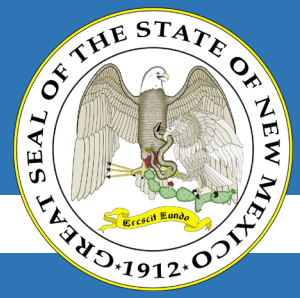


New Mexico Environment Department

Fiscal Year 2022 Executive Budget



A critical turning point

The New Mexico Environment Department's (NMED) general fund was **slashed by 30%** from FY2010 to FY2019, cutting public health and environmental protections in communities throughout our state.

The Governor's budget recommendation for NMED is \$16.8 million in general fund – a **28% increase** over last year – to get NMED back on track to fully protect public health and the environment. Meanwhile, the Legislative Finance Committee proposed **no increase** for NMED at \$13.2 million in general fund.

NMED cannot implement its mission equally for *all* New Mexicans without the 28% budget increase. What's at stake is your ability to breathe clean air and drink clean water. Your right to a safe workplace. Your ability to live in a community free of chemical and radioactive contamination. Every New Mexican's right to the equitable enforcement of laws and permits, including in environmental justice communities, which are disproportionately affected by environmental contamination.

It is time to change direction.



Protecting our people



Protecting our environment



+\$9.1 MILLION

This money is used for our OSHA program, ensuring food safety at restaurants and food manufacturing operations, permitting hemp/CBD businesses, ensuring clean public pools and spas, and permitting rural septic systems.

To protect New Mexicans at work. **New Mexico's 2019 worker fatality rate was 77% higher than the national average.** Our Occupational Health and Safety Bureau investigates workplace deaths, amputations, electrocutions, burns and other injuries. Throughout the pandemic, we conducted almost 30,000 COVID-19 rapid responses to keep businesses open and employees safe. We need 30 additional employees to prevent or investigate the 20 workplace fatalities and 2,400 workplace injuries that tragically impact New Mexico families annually. Ensuring workplaces are safe results in fewer lost wages for workers and medical costs for employers.

+\$3 MILLION

This money is used for ensuring safe drinking water, monitoring and restoring streams impacted by pollution and cleaning up groundwater and Superfund sites.

To protect our drinking water. **Our Drinking Water Bureau provides support to and oversight of over 1,000 public drinking water systems serving nearly all 2 million New Mexicans.** To prevent our drinking water, rivers and groundwater from becoming polluted with chemicals like per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). To issue permits, provide technical assistance, and enforce against violations that impact water quality.

+\$2 MILLION

This money is used to ensure solid, hazardous and radiological waste is managed and disposed of safely.

To clean up legacy pollution in communities. **There are over 2,600 businesses that manage solid and hazardous waste in New Mexico.** Exposure to hazardous and radioactive waste is a risk for New Mexicans. We are limited in our ability to respond to and manage releases and hold polluters accountable with our current resources.

+\$2.7 MILLION

This money is used to operate the Department – human resources, finance, information technology, legal counsel, strategic planning, etc.

To respond to New Mexicans. **In 2020, NMED handled 1,274 records requests (IPRA requests), assisted 234 constituents with formal inquiries and provided thousands of hours of technical assistance.** Our goal is to make our records and data easily available to the public - without IPRA. To ensure Limited English Proficiency individuals have equal access to our services. To support and collaborate with tribal nations.

= \$16.8 MILLION

To fully realize our mission: to protect and preserve our environment for present and future generations.