

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Nihitahgó Adahooníligíí Baahane'

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

August 2025

Ya'lishjááshtsoh

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Níł bée hoziníshii...

Did You Know...

Code Talkers weren't just in WWII

– While the famous WWII Navajo Code Talkers are well known, there were also Navajo Code Talkers in the Korean and Vietnam Wars, though far fewer in number.



Events

August: Bini'anit'ááts'ósi - Small Harvest

August 9: International Day of the World's Indigenous People
August 14: Navajo Code Talker Day
August 21: Senior Citizens Day
August 26: Women's Equality Day

September: Bini'anitáátsoh - Ripening of Late Crops

September 1: Labor Day
September 11: Patriot Day
September 22: Autumn Begins

Bear Sun Sighting:

August 28, 2025
Ganado, Arizona



Bringing DCD to You: Navajo Nation Tour



DCD Process Report Meetings Reach All 8 ASC Areas

August 2025 – Nine-Day Series with First Meeting at Blue Gap/Tachee Chapter

During the month of August, the Division of Community Development (DCD) set out on a nine-day journey to meet with Chapter Officials across the Navajo Nation. Each day was dedicated to one of the eight Agency Service Centers (ASC) areas, with the first gathering hosted at Blue Gap/Tachee Chapter.

From 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day, DCD staff and managers met face-to-face with local chapter officials to share updates, provide an overview of current projects, and hear community concerns. The purpose was to ensure that chapters stay connected to resources, programs, and information that directly impact their communities.

Bluegap/Tachee Chapter



Newcomb Chapter



Tuba City Chapter



Whitecone Chapter



Topics covered throughout the nine days included:

Solid Waste Services – Lyman Tullie shared updates on helping communities with their waste management activities and assessing illegal dump sites.

Community Land Use Planning (CLUP) – LaTasha James highlighted the CLUP webpage and its resources and updating their chapter land use plans.

Rural Addressing – MC Baldwin explained the purpose of the local rural addressing committees and the important work they do for naming roads and streets and identifying homesites. He also talked about the process for obtaining address verification documents that are used for driver's licenses and auto loans.

Information Technology – Norbert Nez provided updates on support for chapter technology needs including IT technical support, WIND support, email, chapter websites, and training.

ARPA-CHID Projects – Patrick Dalgai discussed how American Rescue Plan Act funds are moving forward in local projects.

Capital Projects Management Department -- Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) 2025-2031 – Michele Peterson guided chapters in reviewing their priorities, resolutions, buildings, senior centers, and upcoming projects.

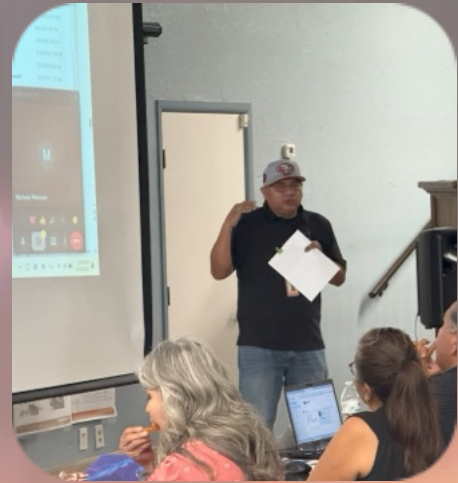
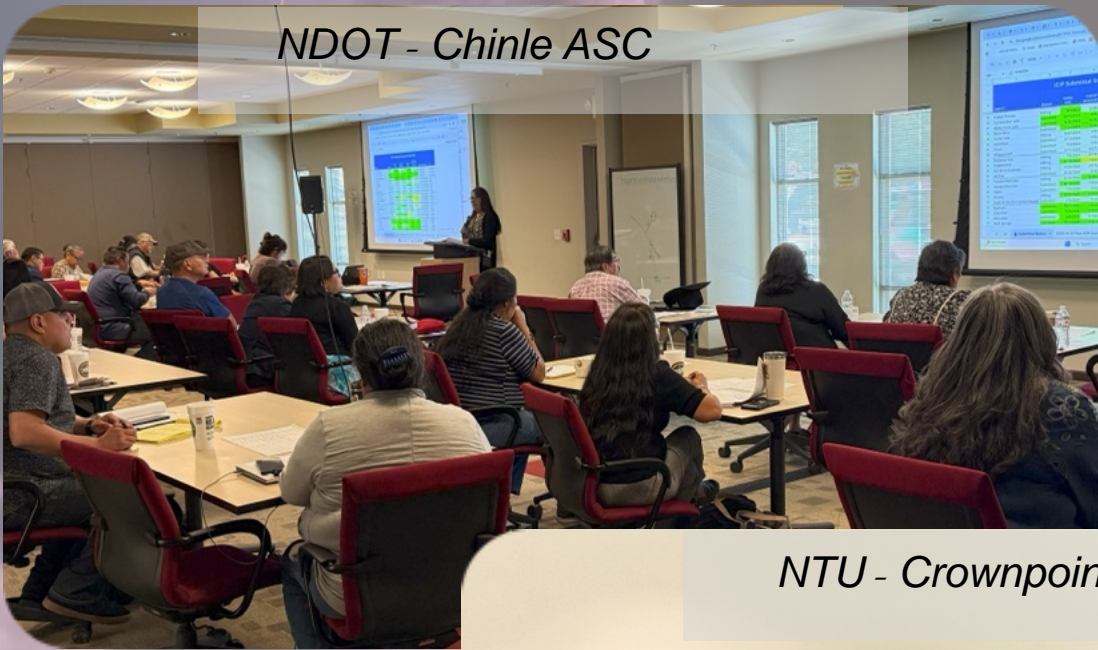
ASC Updates – Jaron Charley spoke about the support services available to chapters.

Transportation – Priscilla Lee from NNDOT provided road and infrastructure updates.

By holding meetings in every ASC region, DCD made sure all chapters had an opportunity to ask questions, raise priorities, and learn about the latest developments. The final meeting at White Cone brought the series to a strong close, with leaders emphasizing the importance of working together and keeping communication open.

The nine-day effort showed the commitment of DCD to meeting communities where they are — ensuring that every chapter, no matter how far, has access to the information and tools needed to move projects forward.

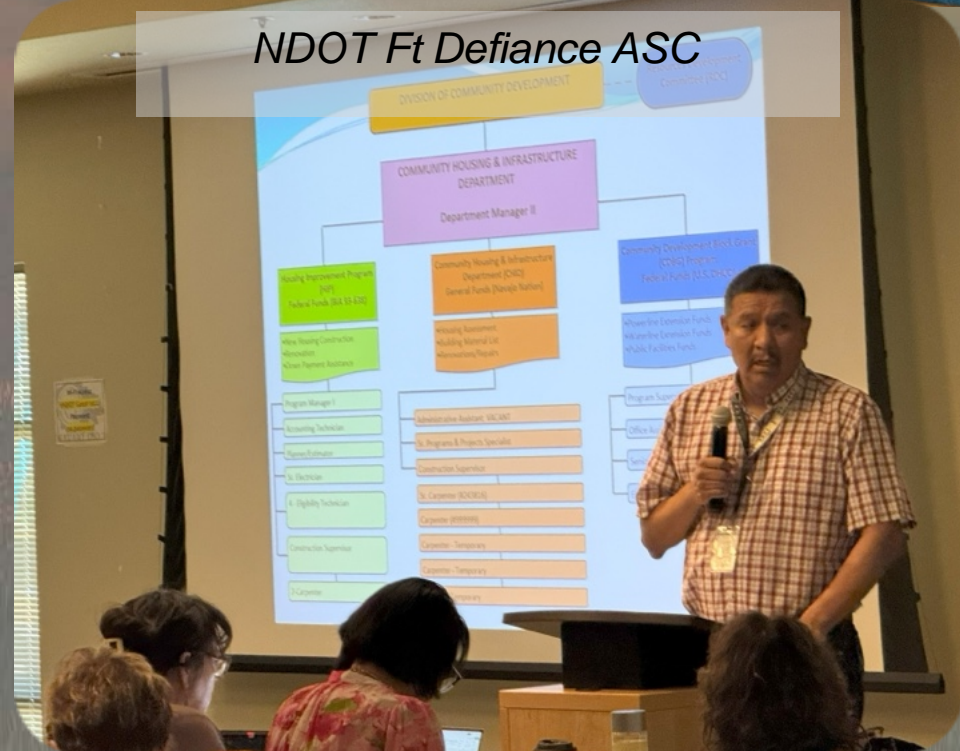
NDOT - Chinle ASC



NTU - Crownpoint ASC



NDOT Ft Defiance ASC



CHID

UPDATES

A Letter of Progress and Appreciation

By Jeff Goodluck

Renovating homes in Navajo Nation communities is not an easy task. Many of the houses we worked on were not built to today's standards, and repairing them takes much more than just painting or patching. It's a big job that requires skill, time, and a lot of patience.

