recruit targeted businesses.
- **Priority Goal No. 4, City of Carlin:** By July 1, 2024, complete at least one tourism-related project and/or initiative.
- **Priority Goal No. 5a, City of Carlin:** Identify and successfully recruit and open a reputable financial institution with full banking services that would serve Carlin by July 1, 2025.
- **Priority Goal No. 5b, City of Carlin:** Modify legislation so that a satellite pharmacy can be located in Carlin.
- **Priority Goal No. 6, City of Carlin:** Explore and adopt a workforce development program to ready students in Grade 9 through Grade 12 for high-demand occupations in northeastern Nevada.

As part of the comprehensive summary background and economic assessment completed for just the City of Carlin, five specific priority issues and key trends were identified for the community, including:

- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 1, City of Carlin:** **The population is trending younger.** Carlin's median age decreased, bucking trends across counties and most communities within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's region, and ending lower than state and national medians, which both increased during this period.

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- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 2, City of Carlin: Wages did not keep up with inflation.** Per capita income decreased significantly while most other communities and counties throughout the northeastern Nevada region increased. Per capita income for the entire state of Nevada and for the entire United States all saw significant increases. The poverty rate for the City of Carlin also increased during this period, indicating increasing difficulty in earning wages substantial enough to meet increasing living expenses.
 - **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 3, City of Carlin: Household income is shrinking.** Carlin was the only community within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's region that saw a decrease in median household income which landed it with the lowest median household income in the region. This decline also dropped median household income in Carlin below state and national medians.
 - **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 4, City of Carlin: The population remains stable.** While most communities and counties within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's region saw a decline in population, the total population for Elko County, the state of Nevada, and for the United States all increased. Carlin's population growth was marginal, essentially remaining stable.
 - **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 5, City of Carlin: Workers are returning.** With the City of Carlin's total population remaining stable, an increase in family income, an increase in the size of the workforce, and a decrease in unemployment could all indicate family members previously not working have returned to the workforce.

A complete discussion regarding the summary background and economic assessment completed for the City of Carlin is presented in UCED Technical Report 2023/24-23, *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the City of Carlin, Part of Elko County, Nevada, 2020 through 2025*. For the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy elements for City of Carlin, UCED Technical Report 2023/24-23 is published on the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's website, <https://nnrda.com/>, and has been circulated among Strategy Committee Members and other key stakeholders. For the coming fourth year of implementation of these Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy elements for the City of Carlin, Strategy Committee Members have decided to focus on completing additional public infrastructure, service, and facility projects as the top priorities followed by pursuing and completing needed improvements to the community's existing housing stock. Expanding and improving the community's overall economic development capacity, by creating new incentive programs and by establishing a new Community Development Corporation or similar organization for the City of Carlin, will also remain a top priority for the next year of implementation.

3.1.c City of Wells, Part of Elko County

As part of the efforts of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to address broad community and economic development goals for the broader northeastern Nevada region,

representatives from the City of Wells identified five specific strategic economic development goals for the community, including:

- ***Priority Goal No. 1, City of Wells:*** Recruit and open at least one company within a non-traditional industry that creates between 20 and 30 new jobs and investment between \$10 million and \$15 million in CAPEX by 2021.
- ***Priority Goal No. 2, City of Wells:*** Build 20 new quality housing units in Wells by December 2026 by utilizing incentive programs and training and a streamlined permitting process.
- ***Priority Goal No. 3, City of Wells:*** Enhance and expand infrastructure for new developments on the south side of U.S. Interstate 80 for existing residential lots.
- ***Priority Goal No. 4, City of Wells:*** Launch new dual enrollment construction and trades program at local high schools by August 2021.
- ***Priority Goal No. 5, City of Wells:*** Develop a Redevelopment Agency (RDA) property district within the City of Wells' city limits by the end of 2024.

As part of the comprehensive summary background and economic assessment completed for just the City of Wells, five specific priority issues and key trends were identified for the community, including:

- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 1, City of Wells:*** **The population is shrinking.** While most communities and counties within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region saw a decline in population, the population of the City of Wells decreased more quickly than most other geographies.
- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 2, City of Wells:*** **The population is trending older at a fast rate.** While the median age in communities and counties across the northeastern Nevada region increased, the median age for the City of Wells increased at the highest rate. The median age for the City of Wells was less than state and national medians in 2017 but was significantly higher than these medians in 2022.
- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 3, City of Wells:*** **There are fewer workers to go around.** As the community's population has decreased and the median age has increased, the City of Wells is also seeing a decrease in the number of individuals working or available to fill open and vacant positions. Coupled with a very low unemployment rate, this could indicate that anyone that wants to work is working, putting pressure on employers to find skilled workers to fill open positions or expand operations.
- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 4, City of Wells:*** **The remaining families are larger.** While the total number of households has decreased, the City of Wells has also experienced an increase in household density. This could indicate a decline in smaller

families or in single young people leaving, resulting in more larger families across fewer households.

- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 5, City of Wells:** All income metrics increased significantly. Median household income increased by 25.0 percent, median family income increased by 33.4 percent, and per capita income increased by 20.7 percent. While these metrics varied across the region, these various income metrics for the City of Wells were near or exceeded state and national metrics.

A complete discussion regarding the summary background and economic assessment completed for the City of Wells is presented in UCED Technical Report 2023/24-25, *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the City of Wells, Part of Elko County, Nevada, 2020 through 2025*. For the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy elements for City of Wells, UCED Technical Report 2023/24-25 is published on the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's website, <https://nnrda.com/>, and has been circulated among Strategy Committee Members and other key stakeholders. For the coming year of continued implementation of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the City of Wells, Strategy Committee Members have decided to focus on completing public infrastructure projects and expanding the community's housing stock. Expanding and improving the community's overall economic development capacity, by strengthening business development and by establishing a new Redevelopment Agency for the City of Wells, will also remain a top priority for the next year of implementation.

3.1.d City of West Wendover, Part of Elko County

As part of the efforts of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to address broad community and economic development goals for the broader northeastern Nevada region, representatives from the City of West Wendover identified six specific strategic economic development goals for the community, including:

- **Priority Goal No. 1, City of West Wendover:** Maintain and oversee the continued development of existing projects being conducted in West Wendover.
- **Priority Goal No. 2, City of West Wendover:** Within two years, recruit, open, and operate a 24 hour a day/7 day a week Urgent Care Facility with x-ray services, emergency services, family care services, OBGYN services, and dialysis services.
- **Priority Goal No. 3, City of West Wendover:** Expand access to workforce development programs in healthcare, construction, and entrepreneurship by partnering with Nevadaworks to increase industry credentialing, support services, and Adult Education onramps in the region in collaboration with Great Basin College and Western Nevada College. Enhance support for small business development and microenterprise as a career pathway by partnering with the Nevada Small Business Development Center, the University of Nevada, Reno, and Nevadaworks to expand access to counseling, capital, and government contracting in the region.

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- **Priority Goal No. 4, City of West Wendover:** Within two years, provide access to natural gas to replace expensive propane and increase reliability to encourage business development and lower costs.
 - **Priority Goal No. 5, City of West Wendover:** Within five years, increase the community's total population by 5.0 percent (over five years between year one and year five) benchmarked relative to existing income and wage levels (to ensure current levels in incomes and wages benchmarked to 2019 levels.)
 - **Priority Goal No. 6, City of West Wendover:** Within three years, develop and open a Rec Center with basketball courts, performance stage, indoor walking track, kitchen facility, weight room, exercise and yoga facilities, and a game room.

As part of the comprehensive summary background and economic assessment completed for just the City of West Wendover, five specific priority issues and key trends were identified for the community, including:

- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 1, City of West Wendover: The population is stable.** While most communities and counties throughout the northeastern Nevada region saw a decline in population, the population of West Wendover increased slightly.
- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 2, City of West Wendover: The population age jumped up but is still comparatively low.** While the median age in communities and counties throughout the northeastern Nevada region increased, West Wendover's median age increased more quickly than most. West Wendover's median age remained less than state and national medians 2022.
- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 3, City of West Wendover: There was a significant increase in the number of households, but household size decreased.** As the community's population remained relatively stable and the median age increased, West Wendover also saw a large increase in the number of households while household density decreased.
- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 4, West Wendover: There is noticeable volatility in the workforce.** While the size of the workforce increased, the poverty rate for the City of West Wendover decreased significantly. This, combined with increased income metrics, could indicate more higher-paying jobs are available. However, the increase in unemployment could also indicate there is a mismatch between skills and jobs for some individuals.
- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 5, West Wendover: All income metrics increased significantly.** Median household income increased by 66.0 percent, median family income increased by 66.6 percent, and per capita income increased by 27.4 percent.

While these metrics varied across the region, West Wendover's income metrics were near or far exceeded state and national metrics.

A complete discussion regarding the summary background and economic assessment completed for the City of West Wendover is presented in UCED Technical Report 2023/24-26, *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the City of West Wendover, Part of Elko County, Nevada, 2020 through 2025*. For the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy elements for City of West Wendover, UCED Technical Report 2023/24-26 is published on the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's website, <https://nnrda.com/>, and has been circulated among Strategy Committee Members and other key stakeholders. For the coming year of continued implementation of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the City of West Wendover, Strategy Committee Members have decided to focus on completing land acquisition and public infrastructure projects and strengthening the community's new Main Street.

