



New Mexico Labor Market Review

Volume 39, No. 02 (published - April 9, 2010)

*A Publication Presenting Highlights of
February 2010 Labor Market Data*

...New Mexico's rate of over-the-year job growth was negative 2.8 percent, representing a loss of 22,800 jobs.

...Payroll employment in the Albuquerque MSA declined by 8,000 jobs or 2.1 percent over the year.

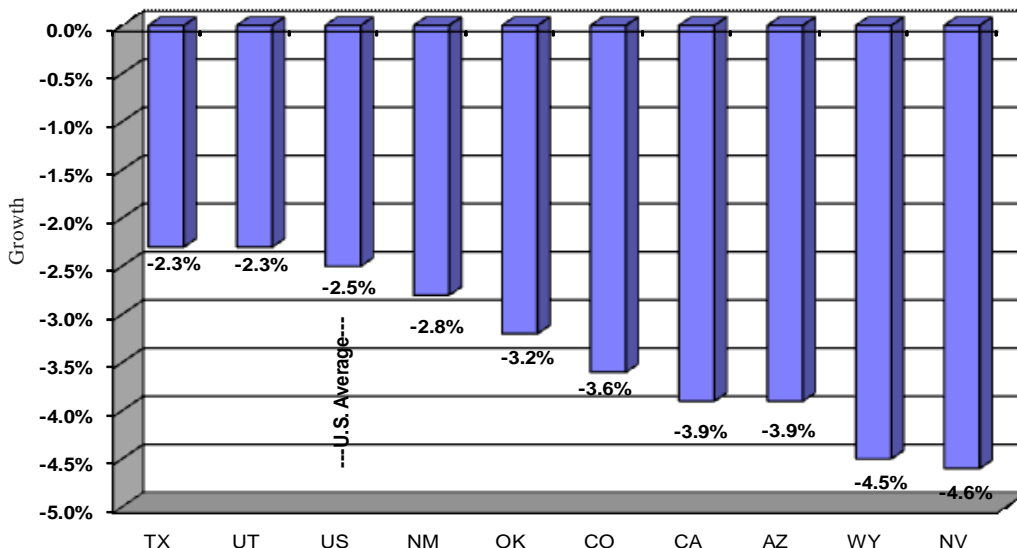
...Over the year, the job growth rate for the Las Cruces MSA was negative at 0.6 percent, comparing February 2010 with February 2009.

...The rate of job growth for the Santa Fe MSA was minus 1.8 percent, representing a loss of 1,100 jobs.

...Over the year, total employment in the Farmington MSA decreased by 4,000 jobs or 7.8 percent. This continues the negative growth trend that began in December 2008.

Current Regional Nonfarm Employment Growth

February 2010 over February 2009 - Not Seasonally Adjusted



Economic Research and Analysis

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New Mexico Labor Force and Payroll Employment

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 8.7 percent in February 2010, up from 8.5 percent in January and 6.1 percent a year ago. The national unemployment remained at 9.7 percent.

The rate of over-the-year job growth, comparing February 2010 with February 2009, was negative 2.8 percent, representing a loss of 22,800 jobs. Per the Bureau of Labor Statistics, New Mexico ranked thirty-first and in the top two-thirds of states for job growth. Although below the national average of negative 2.5 percent, New Mexico's ranking is above the southwestern states of Colorado, Arizona, and Nevada.

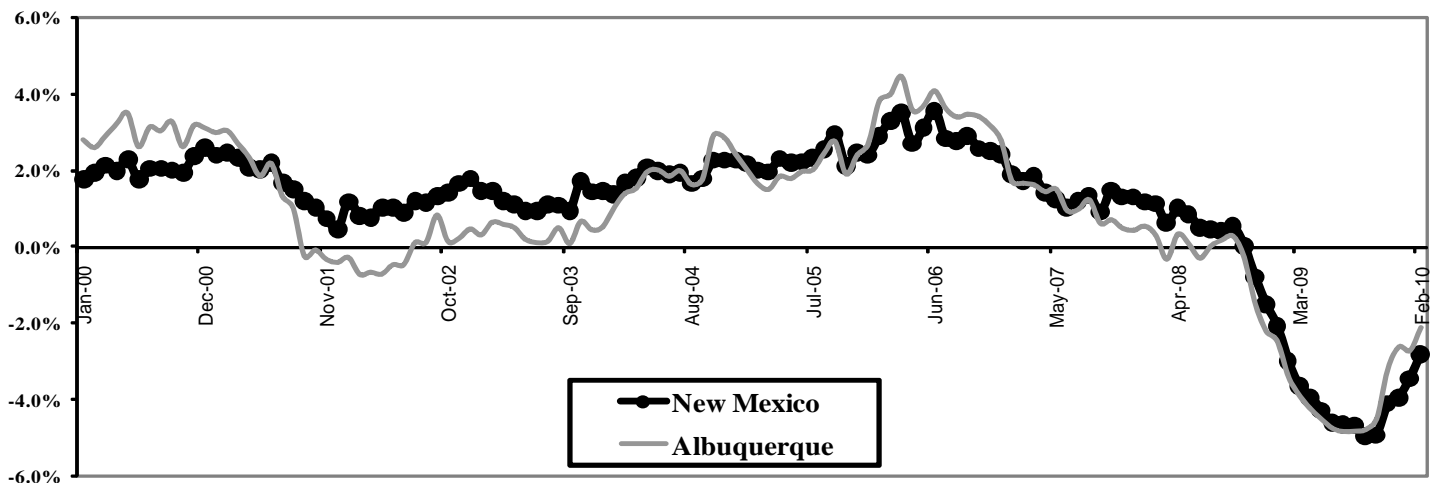
Four of the state's 13 industries posted job growth since last year and nine others reported employment declines. The largest gains were in leisure & hospitality, which added 2,200 jobs. These gains have appeared in the last four months of sample survey data. The number of government jobs is up by 1,400 overall, with a gain of 1,200 in federal government from hiring for Census 2010. Losses are showing up at the state level, while local government is still reporting gains, but they total only 800 jobs. The educational & health services industry also added jobs, up 1,300 since last year. Rounding out the gaining industries was information, which registered an increase of 200 jobs.

Every other industry lost jobs over the year. The goods-producing industries of mining, manufacturing, and construction have shed 13,400 jobs since last February. This loss is significant and has undermined many of the assumptions we had previously made about the state's economy. Mining was down 2,900 jobs over the year, while construction slipped by 8,600 and manufacturing by 1,900.

The professional & business services industry, often considered a barometer for the rest of the economy, reported employment that was down by 5,400 jobs from last year. The transportation, warehousing & utilities industry lost 3,400 jobs, down 14.5 percent. Retail trade reported losses of 2,700, while the much smaller wholesale trade industry contracted by 1,300. The miscellaneous *other services* category reported 1,600 fewer jobs. The financial activities industry also lost jobs, declining by 100 since last February.

As mentioned last month, New Mexico's economy had been on a downward trend since job growth peaked at 3.5 percent in June 2006. Starting in late 2008, the rate of decline increased, finally bottoming out at minus 4.9 percent during the period of September to October 2009. Since then, we have seen gradual improvement to negative 2.8 percent.

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Albuquerque



| New Mexico Seasonally Adjusted | Prel. | Revised | | Change From | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|----------|
| | Feb 2010 | Jan 2010 | Feb 2009 | Jan 2010 | Feb 2009 |
| Civilian Labor Force | 964,200 | 962,300 | 957,600 | +1,900 | +6,600 |
| Employment | 880,700 | 880,500 | 899,100 | +200 | -18,400 |
| Unemployment | 83,500 | 81,800 | 58,500 | +1,700 | +25,000 |
| Rate | 8.7% | 8.5% | 6.1% | | |
| Rate (not seasonally adjusted) | 8.9% | 8.9% | 6.4% | | |

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Albuquerque MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance & Valencia Counties)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Albuquerque MSA was 9.0 percent in February, up from 8.9 percent in January. Unemployment has risen sharply from last February's rate of 6.8 percent.