Some homes need major repairs, especially when the original construction did not meet modern safety or comfort standards. This makes the work more challenging for CHID's carpenters, who not only fix what is broken but also handle unexpected problems along the way.

I'm happy to share that as CHID wraps up FY 2025, we have made real progress across the Navajo Nation. Every agency that requested assistance received support, and at least two families in urgent need had their roofs fully replaced. These repairs go beyond stopping leaks—they help families feel safe and secure in their homes.



CHID UPDATES



The carpenters working with CHID deserve a huge “thank you.” They show up every day with skill, patience, and heart, even when resources are limited. Their work changes lives, one home at a time. I admire how they keep going, even when the job is tough or the travel is long. Some of the project sites are far out, and just getting there requires time and effort.

Replacing a roof is no small task. It’s hard, physical work. But our teams keep pushing

forward, making sure every job is completed correctly and meets safety standards. Renovation isn’t just about construction — it’s about helping people, building trust, and making a lasting difference.

I’m deeply grateful to everyone involved: the carpenters, the chapter staff, and the families who welcomed us into their homes. Your strength and dedication are what make our department stronger.



Emmett Tsosie
Planner/ Estimator
Hsg Improvement Program
Ft Def AZ

HIP

UPDATES

In August 2025, Housing Improvement Program (HIP) personnel worked diligently to close out the last remaining five homes.

On August 8, 2025, a new homeowner in Dalton Pass, NM, received the keys to her new home as she and her family celebrated with refreshments. The elderly client shared that she had been living with relatives due to not having a home of her own. She expressed her gratitude to the program and all personnel involved.

On August 12, 2025, a new homeowner in Ojo Encino, NM, received the keys to her new home.

This elderly client's previous home had been destroyed in a fire in 2003 caused by an electrical short in the wiring. To meet program requirements, the homeowner had to clean up the site and obtain a resurvey of her homesite. The family was very happy and once again thanked the program, its personnel, and the contractors involved.

Ojo Encino



On August 19, 2025, a new homeowner in Tuba City, AZ, received the keys to his new home. The disabled elderly client had been living in a 6 ft. x 8 ft. dilapidated mobile home on a relative's property west of Tuba City. He thanked the program and everyone who contributed.

Dalton Pass



HIP UPDATES

On August 21, 2025, a new homeowner in Tselani/Cottonwood, AZ, received the keys to her new home.

The elderly client had also lost her previous home in a fire and had been living temporarily with family. She thanked the program and all the personnel who assisted.



Teec Nos Pos

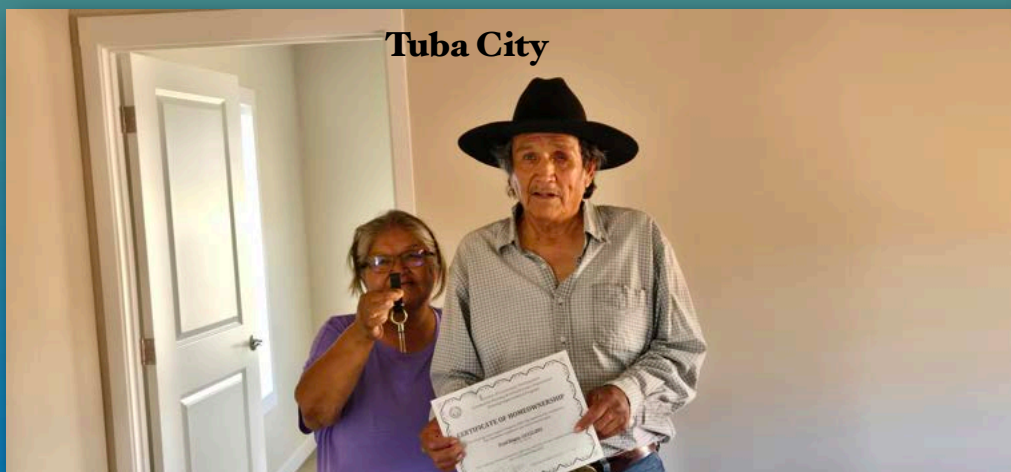
As of August 21, the Housing Improvement Program (HIP) completed the first of three (3) IDIQ ARPA Work Orders, covering thirty (30) homes across the Navajo Nation.

These homes consisted of 2-bedroom, 1-bath, 16 ft. x 52 ft. manufactured units built to HIP specifications.

Work Order (WO) #1 began with the first home delivery in Kayenta, AZ, on November 21, 2024, and concluded with the final inspection and key turnover in Tselani/Cottonwood, AZ, on August 21, 2025. The Housing Improvement Program completed the work order in approximately nine months.



Tselani/Cottonwood



Tuba City

The Housing Improvement Program will begin Work Order (WO) #2 in September 2025. This order consists of twenty-six (26) homes: 2-bedroom, 1-bath, 16 ft. x 52 ft. units and 3-bedroom, 1-bath, 16 ft. x 60 ft. units.

CROWNPOINT ASC



Cecelia Toledo provided a budget process presentation at Casamero Lake Chapter Regular Meeting on August 18th, 2025 at 1PM. The community wanted to know how the budget was created and when they would participate.

KAYENTA ASC



Defensive driving renewal/certification training held on 8/15/2025 at Kayenta Chapter House.

Key Meetings Held at Indian Wells Chapter in August

The month of August was an active one for the Indian Wells Chapter, featuring several important events and work sessions.

On August 20, 2025, Iina' Ba, Inc. met with Chapter officials, CSC, ASC staff, and selected recipients to discuss upcoming plans for new home construction in the community.

Later in the month, Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren invited directors and representatives from several departments — including ASC, DNR, NDOT, NTUA, RRR, NEOH, and Navajo Broadband — to the chapter to collaborate on initiatives supporting the community's growth and development.



Jeddito Chapter Hosts President Nygren and Holds Strategic Planning Session

On Monday, August 25, Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren, along with program managers and division directors, visited the Jeddito Chapter to support the community in advancing its proposed projects. The visit provided chapter officials an opportunity to share their needs and discuss ways to move projects forward.

Following the visit, the chapter held a Strategic Planning Session on August 27–28 to review key initiatives, including the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP), Capital Improvement Projects (CIP), Roads Rights-of-Way (RRR), updates to the Regional Route Plan, and the Community Wellness Plan.

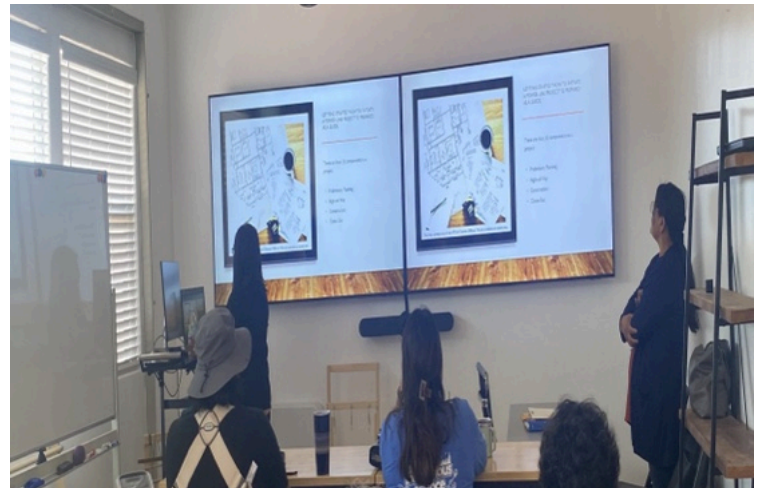
The chapter also highlighted the hard work of its temporary employees, who have been doing an exceptional job providing quality customer service to constituents.