3.1.e Eureka County

As part of the efforts of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to address broad community and economic development goals for the broader northeastern Nevada region, representatives from Eureka County identified four specific strategic economic development goals, each with a set of related sub goals, for the county, including:

- **Priority Goal No. 1, Eureka County:** Continue to pursue and complete community development related programs and projects designed to address emerging concerns ranging from infrastructure to housing to expanded primary and more advanced healthcare services.
 - **Priority Goal No. 1.1, Eureka County:** Collaborate with developers to build new multi-family housing options (apartments, duplex, 4-plex, etc.) and no less than ten new homes per year on county lots starting in 2019.
 - **Priority Goal No. 1.2, Eureka County:** Within five years, include two to seven medical services with urgent care, medical services, birthing center, receiving service, dental clinic, and assisted living and skilled nursing with hospice service to support the aging population of the county.
 - **Priority Goal No. 1.3 Eureka County:** Recruit light industry through the development of a fully functional rail siding/spur and/or Industrial Rail Park within Eureka County to accommodate the import of supplies and the export of products.
- **Priority Goal No. 2, Eureka County:** Continue to address water supply concerns and continue to work with existing private sector firms in primary industry sectors (agriculture and mining and natural resource extraction) to reduce water consumption in existing operations.

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- **Priority Goal No. 2.1, Eureka County:** Increase recharge to Diamond Valley alluvial aquifer from future mining: dewatering in the flow system.
 - **Priority Goal No. 3, Eureka County:** Promote and enhance Eureka County's tourism and outdoor recreation sector through new marketing efforts and related infrastructure, housing, new business creation and attraction strategies, and efforts to retain and expand existing businesses that directly support Eureka County's tourism and outdoor recreation sector.
 - **Priority Goal No. 3.1, Eureka County:** Increase tourism to maintain at least an 80.0 percent occupancy rate through 2025.
 - **Priority Goal No. 3.2, Eureka County:** Develop tourism potential with grants to develop historical resources.
 - **Priority Goal No. 3.3 Eureka County:** Promote and encourage the increase of short-term rental opportunities (Air BnB, Vrbo) within Eureka County to allow for more tourism lodging capacity.
 - **Priority Goal No. 4, Eureka County:** Support new business creation and attraction strategies and existing business retention efforts designed to support the continued growth and diversification of existing primary industry sectors (agriculture, mining, and natural resource extraction, and tourism and outdoor recreation) through the promotion of existing and emerging small business and entrepreneurial-based funding and technical assistance support services and through improved marketing efforts.
 - **Priority Goal No. 4.1, Eureka County:** Formulate a relationship with Nevada based Workforce Development Agencies (i.e. Nevadaworks) to establish a pathway/framework to address Eureka County Workforce gaps, both existing and those on the horizon.
 - **Priority Goal No. 4.2, Eureka County:** Develop an education campaign for local small businesses that make them aware of all financing opportunities within the state. (I-80 Fund, Nevada RISE).
 - **Priority Goal No. 4.3 Eureka County:** Create one large non-traditional industry (greater than \$250,000 CAPEX, creating an estimated 15 to 20 jobs) by December 2024.

As part of the comprehensive summary background and economic assessment completed for just Eureka County, five specific priority issues and key trends were identified for the community, including:

- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 1, Eureka County: The population and workforce are shrinking.** While most communities and counties within the northeastern Nevada

region saw a decline in workforce, Eureka County's workforce shrunk by the most individuals and the largest percentage of any other county, and the town of Eureka's workforce shrunk by the largest number of individuals and by the largest percentage decrease of any northeastern Nevada community. The workforce for the state of Nevada and the United States increased by 7.5 percent and 4.2 percent, respectively. While the population rate was also significant, it did not decline more rapidly than all other communities and counties within the northeastern Nevada region.

- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 2, Eureka County: The age trends are mixed.*** While Eureka County's median age increased slightly, by just 2.3 percent, it remains nearly ten years higher than state and national medians. However, Eureka County's median age decreased significantly, by 27.1 percent, and is now nearly five years younger than state and national medians.
- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 3, Eureka County: The remaining families are larger.*** While the number of households decreased, Eureka County and the town of Eureka have both also experienced an increase in household density. This could indicate a decline in smaller families or in single young people leaving, resulting in more larger families across fewer households.
- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 4, Eureka County: More cohabitating working adults.*** As with many other communities and counties within the northeastern Nevada region, Eureka County and the town of Eureka experienced an increase in median household income. However, median family income and per capita income bucked regional trends and declined between 2017 and 2022. This could indicate more non-related individuals are living together which would be representative of mining employment prevalent in the region.
- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 5, Eureka County: Increase in poverty.*** Though the rates of change varied significantly across the northeastern Nevada region, both Eureka County and the town of Eureka experienced significant increases in the poverty rate between 2017 and 2022, landing both well above state and national rates. In 2022, Eureka County had the highest poverty rate of any county within the northeastern Nevada region by nearly seven percentage points.

A complete discussion regarding the summary background and economic assessment completed for Elko County is presented in UCED Technical Report 2023/24-27, *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Eureka County, Nevada, 2020 through 2025*. For the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy elements for Eureka County, UCED Technical Report 2023/24-27 is published on the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's website, <https://nnrda.com/>, and has been circulated among Strategy Committee Members and other key stakeholders. For the coming year of continued implementation of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Eureka County, Strategy Committee Members have decided to focus on furthering the development of diverse housing, further the progress for the agricultural land transition in

southern Diamond Valley, and continue to engage the Nevada Main Street Program to secure funding for recreation and tourism. They will also continue to work with Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff to attract new businesses, including critical health and other service providers.

3.1.f Lander County

As part of the efforts of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to address broad community and economic development goals for the broader northeastern Nevada region, representatives from Lander County identified ten specific strategic economic development goals for the county, including:

- ***Priority Goal No. 1, Lander County:*** Complete the needed infrastructure for the Battle Mountain industrial park by 2022 to increase the overall size and capacity of the Battle Mountain industrial park by 20.0 percent.
- ***Priority Goal No. 2, Lander County:*** Attract an alternative financial institution to Battle Mountain to provide citizens with more banking options.
- ***Priority Goal No. 3, Lander County:*** Develop a store front enhancement plan to assist local businesses within the county with storefront and curbside appeal.
- ***Priority Goal No. 4, Lander County:*** Complete “Safe Routes to School” initiative providing safe sidewalks for students walking to and from school.
- ***Priority Goal No. 5, Lander County:*** Increase availability and access to basic and expanded healthcare services across Lander County within three years.
- ***Priority Goal No. 6, Lander County:*** Establish high-speed internet 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.
- ***Priority Goal No. 7, Lander County:*** Establish a new workforce development program that exposes trade skills to students in grade 6 through grade 12 with graduation program that creates five or more graduates annually by 2023 in partnership with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority, neighboring counties and communities in northeastern Nevada, and key educational institutions.
- ***Priority Goal No. 8, Lander County:*** Attract alternative agriculture manufacturing that creates and provides greater than ten new jobs at \$500,000 within five years.
- ***Priority Goal No. 9, Lander County:*** Provide broad technical and financial support for new small business and entrepreneurial-based development.

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- **Priority Goal No. 10, Lander County:** Establish an Amtrack stop in Battle Mountain.

As part of the comprehensive summary background and economic assessment completed for just Lander County, five specific priority issues and key trends were identified for the community, including:

- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 1, Lander County: The population and workforce generally flat.** While most communities and counties within the northeastern Nevada region saw a decline in the workforce, Lander County's population and workforce shrunk modestly, well below declining state and national rates. The number of households was also generally flat with household density shrinking modestly.
- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 2, Lander County: The population is aging quickly.** Lander County's population saw the largest rate of increase in the median age at 5.8 percent between 2017 and 2022. The median age of 40.0 years of age in 2022 was not the highest but was higher than state and national medians.
- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 3, Lander County: All income metrics increased and remained among the highest in the region.** Median household income in Lander County increased by 15.7 percent and median family income increased by 5.9 percent between 2017 and 2022. Per capita income increased 37.4 percent during this period, the highest rate of increase across the region and the only county within the northeastern Nevada region that increased more quickly than state and national increases. In 2022, with median household income at \$92,388, median family income at \$101,968, and per capita income at \$41,561, Lander County had the highest income of any county within the northeastern Nevada region and was the only county in the region to exceed all three state-level metrics.
- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 4, Lander County: Large increase in unemployment.** Although the town of Austin's high 2017 unemployment rate disappeared by 2022, Lander County and Battle Mountain saw large increases during this period, increasing by 53.9 percent and 63.5 percent, respectively. Lander County's countywide 11.7 percent unemployment rate in 2022 was nearly three times higher than any other county within the northeastern Nevada region.
- **Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 5, Lander County: Decrease in poverty.** Even with relatively high unemployment rates, Lander County saw a significant decrease in the poverty rate, ending lower than state and national rates in 2022. During this period, the town Austin saw a dramatic increase in the poverty rate from nearly nothing to more than 16.0 percent.

