

Big Cities

1. Atlanta, Georgia
2. Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
3. New Orleans, Louisiana
4. Toronto, Ontario, Canada
5. Albuquerque, New Mexico
6. Montreal, Quebec, Canada
7. Chicago, Illinois

“Thanks to intentional investments and innovative partnerships, our city has landed on this list for five years in a row,” Albuquerque Mayor Tim Keller said. “The industry has changed Albuquerque for the better and created opportunities for New Mexicans that didn’t exist before. The future for film is bright and we’ll keep working to make sure Albuquerque a place where filmmakers and creatives can thrive.”

Small Cities and Towns

1. Santa Fe, New Mexico
2. Wilmington, North Carolina
3. Savannah, Georgia
4. Fort Lauderdale, Florida
5. Palm Springs, California
6. Knoxville, Tennessee
7. Las Cruces, New Mexico

“Once again, Santa Fe has been recognized as the remarkable city that we are. To be recognized as the best small city for living and working by the movie industry is a great honor,” Santa Fe Mayor Allan Webber said.

In fiscal year 2022, the state announced a record-shattering \$855.4 million dollars in production spend, with approximately \$50 million attributed to production spend outside of the Albuquerque – Santa Fe corridor.

“Las Cruces is honored to be named amongst the most prestigious and well-known filming towns in America,” Las Cruces Senator Jeff Steinborn said. “Our great locations and crew, top notch film incentives, and full-service film office makes Las Cruces and Doña Ana County an excellent filming destination.”

“New Mexico’s strategic investments in film and television are returning dollars, creating jobs, and helping small businesses in all corners of the state. The *Moviemaker* rankings prove our strategy is working. We now need to build on this momentum to create a sustainable, robust economic future for the families that depends on this jobs-rich industry,” EDD Cabinet Secretary Alicia J. Keyes said.

Further advancing the New Mexico film industry and ecosystem is Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham’s recent announcement of the New Mexico Media Academy (NMMA), a collaboration with the Higher Education Department and 15 of their film and media programs statewide, Netflix, NBCUniversal, 828 Productions, and IATSE Local 480. The NMMA will be an epicenter for industry-standard workforce training with facilities located in Albuquerque and Las Cruces.

“Three New Mexico cities being honored this year in *Moviemaker* magazine is an honor and testament to our smart film incentives, unique locations, bar-none crew, and film-friendly communities statewide,” said Amber Dodson, Director of the New Mexico Film Office.

MovieMaker is dedicated to the art and craft of making movies. Their list of the "Best Places to Live and Work as a Moviemaker" in 2023 appears in the new issue, with “Creed III” star and director Michael B. Jordan on the cover. They compile the annual list based on surveys, production spending, tax incentives, additional research, and personal visits, whenever possible.

For the complete 2023 list of Best Places to Live and Work as a Moviemaker visit [MovieMaker.com](https://www.MovieMaker.com).

The New Mexico Film Office (NMFO), a division of the Economic Development Department, works to ensure the longevity and progress of New Mexico's film incentive, grow the film, television, and digital media industry, and expand entertainment economic opportunities for New Mexico businesses and residents.

- Named one of [Deadline's Hot Spots](#).
- Two New Mexico cities were selected as "[Best Place to Live and Work as a Moviemaker](#)" by *MovieMaker Magazine* for four consecutive years.

To learn more, visit nmfilm.com.

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A division of the [New Mexico Economic Development Department](#)



The Economic Development Department's Mission is to improve the lives of New Mexico families by increasing economic opportunities and providing a place for businesses to thrive.



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