Oljato Chapter



On Monday, July 7, 2025, the Oljato Chapter kicked off its Summer Youth Employment and Public Employment Program Orientation with an exciting gathering of 7 PEP enthusiastic workers and 14 SYE eager participants! The orientation was packed with energy as we dove into essential program policies and regulations, shared vital summer heat awareness tips, and explored workplace safety measures. Plus, we introduced an inspiring segment on the Navajo wellness model, empowering everyone for a fantastic summer ahead!



On Tuesday, July 15, 2025, the Oljato Chapter, in collaboration with the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, hosted an inspiring presentation on Light Up Navajo (LUN) Phase VI. This event sought to reach families without electricity within the Navajo Nation boundaries, bringing hope and opportunity. The outreach was informative, allowing participants to learn about the LUN program and submit their applications onsite, fostering empowerment and change within the community.



The Oljato Chapter administration staff had a blast assisting with the annual Just Move It series at three scenic locations: the Oljato Chapter Administration Building in Oljato, the Navajo Welcome Center in Monument Valley, and the Halchita Community Center in Halchita. We made sure everyone had plenty of healthy snacks like yogurt, granola bars, fresh fruits, and water to keep everyone fueled up. With over 210 participants showing up, the energy was fantastic as everyone came together to get moving and have some fun!



In July 2025, during a challenging heat wave and an unexpected water shortage, the Oljato Chapter administration, in partnership with the Utah Navajo Health System, came together to support the Halchita community. They generously provided 165 one-gallon water jugs, 25 five gallon water containers, and delivered 96 cases of 36-pack bottled waters, ensuring that the residents of Halchita had access to this essential resource. This effort aimed to alleviate the immediate struggles faced by community members during such a difficult time.



As the five wranglers wrapped up their successful annual community branding season, led by Oljato Chapter Grazing Official Laura Tallis, a bright future awaits them. These dedicated individuals are set to return to their respective colleges and universities, along with their work commitments.

One Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) participant has been chosen to continue her employment permanently. This is a tremendous success, not only for the student but for the SYEP as well. The SYEP is designed to assist individuals in gaining work experience and on-the-job training, emphasizing the importance of securing permanent employment after the program ends. This vision has become a reality for one of our employees. This achievement serves as a testament to our commitment to fostering growth and opportunity.

FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

August 2025

Collaboration, Teamwork

The Fiscal Recovery Fund team met with Office of the Controller, Fiscal Recovery Funds HQ, and DCD FRF to strategize and address outstanding issues regarding ARPA and RRR Funds. The team also provided updates for projects, outlined and shared with the team how DCD Fiscal Recovery Fund team will be commencing with all Revenue Replacemen Fund projects in the upcoming months.



Community Connect

The current ARPA/FRF Staff Ryan Begay, and Dawnell Begay, Planner Estimator's are managing the 352 RRR projects that are under the Section Delegate Region Expenditure Plans which encompasses all 110 chapters under the 24 Delegate Regions. Department Manager II, Wilson C. Stewart Jr. and staff engaged with 25 Navajo Chapters across Western, Eastern, Fort Defiance, and Central Agency



Bathroom Renovations Underway!

Project Manager- Ryan R. Begay for Section 11 Bathroom Renovations/Additions
With the support of the 25th Navajo Nation Council, President Dr. Buu Nygren signed Resolution CO-41-24 on October 31, 2024. This resolution allocates additional monies and amends the original Scope of Work to include Bathroom Renovation Upgrades. Bathroom Renovation Applications are being distributed by Ryan Begay, Planner/Estimator. *Not all delegate regions are eligible and all applications are subjected to funds availability.

CJN-29-22/ CO-41-24 : Section 11- Bathroom Additions/Bathroom Renovations

Agencies	Bathroom Additions			Bathroom Renovations		
	In progress	Completed	Total	In progress	Completed	Total
Central	56	93	149	0	0	0
Eastern	30	92	122	147	0	147
Fort Defiance	46	91	137	135	9	144
Northern	10	9	19	127	40	167
Western	58	63	121	0	0	0
Total	200	348	548	409	49	458



Bulletin Board

Navajo Craft Soda: Pop Top, Fizz, Fizz

July 8, 2025 By FBN

With fizz, flavor and fry bread, the Navajo Blue Travel Plaza is bottling up a unique roadside experience – one artisan soda and monster burger at a time.

Refrigerators in modern convenience stores and travel centers have wall-to-wall beverage options. But few if any of them have their own craft sodas brewed in an on-site bottling room.

That's one of the things that makes the Navajo Blue Travel Plaza unique. It bottles eight flavors of Navajo Fizz Craft Soda. Pop the top on a refreshing Pinon Nut Root Beer, Sumac Strawberry or Cherry Lemongrass soda, the three most popular flavors, and enjoy the fizz.

How about Peaches and Cream, Navajo Greenthread Tea, Old Fashioned Lemonade, Classic Grape and Juicy Orange?

"I really don't know of any other local craft sodas," said Lane Schmietenkno, director of food and beverage for the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise. "It's the first of its kind for the Navajo Nation. We're very proud of the quality of our product. It sets us apart."

Nackard Pepsi started distributing Navajo Fizz last month in the Flagstaff area in 12-ounce bottles and 12-ounce slim cans, Schmietenkno said.

The Travel Plaza is adjacent to Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort. Both are just off Interstate 40, about 20 miles east of Flagstaff at Exit 219.

The Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise operates the Travel Plaza and four casinos in Arizona and New Mexico. It also has plans to develop a casino on U.S. 89 at a site that includes the now closed Horsemen Lodge steakhouse.

The Navajo Blue Travel Plaza has clean bathrooms, showers, laundry, fueling for motorists and truckers, slot machines and sports-betting kiosks in a non-smoking gaming room. The five-year-old facility also looks to set itself apart with its Fire Pit food counter. It serves breakfast burritos, fry bread, lamb sandwiches, blue corn mush and a two-pound Soo Big Burger with all the fixings.



The monster burger comes on a 12-inch brioche bun or fry bread, known as Dah diniilghaazhi in the Navajo language.

READ MORE: <http://bit.ly/4IRDpTh>

Navajo Nation Plans Casino on Northeast Edge of Flagstaff



Native News Online Staff

Tribe looks forward to job creation, economic impact on region, state.

A second Navajo casino is coming to the Flagstaff area after the tribe secured legal authority to build a gaming hall on a 13.79-acre site northeast of the city.

The casino is planned on property that was home to Horsemen Lodge steakhouse since 1975 and the adjacent Flying Heart Stables. The site is outside the city limits on U.S. 89, about four miles north of Flagstaff Mall.

In November, the Navajo Nation signed a warranty deed that transfers the land to trust status, meaning it is part of the Navajo Reservation. That gives the tribe the right to build a casino on the property.

Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren announced the Nation's plans to partner with the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise to develop a gaming facility on the newly acquired land.

"Right now, with the various moving parts, I wouldn't want to speculate how long that entire process will take," Nygren said in written responses to questions from Flagstaff Business News.

"We know that there will be limited gaming at the property, but no decisions have been made to date on what that will look like."

READ MORE: <http://bit.ly/4mzP9Lb>

Bulletin Board

Tsineeshjii' Naaltsoos Bídadiiljeehí

First loan approved under Navajo Small Business Credit Initiative

Navajo-Hopi Observer
Jul 15, 2025

The Navajo Small Business Credit Initiative (NSBCI) has officially approved its first loan, a significant step forward in the lending program's goal of deploying \$6.65 million in loans over the next two years to Navajo-owned businesses.