Payroll employment in the Albuquerque MSA declined by 8,000 jobs or 2.1 percent over the year. The area has lost 28,000 jobs since the start of the national recession in December 2007, reducing the size of the workforce to levels not seen since early 2005. Only four of the 12 industry divisions posted employment increases from February 2009 to February 2010, with educational & health services (up 1,000 jobs or 1.9 percent) again leading the way. This industry continues to do well, although growth has steadily declined from the extraordinary rates posted at the beginning of 2009 (7.3 percent in January and 7.0 percent in February).

Government employment grew 1.0 percent over the year, adding 800 new jobs. Half of the increase was in federal government (up 2.7 percent), which has exceeded 2 percent growth for 18 consecutive months. The U.S. Census Bureau began hiring large numbers of temporary workers in early 2009 to update addresses in advance of the 2010 Census. Peak employment is expected to occur in late April and early May of this year when field workers conduct follow-up visits to households that did not return forms mailed in March. State government gained 300 new jobs (up 1.1 percent), marking five consecutive months of over-the-year increases that follow a year of near-zero growth. Local government inched up by 100 jobs or 0.2 percent, continuing a period of stagnation that began in mid-2009.

Leisure & hospitality added 700 jobs (up 1.9 percent), maintaining the gain posted in January. Employment appears to have stabilized after declining on a year-over-year basis for each month from June 2008 through October 2009. The trough occurred last February when industry employment fell to 36,100, the lowest level since March 2005.

Information (up 300 jobs) led all industries with 3.4 percent growth, its highest year-over-year increase since September 2008. If recent history is a reliable guide, 2010 will mark an upswing in hiring. The industry, primarily due to its film production component, has alternated between positive and negative annual average growth over the past five years: 2005, down 9.7 percent; 2006, up 8.0 percent; 2007, down 2.1 percent; 2008, up 2.2 percent; and 2009, down 4.3 percent.

More than half of February's over-the-year loss occurred in the goods-producing industries. Construction was down 2,400 jobs or 10.0 percent, dipping to a ten-year employment low of 21,300 and extending its run of negative growth to 38 consecutive months. The news was no better for manufacturing, which shed 2,100 jobs while declining 10.9 percent. At 17,200, February manufacturing employment remained at the series-low level established a month earlier.

Professional & business services contracted by 3,100 jobs or 5.1 percent, marking 16 consecutive month of negative growth—the last 12 of which were at least minus 5 percent. The industry has declined by 8,000 jobs or 12.1 percent since peaking at a series high of 66,100 employees in August 2008.

Retail trade reported a loss of 1,500 jobs or 3.6 percent, as payroll employment fell to its lowest level since May 1997. The small transportation, warehousing & utilities industry was down 900 jobs, an 8.8 percent decline over the year. This follows a miserable 2009, during which the industry recorded an annual average decrease of 9.3 percent, the largest for any private service-providing industry. Miscellaneous *other services* slipped by 400 jobs or 3.3 percent, while wholesale trade (-1.7 percent) and financial activities (-1.1 percent) each lost 200 jobs.

| Albuquerque <u>Seasonally Adjusted</u> | Prel. | Revised | | Change From | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | <u>Feb 2010</u> | <u>Jan 2010</u> | <u>Feb 2009</u> | <u>Jan 2010</u> | <u>Feb 2009</u> |
| Civilian Labor Force | 411,800 | 411,400 | 410,500 | +400 | +1,300 |
| Employment | 374,500 | 374,600 | 382,600 | -100 | -8,100 |
| Unemployment | 37,200 | 36,800 | 27,900 | +400 | +9,300 |
| Rate | 9.0% | 8.9% | 6.8% | | |
| Rate (not seasonally adjusted) | 9.0% | 8.9% | 6.8% | | |

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 8.2 percent in February 2010, down from 8.4 percent last month. A year ago, the area's unemployment rate was 6.2 percent.

Over the month, the Las Cruces economy gained 2,200 jobs overall, mostly due to seasonal increases in government. State government saw a total gain of 2,000 jobs, reflecting the beginning of the spring semester at New Mexico State University. Local government gained 100 jobs, and federal government remained flat. In the private sector, small employment increases were seen in three industries, while employment remained flat in six industries and decreased in two industries.

Over the year, the job growth rate for the Las Cruces area was negative at 0.6 percent, comparing February 2010 with February 2009. This month marked the fourteenth consecutive month of negative job growth for Las Cruces, a situation not seen since the employment series began for this area. Although the Las Cruces job growth rate was above the state average, seven of the 12 industries lost jobs, two industries stayed at the same level as last year, and three industries gained employment over the year.

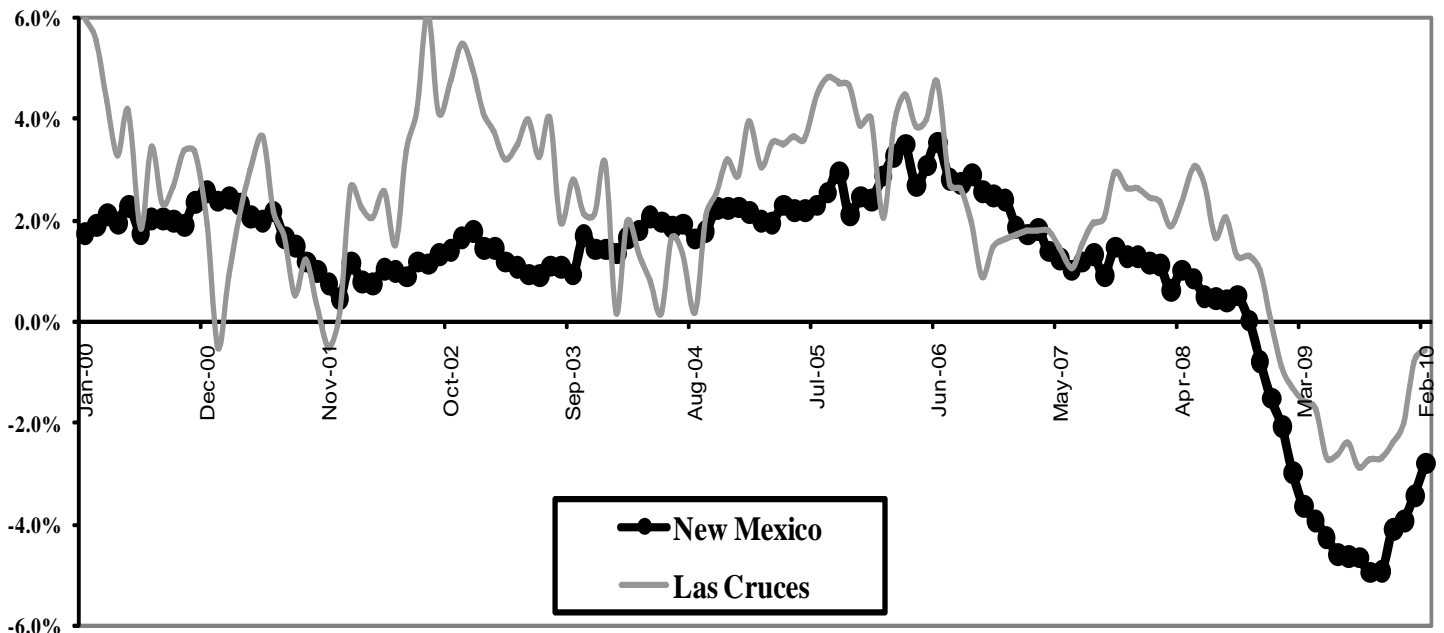
Following the statewide trend, educational & health services continued to gain with the addition of 400 jobs, growing 3.6 percent. Slight job growth of 100 jobs was evident in miscellaneous *other services*. Federal government reported 200 more jobs than last year, while state and local government employment remained unchanged.

