NEVADA
GRANT LAB

A GUIDE TO

WRITING AN EFFECTIVE NEEDS STATEMENT

Improve funder buy-in with a clearly defined community need.

Introduction to Needs Statements

WHAT IS A NEEDS STATEMENT?

Needs Statements answer the questions:

> **What is the community need that my organization intends to address? What evidence is there to support my case?**

Nonprofits exist to serve the needs of a target community. It's important for funders to understand these needs and how the requested funds will be used to address them.

Using data and sourced evidence, a Needs Statement substantiates the relevance, significance, and urgency of a problem affecting a target community.

An effective Needs Statement can and should be custom-tailored to specific grant proposals to satisfy the unique informational requirements of various funders.

TOP 3 ELEMENTS OF AN EFFECTIVE NEEDS STATEMENT:

1. Reflects the alignment of priorities between: 1.) your organization's mission and 2.) your target community's needs 3.) the grant program's objectives and 4.) the funding agency's priorities.

2. Is backed by objective and reliable data that depicts the need/problem and the specific gap in existing services that your program fills.

3. Demonstrates an intimate understanding of the problem and the strategies to alleviate the problem.

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Needs Statement Writing Prompts

After confirming your eligibility for a grant, you will need to draft a Needs Statement. Answering the prompts below (and reviewing examples from real grant applications!) will create a framework for your Needs Statement.

What is the need that your organization is addressing? What facts and external sources reinforce it?
See Appendix A, Examples 1A, 1B, 1C, 1F, and 3C.

Have others tried to address this need and solve this problem? If so, why have they not succeeded? Why do gaps remain? If they were successful, why does the condition continue to exist?
See Appendix A, Examples 1E, 2A, and 3C.

How does this need align with the priorities of your organization and the funder?
See Appendix A, Example 3C.

Who is affected by this need? How does this local need compare to the need nationally or regionally? Are you serving a specific population or subsection of your community (e.g. rural areas of a county)?
See Appendix A, Examples 3A, 3B

See Appendix A for examples.

Needs Statement Checklists

Components

☐ Description of the problem. (see Appendix A, example 1A)

☐ Identification and description of the community that will be served by the organization's proposed program/initiative. (see example 3A)

☐ This can be supplemented with a map, a list of zip codes, census tracts, or other data sources. Federal forms ask for the applicant's and program's Congressional Districts.

☐ Explain the location of the target population and the area of service delivery based on geography, distance, or travel time. (see example 3B)

☐ Summary of previous efforts to address this need and/or solve this problem. (see example 1E)

☐ Describe existing gaps. (see example 2A)

☐ Discuss who else is working to address this need in your community. Highlight how the work you are doing is complementary (not duplicative).

☐ Illustrate the urgency and implications of the problem by explaining the economic, social, or other costs of taking no action. (see example 1F)

Data Essentials

☐ Identify data (and source) that can support the required information for the first section of this checklist.

☐ Identify data that provides a comparison. For example, how does Nevada's poverty rate compare to California's poverty rate or the national average? A noted gap in poverty rates could reflect a gap and subsequent need for federal assistance. (see example 1B)

☐ Identify data that is unbiased from objective and impartial sources. (see example 1C)
For secondary research, call on reputable authorities and refer to originating sources.

☐ Identify data related to the need you are trying to address and the scope of the proposed program or initiative. For example, do not seek a federal grant to fund a literacy program but illustrate the need by reporting how many pounds of food you distribute to families in the community.

☐ Think carefully about the data you include. Reviewers expect recent data, and a common mistake is assuming sources referencing data that is 5 or 10 years ago is still relevant.

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Needs Statement Checklists

Style

☐ Begin your application with an intriguing yet logical opening. Do not pose a rhetorical question (see example 5A).

☐ Be clear by writing and defining all of your acronyms the first time they appear in each section (see example 1D). As an example, write "Nonprofit Organization (NPO)." Even if you think it is common knowledge, do not assume.

☐ Make your Needs Statement easy to read. Attempt to keep most sentences to fewer than 15 words. An exception would be sentences that include long titles and names. Doing this will help keep your narrative concise and easier to read for reviewers.

☐ Be engaging and follow a path of reasoning that makes sense to a scorer unfamiliar with your organization or programs.

☐ Use active, high-impact language while referring to familiar concepts and terminology.

☐ Present clear, concise, and compelling information that flows logically.
If appropriate, use a human interest story to illustrate the need. While objective data drives the Needs Statement, there may be a human element to keep the reader engaged. If so, describe a client or provider in similar circumstances and their positive outcomes after receiving similar services. These elements are generally not appropriate for a federal grant application.

☐ The language you use in your Needs Statement and every other section of your application should use the same terminology as the funder and their application. This will further align your organization with theirs, and it will reinforce your familiarity with the need the funder is aiming to address.

Pitfalls to Avoid – Do Not:

✗ Ignore formatting instructions, including page limits, margins, spacing, and font size.

✗ Ignore your personal cognitive biases. Just because you think a source is reliable or a statement is true does not mean others will see it that way.

✗ Describe symptoms without providing a solution.
Use circular logic that does not solve the problem, such as, "After-school care is needed, so we will provide after-school care."

✗ Make unsubstantiated claims or fail to cite a source where one should be expected. Your scorer will not research for you or follow links to glean additional information. If the reviewer needs to know something, it has to appear directly in your proposal.

✗ Use convoluted sentences or become wordy.

✗ Exclude any elements required as a part of the grant instructions.

✗ Creep outside the scope of the grant expectations. Use an insufficient amount of data.

✗ Include outdated or unreliable information.

✗ Assume that more is better. Do not include details that should be included in other application sections—reserve details of the program for your Work Plan/ Implementation.

✗ Introduce unfamiliar concepts or language.

✗ Fail to conform with the application's formatting requirements with regard to color. Many reviewers print in black and white and score off paper. Example 1 in Appendix A is an exception to this rule.

APPENDIX A:
EXAMPLES

APPENDIX A: Examples

Example 1: REIMAGINING EDUCATION GRANT, FUNDED BY U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (2020)

Nevada's Coronavirus Burden

Nevada, which relies heavily on sales and gaming taxes, has been devastated by the economic and health impacts of the coronavirus. As of May 6, 2020, when the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) published the ESF-RWP RFP, Nevada ranked #14 (61st to 80th percentile) in the U.S. Coronavirus Burden Index (CBI). In July, the Guinn Center, a Nevada-based research center, replicated DOE's original analysis and updated the CBI. Based on recent data (as of July 26, 2020), Nevada ranks #5 (placing it in the 81st to 100th percentile) (see Table 1 for Top 10 States; see Appendix 5 for complete list). The rise in CBI owes to the high unemployment claims and the rise of COVID-19 cases in Nevada. In July, a White House Task Force report[1] listed Nevada as one of 18 states that "are in the 'red zone' for COVID-19 cases," meaning that these states had more than 100 new cases per 100,000 population; also, Nevada is one of "11 states that are in the red zone for test positivity," given that more than 10% of test results were reported positive. Nevada has been hard hit in terms of unemployment claims due to the impacts of COVID-19. As of July 21, 2020, the unemployment rate in Nevada was 15.0%,[2] the fourth highest in the U.S. A survey of small businesses in southern Nevada[3] found that two-thirds of the 2,630 southern Nevada businesses polled said they are experiencing a decline in revenue as compared to 2019; 58% noted a decline of more than 25% in revenues. The hardest hit industries in Nevada are food services and accommodations, and retail. As of April 2020, Nevada's service and tourism industry had experienced a 41% year-on-year job loss rate.

