



New Mexico Labor Market Review

Volume 37, No. 4, (published - May 30, 2008)

*A Publication Presenting Highlights of
April 2008 Labor Market Data*

...New Mexico's rate of over-the-year job growth was 1.0 percent, representing an increase of 8,500 jobs. New Mexico ranked in the middle range among the states for job growth.

...Albuquerque MSA payroll employment rose 0.3 percent over the month, adding 1,000 new jobs. Employment increases are typical this time of year when construction and tourism begin to pick up.

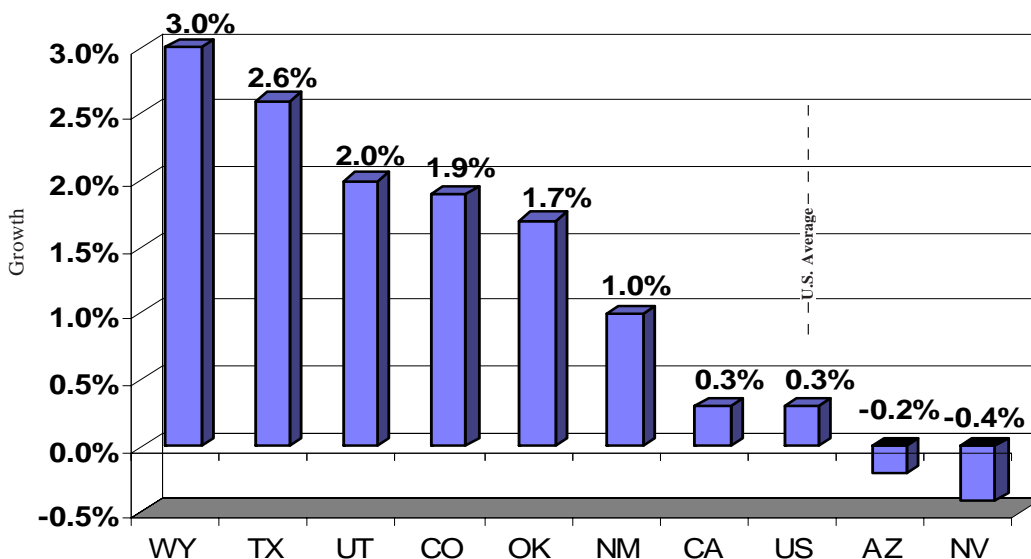
...The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces MSA was 1.7 percent. This rate of job growth was above the average for the state, and the Las Cruces MSA added 1,200 jobs over the last year.

...The rate of over-the-year job growth for Santa Fe was 0.9 percent, adding 600 jobs. The Santa Fe MSA posted a year of strong job growth that ended about six months ago, and job growth has since settled at a rate that is close to the average for the state.

...Over the last year, the Farmington MSA has added 2,000 jobs, growing 3.9 percent. This rate of job growth was far above the average for the state. Substantial fluctuation in the growth rate from month-to-month is fairly typical for a small metro area like Farmington.

Current Regional Nonfarm Employment Growth

April 2008 over April 2007 - Not Seasonally Adjusted



Bill Richardson
Governor

Betty Sparrow Doris
Secretary

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New Mexico Labor Force and Payroll Employment

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.5 percent in April 2008, down from 3.7 percent in March. The national unemployment rate also dropped in April, from 5.1 percent to 5.0 percent. New Mexico's unemployment remained remarkably low, below the national average and not far above January's record low of 3.1 percent. A year ago, the state's unemployment rate stood at 3.6 percent.

The rate of over-the-year job growth, comparing April 2008 with April 2007, was 1.0 percent, representing an increase of 8,500 jobs. New Mexico ranked in the middle range among the states for job growth.

Job growth peaked at 3.5 percent in mid-2006 before trending downward and has remained close to one percent for the last year. The recent pattern is similar to New Mexico's experience seven years ago during the last national recession. Job growth has slowed, but employment conditions are stable in most industry sectors.

The goods-producing sector has shown the most volatility, having been up by 9,000 jobs in the 12 months ending April 2006, adding another 1,000 jobs by March 2007, then recording a 12-month loss of 1,700 jobs for April 2008. Manufacturing employment has contracted, construction has remained flat, and mining has grown at a significantly slower rate.

During 2005 and 2006, New Mexico regained about a third of the 6,000 manufacturing jobs lost between 2001 and 2005. However, job losses began to occur again in the industry last year, particularly in semiconductor manufacturing. Other manufacturers have also hit upon hard times, and many firms have reduced their workforces during 2007 and early 2008.

The construction industry is going through a period of adjustment following four years of growth. Construction employment boomed with work on various large public works projects and continued when residential construction was strong. The boom has now ended and some job losses have occurred. Overall, the construction industry reported the same number of jobs in April 2008 as in April 2007. When considering larger job losses reported at the national level in construction, New Mexico is faring rather well. The state gained 14,000 construction jobs between 2002 and 2006. Mining employment was 300 jobs higher than last year, reflecting continued exploration activity, while actual production of oil and natural gas has declined.

On the services-providing side, most industries reported employment at slightly above last year's levels. The standout continued to be the information industry, which has grown 9.0 percent since last year and added 1,300 jobs. The gains were largely due to continued activity in the state's film industry. This industry had a bumper year in 2006, which continued into 2007. Recent trends indicate that 2008 may be the best year yet; however, large month-to-month swings in employment are not unusual because of the nature of film production work. During times of intensive film work, employment in the state's film industry has been as many as 3,000 jobs above baseline levels. Due to weakness in its telecommunications components, the information industry lost more than 3,000 jobs during a three-year period ending in early 2005. Even with the recent boost from film production, employment levels were still about 2,000 jobs below the peak set in the spring of 2001.

The educational & health services industry has increased employment more than any other industry, expanding by 3,500 jobs, growing 3.1 percent on the year. This industry is so large that even modest rates of growth translate into a considerable number of new jobs. The small wholesale trade industry added 800 jobs, up 3.4 percent, while the much larger retail trade industry added 1,300 jobs. The transportation, warehousing, & utilities industry reported growth of 4.5 percent over the year, adding 1,100 jobs. Some of this strength came from construction work by power generation facilities.

Employment in the financial activities industry was reported at 100 jobs below last year's level. The professional & business services industry, which includes several firms that rely upon national defense contracts, reported employment that was up by only 100 jobs from last year. Job growth in the leisure & hospitality industry has slowed to 600 jobs over the year, continuing a trend of low growth not seen for a number of years. The miscellaneous *other services* category reported 200 more jobs than last year.

Government employment has increased at a rate of 0.7 percent, adding 1,400 jobs. The local, state and federal levels added 900, 400, and 100 jobs, respectively.

New Mexico Seasonally Adjusted	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Apr 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2007	Mar 2008	Apr 2007
Civilian Labor Force	950,800	950,100	941,300	+700	+9,500
Employment	917,100	915,300	907,100	+1,800	+10,000
Unemployment	33,700	34,700	34,200	-1,000	-500
Rate	3.5%	3.7%	3.6%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.4%	3.7%	3.4%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Albuquerque MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance & Valencia Counties)

Seasonally adjusted unemployment in the Albuquerque MSA was 3.5 percent in April 2008, down from 3.8 percent in March. A year ago, the unemployment rate was 3.4 percent.

Payroll employment rose 0.3 percent over the month, adding 1,000 new jobs to the Albuquerque area economy. Employment increases are typical this time of year when construction and tourism begin to pick up. Leisure & hospitality grew by 2.1 percent or 800 jobs, reflecting a seasonal increase in tourist-related businesses like food services and accommodation. Construction added 300 jobs for growth of 1.0 percent, while professional & business services and educational & health services each added 100 jobs and grew by 0.2 percent. Employment in six industries—wholesale trade; retail trade; transportation, warehousing, & utilities; information; financial activities; and miscellaneous *other services*—remained at last month’s levels. Two industries—government (-200) and manufacturing (-100)—posted over-the-month employment declines.

In the last 12 months, employment in the Albuquerque MSA has expanded by 0.7 percent, adding 2,600 new jobs. Growth has slowed significantly since its most recent peak of 4.1 percent in June 2006, and Albuquerque’s rate remained the lowest among New Mexico’s four MSAs.