A complete discussion regarding the summary background and economic assessment completed for Lander County is presented in UCED Technical Report 2023/24-28, *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Lander County, Nevada, 2020 through 2025*. For the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy elements for Lander County, UCED Technical Report 2023/24-28 is published on the Northeastern Nevada

Regional Development Authority’s website, <https://nnrda.com/>, and has been circulated among Strategy Committee Members and other key stakeholders. For the coming year of continued implementation of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy elements for Lander County, Strategy Committee Memberes have decided to focus on advancing infrastructure, beautification, safety, and workforce development initiatives.

3.1.g White Pine County

As part of the efforts of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to address broad community and economic development goals for the broader northeastern Nevada region, representatives from White Pine County identified eight specific strategic economic development goals for the county, including:

- ***Priority Goal No. 1, White Pine County:*** Develop a community plan to address housing needs to provide housing, address blight, and assess needs.
- ***Priority Goal No. 2, White Pine County:*** Address outdated infrastructure and provide infrastructure that can be available for development including broadband, sewer, water, paving, rail, buildings and others.
- ***Priority Goal No. 3, White Pine County:*** Develop a comprehensive education plan that includes identifying employment gaps, working with other agencies to attract staff, develop a plan to increase and strengthen trade skills, partner with trade colleges, develop a parent education program, update existing primary Kindergarten through grade 12 school buildings, and address unused school facilities.
- ***Priority Goal No. 4, White Pine County:*** Working with the Main Street America Program revitalize the Ely downtown area.
- ***Priority Goal No. 5, White Pine County:*** Develop a comprehensive outdoor recreation and tourism plan to expand outdoor recreation accessibility and economic impact by developing outdoor businesses, services and events.
- ***Priority Goal No. 6, White Pine County:*** Develop a workforce plan to include partnerships with local industry, colleges and local high schools as well as trades recruitment or a trades educational program specific to housing needs.
- ***Priority Goal No. 7, White Pine County:*** Create a comprehensive broadband plan for White Pine County
- ***Priority Goal No. 8, White Pine County:*** Maintain and expand efforts related to securing water in White Pine County.

As part of the comprehensive summary background and economic assessment completed for just White Pine County, five specific priority issues and key trends were identified for the community, including:

- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 1, White Pine County: The population shrank rapidly.*** While most communities and counties in the northeastern Nevada region saw a decline in population and workforce, White Pine County's population shrank by the highest rate of any county within the community, by a percentage decrease of -8.7 percent. During the same period, the total number of households was nearly flat and the average household size decreased significantly.
- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 2, White Pine County: The population is aging quickly.*** White Pine County's population saw a significant increase in the median age, by 5.1 percent between 2017 and 2022. The median age of 41.4 years of age in 2022 was not the highest but was higher than state and national medians.
- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 3, White Pine County: All income metrics increased but generally more slowly than Nevada overall.*** Median household income in White Pine County increased by 18.1 percent and median family income increased by 34.8 percent between 2017 and 2022. Per capita income increased by 21.0 percent during this period. However, median family income surpassed the state's median and grew at a rate faster than the state's rate of increase for these metrics.
- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 4, White Pine County: Large decrease in unemployment.*** While remaining much lower than state and national rates, White Pine County's unemployment rate decreased from 6.2 percent in 2017 to 4.1 percent in 2022, a percentage decrease of -33.9 percent.
- ***Priority Issue and Key Trend No. 5, White Pine County: Decrease in poverty.*** White Pine County experienced a significant decrease in the poverty rate. While the 2017 rate of 13.0 percent and 2022 rate of 9.2 percent were both lower than the state and national rates, White Pine County's rate of decline was nearly three times that of the decline statewide.

A complete discussion regarding the summary background and economic assessment completed for White Pine County is presented in UCED Technical Report 2023/24-29, *The 2023 Annual Update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for White Pine County, Nevada, 2020 through 2025*. For the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy elements for Lander County, UCED Technical Report 2023/24-29 is published on the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's website, <https://nnrda.com/>, and has been circulated among Strategy Committee Members and other key stakeholders. For the coming year of continued implementation of the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for White Pine County, Strategy Committee Members have decided to focus on beautification, infrastructure development, education, revitalization, and tourism infrastructure.

3.2 The Regional Strategic Economic Development Vision

The existing strategic economic development vision, as initially developed during the development of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District's current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, is:

In order to overcome the impacts of a 'boom and bust' economic cycle, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will work to create sustainable economic growth through the promotion and support of the region's targeted industry sectors while building long-term capacity in select economic development capacity building areas.

While respecting and seeking to preserve each community's own values and culture and by working together, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will provide increased support and pursue increased expansion of the region's existing workforce, business community, and residential population through capacity building, business recruitment, expansion and retention efforts, and improved sustainable development.

Members of the Strategy Committee opted to keep the current strategic economic development vision statement for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority unchanged, noting that the current strategic economic development vision statement accurately reflects the desire of the region to create long-term sustainable economic growth through targeted community and economic development capacity building and through targeted business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion efforts in targeted industry sectors. These targeted industry sectors are an essential part of the region's desire to 'smooth' the 'boom and bust' economic cycle common among many of the region's historically important industry sectors such as agricultural production and mining and natural resource extraction. Strategy Committee Members also noted that the strategic economic development vision emphasizes the unique values and culture of the region's various local communities and counties, an emphasis underscored by the specific priority strategic goals and priority issues and trends outlined for these individual local communities and counties in this current five-year regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

3.3 Revised Regional Strategic Targeted Industry Sector Economic Development Goals and Priority Issues

On April 16, 2024, representatives of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District's Strategy Committee met with representatives from the University Center for Economic Development to evaluate and update the various individual strategic economic development goals of the current five-year regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. As part of this third annual evaluation and update, Strategy Committee Members significantly revised and reordered several of the existing strategic economic development goals and added several new strategic economic development

goals to reflect changing local and regional conditions, shifting priority areas, and new opportunities that have emerged since the initial development of this current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The revised strategic targeted industry sector economic development goals are divided into five specific sectors, including Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production, Agriculture, Healthcare, Aerospace and Defense, and Vocational Trades and Construction.

3.3.a Targeted Industry Sector Strategic Goals, Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District will pursue the achievement of five specific regional level targeted industry sector strategic goals for Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production. These five strategic economic development goals, including a description of current progress made in achieving them, specific actionable items that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will take to achieve them over the next year, and specific metrics for each individual strategic goal, are:

- ***Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production Goal No. 1:*** Each local and county within the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will increase their utilization of industrial zoned property by 20.0 percent by providing the essential infrastructure to support new business across other targeted industry sectors by 2022.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** Although a significant amount of work has been completed and efforts are ongoing, no new acreage has been added to the region's industrial property portfolio.

Actionable Items: The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and partner communities will continue to work on projects begun in 2022; specifically, White Pine County Industrial Park expansion, Carlin Industrial Park, Wells Industrial Park, West Wendover Industrial Park expansion, and the Lander Rail Park.

Metrics: Number of additional acres brought online for additional industrial development.

- ***Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production Goal No. 2:*** Increase wholesale trade for mining and natural resource extraction upstream and downstream within the industry's supply chain by 25.0 percent by December 2024.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** In 2023, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority held meetings with various mining and natural resource extraction supply chain professionals to develop a concept that would allow for the capture and analysis of supply chain 'gap' information for the northeastern Nevada region first, then throughout the state of Nevada. Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff formulated,

designed and, in December, launched an online tool named ‘Nevada Silver Link’ that allows input from the mining industry as well as provide potential goods and services providers a platform to review industry demands and needs. To date, minimal input into the ‘Nevada Silver Link’ regardless of the attempts by the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to incentivize and encourage stakeholder participation.

Actionable Items: Continue to commit to administering, maintaining, and promoting the ‘Nevada Silver Link’ platform into 2024.

Metrics: Number of participants and data collected by the ‘Nevada Silver Link’ platform.

- ***Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production Goal No. 3:*** Increase mining and natural resource extraction related supply chain companies by 20.0 percent and open “bricks and mortar” locations by 2022.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** MineConnect USA came to an end in 2023 and did not yield any major developments for the northeastern Nevada region. Selected companies reported the securement of contracts, but none reported the actual expansion or relocation of their operations. GIS Prospector reports that mining and natural resource extraction companies have increased from 38 total firms to 42 total firms in the region but overall revenue has decreased from \$531.0 million to \$405.0 million and total employment has been reduced from 3,477 total individuals to 2,846 total individuals. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority launched ‘Nevada Silver Link’ in 2023, an effort to establish an industry driven supply chain gap analysis and procurement tool. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority was also able to generate commitments from both MineConnect Canada and the Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development to providing funding for prospective companies who establish a physical footprint in the northeastern Nevada region because of the ‘Nevada Silver Link’ program.

Actionable Items: Actionable Items: Continue to commit to administering, maintaining, and promoting the ‘Nevada Silver Link’ platform into 2024. Identify specific actionable items that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority can take in partnership with the recently established Nevada Lithium Batteries and Other Electric Vehicles Regional Technology and Innovation Hub (Nevada Tech Hub) as the Nevada Tech Hub begins operations on October 1, 2024. The Nevada Tech Hub’s overarching goals are to create 3,000 new businesses and expand 2,000 existing businesses in the state’s emerging lithium batteries, critical elements, and other electric vehicles industry sector from extraction to processing to advanced manufacturing to recycling.

