

New Mexico State University

College of ACES

New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service

PROVIDE THE PEOPLE OF NEW MEXICO WITH PRACTICAL, RESEARCH-BASED
KNOWLEDGE AND PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE

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Cooperative Extension Service Request

FY22 Actual: \$13,481,300

FY23 Request: \$13,731,300

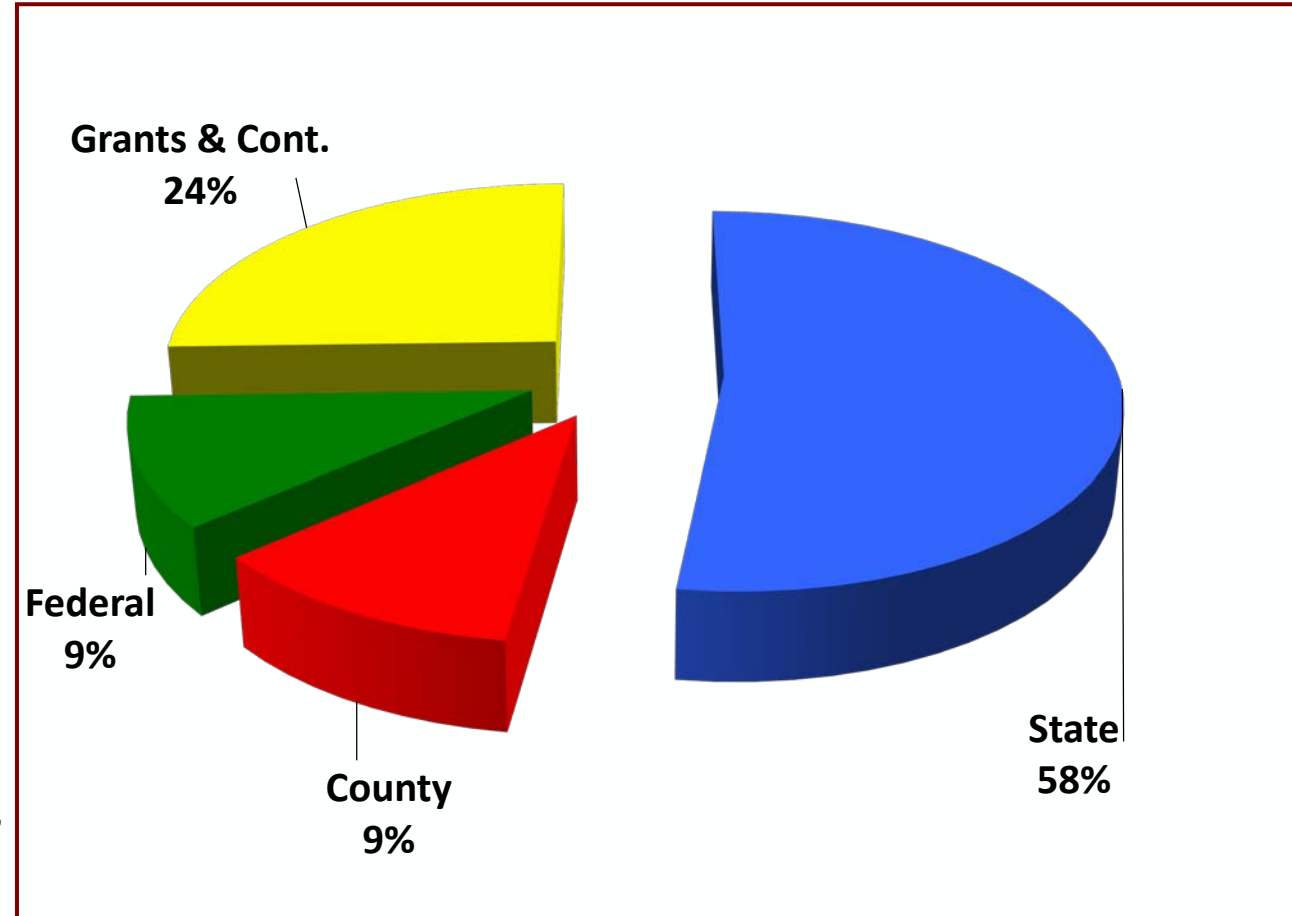
Change: \$250,000

- Community education arm of New Mexico State University
- Unique federal, state, and county partnership enabled by the **Smith-Lever Act of 1914** and a **State Statutory Program** under Section 76
- **Mission of CES** is to *“provide the people of New Mexico with practical, research-based knowledge and programs to improve their quality of life”*
- **CES has evolved and adjusted to the changing needs** of New Mexico stakeholders balancing the continuing need for updated information on “traditional” agricultural subjects as well as addressing innovations in newer subject areas