Growth in educational & health services continued to be solid at 3.0 percent, adding 1,500 jobs over the year. The health services industry plays a strong role in the Albuquerque employment picture, remaining steady even when other segments of the economy falter. This industry has not experienced an over-the-year decline since the latest payroll employment series began in 1990.

Retail trade recorded an over-the-year employment increase of 2.3 percent in April, adding 1,000 new jobs. Industry growth reached a five-month high of 2.6 percent in December 2007 before dropping to 1.8 percent for each of the first three months of 2008. Albuquerque’s 12-month rate of retail trade employment growth has exceeded the statewide rate for 15 of the past 16 months.

Government employment increased at more than double the rate of private industry, expanding by 1.1 percent or 900 jobs. Local government added 800 new jobs, accounting for the bulk of the increase, while state government added 200. Federal government lost 100 jobs, marking 11 consecutive months of over-the-year declines. Government entities account for more than 20 percent of total nonfarm employment in the Albuquerque area.

Professional & business services employment rose by 500 jobs or 0.8 percent in the past 12 months. Employment growth reached a recent peak of 4.1 percent in August 2007 but has since diminished significantly. The industry employed 64,300 in April 2008, making it the Albuquerque MSA’s largest private-sector employer.

Transportation, warehousing, & utilities recorded the largest percentage increase of any industry—3.7 percent—while adding 400 jobs over the year. Information employment increased 3.3 percent or 300 jobs as the industry continued to gradually regain some of the 3,100 jobs lost between September 2001 and September 2005. Miscellaneous *other services* grew by 2.5 percent or 300 jobs.

Leisure & hospitality employment inched up by 200 jobs or 0.5 percent, barely eclipsing March’s 0.3 percent over-the-year increase that marked the industry’s smallest gain in nearly three years. Following nearly two years of above-average growth ending in mid-2007, it appears that this industry is pausing to let demand catch up with supply before starting to expand once again. Employment in wholesale trade also increased by 200 (up 1.5 percent).

Manufacturing and construction each continued to struggle, shedding a combined 2,600 jobs over the year. Manufacturing employment fell by 5.9 percent or 1,400 jobs, largely the result of layoffs at Intel. Construction employment slipped by 3.9 percent or 1,200 jobs, marking the industry’s sixteenth consecutive month of negative growth. Financial activities employment was also down slightly over the year, falling by 100 jobs or 0.5 percent.

Albuquerque	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Apr 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2007	Mar 2008	Apr 2007
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	408,900	407,800	406,200	+1,100	+2,700
Employment	394,400	392,300	392,300	+2,100	+2,100
Unemployment	14,500	15,500	14,000	-1,000	+500
Rate	3.5%	3.8%	3.4%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.4%	3.6%	3.3%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Las Cruces MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Doña Ana County)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the Las Cruces MSA was 3.7 percent in April 2008, down from 4.0 percent in March. A year ago, the area's unemployment rate was 3.9 percent.

In April 2008, the Las Cruces area lost 100 jobs as the net result of 200 fewer educational & health services jobs and 100 additional manufacturing jobs. Employment in ten other industries remained at last month's levels.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces area was 1.7 percent, comparing April 2008 with the same month a year ago. This rate of job growth was above the average for the state, and the Las Cruces area added 1,200 jobs over the last year.

Government employers reported 400 more jobs since last April, as local government added 200 and state and federal government each added 100. Educational & health services gained 300 jobs for growth of 2.8 percent. Also adding 300 jobs, the professional & business services industry received a boost from additional employment at area call centers.

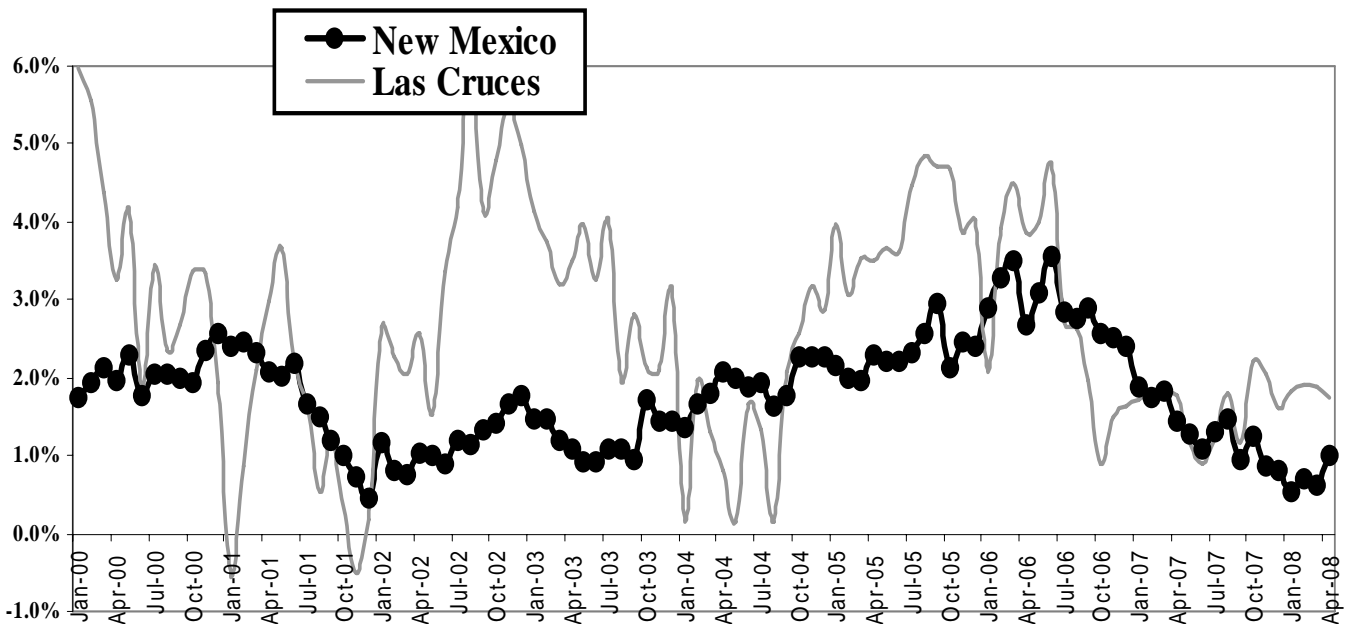
Leisure & hospitality added 200 jobs to last year's level, while transportation, warehousing, & utilities added 100 jobs. Wholesale and retail trade each gained 100 jobs.

Two industries—construction (-200) and information (-100)—reported reduced employment over the year. Employment in three other industries—manufacturing, financial activities, and miscellaneous *other services*—remained unchanged from year-ago levels.

Las Cruces Seasonally Adjusted	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Apr 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2007	Mar 2008	Apr 2007
Civilian Labor Force	88,800	88,800	87,200	0	+1,600
Employment	85,500	85,300	83,800	+200	+1,700
Unemployment	3,300	3,500	3,400	-200	-100
Rate	3.7%	4.0%	3.9%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.8%	4.2%	4.0%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Las Cruces



Santa Fe MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Santa Fe County)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Santa Fe was 2.9 percent in April 2008, down from 3.1 percent in March. A year ago, the area also had an unemployment rate of 2.9 percent.

Santa Fe area employment decreased by 300 jobs in April, as losses in three industries more than offset gains in two others. The only employment change above 100 was a 300-job decline in information industry employment at the end of a large project in the state's film industry.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for Santa Fe was 0.9 percent, adding 600 jobs. The Santa Fe area posted a year of strong job growth that ended about six months ago. Job growth has since settled at a rate that is close to the average for the state. Some of the strength over the last year was from the state's film industry, which saw peak activity in 2007. Overall, April's levels of job growth were in the low to moderate range, with four of the area's 12 industries adding jobs.