Metrics: Baseline metrics include 38 individual businesses, 3,477 total individuals employed, and an estimated \$531.0 million in annual industry revenue. Number of participants and data collected by the ‘Nevada Silver Link’ platform.

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- ***Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production Goal No. 4:*** Each part of the northeastern Nevada region will increase their utilization of industrial zoned property by 20.0 percent by providing the essential infrastructure to support new mining and natural resource extraction industry sector related business by 2022.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** A lot of work was completed in 2023 as part of the effort to increase the overall inventory of industrial zoned property. Unfortunately, few tangible results have been realized. Lander County is, however, ready to create a deal with private sector parties that will increase overall property by no less than 250 acres while the City of West Wendover has nearly completed their approximately 5,000 acre federal land transfer deal.

Actionable Items: Continue to provide direct technical assistance to both Lander County and the City of West Wendover to complete both initiatives as outlined above.

Metrics: Baseline metrics include 361 total acres of available industrial zoned land within the region (including zero total acres for Lander County, zero total acres for Eureka County, 199 total acres for the City of Carlin, zero total acres for the City of Elko, 65 total acres for the City of Wells, seven total acres for the City of West Wendover, and 90 total acres for White Pine County).

- ***Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production Goal No. 5:*** Increase total local processing and utilization (i.e. making batteries and additional value-added production) of mined and extracted materials, metals, and minerals by 15.0 percent by December 2024.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** In October 2023, Silver Elephant Mining reported the delivery of their Record of Decision (ROD) provided by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. Company representatives are continuing to work with stakeholders and investors to move the project forward. Silver Elephant Mining's vanadium deposit will be another valuable resource as part of the state's efforts to further develop a comprehensive lithium batteries, critical elements, and other electric vehicle materials industry sector, part of the federal government's current focus on national security, climate mitigation, and economic diversification. Silver Elephant Mining's mining facility located in Eureka County is expected to be the first and only 'off grid' self-sufficient mining operation in the world.

Surge Battery Metals recently reported significant lithium grade deposits in the northeastern Nevada region, just southeast of Jackpot, Nevada in Elko County. Surge Battery Metals 'Nevada Northern Lithium Project' is reporting one of the highest lithium grade deposits ever discovered with a resource grade calculation of 3,437 ppm. Comparatively, Lithium America's Thacker Pass project has a reserve/inventory grade of 3,160 ppm. Despite declining global lithium prices, the 'Nevada Northern Lithium Project' is a major opportunity for the northeastern Nevada region to continue to build

upon and further diversify its existing mining and natural resource extraction industry sector.

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority responded to nine separate RFI's (request for information) in 2023 that were directly related to lithium extraction, green energy production, recycling, and energy storage. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority is hopeful that the 'Nevada Silver Link' program will yield more results moving forward regarding value-added mining opportunities throughout the region.

Actionable Items: Continue to commit to administering, maintaining, and promoting the 'Nevada Silver Link' platform into 2024. Identify specific actionable items that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority can take in partnership with the recently established Nevada Lithium Batteries and Other Electric Vehicles Regional Technology and Innovation Hub (Nevada Tech Hub) as the Nevada Tech Hub begins operations on October 1, 2024. The Nevada Tech Hub's overarching goals are to create 3,000 new businesses and expand 2,000 existing businesses in the state's emerging lithium batteries, critical elements, and other electric vehicles industry sector from extraction to processing to advanced manufacturing to recycling.

Metrics: Amount of critical elements, metals, and minerals extracted in the northeastern Nevada region that are further processed and refined within the region. Number of new firms engaged in critical element extraction and processing. Number of new firms engaged in advanced manufacturing and recycling and operating within the lithium battery, critical elements, and other electric vehicle industry sector.

The Wholesale Trade, Supply Chain, and Value-Added Production targeted industry sector strategic goal area is relatively new for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and consists of several new strategic goals as well as strategic goals that had been part of a separate Mining targeted industry sector strategic goal area. This new targeted industry sector strategic goal area will better focus the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion efforts over the next year across a wide variety of directly and indirectly related industry sectors. Strategy Committee Members expressed their support for local communities and counties within the region to work with the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to identify and expand available industrial zoned land to support business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion efforts designed to support the closure of identified 'gaps' in existing supply chains in the region's existing industry sectors and to support additional value-added production.

3.3.b Targeted Industry Sector Strategic Goals, Agriculture

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District will pursue the achievement of four specific regional level targeted industry sector strategic goals for Agriculture. These four strategic economic development goals, including a description of current progress made in achieving them, specific

actionable items that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will take to achieve them over the next year, and specific metrics for each individual strategic goal, are:

- ***Agriculture Goal No. 1:*** Create five new agricultural product processing facilities within the region over four years by 2024.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** Devils Gate Ranch Meat Processing Plant in Elko County has received their final permits for water and construction and are planning to begin construction in 2024. Silver Lion Farms has begun their application process with the Nevada Cannabis Compliance Board to secure associated medical cannabis licensing. Wolf Pack Meats has recently resumed their operations in another part of the state, limiting their efforts to relocate their current facility to a location within the northeastern Nevada region. Smaller farming operations throughout the region, including Four Stones Farms in Spring Creek, Nevada, produce and provide access to fresh produce and canned products. Four Stones Farms have received associated certificates including, but not limited to, Nursey Stock License, Craft Food Certificate, Produce Food Safety Basics, Farm2Food Accelerator Program, and Food Safety Manager Certification. In April 2024, Elko County was ranked No. 4 in the nation by Drovers.com for most beef cows by county, indicating that the northeastern Nevada region continues to be a powerhouse in beef production and supply.

Actionable Items: Continue to advocate on behalf of local and regional agricultural producers to local, state, and federal licensing and regulatory agencies. Work with local and regional producers to identify new markets for their goods and services. Provide assistance on expanded certification efforts with local and regional agricultural producers.

Metrics: Number of new agricultural processing facilities opened within the region.

- ***Agriculture Goal No. 2:*** Identify new value-added diversified crop production, waste repurposing, and additional value-added opportunities for farmers in the region by December 2022.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority revised its approach to further implementation of this goal in 2023. Specifically, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority completed an examination of how currently produced agricultural products could help bolster existing industries or emerging industry sectors in the region. Given the currently high costs of coconut carbon shipping (approx. \$1,800/container in 2018 to approx. \$25,000/container in 2022), an effort was undertaken to examine whether hemp biomass could provide same or relatively close chemistry as to what is required from coconut in mining milling and autoclave processing. Researchers at the Mackey School of Mines at the University of Nevada, Reno were provided samples from Silver Lion Farms that could be analyzed to determine the feasibility of using hemp biomass as a substitute for coconut stock. Unfortunately, this research proved that hemp biomass produced in the region would not

serve as an effective substitute for coconut stock in mining milling and autoclave processing.

Actionable Items: Work with industry and emerging industry sector leaders within the region and in other parts of the state of Nevada to identify ‘gaps’ that could potentially be filled through increased agricultural production in the northeastern Nevada region. Continue to work with local and regional agricultural producers to identify ‘gaps’ in their supply chain and value network and help them to encourage further upstream value-added production. Continue to work with researchers and agricultural producers to identify opportunities to recapture agricultural production waste for new value-added production.

Metrics: Number of new value-added agricultural production efforts undertaken within the region by existing and new agricultural producers.

- **Agriculture Goal No. 3:** Increase sole proprietors growing or processing foods for sale to retail customers from 100.0 percent to 200.0 percent in the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region by December 2022.

Progress Made: **In Progress.** The continued development of Four Stones Farms has increased locally sourced processed foods within the region by 25.0 percent.

Actionable Items: Continue to work with small to medium-sized sole proprietors to assist in expanding operations. Work with local and regional retailers and wholesale distributors to encourage ‘buy local’ campaigns of locally grown and processed foods. Partner with state agencies, including the Nevada Department of Agriculture and the Nevada Department of Business and Industry, as well as the Nevada Small Business Development Center, to increase technical and financial assistance to locally and regionally based sole proprietors.

Metrics: Baseline metrics include four businesses providing goods to retail customers and three existing steady businesses.

- **Agriculture Goal No. 4:** Partner with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other agriculture associations (Wool Growers, Nevada Cattlemen, etc.) to determine how to support and promote locally grown foods and agriculture products.

Progress Made: **New Goal.** In 2023, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority began working with U.S. Department of Agriculture representatives in Nevada, as well with various agriculture associations such as Wool Growers and the Nevada Cattlemen, to develop a strategy designed to enhance the number of locally grown foods and agriculture products produced within the region. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority has begun work on developing informational material for these resources that can be provided to local and regional agricultural producers.

Actionable Items: Continue to develop informational material for local and regional agricultural producers. Work with federal and state government representatives (U.S. Department of Agriculture, Nevada Department of Agriculture, and the Nevada Department of Business and Industry) to identify ‘barriers’ within the region to increasing locally grown foods and agriculture products and design strategy to address these barriers.

Metrics: Barriers identified and addressed that currently inhibit or limit the production and value-added processing of locally grown foods and agricultural products.

Over the next year, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority, based upon the review and recommendations provided by the Strategy Committee, will refocus its efforts on Agriculture by addressing ongoing regulatory barriers that have impeded the production and value-added processing of locally grown foods and related agricultural products. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will also continue to identify ‘gaps’ in the region’s agricultural industry sector, both in-terms of the downstream and upstream parts of the industry sector’s current supply chain and value network. Working with partner organizations, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will also continue to support new research and development efforts designed to identify new agricultural production opportunities for locally grown foods and other locally and regionally produced agricultural goods and services.