Table 2 presents unemployment claims (as of 07/18/2020) in Nevada. Unemployment claims in these six sectors account for more than 50% of all unemployment claims in Nevada and its two urban counties, Clark and Washoe, and for 45% in rural Nevada.

1A. Description of the problem.

1B. Identify data that provides a comparison.

TABLE 1. CORONAVIRUS BURDEN INDEX: 05/06/2020 VS. 07/26/2020

State	CBI as of 05/06/2020				UPDATED CBI as of 07/26/2020			
	Burden Rank (05/06/20) (1 = Highest Burden)	1 % of Population Without Broadband Access	2 Unemployment Insurance Claims Filed (as % of Civilian Labor Force)	3 State % Share of COVID-19 Cases Per Capita	Updated Burden Rank (07/26/20) (1 = Highest Burden)	1 % of Population Without Broadband Access	2 Unemployment Insurance Claims Filed (as % of Civilian Labor Force)	3 State % Share of COVID-19 Cases Per Capita
Louisiana	5	17.6	26.14	3.87	1	17.6	17.29	4.01
Puerto Rico	3	33.6	22.96	0.36	2	33.6	19.97	0.85
New York	1	11.7	19.32	9.7	3	11.7	17.30	3.57
D.C.	10	11.7	19.63	4.54	4	11.7	19.29	2.86
Nevada	**14**	**11.3**	**26.95**	**1.11**	**5**	**11.3**	**21.46**	**2.50**
Mississippi	13	19.4	17.45	1.69	6	19.4	11.29	3.14
Georgia	8	13.2	31.2	1.69	7	13.2	16.77	2.80
Arizona	45	11.7	14.54	0.78	8	11.7	7.17	3.90
Florida	32	12.5	17.15	1.05	9	12.5	8.77	3.45
Massachusetts	7	8.7	21.08	6.1	10	8.7	14.65	2.83

Unemployment in these sectors has disproportionately affected members of Nevada's racial and ethnic groups. Figure 1 reveals that people of color in Nevada are concentrated in the sectors most affected by COVID-19: accommodation and food services, administrative services and waste management, and retail trade. Figure 1 shows that the average wage in these sectors is lower than the state average wage. In May, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported U.S. unemployment rates as follows: Latinos, 20%; African Americans, 16.7%; Asians, 14.5 %; and whites, 14.2%.

Table 2. Unemployment Claims (as of 07/18/20) in Most Affected Sectors

Industry	State	Clark	Washoe	Rural
Accomodation & Food Services (a)	99,351 35.0%	93,007 36.5%	4,452 22.9%	1,892 21.6%
Administrative Support, Waste Management (a)	20,447 7.2%	18,577 7.3%	1,408 7.2%	462 5.3%
Health Care & Social Assistance (a)	7,537 2.7%	6,244 2.4%	821 4.2%	472 5.4%
Manufacturing (a)	4,928 1.7%	3,189 1.3%	1,194 6.1%	545 6.2%
Retail Trade (a)	17,236 6.1%	15,042 5.9%	1,608 8.3%	586 6.7%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (a)	11,328 4.0%	10,228 4.0%	910 4.7%	190 2.2%
(a) % of Unemployment Claims in Sector as % of Total Unemployment Claims (as of 07/18/20)				

1C. Identify data that is unbiased from objective and impartial sources.

Educational attainment rates in Nevada have always been lower than the national average. As of 2019, only 24% of Nevada's population had received at least a bachelor's degree compared to 32% of the total U.S. population (U.S. Census Bureau). As Figure 2 reveals, American Indians, Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islanders, Latinos, and African Americans in Nevada have low rates of educational attainment. Research indicates that unemployment rates are higher for those with lower rates of educational attainment.
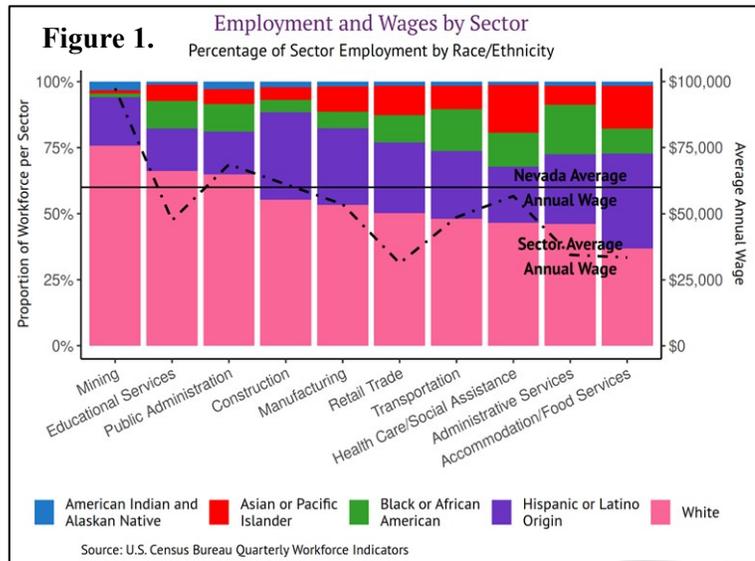

Figure 1. Employment and Wages by Sector
Percentage of Sector Employment by Race/Ethnicity

Legend: American Indian and Alaskan Native | Asian or Pacific Islander | Black or African American | Hispanic or Latino Origin | White

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Quarterly Workforce Indicators

> Consider how your proposal will look when printed in black and white and make appropriate color choices.

