

L.A. Wildfires: Ensuring an Equitable Recovery for Workers

- Senate Labor, Public Employment and Retirement Committee & Assembly Labor and Employment Committee
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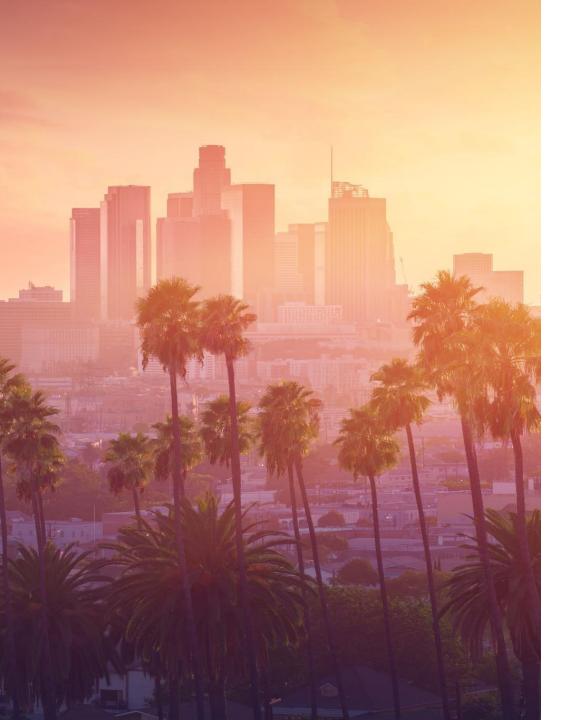




Who we are

- The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, a 501c3 non-profit organization, champions equitable economic growth across the Los Angeles region.
- Through collaboration with community, government, business, labor and education partners to inform and advance our data-driven and evidence-based approach, we endeavor to achieve a reimagined regional economy – growing, equitable, sustainable, and resilient – that provides a healthy and high standard of living for all.
- LAEDC staff and our members represent the diversity of Los Angeles County and act as trusted conveners, thought partners, valued service providers, regional stewards, and catalysts for transformational change.

LAED



LAEDC Mission and Vision

OUR VISION

A reimagined Los Angeles regional economy

 growing, equitable, sustainable, and
 resilient – that provides a healthy and high standard of living for all.

OUR MISSION

 Reinventing our economy to collaboratively advance growth and prosperity for all.



LAEDC integrates a comprehensive strategy through Engagement, Research, Business Assistance, Workforce Development, and International Trade. This approach supports Industry Cluster Development and regional growth through robust public and private partnerships, fostering a more equitable and sustainable economic landscape.





Our Workforce Development Role

• Role

- Regional Convenor: Bringing together stakeholders across education, industry, and government to align workforce strategies.
- Industry Engagement Leader: Conducting research, fostering employer partnerships, and ensuring workforce programs align with industry needs.
- Education Integration: Connecting training providers with real-time labor market data to shape curriculum and career pathways.
- Data Driven Insights: Labor Market information, quantitative and qualitative data and research

• Impact:

- Facilitating workforce collaborations that equip residents with in-demand skills.
- Supporting equitable economic growth through targeted workforce strategies.



Preliminary Impact of 2025 Los Angeles Wildfires

- Property damages: \$28B \$53.8B
- Business disruptions: \$4.6B \$8.9B in lost economic output
- Job losses: 24,990 49,110
- Tax revenue losses: \$0.73B \$1.4B
- Most impacted industries: Retail, Health Care, Construction, Professional Services





Challenges Facing Employers and Small Businesses

- Financial struggles and lost revenue
- Workforce displacement and labor shortages
- Delays in insurance payouts and rebuilding
- Supply chain disruptions
- Increased operational costs





Workforce and Labor Market Impacts

- Job losses concentrated in service sectors
- Disproportionate impact on low-income and diverse communities
- Extended recovery timelines (5-10 years)
- Potential long-term worker displacement
- Need for workforce retraining and upskilling





Equitable Recovery Strategies



Lessons from past wildfire recoveries (Camp Fire, Lahaina Fire)



Support for displaced workers and businesses



Public-private partnerships for economic resilience



Workforce retraining and job placement programs



Targeted financial aid for small businesses



Policy Recommendations for Stronger Workforce Recovery



Conclusion & Call to Action

Collaboration is key for an equitable recovery

Businesses and workers need immediate and long-term support

Policy
interventions
can drive
resilience and
economic
renewal

Let's work together to rebuild stronger!



Thank you!

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