3.3.c Targeted Industry Sector Strategic Goals, Healthcare

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District will pursue the achievement of three specific regional level targeted industry sector strategic goals for Healthcare. These three strategic economic development goals, including a description of current progress made in achieving them, specific actionable items that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will take to achieve them over the next year, and specific metrics for each individual strategic goal, are:

- **Healthcare Goal No. 1:** Partner with urban health care systems to bring specialized medicine to rural communities within the northeastern Nevada region, including women's health, senior living, and cancer treatment in the next five years.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** Significant progress has been made on expanding general and more specialized healthcare services throughout the region. As detailed in the 2022 annual review of and update to the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority’s current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, a new 30,000 square foot Community Health Center campus has completed the design phase. This facility will include three new operating rooms, two procedure rooms, a catheterization lab, and 15 pre- and post-recovery beds which will provide a broad range of medical and surgical services in northeastern Nevada. A dedicated space will host on-site programming coordinated by Community Health Development Partners partner non-profit, the Community Health Development Foundation. This space will serve as a hub for the Elko community, offering health and wellness-related educational classes, free

health screenings, and meeting space for an advisory board that is comprised of local patients.

Construction continues on the Battle Mountain Hospital, enhancing overall capacity and access to healthcare services for Lander County residents. Grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Central Provident Fund have been secured to develop a community and health center in Austin, Nevada with construction planned to start in 2025. The Battle Mountain Health Clinic has been completed. A Lander County Health Board was created, with the addition of a Clander County Health Officer. The telemedicine component of the original goal was completed with assistance from Nevada Health Centers.

An infusion clinic has opened in Eureka as of 2023 and is currently being provided by a current Eureka-based provider. Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and Eureka County staff will continue to promote and encourage the development of specialized services within the community and county. Eureka County is currently working with a dentist based in Elko County to establish a new dental care practice in Eureka.

Intermountain Health has had several meetings with the City of West Wendover and has expressed interest in collaborating with Nevada Health Centers to bring healthcare service specialists to the area to accommodate specific community needs. This would allow Intermountain Health access to Nevada Health Centers' client base. These discussions and negotiations are ongoing. Intermountain Health has also partnered with the City of Wells and has re-opened their community clinic, offering mental health services, telemedicine, and MEDEX services. This addition to the community has already brought much-needed medical services (both local and remote) to the residents of the City of Wells. Intermountain Health is also completing an environmental study for a property in the City of Elko to determine the feasibility of a new facility.

The Goshute Tribe operates a health care company (Sacred Circle Healthcare) that has expressed interest in entering the City of West Wendover's market. This has been part of their efforts for the past two years with no major action yet taken. Approximately \$350,000 has been invested in new digital X-Ray machines for the Nevada Health Centers facility.

Actionable Items: Continue to support the efforts outlined above. Work with local, regional, and state partners to continue to identify 'gaps' in the healthcare infrastructure of the region. Begin identification of potential new business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion strategy development designed to address 'gaps' that have and continue to emerge in the region's healthcare industry sector.

Metrics: Number and type of new specialized healthcare services provided within the region.

-
- **Healthcare Goal No. 2:** Establish a medical health educational and behavioral facility fully staffed by 2021.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** Northeastern Nevada Regional Hospital is currently constructing a 16-bed inpatient behavioral health wing that is scheduled to open in the fall of 2024. Great Basin College has been instrumental in providing resources and a workforce for all medical, and specifically mental health, providers within the region.

Actionable Items: Continue to work with local, regional, and state partners to further identify behavioral healthcare needs within the region and continue to work with local, regional, and state partners to expand healthcare services in this area.

Metrics: A fully completed medical health educational and behavioral facility that is fully staffed.

- **Healthcare Goal No. 3:** Work with regional healthcare providers to prepare a study of cost comparisons in rural Nevada areas without larger medical facilities within two years.

Progress Made: ***Not Started.***

Actionable Items: Work with local and regional healthcare providers to design and complete a cost comparison study for the northeastern Nevada region. This effort has been difficult given the unique cost and pricing structures of individual healthcare providers and the proprietary nature of the data needed to complete this type of study.

Metrics: A completed study with clear cost comparisons identified.

Strategy Committee Members highlighted the tremendous progress that has been made over the past year in developing the physical infrastructure of the region's broader healthcare industry sector. New facilities already completed have significantly increased the overall quality, breadth, and level of access to various healthcare services that regional residents have and continued construction of new facilities will further improve this access. Strategy Committee Members noted that continued improvement and growth of the region's Healthcare industry sector is an essential part of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's efforts to sustainably grow the region's existing economic base and to retain and attract existing and new workers needed to fill currently vacant positions and new positions that will be created through increased business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion efforts. Over the next year, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will continue to work with local, regional, and state partners to ensure the successful completion of existing projects already underway and to identify additional 'gaps' in the sector's overall value network.

3.3.d Targeted Industry Sector Strategic Goals, Aerospace and Defense

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District will pursue the achievement of two specific regional level targeted industry sector strategic goals for Aerospace and Defense. These two strategic economic development goals, including a description of current progress made in achieving them, specific actionable items that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will take to achieve them over the next year, and specific metrics for each individual strategic goal, are:

- ***Aerospace and Defense Goal No. 1:*** Identify and highlight regional assets that can be marketed to businesses and government entities specializing in and catering to the Aerospace and Defense industry sector.

Progress Made: ***New Goal.*** No measurable progress has been made on this specific goal as the goal was developed and added to this current Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy at the end of 2023.

Actionable Items: Inventory existing regional assets (natural, business, workforce, etc.) that can be used to support broad business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion efforts in this industry sector. Work with local and regional partners to develop and implement a marketing campaign designed to attract new business and support existing businesses by identifying potential markets for goods and services produced locally and within the region.

Metrics: Inventory of existing regional assets that can be used to support business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion efforts in this specific industry sector.

- ***Aerospace and Defense Goal No. 2:*** Recruit or support the establishment of a private business venture that caters to or specializes in Aerospace, Department of Defense, or National Security Agency support.

Progress Made: ***New Goal.*** No measurable progress has been made on this specific goal as the goal was developed and added to this current Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy at the end of 2023. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority did actively support the creation of the Nevada Lithium Batteries and Other EV Materials Regional Technology and Innovation Hub (being led by the University of Nevada, Reno and the University Center for Economic Development).

Actionable Items: Identify targeted firms for advanced business attraction efforts. Working with state partners, including the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development and the recently established Nevada Lithium Batteries and Other EV Materials Regional Technology and Innovation Hub (Nevada Tech Hub), to develop a strategy to support business attraction within the region that meets state and Nevada Tech Hub goals.

Metrics: Number of private sector firms created, attracted, retained, or expanded that operate within this specific industry sector.

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority region has a rich and long history in the Aerospace and Defense industry sector. The region's mining and natural resource extraction industry sector is a major producer of critical elements, metals, and minerals used in aerospace and defense production and the region's valuable natural resources will become an even greater contributor to national security and defense goals of producing domestically sources critical elements including gold and copper. The Strategy Committee has decided to create this new targeted industry sector goal area to better align the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's efforts with state and national level national security and defense objectives. Over the next year, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will continue to position the region as a major contributor to these national security and defense objectives and strategically develop targeted business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion efforts to ensure the continued growth and diversification of the Aerospace and Defense industry sector throughout the region.

3.3.e Targeted Industry Sector Strategic Goals, Vocational Trades and Construction

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District will pursue the achievement of five specific regional level targeted industry sector strategic goals for Vocational Trades and Construction. These five strategic economic development goals, including a description of current progress made in achieving them, specific actionable items that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will take to achieve them over the next year, and specific metrics for each individual strategic goal, are:

- ***Vocational Trades and Construction Goal No. 1:*** Work with local educators (high school, junior college, etc.) to implement and enhance vocational skills training programs to grow local community talent pools by 5.0 percent over the next five years.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff have engaged Nevadaworks and their associated teams in an effort to bring additional workforce development expertise to the effort of enhancing vocational skills training programs in the region. Dr. Alexandria Wrigth (WestED) and Angie Van Drielen have participated in efforts by the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to expand programming throughout the region, have provided insight, and have assisted the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority in exploring new opportunities.

Actionable Items: To counter historically low levels of participation among targeted demographic groups, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will continue to work with key local, regional, and state partners and stakeholders to identify new ways to increase interest and overall participation in workforce development programs.

Metrics: Number of new vocational skills training programs created. Number of individuals who successfully complete offered vocational skills training programs created and placed in targeted industry and occupation sector positions throughout the region.

- ***Vocational Trades and Construction Goal No. 2:*** Establish thriving special trades programs in every community within the region by increasing the number of students and adults that reach graduation and achieve job placement by 50.0 percent by 2021.

Progress Made: ***Paused.*** Increasing participation in programs such as BuildNV Core has been difficult to maintain. Until local and regional stakeholders can achieve success with at least one program, it is likely that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will refrain from introducing new programs to the region.

Actionable Items: ***Paused.*** No actionable items will be planned for the next year of implementation of this current Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for this specific goal.