Reports suggest that COVID-19 has affected educational outcomes and student retention. One poll conducted by Boro[4] (a provider of credit) in May found that 13% of current and incoming college students were considering dropping out (or had already done so), and 30% said they had lost a job or source of income as a result of COVID-19. Data from the ==Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE)== suggests that national trends hold up in Nevada: there was an average 12.7% increase in course withdrawals at Nevada's community colleges in Spring

> **1D. Be clear by writing and defining all acronyms.**

Figure 2. Percentage of Adults with at Least a Bachelor's
Adults Aged 18 and Older

Legend: American Indian and Alaska Native | Hispanic or Latino Origin | Two or more races | Asian | Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | White (all) | Black or African American | Some other race | White (not Hispanic or Latino)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

2020 compared to Spring 2019, and a 6.3% increase in course withdrawals at the universities. The percentage of "withdrawal" grades as a share of all grades also increased in Spring 2020 compared to Spring 2019. In short, the pandemic may put returning students even further behind and thus, less prepared for the jobs of the future. Finally, the stay-at-home order devastated Nevada's economy: the Nevada Legislature met in July 2020 to address the state's historic $1.2 billion shortfall.
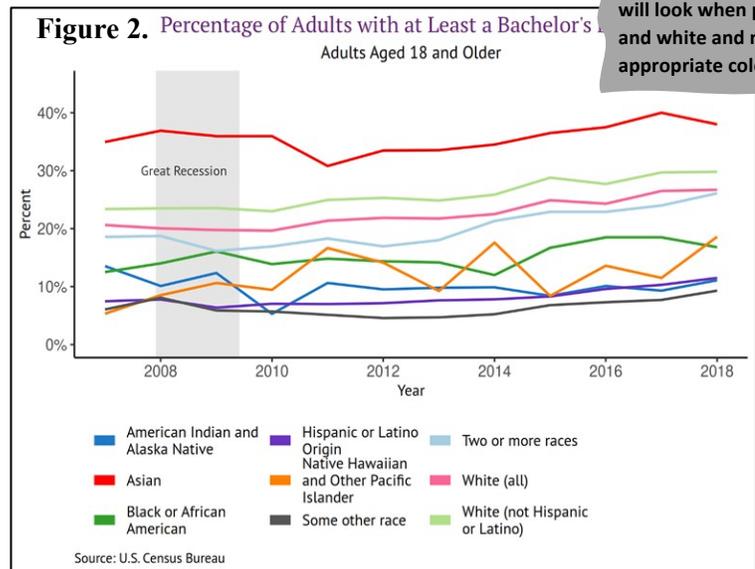
==Efforts Underway to Address Nevada's Needs==

Nevada has several programs to address COVID-19 related challenges and long-standing gaps in the workforce development ecosystem; many of these were underway prior to the onset of the pandemic.

> **1E. This entire section includes a summary of previous efforts to address this need and/or solve this problem.**

Assisting Dislocated Workers by Expanding Short-Term Training & Education Programs: Nevada's community colleges responded to COVID-19 by quickly adapting several programs that were underway and turning them into accelerated degree and certificate programs in in-demand occupations; these programs offer high-quality career pathways to Nevada's dislocated workers and address local employer needs.

Strengthening Employer Engagement: Project SANDI will benefit from ongoing efforts to engage employers in the design of education and training programs. Community colleges continually develop degree and certificate programs in collaboration with employers (e.g., Tesla, HAAS Automotive, RENOWN Health) using the Learn and Earn Advanced-career Pathways (LEAP) process. LEAP was developed by GOED to help learners of all ages navigate multiple career pathway options within an industry framework and facilitate career progression; the LEAP process represents a proven methodology of engagement with employers leading to direct industry impact on career pathway design. Workforce Connections has partnered with several entities (e.g., Las Vegas-Clark County Library District) to open two new One-Stop Centers (Employ NV Business Hubs). The One-Stop Centers will be staffed with personnel trained specifically to serve the needs of employers. Employers can use a one-stop shop to access the resources they need to grow including: Nevada CareerExplorer, free financial guidance services, access to work-ready (based on ACT WorkKeys Assessment/ACT National Career Readiness Certificate) job seekers, employer-driven training programs, and financial incentives for training Nevadans. Employ NV Business Hubs will promote the new Special Response Reemployment Programs.

In February 2020, NSHE launched the *Workforce Development Education Initiative*. This initiative was launched to address several gaps in the current infrastructure: (1) lack of a comprehensive workforce development education strategy across NSHE institutions; and (2) lack of a methodology to ensure the statewide strategy can respond as workforce education needs evolve. As part of this initiative, an 'Emerging Workforce Pathway' strategy group was assembled to: (1) bring together industry representatives and workforce stakeholders to address "the future of work;" (2) develop systematic approaches to determining workforce needs in Nevada; (3) to understand and respond to the role of technology in workforce education in the future; (4) develop innovative ways to meet Nevada's workforce education needs; and (5) address emerging technologies and how they may affect workforce development and education delivery in the future. Unfortunately, COVID-19 has slowed efforts to assemble and consolidate this work.

In response to the pandemic, business leaders and organizations came together in March 2020 and formed the Nevada Business Information Network (NV-BIN). Seeking to support struggling business and reinforce statewide collaboration, NV-BIN's objectives are to: (1) establish business-to-business (B2B) networks to develop/reinforce supply lines, launch buy local programs, and support relocation efforts; (2) explore cooperative purchasing for small and medium businesses for personal protective equipment; (3) direct grant funding to businesses for physical enhancements to meet new OSHA and COVID-19 requirements; and (4) facilitate business diversification and lead efforts to recruit businesses.

Supporting Small Businesses: In July, Nevada directed $20 million in federal CARES Act funds to launch a new commercial rental assistance program, aimed at small businesses whose revenues have declined. Clark County, which houses almost 75% of the state's population, launched two programs to help small businesses: Small Business Rental Assistance program and Small Business Protective Retrofit Grant, both of which were funded by CARES Act funds. Nevada Small Business Development Center set up a crisis call center in March to help businesses apply for federal financial assistance and respond to COVID-19.

Injecting Digital Innovation: Nevada State Library, in partnership with North Las Vegas Library and Microsoft, have launched a pilot to use Microsoft TEAMS and leverage Nevada CareerExplorer. The goals of the pilot are to raise awareness about the role of 3D learning in exploring career and technical education pathways, and to leverage the library network and tools (e.g., Nevada CareerExplorer) to raise awareness among job seekers who are exploring careers. Specifically, library professionals are leveraging TEAMS visual communication options (video reference services) to connect job seekers to Nevada CareerExplorer where they can explore careers and connect to a post-secondary education or training programs.
Supporting LEP Adults: In May, the Nevada Department of Education Office awarded three community colleges Adult Education & Family Literacy Act, Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (WIOA Title II) funds to

provide adult education programming for LEP job seekers with Literacy Civics Education, Workforce Preparation Skills and Occupational Training. These programs will serve 1,000 students.

Nevada's Immediate Needs

Reduced Funding for Higher Education: Not surprisingly, the pandemic has significantly affected Nevada's budget, particularly given the state's reliance on gaming and sales taxes, which account for almost 50% of Nevada's General Fund. In July, the Nevada Legislature met to address the state's $1.2 billion shortfall. At that time, they reduced NSHE's higher education

1F. This section provides an illustration of the urgency and implications of the problem including the costs of taking no action.

budget by over $135 million, which was higher than cuts to K-12 education ($112 million). Community colleges are expected to freeze positions, reduce operating costs, reduce classes, programs, and student services (e.g., academic advising). These cuts are expected to affect CSN's implementation of Workforce Response Centers/Re-HIRE Centers by "limit[ing] the number of "accelerated short-term workforce training programs[5] in Health Professions, Information Technology, Logistics and Manufacturing, and Skill Trades (automotive, diesel tech, dental hygiene and dental assisting, veterinary nursing) being designed for long-term unemployed and displaced." Nevada will use the ESF-RWP grant to support the program – and specifically hire three CSN Navigators, one of whom is bilingual.

