

New Mexico Labor Market Report

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HIGHLIGHTS — August 2004

...New Mexico's rate of over-the-year job growth has been above two percent for the last three months, which is the highest rate of growth the state has had for about three years. August 2004 compared to August 2003 shows a 2.1 percent increase. The state has added 16,100 jobs since last year.

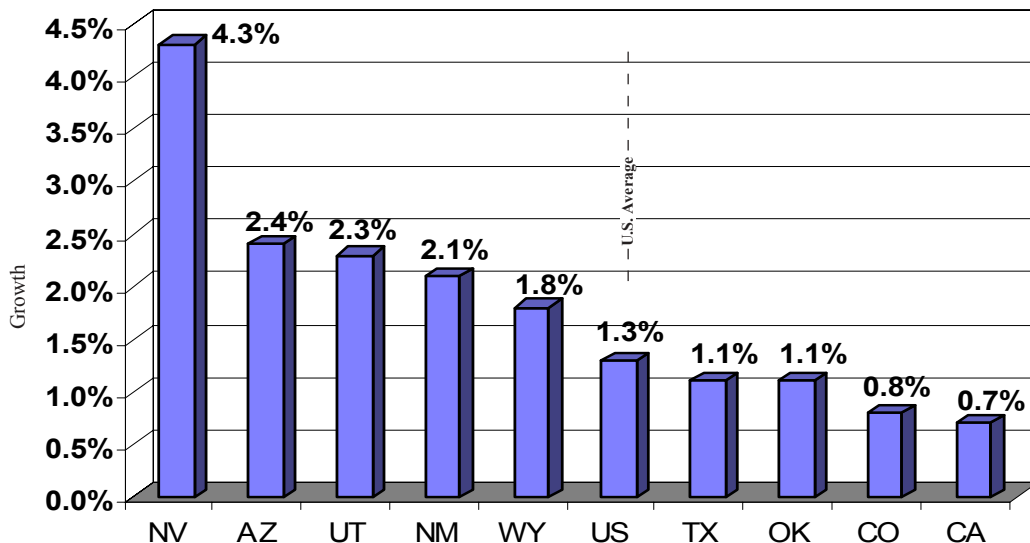
...Payroll employment in the Albuquerque MSA has risen 1.7 percent (6,100 jobs) over the year, slightly below the June and July increases but still fairly respectable, especially when compared to the tepid growth of the past three years.

...The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces MSA was only 1.5 percent, comparing August 2004 with August 2003. The area has added 900 jobs since this time last year.

...Over-the-year job growth for the Santa Fe MSA was 1.1 percent, adding just 900 jobs.

Current Regional Nonfarm Employment Growth

August 2004 over August 2003 - Not Seasonally Adjusted



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New Mexico Labor Force and Payroll Employment

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.4 percent in August 2004, up a fraction from 5.3 percent in July. A year ago New Mexico's unemployment rate was 6.6 percent. Nationally the unemployment rate was 5.4 percent in August, which is the same as it was in New Mexico.

New Mexico's rate of over-the-year job growth has been above two percent for the last three months, which is the highest rate of growth the state has had for about three years. August 2004 compared to August 2003 shows a 2.1 percent increase. The state has added 16,100 jobs since last year. Most industry groups are growing at two percent or better. Only two industries have lost jobs over the year. Those industries are information and manufacturing. The state's employment prospects for the remainder of the year look fairly good, with job growth expected to continue above two percent, approaching the state's long-term average.

The educational and health services industry, already the largest private industry group, has led the pack with strong growth of 5.0 percent, adding 4,800 jobs. Most health services components have added a lot of jobs. Ambulatory health care services, the largest industry component, added 2,800 jobs. This industry segment is sometimes referred to as outpatient services. The *home health care services* component had been the driving force behind much of the job growth, but this has not been the case recently. Job growth in this component has fallen to just 4.9 percent, which is below the industry average. Employment in home health care services does appear to have leveled off, albeit at a fairly high level. Private educational services added 200 jobs, growing 2.2 percent. Social assistance employment grew 2.5 percent, adding 500 jobs, which is also a reduction from the higher levels of growth that were evident six months ago.

Natural resources and mining employment was the second fastest growing industry; employment has increased 4.9 percent, adding 700 jobs. Mining activity has increased because of sustained higher prices for oil and gas. Higher prices justify the investment in equipment and new exploration that is needed to expand this industry. Other types of mining in New Mexico are also starting to show improvement.

Construction was the third fastest growing industry, adding 2,000 jobs, expanding 4.1 percent. Interest rates remain near historic lows, making housing more affordable than when

rates are higher. Residential homebuilders are trying to sell as many houses as they can before interest rates increase. Most of the employment increase has been in the specialty trade contractors category of employment that includes such trades as plumbers and electricians.

The professional and business services industry has done well to turn around earlier job losses into a 2,000-job gain in August. Prospects for this industry appear to have improved, following three difficult years. The employment services component has started to gather strength, a sign that the rest of the economy is improving. Employment services increased employment 7.4 percent, adding 1,200 jobs. Another sign of general improvement in the state's job market can be seen in retail trade, which has added 1,900 jobs since last year. Retail trade had been unable to add this many jobs since the late 1990s. Wholesale trade remains unchanged from last year's employment level.

Leisure and hospitality employment continues to do fairly well due to expanding employment in food services and drinking places, especially at full-service restaurants. Financial activities employment has added 300 jobs, with any new jobs being in the real estate category that has benefited from the booming housing market. The finance and insurance component has not done so well.

Government employment has increased 3,400 jobs since last year, growing 1.8 percent. Most of the new government jobs were in local government, which has added 3,200. New or expanding tribally-owned casinos and resorts around the state have added many of the new jobs. State government has added 400 jobs. Federal government employment continues the recent downward trend, dropping 200 jobs on the year.

The two industries with declining employment, manufacturing and information, tell very different stories. For manufacturing, the worst is over. The current 400-job loss on the year looks fairly good compared to the 4,400 jobs that have been lost since August 2001. The information industry, by contrast, has only started to reach bottom. Information was down 1,300 jobs on the year; 1,100 of the jobs were working in telecommunications. The full effect of the recent MCI call center closure is just starting to show up in the numbers.

New Mexico	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Aug 2004	Jul 2004	Aug 2003	Jul 2004	Aug 2003
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	910,600	905,700	900,300	+4,900	+10,300
Employment	861,600	857,300	840,800	+4,300	+20,800
Unemployment	49,000	48,400	59,500	+600	-10,500
Rate	5.4%	5.3%	6.6%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	5.4%	5.8%	6.6%		

Albuquerque MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Bernalillo, Sandoval & Valencia Counties)

The Albuquerque MSA seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.6 percent in August, up slightly from 4.5 percent in July. Unemployment has fallen a full percentage point from last August's rate of 5.6 percent.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment rose by 1,400 jobs in August for growth of 0.4 percent. Eight of the 12 major industry divisions added jobs, while two declined and two others remained unchanged. Construction gained 200 jobs, with employment buoyed by ongoing home building activity in several new developments. Manufacturing also rose by 200, its largest monthly increase in more than a year. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities added back 400 jobs as school bus drivers returned to work following the summer break. Another 400 jobs were seen in educational and health services, with all of the growth coming from health care and social assistance. Financial activities grew by 100, as did leisure and hospitality.

Government also added 100 jobs, the result of a substantial increase in state employment more than offsetting a large decline in local government. This month's dissimilarity in seasonal growth patterns for state and local government has to do with reporting differences between the two groups. The state employment figures reflect employment increases related to the startup of the fall semester at the University of New Mexico. In local government, however, a slight lag in the timing of the August pay period for public school workers means that the fall employment increase will not show up until next month.

The only two industries to lose jobs in August were retail trade and the miscellaneous category of *other services*, down by 100 each. Information employment held steady after losing 1,500 jobs in the previous two months. Employment in professional and business services also held steady over the month.

Payroll employment has risen 1.7 percent (6,100 jobs) over the year, slightly below the June and July increases but still fairly respectable, especially when compared to the tepid growth of the past three years. A gain of 2,300 jobs in educational and health services accounted for well over a third of the overall increase. Professional and business services contributed 1,700 jobs, aided by strong growth in both scientific research and employment services.

Construction gained 1,000 new jobs, marking its sixteenth consecutive month of over-the-year growth. Last summer's reduction in mortgage interest rates fueled a wave of home building that is still continuing, even after recent rate increases. Since work on some of the largest housing developments is still in the beginning stages, the current upswing should continue for at least a while longer before growth rates begin to subside.

Retail trade saw growth of 1.9 percent (800 jobs) over the year, largely due to employment gains in general merchandise stores and home improvement warehouses. Though growth is down from July's gain of 2.9 percent, it remains strong in comparison with last year's average increase of half a percentage point. Wholesale trade was down 200 for 40 consecutive months of over-the-year losses.

Government employment added 1,500 jobs since last August, nearly all of them in the local branch. Some of the increase was due to growth in city and county governments and public school districts, but most of it was the result of timing differences in teacher payrolls during the summer recess. Once schools are fully in session, over-the-year comparisons of local government employment should begin to normalize. State government has added 100 jobs since last August, while federal employment remained unchanged.

The leisure and hospitality industry grew 1.9 percent (700), thanks to the continued strength of restaurant employment within the metro area. The arrival of several large franchise operations in the last few years has bolstered employment in this industry. Jobs in full-service restaurants have climbed 33 percent since August 1999, five times faster than the all-industry growth rate of 6.6 percent for the same period.

Manufacturing jobs were down 1,100 over the year, with about half the losses coming from the high-paying area of computer and electronic products. This industry should start to see better times in the next couple of years though, due to the anticipated expansion of aircraft manufacturing in the area and the upcoming arrival of a mattress manufacturing plant. The information industry has lost 800 jobs since last August and has now suffered 27 straight months of over-the-year declines. Adding to the industry's long-standing woes was July's closure of the MCI call center.