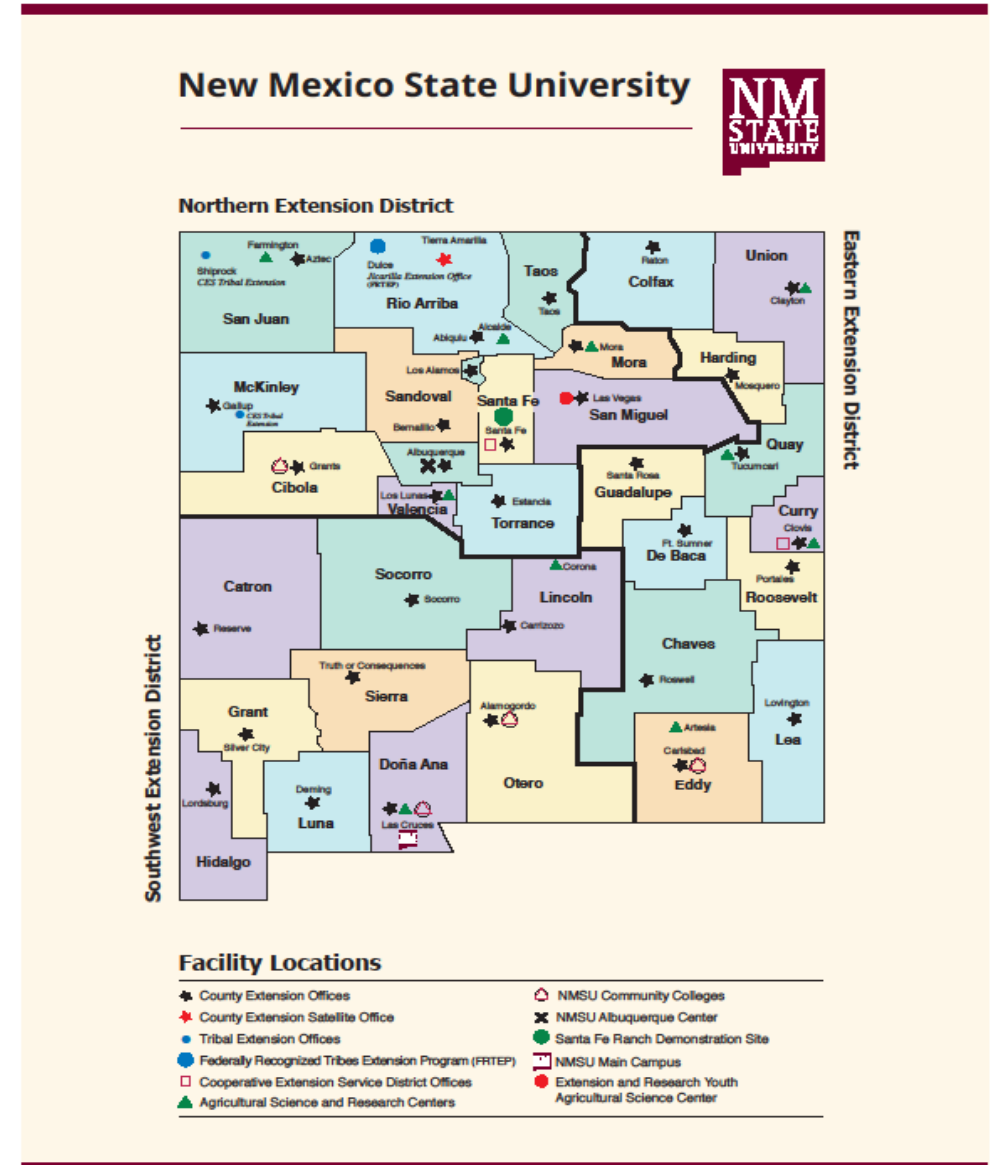
Cooperative Extension Service Funding Sources

