Looking to the Future with Education in Lea County
Meet Our Team

Steve Vierck
President & CEO

Geni Cavanaugh
Director of Marketing & Business Development

Sally Tomar
Director of Human Resources & Membership Services

Elyce Gobat
Manager of Research & Special Projects

Sarah Bunch
Coordinator of Digital Media

Tammie Brooks
Executive Assistant

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Key
AC: Airline Marketing Committee
LC: Legislative Committee
MC: Membership Committee
Economic Indicators

Population
Eunice — 3,412
Hobbs — 47,349
Jal — 2,202
Lovington — 15,886
Tatum — 1,442
Lea County — 70,291

Top 10 Largest Employers in Lea County
Hobbs Municipal Schools — 1,498
Nor-Lea Hospital — 530
City of Hobbs — 451
McVay Drilling Co. — 406
Constructors Inc. — 398
Walmart Supercenter — 366
Lea Regional Medical Center — 350
Ferguson Construction Co. — 350
Lea County — 329
New Mexico Junior College — 250

Top 2 Oil Producing Counties in NM
- Lea (Hobbs)
- Eddy (Carlsbad)

Gross Receipts Jan - June 2018
$4,223,884,979

Rig Count March
54

Lea County Regional Airport
Enplaned
Deplaned
January - December
2017
2018

Source: Oil Conservation Division
In one of the fastest-growing counties in New Mexico, education is a top priority for both residents and businesses looking to recruit and grow their workforce. Public schools continue to impress with high ratings, top graduation rates, and ever-increasing enrollment. Higher education in Lea County continues with both University of the Southwest (USW) and New Mexico Junior College (NMJC).

Lea County is home to five public school districts for each of its cities: Eunice, Hobbs, Lovington, Jal, and Tatum. Tatum scored an A grade, the highest score, from the State's school grading system. Hobbs School District is among the top ten in the State in terms of enrollment, with over 10,000 students enrolled in the 2018-2019 school year. Hobbs also had the highest graduation rate in the state in 2017.

In addition to healthy enrollment and good school district grades, many of Lea County’s public schools offer workforce training courses. Both Jal and Eunice incorporate vocational classes into their curriculum. Eunice features classes such as welding, woodworking, and more to help prepare students for careers after school. Hobbs schools offer career certifications including horticulture, veterinary science, hospitality, lineman, culinary arts, nursing, welding, and automotive. They also offer Skills USA which includes plumbing, leadership, carpentry, HVAC, and masonry. Lovington schools also offer dual-enrollment with NMJC and admission to the Junior College’s Advanced Career & Technology Academy.

In order to best prepare students for future jobs, Lea County is looking to the future. Hobbs Schools are in the early stages of adding a vocational-technical school to their options for students. Hobbs schools already offer dual enrollment with NMJC and a vocational school would be a great option to train workers in various technical fields without a university requirement.

Education prepares students for the future and Lea County’s two higher education facilities continue the preparation for the growing workforce. USW is a private college offering Bachelors, Masters and Doctorate degrees. The USW NeXT (New Experienced Teachers) program partners with local school districts to help schools “grow their own teachers” by helping Instructional Assistants to fast-track their education.

NMJC is best-known for its outstanding Workforce Training and Outreach Program. The Training and Outreach center offers customizable courses, tailored to specific industry needs, for businesses and companies to train employees. In addition to customizable courses, NMJC’s Training and Outreach program offers a variety of programs already in place for industries including oil and gas with its Lease Pumper Training, Instrumentation and Controls, Oil and Gas introductory training, chemical plant operators, and natural gas plant operators. Other courses include HVAC service core program, power plant operator, healthcare, green energy, and more. In addition, NMJC recently constructed a new nursing building for an expanded program. The new Allied Health building features a high-tech simulation center and integrated classroom space and earned the LEED Silver certification for the technology-rich facility.

Education in Lea County is an important industry and stepping stone for a healthy, robust workforce. With good schools, forward-thinking programs, and an eye on the future, Lea County’s education systems continue to support business and a growing economy in every sector.
Down in south Lea County, Jal is a booming small town with continuing growth as the oilfield heats up. Jal sits in closest proximity to Lea County’s oilfield activity and is a great location for a business interested in small-town charm and big business.

