



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF WORKFORCE INNOVATION

# TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY SECTOR COUNCIL MEETING REPORT

MARCH 2022

Nevada Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation  
[gowinn.nv.gov](http://gowinn.nv.gov)



# SUMMARY

Governed by NRS 232.935, the State Industry Sector Councils are formal advisory committees representing a mix of employers, labor, education, and others, that provide feedback and guidance to state agencies and systems to strengthen alignment of current and future state resources. The councils assemble employers, organized labor, post-secondary education, or other relevant groups or individuals that identify as part of or supportive of the related industry sector. The initial active sectors include Logistics & Distribution, Information Technology, Manufacturing, and Health Care. After a period of inactivity, these four councils began meeting quarterly via Zoom in March and April 2022.

Information, including agendas and meeting links, slides, meeting videos, lists of voting members, and other general information will be kept updated here:  
[https://gowinn.nv.gov/SectorCouncil/Sector\\_Council/](https://gowinn.nv.gov/SectorCouncil/Sector_Council/).

Comments and program feedback are compiled into the enclosed quarterly report.

## Key takeaways from this meeting:

- This is a tremendously variable industry that has adapted to a persistent supply deficit.
- This industry can be difficult to define because technology is used across many different industries in many different ways.
- Hard skills are one thing, but soft skills are also important for individuals to get a job and hit the ground running.
- Nepris for Nevada is a valuable tool to strengthen the connection between Nevada's industry and education.



# EMPLOYER INTRODUCTIONS

## MGM RESORTS

Derek Gyamfi, Las Vegas

Support's MGM's work to figure out. Supporting strategies around crypto currency adoption, NFTs, metaverse experiences, and blockchain gaming.

**Hard-to-fill:** All positions are hard to fill – front of house, back of house, product management, executive roles.

**Challenges:** Just finding enough people for the open positions.

## THE BALANCED AGENCY

Vas Kamyshanov, Reno

Software development company that works with local start-ups and medium sized businesses. Provides technology to fulfill their business goals – mobile app development, cloud development, internet of things, web apps, websites. The reason this company exists is because companies cannot find local developers to hire in-house.

**Hard-to-fill:** Skilled developers

**Challenges:** Pool lacks “last-mile skills” to meet what’s really in demand. Hard skills are one thing, but soft skills are also important for individuals to get a job and hit the ground running.

## TRUCKEE MEADOWS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Jim New, Reno

Currently bringing a coding program to scale and finding instructors that can develop and sustain the program is very difficult.

**Hard-to-fill:** Qualified technology instructors.

**Challenges:** It is difficult to attract professionals to the classroom because the pay they can offer is nowhere near a competitive professional salary in the private sector. They would love to develop partnerships with local employers to use local talent in the classroom, part time.

## MOTIONAL

Dasya Duckworth, Las Vegas

Developing self-driving cars for Las Vegas and around the world. With 230 employees, Las Vegas is the largest operational center for the company. Aiming to have robo-taxis on the strip by end of 2023.

**Challenges:** The technical knowledge – both developing internally and finding externally – is very difficult. It is difficult to support partners also looking for work.



- The Professional and Businesses Services industry has recovered 99.3% of jobs lost during the Covid recession.
- Nevada has been #1 in the nation for year-over-year employment growth for the past 4 months straight and we've been #1 or #2 for the past 11 months.



- Nevada is at the lowest weekly unemployment claims number since 1990 which means there is very tight competition for workers.



- The median annual earnings is \$77,591 compared to a \$115,317 national average.
- The split between men and women in this sector is nearly equal with 52.1% of the workforce identifying as male.
- The age distribution is fairly typical, with 27.2% in the 25-34 range and 24.2% in the 35-44 range.
- 49.6% are white, 20.7% are Hispanic or Latino, and 17.8% are Black or African American.

# DATA PRESENTATION & FEEDBACK

## DETR – DAVID SCHMIDT

This industry can be difficult to define because technology is used across many different industries in many ways. The "Professional and Business Services" industry includes companies that provide technological support or other services as their core business. The "Information" industry includes telecommunications and media companies. Those are the industries typically pulled as "technology" but, really, technology skills cut across all industries.