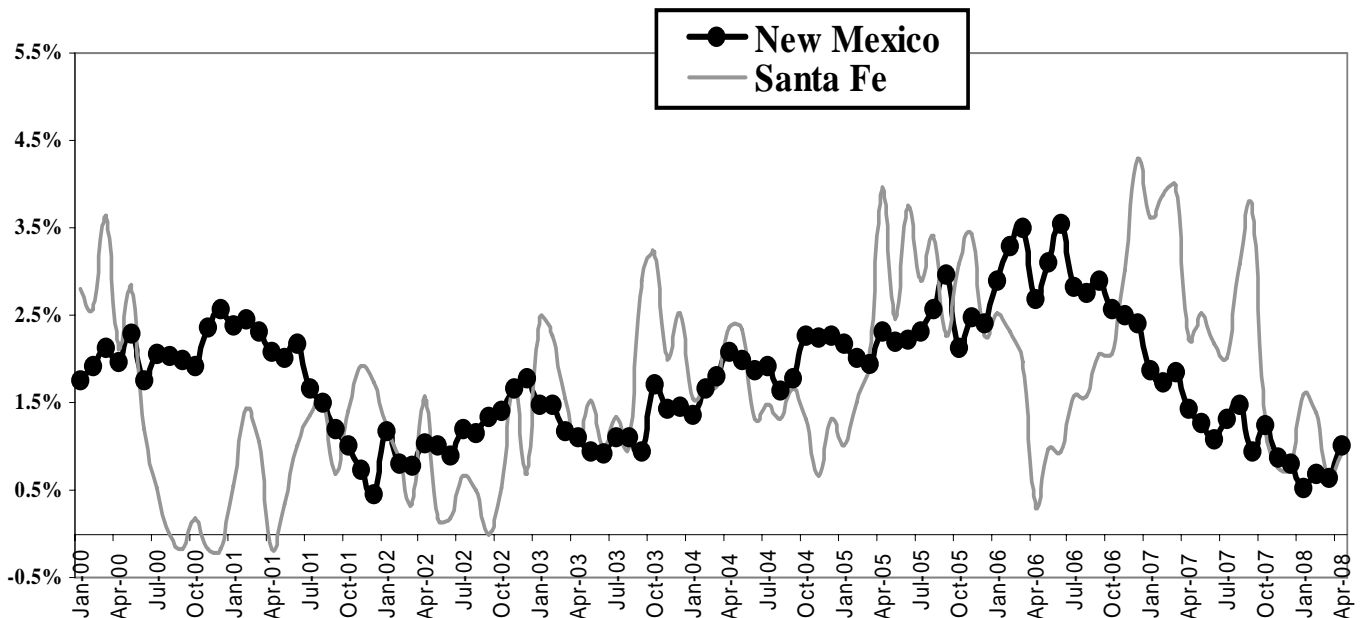
Educational & health services and information each added 400 jobs, the latter from continued activity in the state's film industry. Retail trade and miscellaneous *other services* each added 100 jobs on the year. Elsewhere, not much activity was reported, with five industries—leisure & hospitality; professional & business services; transportation, warehousing, & utilities; wholesale trade; and financial activities—reporting the same employment levels as last year.

The government sector reported 200 fewer jobs than last year, with losses in local and federal government and no change in state government employment. Manufacturing and construction each reported 100 fewer jobs than last year.

Santa Fe	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Apr 2008</u>	<u>Mar 2008</u>	<u>Apr 2007</u>	<u>Mar 2008</u>	<u>Apr 2007</u>
Civilian Labor Force	78,600	79,000	78,100	-400	+500
Employment	76,300	76,600	75,900	-300	+400
Unemployment	2,300	2,500	2,200	-200	+100
Rate	2.9%	3.1%	2.9%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	2.8%	3.0%	2.8%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Santa Fe



Farmington MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(San Juan County)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Farmington was 3.2 percent in April 2008. This marks a slight decrease from March 2008 and April 2007, when the unemployment rate stood at 3.3 percent.

The Farmington area gained 300 jobs in April. Private services-providing industries, goods-producing industries, and government each added 100 jobs over the month.

Over the last year, the Farmington area has added 2,000 jobs, growing 3.9 percent. This rate of job growth was far above the average for the state. Substantial fluctuation in the growth rate from month-to-month is fairly typical for a small metro area like Farmington. Job growth peaked in the local area in December 2004 when the over-the-year rate of job growth reached 5.1 percent. Job growth reached this peak again in June 2006, matching the highest increase in jobs since mid-1995. Growth dipped to 0.4 percent in April 2007 before rebounding to its current level. The outlook for job growth in the area remains favorable, and the Farmington MSA continues to have a strong job market.

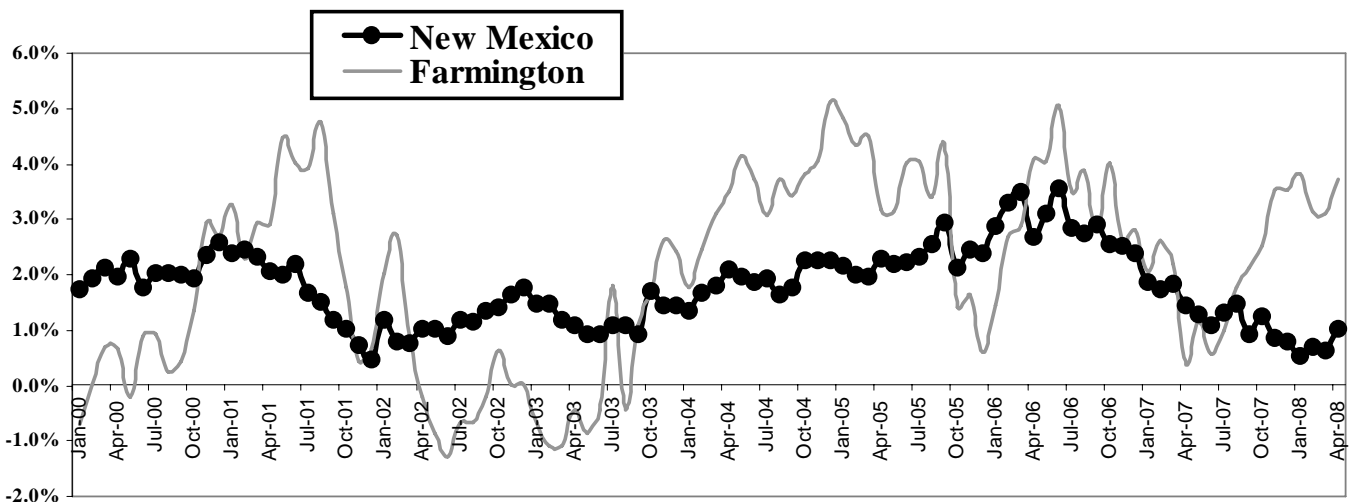
Goods-producing industries have added 1,300 jobs, growing 11.3 percent over the year. Private services-providing industries have added 500 jobs over the year, growing 1.8 percent. Government employment had been sluggish for a while and in April showed 200 additional local government jobs. State and federal government employment were unchanged from last year's levels.

The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has discontinued funding in the Current Employment Statistics program for 65 small metropolitan areas across the country, including the Farmington MSA. The CES program produces monthly employment estimates by industry. The BLS announced the change on its website as follows: "These cutbacks are being implemented to accommodate a reduction in funding to the BLS that resulted from The 2008 Consolidated Appropriations Act enacted on December 26, 2007." The state did not anticipate these funding cuts, nor were we given sufficient time to survey data users as to their continued need for local area employment data. The decision has yet to be made whether state resources will be used to fund the production of Farmington estimates. In the interim, we are continuing to publish employment estimates for Farmington using the same statistical modeling and sampling techniques previously used. However, these data are not to be considered part of an official BLS data series.