Albuquerque	Prel.		Revised		Change From
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Aug 2004</u>	<u>Jul 2004</u>	<u>Aug 2003</u>	<u>Jul 2004</u>	<u>Aug 2003</u>
Civilian Labor Force	405,200	408,400	397,500	-3,200	+7,700
Employment	386,500	390,000	375,400	-3,500	+11,100
Unemployment	18,700	18,400	22,100	+300	-3,400
Rate	4.6%	4.5%	5.6%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	4.9%	5.0%	5.9%		

Las Cruces MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Doña Ana County)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the Las Cruces MSA was 6.3 percent in August 2004, down from July's rate of 6.7 percent. A year ago the area's unemployment rate was 7.6 percent.

August saw the return of 1,900 jobs to the Las Cruces economy following the loss of 1,900 jobs in June and a further loss of 800 jobs in July. The jobs returned at the start of the fall semester at New Mexico State University. More jobs should return in September when the schools and colleges have finished their hiring. In August, state government, which includes New Mexico State University, gained 700 jobs. Local government also gained 700 jobs in local school districts for the start of classes. Another 200 jobs were added to transportation, warehousing and utilities; these jobs were mostly school bus drivers. In educational and health services, 200 jobs were added as a result of hiring at private schools and other institutions of learning. The leisure and hospitality industry added 100 jobs, as did retail trade and the manufacturing industry. Both the wholesale trade industry and *other services* lost 100 jobs each during the month. All other industries in the local area remained at the previous month's employment levels.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces area was only 1.5 percent, comparing August 2004 with August 2003. The area has added 900 jobs since this time last year. A clearer trend for job growth in Las Cruces should start to emerge next month when the education related employment gets back to full semester levels. Distortions to the true trend in job growth can happen in the summer depending upon seasonal patterns which vary a little from year to year. Currently, government employment is showing a loss of 200 jobs overall. State government shows a drop of 400 jobs from last year's levels. This drop may be rectified next month. Federal government shows no net gain in employment from last year. Local government has added 200 jobs since last year.

Most private industries have added a fair number of jobs since this time last year. Only one private industry has reduced employment. The reduced employment shows up in professional and business services, which was devastated by the loss of the Excell call center at the end of last year.

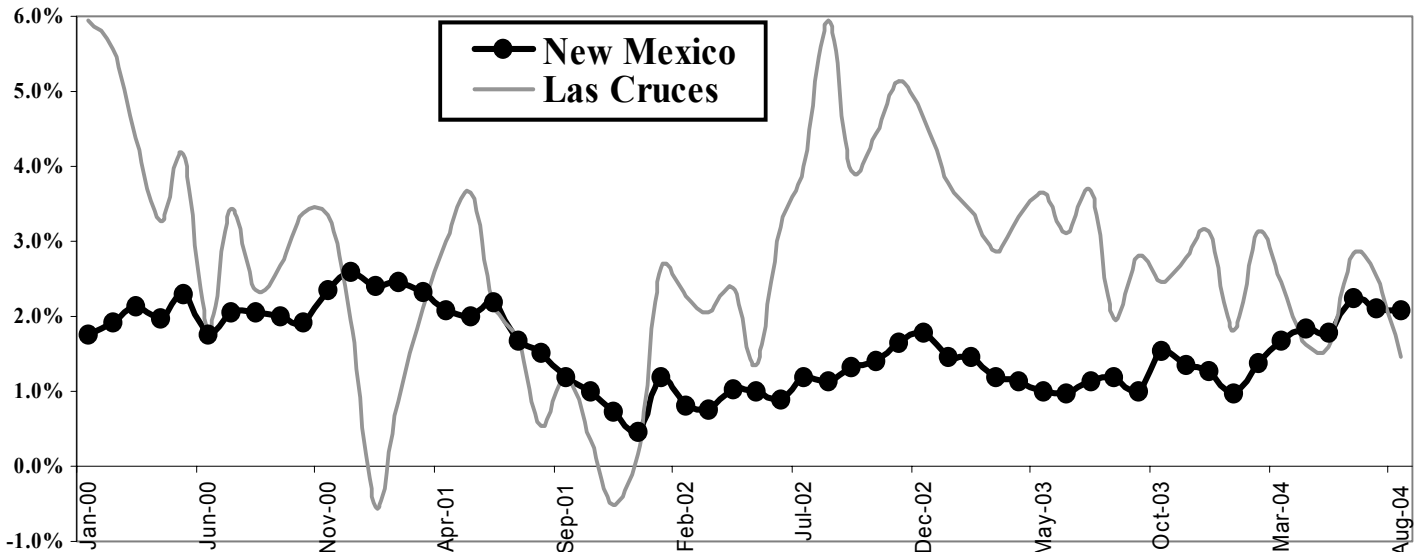
Construction employment has done very well in the local area, adding 400 jobs, growing 10.8 percent on the strength of continuing low interest rates, which makes housing more affordable to consumers. The area's manufacturing industry also continues to do well at a time when the rest of the state and country have lost thousands of manufacturing jobs. Over the last year, Doña Ana County has added 9.4 percent to its manufacturing base. Most of the 300 new jobs are at the Santa Teresa Industrial Park. Another 200 new jobs were added to the leisure and hospitality industry, mostly working at local eating and drinking establishments.

The transportation, warehousing and utilities industry gained 100 jobs. Retail trade also added 100 jobs, which is fairly low compared to much better performance during the early summer. Financial activities added 100 jobs, most likely from the real estate component of the industry.

Four industries kept employment at the same level as last year, neither showing increase or decrease. Three of those industries are relatively small employers – information, wholesale trade and the miscellaneous *other services* industry category. The other industry with flat employment is the much larger educational and health services industry. Weakness came from the health services component and was caused by the fierce competition between rival hospitals that overheated the industry for a while until employment settled at lower but more sustainable levels.

Las Cruces Seasonally Adjusted	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Aug 2004	Jul 2004	Aug 2003	Jul 2003	Aug 2003
Civilian Labor Force	80,400	82,300	80,000	-1,900	+400
Employment	75,300	76,800	73,900	-1,500	+1,400
Unemployment	5,100	5,500	6,100	-400	-1,000
Rate	6.3%	6.7%	7.6%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	5.9%	7.1%	7.1%		

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Las Cruces



Santa Fe MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Santa Fe & Los Alamos Counties)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the Santa Fe MSA was 3.1 percent in August 2004, unchanged from the June and July rates. A year ago, the area had a higher unemployment rate of 3.7 percent.

During August there were only small changes to the employment situation in Santa Fe. The area gained 100 jobs at the very end of the summer tourist season. The net gain came from the combination of 100 new jobs in each of three industries ó financial activities, retail trade, and professional and business services ó and 100 fewer jobs in two other industries ó information and educational and health services. Overall there was not much in the way of change to the employment situation in Santa Fe during August.

Over-the-year job growth for the Santa Fe area was 1.1 percent, adding just 900 jobs. For the last five months, the rate of job growth in Santa Fe has been below the statewide average, having been much stronger in recent times, peaking at 3.6 percent in January 2003. Six industries have added jobs, one industry lost jobs, and five others remain at last year's levels.

The only industry to do well has been educational and health services, which has added 300 jobs since last year. The increase came mostly from the *health care and social assistance* component, which added 200 jobs. The private education component added another 100 jobs. The miscellaneous *other services* industry added 200 jobs, growing 5.3 percent, but this may have more to

do with the different timing of employment changes from year to year at the seasonal summer youth camps. Previously this industry had been up about 100 jobs on the year.

The large government sector has increased employment by 200 jobs, a 0.7 percent gain. Federal government employment continues to subtract from the employment count, having lost 100 jobs since last year. State government increased by 200 jobs, and local government has added 100 jobs. Employment at Los Alamos National Laboratory is included in state government because the University of California runs the facility.

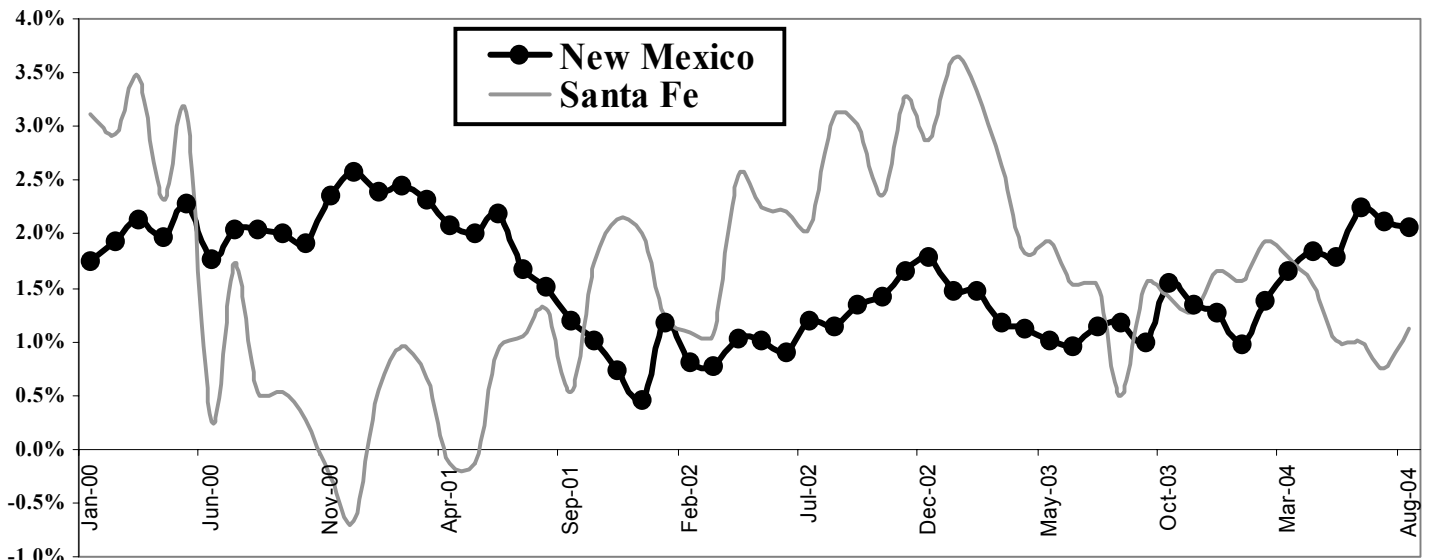
Retail trade has also added 100 jobs, growing 1.1 percent over the year. Professional and business services also added 100 jobs. Another 100 jobs was added to the financial activities industry.