Recipient Alvina Earnhart is the owner and managing partner of Red House Law PC and an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation with more than 15 years of legal experience specializing in Federal Indian law. Originally from Coyote Canyon (Brimhall), New Mexico, she is born from the Kin lichii'nii-Red House People clan and born for the Bit'ahnii-Folded Arms People clan.

"As a Navajo woman and small business owner, I am deeply honored to be the first recipient of a loan offered through the Navajo Small Business Credit Initiative," Earnhart said. "This program is a meaningful step toward economic empowerment and self-determination for Navajo entrepreneurs. Access to capital enables Native-owned businesses like mine to grow, serve our communities more effectively and continue the work of building a stronger future for the Navajo Nation."

The NSBCI loan program is part of the US Treasury's State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI), created in 2010 by Congress to increase access to credit for small businesses. As a result of the pandemic, Congress expanded the SSBCI to include tribal governments, allocating \$500 million for tribes to invest in small businesses owned by tribally enrolled citizens and nonprofits controlled by tribal members. The inaugural loan was facilitated by Change Labs, a Navajo nonprofit supporting local entrepreneurs. Change Labs administers NSBCI programs alongside the Navajo Division of Economic Development.

"Approving our first loan under the NSBCI is a milestone not just for Change Labs, but for the Navajo Nation," Change Labs Executive Director Heather Fleming said. "It's proof that Native-led institutions can manage and distribute capital in ways that reflect the values and realities of our communities."

Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren and Navajo Nation Council Delegate Brenda Jesus applauded the approval.

"Our entrepreneurs are the heartbeat of the Navajo economy. This first loan marks a new chapter—one



where the Nation stands behind its small business owners with real resources and trust. We're not just supporting businesses; we're strengthening families, communities and our sovereignty," Nygren said.

READ MORE: <http://bit.ly/4n9sbe0>

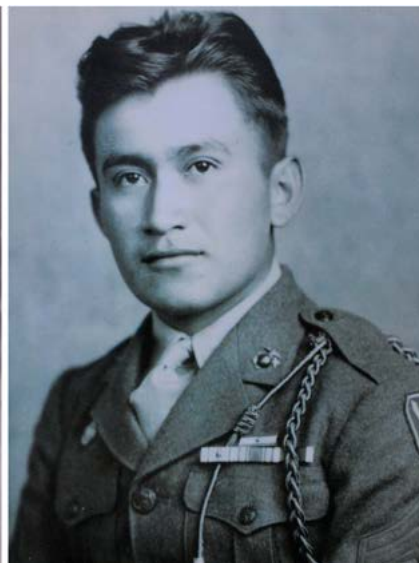
They are the last two WWII Navajo code talkers. This is their story.

By Rita Omokha
August 28, 2025
National Geographic

The surf slammed against the black volcanic sand as the ramps of the landing craft dropped, and Thomas H. Begay stepped into the chaos of Iwo Jima. It was the morning of February 19, 1945, the first day of one of World War II's deadliest battles, and the air already smelled of cordite and fear. Assigned to a beach in the direct line of fire, Begay was tasked with a mission as vital as it was invisible: transmitting encrypted battlefield coordinates to offshore naval officers using his native Navajo tongue. But as he helped set up radios under the arc of incoming artillery, that role felt secondary to survival. "I was really scared," he recalls. "You don't know what could happen to you."

By nightfall, two from his unit had died, and three more were wounded. The illusion that being a radioman somehow offered protection died that day too. "People think we were kept out of danger," he says. "But we were right there, same as everyone else." Begay stayed on the Japanese island for several more weeks, maintaining constant contact with officers aboard the U.S.S. Cecil.

During WWII, more than 44,000 Indigenous men and



women enlisted in the armed forces. Among them was a select group of young Navajo marines like Begay known as "code talkers," who oversaw a secure communications system relying on Diné Bizaad, the official language of the Navajo Nation, to relay mission-critical messages. Once silenced by the United States, it had suddenly become an invaluable wartime asset. The code, never broken

by enemy forces, played a decisive role in key victories across the Pacific theater and, ultimately, helped save thousands of Allied lives.

No other form of military cipher was more efficient or accurate at the time, and as its impact grew, the program expanded to include over 400 code talkers. Today, only two stewards of the uncrackable code remain: Begay, now around 101 years old, who was deployed with the Fifth Marine Division, and Peter MacDonald, 97, who served aboard battleships with the Sixth Marine Division. [Editor's note: Due to poor recordkeeping at the time, Begay's exact birth year remains unclear.]

As the 80th anniversary of WWII's end nears, Begay and MacDonald spoke with National Geographic about the covert operation that changed military history forever. Their memories endure, not just as war stories,

but as proof of the power of Diné Bizaad and those who speak it. "Language," MacDonald says, "gives us our sovereignty."

Read More: <http://bit.ly/3JIA5MN>

Bulletin Board

Tsineeshjii' Naaltsoos Bídadiiljeehí

Great American Outdoors Act Funds Help Restore a Piece of Navajo National Monument's Heart

Navajo National Monument (NAVA), renowned for its ancestral Puebloan cliff dwellings, holds another layer of history within its boundaries – a history intertwined with the story of the Navajo people. Thanks to the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) and the skilled craftspeople of the National Park Service's (NPS) Historic Preservation Training Center (HPTC) Maintenance Action Team (MAT), a significant piece of that history has been restored: the historic Ranger Hogan.

Built in 1950-51, the hogan served as a residence for the park's early Navajo NPS Rangers. For a time, it was even home to the family of Albert Laughter, a local community member, creating deep and lasting ties between the structure and the Navajo community. Over time, however, the hogan fell into disrepair, prompting safety concerns and closure to the public.

Recognizing the hogan's significance, NAVA initiated a project to rehabilitate and preserve it. This is where the HPTC MAT stepped in. MATs are composed of NPS staff specializing in historic restoration, traveling to parks nationwide to undertake critical maintenance and repair projects. These teams are vital, bringing specialized skills to parks and ensuring the preservation of historic structures for future generations.

"We are very pleased with the excellent work that has been completed on the Historic Ranger Hogan by the MAT. This work has restored a structure that was in dire need of repair. We look forward to now being able to use this historic structure to educate students and engage the visiting public," stated Navajo National Monument Superintendent Carranza.

The MAT crew's work at NAVA was extensive. They meticulously repaired the hogan's foundation, log walls, roof system, windows, and doors, using compatible materials and traditional techniques. The project also presented an opportunity to engage the next generation of park stewards. The MAT crew partnered with the Student Conservation Association (SCA), providing local interns with hands-on experience in historic preservation.

Navajo National Monument Transformation



Left image
Before image of Navajo National Park hogan, under construction.

Right image
Restored Navajo National Park hogan.
Credit: NPS

READ MORE: <http://bit.ly/46clWQl>

Utah woman's passion project turns international business honoring her heritage

by Kirsten Kenney, KUTVThu, August 28th 2025 at 5:43 AM

SALT LAKE CITY (KUTV) – What started as a small passion project during the pandemic has turned into an international business for Mickaela Allison, a Navajo woman in Salt Lake who is using beadwork to honor her heritage and her love for animals.

Allison is the creator of Keiki's Collection, a line of handmade beaded pet collars.

"We see our pets as our own children, or our little ones," she said. "In Native American culture beadwork is not only a huge part of our identity but how we showcase we are Native American to the world."

Her parents, both Navajo, moved away from the reservation as children through the LDS Indian Placement Program. Allison said staying connected to their culture was a priority.

"They overcame so much at a young age and staying connected to their Navajo culture was a big part of that," she said.

Growing up in Salt Lake City, Allison said connecting to her roots wasn't always easy. But her mother kept traditions alive, teaching her song, dance, and beadwork.

"I have vivid memories of her beading at the kitchen table, all her beads set up, sewing machines all over the house," Allison said.

Years later, alone in her Portland apartment during the pandemic, Allison picked up beading again. She attached her beadwork to pet collars and shared a post on a Native community bulletin board. Orders began coming in.