Farmington <u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	<u>Apr 2008</u>	<u>Mar 2008</u>	<u>Apr 2007</u>	<u>Mar 2008</u>	<u>Apr 2007</u>
Civilian Labor Force	57,300	57,300	55,600	0	+1,700
Employment	55,500	55,400	53,700	+100	+1,800
Unemployment	1,800	1,900	1,900	-100	-100
Rate	3.2%	3.3%	3.3%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Farmington



*New Mexico - Seasonally Adjusted
Labor Force, Employment,
Unemployment, & Unemployment Rate*

*Total Nonfarm Employment
Growth Rankings
New Mexico and United States*

		Civilian Labor Force	Employ- ment	Un- Employ- ment	Rate %	Unadj. Rate %
1988		681,996	630,267	51,729	7.6%	
1989		691,811	645,302	46,509	6.7%	
1990		711,891	663,698	48,193	6.8%	
1991		719,243	667,698	51,545	7.2%	
1992		735,446	680,463	54,983	7.5%	
1993		755,054	700,258	54,795	7.3%	
1994		776,827	725,387	51,440	6.6%	
1995		798,621	744,557	54,064	6.8%	
1996		812,862	751,826	61,036	7.5%	
1997		822,627	768,596	54,031	6.6%	
1998		835,879	783,661	52,218	6.2%	
1999		839,987	793,052	46,936	5.6%	
2000		852,293	810,024	42,269	5.0%	
2001		863,682	821,003	42,679	4.9%	
2002		871,512	823,191	48,321	5.5%	
2003		888,468	835,835	52,633	5.9%	
2004		903,803	851,967	51,835	5.7%	
2005		920,227	872,037	48,189	5.2%	
2006		936,998	896,885	40,113	4.3%	
2007		943,061	909,967	33,094	3.5%	
2007	JAN	940,135	904,243	35,892	3.8%	3.9%
	FEB	941,572	906,250	35,322	3.8%	3.8%
	MAR	943,258	908,484	34,774	3.7%	3.5%
	APR	941,340	907,097	34,243	3.6%	3.4%
	MAY	941,949	908,220	33,729	3.6%	3.4%
	JUN	942,437	909,204	33,233	3.5%	3.9%
	JUL	942,567	909,805	32,762	3.5%	4.1%
	AUG	944,241	911,938	32,303	3.4%	3.4%
	SEP	944,095	912,243	31,852	3.4%	3.3%
	OCT	945,079	913,661	31,418	3.3%	3.1%
	NOV	944,885	913,881	31,004	3.3%	3.2%
	DEC	945,177	914,582	30,595	3.2%	3.1%
2008	JAN	946,227	916,598	29,629	3.1%	3.2%
	FEB	946,789	916,304	30,485	3.2%	3.5%
	MAR	950,079	915,318	34,741	3.7%	3.7%
	APR	950,782	917,120	33,662	3.5%	3.4%
	MAY					
	JUN					
	JUL					
	AUG					
	SEP					
	OCT					
	NOV					
	DEC					
# CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	703	1,802	-1,079	-0.2%	-0.3%
	Year Ago	9,442	10,023	-581	-0.1%	0.0%
	2 Yrs. Ago	15,690	23,799	-8,109	-1.0%	-1.0%
	3 Yrs. Ago	32,254	48,350	-16,096	-1.9%	-1.9%
% CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	0.1%	0.2%	-3.1%		
	Year Ago	1.0%	1.1%	-1.7%		
	2 Yrs. Ago	1.7%	2.7%	-19.4%		
	3 Yrs. Ago	3.5%	5.6%	-32.3%		

State	Rank	April 2007	April 2008	Change	% Change
Wyoming	1	280.6	289.0	8.4	3.0%
Texas	2	10,303.8	10,574.6	270.8	2.6%
New Hampshire	3	638.7	651.8	13.1	2.1%
Utah	4	1,247.6	1,272.2	24.6	2.0%
Colorado	5	2,313.7	2,357.3	43.6	1.9%
Louisiana	6	1,912.0	1,946.3	34.3	1.8%
Oklahoma	7	1,561.0	1,588.3	27.3	1.7%
South Dakota	8	401.6	407.8	6.2	1.5%
Washington	9	2,909.8	2,951.5	41.7	1.4%
North Dakota	9	356.1	361.0	4.9	1.4%
Nebraska	9	957.8	970.9	13.1	1.4%
Montana	12	440.0	445.9	5.9	1.3%
Delaware	12	693.1	702.3	9.2	1.3%
North Carolina	12	4,126.3	4,177.9	51.6	1.3%
Maryland	15	2,597.6	2,629.1	31.5	1.2%
South Carolina	16	1,944.6	1,965.1	20.5	1.1%
New Mexico	17	840.5	849.0	8.5	1.0%
Kentucky	18	1,865.0	1,881.3	16.3	0.9%
Hawaii	18	618.2	623.5	5.3	0.9%
Iowa	20	1,516.7	1,528.8	12.1	0.8%
Alabama	20	2,002.8	2,018.5	15.7	0.8%
Oregon	22	1,721.0	1,733.9	12.9	0.7%
Massachusetts	22	3,262.9	3,287.2	24.3	0.7%
Alaska	22	309.8	312.0	2.2	0.7%
New York	22	8,677.6	8,739.0	61.4	0.7%
Connecticut	22	1,689.4	1,701.3	11.9	0.7%
Minnesota	22	2,744.3	2,763.1	18.8	0.7%
Kansas	22	1,378.0	1,387.4	9.4	0.7%
Georgia	29	4,140.4	4,166.5	26.1	0.6%
West Virginia	29	756.6	760.9	4.3	0.6%
Virginia	31	3,751.3	3,769.1	17.8	0.5%
Mississippi	31	1,153.8	1,159.2	5.4	0.5%
Maine	33	604.5	606.5	2.0	0.3%
California	33	15,111.8	15,154.8	43.0	0.3%
United States		137,341.0	137,722.0	381.0	0.3%
Vermont	33	302.7	303.5	0.8	0.3%
Illinois	33	5,960.7	5,976.3	15.6	0.3%
Pennsylvania	33	5,794.6	5,809.3	14.7	0.3%
New Jersey	38	4,050.1	4,059.8	9.7	0.2%
Idaho	38	650.0	651.2	1.2	0.2%
Arkansas	38	1,208.0	1,210.2	2.2	0.2%
Missouri	38	2,804.4	2,808.7	4.3	0.2%
Tennessee	42	2,791.9	2,793.0	1.1	0.0%
DC	42	434.1	434.2	0.1	0.0%
Indiana	42	2,989.2	2,988.6	-0.6	0.0%
Ohio	45	5,414.3	5,404.5	-9.8	-0.2%
Arizona	45	2,676.0	2,671.1	-4.9	-0.2%
Nevada	47	1,294.1	1,288.3	-5.8	-0.4%
Wisconsin	48	2,862.0	2,843.2	-18.8	-0.7%
Florida	49	8,099.3	8,035.4	-63.9	-0.8%
Michigan	50	4,262.5	4,189.8	-72.7	-1.7%
Rhode Island	51	493.2	483.4	-9.8	-2.0%

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Employment numbers are not seasonally adjusted.

Employment numbers are in thousands.