Seven other industries—construction (-400); manufacturing (-200); retail trade (-100); wholesale trade (-100); information (-100); leisure & hospitality (-100); and transportation, warehousing & utilities (-100)—reported fewer jobs compared to year-ago levels. Declining construction employment has been evident for some time, and the industry has experienced more than two years of consecutive negative growth. Employment was unchanged from last year in the two remaining private industries, professional & business services and financial activities.

| Las Cruces <u>Seasonally Adjusted</u> | Prel. | Revised | | Change From | |
|---|----------|----------|----------|-------------|----------|
| | Feb 2010 | Jan 2010 | Feb 2009 | Jan 2010 | Feb 2009 |
| Civilian Labor Force | 92,500 | 92,200 | 90,700 | +300 | +1,800 |
| Employment | 84,900 | 84,400 | 85,100 | +500 | -200 |
| Unemployment | 7,600 | 7,700 | 5,600 | -100 | +2,000 |
| Rate | 8.2% | 8.4% | 6.2% | | |
| Rate (not seasonally adjusted) | 8.9% | 8.9% | 6.7% | | |

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 7.2 percent for February 2010, down from 7.7 percent in January. A year ago, the local area had an unemployment rate of 5.5 percent. Unemployment was down significantly from January's rate of 7.7 percent, but this is likely a temporary occurrence that will soon be reversed. The seasonal adjustment process may not to have worked very well this month due to shifting patterns. Caution should be used when interpreting large month-to-month movements in the labor force, with more emphasis given to over-the-year changes and long-term trends.

Over the month, Santa Fe saw typical education-related employment increases in February 2010 amounting to 1,100 more jobs than in January. The largest increase was a combined 600 jobs in state and local government. Private education added 400 jobs over the month, and professional & business services gained 100. No industries lost jobs during the month.

Over the year, the rate of job growth for Santa Fe was minus 1.8 percent, representing a loss of 1,100 jobs. The Santa Fe job market has been weak for over two years, but appears to be showing some signs of improvement. At its worst last summer, the number of jobs was down by as much as 6.8 percent over a 12-month period. At that time, huge losses in manufacturing and downtime in the information industry coincided to cause unprecedented declines.

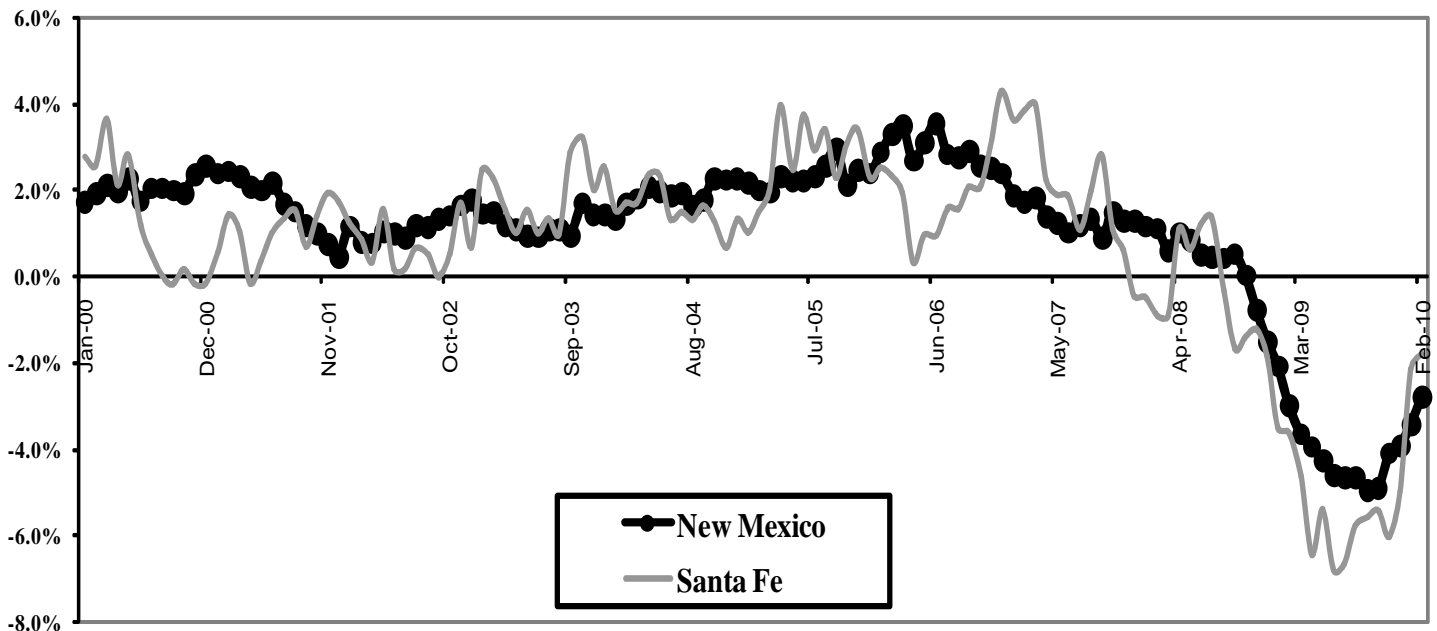
One industry reported employment gains from year-ago levels. Leisure & hospitality recorded a 600-job gain, possibly indicating better factors for winter tourism than existed at the same time last year. Five industries reported employment levels that were unchanged over the year. Government employment remained flat overall, with different trends in the component levels: Census 2010 hiring pushed federal government employment up by 100, while state government reported no change and local government employment dipped by 100. Transportation, warehousing & utilities; wholesale and retail trade, and miscellaneous *other services* each reported no change from year-ago employment levels.

The largest employment drop occurred in construction, which was down 700 jobs, representing a 20.6 percent loss from last year. The information industry reported 400 fewer jobs. Employment was down 200 in both professional & business services and educational & health services. Losses of 100 jobs were reported in both manufacturing and financial activities.

| Santa Fe | Prel. | Revised | | Change From | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <u>Seasonally Adjusted</u> | <u>Feb 2010</u> | <u>Jan 2010</u> | <u>Feb 2009</u> | <u>Jan 2010</u> | <u>Feb 2009</u> |
| Civilian Labor Force | 78,500 | 78,600 | 78,100 | -100 | +400 |
| Employment | 72,900 | 72,600 | 73,800 | +300 | -900 |
| Unemployment | 5,700 | 6,000 | 4,300 | -300 | +1,400 |
| Rate | 7.2% | 7.7% | 5.5% | | |
| Rate (not seasonally adjusted) | 7.6% | 7.7% | 5.8% | | |

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 10.6 percent in February 2010, up from 10.4 percent in January. A year ago, the unemployment rate was 5.6 percent.

Over the month, the Farmington area gained a total of 100 jobs, including a gain of 400 jobs at the local government level. Federal and state government remained flat. The month also included a loss of 100 jobs in the goods-producing industries, which include mining, construction, and manufacturing, and a loss of 200 jobs in the private service-providing industries.