The building sits on the north side of Jal, with approximately 20,000 sf of space available for lease. It was formerly a school. The current plans for the building include moving Jal City Hall to part of it. The rest will be available for lease and could be an ideal space for offices, regional headquarters or multiple operations.

Located on Wyoming Ave, the building has some available space for expansion and reconfigurations. For more information, contact the City of Jal at 575-395-3340.

For more information and more properties, visit the EDCLC’s Building & Land inventory online at www.edclc.org/property-search/
EDCLC member, Ingram Professional Services (IPS), has been operating in Lea County for over 15 years, a one-man operation that has expanded to over 200 employees with plans to double in size over the next five years with new locations to increase their abilities to help their customers, employees, and local communities.

IPS is a Turnkey Automation & Electrical Company for the Oil & Gas Industry with offices in Hobbs, NM and Midland, TX. Although IPS specializes in Automation & Electrical, they offer several other services that go hand in hand that help them to be more efficient and cost effective for their customers. They offer the following services as a turnkey package and independent of each other also: Engineering & Design, Automation Services and PLC Programming, Plant Turnarounds, Electrical Service and Construction, Pole Line Construction, Fiber Optics, Crane Services, Hydro-Excavation, and Safety Services

Many oilfield service companies find Lea County an advantageous place to be. According to IPS President, Philip Ingram, “the advantage of doing business in Lea County would, of course, be its location in the middle of the largest oil play in the US but also the local industry people that we get to do business with. There is a lot of experience and knowledge in Lea County and I get the pleasure to spend time with a lot of those people.”

Philip started the company in 2004 with a background in electrical engineering and worked as an Automation and Electrical consultant for a major oil and gas company for over eight years before starting IPS. He has more than 50 certifications for programming and implementation of different platforms of PLC controllers and equipment.

In addition to providing services for the Permian Basin, IPS makes a point to give back to the community and “are large supporters of many things that go on such as Casa, United Way, Light of Lea County, PDAP, Make a Wish, My Power, and many others as well as sponsoring individual youth sports teams and events.”

IPS has been a member of the EDCLC since 2017 and Philip serves on the Board of Directors. “It is great to be a part of the hard work that the EDC puts in to help our industry as well as many others. The EDC has a lot of very intelligent people with a lot of knowledge and expertise that are always willing to help. The EDC also does a lot of research and gets out a lot of important information to its members.”

The EDCLC thanks IPS for their membership and contributions to our communities and organization!

For more information, visit [www.IPSAECorp.com](http://www.IPSAECorp.com)
New Businesses in Lea County

**Eunice**
- Herrera’s Oilfield Services
- Los Amigos, LLC
- Oasis

**Hobbs**
- J and L Tactical Weapons, LLC
- Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc.
- Benco Oilfield Services, LLC
- Broken Arrow Taxidermy
- Nokota Energy, Inc.
- Baylor Industrial Cleaners
- Pro Medical Transport
- David’s Food, LLC
- Trifecta Solutions, LLC
- Golden Service Line
- Lounge Express
- Empowered Women Detail Services
- Polished
- Emmanuel Lawn Service, LLC
- Curls & Swirls
- Garcia & Daughters Trucking, LLC
- Onax, LLC
- Lupi’s Party Rental, LLC
- McGill Arms
- A-Cuts
- Turner Mud Consulting
- MTZ Family Food
- Liberty Lift Solutions, LLC
- NP Trucking
- Endless Wear, LLC
- MXM Energy Solutions
- Power Shade, LLC
- CJ Services & Equipment
- Desert Functional Medicine & Aesthetics
- Sparkle Janitorial Services
- Harvest Truck Parts, LLC
- Elite Compliance Services, LLC
- Yunior VL Trucking Inc.
- BJ Trucking, LLC
- Maria Bonita Grill
- La Bodeguita, LLC
- Food Matters, LLC
- Eagle Archery
- Sierra Learning Specialities
- Urban Onyx Streetwear, LLC
- MP Tax Services, LLC
- T and S Safety and Consulting, LLC
- A&E Market
- Simply Design Studio & Print Shop
- Rockin Your Bump
- 5 Star Nutrition
- Rose Petals Bridal Shop
- Legend Transport, LLC
- Enchanted Bridal
- Colt Express, LLC
- JCP Trucking, LLC
- Last Stop
- Platinum Pump and Supply
- Burma Escorts
- ClearFork Wireline, LLC
- Declicias
- Martina C. Martinez
- Warren Electric
- C&C Rentals
- Brilliant Sani-Tech Services
- Ashley’s Transport