Metrics: Number of special trades programs. Number of new special trades programs created. Number of individuals who successfully complete offered special trades programs created and placed in targeted industry and occupation sector positions throughout the region.

- ***Vocational Trades and Construction Goal No. 3:*** Develop vocational and construction training programs to support a 20.0 percent increase in the region’s workforce by 2022.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** In White Pine County, surveys have been completed to determine specific workforce development needs in the county. White Pine County stakeholders reported that the White Pine County School District currently rates at approximately 60.0 percent of the state level. Stakeholders would like to see this much higher. A market study and feasibility study provided the U.S. Economic Development Administration has been completed for the Trails Building Institute, at an estimated cost of approximately \$250,000. There is and will be an opportunity to leverage the Nevada Good Jobs award to enhance existing and bring new programs to the area. Nevadaworks is currently seeking an instructor for the Great Basin College Commercial Driver License classes offered in White Pine County. Securing faculty for this program continues to be a challenge.

In Lander County, little to no progress has been made in developing skills trade programs for construction. However, Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff received an update from the Lander County School District, indicating that two more Career Technical Education courses are preparing to be launched as part of the Battle Mountain High School’s Electrical and Welding courses. The first, a Business Marketing course, will be designed and revolve around a licensed embroidery and screen printing business and a “Teachers in Training” course will prepare prospective students for a career as an educator. Lander County School District representatives indicated that there

would not be any further interest in standing up new Career Technical Education courses until those existing and planned courses have been launched and additional capacity to accommodate another independent program can be developed. Fortunately, the Battle Mountain High School Agriculture program has seen enrollment increase from 96 total students in 2021-2022 to 139 total students in 2023-2024, demonstrating an increased interest in skilled trade activities.

Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff introduced the Battle Mountain High School Principal, Kevin Lords, to representatives from the Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation, and Technology to get the Battle Mountain High School designated a STEM School. The Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation, and Technology offers a \$25,000 grant to stand up programs in STEM related fields. The application deadline for this grant funding is in early December.

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority has engaged with Nevadaworks to bring programming subsidized through the U.S. Economic Development Administration's sponsored Good Jobs Northern Nevada initiative to the entire northeastern Nevada region. System design and planning phases have been completed, with Nevadaworks receiving U.S. Economic Development Administration approval to move to Phase 3 of implementation in December 2023.

Actionable Items: Provide direct assistance and support to White Pine County to ensure completion of the Trails Building Institute. Assist the Lander County School District and the Battle Mountain High School in completing its designation as a STEM School and provide additional assistance in the application of a \$25,000 grant from the Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation, and Technology. Continue to engage with Nevadaworks on continued implementation of Phase 3 of the Good Jobs Northern Nevada initiative. Continue to work with local and regional partners to identify specific vocational and construction workforce development needs, including program development and job placement.

Metrics: Number of vocational and construction training programs. Number of new vocational and construction training programs created. Number of individuals who successfully complete offered vocational and construction training programs created and placed in targeted industry and occupation sector positions throughout the region.

- ***Vocational Trades and Construction Goal No. 4:*** Identify workforce needs at the local community and regional levels and partner with education partners and providers to train the future workforce needed for the next five years.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** The University of Nevada, Reno's new Mining Center of Excellence continues to make progress in expanding its operation in Elko, Nevada and Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff continue to assist and provide insights to Center faculty and staff as requested. The Center's dual credit high

school program was approved in August 2023 and will be available for high school juniors and seniors in Elko County and Lander County beginning in August 2024.

Actionable Items: Continue to provide assistance and input to the Mining Center of Excellence as requested. Continue to work with industry representatives and stakeholders to further identify existing and emerging workforce development needs.

Metrics: Number of workers trained and placed in targeted industry sectors.

- ***Vocational Trades and Construction Goal No. 5:*** Develop and implement a regional approach with mining and natural resource extraction industry partners; partner with the mining and natural resource extraction industry sector and various educational partners to recruit a workforce; develop a recruiting process within the mining and natural resource extraction industry sector to meet the workforce demand for the next five years.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** Similar to Vocational Trades and Construction Goal No. 4, the University of Nevada, Reno's new Mining Center of Excellence continues to make progress in expanding its operation in Elko, Nevada and Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff continue to assist and provide insights to Center faculty and staff as requested. The Center's dual credit high school program was approved in August 2023 and will be available for high school juniors and seniors in Elko County and Lander County beginning in August 2024. Workforce housing remains a significant barrier to developing a successful regional approach to developing a robust supply of workers for the mining and natural resource extraction industry.

Actionable Items: As the availability of housing remains a key barrier to retaining available workers and to attracting new workers to the region, especially, in the mining and natural resource extraction industry sector, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will continue to work with industry representatives and various other local, regional, and state government partners and stakeholders to develop a sustainable source of new housing. Continue to work with representatives of the mining and natural resource extraction industry sector to identify existing and emerging workforce development needs specific to this key industry sector.

Metrics: Number of new workforce housing developed. Number of workers trained and placed in existing and new positions within the mining and natural resource extraction industry sector.

Workforce development remains a major barrier to pursuing a wider range of targeted economic development efforts. The region's relatively low unemployment rate, combined with a general stagnation (in some cases decline) of the region's population and civilian workforce, has made it increasingly difficult to retain and recruit workers to fill open and vacant positions as well as new positions that will likely be created because of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion efforts. The various Vocational Trades and Construction strategic goals are designed to address these various

workforce development challenges. Strategy Committee Members opted to move two strategic goals that had been part of a separate Mining targeted industry sector goal area into the Vocational Trades and Construction targeted industry sector strategic goal area to better align the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's efforts with industry needs and partner and stakeholder efforts.

3.4 Revised Regional Strategic Economic Development Capacity Building Goals and Priority Issues

On April 16, 2024, representatives of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District's Strategy Committee met with representatives from the University Center for Economic Development to evaluate and update the various individual strategic economic development goals of the current five-year regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. As part of this third annual evaluation and update, Strategy Committee Members significantly revised and reordered several of the existing strategic economic development goals and added several new strategic economic development goals to reflect changing local and regional conditions, shifting priority areas, and new opportunities that have emerged since the initial development of this current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The revised strategic economic development capacity building goals are divided into five unique areas, including Housing and Development, Infrastructure Development, Marketing and Attraction, Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and Education and Training.

3.4.a Economic Development Capacity Building Strategic Goals, Housing and Development

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District will pursue the achievement of three specific regional level economic development capacity building strategic goals for Housing and Development. These three strategic economic development goals, including a description of current progress made in achieving them, specific actionable items that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will take to achieve them over the next year, and specific metrics for each individual strategic goal, are:

- ***Housing and Development Goal No. 1:*** Identify and develop incentives for builders of housing for all income brackets of up to \$50,000 by December 2020; develop a regional assessment for housing needs to use as a marketing tool for developers in two years.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** In January 2023, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority published a housing development initiative named, "Nevada Red Zone". This proposal provides a comprehensive framework by which 'at-risk' and 'distressed' census tracts within the state can be identified and selected for potential building and development incentives. Potential incentives that were proposed include: reciprocating licensures, prevailing wage waivers, bid limit waivers, bond flexibility, modular home install waivers, code flexibility, and funding from the unappropriated

dollars associated with the Home Means Nevada ARPA fund. In December of 2023, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority had the proposal professionally designed and printed, sending it to various stakeholders across the state. Almost immediately, the proposal generated significant interest with various organizations such as the Rural Housing Authority and the Affordable Housing Coalition along with rural state legislatures expressing their support for the proposal. Mr. Fitzgerald of Koinonia Construction has indicated that a focus group of local construction companies are planning to assemble to identify specific building challenges in an effort to pass along information to local and state regulatory agencies.

Local and regional stakeholders have indicated that they would like to see more education programs dedicated to highlighting the potential incentive programs for local communities, i.e. Foreign Trade Zones, tax increment financing districts, etc. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority has a presentation ready to be presented for such an event.

Actionable Items: Continue to meet with state stakeholders to establish a pathway by which the “Nevada Red Zone” initiative can become a reality. Begin implantation of the specific strategies outlined in the “Nevada Red Zone” initiative. Develop and conduct a regional educational session focused on highlighting the use of potential incentive programs to support sustainable housing development throughout the region.

Metrics: Number of incentives developed as part of the “Nevada Red Zone” initiative. Number of housing developers that have utilized future incentive programs and the number of new housing units built and brought to market through the use of targeted incentive programs.

- ***Housing and Development Goal No. 2:*** Development of multi-family housing for 300 families (units) by 2024.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** Over the past year, Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff have met with several developers and builders with the potential of building approximately 40 new homes to be built in the town of Jackpot, Nevada and for approximately ten new homes to be built in the City of Ely, Nevada. No solid commitments have yet to be realized at this time.

Actionable Items: Continue to work with developers and builders to complete proposed new housing development projects for Jackpot and Ely. Additional meetings with potential developers and builders to determine opportunities for new housing (specifically multi-family housing) development opportunities in underserved communities located throughout the region.

Metrics: Number of new multi-family housing units built and delivered to the market.