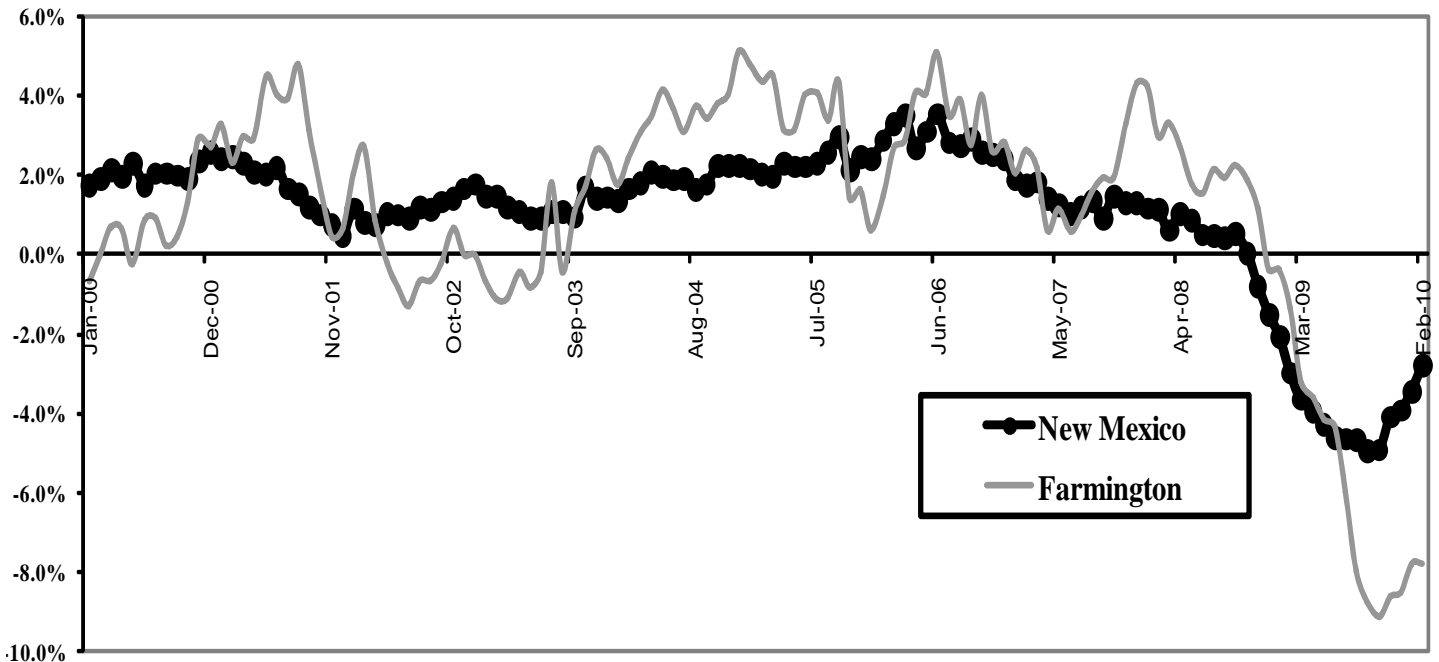
Over the year, total employment in the Farmington area decreased by 4,000 jobs or 7.8 percent. This continues the negative growth trend that began in December 2008.

The goods-producing industries reported employment that was 2,600 jobs below year-ago levels. Lower prices for oil and especially natural gas over the last several quarters have contributed to the decrease. The layoffs and job loss effects have trickled through the local economy, and private service-providing industries were down 1,500 jobs over the year. A small increase of 100 jobs was evident at the federal government level, while state and local government employment remained flat over the year.

| Farmington Seasonally Adjusted | Prel. | | Revised | | Change From | |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|--|
| | Feb 2010 | Jan 2010 | Feb 2009 | Jan 2010 | Feb 2009 | |
| Civilian Labor Force | 56,900 | 57,000 | 58,300 | -100 | -1,400 | |
| Employment | 50,900 | 51,100 | 55,100 | -200 | -4,200 | |
| Unemployment | 6,000 | 5,900 | 3,300 | +100 | +2,700 | |
| Rate | 10.6% | 10.4% | 5.6% | | | |
| Rate (not seasonally adjusted) | 10.6% | 10.3% | 5.6% | | | |

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*

| | | Civilian Labor Force | Employ- ment | Un- Employ- ment | Rate % | Unadj. Rate % |
|----------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 1990 | | 711,891 | 663,698 | 48,193 | 6.8% | |
| 1991 | | 719,243 | 667,698 | 51,545 | 7.2% | |
| 1992 | | 735,447 | 680,463 | 54,984 | 7.5% | |
| 1993 | | 755,053 | 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 | | 839,988 | 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 | | 901,833 | 849,970 | 51,863 | 5.8% | |
| 2005 | | 913,453 | 866,349 | 47,104 | 5.2% | |
| 2006 | | 930,832 | 892,336 | 38,496 | 4.1% | |
| 2007 | | 941,554 | 908,557 | 32,997 | 3.5% | |
| 2008 | | 961,259 | 918,041 | 43,218 | 4.5% | |
| 2009 | | 955,904 | 887,358 | 68,546 | 7.2% | |
| 2009 | JAN | 960,869 | 904,327 | 56,542 | 5.9% | 6.0% |
| | FEB | 957,586 | 899,120 | 58,466 | 6.1% | 6.4% |
| | MAR | 954,945 | 894,542 | 60,403 | 6.3% | 6.5% |
| | APR | 953,371 | 890,878 | 62,493 | 6.6% | 6.2% |
| | MAY | 952,768 | 887,867 | 64,901 | 6.8% | 6.8% |
| | JUN | 953,000 | 885,438 | 67,562 | 7.1% | 7.7% |
| | JUL | 953,881 | 883,640 | 70,241 | 7.4% | 7.8% |
| | AUG | 955,105 | 882,429 | 72,676 | 7.6% | 7.7% |
| | SEP | 956,361 | 881,613 | 74,748 | 7.8% | 7.6% |
| | OCT | 957,546 | 881,056 | 76,490 | 8.0% | 7.8% |
| | NOV | 958,583 | 880,648 | 77,935 | 8.1% | 7.7% |
| | DEC | 959,469 | 880,445 | 79,024 | 8.2% | 7.9% |
| 2010 | JAN | 962,289 | 880,473 | 81,816 | 8.5% | 8.9% |
| | FEB | 964,177 | 880,698 | 83,479 | 8.7% | 8.9% |
| | MAR | | | | | |
| | APR | | | | | |
| | MAY | | | | | |
| | JUN | | | | | |
| | JUL | | | | | |
| | AUG | | | | | |
| | SEP | | | | | |
| | OCT | | | | | |
| | NOV | | | | | |
| | DEC | | | | | |
| # CHANGE FROM | | | | | | |
| | Month Ago | 1,888 | 225 | 1,663 | 0.2% | 0.0% |
| | Year Ago | 6,591 | -18,422 | 25,013 | 2.6% | 2.5% |
| | 2 Yrs. Ago | 8,739 | -39,143 | 47,882 | 5.0% | 5.0% |
| | 3 Yrs. Ago | 23,955 | -26,454 | 50,408 | 5.2% | 5.2% |
| % CHANGE FROM | | | | | | |
| | Month Ago | 0.2% | 0.0% | 2.0% | | |
| | Year Ago | 0.7% | -2.0% | 42.8% | | |
| | 2 Yrs. Ago | 0.9% | -4.3% | 134.5% | | |
| | 3 Yrs. Ago | 2.5% | -2.9% | 152.4% | | |