The leisure and hospitality industry reported lower employment than a year ago, down 100 jobs at the end of what appears to have been a fairly disappointing summer for employment in this industry. The food services and drinking places component has added 100 jobs while the other components have fared less well.

The five industries reporting employment levels unchanged from last year were natural resources, mining, and construction; manufacturing; wholesale trade; information; and transportation, warehousing & utilities.

Santa Fe	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Aug 2004</u>	<u>Jul 2004</u>	<u>Aug 2003</u>	<u>Jul 2004</u>	<u>Aug 2003</u>
Civilian Labor Force	84,200	84,500	82,800	-300	+1,400
Employment	81,600	81,900	79,700	-300	+1,900
Unemployment	2,600	2,600	3,100	0	-500
Rate	3.1%	3.1%	3.7%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.2%	3.3%	3.8%		

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Santa Fe



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

		Civilian Labor Force	Employ- ment	Un- Employ- ment	Rate %	Unadj. Rate %
1984		628,000	581,000	47,000	7.5%	
1985		644,000	587,000	57,000	8.9%	
1986		678,000	616,000	62,000	9.1%	
1987		682,000	622,000	60,000	8.8%	
1988		689,000	635,000	54,000	7.8%	
1989		697,000	651,000	46,000	6.6%	
1990		708,400	662,300	46,100	6.5%	
1991		728,500	676,500	52,000	7.1%	
1992		744,400	692,000	52,400	7.0%	
1993		761,100	702,500	58,600	7.7%	
1994		781,500	732,500	49,000	6.3%	
1995		797,000	747,000	50,000	6.3%	
1996		806,900	741,900	65,000	8.1%	
1997		825,900	774,300	51,600	6.2%	
1998		845,100	792,900	52,200	6.2%	
1999		824,300	778,000	46,300	5.6%	
2000		854,100	811,800	42,300	5.0%	
2001		860,100	818,500	41,600	4.8%	
2002		875,300	827,600	47,700	5.4%	
2003		896,900	839,700	57,200	6.4%	
2003	JAN	888,100	835,200	52,900	6.0%	6.1%
	FEB	888,400	835,800	52,600	5.9%	5.8%
	MAR	890,400	836,000	54,400	6.1%	5.9%
	APR	892,400	837,000	55,400	6.2%	5.9%
	MAY	894,400	837,700	56,700	6.3%	6.3%
	JUN	898,400	838,500	59,900	6.7%	7.6%
	JUL	900,300	839,900	60,400	6.7%	7.1%
	AUG	900,300	840,800	59,500	6.6%	6.6%
	SEP	900,700	841,200	59,500	6.6%	6.5%
	OCT	902,700	843,800	58,900	6.5%	6.3%
	NOV	903,000	844,700	58,300	6.5%	6.2%
	DEC	903,400	845,500	57,900	6.4%	5.9%
2004	JAN	897,200	846,200	51,000	5.7%	5.8%
	FEB	898,000	847,700	50,300	5.6%	5.5%
	MAR	901,100	850,600	50,500	5.6%	5.4%
	APR	903,600	853,400	50,200	5.6%	5.3%
	MAY	905,500	856,400	49,100	5.4%	5.3%
	JUN	906,400	857,100	49,300	5.4%	6.4%
	JUL	905,700	857,300	48,400	5.3%	5.8%
	AUG	910,600	861,600	49,000	5.4%	5.4%
	SEP					
	OCT					
	NOV					
	DEC					
# CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	4,900	4,300	600	0.1%	-0.4%
	Year Ago	10,300	20,800	-10,500	-1.2%	-1.2%
	2 Yrs. Ago	33,400	32,400	1,000	0.4%	-0.1%
	3 Yrs. Ago	51,900	43,400	8,500	0.4%	0.7%
% CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	0.5%	0.5%	1.2%		
	Year Ago	1.1%	2.5%	-17.6%		
	2 Yrs. Ago	3.8%	3.9%	2.1%		
	3 Yrs. Ago	6.0%	5.3%	21.0%		

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

State	Rank	August 2003	August 2004	Change	% Change
Nevada	1	1,093.1	1,139.6	46.5	4.3%
Hawaii	2	562.0	575.6	13.6	2.4%
Arizona	3	2,265.6	2,320.0	54.4	2.4%
Idaho	4	578.4	592.2	13.8	2.4%
Utah	5	1,071.6	1,096.4	24.8	2.3%
Virginia	6	3,499.2	3,577.9	78.7	2.2%
Oregon	7	1,559.7	1,594.0	34.3	2.2%
Florida	8	7,275.4	7,430.7	155.3	2.1%
New Mexico	9	777.4	793.5	16.1	2.1%
Washington	10	2,664.4	2,715.1	50.7	1.9%
Delaware	11	661.6	674.1	12.5	1.9%
Wyoming	12	258.7	263.3	4.6	1.8%
Wisconsin	13	2,804.8	2,851.3	46.5	1.7%
New Jersey	14	3,983.7	4,048.3	64.6	1.6%
Maryland	15	2,484.8	2,520.3	35.5	1.4%
United States		129,512.0	131,202.0	1,690.0	1.3%
DC	16	417.2	422.6	5.4	1.3%
Missouri	17	2,652.1	2,686.2	34.1	1.3%
Montana	18	407.5	412.6	5.1	1.3%
North Carolina	19	3,811.5	3,858.3	46.8	1.2%
Alaska	20	319.7	323.6	3.9	1.2%
Oklahoma	21	1,433.6	1,449.0	15.4	1.1%
New Hampshire	22	621.2	627.8	6.6	1.1%
Texas	23	9,341.1	9,439.6	98.5	1.1%
Kansas	24	1,293.7	1,306.3	12.6	1.0%
Rhode Island	25	484.7	489.2	4.5	0.9%
South Carolina	26	1,813.3	1,829.1	15.8	0.9%
New York	27	8,359.5	8,429.1	69.6	0.8%
Mississippi	28	1,115.6	1,124.5	8.9	0.8%
Georgia	29	3,873.3	3,904.0	30.7	0.8%
Pennsylvania	30	5,573.0	5,616.8	43.8	0.8%
Colorado	31	2,161.5	2,178.0	16.5	0.8%
Maine	32	618.9	623.4	4.5	0.7%
Arkansas	33	1,139.8	1,147.9	8.1	0.7%
California	34	14,360.7	14,461.3	100.6	0.7%
Tennessee	35	2,673.9	2,691.3	17.4	0.7%
Minnesota	36	2,662.5	2,679.7	17.2	0.6%
Iowa	37	1,430.9	1,439.1	8.2	0.6%
West Virginia	38	729.8	733.8	4.0	0.5%
South Dakota	39	383.4	385.5	2.1	0.5%
Vermont	40	294.7	296.3	1.6	0.5%
Nebraska	41	899.1	903.9	4.8	0.5%
Kentucky	42	1,782.8	1,791.4	8.6	0.5%
Alabama	43	1,869.3	1,877.1	7.8	0.4%
Indiana	44	2,890.7	2,897.8	7.1	0.2%
Illinois	45	5,827.3	5,839.6	12.3	0.2%
Connecticut	46	1,630.6	1,633.7	3.1	0.2%
North Dakota	47	330.6	330.9	0.3	0.1%
Louisiana	48	1,894.1	1,895.2	1.1	0.1%
Massachusetts	49	3,176.6	3,168.1	-8.5	-0.3%
Ohio	50	5,395.7	5,367.5	-28.2	-0.5%
Michigan	51	4,374.4	4,330.0	-44.4	-1.0%

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

Employment numbers are not seasonally adjusted.