New Mexico Labor Force Estimates – Not Seasonally Adjusted 1/

	PRELIMINARY APRIL 2008				REVISED MARCH 2008				REVISED APRIL 2007			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	946,721	914,129	32,592	3.4%	943,619	908,847	34,772	3.7%	937,088	904,847	32,241	3.4%
Albuquerque MSA 2/	408,488	394,676	13,812	3.4%	406,955	392,268	14,687	3.6%	405,844	392,522	13,322	3.3%
Bernalillo	315,413	305,230	10,183	3.2%	314,130	303,367	10,763	3.4%	313,545	303,564	9,981	3.2%
Sandoval	53,913	51,744	2,169	4.0%	53,802	51,428	2,374	4.4%	53,444	51,462	1,982	3.7%
Torrance	7,696	7,409	287	3.7%	7,675	7,364	311	4.1%	7,672	7,369	303	3.9%
Valencia	31,466	30,293	1,173	3.7%	31,346	30,108	1,238	3.9%	31,183	30,128	1,055	3.4%
Farmington MSA 3/	57,258	55,558	1,700	3.0%	56,890	55,098	1,792	3.1%	55,477	53,739	1,738	3.1%
Las Cruces MSA 4/	88,838	85,418	3,420	3.8%	88,573	84,894	3,679	4.2%	87,266	83,756	3,510	4.0%
Santa Fe MSA 5/	78,494	76,273	2,221	2.8%	78,169	75,788	2,381	3.0%	78,042	75,856	2,186	2.8%
Catron	1,567	1,500	67	4.3%	1,499	1,421	78	5.2%	1,539	1,467	72	4.7%
Chaves	27,765	26,844	921	3.3%	27,956	27,008	948	3.4%	27,389	26,394	995	3.6%
Cibola	11,994	11,565	429	3.6%	11,794	11,323	471	4.0%	11,742	11,311	431	3.7%
Colfax	6,340	6,102	238	3.8%	6,526	6,300	226	3.5%	6,361	6,145	216	3.4%
Curry	21,669	21,116	553	2.6%	21,770	21,176	594	2.7%	21,396	20,842	554	2.6%
De Baca	856	832	24	2.8%	858	829	29	3.4%	827	801	26	3.1%
Eddy	26,869	26,194	675	2.5%	26,554	25,864	690	2.6%	25,965	25,229	736	2.8%
Grant	12,698	12,269	429	3.4%	12,562	12,107	455	3.6%	12,512	12,076	436	3.5%
Guadalupe	1,842	1,757	85	4.6%	1,847	1,749	98	5.3%	1,886	1,795	91	4.8%
Harding	389	378	11	2.8%	386	374	12	3.1%	372	360	12	3.2%
Hidalgo	2,462	2,382	80	3.2%	2,509	2,414	95	3.8%	2,386	2,318	68	2.8%
Lea	29,555	28,930	625	2.1%	28,722	28,082	640	2.2%	27,725	27,082	643	2.3%
Lincoln	10,785	10,469	316	2.9%	10,611	10,257	354	3.3%	10,838	10,512	326	3.0%
Los Alamos	10,136	9,871	265	2.6%	10,195	9,918	277	2.7%	10,516	10,294	222	2.1%
Luna	11,696	10,246	1,450	12.4%	11,606	9,982	1,624	14.0%	11,556	10,180	1,376	11.9%
McKinley	26,838	25,721	1,117	4.2%	27,022	25,824	1,198	4.4%	26,830	25,750	1,080	4.0%
Mora	2,004	1,857	147	7.3%	2,017	1,842	175	8.7%	1,995	1,840	155	7.8%
Otero	26,366	25,503	863	3.3%	25,966	25,046	920	3.5%	26,265	25,363	902	3.4%
Quay	3,983	3,820	163	4.1%	3,937	3,765	172	4.4%	3,982	3,825	157	3.9%
Rio Arriba	20,327	19,413	914	4.5%	20,204	19,157	1,047	5.2%	20,849	19,962	887	4.3%
Roosevelt	9,887	9,664	223	2.3%	9,954	9,722	232	2.3%	9,831	9,583	248	2.5%
San Miguel	13,529	12,988	541	4.0%	13,672	13,103	569	4.2%	13,705	13,191	514	3.8%
Sierra	5,479	5,276	203	3.7%	5,358	5,138	220	4.1%	5,392	5,204	188	3.5%
Socorro	9,520	9,267	253	2.7%	9,490	9,211	279	2.9%	9,380	9,104	276	2.9%
Taos	17,034	16,229	805	4.7%	17,939	17,153	786	4.4%	17,144	16,319	825	4.8%
Union	2,056	2,013	43	2.1%	2,078	2,035	43	2.1%	2,074	2,025	49	2.4%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the USDOL, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Estimates are subject to revision.

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance, & Valencia Counties

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - San Juan County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County

5/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe County

Unemployment Rates in New Mexico (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

PRELIMINARY APRIL 2008			REVISED MARCH 2008			REVISED APRIL 2007		
AREAS	RANK	RATE	AREAS	RANK	RATE	AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	12.4%	LUNA	1	14.0%	LUNA	1	11.9%
MORA	2	7.3%	MORA	2	8.7%	MORA	2	7.8%
TAOS	3	4.7%	GUADALUPE	3	5.3%	GUADALUPE	3	4.8%
GUADALUPE	4	4.6%	CATRON	4	5.2%	TAOS	3	4.8%
RIO ARRIBA	5	4.5%	RIO ARRIBA	4	5.2%	CATRON	5	4.7%
CATRON	6	4.3%	MCKINLEY	6	4.4%	RIO ARRIBA	6	4.3%
MCKINLEY	7	4.2%	TAOS	6	4.4%	MCKINLEY	7	4.0%
QUAY	8	4.1%	QUAY	6	4.4%	LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	7	4.0%
SAN MIGUEL	9	4.0%	SAN MIGUEL	9	4.2%	QUAY	9	3.9%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	10	3.8%	LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	9	4.2%	SAN MIGUEL	10	3.8%
COLFAX	10	3.8%	SIERRA	11	4.1%	CIBOLA	11	3.7%
SIERRA	12	3.7%	CIBOLA	12	4.0%	CHAVES	12	3.6%
CIBOLA	13	3.6%	HIDALGO	13	3.8%	SIERRA	13	3.5%
STATEWIDE		3.4%	STATEWIDE		3.7%	GRANT	13	3.5%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	14	3.4%	GRANT	14	3.6%	STATEWIDE		3.4%
GRANT	14	3.4%	ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	14	3.6%	OTERO	15	3.4%
CHAVES	16	3.3%	OTERO	16	3.5%	COLFAX	15	3.4%
OTERO	16	3.3%	COLFAX	16	3.5%	ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	17	3.3%
HIDALGO	18	3.2%	CHAVES	18	3.4%	HARDING	18	3.2%
FARMINGTON MSA 2/	19	3.0%	DE BACA	18	3.4%	DE BACA	19	3.1%
LINCOLN	20	2.9%	LINCOLN	20	3.3%	FARMINGTON MSA 2/	19	3.1%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	21	2.8%	FARMINGTON MSA 2/	21	3.1%	LINCOLN	21	3.0%
HARDING	21	2.8%	HARDING	21	3.1%	SOCORRO	22	2.9%
DE BACA	21	2.8%	SANTA FE MSA 4/	23	3.0%	HIDALGO	23	2.8%
SOCORRO	24	2.7%	SOCORRO	24	2.9%	EDDY	23	2.8%
LOS ALAMOS	25	2.6%	CURRY	25	2.7%	SANTA FE MSA 4/	23	2.8%
CURRY	25	2.6%	LOS ALAMOS	25	2.7%	CURRY	26	2.6%
EDDY	27	2.5%	EDDY	27	2.6%	ROOSEVELT	27	2.5%
ROOSEVELT	28	2.3%	ROOSEVELT	28	2.3%	UNION	28	2.4%
LEA	29	2.1%	LEA	29	2.2%	LEA	29	2.3%
UNION	29	2.1%	UNION	30	2.1%	LOS ALAMOS	30	2.1%

1/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance, & Valencia Counties

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - San Juan County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe County

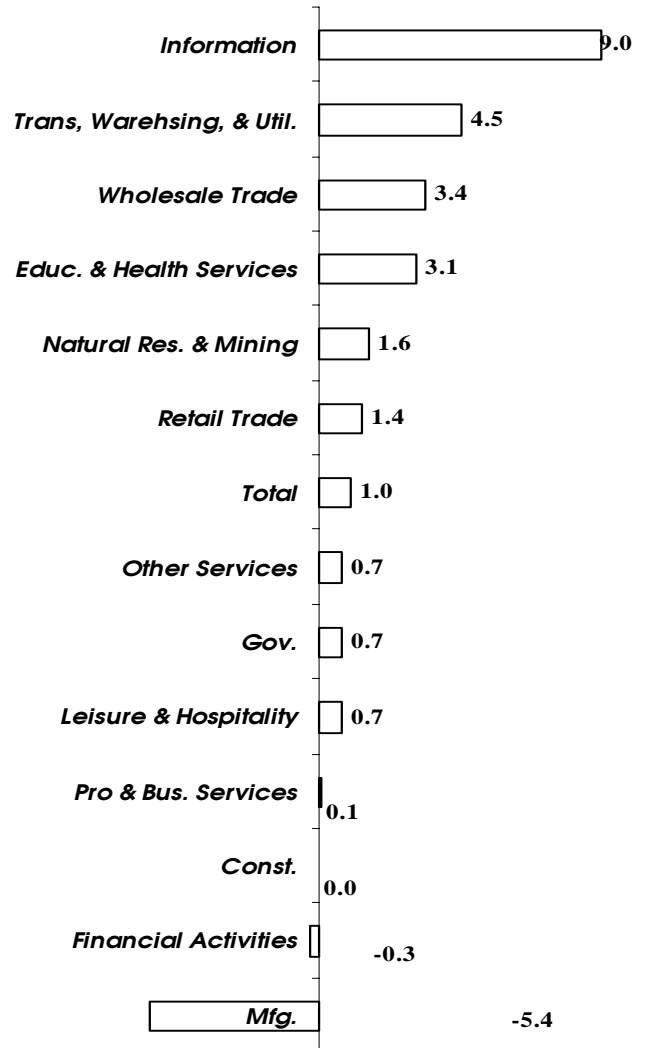
Unemployment Rate by State

(Seasonally Adjusted)