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

| State | Rank | February 2009 | February 2010 | Change | % Change |
|----------------------|-----------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| DC | 1 | 698.2 | 699.8 | 1.6 | 0.2% |
| Alaska | 1 | 307.7 | 308.4 | 0.7 | 0.2% |
| North Dakota | 3 | 359.9 | 360.1 | 0.2 | 0.1% |
| New Hampshire | 4 | 621.0 | 617.9 | -3.1 | -0.5% |
| South Carolina | 5 | 1,822.8 | 1,798.7 | -24.1 | -1.3% |
| Vermont | 6 | 300.9 | 296.6 | -4.3 | -1.4% |
| Louisiana | 7 | 1,917.9 | 1,882.2 | -35.7 | -1.9% |
| Kentucky | 8 | 1,756.4 | 1,721.9 | -34.5 | -2.0% |
| Nebraska | 8 | 939.1 | 920.6 | -18.5 | -2.0% |
| Montana | 8 | 421.0 | 412.5 | -8.5 | -2.0% |
| Iowa | 8 | 1,472.0 | 1,442.0 | -30.0 | -2.0% |
| New York | 8 | 8,522.9 | 8,348.4 | -174.5 | -2.0% |
| New Jersey | 13 | 3,862.1 | 3,781.6 | -80.5 | -2.1% |
| South Dakota | 13 | 396.9 | 388.6 | -8.3 | -2.1% |
| Indiana | 15 | 2,785.9 | 2,723.8 | -62.1 | -2.2% |
| Maine | 15 | 582.5 | 569.5 | -13.0 | -2.2% |
| Utah | 17 | 1,197.0 | 1,169.7 | -27.3 | -2.3% |
| Minnesota | 17 | 2,640.5 | 2,580.1 | -60.4 | -2.3% |
| Texas | 17 | 10,399.1 | 10,157.8 | -241.3 | -2.3% |
| Hawaii | 17 | 599.3 | 585.3 | -14.0 | -2.3% |
| North Carolina | 21 | 3,940.7 | 3,847.4 | -93.3 | -2.4% |
| Mississippi | 21 | 1,106.1 | 1,079.9 | -26.2 | -2.4% |
| Pennsylvania | 21 | 5,604.7 | 5,469.9 | -134.8 | -2.4% |
| Massachusetts | 21 | 3,157.8 | 3,081.7 | -76.1 | -2.4% |
| United States | | 131,314.0 | 128,079.0 | -3,235.0 | -2.5% |
| Missouri | 25 | 2,679.1 | 2,611.2 | -67.9 | -2.5% |
| Arkansas | 26 | 1,169.2 | 1,139.0 | -30.2 | -2.6% |
| Alabama | 26 | 1,899.9 | 1,850.7 | -49.2 | -2.6% |
| Virginia | 26 | 3,631.6 | 3,536.7 | -94.9 | -2.6% |
| Maryland | 26 | 2,498.5 | 2,433.0 | -65.5 | -2.6% |
| Rhode Island | 30 | 456.5 | 444.0 | -12.5 | -2.7% |
| New Mexico | 31 | 818.2 | 795.4 | -22.8 | -2.8% |
| Florida | 31 | 7,402.1 | 7,194.2 | -207.9 | -2.8% |
| Connecticut | 33 | 1,634.9 | 1,588.1 | -46.8 | -2.9% |
| Michigan | 34 | 3,879.9 | 3,763.2 | -116.7 | -3.0% |
| Tennessee | 34 | 2,636.8 | 2,557.1 | -79.7 | -3.0% |
| Oregon | 34 | 1,621.3 | 1,572.1 | -49.2 | -3.0% |
| Idaho | 34 | 605.5 | 587.1 | -18.4 | -3.0% |
| West Virginia | 38 | 740.8 | 718.2 | -22.6 | -3.1% |
| Oklahoma | 39 | 1,555.8 | 1,506.1 | -49.7 | -3.2% |
| Kansas | 39 | 1,355.2 | 1,311.5 | -43.7 | -3.2% |
| Delaware | 41 | 413.6 | 400.1 | -13.5 | -3.3% |
| Washington | 41 | 2,843.3 | 2,750.1 | -93.2 | -3.3% |
| Illinois | 43 | 5,660.1 | 5,468.6 | -191.5 | -3.4% |
| Ohio | 43 | 5,084.7 | 4,911.6 | -173.1 | -3.4% |
| Wisconsin | 45 | 2,742.1 | 2,647.1 | -95.0 | -3.5% |
| Georgia | 45 | 3,922.7 | 3,785.2 | -137.5 | -3.5% |
| Colorado | 47 | 2,261.8 | 2,180.0 | -81.8 | -3.6% |
| California | 48 | 14,281.4 | 13,727.1 | -554.3 | -3.9% |
| Arizona | 48 | 2,487.0 | 2,389.9 | -97.1 | -3.9% |
| Wyoming | 50 | 285.0 | 272.2 | -12.8 | -4.5% |
| Nevada | 51 | 1,171.8 | 1,117.7 | -54.1 | -4.6% |

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

Employment numbers are not seasonally adjusted.

Employment numbers are in thousands.

Area Spotlight: Southwestern WIA Area

Joy Forehand, Economist

The average weekly wage for the Southwestern WIA area in third quarter of 2009 was \$622. This would be equivalent to \$15.55 per hour or \$32,344 per year, assuming a 40-hour week worked the year around. The average weekly wage statewide was \$722, which is equivalent to \$18.05 per hour or \$37,544 per year.

As a part of the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program, employment figures are calculated based on the number of residents working. The total civilian labor force in the Southwestern WIA for February 2010 was 136,920, of which 123,042 people were employed and 13,878 were unemployed. The unemployment rate was 10.1 percent as compared to the statewide unadjusted rate of 8.9 percent.

The Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW) program also calculates an employment number, but this number is based on an employer payroll survey and reports the number of jobs in an area regardless of where the employees live. QCEW data is currently available for the third quarter of 2009. The largest major industry sector was Health Care & Social Assistance (with 16 percent of the employment), followed by Retail Trade (with 11 percent), and Public Administration (with 10 percent).

The largest major occupational group was Office & Administrative Support Occupations (with 14 percent of the estimated employment), followed by Sales & Related Occupations (with 10 percent), and Education, Training & Library Occupations (with 9 percent).



| Area | Civilian Labor Force | Number Employed | Number Unemployed | Unemployment Rate |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Southwestern WIA | 136,920 | 123,042 | 13,878 | 10.1% |
| New Mexico | 960,242 | 874,856 | 85,386 | 8.9% |
| United States | 153,194,000 | 137,203,000 | 15,991,000 | 10.4% |

These figures are not seasonally adjusted.
Source: NMDWS, Economic Research & Analysis Bureau, LAUS Unit in conjunction with US Bureau of Labor Statistics.

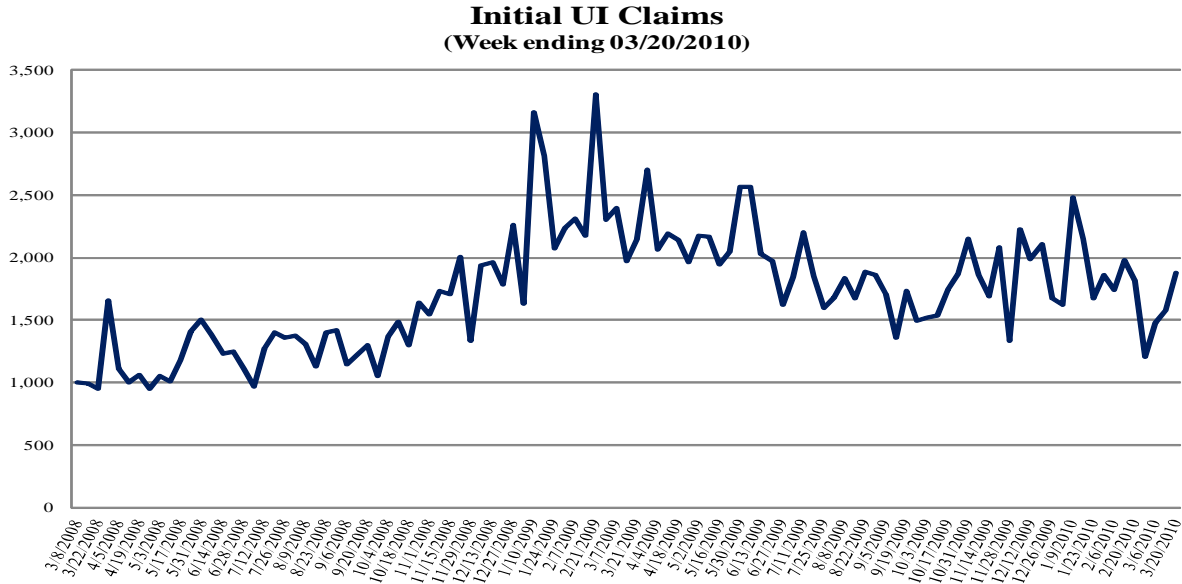
| Top Five Industry Groups Southwestern WIA | Establishments | Employees |
|---|----------------|-----------|
| Total, All Industries | 6,591 | 95,411 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 849 | 15,316 |
| Retail Trade | 746 | 10,403 |
| Public Administration | 314 | 9,369 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 524 | 8,686 |
| Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting | 269 | 6,137 |

Source: NMDWS, Economic Research and Analysis Bureau, QCEW Unit.

| Top Five Occupational Groups Southwestern WIA | 2008 Employment | 2018 Employment |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Total, All Occupations | 105,743 | 121,894 |
| Office & Administrative Support Occupations | 14,712 | 15,850 |
| Sales & Related Occupations | 10,099 | 11,179 |
| Education, Training & Library Occupations | 9,875 | 12,776 |
| Food Preparation & Service Related Occupations | 8,875 | 10,554 |
| Construction & Extraction Occupations | 7,053 | 8,736 |

