



**New Mexico
Cooperative Extension Service**

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

Legislative Finance Committee Hearing – Dec. 11, 2024

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Cooperative Extension Service

- 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 including agricultural climate resiliency, technological advancements in agriculture, and behavioral health

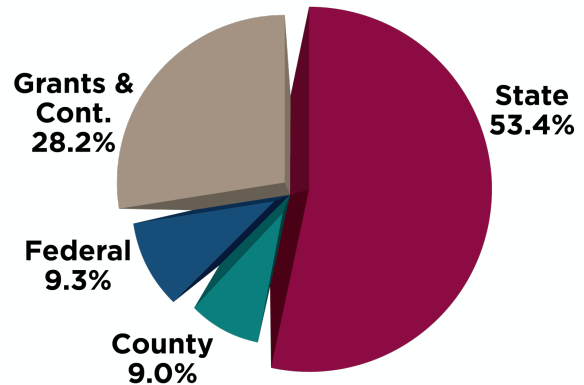


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CES Funding Sources

- Total FY24 CES budget \$36 million
- State appropriations constitute approximately 53% of the overall budget
- About 70% 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

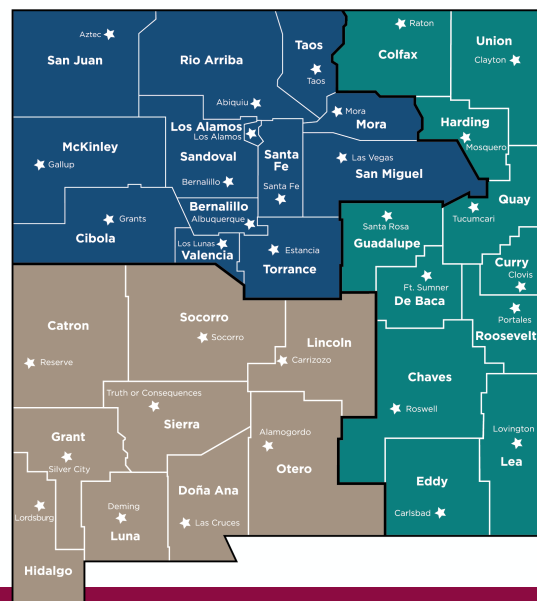


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CES Overview

- 331 permanent faculty and staff
- 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



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CES 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, wildfires
 - Homeland Security
 - Financial Mediation
 - Public Officials Training
 - Workforce Readiness
 - Current health topics - Diabetes, Obesity, Food Safety, Mental Health



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Performance Metrics

Impact Metric	2021	2022	2023
Clientele Contacts	497,062	552,213	666,762
Social Media Contacts	11,814,386	9,478,003	11,205,662
Refereed Journal Articles	45	38	49
Extension Publications	547	572	906
Presentations, Workshops, Trainings	2,573	3,380	3,881
Students Employed	57	58	28
Competitive Funding	\$6,010,902	\$7,182,068	\$8,447,565



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Delivering Solutions: CES Legislative Request

FY26 Legislative Increase Request: \$575,000

The NM Cooperative Extension Service operational funding is critical to serving our communities. A **10% operations increase (\$400,000)** will allow for resources to continue to meet the needs of New Mexicans.

Examples of uses:

- Respond to emerging agricultural and environmental challenges.
- Respond to increasing interest in urban agriculture.
- Reach wider youth and underserved audiences.
- Expand programming with our Tribal communities.
- Leverage technology for improved outreach and engagement.

Additionally, NMSU is increasing the employer insurance premium contribution to become competitive with regional employment markets. As a result, **\$175,000 is needed to cover the increase in fringe benefit cost for Cooperative Extension employees.**



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Contact Information

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