New Mexico Labor Force Estimates – Not Seasonally Adjusted 1/

	PRELIMINARY AUGUST 2004				REVISED JULY 2004				Absolute Change			Percent Change		
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.
STATEWIDE	909,956	860,581	49,375	5.4%	914,177	861,249	52,928	5.8%	-4,221	-668	-3,553	-0.5%	-0.1%	-6.7%
Albuquerque MSA 2/	396,093	376,623	19,470	4.9%	398,714	378,627	20,087	5.0%	-2,621	-2,004	-617	-0.7%	-0.5%	-3.1%
Bernalillo	317,883	302,524	15,359	4.8%	319,659	304,133	15,526	4.9%	-1,776	-1,609	-167	-0.6%	-0.5%	-1.1%
Sandoval	47,282	44,799	2,483	5.3%	47,909	45,038	2,871	6.0%	-627	-239	-388	-1.3%	-0.5%	-13.5%
Valencia	30,928	29,300	1,628	5.3%	31,146	29,456	1,690	5.4%	-218	-156	-62	-0.7%	-0.5%	-3.7%
Las Cruces MSA 3/	79,001	74,348	4,653	5.9%	78,635	73,084	5,551	7.1%	366	1,264	-898	0.5%	1.7%	-16.2%
Santa Fe MSA 4/	83,994	81,307	2,687	3.2%	84,493	81,686	2,807	3.3%	-499	-379	-120	-0.6%	-0.5%	-4.3%
Los Alamos	10,744	10,568	176	1.6%	10,799	10,617	182	1.7%	-55	-49	-6	-0.5%	-0.5%	-3.3%
Santa Fe	73,250	70,739	2,511	3.4%	73,694	71,069	2,625	3.6%	-444	-330	-114	-0.6%	-0.5%	-4.3%
Catron	1,243	1,178	65	5.2%	1,264	1,189	75	5.9%	-21	-11	-10	-1.7%	-0.9%	-13.3%
Chaves	25,572	23,889	1,683	6.6%	25,992	24,070	1,922	7.4%	-420	-181	-239	-1.6%	-0.8%	-12.4%
Cibola	14,960	14,135	825	5.5%	15,038	14,193	845	5.6%	-78	-58	-20	-0.5%	-0.4%	-2.4%
Colfax	7,687	7,324	363	4.7%	7,857	7,471	386	4.9%	-170	-147	-23	-2.2%	-2.0%	-6.0%
Curry	21,389	20,689	700	3.3%	21,400	20,617	783	3.7%	-11	72	-83	-0.1%	0.3%	-10.6%
De Baca	920	871	49	5.3%	944	885	59	6.3%	-24	-14	-10	-2.5%	-1.6%	-16.9%
Eddy	24,215	22,895	1,320	5.5%	24,552	23,056	1,496	6.1%	-337	-161	-176	-1.4%	-0.7%	-11.8%
Grant	11,114	10,216	898	8.1%	11,273	10,264	1,009	9.0%	-159	-48	-111	-1.4%	-0.5%	-11.0%
Guadalupe	1,683	1,584	99	5.9%	1,697	1,573	124	7.3%	-14	11	-25	-0.8%	0.7%	-20.2%
Harding	411	392	19	4.6%	417	398	19	4.6%	-6	-6	0	-1.4%	-1.5%	0.0%
Hidalgo	1,963	1,817	146	7.4%	1,869	1,705	164	8.8%	94	112	-18	5.0%	6.6%	-11.0%
Lea	26,875	25,831	1,044	3.9%	27,019	25,855	1,164	4.3%	-144	-24	-120	-0.5%	-0.1%	-10.3%
Lincoln	9,384	9,068	316	3.4%	9,493	9,166	327	3.4%	-109	-98	-11	-1.1%	-1.1%	-3.4%
Luna	14,569	12,474	2,095	14.4%	14,004	11,621	2,383	17.0%	565	853	-288	4.0%	7.3%	-12.1%
McKinley	27,437	24,992	2,445	8.9%	27,056	24,536	2,520	9.3%	381	456	-75	1.4%	1.9%	-3.0%
Mora	1,890	1,683	207	11.0%	1,897	1,703	194	10.2%	-7	-20	13	-0.4%	-1.2%	6.7%
Otero	22,013	20,868	1,145	5.2%	22,108	20,885	1,223	5.5%	-95	-17	-78	-0.4%	-0.1%	-6.4%
Quay	4,054	3,858	196	4.8%	4,182	3,960	222	5.3%	-128	-102	-26	-3.1%	-2.6%	-11.7%
Rio Arriba	22,890	21,220	1,670	7.3%	23,094	21,351	1,743	7.5%	-204	-131	-73	-0.9%	-0.6%	-4.2%
Roosevelt	7,769	7,545	224	2.9%	7,917	7,676	241	3.0%	-148	-131	-17	-1.9%	-1.7%	-7.1%
San Juan	53,121	49,434	3,687	6.9%	53,154	49,154	4,000	7.5%	-33	280	-313	-0.1%	0.6%	-7.8%
San Miguel	13,704	12,730	974	7.1%	13,925	12,879	1,046	7.5%	-221	-149	-72	-1.6%	-1.2%	-6.9%
Sierra	4,218	4,047	171	4.1%	4,299	4,119	180	4.2%	-81	-72	-9	-1.9%	-1.7%	-5.0%
Socorro	7,324	6,947	377	5.1%	7,341	6,959	382	5.2%	-17	-12	-5	-0.2%	-0.2%	-1.3%
Taos	14,571	13,208	1,363	9.4%	14,596	13,151	1,445	9.9%	-25	57	-82	-0.2%	0.4%	-5.7%
Torrance	7,813	7,381	432	5.5%	7,880	7,398	482	6.1%	-67	-17	-50	-0.9%	-0.2%	-10.4%
Union	2,079	2,026	53	2.5%	2,069	2,019	50	2.4%	10	7	3	0.5%	0.3%	6.0%

	PRELIMINARY AUGUST 2004				REVISED AUGUST 2003				Absolute Change			Percent Change		
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.
STATEWIDE	909,956	860,581	49,375	5.4%	899,235	839,568	59,667	6.6%	10,721	21,013	-10,292	1.2%	2.5%	-17.2%
Albuquerque MSA 2/	396,093	376,623	19,470	4.9%	388,520	365,548	22,972	5.9%	7,573	11,075	-3,502	1.9%	3.0%	-15.2%
Bernalillo	317,883	302,524	15,359	4.8%	311,452	293,628	17,824	5.7%	6,431	8,896	-2,465	2.1%	3.0%	-13.8%
Sandoval	47,282	44,799	2,483	5.3%	46,596	43,482	3,114	6.7%	686	1,317	-631	1.5%	3.0%	-20.3%
Valencia	30,928	29,300	1,628	5.3%	30,473	28,439	2,034	6.7%	455	861	-406	1.5%	3.0%	-20.0%
Las Cruces MSA 3/	79,001	74,348	4,653	5.9%	78,667	73,116	5,551	7.1%	334	1,232	-898	0.4%	1.7%	-16.2%
Santa Fe MSA 4/	83,994	81,307	2,687	3.2%	82,535	79,402	3,133	3.8%	1,459	1,905	-446	1.8%	2.4%	-14.2%
Los Alamos	10,744	10,568	176	1.6%	10,522	10,320	202	1.9%	222	248	-26	2.1%	2.4%	-12.9%
Santa Fe	73,250	70,739	2,511	3.4%	72,013	69,082	2,931	4.1%	1,237	1,657	-420	1.7%	2.4%	-14.3%
Catron	1,243	1,178	65	5.2%	1,279	1,170	109	8.5%	-36	8	-44	-2.8%	0.7%	-40.4%
Chaves	25,572	23,889	1,683	6.6%	25,768	23,588	2,180	8.5%	-196	301	-497	-0.8%	1.3%	-22.8%
Cibola	14,960	14,135	825	5.5%	14,476	13,567	909	6.3%	484	568	-84	3.3%	4.2%	-9.2%
Colfax	7,687	7,324	363	4.7%	7,718	7,224	494	6.4%	-31	100	-131	-0.4%	1.4%	-26.5%
Curry	21,389	20,689	700	3.3%	21,026	20,207	819	3.9%	363	482	-119	1.7%	2.4%	-14.5%
De Baca	920	871	49	5.3%	953	838	115	12.1%	-33	33	-66	-3.5%	3.9%	-57.4%
Eddy	24,215	22,895	1,320	5.5%	24,323	22,486	1,837	7.6%	-108	409	-517	-0.4%	1.8%	-28.1%
Grant	11,114	10,216	898	8.1%	12,044	10,103	1,941	16.1%	-930	113	-1,043	-7.7%	1.1%	-53.7%
Guadalupe	1,683	1,584	99	5.9%	1,729	1,582	147	8.5%	-46	2	-48	-2.7%	0.1%	-32.7%
Harding	411	392	19	4.6%	455	421	34	7.5%	-44	-29	-15	-9.7%	-6.9%	-44.1%
Hidalgo	1,963	1,817	146	7.4%	1,951	1,819	132	6.8%	12	-2	14	0.6%	-0.1%	10.6%
Lea	26,875	25,831	1,044	3.9%	26,128	24,704	1,424	5.5%	747	1,127	-380	2.9%	4.6%	-26.7%
Lincoln	9,384	9,068	316	3.4%	9,273	8,921	352	3.8%	111	147	-36	1.2%	1.6%	-10.2%
Luna	14,569	12,474	2,095	14.4%	14,650	12,328	2,322	15.8%	-81	146	-227	-0.6%	1.2%	-9.8%
McKinley	27,437	24,992	2,445	8.9%	27,357	24,802	2,555	9.3%	80	190	-110	0.3%	0.8%	-4.3%
Mora	1,890	1,683	207	11.0%	1,904	1,674	230	12.1%	-14	9	-23	-0.7%	0.5%	-10.0%
Otero	22,013	20,868	1,145	5.2%	21,839	20,220	1,619	7.4%	174	648	-474	0.8%	3.2%	-29.3%
Quay	4,054	3,858	196	4.8%	4,039	3,794	245	6.1%	15	64	-49	0.4%	1.7%	-20.0%
Rio Arriba	22,890	21,220	1,670	7.3%	22,671	20,908	1,763	7.8%	219	312	-93	1.0%	1.5%	-5.3%
Roosevelt	7,769	7,545	224	2.9%	7,879	7,575	304	3.9%	-110	-30	-80	-1.4%	-0.4%	-26.3%
San Juan	53,121	49,434	3,687	6.9%	52,609	47,922	4,687	8.9%	512	1,512	-1,000	1.0%	3.2%	-21.3%
San Miguel	13,704	12,730	974	7.1%	13,665	12,657	1,008	7.4%	39	73	-34	0.3%	0.6%	-3.4%
Sierra	4,218	4,047	171	4.1%	4,236	4,041	195	4.6%	-18	6	-24	-0.4%	0.1%	-12.3%
Socorro	7,324	6,947	377	5.1%	7,195	6,715	480	6.7%	129	232	-103	1.8%	3.5%	-21.5%
Taos	14,571	13,208	1,363	9.4%	14,474	12,901	1,573	10.9%	97	307	-210	0.7%	2.4%	-13.4%
Torrance	7,813	7,381	432	5.5%	7,779	7,312	467	6.0%	34	69	-35	0.4%	0.9%	-7.5%
Union	2,079	2,026	53	2.5%	2,097	2,024	73	3.5%	-18	2	-20	-0.9%	0.1%	-27.4%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics
2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo, Sandoval & Valencia Counties
3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County
4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

Unemployment Rates in New Mexico (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