Now, her collars have shipped as far as Dubai and the U.K., with most of the demand driven by social media.

READ MORE: <http://bit.ly/3UQzUBr>

PERSONNEL NEWS -- DCD Open Positions

Naanish ʔaʔ'idaat'éhigíí

POSITION TITLE	LOCATION	PAY RATE	CLOSING DATE
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Administrative Service Centers

Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Whitehorse Lake, NM	\$31,257.36	8/29/2025
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Coyote Canyon, NM	\$44,098.56	8/29/2025
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Shiprock, NM	\$31,257.36	9/5/2025
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Red Valley, AZ	\$31,257.36	9/26/2025
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Smith Lake, NM	\$31,257.36	9/9/2025
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Cameron, AZ	\$31,257.36	9/9/2025
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coalmine Mesa, NM	\$31,257.36	9/9/2025

Capital Projects Management Department

Project Manager (S)	Window Rock, AZ	\$51,364.80	9/3/2025
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Community Housing & Infrastructure Department

Project Manager (S)	Window Rock, AZ	\$51,364.80	9/11/2025
Program Manager I (S)	Window Rock, AZ	\$66,189.60	8/29/2025

(OUF) Open Until Filled

(S) Sensitive Position (subject to background check)

Closing Dates may change

For the most up-to-date personnel info, please visit DPM's website at
<https://apply.navajo-nsn.gov/>

Quote of the Month

Saad Baa
 Nitsáhakeesigíí



"It is amazing how much you can accomplish when it doesn't matter who gets the credit". – Harry S. Truman

Comic of the Month

Baa Dlohasinigíí
 Naashch'aa'

THE JAVELINA SAW ITS SHADOW...



WHICH MEANS 6 MORE WEEKS
 OF SUMMER IN ARIZONA

National Preparedness Month: September 2025

September 2025

Press Release Number: CB25-SFS.3

When disasters strike, the U.S. Census Bureau's Emergency Management Hub offers timely local data on affected areas in the United States and its territories.

Explore key Census Bureau emergency management-related resources and data tools that support emergency planning, preparedness and recovery efforts, such as My Community Explorer, Community Resilience Estimates, OnTheMap for Emergency Management and Census Business Builder.

From American Counts, Preparing for the 2025 Hurricane Season:

"To assist communities, states and local governments with emergency event planning, we're highlighting U.S. Census Bureau resources available to help local and state officials, emergency managers, event planners and others prepare for, respond to and recover from natural disasters. Our tools are designed to help communities gauge the potential effects of [disasters] on people and businesses in impacted areas."

Key Stats

From My Community Explorer:

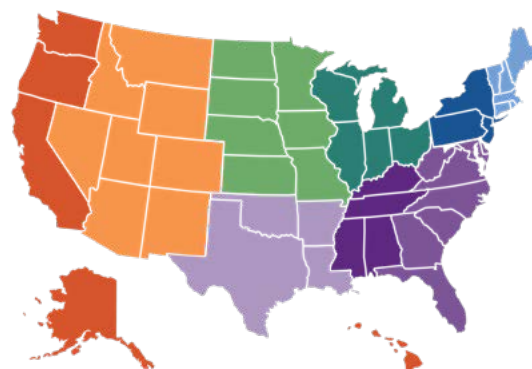
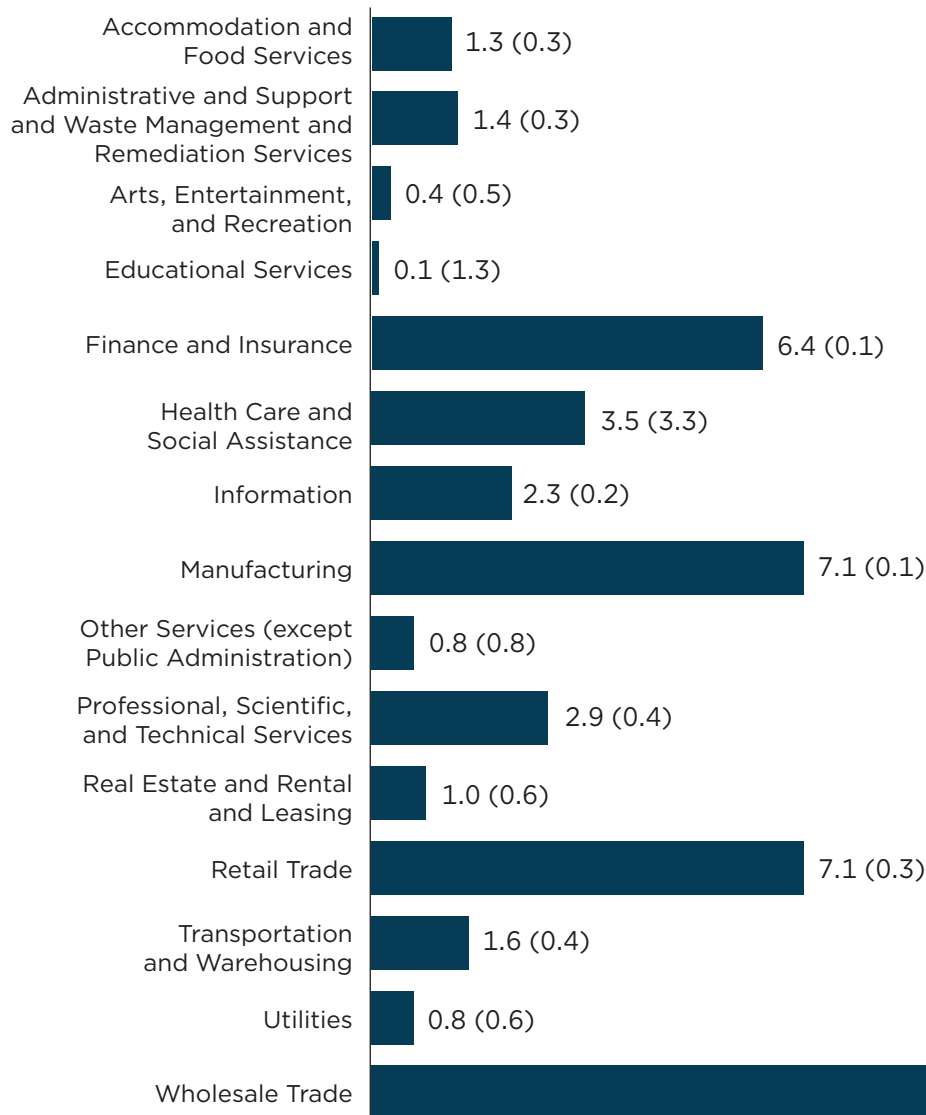
- Community Resilience Estimates (CRE). Provides an easy-to-understand metric for how socially vulnerable every neighborhood in the United States is to the impacts of disasters.
- American Community Survey (ACS). Selected ACS demographic and socioeconomic statistics at the state, county and census tract levels, including data on poverty, educational attainment and language spoken at home.
- County Business Patterns (CBP). Selected business statistics from the 2023 CBP at the state and county levels by two-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code, including data on number of employer establishments, employment and average annual payroll per employee.
- Nonemployer Statistics (NES). Selected statistics on nonemployer businesses (those without paid employees) from the NES at the state and county levels by two-digit NAICS code, including data on the number of establishments and receipts.



Economic Snapshots by Industry and Geography: A First Look

Select Statistics From the Newly Released 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey

Revenue by Select Sectors in the United States: 2023 (In trillions of dollars)



The [Annual Integrated Economic Survey \(AIES\)](#) covers nearly the entire U.S. economy and captures detailed data across multiple geographies. The First Look publication provides a preliminary view of these statistics.