Limited Organizational Capacity: Nevada's state apparatus is more limited than many other states. Nevada records 42 public sector employees per 10,000 residents, ranking it 43rd in the U.S. In contrast, Alaska, which ranks 1st, has 245 public sector employees per 10,000 state residents. The current pandemic crisis is requiring Nevada to provide more services and outreach within a capacity-constrained state apparatus. Nowhere is this more apparent than Nevada's DETR, which has been singularly focused on addressing unemployment claims and maintaining the social safety net on which thousands of dislocated workers depend. As such, DETR has not been able to lead and provide rapid response efforts (funded with Title I WIOA Dislocated Worker funds). To build capacity, Nevada will use ESF-RWP funds to hire two Project Coordinators (contract positions housed at GOED and NSHE) who will oversee all aspects of this project.

Digital Online Platforms are Limited: At a time when an even greater number of individuals need services, social distancing guidelines prevent education and training providers from providing full-time, in-class instruction to the same number of participants who previously received services. CSN estimated that social distancing guidelines have reduced classroom and training capacity by 30%. Community colleges in Nevada face challenges moving credit and non-credit programs to a fully digital platform. Project SANDI will help build digital capacity and support the innovative expansion of remote trainings and courses.

Limited Entrepreneurial Programming: In 2020, Nevada ranked 20th in the Kaufman Foundation Early-Stage Entrepreneurship Index.[6] Two of the composite indicators – (1) percent of population that starts a new business and (2) average number of jobs created by startups in their first year – have declined in recent years. There are very few entrepreneurship course offerings in both K-12 and higher education institutions. Project SANDI seeks to strengthen the entrepreneurship ecosystem in Nevada.

Adults Have Limited English Language Proficiency: In Nevada, there are 66,013 households with limited English proficiency (LEP), representing 5.8% of households. Over 320,000 individuals in Nevada self-report that they "speak English less than well." In Clark County, where almost 75% of Nevada's population lives, 7.1% (or 57,433 households) are LEP. Community colleges have received federal funds (WIOA Title II) to provide adult education programs that target LEP adults (many of whom are underemployed) using the Integrated Basic Education and Skills (IBEST) model with career pathways in high-priority sectors.

EXAMPLE 2: CAREER PATHWAYS GRANT, FUNDED BY U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (2021)

Statement of Need: The Accelerating Nevada Apprenticeships for All (ANAA) program will create new and expand existing Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs) to connect underrepresented individuals, many of whom were affected by the pandemic, to career pathways in high-demand sectors as a means of strengthening the skilled workforce pipeline and meeting employers' needs; aligning educational and economic development outcomes; and increasing economic security for Nevadans. ANAA project goals are to: (1) Develop, expand, diversify, and modernize RAPs in health care and information technology; (2) Strengthen partnerships and align CTE programs to expand RAP access to underrepresented populations; (3) Increase the number of apprentices enrolled in RAPs from underrepresented populations as well as individuals who were adversely affected by the pandemic; and (4) Introduce innovation in RAP expansion efforts.

Targeted Industries/Employer Demand: The Governor's Office of Economic Development's (GOED) identified high priority industries in Nevada that represent high growth/high employment demand and primarily offer relatively higher wages: health care, information technology (IT), and advanced manufacturing were identified as among the most 'in demand' and fastest growing industries. As Nevada emerges from this crisis, these three industry sectors are expected to rebound and grow. In health care, the need for skilled workers has increased because of the public health crisis and is expected to remain high. Demand for IT jobs is expected to increase given the transition to remote learning and work.

As noted by GOED and the Office of Workforce Innovation (OWINN) in their 2017 report, *In-Demand Occupations*, "IT is one of the fastest growing sectors and a sector that needs a significantly large number of trained individuals. [N]etwork and computer systems administrators will be in higher demand as more organizations move to the cloud." A *Nevada Economic Agenda for Nevada* (2018) report noted that jobs in the business and IT sectors had increased 14.3% over the period 2011-2017. Over the period 2001-2020, Nevada has witnessed growth in several IT occupations: Software Developers (122%), Computer and Information Systems Manager (77%), and Computer Systems Analysts (6%). Table 1 presents data (prepared by GOED using EMSI) that shows the top in-demand occupations in Nevada. Many of the top 40 in-demand occupations are in the fields of IT and health care with Software developers taking the top spot. Table 1 shows that wages are especially high in IT and health care occupations. Additionally, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Nevada's community colleges launched 20 accelerated ('rapid response') degree programs and certificates in IT and health care to assist dislocated workers while addressing labor demands.

> **2A. The Gaps in Expanding RAP's paragraph details a description/ summary of existing gaps.**

Gaps in Expanding RAPs: The existing structure of the Registered Apprenticeship ecosystem includes OWINN as the designated State Apprenticeship Agency (SAA) and the host of the State Apprenticeship Council (SAC).

Table 1. Nevada High Demand Occupation Analysis: 6-Digit SOC

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
SOC 6-digit	Description	Rank	2018 Jobs	Jobs Above or Below National Average	Avg. Hourly Earnings	Typical Entry Level Education
15-1132	Software Developers, Applications	1	3,890	(4,428)	$48.07	Bachelor's degree
15-1121	Computer Systems Analysts	3	2,278	(3,368)	$39.26	Bachelor's degree
29-2018	Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians	5	1,823	(1,209)	$28.51	Associate's degree
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	9	2,950	(3,737)	$26.48	Postsecondary nondegree award
15-1133	Software Developers, Systems Software	11	1,243	(2,572)	$44.54	Bachelor's degree
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	13	770	(831)	$50.72	Master's degree
29-1141	Registered Nurses	20	22,068	(5,015)	$40.79	Bachelor's degree
15-1142	Network and Computer Systems Administrators	21	1,847	(1,736)	$39.50	Bachelor's degree
15-1151	Computer User Support Specialists	22	4,227	(2,242)	$24.31	Some college, no degree
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	31	2,220	(1,166)	$53.75	Bachelor's degree
31-1011	Home Health Aides	33	1,880	(6,275)	$13.77	High school diploma or equivalent
11-3021	Computer and Information Systems Managers	35	2,013	(1,562)	$63.29	Bachelor's degree
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	37	13,560	(7,849)	$11.32	High school diploma or equivalent
29-1071	Physician Assistants	38	628	(414)	$57.32	Master's degree

