



ANNUAL COMPARISON

August 01, 2025

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation (BMRR) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) cooperatively update the Standardized Reclamation Cost Estimator (SRCE) cost data file by August 1st each year. Since 2007, BMRR has used a reference Reclamation Cost Estimate (RCE) to compare the current cost data file against previous years (excluding Mob/Demob and Process Fluids Cost Estimator tools). Presented below are the results over the last five years:

Annual Comparison	Percent
2025 - 2020	28.6%
2025 - 2021	31.1%
2025 - 2022	14.1%
2025 - 2023	8.7%
2025 - 2024	-0.4%

The 2025 cost data file reflected an overall decrease of approximately -0.4% (decrease) from 2024, primarily attributable to the following items:

- -1.3% (decrease) in materials costs
- -2.2% (decrease) in equipment costs
- 2.7% (increase) in labor costs

Material unit costs decreased (-1.3%) in 2025, due in part to rip-rap and rock lining costs were down by -22% on average based on RS Means data. Electrical power costs decreased by 15.8%, while analytical costs for water analyses increased by an average of 8.2%.

Monthly equipment rental rates were unchanged for 2025. The “Equipment” category includes fuel, tires, and other maintenance items. Maintenance and equipment wear remained unchanged for 2025. Diesel fuel prices decreased approximately 16.9% (from \$3.19 per gallon to \$2.65 per gallon), while tire prices increased by an average of 6.2%. The overall result was a -2.2% (decrease) for equipment-related costs.

In past observations the U.S. Department of Labor updated the Davis-Bacon wage determinations on 2 to 4-year intervals, however with high inflation in the past few years many Davis Bacon wage determinations have been updated annually in the past 2-years. Interestingly, rates for truck drivers in Elko County have not been updated since 2016. Note that approximately 78% of the job classification wage rates changed. Davis-Bacon labor rates increased on average by 4.7% in 2025, based on labor rate averages for Clark County and Elko County. The largest labor rate increases were observed for dozer equipment operators in Elko County with an increase of approximately 18.8%.

Historically empirical observations have shown that reclamation costs are closely correlated to the price of fuel, however since 2023 reclamation costs have deviated from past observations and labor and equipment costs appear to be the driving factors. The cost data file uses an annualized average fuel price from June of 2024 through May of 2025. The attached graph shows a comparison of fuel prices and reclamation costs between 2009 and 2025.