Over the past several decades, the labor force participation has dropped substantially compared to the national average – down to the 20<sup>th</sup> percentile. This is toward the lowest range we've ever seen, particularly compared to other states.

Nationally, there are very high levels of job openings and hires in almost all industries. Construction bucks the trend with rising job openings but declining hires.

## GOED – CHELSEA WALBURG

GOED has merged a number of sub-industries into a Business IT Enterprise industry to attempt to better look at this sector overall.

When looking at the diversification of Nevada's industrial breakdown, the trends that were present between 2010 and 2019 were accelerated by the COVID recession. Business IT Enterprises went from 4.0% of the total jobs in 2010 to 5.2% in 2021.

There were 74,584 jobs in the Business IT Ecosystems Industry in 2021 which is 23% below the National average. This sector has grown 43.8% over the last decade which compares to 21.2% growth nationally.

Many occupations within the IT career cluster land at the top of GOED's In-Demand occupations list including Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers (1), Computer Systems Analysts (4), and Network and Computer Systems Administration (8).

## EMPLOYER FEEDBACK

Alan Darney – the details shared about the construction industry, that there are a lot of job openings but not a lot hiring, is being reflected in the challenges of attracting individuals into relevant programs.



# Strengthening connections between Nevada Industry and Education

## PARTNER PRESENTATION & FEEDBACK

The State of Nevada has invested heavily in strengthening the connection between Nevada's industry professionals and Nevada's educators.

[1-minute Video: Nepris in Action](#)

Funding is being leveraged to provide full access to every middle and high school educator across the state and nearly 8,000 educators have signed up to date.

Action for you:

1. Create a (free) Industry Professional account on [nevada.nepris.com](https://nevada.nepris.com)
2. Browse Volunteer Opportunities
3. Offer a live Industry Chat

Contact Amy Fleming ([afleming@gov.nv.gov](mailto:afleming@gov.nv.gov)) for personalized training and to brainstorm how you can engage through the platform.



# PARTNER INTRODUCTIONS

## ALAN DARNEY – NORTHERN NEVADA ELECTRICAL TRAINING CENTER

Training electricians looks a lot different than it used to. They supply electrical contractors or systems contractors. HS Diploma is the minimum qualification. Engaged more and more in infrastructure installation which is becoming more and more technical and can include system integration. Training in green energy technologies including solar field maintenance (which was not anticipated when the fields were installed). Other job site technologies that can be surprising to many include 3D imaging and drone piloting/surveying.

## EARL MCDOWELL – HOPE FOR PRISONERS

Works with second-chance individuals who were formally incarcerated. Running a job fair in April. Please **reach out if you have open positions** that could be a good fit for this population.

## DUANA MALONE – NEVADA HELP DESK

Partners with the secondary and post-secondary institutions to raise up the next generation of technologists. Specifically, they are strengthening capacity in Cybersecurity, Help Desk Support, Digital Marketing, Digital Video Editing. They manage a national registered apprenticeship program for all these occupations. Streamlining the talent pipeline in tech occupations has been very difficult.

Preparing for summer programs with the City of Las Vegas to hire 50 interns and 20 apprentices in technology. **Looking for employer partners to provide projects for these students to complete during their programs.** Digital Marketing, Cybersecurity, and Help Desk support.

## ELISA CAFFERATA – DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND REHABILITATION

DETR has business services available to employers. Representatives can go through the state's list of job seekers and filter for individuals that meet business qualification, provide interview locations and job fair locations. They can also support the training if there are skills gaps.

# **CRAIG STATUCKI – NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE OF CAREER READINESS AND ADULT LEARNING AND EDUCATION OPTIONS**

This office manages the state’s Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs across the state. Nearly every school district and most charter schools have at least one CTE program. IT is among the fastest growing programs of study statewide. Programs are currently being adjusted and they are looking for feedback from employers to engage with this process.