In 2018, the adoption of RAPs in non-traditional sectors began to increase. Truckee Meadows Community

Table 2. Apprentices in Nevada	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number of New Apprentices in Nevada	1,620	2,661	2,840	1,855

College (TMCC) received SAA approval for five competency-based programs that involved seven employers in manufacturing and health care. OWINN, Nevada's community colleges, regional development authorities, and others have continued to recruit employers, publicize the benefits, and actively expand pre-apprenticeship and RAP opportunities. Additional competency-based and hybrid programs have been developed, primarily targeted specifically to non-traditional apprenticeship occupations. Nevada has developed several pre-apprenticeship programs in healthcare occupations (e.g., Certified Nursing Assistant, Pharmacy Tech, Medical Assistant) that directly align with the RAPs that Project ANAA seeks to develop to address employer needs. Stakeholders have been strengthening the alignment between CTE programs, pre-apprenticeship programs, and existing and proposed RAPs. That said, significant gaps remain that limit Nevada's ability to scale RAPs. Among these are: (1) Absence of a centralized clearinghouse of information about RAPs and for existing and potential RAP sponsors/employers, and an absence of standardized materials; (2) Minimal employer engagement; (3) Lack of a strong, statewide intermediary to coordinate employer engagement, RAP development, design of standards/ curriculum, and RAP approval process. Currently, the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) is serving as the intermediary for RAP programs that involve NSHE higher education institutions, but it cannot oversee non-NSHE RAPs; (4) Limited IT, health care and advanced manufacturing RAPs; and (5) Limited participation in RAPs by under-represented populations particularly women, veterans, people of color, and individuals with disabilities. Table 2 presents data on the number of new apprentices in Nevada: Nevada experienced a 75% increase in RAs over the period 2017-2019. During this time, the number of apprentices remained steady with about 76-80% of all apprentices actively enrolled within their programs. Less than 2% of RAs in Nevada are in health care and IT.

EXAMPLE 3: **BUILD BACK BETTER GRANT, FUNDED BY U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION**

Project Information

Provide a geographical definition of the region to be served by the investment (project), including the specific geographic location of the project within the region.

The proposed COVID-10 Recovery and Resilience Investment project will serve Clark County, Nevada, which is located in the southern tip of the state. According to Moody's Analytics, Nevada is likely to be the hardest hit state in the country economically by the impact of COVID 19. With 73.6% of the state's population, Clark County is the most populous of Nevada's 17 counties with almost 2.3 million residents, a growth of 16.2% since 2010 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2019). Clark County covers nearly 8,000 square miles, about the size of New Jersey, and is the nation's 14th-largest county. Clark County has suffered massive job losses, the closure of entire industries, and incredible economic devastation to date, and as the "economic engine" of the state, will need incredible investment and economic realignment efforts to recover.

3A. Identification and description of the community that will be served by the organization's proposed program/initiative.

3B. Explanation of the location of the target population and the area of service delivery based on geography, distance, or travel

Included in Clark County are the large systems that have been impacted, including the nation's 9th-busiest airport, McCarran International Airport (Wikipedia, 2020); ground and rail transportation networks; social services; the fifth largest school district in the country, the Clark County School District; higher educational institutions including the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), the College of Southern Nevada, and Nevada State College; and the state's largest public hospital, the University Medical Center. The County also provides municipal services that are traditionally provided by cities to more than 1 million residents in the

unincorporated area and provides extensive regional services to the nearly 2.3 million citizens and more than 42.5 million visitors in 2019 (Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority [LVCVA], 2020).

There are five major cities in Clark County – Las Vegas (the county seat), North Las Vegas, Boulder City, Henderson, and Mesquite – 20 other U.S. Census designated areas and 13 smaller communities and unincorporated areas in Clark County. In addition, 45 Census Tracts are Designated Qualified Opportunity Zones in Clark County. Las Vegas, the largest city in Nevada, is situated in the Las Vegas Valley, and is one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the nation. The Las Vegas metropolitan area also serves as one of busiest entertainment centers with the four miles of the world-famous Las Vegas Strip. Southern Nevada's largest industry cluster includes the arts, entertainment, recreation and visitor industries. The tourism and hospitality industry has been the driving force in the Southern Nevada economy, supporting 37.6% (LVCVA, 2020) of jobs in the region and generating more than $1.5 billion in gaming revenue from the Las Vegas Strip and Clark County combined in December 2019, alone (UNLV Center for Business & Economic Research, 2020a). Over 19,700 conventions and meetings brought in more than 6.6 million convention delegates to Las Vegas in 2019. With more than 150,000 hotel rooms, Las Vegas is one of the largest convention and resort destinations in the U.S. (LVCVA, 2020). These industries have been decimated by the COVID 19 pandemic, displacing tens of thousands of workers and pushing unemployment claims to 33.5 in Clark County alone (DETR, 2020a). Many of these workers will not find jobs in their former industry again, as many workers in these clusters are over 50, and jobs are not expected to be at their former levels for a long time to come.

For the past couple years, the fastest-growing business cluster has been logistics, manufacturing and supply chain management (LVGEA, 2019). Established and growing areas of expertise include: Banking & Finance; Business Services; Call Centers; Construction; Customer Fulfillment; Education; Government & Politics; Healthcare; High Tech; Manufacturing; Mining; and Real Estate (UNLV Center for Business and Economic Research, 2020b). Las Vegas is headquarters for Las Vegas Sands and MGM Resorts International, the world's two largest Fortune 500 gaming companies, and home to the world's largest concentration of firms in the gaming machinery and technology sectors. In addition, an increasing population has helped make Southern Nevada attractive to large and small businesses, from real estate to retail to high tech to entertainment to customer support enterprises. Additional initiatives involving research and development, mineral mining, electrical machinery, medical tourism, optical and medical equipment, aviation equipment and clean energy give Southern Nevada a strong base from which to conduct business (UNLV Center for Business and Economic Research, 2020c).

However, the area is no stranger to economic challenges. After nearly five decades of steady population and construction growth, the region was hard hit by the economic downturn in 2008. It took years for the area to show signs of recovery in the housing and employment sectors along with a return of people moving here as well as visitors who provide significant fuel to the economy. The County had been on a strong path to recovery until the current, unprecedented global pandemic, where once again Southern Nevada is the hardest hit in the country, pushing social services and benefits to their limits, and creating an economic shock that will take massive investment to overcome.