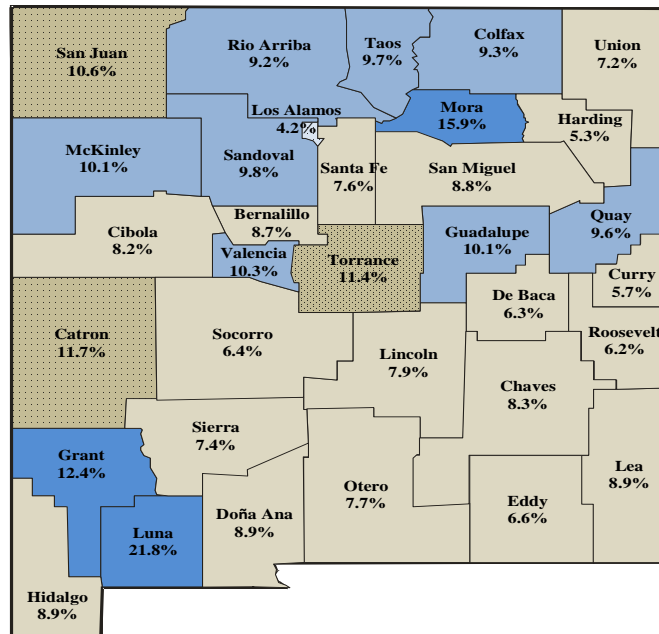
Source: NMDWS, Economic Research and Analysis Bureau, OES Unit.

New Mexico Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims



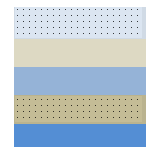
Source: USDOL, Employment & Training Administration, www.doleta.gov.

Unemployment Rates in New Mexico By County (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



February 2010

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Unadjusted | Seasonally Adjusted | |
| New Mexico | 8.9% | 8.7% | 5% or below |
| United States | 10.4% | 9.7% | NM rate of 8.9% or below |
| | | | Above NM rate of 8.9% |
| | | | Above US rate of 10.4% |
| | | | 12% or above |



New Mexico Labor Force Estimates – Not Seasonally Adjusted 1/

| | PRELIMINARY FEBRUARY 2010 | | | | REVISED JANUARY 2010 | | | | REVISED FEBRUARY 2009 | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---------|--------|-------|----------------------|---------|--------|-------|-----------------------|---------|--------|-------|
| | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate |
| STATEWIDE | 960,242 | 874,856 | 85,386 | 8.9% | 954,978 | 870,332 | 84,646 | 8.9% | 953,708 | 892,276 | 61,432 | 6.4% |
| Albuquerque MSA 2/ | 410,503 | 373,535 | 36,968 | 9.0% | 409,266 | 372,745 | 36,521 | 8.9% | 409,208 | 381,515 | 27,693 | 6.8% |
| Bernalillo | 315,414 | 288,029 | 27,385 | 8.7% | 314,606 | 287,419 | 27,187 | 8.6% | 314,756 | 294,182 | 20,574 | 6.5% |
| Sandoval | 56,339 | 50,831 | 5,508 | 9.8% | 56,062 | 50,724 | 5,338 | 9.5% | 56,094 | 51,917 | 4,177 | 7.4% |
| Torrance | 7,081 | 6,276 | 805 | 11.4% | 7,075 | 6,263 | 812 | 11.5% | 7,002 | 6,410 | 592 | 8.5% |
| Valencia | 31,669 | 28,399 | 3,270 | 10.3% | 31,522 | 28,339 | 3,183 | 10.1% | 31,357 | 29,006 | 2,351 | 7.5% |
| Farmington MSA 3/ | 56,366 | 50,397 | 5,969 | 10.6% | 56,228 | 50,423 | 5,805 | 10.3% | 57,767 | 54,528 | 3,239 | 5.6% |
| Las Cruces MSA 4/ | 92,483 | 84,270 | 8,213 | 8.9% | 90,250 | 82,204 | 8,046 | 8.9% | 90,642 | 84,601 | 6,041 | 6.7% |
| Santa Fe MSA 5/ | 77,833 | 71,909 | 5,924 | 7.6% | 76,885 | 70,995 | 5,890 | 7.7% | 77,429 | 72,924 | 4,505 | 5.8% |
| Catron | 1,601 | 1,414 | 187 | 11.7% | 1,633 | 1,445 | 188 | 11.5% | 1,556 | 1,421 | 135 | 8.7% |
| Chaves | 28,730 | 26,353 | 2,377 | 8.3% | 28,786 | 26,385 | 2,401 | 8.3% | 27,856 | 26,257 | 1,599 | 5.7% |
| Cibola | 12,600 | 11,572 | 1,028 | 8.2% | 12,585 | 11,566 | 1,019 | 8.1% | 12,454 | 11,684 | 770 | 6.2% |
| Colfax | 6,697 | 6,074 | 623 | 9.3% | 6,723 | 6,101 | 622 | 9.3% | 6,686 | 6,240 | 446 | 6.7% |
| Curry | 22,110 | 20,860 | 1,250 | 5.7% | 22,060 | 20,770 | 1,290 | 5.8% | 21,838 | 20,975 | 863 | 4.0% |
| De Baca | 923 | 865 | 58 | 6.3% | 925 | 859 | 66 | 7.1% | 916 | 866 | 50 | 5.5% |
| Eddy | 29,469 | 27,529 | 1,940 | 6.6% | 29,480 | 27,510 | 1,970 | 6.7% | 28,429 | 27,164 | 1,265 | 4.4% |
| Grant | 11,927 | 10,451 | 1,476 | 12.4% | 11,872 | 10,338 | 1,534 | 12.9% | 11,732 | 10,609 | 1,123 | 9.6% |
| Guadalupe | 1,865 | 1,676 | 189 | 10.1% | 1,872 | 1,679 | 193 | 10.3% | 1,799 | 1,657 | 142 | 7.9% |
| Harding | 416 | 394 | 22 | 5.3% | 412 | 386 | 26 | 6.3% | 422 | 405 | 17 | 4.0% |
| Hidalgo | 2,767 | 2,521 | 246 | 8.9% | 2,754 | 2,511 | 243 | 8.8% | 2,730 | 2,543 | 187 | 6.8% |
| Lea | 28,708 | 26,161 | 2,547 | 8.9% | 28,733 | 26,121 | 2,612 | 9.1% | 29,871 | 28,355 | 1,516 | 5.1% |
| Lincoln | 11,155 | 10,278 | 877 | 7.9% | 11,224 | 10,362 | 862 | 7.7% | 10,845 | 10,271 | 574 | 5.3% |
| Los Alamos | 10,197 | 9,764 | 433 | 4.2% | 10,183 | 9,717 | 466 | 4.6% | 9,860 | 9,525 | 335 | 3.4% |
| Luna | 12,288 | 9,608 | 2,680 | 21.8% | 12,038 | 9,484 | 2,554 | 21.2% | 11,854 | 9,643 | 2,211 | 18.7% |
| McKinley | 27,747 | 24,936 | 2,811 | 10.1% | 27,815 | 25,061 | 2,754 | 9.9% | 27,159 | 25,188 | 1,971 | 7.3% |
| Mora | 2,092 | 1,759 | 333 | 15.9% | 2,097 | 1,772 | 325 | 15.5% | 2,071 | 1,840 | 231 | 11.2% |
| Otero | 26,749 | 24,677 | 2,072 | 7.7% | 26,728 | 24,599 | 2,129 | 8.0% | 26,705 | 25,172 | 1,533 | 5.7% |
| Quay | 4,358 | 3,940 | 418 | 9.6% | 4,316 | 3,912 | 404 | 9.4% | 4,159 | 3,904 | 255 | 6.1% |
| Rio Arriba | 20,921 | 19,001 | 1,920 | 9.2% | 20,874 | 18,973 | 1,901 | 9.1% | 20,414 | 18,971 | 1,443 | 7.1% |
| Roosevelt | 9,526 | 8,933 | 593 | 6.2% | 9,336 | 8,704 | 632 | 6.8% | 9,864 | 9,500 | 364 | 3.7% |
| San Miguel | 13,832 | 12,612 | 1,220 | 8.8% | 13,573 | 12,350 | 1,223 | 9.0% | 13,679 | 12,861 | 818 | 6.0% |
| Sierra | 6,105 | 5,652 | 453 | 7.4% | 6,099 | 5,636 | 463 | 7.6% | 5,847 | 5,517 | 330 | 5.6% |
| Socorro | 9,749 | 9,126 | 623 | 6.4% | 9,717 | 9,094 | 623 | 6.4% | 9,676 | 9,231 | 445 | 4.6% |
| Taos | 18,280 | 16,506 | 1,774 | 9.7% | 18,238 | 16,515 | 1,723 | 9.4% | 18,059 | 16,814 | 1,245 | 6.9% |
| Union | 2,245 | 2,084 | 161 | 7.2% | 2,274 | 2,114 | 160 | 7.0% | 2,182 | 2,096 | 86 | 3.9% |