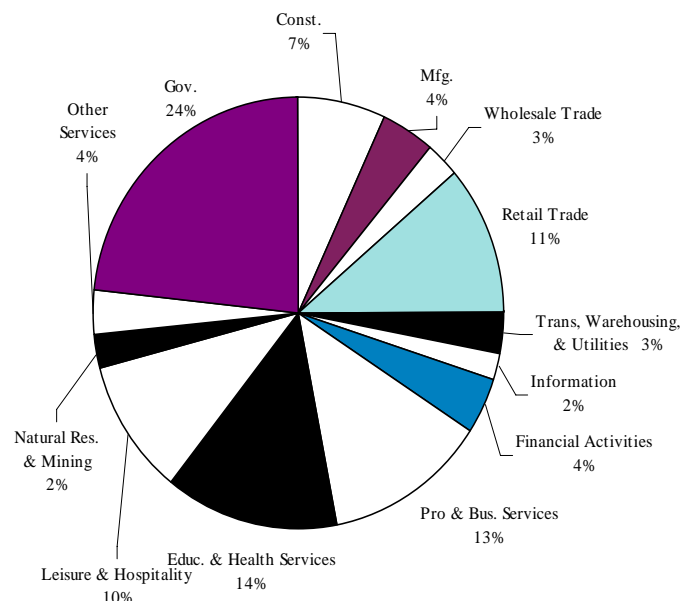
April 2008			April 2007		
State	Rank	Rate	State	Rank	Rate
South Dakota	1	2.6	Hawaii	1	2.5
Wyoming	1	2.6	Utah	1	2.5
Idaho	3	3.1	Idaho	3	2.7
Nebraska	3	3.1	Nebraska	4	2.8
North Dakota	3	3.1	Virginia	5	2.9
Utah	3	3.1	Wyoming	6	3.0
Oklahoma	7	3.2	Montana	7	3.1
Hawaii	8	3.3	South Dakota	7	3.1
Iowa	9	3.5	North Dakota	9	3.2
New Mexico	9	3.5	Alabama	10	3.4
Virginia	9	3.5	Delaware	10	3.4
Delaware	12	3.7	Maryland	12	3.5
Maryland	12	3.7	Colorado	13	3.6
Montana	14	3.8	New Mexico	13	3.6
New Hampshire	14	3.8	Arizona	15	3.7
Arizona	16	3.9	Iowa	15	3.7
Alabama	17	4.0	New Hampshire	15	3.7
Kansas	17	4.0	Florida	18	3.8
Louisiana	19	4.1	Louisiana	19	4.0
Massachusetts	19	4.1	Kansas	20	4.1
Texas	19	4.1	Vermont	20	4.1
Wisconsin	22	4.3	Georgia	22	4.3
Colorado	23	4.4	New Jersey	22	4.3
Vermont	24	4.5	Pennsylvania	22	4.3
Arkansas	25	4.7	Connecticut	25	4.4
Connecticut	25	4.7	New York	25	4.4
Indiana	25	4.7	Oklahoma	25	4.4
Maine	25	4.7	Texas	25	4.4
New York	25	4.7	Washington	25	4.4
Washington	25	4.7	Tennessee	30	4.5
Minnesota	31	4.8	United States	4.5	
Florida	32	4.9	West Virginia	30	4.5
New Jersey	33	5.0	Indiana	32	4.6
Pennsylvania	33	5.0	Massachusetts	32	4.6
United States	5.0		Nevada	32	4.6
West Virginia	33	5.0	Maine	35	4.7
Missouri	36	5.2	Minnesota	35	4.7
Georgia	37	5.3	Missouri	35	4.7
Illinois	38	5.4	North Carolina	35	4.7
North Carolina	38	5.4	Illinois	39	4.8
Tennessee	38	5.4	Oregon	40	5.0
Oregon	41	5.5	Rhode Island	40	5.0
Kentucky	42	5.6	Wisconsin	42	5.1
Ohio	42	5.6	California	43	5.2
Nevada	44	5.7	Arkansas	44	5.3
Mississippi	45	5.9	Kentucky	45	5.5
South Carolina	45	5.9	Ohio	46	5.6
District of Columbia	47	6.0	District of Columbia	47	5.7
Rhode Island	48	6.1	South Carolina	47	5.7
California	49	6.2	Alaska	49	6.0
Alaska	50	6.7	Mississippi	50	6.4
Michigan	51	6.9	Michigan	51	7.1

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Annual Growth Rates by Industry



NAICS Industries



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Apr-08	Revised Mar-08	Revised Apr-07	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	849,000	847,600	840,500	1,400	8,500
GOODS PRODUCING	112,900	111,900	114,600	1,000	-1,700
SERVICES-PROVIDING	736,100	735,700	725,900	400	10,200
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	19,500	19,400	19,200	100	300
CONSTRUCTION	58,600	57,600	58,600	1,000	0
MANUFACTURING	34,800	34,900	36,800	-100	-2,000
WHOLESALE TRADE	24,300	24,200	23,500	100	800
RETAIL TRADE	95,500	95,400	94,200	100	1,300
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	25,800	25,700	24,700	100	1,100
INFORMATION	15,700	16,300	14,400	-600	1,300
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	35,100	35,200	35,200	-100	-100
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	108,400	108,000	108,300	400	100
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	116,000	115,900	112,500	100	3,500
Educational Services	15,200	14,900	14,800	300	400
Health Care and Social Assistance	100,800	101,000	97,700	-200	3,100
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	88,200	87,300	87,600	900	600
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	8,500	8,600	8,600	-100	-100
Accommodation and Food Services	79,700	78,700	79,000	1,000	700
OTHER SERVICES	28,900	29,100	28,700	-200	200
GOVERNMENT	198,200	198,600	196,800	-400	1,400
Federal Government	30,100	29,800	30,000	300	100
State Government	61,600	61,800	61,200	-200	400
State Government Education	29,300	29,200	28,900	100	400
Local Government	106,500	107,000	105,600	-500	900
Local Government Education	58,600	58,800	58,700	-200	-100

ALBUQUERQUE	Preliminary Apr-08	Revised Mar-08	Revised Apr-07	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	397,900	396,900	395,300	1,000	2,600
GOODS PRODUCING	51,900	51,700	54,500	200	-2,600
SERVICES-PROVIDING	346,000	345,200	340,800	800	5,200
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING & CONSTRUCTION	29,600	29,300	30,800	300	-1,200
MANUFACTURING	22,300	22,400	23,700	-100	-1,400
WHOLESALE TRADE	13,400	13,400	13,200	0	200
RETAIL TRADE	44,700	44,700	43,700	0	1,000
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	11,200	11,200	10,800	0	400
INFORMATION	9,400	9,400	9,100	0	300
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	19,100	19,100	19,200	0	-100
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	64,300	64,200	63,800	100	500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	51,200	51,100	49,700	100	1,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	39,700	38,900	39,500	800	200
OTHER SERVICES	12,400	12,400	12,100	0	300
GOVERNMENT	80,600	80,800	79,700	-200	900
Federal Government	14,300	14,200	14,400	100	-100
State Government	26,400	26,500	26,200	-100	200
Local Government	39,900	40,100	39,100	-200	800