Describe the economic conditions of your region. Define the economic development need to be addressed by the proposed EDA investment and explain how the proposed investment will address that need.
Southern Nevada has been devastated by the COVID 19 pandemic. The data show the incredible need for investment, small business support, economic recovery planning and workforce retraining and realignment. Our COVID-10 Recovery and Resilience Investment project is located in a region that has experienced a "Special Need" arising from the economic injury, including severe unemployment and economic adjustment problems, from severe changes in economic conditions resulting from the coronavirus pandemic. In March, Governor Steve Sisolak ordered the closure of casinos and other non-essential businesses statewide for over a month because of the virus. Nevada has been disproportionally impacted by this pandemic, due to the lack of

economic industry diversification in our state. According to the May 15, 2020, press release from the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR, 2020b), 462,396 Nevadans have filed for unemployment benefits so far this year, with 440,744 coming in the last 9 weeks. The state's insured unemployment rate (the calculation of the insured unemployment rate is different from that of the state's total unemployment rate) is now 23.5% (the ratio of continued claims in a week to the total number of jobs covered by the unemployment insurance system), the highest in Nevada history, compared to the national insured unemployment rate of 15.7%. The yearly total of claims is already at an all-time high. Continued claims, which represent the current number of insured unemployed workers filing weekly for unemployment insurance benefits, rose to 324,444, an increase from the previous week of 20,871 claims, or 6.9%. Continued claims, which lag initial claims, are likely to see further increases as the state continues to see elevated levels of initial claims. In April, Nevada's unemployment rate skyrocketed to 28.2 percent in April, the worst-ever unemployment rate in state history and the highest mark in the country (Snyder, 2020). For week ending May 9, 2020, DETR data show that 79.0% of unemployment insurance initial claims were made in Clark County, and 82.9% of the unemployment continued claims are in Clark County (DETR, 2020c). It is expected that unemployment rates will continue to rise in Nevada, and in Clark County, specifically.

Nevada has four cities that rank among the 20 cities nationally where unemployment rates have been most affected by COVID-19 - North Las Vegas, Henderson, Las Vegas and Reno (McCann, 2020). The scale of lost jobs has been astonishingly sudden and brutal. It is hard to overstate just how disastrous the COVID-19 pandemic has been for Southern Nevada businesses and workers. Many of the jobs lost have been in non-essential industries, such as tourism, entertainment and dining. However, businesses that have remained open also have been hit hard by the shock to the economy and have had to lay off employees. Experts warn the job losses will likely get worse in states like Nevada, which are more vulnerable to severe economic shocks due to a combination of factors including a large reliance on retail, hospitality and tourism. Nevada was ranked 2 out of 10 by Oxford Economics on coronavirus structural vulnerabilities (Klachkin & Daco, 2020) and the state has largest projected job loss at a 5.3% decline (66,656 jobs) in total private-sector employment from the Economic Policy Institute as Nevada has one of the highest shares of workers (40.2% or two out of every five jobs) in the leisure, retail, and hospitality industries (Cooper & Wolfe, 2020).

However, while job loss is one of the biggest economic challenges facing Nevada, it alone doesn't fully capture the scope of the damage and devastating loss this pandemic has inflicted on jobs and incomes in our community. Other issues include those who are still employed but have had their hours reduced; others have suffered pay cuts; some have lost health insurance after being laid off; some lack paid sick leave; and some who lost jobs initially and didn't look for a new one due to bleak prospects.

County officials have estimated losses to Clark County of more than $1 billion in revenue over the next 16 months (Johnson, 2020). The pandemic has shaken Southern Nevada's economy in an unprecedented way, bringing in a new reality for the community that had already been hurt by the last recession, which impacted Nevada more than any other state. Recovery from this current pandemic could take years, making the case for investment now in the businesses and workforce and economic resilience we will need to recover. This project will help Southern Nevada directly address economic damage resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic by providing immediate assistance to businesses while simultaneously identifying workforce and economic strategies necessary for broader recovery.

Proposed COVID-10 Recovery and Resilience Investment project elements will respond to the impacts and support pandemic recovery and resilience efforts by:
- Providing technical assistance to small business to retain existing and hire new employees;

3C. Description of how the proposed program will address the identified need.

Our region desperately needs both immediate assistance to distressed businesses and a series of new, catalytic strategies to propel our regional economic recovery. By simultaneously creating a new CEDS Economic Recovery Plan (Focus Area 2) and Workforce Retraining and Alignment Implementation Plan (Focus Area 3), we will be able to identify catalytic recovery strategies and fully align our region's workforce, business, and political partners to maximize impact.

EXAMPLE 4: COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA (NEVADA) GLOBAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE, FUNDED BY U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TITLE VI GRANT

Southern Nevada is home to 75% of the residents of Nevada, the country's fifth-fastest growing state (U.S. Census Bureau). In 2021, Las Vegas, Nevada ranked in the top 100 fastest growing metropolitan areas in the country. The rapid growth has made Las Vegas one of the most diverse areas in the country. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Nevada is the third most ethnically diverse state in the country, and the growth of Latino and Asian American and Pacific Islanders residents, specifically, accounts for a significant share of the population boom. This dynamic bears out in the fact that all but two of the state's seven colleges and universities are now Minority-Serving (MSIs) and/or Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs). Additionally, Las Vegas welcomes more than 40 million visitors annually, 20% of whom are from other countries. A growing number of Las Vegas' gaming, hospitality, and tech companies (e.g., Wynn Resorts, Sands, Scientific Games, etc.) now have operations in Asia (as well as in Europe).

Despite the increased travel by international visitors and the growing number of residents who were not born in the U. S., international programming in southern Nevada remains limited. None of the universities and colleges in southern Nevada have a flagship international center. To address this gap and to meet growing demand for international programming and curriculum, the College of Southern Nevada (CSN), located in Las Vegas, Nevada, is applying for Title VI UISFL funding to launch the **CSN Global Education Initiative**, which builds on the ongoing work that CSN has undertaken in recent years to grow its global studies curriculum, enhance its language course offerings, and expand its international programming.

The College of Southern Nevada (CSN), a community college, is Nevada's largest institution of higher education. CSN has annual operating revenues of roughly $70 million. The faculty consists of 524 full-time and 1,101 adjunct faculty. CSN offers 290 academic programs and areas of study, including both two-year and four-year degrees. The College's educational offerings are primarily the Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science

(AS), Associate of Applied Sciences (AAS), and dozens of industry certificates and credentials. The AS, AAS, and related certificate programs consist primarily of vocational and technical programs that prepare students for entry into a career. In response to southern Nevada's continued regional growth, CSN has three campuses: Henderson, City of Las Vegas, and City of North Las Vegas. Nevada's public universities and state college accept students who complete the AA degree at CSN. On average, CSN transfers over 700 students to the state college and university system each year.

As of Fall 2022, CSN had an enrollment of 32,105 students. CSN ranks among the largest (5th) community colleges in the U.S. CSN's student population reflects the diversity of the greater community. At CSN, 59% of students are women. Over one-third (36%) of students are Latino, 28% are white, 11% are Asian American and 11% are African American. More than 50 countries are represented among CSN's international students. Representation from South Korea, the Philippines, Japan, China, and Vietnam accounts for a significant share of all international students. Koreans account for the largest share of international students at CSN. Of CSN's 290 areas of study, Associate of Business, Associate of Science, Hospitality Management, Hotel Management, and Nursing are the most popular degree programs among CSN's international students. The College of Southern Nevada is both an MSI (designated in 2012) and an HSI (designated in 2015). Of the total enrollment, 30%t are enrolled full-time. Almost 20% of CSN's students are first-generation college students (2021-2022), and many enroll with limited or no previous experience in or exposure to international affairs or perspectives.