PRELIMINARY AUGUST 2004		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	14.4%
MORA	2	11.0%
TAOS	3	9.4%
MCKINLEY	4	8.9%
GRANT	5	8.1%
HIDALGO	6	7.4%
RIO ARRIBA	7	7.3%
SAN MIGUEL	8	7.1%
SAN JUAN	9	6.9%
CHAVES	10	6.6%
GUADALUPE	11	5.9%
LAS CRUCES MSA 2/	12	5.9%
CIBOLA	13	5.5%
EDDY	14	5.5%
TORRANCE	15	5.5%
STATEWIDE		5.4%
DE BACA	16	5.3%
CATRON	17	5.2%
OTERO	18	5.2%
SOCORRO	19	5.1%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	20	4.9%
QUAY	21	4.8%
COLFAX	22	4.7%
HARDING	23	4.6%
SIERRA	24	4.1%
LEA	25	3.9%
LINCOLN	26	3.4%
CURRY	27	3.3%
SANTA FE MSA 3/	28	3.2%
ROOSEVELT	29	2.9%
UNION	30	2.5%

REVISED JULY 2004		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	17.0%
MORA	2	10.2%
TAOS	3	9.9%
MCKINLEY	4	9.3%
GRANT	5	9.0%
HIDALGO	6	8.8%
RIO ARRIBA	7	7.5%
SAN JUAN	8	7.5%
SAN MIGUEL	9	7.5%
CHAVES	10	7.4%
GUADALUPE	11	7.3%
LAS CRUCES MSA 2/	12	7.1%
DE BACA	13	6.3%
EDDY	14	6.1%
TORRANCE	15	6.1%
CATRON	16	5.9%
STATEWIDE		5.8%
CIBOLA	17	5.6%
OTERO	18	5.5%
QUAY	19	5.3%
SOCORRO	20	5.2%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	21	5.0%
COLFAX	22	4.9%
HARDING	23	4.6%
LEA	24	4.3%
SIERRA	25	4.2%
CURRY	26	3.7%
LINCOLN	27	3.4%
SANTA FE MSA 3/	28	3.3%
ROOSEVELT	29	3.0%
UNION	30	2.4%

REVISED AUGUST 2003		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
GRANT	1	16.1%
LUNA	2	15.8%
MORA	3	12.1%
DE BACA	4	12.1%
TAOS	5	10.9%
MCKINLEY	6	9.3%
SAN JUAN	7	8.9%
CATRON	8	8.5%
GUADALUPE	9	8.5%
CHAVES	10	8.5%
RIO ARRIBA	11	7.8%
EDDY	12	7.6%
HARDING	13	7.5%
OTERO	14	7.4%
SAN MIGUEL	15	7.4%
LAS CRUCES MSA 2/	16	7.1%
HIDALGO	17	6.8%
SOCORRO	18	6.7%
STATEWIDE		6.6%
COLFAX	19	6.4%
CIBOLA	20	6.3%
QUAY	21	6.1%
TORRANCE	22	6.0%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	23	5.9%
LEA	24	5.5%
SIERRA	25	4.6%
CURRY	26	3.9%
ROOSEVELT	27	3.9%
LINCOLN	28	3.8%
SANTA FE MSA 3/	29	3.8%
UNION	30	3.5%

- 1/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo, Sandoval & Valencia Counties
 2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County
 3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

Need Labor Market Information?

We have several major publications detailing New Mexico's:

- Current economic conditions and trends
- Wages by occupations and areas
- Larger employers
- Growing jobs with skills and training needs
- Job market with hints for finding and keeping a job

They are available, at no cost, by dropping by any NMDOL office.

...Check Out Our Website!

For fast and easy access to the latest labor market information, please visit the New Mexico Department of Labor's website. There you will find a wide variety of information and tools for all kinds of people, including job seekers, employers, teachers, grant writers, career counselors, and students. All of our publications, including the one you are reading now, can be accessed online and are available sooner than if delivered by mail. This website also includes information on Department of Labor programs, contact names and addresses, and frequently asked questions about Department functions. In addition, all NMDOL employer forms can be downloaded from our website for easy access. Also provided are links to other related websites, including America's Job Bank for nationwide job searches. All this and more is available on our website at:

www.dol.state.nm.us



Unemployment Rate by State (Seasonally Adjusted)

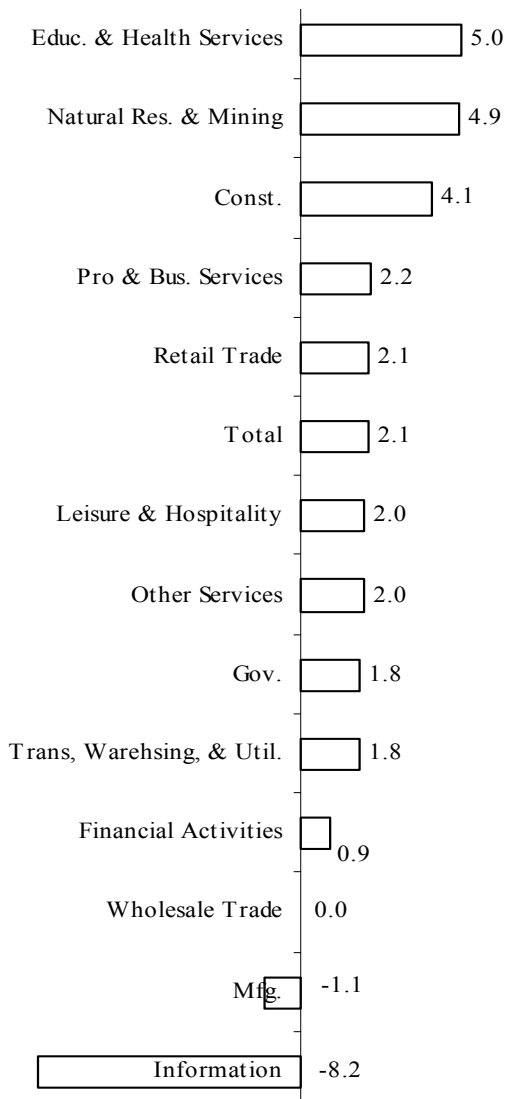
Preliminary		August 2004
State	Rank	Rate
Alaska	1	7.6
District of Columbia	2	7.5
Oregon	3	7.4
Michigan	4	6.7
South Carolina	5	6.4
Ohio	6	6.3
Washington	7	6.2
Illinois	8	6.1
Alabama	9	6.0
Mississippi	10	5.9
California	11	5.8
Texas	12	5.7
New York	13	5.6
Pennsylvania	13	5.6
Missouri	15	5.5
Rhode Island	15	5.5
West Virginia	15	5.5
New Mexico	18	5.4
Arkansas	18	5.4
Massachusetts	18	5.4
United States		5.4
Colorado	21	5.1
Indiana	21	5.1
Kentucky	21	5.1
Idaho	24	5.0
Louisiana	24	5.0
North Carolina	24	5.0
Tennessee	27	4.9
Kansas	28	4.8
Minnesota	28	4.8
Montana	28	4.8
New Jersey	28	4.8
Utah	28	4.8
Wisconsin	28	4.8
Connecticut	34	4.6
Florida	35	4.5
Iowa	35	4.5
Maine	35	4.5
Arizona	38	4.4
Maryland	39	4.3
Georgia	40	4.2
Oklahoma	41	4.1
Nevada	42	4.0
New Hampshire	43	3.7
Wyoming	43	3.7
Delaware	45	3.6
Nebraska	45	3.6
Virginia	47	3.5
Vermont	48	3.4
North Dakota	49	3.3
South Dakota	50	3.2
Hawaii	51	2.9

Revised		August 2003
State	Rank	Rate
Oregon	1	8.4
Alaska	2	8.1
Washington	3	7.7
Michigan	4	7.5
District of Columbia	5	7.1
California	6	6.8
Illinois	6	6.8
Louisiana	6	6.8
South Carolina	6	6.8
Texas	6	6.8
New Mexico	11	6.6
North Carolina	12	6.5
Arkansas	13	6.4
New York	13	6.4
Mississippi	15	6.3
Kentucky	16	6.2
West Virginia	16	6.2
Colorado	18	6.1
Ohio	18	6.1
United States		6.1
Tennessee	20	6.0
Massachusetts	21	5.9
New Jersey	21	5.9
Alabama	23	5.8
Missouri	23	5.8
Oklahoma	23	5.8
Arizona	26	5.7
Wisconsin	26	5.7
Connecticut	28	5.6
Idaho	29	5.5
Pennsylvania	29	5.5
Utah	29	5.5
Kansas	32	5.4
Nevada	32	5.4
Indiana	34	5.3
Florida	35	5.2
Rhode Island	36	5.2
Maine	37	5.1
Minnesota	38	5.0
Montana	39	4.8
Delaware	40	4.6
Georgia	40	4.6
Iowa	40	4.6
Vermont	40	4.6
Hawaii	44	4.5
Maryland	44	4.5
New Hampshire	46	4.3
Wyoming	46	4.3
Nebraska	48	4.1
Virginia	48	4.1
North Dakota	50	4.0
South Dakota	51	3.7

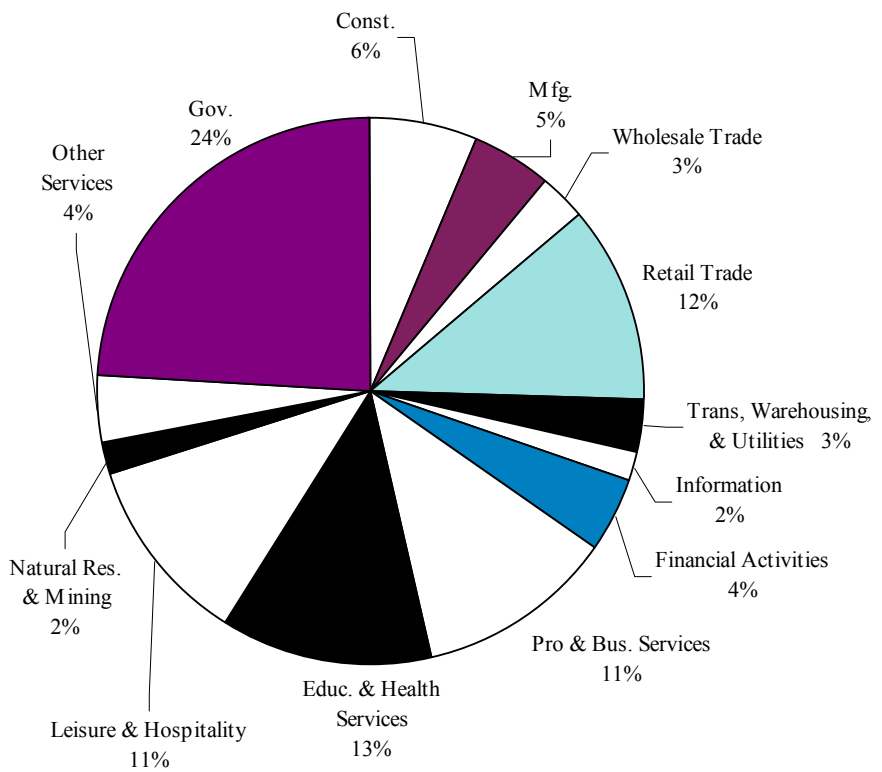
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