Note: Coefficients of variation (CVs) are in parentheses (%).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

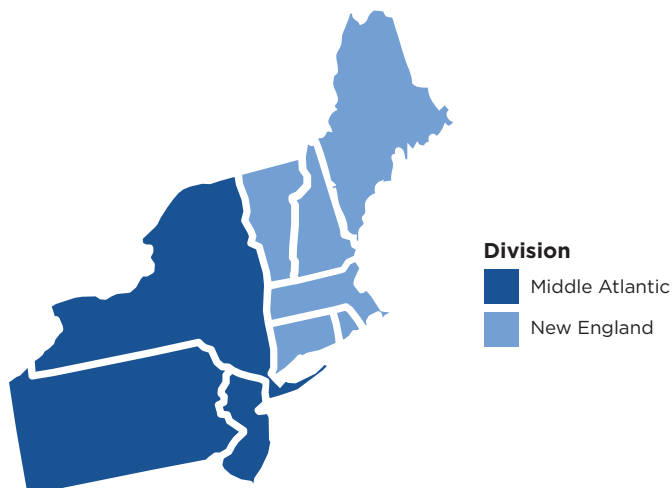
The Northeast Region

\$79,955

Average annual pay per employee in **Hospitals in 2023** in the New England Division.

Coefficient of variation (CV) = 2.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.



1,631,253

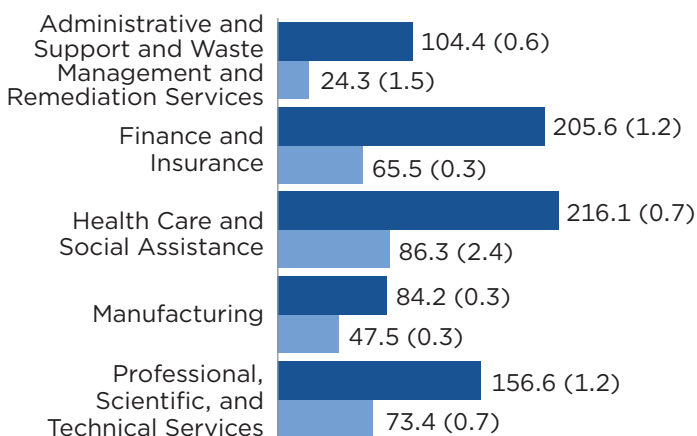
Number of employees in **Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services** in the Middle Atlantic Division in 2023.

CV = 0.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

Annual Payroll by Division for Select Sectors in the Northeast Region: 2023

(In billions of dollars)



Note: Coefficients of variation (CVs) are in parentheses (%).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

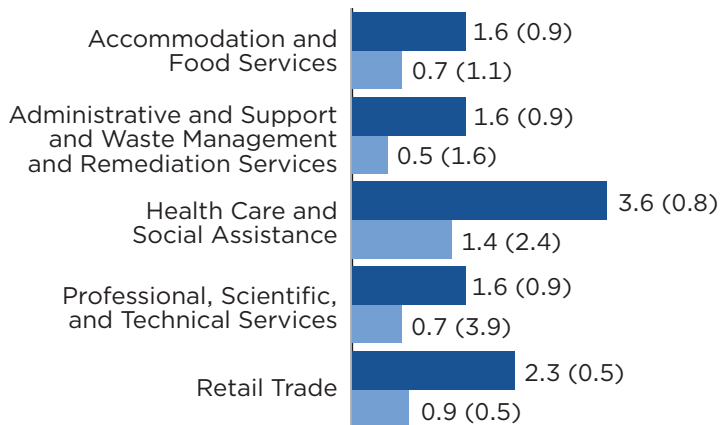
In 2023, **Insurance Carriers and Related Activities** earned **\$314.9 billion** in revenue in the New England Division.

CV = 0.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

Employment by Division for Select Sectors in the Northeast Region: 2023

(In millions)



Note: Coefficients of variation (CVs) are in parentheses (%).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

The Midwest Region

\$121,034

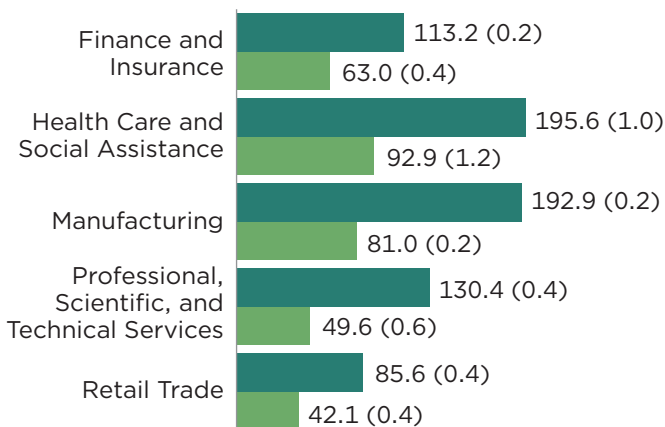
Average annual pay per employee in **Publishing Industries (except Internet)** in 2023 in the East North Central Division.

Coefficient of variation (CV) = 1.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

Annual Payroll by Division for Select Sectors in the Midwest Region: 2023

(In billions of dollars)



Note: Coefficients of variation (CVs) are in parentheses (%).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

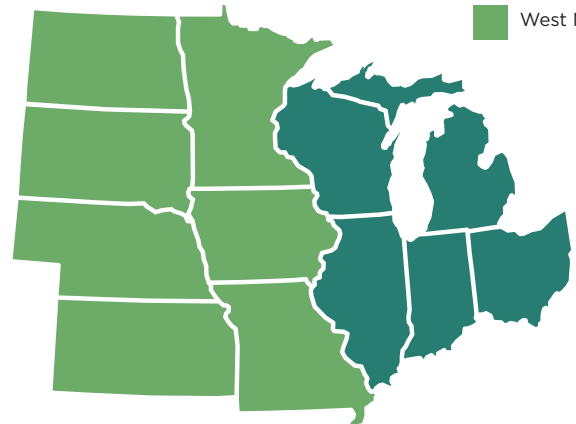
In 2023, **Machinery Manufacturing** earned **\$132.3 billion** in revenue in the East North Central Division.

CV = 0.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

Division

East North Central
West North Central



241,542

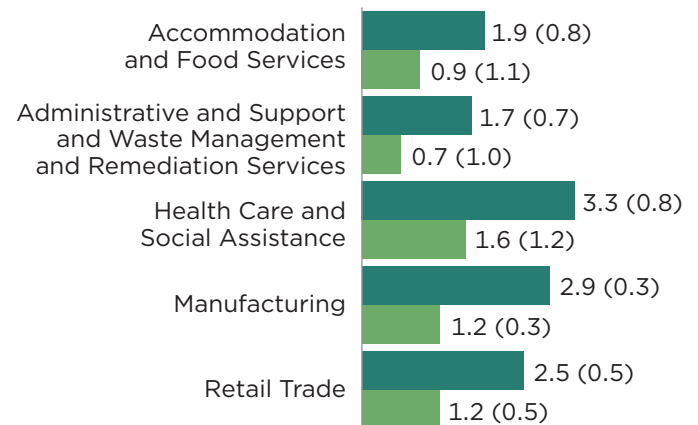
Number of employees in **Food Manufacturing** in the West North Central Division in 2023.

CV = 0.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

Employment by Division for Select Sectors in the Midwest Region: 2023

(In millions)



Note: Coefficients of variation (CVs) are in parentheses (%).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

The South Region

155,714

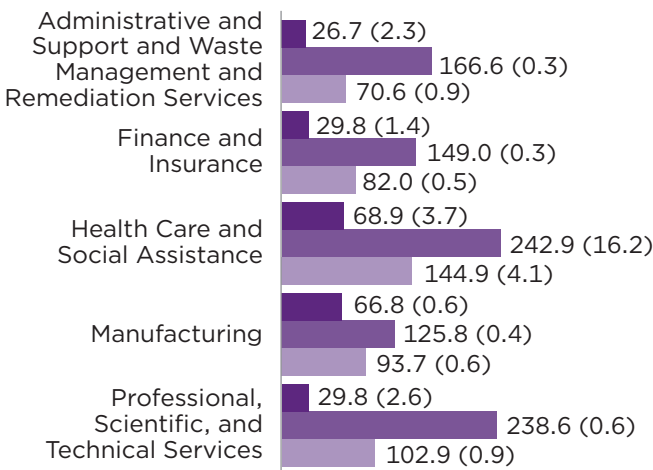
Number of employees in **Gasoline Stations** in the **West South Central Division** in 2023.