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

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The labor force estimates in this publication include the Bureau of Labor Statistics' introduction of a long-run trend smoothing procedure to its statewide seasonally adjusted data series back to January 1976. The smoothing procedure reduces month-to-month volatility in the estimates and addresses long-standing issues related to end-of-year revisions that will enhance the analytical capability of the estimates. For more information about this topic, please see the questions and answers on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/lau/lassaga.htm.

Unemployment Rates in New Mexico (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

| PRELIMINARY FEBRUARY 2010 | | |
|---------------------------|------|-------|
| AREAS | RANK | RATE |
| LUNA | 1 | 21.8% |
| MORA | 2 | 15.9% |
| GRANT | 3 | 12.4% |
| CATRON | 4 | 11.7% |
| FARMINGTON MSA 2/ | 5 | 10.6% |
| GUADALUPE | 6 | 10.1% |
| MCKINLEY | 6 | 10.1% |
| TAOS | 8 | 9.7% |
| QUAY | 9 | 9.6% |
| COLFAX | 10 | 9.3% |
| RIO ARRIBA | 11 | 9.2% |
| ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/ | 12 | 9.0% |
| STATEWIDE | | 8.9% |
| HIDALGO | 13 | 8.9% |
| LAS CRUCES MSA 3/ | 13 | 8.9% |
| LEA | 13 | 8.9% |
| SAN MIGUEL | 16 | 8.8% |
| CHAVES | 17 | 8.3% |
| CIBOLA | 18 | 8.2% |
| LINCOLN | 19 | 7.9% |
| OTERO | 20 | 7.7% |
| SANTA FE MSA 4/ | 21 | 7.6% |
| SIERRA | 22 | 7.4% |
| UNION | 23 | 7.2% |
| EDDY | 24 | 6.6% |
| SOCORRO | 25 | 6.4% |
| DE BACA | 26 | 6.3% |
| ROOSEVELT | 27 | 6.2% |
| CURRY | 28 | 5.7% |
| HARDING | 29 | 5.3% |
| LOS ALAMOS | 30 | 4.2% |

| REVISED JANUARY 2010 | | |
|----------------------|------|-------|
| AREAS | RANK | RATE |
| LUNA | 1 | 21.2% |
| MORA | 2 | 15.5% |
| GRANT | 3 | 12.9% |
| CATRON | 4 | 11.5% |
| FARMINGTON MSA 2/ | 5 | 10.3% |
| GUADALUPE | 5 | 10.3% |
| MCKINLEY | 7 | 9.9% |
| TAOS | 8 | 9.4% |
| QUAY | 8 | 9.4% |
| COLFAX | 10 | 9.3% |
| RIO ARRIBA | 11 | 9.1% |
| LEA | 11 | 9.1% |
| SAN MIGUEL | 13 | 9.0% |
| ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/ | 14 | 8.9% |
| LAS CRUCES MSA 3/ | 14 | 8.9% |
| STATEWIDE | | 8.9% |
| HIDALGO | 16 | 8.8% |
| CHAVES | 17 | 8.3% |
| CIBOLA | 18 | 8.1% |
| OTERO | 19 | 8.0% |
| LINCOLN | 20 | 7.7% |
| SANTA FE MSA 4/ | 20 | 7.7% |
| SIERRA | 22 | 7.6% |
| DE BACA | 23 | 7.1% |
| UNION | 24 | 7.0% |
| ROOSEVELT | 25 | 6.8% |
| EDDY | 26 | 6.7% |
| SOCORRO | 27 | 6.4% |
| HARDING | 28 | 6.3% |
| CURRY | 29 | 5.8% |
| LOS ALAMOS | 30 | 4.6% |

| REVISED FEBRUARY 2009 | | |
|-----------------------|------|-------|
| AREAS | RANK | RATE |
| LUNA | 1 | 18.7% |
| MORA | 2 | 11.2% |
| GRANT | 3 | 9.6% |
| CATRON | 4 | 8.7% |
| GUADALUPE | 5 | 7.9% |
| MCKINLEY | 6 | 7.3% |
| RIO ARRIBA | 7 | 7.1% |
| TAOS | 8 | 6.9% |
| HIDALGO | 9 | 6.8% |
| ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/ | 9 | 6.8% |
| COLFAX | 11 | 6.7% |
| LAS CRUCES MSA 3/ | 11 | 6.7% |
| STATEWIDE | | 6.4% |
| CIBOLA | 13 | 6.2% |
| QUAY | 14 | 6.1% |
| SAN MIGUEL | 15 | 6.0% |
| SANTA FE MSA 4/ | 16 | 5.8% |
| OTERO | 17 | 5.7% |
| CHAVES | 17 | 5.7% |
| SIERRA | 19 | 5.6% |
| FARMINGTON MSA 2/ | 19 | 5.6% |
| DE BACA | 21 | 5.5% |
| LINCOLN | 22 | 5.3% |
| LEA | 23 | 5.1% |
| SOCORRO | 24 | 4.6% |
| EDDY | 25 | 4.4% |
| HARDING | 26 | 4.0% |
| CURRY | 26 | 4.0% |
| UNION | 28 | 3.9% |
| ROOSEVELT | 29 | 3.7% |
| LOS ALAMOS | 30 | 3.4% |

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

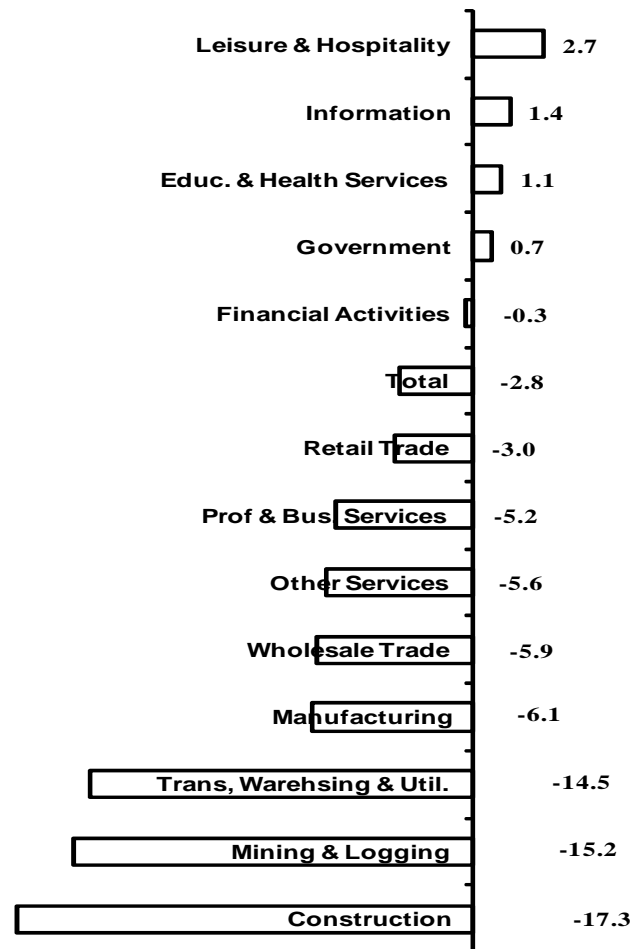
(Seasonally Adjusted)