According to Open Doors, there were only 2,131 international students studying at Nevada's seven higher educational institutions in the 2019-2020 academic year, which marks a 20% decline from the prior year (2018-2019). Nevada ranks 44th in the country for hosting international students (Open Doors 2021). Open Doors reveals that just over 80% of international students in Nevada are located at the state's two research universities: University of Nevada, Las Vegas and University of Nevada, Reno (Open Doors 2021). Also troubling is the fact that, in 2019-2020, only 508 Nevada college students (out of a total enrollment of 110,560) – accounting for only 0.5% – studied abroad. This statistic is comparable to some of our peer states with similar populations. For example, Mississippi has 418 students enrolled abroad and Arkansas has 626 students enrolled abroad, out of total enrollment of 166,969 students and 158,587 students, respectively. Meanwhile, states and districts with smaller enrollment numbers like the District of Columbia (98,909 students), Rhode Island (80,077 students), and Maine (71,658 students) sent thousands of students abroad during the same year, approximately 3,147 students, 2,100 students, and 1,190 students, respectively.

Responding to Nevada's changing demographics, the state's continued growth in international tourism, and the increase in local companies that are expanding operations globally, CSN has been directing resources and attention to its International Center, which is charged with working diligently to support CSN's international students, build international studies programming, and help design high-quality curriculum that serves students, community partners, and local employers, who have a growing need for team members that have a global understanding of our world. CSN's International Center has a new Education Abroad Office, which is led by senior level team members who have extensive experience building education abroad programming. CSN's efforts to build a more robust Education Abroad program and launch the **CSN Global Education Initiative** aligns with Nevada's recent push to leverage language diversity as a skill. In 2015, the Nevada Legislature approved the state seal of biliteracy that is placed on high school diplomas to indicate that graduates have achieved advanced language skills. In 2019-2020, 2,123 students graduated with a bilingual seal of literacy: 21 in Japanese, 4 in Korean, and 1 in Arabic.

EXAMPLE 5: **GRANT SPANISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY AND INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL EXPERIENCE FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS, FUNDED BY U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TITLE VI GRANT**

Need and Prospective Results of the Program

<mark>There is an increased demand for targeted specialized Spanish language instruction in order to address the needs of the rapidly growing Hispanic population. While progress has been made offering specialized Spanish language courses in Medical Spanish, these courses are designed for students at the beginner's level and are limited to one or two courses covering basic specialized vocabulary.</mark>

5A. Begin your application with an intriguing yet logical opening.

Currently, there are no comprehensive Certificate Programs for Healthcare Spanish which are designed to take students to the intermediate or advanced proficiency level and provide an international immersion experience. This is due to the lack of specialized instructional materials for intermediate-level Healthcare Spanish. Therefore, the proposed project is much needed and innovative. Its impact will reach beyond the two campuses, as the specialized textbooks which will be freely available for download from the project website.

The proposed project creates an innovative curriculum in Healthcare Spanish meeting nationwide standards and needs and ensuring that future generations of Healthcare workers will have the necessary linguistic and cultural knowledge to interact respectfully and appropriately with the Hispanic population. The Certificate in Healthcare Spanish will impact curricula in multiple colleges and programs at both campuses and provide access to second- and third-year specialized Spanish language and Hispanic culture courses, in addition to international practica. Given that the bulk of work for this project involves the development of specialized hypertext textbooks and curricular planning, once the courses and materials have been created the Certificate in Healthcare Spanish is self-sustaining through student enrollment. The involvement of multiple colleges and commitment of both administrators and faculty will lead to high enrollments, thus guaranteeing sustainability beyond the grant period. The international practicum in Costa Rica will not depend on student enrollment numbers, thus once established, sustainability is guaranteed through the established MOUs.

Sources

[1] The Center for Public Integrity, White House Document Shows 18 State in Coronavirus "Red Zone", July 16 2020

[2] Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Effects of Reopening Seen Across Nevada as Approximately Half of Closed Jobs Return, July 21 2020

[3] The Nevada Independent, In Spite of Aid, Many Nevada Small Businesses Shutting Down for Good, July 26, 2020

[4] PRWeb, 13 Percent of University Students Consider Dropping Out Due to COVID-19 Crisis, Boro Survey Finds, June 9 2020

[5] The Nevada Independent, Proposed $25 million cut to colleges would result in layoffs, reduced student services, higher education system says, July 18 2020

[6] Kaufmann Indicators of Entrepreneurship, 2019 Early-Stage Entrepreneurship in the United States National and State Report, June 2020

APPENDIX B:
DATA SOURCES

Appendix B: Data Sources

This document contains a list of potential data sources (general and by service area) to jump start your research as you create a Needs Statement.

While this document is not a comprehensive list, these sources should provide some valuable information and potentially lead you to more useful sources.

Start with the Federal Agency.

An initial source for data to be used when writing your needs statement may be the agency with which you are applying. Federal grant-making agencies, their divisions, and their departments are authorities regarding the causes they support. In that role, they are also providers of facts, statistics, memos, and reports. Some offices and programs have pages dedicated to curated research. Not all can be listed, but some are included below.

> Tip 1: When you find a source, subscribe to an email or newsletter distribution list. With more data comes more opportunity to select what is useful.

The breadth, the depth, the pace of content creation, the number of federal grant-making agencies (and their divisions), and the volume and range of needs all make it impossible to compile a single repository of data sources that could be used to convey need through evidence.

> Tip 2: When looking for something specific, searching for the agency, department, or program along with "database" or "data warehouse" could provide a useful source.

Sources Relevant Across Service Areas

This section contains examples of referenceable sources independent of your organization's service area.

Census Bureau and General Data Sources

- The United States Census Bureau allows users to explore Census Data through profiles like Clark County or with pre-made or custom tables.
- US Data and Statistics provides demographic and economic data, population, and maps.
- Data.gov includes hundreds of thousands of data sets from government data publishers.

Think Tanks, Research Foundations, Policy Analysis, and Non-Profit Groups

The below organizations research various policy areas and produce numerous reports about their findings. Not all may be relevant to your organization, but you may find relevant reports from several of these organizations, as well as similar groups not listed here. Additionally, there may be issue-specific groups that track data within your organization's service area that might be worthwhile to track or subscribe to.

