LASER Version 17—Now Mobile-Friendly
Michelle Doran, Economist

Labor Analysis, Statistics, and Economic Research (LASER) was upgraded earlier this month to Version 17 from Version 16.3. Version 17 is a technical facelift that allows users to easily view LASER on a smartphone or tablet. Other updates are minimal, with no changes to functionality. Users can access labor market information (LMI) using the same menu options as they’ve used previously. This article shows the new design and features that were implemented in the upgrade and discusses upcoming changes planned for a mid-year update.

What makes LASER mobile-friendly?

Responsive Design

Responsive design is website terminology that means that the website will adjust itself to fit the browser window. Where the old website design had wasted space on the right, responsive design expands data tables to fit to the width of the window. Accessing LASER with a desktop browser will allow users to continuously show the left navigation menu while displaying more data as the table expands to fit the browser window. Accessing LASER using a mobile device will allow users to view LMI on a smaller screen by minimizing the left navigation menu into a “hamburger menu” at the top of the screen and displaying data in one column.

What is a hamburger menu?

A navigation menu commonly used for mobile applications indicated with three horizontal bars

Most people accessing the internet have used a hamburger menu and not known the technical name. A hamburger menu is an icon with three horizontal bars, on the top of a website, that expands when clicked to display menu or navigation options. When designing a website for mobile devices, real estate must be maximized, and a hamburger menu maximizes real estate by condensing a navigation menu to an icon that expands and collapses as it’s used. Users on mobile devices must open the hamburger menu to access options from the left navigation menu. The menu expands with each option selected and collapses after
users have selected their desired menu item. The hamburger menu and navigation options are shown below.

Desktop users of LASER will begin with the left navigation menu expanded but can click the hamburger icon to collapse the menu to view more data.

### Hamburger Menu

![Hamburger Menu Expanded](image)

### Menu Options

- **My Analyst Workspace**
- **My LMI Dashboard**
- **Labor Market Facts**
- **Job Search**
- **Labor Market Analysis**
- **Directory of Services**
- **Labor Market Profiles**
- **Area Profile**
- **Occupation Profile**
- **Industry Profile**
- **Education Profile**
- **Education and Training Data**
- **Employers**
- **Data Trends**
- **Advertised Job Data**
- **Labor Market Supply**
- **Employment and Wage Data**
- **Economic Indicators**
- **Demographics**
- **Other Services**
- **Assistance Center**
- **Learning Center**

---

### How do users return to the LASER homepage on a mobile device?

**Click Labor Market Analysis under My Analyst Workspace in the navigation menu.**

The desktop view of LASER has five menu options on the top menu: Home, Register/Sign In, Services for Individuals, Services for Employers, and Labor Market Analysis. Labor Market Analysis, which can be used to return users to the LASER homepage or to return registered analysts to their Analyst Dashboard, is not available on the top menu for mobile devices. The menu items for mobile views include only Register/Sign In and Guest Access. Clicking on Guest Access will give a user access to services for an individual, employer, or analyst by taking the user to the dashboard for the user type selected. Mobile users can return to the LASER homepage or to their analyst dashboard by expanding the hamburger menu, clicking on My Analyst Workspace, and then clicking on Labor Market Analysis for the LASER homepage or My LMI Dashboard for the analyst dashboard. Here is an example of the Analyst Dashboard:

![Analyst Dashboard](image)

---

### What other changes are available in Version 17?

- A quick job search is available throughout the website by clicking on the magnifying glass on the top menu.

![Quick Search](image)

- Dashboard widgets have been simplified for easier reading.

For users new to LASER, or as a reminder for existing data users, dashboard widgets are a way to view your most frequently used statistics together in one condensed view. Dashboard widgets are available by clicking My LMI Dashboard from the left navigation menu. Users who register and sign in as analysts in LASER can move or remove widgets from their saved LMI dashboard at any time and customize widgets to specific geographic areas, industries, or occupations. Also available to registered analysts under My Analyst Profile is the option to set a default area for statistics. When an analyst accesses any geography-based LMI, data will display for their selected default area when available.
Upcoming Changes

An enhancement planned for later in the year will update area, occupation, industry, and education profiles in LASER. Profiles provide users with a snapshot of relevant data for an area, occupation, industry, or education program. Current users of LASER note that, while profiles often contain the exact data needed for their research, they also include data that might be unnecessary to them. An area profile can display more than 40 data category options with graphs, tables, maps, and rankings. Users can change display options and categories for each profile by clicking Show Display Options and Show Data Categories at the top of the profile or by clicking the Details tab and selecting a single statistic. The last upgrade of LASER (to Version 16) provided Quick Reference icons to make the profile more visual. New profiles planned for release later in the year will provide a format that is even more visually friendly and data-focused.

Try out LASER Version 17 next time you have a chance, and keep an eye out for these changes coming to LASER later in the year. If you need assistance working in LASER, use the Assistance Center, located within the left navigation menu, to email any questions you have. Select Email Your Questions and then choose Analyst and Labor Market Assistance for the subject. If you cannot find the labor market data you are looking for, you can also call or email the Economic Research and Analysis Bureau directly at (505) 383-2729 or nmdws.economicresearch@state.nm.us.