New Mexico Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Annual Growth Rates by Industry



NAICS Industries



New Mexico and Albuquerque Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Aug-04	Jul-04	Aug-03	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	793,500	788,700	777,400	4,800	16,100
GOODS PRODUCING	103,300	102,000	101,000	1,300	2,300
SERVICES-PROVIDING	690,200	686,700	676,400	3,500	13,800
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	15,000	14,800	14,300	200	700
<i>Oil & Gas Extraction, Well Drilling</i>	11,500	11,300	10,700	200	800
<i>Mining, Except Oil and Gas</i>	3,600	3,600	3,600	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	51,100	50,900	49,100	200	2,000
Construction of Buildings	14,200	14,200	14,000	0	200
<i>Residential Building Construction</i>	7,900	7,900	7,600	0	300
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	8,500	8,400	8,400	100	100
Specialty Trade Contractors	28,400	28,300	26,700	100	1,700
MANUFACTURING	37,200	36,300	37,600	900	-400
Durable Goods	25,000	24,900	25,300	100	-300
<i>Computer and Electronic Products</i>	10,700	10,700	10,800	0	-100
<i>Semiconductor and Other Electronics</i>	7,100	7,100	7,500	0	-400
Non-Durable Goods	12,200	11,400	12,300	800	-100
WHOLESALE TRADE	22,400	22,400	22,400	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	92,900	92,300	91,000	600	1,900
<i>Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers</i>	13,000	13,000	12,700	0	300
<i>Food and Beverage Stores</i>	12,300	12,400	12,800	-100	-500
<i>General Merchandise Stores</i>	21,000	20,900	20,400	100	600
<i>Department Stores</i>	6,300	6,300	7,000	0	-700
<i>Other General Merchandise Stores</i>	14,700	14,600	13,400	100	1,300
<i>Miscellaneous Store Retailers</i>	7,000	7,000	7,100	0	-100
<i>Nonstore Retailers</i>	2,700	2,700	2,600	0	100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	23,100	22,400	22,700	700	400
Utilities	3,900	3,900	4,000	0	-100
Transportation and Warehousing	19,200	18,500	18,700	700	500
<i>Truck Transportation</i>	7,000	6,900	6,600	100	400
INFORMATION	14,500	14,600	15,800	-100	-1,300
<i>Telecommunications</i>	6,400	6,400	7,500	0	-1,100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	34,800	34,800	34,500	0	300
Finance and Insurance	24,000	24,000	24,100	0	-100
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities</i>	12,800	12,800	12,800	0	0
<i>Insurance Carriers and Related Activities</i>	9,300	9,300	9,500	0	-200
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	10,800	10,800	10,400	0	400
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	91,100	90,900	89,100	200	2,000
Professional, Scientific, and Technical	41,900	42,400	41,100	-500	800
<i>Architectural, Engineering, and Related</i>	11,200	11,200	10,900	0	300
<i>Scientific Research and Development</i>	13,400	13,600	13,100	-200	300
Management of Companies and Enterprises	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services	44,200	43,500	43,000	700	1,200
<i>Employment Services</i>	17,500	17,000	16,300	500	1,200
<i>Business Support Services</i>	5,500	5,500	5,400	0	100
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	101,000	100,100	96,200	900	4,800
Educational Services	9,100	8,900	8,900	200	200
Health Care and Social Assistance	91,900	91,200	87,300	700	4,600
Ambulatory Health Care Services	36,000	35,500	33,200	500	2,800
<i>Offices of Physicians</i>	10,300	10,200	9,900	100	400
<i>Outpatient Care Centers</i>	5,200	5,100	4,700	100	500
<i>Home Health Care Services</i>	8,600	8,500	8,200	100	400
Hospitals	22,000	21,900	21,300	100	700
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	13,500	13,500	12,900	0	600
<i>Nursing Care Facilities</i>	7,400	7,400	7,000	0	400
Social Assistance	20,400	20,300	19,900	100	500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	87,000	86,600	85,300	400	1,700
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	8,800	9,000	8,800	-200	0
Accommodation and Food Services	78,200	77,600	76,500	600	1,700
Accommodation	14,300	14,300	14,300	0	0
Food Services and Drinking Places	63,900	63,300	62,200	600	1,700
<i>Full-Service Restaurants</i>	30,900	30,400	29,100	500	1,800
<i>Limited-Service Eating Places</i>	26,100	26,000	25,800	100	300
OTHER SERVICES	30,900	31,100	30,300	-200	600
<i>Repair and Maintenance</i>	7,700	7,700	7,800	0	-100
GOVERNMENT	192,500	191,500	189,100	1,000	3,400
Federal Government	30,000	29,600	30,200	400	-200
State Government 2/	64,600	62,500	64,200	2,100	400
<i>State Government Education</i>	23,900	21,700	23,900	2,200	0
Local Government	97,900	99,400	94,700	-1,500	3,200
<i>Local Government Education</i>	49,900	49,600	49,300	300	600

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which includes the 12th day of the month.

2/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory, federally funded state programs, state supported universities, and the three branches of government.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

ALBUQUERQUE	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Aug-04	Jul-04	Aug-03	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	367,300	365,900	361,200	1,400	6,100
GOODS PRODUCING	48,700	48,300	48,800	400	-100
SERVICES-PROVIDING	318,600	317,600	312,400	1,000	6,200
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING & CONSTRUCTION	26,000	25,800	25,000	200	1,000
<i>Specialty Trade Contractors</i>	16,200	16,100	15,200	100	1,000
MANUFACTURING	22,700	22,500	23,800	200	-1,100
<i>Computer and Electronic Products</i>	9,700	9,700	10,300	0	-600
<i>Semiconductor and Other Electronics</i>	6,700	6,700	7,200	0	-500
WHOLESALE TRADE	12,900	12,800	13,100	100	-200
RETAIL TRADE	42,100	42,200	41,300	-100	800
<i>Building Material and Garden Equipment</i>	3,800	3,800	3,600	0	200
<i>Food and Beverage Stores</i>	4,700	4,700	4,700	0	0
<i>General Merchandise Stores</i>	8,600	8,600	8,300	0	300
<i>Department Stores</i>	3,300	3,200	3,600	100	-300
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	10,600	10,200	10,500	400	100
INFORMATION	9,200	9,200	10,000	0	-800
<i>Telecommunications</i>	4,800	4,900	5,500	-100	-700
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	19,100	19,000	19,200	100	-100
<i>Finance and Insurance</i>	13,700	13,500	13,800	200	-100
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities</i>	6,000	5,900	6,000	100	0
<i>Depository Credit Intermediation</i>	4,100	4,100	4,000	0	100
<i>Insurance Carriers</i>	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	58,800	58,800	57,100	0	1,700
Professional, Scientific, and Technical	28,600	29,100	28,100	-500	500
<i>Scientific Research and Development</i>	11,900	12,200	11,200	-300	700
Management of Companies and Enterprises	3,800	3,800	3,900	0	-100
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services	26,400	25,900	25,100	500	1,300
<i>Employment Services</i>	13,000	12,700	12,000	300	1,000
<i>Business Support Services</i>	3,200	3,200	2,800	0	400
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	44,400	44,000	42,100	400	2,300
<i>Health Care and Social Assistance</i>	39,900	39,500	38,000	400	1,900
<i>Ambulatory Health Care Services</i>	16,700	16,600	15,600	100	1,100
<i>Hospitals</i>	9,700	9,500	9,200	200	500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	37,800	37,700	37,100	100	700
<i>Food Services and Drinking Places</i>	29,000	28,900	28,400	100	600
<i>Full-Service Restaurants</i>	13,600	13,400	12,800	200	800
OTHER SERVICES	12,200	12,300	12,000	-100	200
GOVERNMENT	71,500	71,400	70,000	100	1,500
Federal Government	13,900	13,900	13,900	0	0
State Government /2	23,000	21,700	22,900	1,300	100
Local Government	34,600	35,800	33,200	-1,200	1,400

1/ 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.

2/ Includes employees of federally funded state programs, state supported universities, and the three branches of state government.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

LAS CRUCES MSA	Preliminary Aug-04	Revised Jul-04	Revised Aug-03	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT /1	62,700	60,800	61,800	1,900	900
GOODS PRODUCING	7,600	7,500	6,900	100	700
SERVICE PRODUCING	55,100	53,300	54,900	1,800	200
NATURAL RESOURCES MINING & CONSTRUCTION	4,100	4,100	3,700	0	400
MANUFACTURING	3,500	3,400	3,200	100	300
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,100	1,200	1,100	-100	0
RETAIL TRADE	7,000	6,900	6,900	100	100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	1,700	1,500	1,600	200	100
INFORMATION	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,400	2,400	2,300	0	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,100	5,100	5,200	0	-100
<i>Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services</i>	2,300	2,300	2,500	0	-200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	9,400	9,200	9,400	200	0
<i>Health Care & Social Assistance</i>	8,500	8,600	8,800	-100	-300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	6,400	6,300	6,200	100	200
OTHER SERVICES	1,400	1,500	1,400	-100	0
GOVERNMENT	19,400	18,000	19,600	1,400	-200
Federal	3,600	3,600	3,600	0	0
State	7,800	7,100	8,200	700	-400
Local	8,000	7,300	7,800	700	200

SANTA FE MSA	Preliminary Aug-04	Revised Jul-04	Revised Aug-03	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT /1	81,000	80,900	80,100	100	900
GOODS PRODUCING	6,300	6,300	6,300	0	0
SERVICE PRODUCING	74,700	74,600	73,800	100	900
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTRUCTION	5,100	5,100	5,100	0	0
MANUFACTURING	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	9,200	9,100	9,100	100	100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	700	700	700	0	0
INFORMATION	1,000	1,100	1,000	-100	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	3,600	3,500	3,500	100	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	9,100	9,000	9,000	100	100
<i>Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services</i>	4,500	4,500	4,700	0	-200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	8,800	8,900	8,500	-100	300
<i>Health Care & Social Assistance</i>	7,300	7,300	7,100	0	200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	10,100	10,100	10,200	0	-100
<i>Food Service & Drinking Places</i>	6,400	6,300	6,300	100	100
OTHER SERVICES	4,000	4,000	3,800	0	200
GOVERNMENT	27,100	27,100	26,900	0	200
Federal	1,400	1,400	1,500	0	-100
State /2	18,400	18,400	18,200	0	200
Local	7,300	7,300	7,200	0	100

1/ 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.