**Lovington**
- Joy’s Party Arcade
- Bea’s Flowers
- Stiles Trucking
- Bears and More
- Lea County Vending
- TM Services
- Tacos Los Moros
- WWRC
- C&J Automotive
- Panda Buffet
- Bottle Rockets & Bows
- Ranger Services, LLC
- Family’s Oilfield Service, LLC
- Main Events
- Aaron’s Signs & Designs
- Tortas Chacon
- Pinnacle Chokes and Rentals, LLC

June 25, 2019
7:30 am
Lea County Event Center
Hobbs, NM

www.EnergyPlexConference.org
With growing communities, housing is a priority in Lea County. From apartments to single-family homes, the market demand continues to increase for residents and companies looking to house employees. A priority for development, housing comes in all shapes and sizes in Lea County and availability is climbing with hundreds more units under construction as Lea County flourishes.

In the past ten years, Lea County has seen a wide range of housing being built from several large apartment complexes to new single-family housing developments. New single-family home permits in Hobbs more than doubled from 2017 to 2018. The City of Hobbs has seen exponential demand for new housing and has acted accordingly. Hobbs offers attractive Housing Incentives for developers, and with these, developers are planning over 300 new homes in and around Hobbs. The largest developments include Zia Crossing, Homestead Estates, The Meadows, Tanglewood and Libba Land Subdivision.

While Hobbs has seen the most housing being built, other communities in Lea County are also seeing increased construction of new homes and places to live. Eunice continues its steady growth with several new single-family homes constructed in town, and Jal is booming in the south with a new 300-person man-camp going up just outside of town. Lovington has seen new housing such as Lovington Trails apartments and several new single-family homes in the city.

Affordable housing is also a priority in Lea County. Both Hobbs and Lovington have low-income apartments, and Hobbs recommended approval of a new 72-unit affordable housing apartment complex expected to begin construction in 2020. This complex comes in addition to Hobbs’ three other low-income apartment complexes and Lovington’s two. In total, Lea County has over 2,800 apartment units for families to choose from in Eunice, Lovington, and Hobbs.

Housing takes many forms in Lea County, including RV parks, man-camps, mobile homes, apartments, and traditional houses for people and families of all shapes and sizes. A top priority, Lea County’s communities continue to look for new ways to grow and accommodate new residents and welcome them to Southeastern New Mexico.
Sister Act: The Musical
May 31st - June 2nd, June 7th - 9th
Community Players of Hobbs
Hobbs, NM

A woman hiding in a convent helps her fellow sisters find their voices as she rediscovers her own. This feel-good comedy smash is based on the hit film. For more information on this event, visit www.CommunityPlayersOfHobbs.com

Recycled Art Show: Opening
June 8th
Lea County Center for the Arts
Hobbs, NM

The Recycled Art Show opening reception will take place from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm at the LCCA. The show will be open from June 11 - June 29. For more information on this event, visit www.LCCANM.org

Smokin’ on the Plaza
June 14th - 15th
Downtown Lovington
Lovington, NM

Lovington MainStreet will be hosting the Annual State Championship BBQ Cookoff and Music Festival. We’re really excited about this year’s BBQ cookoff! For more information on this event, visit www.LovingtonMainstreet.org

3rd Annual New Mexico EnergyPlex Conference
Tuesday, June 25th
Lea County Event Center
Hobbs, NM

The New Mexico EnergyPlex Conference, hosted by the Economic Development Corporation of Lea County, is free to attend and open to the public (pre-registration is encouraged). Join us for an in-depth look at different energy industries within Lea County and the opportunity to network with industry professionals. For more information on this event, visit www.EnergyPlexConference.org