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

LAS CRUCES MSA	Preliminary Apr-08	Revised Mar-08	Revised Apr-07	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	69,800	69,900	68,600	-100	1,200
GOODS PRODUCING	7,900	7,800	8,100	100	-200
SERVICE PRODUCING	61,900	62,100	60,500	-200	1,400
NATURAL RESOURCES MINING & CONSTRUCTION	4,800	4,800	5,000	0	-200
MANUFACTURING	3,100	3,000	3,100	100	0
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,300	1,300	1,200	0	100
RETAIL TRADE	7,300	7,300	7,200	0	100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	2,000	2,000	1,900	0	100
INFORMATION	1,000	1,000	1,100	0	-100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,300	2,300	2,300	0	0
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	6,000	6,000	5,700	0	300
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	10,900	11,100	10,600	-200	300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	7,500	7,500	7,300	0	200
OTHER SERVICES	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
GOVERNMENT	22,100	22,100	21,700	0	400
Federal	3,700	3,700	3,600	0	100
State	9,300	9,300	9,200	0	100
Local	9,100	9,100	8,900	0	200
SANTA FE MSA	Preliminary Apr-08	Revised Mar-08	Revised Apr-07	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	65,100	65,400	64,500	-300	600
GOODS PRODUCING	5,800	5,700	6,000	100	-200
SERVICE PRODUCING	59,300	59,700	58,500	-400	800
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTRUCTION	4,800	4,700	4,900	100	-100
MANUFACTURING	1,000	1,000	1,100	0	-100
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,200	1,300	1,200	-100	0
RETAIL TRADE	8,800	8,800	8,700	0	100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	700	700	700	0	0
INFORMATION	1,300	1,600	900	-300	400
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,900	3,000	2,900	-100	0
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,600	5,600	5,600	0	0
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	10,100	10,000	9,700	100	400
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	9,000	9,000	9,000	0	0
OTHER SERVICES	2,800	2,800	2,700	0	100
GOVERNMENT	16,900	16,900	17,100	0	-200
Federal	1,000	1,000	1,100	0	-100
State	8,300	8,300	8,300	0	0
Local	7,600	7,600	7,700	0	-100
FARMINGTON MSA	Preliminary Apr-08	Revised Mar-08	Revised Apr-07	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	53,100	52,900	51,200	200	1,900
TOTAL PRIVATE	41,500	41,300	39,700	200	1,800
GOODS PRODUCING	12,800	12,700	11,500	100	1,300
SERVICE PRODUCING	40,300	40,200	39,700	100	600
PRIVATE SERVICE PRODUCING	28,700	28,600	28,200	100	500
GOVERNMENT	11,600	11,600	11,500	0	100
Federal	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
State	500	500	500	0	0
Local	9,600	9,600	9,500	0	100

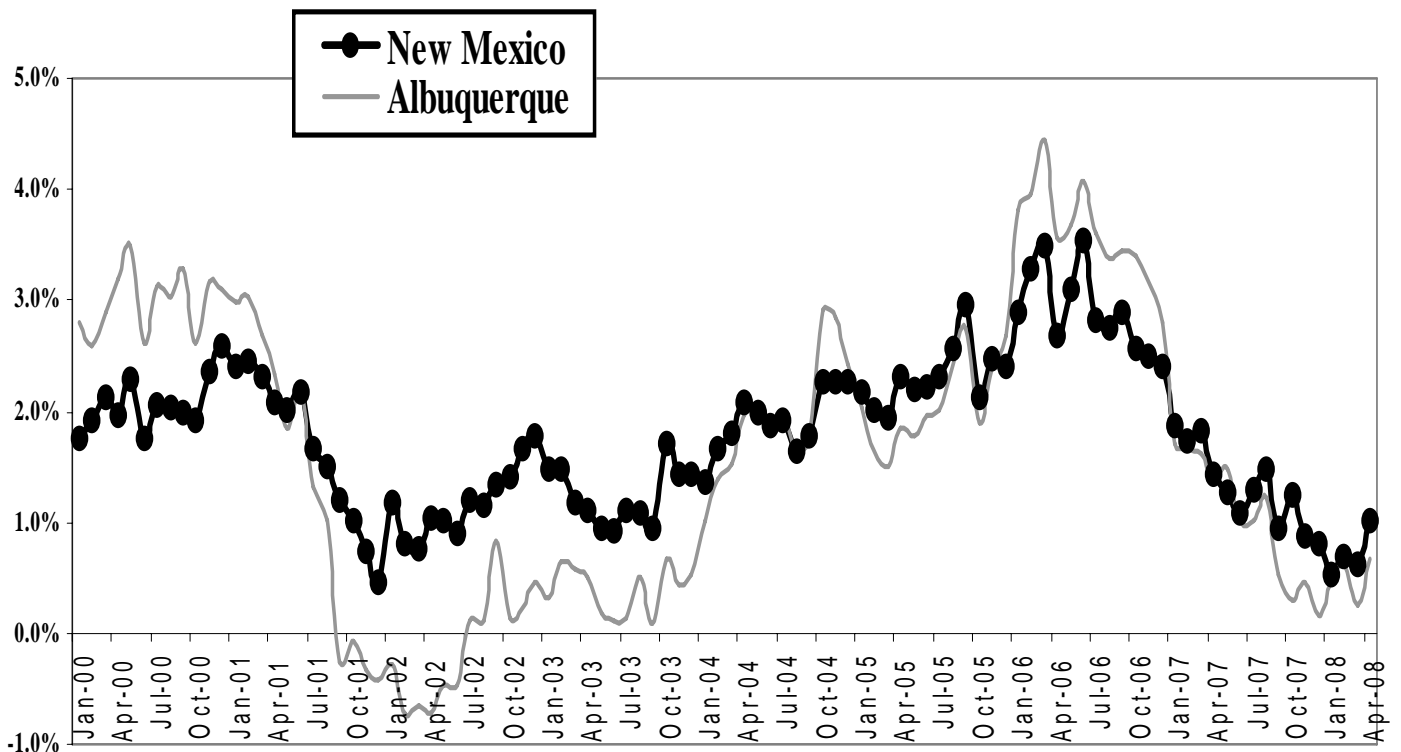
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

- Seasonally Adjusted -

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Apr-08	Revised Mar-08	Monthly Change
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT*	849,600	851,300	-1,700
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	19,500	19,500	0
CONSTRUCTION	59,400	59,400	0
MANUFACTURING	35,100	35,300	-200
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	147,400	147,200	200
INFORMATION (Not Seasonally Adjusted)	15,700	16,300	-600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	35,200	35,300	-100
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	109,100	109,300	-200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	114,500	114,700	-200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	88,500	89,000	-500
OTHER SERVICES	29,600	29,800	-200
GOVERNMENT	195,600	195,500	100

* Total includes the Information sector, which is not seasonally adjusted.

New Mexico and Albuquerque Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates



Average Hours and Earnings

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Apr 08	Mar 08	Apr 07	Apr 08	Mar 08	Apr 07	Apr 08	Mar 08	Apr 07
NEW MEXICO									
CONSTRUCTION	\$672.80	\$656.10	\$662.16	40.0	39.1	40.4	\$16.82	\$16.78	\$16.39
MANUFACTURING	\$566.48	\$563.56	\$561.74	38.8	38.6	39.2	\$14.60	\$14.60	\$14.33
WHOLESALE TRADE	\$546.70	\$544.81	\$535.63	35.5	35.4	35.1	\$15.40	\$15.39	\$15.26
RETAIL TRADE	\$370.18	\$369.04	\$364.82	32.5	32.4	32.4	\$11.39	\$11.39	\$11.26

Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The average earnings are "gross" reflecting not only changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates but also such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differentials. The work week information relates to the average hours for which pay was received, and is different from standard or scheduled hours due to absenteeism, labor turnover, part time work, overtime work etc.

U.S. Consumer Price Index

	Index Base Year 1982-84 = 100			PERCENT CHANGE	
	Apr 08	Mar 08	Apr 07	Month to Month	Year to Year
CPI-U	214.8	213.5	206.7	0.6%	3.9%
CPI-W	210.7	209.1	202.1	0.7%	4.2%

*CPI-U - All Urban Consumers

*CPI-W - Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers - Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

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New Mexico Area Economic Activity

(SOURCES: Published articles, government documents, private and public sector news releases and reports from local New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions Workforce Centers. In most cases, no attempt is made to verify accuracy of information.)

Statewide:

The Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) board at its April meeting approved \$1,427,156 in training funds, facilitating the creation of 290 new jobs serving four diverse businesses that are expanding and/or relocating operations in New Mexico. The April JTIP recipients were **MCS Industries**, Santa Teresa, a full-line supplier of wall and tabletop frames, albums and scrapbooks, wall décor, and art print products, \$46,155 supporting 15 new jobs; **Aero Mechanical Industries, Inc.**, Rio Rancho, a Federal Aviation Administration and European Aviation Safety Authority certified repair station for composite flight surfaces and mechanical components, \$124,050 supporting 17 new jobs; **IntelliCyt Corporation**, Albuquerque, a developer and manufacturer of high-throughput flow cytometry products for life sciences research and drug discovery, \$45,000 supporting 2 new jobs; **Fidelity Human Resources Services**, Albuquerque, a provider of investment management, retirement planning, brokerage, and human resources benefits outsourcing services, \$1,211,951 supporting 256 new jobs.