- The Pew Charitable Trusts | Pew Research Center
- Center for American Progress
- Brookings Institution
- Cato Institute
- American Enterprise Institute
- Rand Corporation
- Guttmacher Institute
- Center for Budget and Policy Priorities
- Urban Institute
- Pell Institute

Youth-Centered Data Sources

- Child Wellbeing Indicators & Data | KIDS COUNT Data Center
- Child Trends

Local Institutions of Higher Education

Local institutions of higher education may provide interesting data points at the state and local level. Comparing national and state or local data is critical to demonstrating the need for services that your organization provides. These sources may help show local circumstances, whereas the above sources may be focused on issues at the national level. The sources below are based in Nevada.

- [Research Centers and Institutes | Directories | University of Nevada, Las Vegas](#)
- [Department of Research at Touro University Nevada](#)
- [Desert Research Institute](#)
- [Nevada University Support Centers](#)
- [Info & Data Center | Nevada System of Higher Education](#)

Selected Sources by Service Area

The following pages provide a selection of data sources by service area, so that your organization may focus on those sources that are directly relevant to your needs. Where applicable, data sources are broken out and labeled as either national or state and local, depending on the geographic focus of the source itself. Where these labels do not exist, all sources under a given topic are national in nature. That does not mean, however, that state and local sources are not available.

Some data may only be accessible via a specific data request to the state or municipal agency charged with handling that specific service area.

Arts, Culture & Humanities

In addition to performance and visual arts, this service area includes archives, libraries, museums, and more.

- [National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)](#)

  - [NEA Publications](#) highlighting successful projects and programs.
  - [NEA Research](#) hosts economic impact, data profile series, and other resources.
  - [Creative Forces National Resource Center](#) includes case studies, field scans, reviews, articles, presentations, and white papers.

Community Improvement & Capacity Building

Including job creation, economic growth, sustainable development, and improved standards of living.

- U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA)
  EDA resources including Research Reports, Resources for Tribes and Tribal Governments, and Tools for Economic Development

- Data Portal - Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development includes various economic data including income, spending, and employment for Nevada and all 17 counties.

Crime & Legal-Related

Including crime prevention and public safety.

- U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)
  - Agencies | Subscriptions
  - Publications by agency including the Bureau of Justice Statistics datasets and analysis tools and libraries of newsletters, bulletins, fact sheets, reports, and guides from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and more.

- Office for Victims of Crime
  - Library and Multimedia regarding emerging victim issues, promising practices, policy development, and technical assistance and skill-building tools.

Education

Fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

National

- U.S. Department of Education (DOE)
  - Offices | Subscriptions | FAQs

- o [Data and Statistics](#) provides access to open data platforms, popular data sets, and public data listing.

- [National Center for Education Statistics](#) with state and district educational data for
  - o communities across the country.

- [Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)](#) combines data on enrollment, demographics, outcomes, and financials for institutions of higher education across the country.

State and Local

- [Nevada Department of Education](#)'s [Data Center](#) allows you to find and request information on enrollment, career and technical education, school ratings, college-going and college credit accumulation rates, staffing, special education, free and reduced lunch, and more.

- [Nevada Report Card](#) provides educational data for state, district, and school levels, as well demographics, attendance, funding, and assessments.

- [Nevada P-20 to Workforce Research Data System (NPWR)](#), a collaborative of Nevada Department of Education, NSHE and DETR, providing a longitudinal view of trends shaping education and workforce outcomes.

Employment

Nurturing the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees; promote opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.

National

- [U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)](#)

- [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) offers data tools, publications, and economic releases.
  - o Curated [statistics](#) and [economic data](#) from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

- [Department of Commerce (DOC)](#) [Data and Reports](#) on the Nation's economy, population, and environment.

State and Local

- [Nevada DETR Data Portal](#) includes employment (overall and by industry), wages, hours worked, and other data for Nevada and its 17 counties.

- [Nevada P-20 to Workforce Research Data System (NPWR)](#), a collaborative of Nevada Department of Education, NSHE and DETR, providing a longitudinal view of trends shaping education and workforce outcomes.

Environment

Preserving, protecting, and improving the natural environment.

- [EPA Open Data Portal](#) provides numerous datasets with information regarding temperatures, precipitation, and other environmental events.

Food, Agriculture & Nutrition

Including education, outreach, food assistance, emergency relief and more.

- [United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)](#)
  - [USDA Open Data Catalog](#) is the authoritative source of publicly available USDA data.
  - [USDA Economic Research Service](#) within the Open Data Catalog offers reports, data, charts, and maps.

Health & Human Services

Enhance health and well-being providing health and human services; sustaining advances in the sciences underlying medicine, public health, and social services.

National

- [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)](#)
  - Research from [Health and Human Services](#) and its [operating divisions](#).
  - [Office of Minority Health](#) | [OMH Resource Center](#)
  - [Administration for Children and Families](#)
  - [Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB)](#) [National Clearinghouse on Homeless Youth and Families (NCHYF)](#) provides information and resources to FYSB Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) Program grantees and other organizations that are developing and

implementing prevention and intervention services for runaway and homeless youth and their families.

- ○ National Institutes of Health
- ○ National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- ○ NICHD Newsroom includes releases, media advisories, and other announcements, plus spotlights on particular areas of research, and research-related infographics, videos, and podcasts.
- ○ Health Resources and Services Administration data.HRSA.gov provides data and maps on HRSA's Health Care Programs.
- Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF)

State and Local

- Data Library at Healthy Southern Nevada, which also includes Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) reports.

- Nevada Medical Center Data Portal includes prevalence data for various common health issues including heart disease, diabetes, mental health issues, and others.

Housing & Shelter

Support quality affordable homes for all through strong, sustainable, inclusive communities.

National

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
  - ○ Program Offices | HUD Mailing Lists
  - ○ HUD Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) hosts research, publications, and datasets in housing, community development, and more.

- National Low Income Housing Coalition tracks issues related to affordable housing throughout the country and produces state-by-state reports, useful for comparing Nevada communities to others throughout the country.

State and Local

- Nevada Housing Division tracks the availability of affordable and subsidized housing throughout the state of Nevada.

Mental Health & Crisis Intervention

Mental health services, advocacy, and support.

- [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)](#)
    - [SAMHSA Publications](#) | [SAMSHAata and Dissemination](#) | [Email Updates](#)

- [NAMI - National Alliance on Mental Illness](#)
    - [Public Policy Reports](#) | [State Fact Sheets](#)

Public Safety, Disaster Preparedness & Relief

Working to prevent, predict, or control the effects of disasters.

- [FEMA Open Data](#) provides a catalog of all emergency and disaster declarations throughout the United States and federal resources used in response.

Science & Technology

The best sources for scientific information, data, and studies are often peer-reviewed scientific journals. These are numerous, each with a different area of focus regarding the research they publish. If relevant to your organization, it may be worthwhile to search for a journal that covers your organization's area of interest.

While this summary intends to provide a solid foundation of data sources with which to start any necessary research for your organization, it is by no means complete. Depending on your organization's program area(s) or specific needs, there are likely many relevant sources of information outside of this list. It is our hope that those sources contained here may lead you to others.