For a full list of Lea County events, see the community calendar at HobbsEvents.org
With ever-expanding traffic, FlyHobbs and Lea County are looking to the future with the construction to enlarge the Lea County Regional Airport terminal and to expand the parking lot to accommodate increased air traffic on FlyHobbs United air service from Hobbs to Houston. Phase 1 already under way, includes the expanded parking and the new portion of the terminal, which will be ready in late November 2019 permitting no delays, according to Assistant County Manager, Corey Needham. The renovation of the existing terminal can then begin with a total completion date of the project expected in April 2020. Needham says that construction started in January and is currently on schedule.

A combination of Lea County, NMDOT aviation grants, and state appropriations are currently funding the cost of design and construction of the project. The FAA infrastructure grant is still pending and will likely not be approved unit September 2019.

At an estimated $4.1 million, much of which will be covered by the Federal Aviation Administration and the New Mexico Department of Transportation, the county commission voted unanimously in Fall 2018 to start seeking a construction contractor for Phase 1 of the project. This new plan will address and fix the ongoing issues of proper seating, restrooms and enlarging the current parking lot to fit future capacity.

The current 4,800-square-foot facility contains a security section with no restrooms and an insufficient seating area for passengers, along with several other challenges. Needham has stated that the approved renovation will upgrade the facility for future usage.

“The concept for the Phase 1 plan, which is a 7,800-square-foot expansion and remodeling to the 4,800-square-foot existing terminal. This provides the TSA (Transportation Security Administration) compliant checkpoint and the office suite, one secured interstate carrier gate, holding room and
restrooms and a non-secured intrastate carrier gate with holding area.” Needham said.

Other amenities to be provided or upgraded include an improved baggage claim area, the ticketing area, space for food vending and room for up to three future rental car agencies.

The interim expansion would allow the county to address the most critical of current issues at the airport while providing for possible future expansion in Phase 2.

Needham pointed out the wisdom of upgrading the airport for economic benefits. “Currently, we have 53 people working out there on a daily basis, between airport offices, firefighters, United, rental cars and various people,” Needham said. “Since 2011, a little more than 375,000 people have gone through our terminal. In 2014, NMDOT and Arizona State University did an economic impact study and the impact of the flights was $17.8 million (per year). Now, it’s somewhere between $23 million and $24 million.”

Needham said funding for the Phase 1 construction already is available in the county’s budget, but the anticipated FAA grants could likely cover much of the cost if awarded.

The EDCLC is looking forward to the completion of this exciting project as it will be a welcomed upgrade to the overall passenger experience with Fly Hobbs.
Evening with Lea County 2019

The EDCLC’s “Evening with Lea County” legislative reception featured speaker Michelle Lujan-Grisham, newly-elected Governor of New Mexico, and presented Human Energy Awards to Daniel’s Insurance, the Veteto Foundation, and New Mexico Senator Carroll Leavell.

Website Overhaul

With a new year comes a new look for the EDCLC website! The new website features easier navigation, more data, and a new layout with colorful graphics and photos. Streamlined and easy to use, www.EDCLC.org is the place to go to find information on Lea County including demographics, up to date workforce statistics, incentives, information on all of our communities, and more! We look forward to seeing how this new website will help us to bring new and exciting things to the Lea County communities!

Jal: Pilot Travel Center

The new Pilot Travel Center station in Jal officially opened in October 2018 and has been a busy place ever since! The station employs around 60 workers and serves both locals and oilfield workers traveling through.

Eunice: Loves Truck Stop

A new Loves Truck Stop goes up in Eunice, at the intersection of NM-18 and TX-234. The new station will serve travelers on their way into New Mexico and features showers, a laundry room, and both Subway and Chester’s Chicken restaurants. The station is expected to be open by May 2019.
Friends of FLYHOBBS

Exploring the World Together.

Your business can join us as a Friend of FlyHobbs and help us raise awareness and promote the use of local flights available at the Lea County Regional Airport via United Airlines. In turn, we promote your business!

For more information, visit www.flyhobbs.com