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- **Housing and Development Goal No. 3:** Increase new home starts determined by identified need in each community located within the region; percentage to vary based on each individual community.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** Unfortunately, the proposed Carlin Senior Housing project developed in 2022 has not been completed and is not likely to for the foreseeable future. Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff continue to engage with various developers and builders. Several individual housing developers and builders have indicated that, not only is housing construction generally more expensive in more rural non-metropolitan areas, recent inflationary pressures and rising interest rates have made new housing construction practically impossible.

Actionable Items: Continue to meet with prospective housing developers and builders to identify cost-effective ways of building new housing that satisfies local and regional housing needs. Work collaboratively with state government partners and stakeholders as well as local and county governments throughout the region to identify ways in which local governments, county governments, and state government agencies could potentially assist in the lowering of construction costs.

Metrics: Number of new housing starts.

Housing will be the primary economic development capacity building focus area for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority for the coming year. Strategy Committee members noted that the lack of available and affordable housing throughout the region

3.4.b Economic Development Capacity Building Strategic Goals, Infrastructure Development

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District will pursue the achievement of six specific regional level economic development capacity building strategic goals for Infrastructure Development. These six strategic economic development goals, including a description of current progress made in achieving them, specific actionable items that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will take to achieve them over the next year, and specific metrics for each individual strategic goal, are:

- **Infrastructure Development Goal No. 1:** Identify and establish access points along the Union Pacific Mainline that allow for business development along the rail corridor.

Progress Made: ***New Goal.*** A new goal developed during the third annual evaluation and update to the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. As this is a new goal, no measurable progress has been made.

Actionable Items: The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority is currently working with local, regional, and state partners to develop specific actionable items for this specific Infrastructure Development economic development capacity building strategic goal.

Metrics: As a new economic development capacity building strategic goal, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will work with local, regional, and state partners to develop appropriate metrics over the next year.

- ***Infrastructure Development Goal No. 2:*** Provide information and support to enhance the overall railroad upgrades along the Nevada Northern Railway, ultimately leading to the complete opening of the line between Ely and Shafter.

Progress Made: ***New Goal.*** A new goal developed during the third annual evaluation and update to the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. As this is a new goal, no measurable progress has been made.

Actionable Items: The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority is currently working with local, regional, and state partners to develop specific actionable items for this specific Infrastructure Development economic development capacity building strategic goal.

Metrics: As a new economic development capacity building strategic goal, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will work with local, regional, and state partners to develop appropriate metrics over the next year.

- ***Infrastructure Development Goal No. 3:*** Improve the infrastructure of broadband availability throughout each community located within the region, increase overall Internet speed access by 20.0 percent annually over the next five years.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** Originally part of the Technology Development set of strategic economic development goals developed as part of this current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, this remaining Technology Development strategic economic development goal has been reworked and incorporated into this new Infrastructure Development economic development capacity building area. The Digital Transformation project continues to complete various new broadband infrastructure development projects in and around the Elko area. The latest estimated time for completion of the project is for fall of 2024. White Pine County stakeholders indicated that there has been some progress in further implementing the county's Broadband Development Plan. White Pine County stakeholders indicated the importance of targeting and engaging reputable providers to realize progress of this initiative.

In Lander County, the west community project is underway. This is a blank double conduit system that is planned to serve 125 parcels. This project will be sent to bid in January 2024 and is expected to begin construction sometime during calendar year 2024. Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the west community project will complete approximately half of the 15,000 feet of construction with Phase 3 and Phase 4 completing the remaining half later. Broadband and communication projects have been active throughout the county and are enhancing overall broadband and connectivity capacity. The Nevada Club has

invested in and completed a \$300,000 project that will enhance overall emergency response capabilities utilizing new antennas and communication equipment installed on their roof.

Actionable Items: Continue to support the efforts of local communities and counties within the region to enhance overall broadband infrastructure. Continue to identify potential funding opportunities through state and federal grant programs specific to broadband infrastructure development (especially in rural non-metropolitan communities).

Metrics: Increase in overall Internet speed access.

- ***Infrastructure Development Goal No. 4:*** Provide information and support, grant opportunities, and promotion for the Elko Regional Airport to ensure sustainable flight service and add connections to both Las Vegas, Nevada and Reno, Nevada.

Progress Made: ***New Goal.*** A new goal developed during the third annual evaluation and update to the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. As this is a new goal, no measurable progress has been made.

Actionable Items: The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority is currently working with local, regional, and state partners to develop specific actionable items for this specific Infrastructure Development economic development capacity building strategic goal.

Metrics: As a new economic development capacity building strategic goal, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will work with local, regional, and state partners to develop appropriate metrics over the next year.

- ***Infrastructure Development Goal No. 5:*** Provide information and support that leads to the further development of available natural gas, specifically at industrial sites within the northeastern Nevada region.

Progress Made: ***New Goal.*** A new goal developed during the third annual evaluation and update to the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. As this is a new goal, no measurable progress has been made.

Actionable Items: The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority is currently working with local, regional, and state partners to develop specific actionable items for this specific Infrastructure Development economic development capacity building strategic goal.

Metrics: As a new economic development capacity building strategic goal, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will work with local, regional, and state partners to develop appropriate metrics over the next year.

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- **Infrastructure Development Goal No. 6:** Spearhead efforts to educate, promote, and advance the research, development, and deployment of nuclear energy in northeastern Nevada.

Progress Made: **New Goal.** A new goal developed during the third annual evaluation and update to the current five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. As this is a new goal, no measurable progress has been made.

Actionable Items: The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority is currently working with local, regional, and state partners to develop specific actionable items for this specific Infrastructure Development economic development capacity building strategic goal.

Metrics: As a new economic development capacity building strategic goal, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will work with local, regional, and state partners to develop appropriate metrics over the next year.

The Infrastructure Development economic development capacity building goal area is new and represents the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's commitment to supporting the development of critical infrastructure across the northeastern Nevada region in support of broad business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion efforts. Strategy Committee members noted that, over the next year of implementation, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will work with various local and regional public sector and private sector partners to more fully develop each of the new Infrastructure Development economic development capacity building strategic goals and further support continued broadband telecommunication infrastructure development across the region.

3.4.c Economic Development Capacity Building Strategic Goals, Marketing and Attraction

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District will pursue the achievement of one specific regional level economic development capacity building strategic goal for Marketing and Attraction. This one strategic economic development goal, including a description of current progress made in achieving the goal, specific actionable items that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will take to achieve the goal over the next year, and specific metrics for this strategic goal, are:

- **Marketing and Attraction Goal No. 1:** Create an online marketing campaign highlighting the region's various economic opportunities that will increase Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority website visits by 30.0 percent over the next two years.

Progress Made: **In Progress.** Website analytics for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's current website have been difficult to get as the current webhost had several internal changes in 2023. Because of these changes, monthly

website analytics were halted in June 2023. At that point, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority has seen a significant decline in daily site visits with numbers declining by 50.0 percent since 2019. This is primarily because the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority has not deployed any targeted marketing campaigns driving users to the site.

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's video marketing initiative began to realize results in 2023 as the first videos began to be delivered in the spring of 2023. Unfortunately, the Skyfall Media founder and CEO moved out of state in late 2022, holding up progress on the video marketing initiative. To date, all but one video (Elko County) has been delivered, reviewed, and published to YouTube on the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's new YouTube channel. These videos were also linked to appropriate communities and industries sites on the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's website. Since these videos deployment, there has been over 16,500 views of community and industrial park videos on YouTube.

It is worth noting that, although overall site visits are down, overall 'organic' leads are up from previous years, indicating that those individuals and companies who are reaching out to the organization's website are doing so because they have a sincere interest in possible business expansion and relocation.

Actionable Items: Continue to work with local and regional stakeholders to develop and implement a comprehensive online marketing campaign. Work with the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development to assist in launching the completed online marketing campaign and to promote the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority's website and online resources.

Metrics: Baseline metrics included 40 daily site visits to the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority website in 2019.

Strategy Committee Members noted the importance of increased online marketing efforts as a way of driving potential business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion leads for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and for local communities and counties within the region. Developing and launching a comprehensive online marketing campaign will be the primary focus of the Authority's Marketing and Attraction efforts over the next year.

3.4.d Economic Development Capacity Building Strategic Goals, Small Business, Entrepreneurship, Innovation

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District will pursue the achievement of four specific regional level economic development capacity building strategic goals for Small Business, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation. These four strategic economic development goals, including a description of current progress made in achieving them, specific actionable items that the Northeastern Nevada

Regional Development Authority will take to achieve them over the next year, and specific metrics for each individual strategic goal, are:

- ***Small Business, Entrepreneurship, Innovation Goal No. 1:*** Offer a tax incentive program/break to small businesses employing more than 30 total employees, including the number of small businesses operating across the northeastern Nevada region by 30.0 percent by 2022.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** In late 2022, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority developed a presentation that highlighted all the potential incentive options that could be explored and used to incentivize businesses looking to expand or relocate to the region. The presentation included information and details regarding leveraging industrial park land, utility development and hookup offsets, road maintenance, curb and gutter offset and assistance, and rapid permitting guarantees. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority included information on Tax Increment Financing (TIF), foreign trade zones, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE), and the Community Reinvestment Act (details of which were provided by the University of Nevada, Reno's College of Business). Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority offered this presentation to communities within the region in late 2022 and early 2023 but only the City of Carlin has expressed interest. Other priority items required that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority delay further presentations for the remainder of 2023.