2/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory, federally funded state programs, state supported universities, and the three branches of state government.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

- Seasonally Adjusted -

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Aug-04	Revised Jul-04	Monthly Change
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	793,100	790,800	2,300
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	14,900	14,700	200
CONSTRUCTION	49,400	49,500	-100
MANUFACTURING	35,500	35,900	-400
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	138,200	137,200	1,000
INFORMATION (Not Seasonally Adjusted)	14,500	14,600	-100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	34,500	34,400	100
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	90,200	89,700	500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	104,300	104,200	100
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	84,000	84,100	-100
OTHER SERVICES	29,200	29,000	200
GOVERNMENT	198,400	197,500	900

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

New Publication

The Unemployment Insurance Bureau of the Department of Labor has written a new publication, New Mexico Unemployment Insurance Data, Calendar Year 2003. This annual publication provides statistics and analysis of various unemployment insurance data, such as initial claims, weeks claimed, benefits paid, and the trust fund for calendar year 2003. For a free copy please contact Rachel Moskowitz at the Department of Labor at (505) 841-9062, or email at RMoskowitz@state.nm.us

New Mexico Unemployment Insurance Data



2003

New Mexico
Department of
LABOR

Average Hours and Earnings

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

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Aug 04	Jul 04	Aug 03	Aug 04	Jul 04	Aug 03	Aug 04	Jul 04	Aug 03
NEW MEXICO									
NATURAL RES. & MINING	\$747.36	\$746.93	\$747.71	43.2	43.2	43.7	\$17.30	\$17.29	\$17.11
CONSTRUCTION	\$599.47	\$599.07	\$596.29	39.7	39.7	39.7	\$15.10	\$15.09	\$15.02
MANUFACTURING	\$516.27	\$518.76	\$518.76	39.5	39.6	39.6	\$13.07	\$13.10	\$13.10
WHOLESALE TRADE	\$516.13	\$517.59	\$514.79	35.4	35.5	35.7	\$14.58	\$14.58	\$14.42
RETAIL TRADE	\$334.08	\$334.08	\$342.92	32.0	32.0	33.1	\$10.44	\$10.44	\$10.36
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	\$482.74	\$482.38	\$494.22	35.6	35.6	36.8	\$13.56	\$13.55	\$13.43
ALBUQUERQUE MSA									
MANUFACTURING	\$586.93	\$576.87	\$566.87	39.9	40.2	38.8	\$14.71	\$14.35	\$14.61

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 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

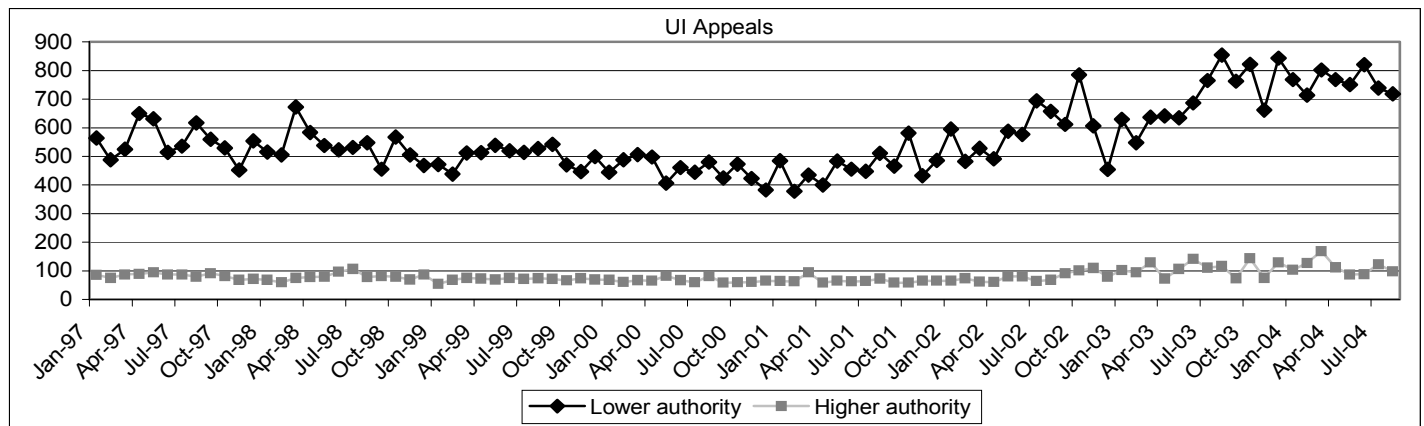
	Index Base Year 1982-84 = 100			PERCENT CHANGE	
	Aug 04	Jul 04	Aug 03	Month to Month	Year to Year
CPI-U	189.5	189.4	184.6	0.1%	2.7%
CPI-W	185.0	184.9	180.3	0.1%	2.6%

*CPI-U - All Urban Consumers

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

New Mexico Unemployment Insurance[^]

	Aug-04	Jul-04	Aug-03	Percent Change	
				from July-04	From August-03
CLAIMS ACTIVITIES					
Initial Claims	4,698	5,002	4,772	-6.1%	-1.6%
Continued Claims #	62,649	55,988	59,154	11.9%	5.9%
Insured Unemployed #	13,120	13,878	14,575	-5.5%	-10.0%
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.8%	1.9%	2.1%		
PAYMENT ACTIVITIES					
First Payments	2,596	2,522	5,747	2.9%	-54.8%
Final Payments	1,317	1,348	1,165	-2.3%	13.0%
Weeks Compensated	52,213	42,672	50,307	22.4%	3.8%
Net Benefit Payments	\$11,452,965	\$9,853,647	\$10,654,552	16.2%	7.5%
Average WBA*	\$214.33	\$213.69	\$207.57	0.3%	3.3%
Average Duration (weeks)*	18.1	17.9	17.3	0.8%	4.4%
Exhaustion Rate *	44.1%	44.0%	43.6%		
Trust Fund Balance, July 2004	\$511,358,641				



[^] Regular program only, not seasonally adjusted, does not include TEUC. * 12-month moving average. # Includes intrastate & interstate agent continued claims.

Questions or comments? Please contact Actuarial Research @ (505) 841-9062 or RMoskowitz@state.nm.us

New Mexico Area Economic Activity

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

Statewide:

The Connection, a Minneapolis based call center company, has landed a major contract with Verizon Wireless and will hire an additional 200 people for two of its New Mexico call centers. The Connection operates call centers in Moriarty and Las Vegas, NM. that are the largest single private employers in each of their areas. The firm also operates a call center in Carlsbad, NM. The Connection reports over \$9 million annually in payroll in New Mexico.

Albuquerque Area, Bernalillo County:

Kirtland Air Force Base will continue to receive funding for the anti-missile Airborne Laser project. The 2005 defense budget has almost \$500 million for development of a laser weapon mounted in the nose of a modified Boeing 747 aircraft. The program is currently behind in its development schedule and has had delays with both hardware and software systems.

Home sales in the Albuquerque area are continuing to set records. For the forth-straight year, home sales have surpassed previous records. Reported sales of 1,157 existing homes passed last years record of 1,110 set in July 2003. Sales of existing homes are running about seven percent ahead of the same period from last year. Sales of new construction are headed for a record year as well, with housing starts up about 11 percent from last year.

Travelers headed south on I-25 through the Big-I can watch the progress of the **Embassy Suites hotel** under construction at Lomas and I-25. The new 261-room hotel will feature 30,000 square-feet of meeting and conference space, and a registration/lobby area that will open onto a 7,000-square-foot atrium. The hotel is scheduled for completion by April 2005. A job fair to hire 200 workers needed to staff the hotel will be held in March 2005.

Qwest will close its Albuquerque call center in mid-November. The company has about 230 workers working in the downtown call center at 400 Tijeras Ave. NW. The closure is part of Qwest's regional consolidation of customer service facilities. The company has said that they will also relocate 76 other service dispatching jobs to Utah. Employees at the call center will be eligible for severance pay of up to \$1,100 for every year of service with the company.

OiNiellis Pub on Central is losing its lease and will close at the end of the year. The Nob Hill pub opened in 1994 at 3211 Central Ave. N.E. and is one of two OiNiellis pubs. The owner, Rob OiNeill, says that he hopes to be able to transfer some of the 30 employees from the Nob Hill location to the other area pub in the Uptown area.

Hunting and fishing aficionados will find a wide array of outdoors products to choose from at the new **Sportsman's Warehouse**. The new specialty retailer opened its first New Mexico store in mid-August at 1450 Renaissance Boulevard NE. The store stocks about 1,400 firearms, including handguns and muzzleloaders. A good selection of fishing and camping gear is also available. The store features about 100 varieties of sleeping bags in stock and a 130-foot fishing

wall with about 50,000 fishing flies. The Sportsman's Warehouse chain employs over 2,000 people in the nine states it operates in, and employs about 70 workers in the new Albuquerque store.