Central WIA Area:

Albuquerque Area, Bernalillo County:

Los Angeles-based **Pangea Pictures Corp.** plans to build a visual effects and post-production facility in Albuquerque. The company has a number of major productions to its credit, including “Run,” “The Thomas Crown Affair,” and “Star Trek.” Pangea has opened an office in Albuquerque and is planning to shoot its first New Mexico film. Employment details have not yet been released.

New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, executives from **SCHOTT Solar**, and local dignitaries ceremonially broke ground on the company’s new manufacturing facility. The site, located in Mesa del Sol, will produce both photovoltaic modules and receivers for concentrated solar thermal power plants. Production is expected to begin as early as spring 2009. Initially, the company will construct a 200,000-square-foot facility that will employ 350 people. SCHOTT Solar will invest approximately \$100 million to start production in New Mexico. Currently, the site is being graded and prepared for construction. Immediately following the completion of the permitting and approval process, the physical structure will be built. The building is scheduled to be completed by the end of this summer. From there, installation of the manufacturing equipment will take place, and the interior will be prepped.

Eastern WIA Area:

Tucumcari Area, Quay County:

Coronado Partners, LLC is seeking the state’s last available gaming license to operate a racetrack and casino in Tucumcari. The proposed 245-acre “racino” project would include a 1-mile,

dirt horse racing track, 48 acres of parking, a 47,500-square-foot casino and clubhouse, barns, and other buildings. Developers of the proposed **Coronado Park Race Track and Casino** are in competition with several other sites for the racino license.

Chaparral Area, Otero County:

A new \$64 million prison in southern Otero County is expected to admit up to 250 immigrant detainees a day and generate more than \$25 million in annual revenue for Otero County when it reaches full capacity. The privately run, 1,086-bed prison is expected to open in Chaparral this May. Before it can open, the **Otero County Processing Center** will need to fill about 390 new positions. Officials interviewed 341 applicants before hiring about 45 people at a job fair held in early April in northeast El Paso. Management & Training Corp. (MTC) will run the new detention center for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Utah-based MTC currently operates 13 state and federal prisons in five states, including the 1,353-bed Otero County Prison that employs about 250 people in nearby Chaparral. Of the 390 jobs being offered, 292 will be for security guards who will be paid a starting wage of more than \$10 an hour. The remaining jobs will comprise office, kitchen, and maintenance work. Job requirements include a high-school diploma or equivalent and no criminal record.

Carlsbad Area, Eddy County:

DTS America—a nationally recognized leader in the medical transcription industry—is moving to a smaller facility in Carlsbad after having recently revamped its work model to allow employees to work from home. The company is relocating operations from its current site off Eighth Street to an office at 105 West Mermod Street that had formerly housed Northwood University. DTS currently employs about 30 people.

Hobbs Area, Lea County:

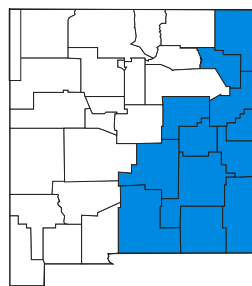
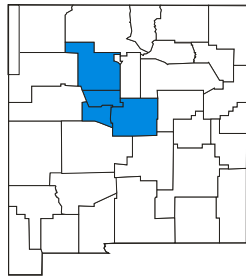
Enertech Wireline Services is moving its yard from Artesia to Hobbs. Enertech is a Midland, Texas-based company that provides support operations to the oil industry. The new facility will be located at 1901 Commerce Street and should be opened in mid-summer. The move will add about two dozen jobs to the Hobbs economy. Fourteen employees will follow the company from Artesia, and the rest will be hired from the local job market.

Hagerman Area, Chaves County:

The Economic Development Administration has given the **town of Hagerman** \$700,000 to help develop the infrastructure for an industrial park. Aberdeen Street and Navajo Road in Hagerman bound the planned 80-acre park. A number of businesses have expressed interest in the park, including Fat Man’s Beef Jerky, which could possibly bring 20 jobs new jobs to the area.

Clovis Area, Curry County:

Yet another Curry County biofuel plant has been placed on hold. Construction of **White Hat Energy’s** \$25 million plant, which would make methane gas from cow manure, stalled after the plant’s primary investor was crippled financially during the sub-prime mortgage crash. Gibbs Energy is a major partner in the project. Last month,

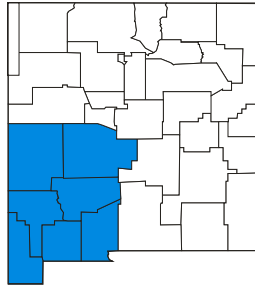


Dallas-based **American Renewable Fuels**, which planned to turn animal fat into biodiesel, announced it would delay a proposed plant in Clovis by several months. The company cited increases in the price of animal feedstock and difficulty in raising capital as causes for the delay. Earlier, **Clovis Biodiesel** stopped construction on its \$18 million plant in the Clovis Industrial Park. Company officials remain hopeful that the plant will open within a year. In addition, ConAgra Foods, parent company of **Clovis Ethanol**, dropped plans in January for its alternative fuel plant in Clovis, determining that the ethanol market was too volatile.

Southwestern WIA Area:

Santa Teresa Area, Dona Ana County:

The **Union Pacific Railroad** is planning to build an intermodal transfer facility in Santa Teresa and move its rail yard from downtown El Paso to Strauss, New Mexico, about four miles up the line from Santa Teresa. The intermodal ramp will allow some 100,000 annual transfers between rail and truck. The UP facility will support an estimated 285 jobs.



Deming Area, Luna County:

The Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma opened a 24-hour diner and smoke shop off Interstate 10 near Deming, New Mexico. On opening day, the **Apache Homeland Casino Restaurant** had 15 customers before noon. The tribe wants the federal government to grant reservation status to the land—a key step toward opening a casino there. Federal law prohibits Indian gaming on most trust land granted after 1988. The tribe gained its New Mexico trust land in 2002.

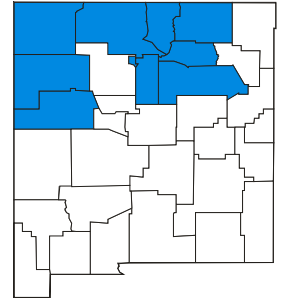
Truth or Consequences Area, Sierra County:

Sierra County voters gave the proposed **New Mexico Spaceport** a big boost by approving a “spaceport tax.” About 42% of the county’s registered voters turned out, and about two out of three voted in favor of passing the one-quarter percent tax increase.

Northern WIA Area:

Kirtland Area, San Juan County:

Farmington Dentist Michael Tornow is planning on opening a new dental office in Kirtland. Dr. Tornow started **Country Club Family Dental Care** in Farmington about four years ago and has seen the business grow to the point that it now provides service for over 10,000 area patients. Groundbreaking for the new 10,800-square-foot Kirtland project was held in February. The facility will employ about 25 people when completed.



Santa Fe Area, Santa Fe County:

The owner of **Cloud Cliff Bakery and Café**, citing the added expenses of Santa Fe’s living wage law and soaring wheat prices, has announced plans to close the business. A Santa Fe institution for a quarter century, Cloud Cliff closed its doors with a farewell brunch for employees on Sunday, April 27. Cloud Cliff had been baking as many as 700 loaves of bread daily, but the soaring price of grain in recent months has hit the cafe hard. The cost of a 50-pound bag of organic flour increased from \$18 six months ago to \$34 today.

The Santa Fe County Commission approved an ordinance that will allow developers to proceed with plans to build a movie studio on 26 acres 14 miles south of Santa Fe, across I-25 from the Old Main prison. The commission has also agreed to sell the land needed for the project to Lance and Conrad Hool, developers of the **Santa Fe Studios** project. As envisioned, the studios would include a 172,000-square-foot facility and could generate as many as 500 jobs.



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