Actionable Items: Reach out to other communities and counties in the northeastern Nevada region to offer them technical assistance and other support in utilizing existing tax incentive programs/breaks to support small business development and entrepreneurial start-ups. Distribute information on possible tax incentive programs/breaks directly to small businesses and entrepreneurs in the northeastern Nevada region.

Metrics: Number and total amount of tax incentive programs utilized to support small business and entrepreneurial development within the region. Number of new small businesses and entrepreneurial start-ups created. Total number of employees employed by new small businesses and entrepreneurial start-ups.

- ***Small Business, Entrepreneurship, Innovation Goal No. 2:*** Develop a competitive regional think tank for small businesses by 2022.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** This initiative was well on its way of being completed at the start of 2023. Early in 2023, Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff met with Mr. Alex Wolfe, a Nevada entrepreneur who has several products that he has brought to market with relative success. Mr. Wolfe introduced the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to his newest product, the MetalWave, a real-time pump diagnostic tool that he hoped to market to Nevada's mining and natural resource extraction industry sector. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority aggressively marketed his product, and, in return, Mr. Wolfe was asked to lead

a webinar for some of the region’s prospective product developers. This initial meeting was titled, ‘Manufacturing Mentor Webinar’, and was held on May 9th, 2023 with six total attendees. Mr. Wolfe provided local entrepreneurs with information and advice regarding the commercialization process, what to avoid, and rules of thumb for realizing product development and scaling. All participants of the May 9th, 2023 webinar provided positive feedback and indicated that they would like to continue these discussions moving forward.

Actionable Items: Continue to work with proven small business and entrepreneurial start-ups to develop and deliver additional webinars targeting specific industry sectors. Follow-up with past webinar attendees and participants and connect them to additional small business and entrepreneurial start-up resources offered by organizations such as, but not limited to, the Nevada Small Business Development Center, Rural Nevada Development Corporation, the Nevada Department of Business and Industry, and the Nevada Governor’s of Economic Development.

Metrics: Number of individual small business and entrepreneurial start-up webinars conducted. Number of individual participants for each of the webinars conducted. Follow-up with individual participants and connection of those individuals to other small business development and entrepreneurial start-up assistance organizations.

- ***Small Business, Entrepreneurship, Innovation Goal No. 3:*** Educate the region’s small business community on opportunities for closing the ‘gap’ in various industry sectors to stop the existing economic leakage in goods and services purchased by customers living within the region by 2021.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** In the spring of 2023, Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Board Chair Matthew Miller suggested that a new mechanism be established to identify supply chain ‘gaps’ (primarily in the region’s mining and natural resource extraction industry sector) and to begin addressing those gaps by publishing the results from this new mechanism to the public and marketing them to potential supply and service providers. On June 20, 2023, representatives from local mining companies and from various large service providers (including Epiroc and Komatsu) met at Great Basin College to discuss potential remedies for supply chain gap identification and engagement. Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff proposed an online portal where supply chain representatives could import data and information regarding supply chain gaps. Those results would then be analyzed and covered into different requests for information that would be published and marketed to the appropriate entities and other private sector firms. The group gave unanimous support and the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority began building the framework for the proposed platform. In December 2023, the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority launched ‘Nevada Silver Link’. Within the ‘opportunities’ page, there are two categories offered for further request for information or request for proposal consideration, including ‘Commercial/Industrial’ and ‘Small Business’. Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff are confident

that this tool will bring about valuable insights and opportunities for regional small business owners.

Actionable Items: Continue to grow the ‘Nevada Silver Link’ platform through increased engagement with regional mining and natural resource extraction industry sector firms. Continue to publish results and develop additional requests for information and requests for proposals, targeting either mid to large scale firms or small businesses with the potential of addressing supply chain gaps identified through the ‘Nevada Silver Link’ platform. Work with the Nevada Lithium Batteries and Other Electric Vehicles Regional Technology and Innovation Hub, administered by the University Center for Economic Development at the University of Nevada, Reno, to further expand the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority’s reach to various existing and new small businesses with the potential of addressing identified and targeted supply chain gaps.

Metrics: Number of participants and data collected by the ‘Nevada Silver Link’ platform. Number of small businesses within the region that successfully respond to requests for information and requests for proposals generated from the ‘Nevada Silver Link’ platform. Amount of existing gaps in the supply chain and value network of the region’s mining and natural resource extraction industry sector closed through the successful response of small businesses to generated requests for information and requests for proposals.

- ***Small Business, Entrepreneurship, Innovation Goal No. 4:*** Partner with StartUpNV to grow rural entrepreneurship ecosystems by holding a rural pitch conference in May 2021. Promote and support regional communities who are enrolled and participating in the Nevada Main Street program.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** The rural pitch competition that was first envisioned in 2020 has now become an anticipated annual event. Since 2020, a total of \$42,650 has been awarded to rural Nevada-based entrepreneurs based both within the northeastern Nevada region and throughout other parts of the state of Nevada. The Launch Rural Nevada Planning Committee and Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority staff both agree that the program has hit its apex under the direct control of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and can only grow larger and more prominent under the direction of a state agency. This competition initially started through the Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development and it is anticipated that the Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development’s Office of Entrepreneurship will take control of the program in 2025 to garner more sponsorship support, thereby increasing funding opportunities for rural Nevada entrepreneurs.

Actionable Items: Assist in the smooth transition of the rural pitch competition from the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to the Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development’s Office of Entrepreneurship. Continue to market and promote the annual rural pitch competition to potential competitors and entrepreneurial start-ups throughout the region.

Metrics: As the rural pitch competition will move from the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to the Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development, no further development and collection of metrics will be completed for this specific goal moving forward.

For the next year of implementation, Strategic Committee Members expressed their support for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to better focus their Small Business, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation strategic efforts on targeted industry sectors and efforts, including business creation, attraction, retention, and expansion efforts that lead directly to the closure of identified supply chain and value network gaps in sector’s such as the region’s mining and natural resource extraction industry sector. Strategic Committee Members also supported efforts of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to utilize existing small business development and entrepreneurial start-up support through various organizations such as the Nevada Small Business Development Center, the Rural Nevada Development Corporation, the Nevada Department of Business and Industry, and the Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development. The establishment of the new Nevada Lithium Batteries and Other Electric Vehicles Regional Technology and Innovation Hub (designated by the U.S. Economic Development Administration on October 23, 2023 with official funding for the Nevada Tech Hub to begin on October 1, 2024), is another opportunity for the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority to expand business development efforts in the region.

3.4.e Economic Development Capacity Building Strategic Goals, Education and Training

The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District will pursue the achievement of two specific regional level economic development capacity building strategic goals for Education and Training. These two strategic economic development goals, including a description of current progress made in achieving them, specific actionable items that the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will take to achieve them over the next year, and specific metrics for each individual strategic goal, are:

- ***Education and Training Goal No. 1:*** Develop various new and expand existing vocational and construction training programs to support a 20.0 percent increase by 2022.

Progress Made: ***In Progress.*** Select members of the Mining Center of Excellence Advisory Council convened to establish governing guidelines for the Mining Center of Excellence and Career Technical Education Stakeholder Advisory Council. The group invested time and thought to ensure the guidelines accurately defined the mission, functions, and membership of the Advisory Council.

In April 2023, the Mining Center of Excellence Committee announced that two new dual credit high school programs have been approved and are expected to start in August 2023. The two-year programs slated to begin, and that will be run through the Elko County School District and Battle Mountain High School, will emphasize mining, geology, and metallurgy and will provide a seamless transfer to both Great Basin College

and the University of Nevada, Reno for prospective students and eventual members of the region's workforce.

Actionable Items: The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will continue to work with both industry partners and educational partners locally and regionally to continue to identify specific industry workforce development needs and continue to support the development of new vocational and construction programs that serve specific industry needs throughout the entire northeastern Nevada region.

Metrics: Number of new vocational and construction programs created. Number of individuals who are enrolled and successfully complete the new vocational and construction programs created. Successful placement in additional higher education programs and/or job and career placement of individuals who complete the new vocational and construction programs.

- ***Education and Training Goal No. 2:*** Identify highest demands for training needs for secondary tier industry sectors (sectors that provide goods and services that support local needs) by 20.0 percent in two years.

Progress Made: ***Not Started.***

Actionable Items: Work with industry partners to identify priority workforce training needs in secondary industry sectors.

Metrics: Number of private sector firms in secondary tier industry sectors engaged with and priority workforce needs in those secondary tier industry sectors identified.

For the next year of implementation, Strategy Committee Members noted that the specific goals outlined as part of the Education and Training economic development capacity building area will continue to be largely led by the region's various educational partners including, but not limited to, various local public school districts, Great Basin College, and the University of Nevada, Reno. The Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority will support these efforts by continuing to meet with regional industry partners and stakeholders to identify current and emerging industry workforce development, training, and job placement needs.

Appendix A – Map of the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority and the Northeastern Nevada Economic Development District

**Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Service Area
Census Designated Places
Reservations and Federal Trust Lands
Opportunity Zones
U.S. Bureau of Land Management Wilderness Areas
U.S. Bureau of Land Management Wilderness Study Areas**

Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority

Elko, Eureka, Lander, & White Pine Counties