A new project near Albuquerque's Old Town could mean 200 new jobs for the area. **Griffin Partners** and the **Sawmill Community Land Trust** are working on an agreement to develop the area north-east of the Natural History Museum into a state of the art digital film production center. The new center would cost about \$27 million and would enhance New Mexico's place in the film industry.

Roswell Area, Chaves County:

The Nova Bus plant is expected to start making buses again this November. **Millennium Transit Services** plans to start producing both high and low floor buses at the Roswell factory. The company hopes to be completing one bus a day by the first quarter of 2005.

The Hobby Lobby, a store specializing in craft and hobby supplies, opened its first Eastern New Mexico store at the **Roswell Mall** in August. The crafts store occupies about 60,000 square feet at the mall. A **Dunlaps** department store is also scheduled to open at the mall in mid-October.

Clovis Area, Curry County:

Pac Sun, a retailer of trendy clothing for teens and young adults, opened a store in the North Plains Mall. The store is part of a nationwide chain of 980 stores based in Anaheim, California. The Clovis store is staffed with 14 employees. In September, **Hot Topic**, another youth market clothing retailer, will also open in the North Plains Mall.

Las Cruces Area, Doña Ana County:

Doña Ana County Commissioners decided to postpone a decision whether or not to approve the opening of a gambling casino near Anthony. Santa Fe art dealer Jerry Peters, and the Jemez Pueblo have proposed the location of the casino in Doña Ana County because the remoteness of the Jemez Pueblo in rural Sandoval County would make the project unfeasible on the Pueblo itself.

Artesia Area, Eddy County:

The **Border Patrol** will consolidate training operations to the Artesia Federal Law Enforcement Training Center for basic and advanced officer training. The consolidation is expected to bring an unspecified number of high wage jobs to the area. Recently, air service from Denver was added to the Roswell airport to support travel to the FLETC.

Silver City Area, Grant County:

New hires at the Chino mine and the copper mines in Tyrone have brought **Phelps Dodge's** Grant County employment up to almost 1,000 workers. The company has added almost 350 workers to its payrolls since the end of last year. A company spokesman says that another 60 or 70 additional workers may be added later this year.

Hobbs Area, Lea County:

Arena Resources, a Tulsa-based oil and gas exploration and production company, purchased 23 Lea County oil and gas wells from EnerQuest Resources. The company plans to start drilling 12 wells in an area just east of Hobbs. Arena has 12 employees and plans to open an office in Hobbs in November.

Mora Area, Mora County:

Two new eating places have recently opened in Mora. **Milagro Casa de Teresa's Tamales**, on Highway 518 about three miles from Mora, features wholesale and retail green and red tamales. The **Cowboy Kitchen**, also on Highway 518 features lunch and dinner specials.

Rio Rancho Area, Sandoval County:

Intel has requested that Sandoval County Commissioners approve what may be the largest industrial revenue bond in history. If approved, the deal would allow Intel to sell up to \$16 billion worth of bonds over the next 15 years. Intel would also receive tax abatements on gross receipts and property taxes. In return, the county would receive up to \$95 million in payment over the next 15 years. The county would not be liable for the bond issue. According to supporters of the bond deal, the continued operation of the computer chip manufacturing facility in Rio Rancho would be guaranteed and the deed to Rio Rancho High School would be turned over to the Rio Rancho Public School District. Pending the approval of the County Commission, the deal could be concluded by mid-October.

Cuba, Sandoval County:

The **Jicarilla Apache Nation** has opened a casino about 25 miles north of Cuba at the intersection of N.M. 537 and U.S. 550. The casino features 200 slot machines, four blackjack tables and two poker tables. The casino was built in 1998 but sat unopened for several years. About 70 workers will be employed to operate the facility, which is open 9a.m to 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 24 hours a day on Friday and Saturday.

Farmington Area, San Juan County:

Renn Farnsworth will reopen the long vacant Furrís supermarket at 1700 East 20th as a **Rennís Supermarket Center**. A unique feature of the store is that Rennís offers local vendor contracts to private individuals to operate sections of the store. The store is expected to employ between 40 to 50 people.

Santa Fe Area, Santa Fe County:

Trader Joe's, a discount and specialty grocer opened its first New Mexico store in Santa Fe. The new market, located at 530 West Cordova, is about twice the average size of the other stores in the 221-store operation. About 60 workers staff the new store at wages higher than the new Santa Fe minimum wage of \$8.50 per hour.

Socorro Area, Socorro County:

AutoZone, a national automotive parts and accessories chain, plans to start construction of a store in Socorro on California Street, next to the Movie Gallery. The store is will have about 6,300 square feet and a staff of 10 to 12 employees. The store's opening is planned for mid-November.

Edgewood Area, Torrance County:

Three national chains are preparing to open stores in Edgewood in the area east of the center of Edgewood on Route 66. Two new buildings will be built on the south side of Route 66, one will house a **Dollar General** store and a **Movie Gallery** video store, the other an **AutoZone**.



Labor Market Report



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New Mexico Occupational Shortages & Surpluses

New Mexico			
VACANCIES	SURPLUSES	FASTEST GROWING	MOST OPENINGS
Correctional Officers Customer Service Reps Nurses, RN's/LPN's Nursing Assistants, Certified Plumbers, Journeymen Police Officers, Certified Security Guards Social Workers, Licensed Teachers Truck Drivers, CDL	Administrative Assistants Cashiers/Checkers Construction Laborers General Office Clerks Laborers, General Maids/Housekeepers Receptionists Retail Salespersons Secretaries Waiters/Waitresses	Computer Support Specialists Computer Software Engineers Social & Human Service Assistants Special Education Teachers, Elementary Speech-Language Pathologists Respiratory Therapists Cardiovascular Technologists & Techs Diagnostic Medical Sonographers Medical Assistants Physical Therapist Aides	Janitors & Cleaners Elementary School Teachers Secondary School Teachers Exec. Secretaries/Admin. Assistants Security Guards Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners Counter Attendants Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Mat'l. Movers Computer Support Specialists Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants
Albuquerque MSA			
VACANCIES	SURPLUSES	FASTEST GROWING	MOST OPENINGS
Dentists Electricians, Journeymen Home Health Aides Mechanics, Automotive Nurses, RN's/LPN's Nursing Assistants, Certified Painters Physical Therapists Social Workers, Licensed Truck Drivers, CDL	Administrative Assistants Cashiers/Checkers Customer Service Reps General Office Clerks Laborers, General Laborers, Unskilled Receptionists Retail Salespersons Secretaries Stock Clerks	Computer Software Engineers, Apps. Social & Human Service Assistants Diagnostic Medical Sonographers Respiratory Therapy Technicians Special Education Teachers, Elementary Physical Therapist Aides Medical Assistants Speech-Language Pathologists Art, Drama, & Music Teachers, Postsec. Respiratory Therapists	Sales Representatives, Wholesale Home Health Aides Automotive Service Technicians Fitness Trainers & Aerobic Instructors Supervisors of Retail Sales Clinical & School Psychologists Correctional Officers & Jailors Supervisors of Housekeepers Training & Development Specialists Printing Machine Operators
Santa Fe MSA			
VACANCIES	SURPLUSES	FASTEST GROWING	MOST OPENINGS
Automotive Mechanics Correctional Officers HVAC Technicians Plumbers, Licensed Satellite Installers Security Guards Sheet Metal Workers Social Workers, Licensed Teachers, Elementary Truck Drivers, Licensed	Administrative Assistants Administrative Secretaries Bank Tellers Bookkeepers Cashiers Construction Workers General Office Clerks	Special Education Teachers, Elementary Computer Software Engineers, Appl. Computer Software Engineers, Systems Special Education Teachers, Secondary Fitness Trainers & Aerobic Instructors Social & Human Service Assistants Educational, Voc. & School Counselors Secondary School Teachers Dental Assistants Medical Assistants	Cashiers Combined Food Prep & Service Workers Maids & Housekeepers Janitors & Cleaners Executive Secretaries & Admin Assts. Secretaries Supervisors of Retail Sales Security Guards Elementary School Teachers Correctional Officers & Jailors
Las Cruces MSA			
VACANCIES	SURPLUSES	FASTEST GROWING	MOST OPENINGS
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2004 New Mexico Data Users Conference Slated for November

The New Mexico State Data Center/Business and Industry Data Center (SDC/BIDC) Program is sponsoring the 6th annual New Mexico Data Users Conference on November 17th at the University of New Mexico Continuing Education Conference Center in Albuquerque. The conference is organized by UNM's Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER), a coordinator in the SDC/BIDC network.

Speakers are from a variety of organizations, including the New Mexico Department of Labor (NMDOL), also an affiliate in the SDC/BIDC network; several UNM departments—BBER, the Institute for Public Health, Earth Data Analysis Center, and Division of Government Research; the U.S. Census Bureau; and New Mexico Department of Health.

The conference will feature a plenary session, nine breakout sessions and a luncheon presentation. Topics include 2010 decennial census planning; an update on the Resource Geographic Information System (RGIS) on-line mapping initiative; BBER's new population estimates program; the 2002 Economic Census; the American FactFinder web site and decennial census concepts; databases for public health research; NMDOL occupation projections and the LASER web site; using census data for grant writing; the Census Bureau's American Community Survey; income and employment data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; geocoding in New Mexico; and data on the aging population. Dr. Larry Waldman from BBER will be the luncheon speaker, presenting a review of New Mexico's recent economic performance and a short-term economic outlook.

In general, the conference will provide attendees with background information about complex socioeconomic databases and a sense of how these data are applied in practical situations. Over the years, the Data Users Conference has become a valued learning experience for businesses, government agencies, service organizations and students.

Plan to attend on Wednesday, November 17, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. Sessions begin in Ballroom C at the UNM Continuing Education Conference Center, 1634 University Blvd. NE. Ample and free parking is available at the Center.

Registration is \$40 per person and includes all conference materials, continental breakfast, beverage breaks and a luncheon buffet. For more information and a registration form go to BBER's web site at www.unm.edu/~bber/conference.htm, or call 277-8300 or 277-3038.

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