- Total FY21 CES budget \$28.4 million
- State appropriations constitute approximately 58% of the overall budget
- Approximately 75% of budget dedicated to personnel service costs
- State's investment in CES is matched nearly 1:1 through county appropriations, federal appropriations, and grants & contracts



Cooperative Extension Service Overview

- 296 permanent faculty and staff
 - 163 Agents/Specialists
 - 101 Staff/Program Assistants
 - 47 Students
- CES faculty are housed in offices in all 33 counties and 54 office locations
- CES faculty are integrated into departments in the College of ACES



Cooperative Extension Service Overview

- Extension faculty on average reach over 550,000 New Mexicans (~ 1/4 of the state's population) annually with non-formal educational programs that extend the knowledge of the land-grant university system
 - > 10,500 residents serve as volunteers
 - > \$18M of in-kind contributions



Cooperative Extension Service Programs

- Best known CES programs include
 - 4-H Youth Development
 - Agriculture and Natural Resources
 - Family and Consumer Sciences
 - Community Economic Development
- CES addresses emerging issues
 - A host of natural resources issues
 - Homeland Security
 - Financial Mediation
 - Public Officials Training
 - Workforce Readiness
 - Current health topics
 - Diabetes, Obesity, Food Safety, COVID-19



4-H Youth Education Highlights



- NM 4-H program on average prepares 40,000 young people (1 in 9 NM children ages 5 – 18) annually for the workforce by teaching critical life skills including leadership, management, and communication skills
- > 12,000 gained knowledge and skills related to STEM including biology, computers and electronics
- > 29,000 gained knowledge and skills related to healthy lifestyle choices including fitness, nutrition, safety and substance abuse prevention
 - 4-H youth are 2.5 times more likely to engage in civic involvement, 2 times more likely to participate in STEM programs, half as likely to use drugs, and **4.9 times more likely to graduate from college**



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Aggie Next Step Program



- Academic success is challenging for many students in traditional school settings
- Ongoing Pandemic has increased challenges facing our education system and students
- Aggie Next Step Program Prepares youth (8th – 12th grade) for successful high school transition to college or career
 - Build and advance skills for student success in school, work and their personal lives
 - Establishes pathway for youth to NMSU or other higher education institutions



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Agriculture Highlights



- Agriculture is the cornerstone of the CES
 - Annually, thousands of New Mexicans access agricultural information from the CES
- CES information ranges from good agricultural practices for farmers and ranchers to urban horticulture shared through 1,000 Master Gardener volunteers
- CES shares knowledge in the areas of energy and water, farm and ranch, livestock and crops, natural resources, and yard and garden
- CES helped create 65 New Mexico farmers' markets
- CES is New Mexico's front-line responder in natural and man-made emergencies in partnership with the NMDA (drought, wildfires, Gold King Mine spill)

Agriculture Highlights

- CES facilitated drought webinars due to severe drought across state
- CES is the trainer for the the New Mexico Prescribed Fire Act
- Forage Extension programs have helped producers increase profitability by reducing fertilizer and seed costs by 25%, reducing water use by 30%, and increasing yields by 10%



Health Highlights



- CES partnered with the UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center for a Southwest Harvest for Health study
 - Study pairs 30 cancer survivors who have completed their primary cancer treatment with 35 local Master Gardeners
 - The “Survivor-Master Gardener” team work together to plan, plant, maintain and harvest seasonal gardens at the survivor’s home
 - Study is currently measuring the effects of gardening on overall health and functioning, quality of life, and more
 - This initial pilot study will be limited to a 60-mile radius of Albuquerque.



Health Highlights

- CES reaches more than 200,000 citizens annually through workshops on nutrition, parenting, and physical fitness
 - CES Nutrition Education Program participants improved nutrition practices by 95%, diet quality by 75%, and physical activity by 78%
 - Saved the state \$10 million dollars in health-related expenses
- CES Behavioral Health & Wellness Team
 - Address mental health, suicide, opioid/substance abuse, etc.