Coefficient of variation (CV) = 1.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

Annual Payroll by Division for Select Sectors in the South Region: 2023

(In billions of dollars)



Note: Coefficients of variation (CVs) are in parentheses (%).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

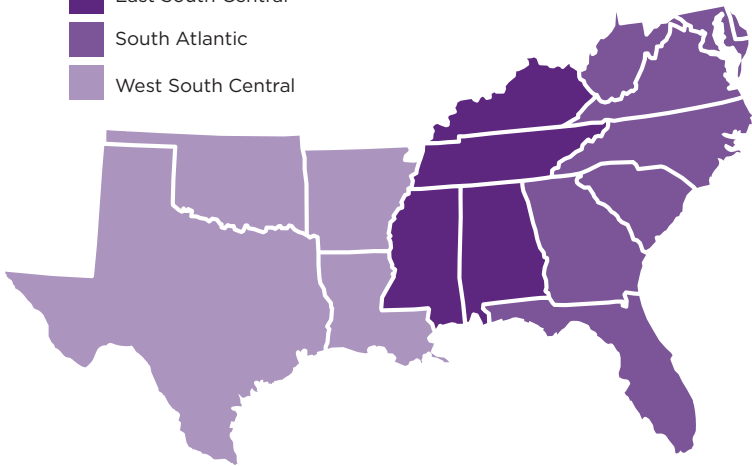
In 2023, **Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries** earned **\$39.0 billion** in revenue in the **South Atlantic Division**.

CV = 1.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

Division

- East South Central
- South Atlantic
- West South Central



\$57,613

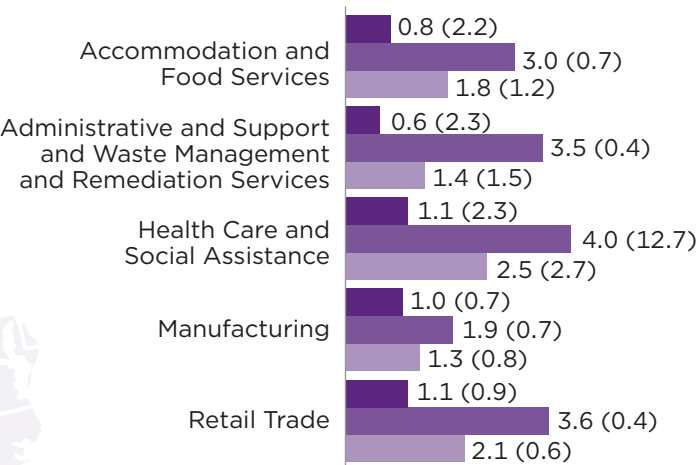
Average annual pay per employee in **Truck Transportation** in 2023 in the **East South Central Division**.

Coefficient of variation (CV) = 2.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

Employment by Division for Select Sectors in the South Region: 2023

(In millions)



Note: Coefficients of variation (CVs) are in parentheses (%).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

The West Region

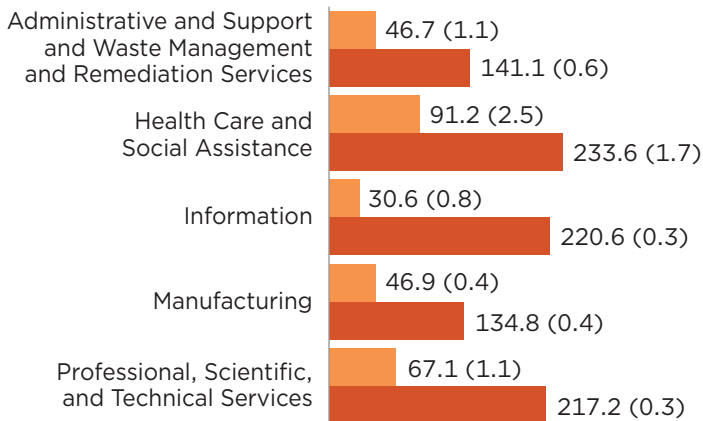
In 2023, Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services earned \$140.3 billion in revenue in the Pacific Division.

Coefficient of variation (CV) = 0.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

Annual Payroll by Division for Select Sectors in the West Region: 2023

(In billions of dollars)



Note: Coefficients of variation (CVs) are in parentheses (%).

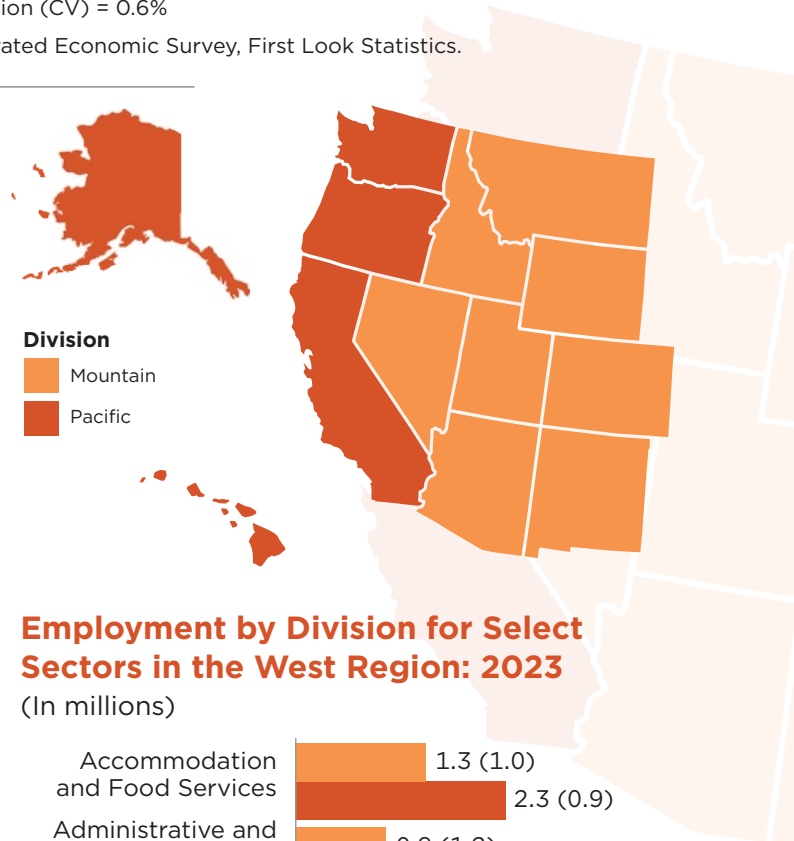
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

\$24,321

Average annual pay per employee in Food Services and Drinking Places in 2023 in the Mountain Division.

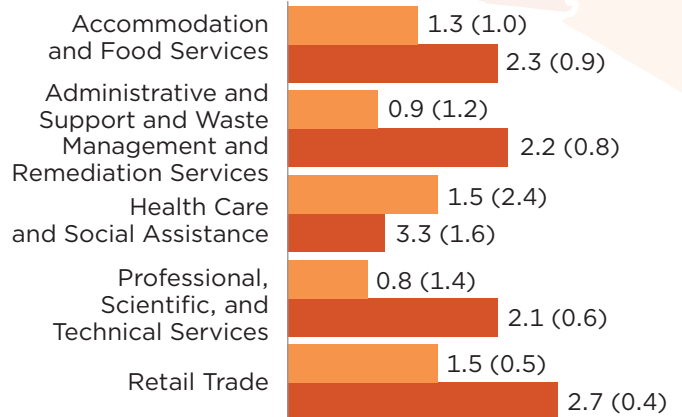
CV = 1.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.



Employment by Division for Select Sectors in the West Region: 2023

(In millions)



Note: Coefficients of variation (CVs) are in parentheses (%).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 Annual Integrated Economic Survey, First Look Statistics.

Note: Data are based on the 2017 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Data are representative of employer firms only. Data are subject to sampling variability and nonsampling error. Estimates of sampling variability are measured using coefficients of variation (CVs). Caution should be used in drawing conclusions from the estimates and comparisons shown. "Revenue" represents "Sales, Value of Shipments, or Revenue" in the source data. Derived statistics are calculated using the published table AIES00BASIC: Average Pay per Employee: [annual payroll] divided by [number of employees] per NAICS code. Information on survey methodology can be found in the technical documentation of the Annual Integrated Economy Survey (AIES) at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/aies/technical-documentation/methodology.html>. The U.S. Census Bureau has reviewed the 2023 AIES data products to ensure appropriate access, use, and disclosure avoidance protection of the confidential source data (Project No. P-7529180, and Disclosure Review Board [DRB] approval number: CBDRB-FY25-0362).

Director's Blog

Source Data Innovation at the Census Bureau: Improving the Quality and Sustainability of Our Statistics

Our statistical products – like median household income or monthly retail sales – don't just emerge out of thin air. Underlying all our data products are one or more sources of more detailed data from which we compute the statistics you see on our website or in the news media. The sources are typically responses to our household and business censuses and surveys or records on government or private-sector databases.

Surveys Under Stress

The most important factor underlying the quality of the statistics we produce is the quality of source data from which they're computed. For decades, the primary method for gathering source data at federal statistical agencies has been the sample surveys. Such surveys yield statistics about a population by randomly sampling a much smaller subset of units, unlike a census, which measures all units in the population. Pioneered at the U.S. Census Bureau by Morris Hansen, Edward Deming and others in the middle of the 20th century, sample surveys revolutionized federal statistics by giving agencies scientifically sound and economical methods to compute statistics of interest across many topics.

[Click here to continue.](#)

Money and Being Your Own Boss Are Top Motivators for Owning a Business

The United States has a storied legacy of business successes, from tycoons and titans of industry to Main Street “mom and pop” shops. What draws these people to business ownership and how do they succeed?

The top reasons cited by business owners, according to the 2023 U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Business Survey (ABS): to make more money and be their own boss.

Surveyed in 2022, many respondents were first-time owners, had purchased or launched their business since the turn of the 21st century and the majority used financing to meet their operating expenses.

The ABS surveys employer businesses (those with at least one paid employee).

[Click here to continue.](#)

August 26, 2025

Volume 25 Issue 16

2025 Product and Event Calendar

The U.S. Census Bureau has posted anticipated release dates for each regular and recurring statistical product scheduled for release in 2025.

Archived Back to Data Basics Webinar Series

If you are looking to improve your data skills, Back to Data Basics is a great opportunity to learn from our experts about how to access and utilize a variety of Census Bureau data products, tools, and resources.

Training Resources

Visit the Census Bureau's [Educational Resource Library](#) for previously recorded, free training available at your convenience. The library includes presentations, recorded webinars, tutorials and other helpful materials.

Upcoming Webinars

Connecting Dots: Turning Data into Educational Impact

Thursday, August 28, 2025

Time: 2:00 PM EST – 3:00 PM EST

Join us for "Connecting Dots: Turning Data into Educational Impact," a dynamic webinar designed for education professionals seeking to leverage Census Bureau data for continuous school improvement and strategic planning. In this session, you'll learn where to find valuable data on data.census.gov, including demographic trends, community profiles, and socio-economic indicators relevant to school districts and institutions. We'll demonstrate how to access and incorporate this data into your decision-making processes to better understand your community's needs and assets. Through practical examples, you'll discover how Census data can inform student performance initiatives, resource allocation, facility planning, and outreach strategies. Whether you're new to Census data or looking to deepen your understanding, this webinar will equip you with the tools and insights needed to turn raw data into actionable knowledge for the betterment of your schools and communities.



Upcoming

[American Community Survey](#)

2024 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

The [2024 American Community Survey](#) (ACS) 1-year estimates are scheduled to be released September 11. These data will be available for the nation, states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, congressional districts, metropolitan areas, counties, places and other geographic areas with a population of 65,000 or more. These estimates include topics such as language spoken at home, educational attainment, commute to work, employment, mortgage status and rent, income, poverty and health insurance coverage. **The Census Bureau is set to hold a [webinar](#) Thursday, September 4, at 1 p.m. ET**, explaining how to access data and online resources related to this release. [Embargo subscribers](#) can access these statistics beginning at 10 a.m. ET, Tuesday, September 9. (Scheduled for release at 12:01 a.m., **Thursday, September 11.**)

National Preparedness Month: September 2025

When disasters strike, the U.S. Census Bureau's [Emergency Management Hub](#) offers timely local data on affected areas in the United States and its territories.

Explore key Census Bureau emergency management-related resources and data tools that support emergency planning, preparedness and recovery efforts, such as [My Community Explorer](#), [Community Resilience Estimates](#), [OnTheMap for Emergency Management](#) and [Census Business Builder](#).

From American Counts, Preparing for the 2025 Hurricane Season:

"To assist communities, states and local governments with emergency event planning, we're highlighting U.S. Census Bureau resources available to help local and state officials, emergency managers, event planners and others prepare for, respond to and recover from natural disasters. Our tools are designed to help communities gauge the potential effects of [disasters] on people and businesses in impacted areas."

Key Stats

From [My Community Explorer](#):

- [Community Resilience Estimates \(CRE\)](#). Provides an easy-to-understand metric for how socially vulnerable every neighborhood in the United States is to the impacts of disasters.
- [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#). Selected ACS demographic and socioeconomic statistics at the state, county and census tract levels, including data on poverty, educational attainment and language spoken at home.
- [County Business Patterns \(CBP\)](#). Selected business statistics from the 2023 CBP at the state and county levels by two-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code, including data on number of employer establishments, employment and average annual payroll per employee.

[Click here to continue.](#)

Back to School: August 2025

It's back-to-school season and an estimated 54.1 million K-12 students and 5.7 million teachers are set to return to the classroom this fall. Teachers make up the majority of the nearly 10 million people working in the nation's elementary and secondary schools, also including principals, school bus monitors, teaching assistants and janitors.

Find a busload of Census Bureau data and back-to-school resources available at the links below about education spending, school enrollment, household internet access, staying healthy at school, and more.

[Click here for key stats!](#)





NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Navajo Nation Division of Community Development

Latasha James, Senior Planner

NN DCD Executive Administration

ljames@nndcd.org

Community Planning News

Alamo Navajo Strategic Worksession



August 2025, the Alamo Navajo Chapter hosted its strategic planning session, while the Community Land Use Planning Committee continued making significant progress on updating the Land Use Planning Manual. The committee has brought renewed energy and commitment to the process, working diligently to ensure the manual is completed accurately and on schedule. Most required sections are already finalized or in advanced stages of development, with only a few updates remaining. The goal is to have a fully updated, community-ready manual in place soon. Alamo is setting a strong example and leading the way forward.

Per the NN Code Title 2006 Section 2004

According to the Navajo Nation Code Title 26, Section 2004, specific steps are required for updating and recertifying the Community-Based Land Use Plan. The CLUP's Plan of Operation must be approved along with the Chapter Resolution. The Community Participation and Education Plan must be finalized to ensure meaningful community engagement (list all your meetings with dates). Additionally, the chapter's vision and guiding principles should be reviewed, updated, and completed. All chapter projects must be included in the Community Inventory Plan, accompanied by the necessary supporting documents. Lastly, the Community Facilities Plan must be incorporated as a required component. Following these steps is essential for successful recertification.

Reminder





NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Get Ready, it's here!

COMMUNITY LAND USE PLANNING WEBSITE!!



What does the website entail?

- Community land use planning orientation video - you can now watch the orientation video virtually!
- Community land use planning documents:
 - Community Assessment Surveys
 - CLUPC Requirement listings
 - Title 26 of the NN Code, Section 2004; Community Based Land Use Plan; Land Use Variations
- Resources
 - Census 2020 Website
 - Map Request
- Community Land Use PowerPoint
- Technical Assistance Request link



Scan me!

Bini'anit'ááts'ósi 2025



The DCD Newsletter, "Community Info", is produced monthly by the Division of Community Development and is a resource for division staff and chapters.

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