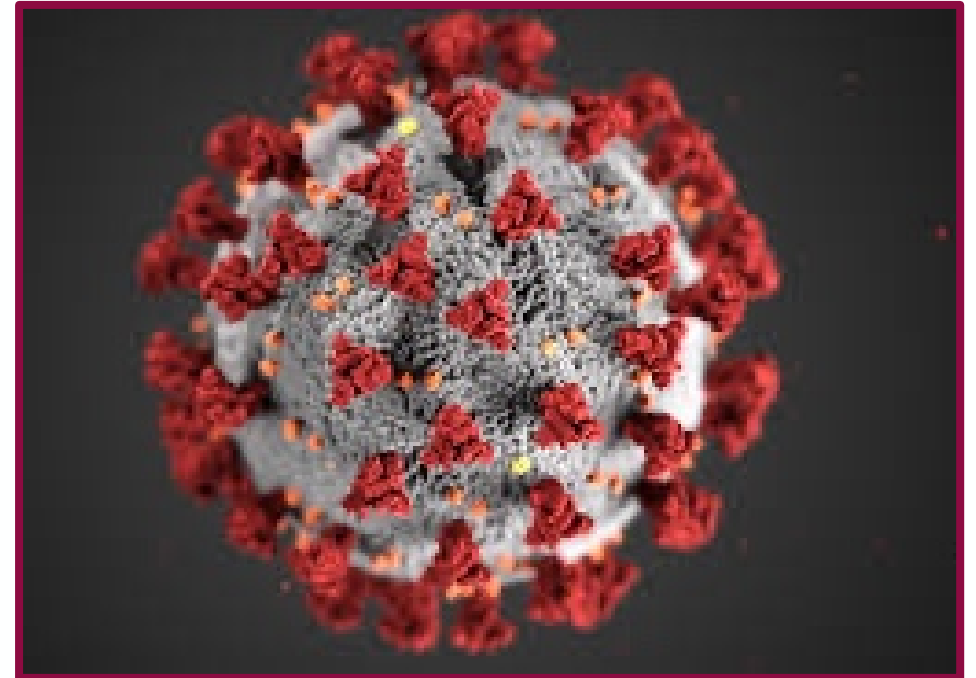
Economic Development Highlights

- The Agribusiness Accelerator Demonstration & Training Farm goals include:
 1. Increase local production and consumption of healthy food in environmentally sustainable ways
 2. Provide individuals and families with the opportunity to increase their income
 3. Diversify and grow the local/regional economy through the promotion and support of agriculture and agribusiness value-added activities
- To date, the 2-acre farm has been established and prepped for production, farm infrastructure in place including installation of a hoop house, and raised beds constructed
- CES faculty are providing training, mentoring, and supporting a small initial cohort of gardeners subject to NM Public Health and NMSU COVID-19 guidelines and requirements



Cooperative Extension Response to COVID-19

- CES faculty and staff innovated and pivoted their Extension programming beginning in March 2020 to respond rapidly to the critical issues for New Mexico families and communities related to the COVID-19 pandemic
- CES will continue to assist New Mexicans as they re-establish their personal and professional lives during the recovery phase



CES COVID Response

- Collaborated with emergency responders using digital resources to reduce impact of COVID-19
- Guided parents online to help families find innovative educational materials, provided access to the internet, and connect with mental health and financial resources
- Assisted businesses with loan applications and ways to offer services at a distance
- Supported farmers through remote services to assist with their short and long-term profitability
 - Occupational health experts from UT School of Public Health partnering with experts at NMSU Dairy Extension to develop, deliver and evaluate a training program addressing COVID-19 in the U.S. dairy industry



CES COVID Response – Vaccination Education Program

- CES, in partnership with NM Department of Health, offering mobile vaccination clinics to agricultural producers and workers
- Provides educational information about COVID-19 and vaccinations for the virus
- Currently being conducted on dairies and will be expanding to other agricultural industries thanks to funding from CDC and USDA NIFA
- Address vaccine equity issues



Cooperative Extension Service FY23 Expansion Request

- The \$250,000 would result in the following:
 - **Farm and Ranch Economist Specialist**
 - Assist agricultural stakeholders understand and identify factors that contribute to economic/business success such as economic assessments, feasibilities and commodity forecasting.
 - Lead to improved economic conditions particularly in underserved minority communities
 - **Behavioral Health & Wellness Specialist**
 - NM second poorest state in the nation and ranks 5th among the 8 states with highest per-capita child abuse and neglect
 - Position would provide statewide leadership for development, implementation and evaluation of evidence-based educational curricula, programs and publications in areas of mental health and wellness.
 - Assist the approximately 19% New Mexicans that report frequent mental distress



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