| February 2010 | | | February 2009 | | |
|----------------------|-----------|------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|
| State | Rank | Rate | State | Rank | Rate |
| Michigan | 1 | 14.1 | Michigan | 1 | 12.0 |
| Nevada | 2 | 13.2 | South Carolina | 2 | 10.7 |
| Rhode Island | 3 | 12.7 | Oregon | 3 | 10.6 |
| California | 4 | 12.5 | California | 4 | 10.2 |
| South Carolina | 4 | 12.5 | Nevada | 5 | 10.1 |
| Florida | 6 | 12.2 | Rhode Island | 6 | 9.9 |
| District of Columbia | 7 | 11.9 | North Carolina | 7 | 9.8 |
| Illinois | 8 | 11.4 | Kentucky | 8 | 9.6 |
| Mississippi | 8 | 11.4 | Tennessee | 8 | 9.6 |
| North Carolina | 10 | 11.2 | Indiana | 10 | 9.5 |
| Alabama | 11 | 11.1 | Florida | 11 | 9.2 |
| Kentucky | 12 | 10.9 | Ohio | 12 | 9.1 |
| Ohio | 12 | 10.9 | District of Columbia | 13 | 8.8 |
| Tennessee | 14 | 10.7 | Alabama | 14 | 8.7 |
| Georgia | 15 | 10.5 | Georgia | 14 | 8.7 |
| Oregon | 15 | 10.5 | Illinois | 14 | 8.7 |
| Indiana | 17 | 9.8 | Mississippi | 17 | 8.6 |
| New Jersey | 17 | 9.8 | Missouri | 18 | 8.5 |
| United States | | 9.7 | Arizona | 19 | 8.3 |
| Arizona | 19 | 9.5 | United States | | 8.2 |
| Idaho | 19 | 9.5 | Washington | 20 | 8.1 |
| Massachusetts | 19 | 9.5 | New Jersey | 21 | 8.0 |
| Washington | 19 | 9.5 | Maine | 22 | 7.7 |
| West Virginia | 19 | 9.5 | Minnesota | 22 | 7.7 |
| Missouri | 24 | 9.4 | Wisconsin | 22 | 7.7 |
| Delaware | 25 | 9.2 | New York | 25 | 7.5 |
| Connecticut | 26 | 9.1 | Connecticut | 26 | 7.4 |
| Pennsylvania | 27 | 8.9 | Delaware | 26 | 7.4 |
| New York | 28 | 8.8 | Massachusetts | 26 | 7.4 |
| New Mexico | 29 | 8.7 | Alaska | 29 | 7.3 |
| Wisconsin | 29 | 8.7 | Colorado | 29 | 7.3 |
| Alaska | 31 | 8.5 | Pennsylvania | 31 | 7.2 |
| Maine | 32 | 8.3 | Idaho | 32 | 6.9 |
| Texas | 33 | 8.2 | Arkansas | 33 | 6.8 |
| Arkansas | 34 | 7.7 | Texas | 33 | 6.8 |
| Colorado | 34 | 7.7 | Vermont | 35 | 6.7 |
| Maryland | 34 | 7.7 | Maryland | 36 | 6.4 |
| Wyoming | 37 | 7.5 | West Virginia | 36 | 6.4 |
| Louisiana | 38 | 7.3 | Hawaii | 38 | 6.3 |
| Minnesota | 38 | 7.3 | New Mexico | 39 | 6.1 |
| Virginia | 40 | 7.2 | Utah | 39 | 6.1 |
| New Hampshire | 41 | 7.1 | Virginia | 39 | 6.1 |
| Utah | 41 | 7.1 | Kansas | 42 | 6.0 |
| Hawaii | 43 | 6.9 | Louisiana | 43 | 5.9 |
| Montana | 43 | 6.9 | Montana | 44 | 5.7 |
| Iowa | 45 | 6.7 | New Hampshire | 45 | 5.5 |
| Oklahoma | 45 | 6.7 | Oklahoma | 45 | 5.5 |
| Vermont | 47 | 6.6 | Iowa | 47 | 5.3 |
| Kansas | 48 | 6.5 | Wyoming | 48 | 4.8 |
| Nebraska | 49 | 4.8 | South Dakota | 49 | 4.6 |
| South Dakota | 49 | 4.8 | Nebraska | 50 | 4.3 |
| North Dakota | 51 | 4.1 | North Dakota | 51 | 4.2 |

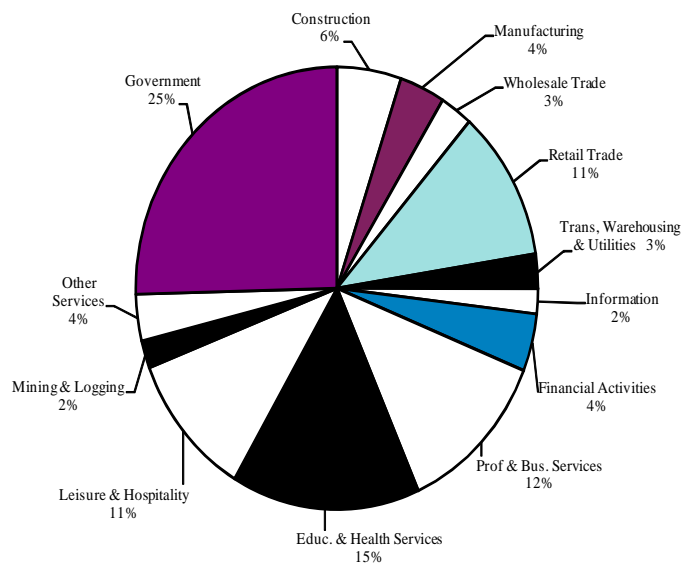
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

New Mexico Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Annual Growth Rates by Industry



NAICS Industries



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

| NEW MEXICO | Preliminary | Revised | Revised | Change | |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | Feb-10 | Jan-10 | Feb-09 | Monthly | Yearly |
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 795,400 | 788,900 | 818,200 | 6,500 | -22,800 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 86,200 | 88,100 | 99,600 | -1,900 | -13,400 |
| SERVICE PROVIDING | 709,200 | 700,800 | 718,600 | 8,400 | -9,400 |
| MINING & LOGGING | 16,200 | 16,300 | 19,100 | -100 | -2,900 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 41,000 | 42,600 | 49,600 | -1,600 | -8,600 |
| MANUFACTURING | 29,000 | 29,200 | 30,900 | -200 | -1,900 |
| WHOLESALE TRADE | 20,800 | 20,900 | 22,100 | -100 | -1,300 |
| RETAIL TRADE | 88,200 | 88,300 | 90,900 | -100 | -2,700 |
| TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING & UTILITIES | 20,100 | 20,800 | 23,500 | -700 | -3,400 |
| INFORMATION | 14,600 | 14,100 | 14,400 | 500 | 200 |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES | 33,400 | 33,000 | 33,500 | 400 | -100 |
| PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES | 98,000 | 99,100 | 103,400 | -1,100 | -5,400 |
| EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES | 120,200 | 118,400 | 118,900 | 1,800 | 1,300 |
| LEISURE & HOSPITALITY | 84,700 | 84,300 | 82,500 | 400 | 2,200 |
| OTHER SERVICES | 26,900 | 27,100 | 28,500 | -200 | -1,600 |
| GOVERNMENT | 202,300 | 194,800 | 200,900 | 7,500 | 1,400 |
| Federal Government | 31,900 | 31,900 | 30,700 | 0 | 1,200 |
| State Government | 60,600 | 56,000 | 61,200 | 4,600 | -600 |
| <i>State Government Education</i> | 28,800 | 24,900 | 29,200 | 3,900 | -400 |
| Local Government | 109,800 | 106,900 | 109,000 | 2,900 | 800 |
| <i>Local Government Education</i> | 60,700 | 58,100 | 59,300 | 2,600 | 1,400 |
| ALBUQUERQUE MSA | Preliminary | Revised | Revised | Change | |
| | Feb-10 | Jan-10 | Feb-09 | Monthly | Yearly |
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 371,500 | 370,200 | 379,500 | 1,300 | -8,000 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 38,800 | 40,000 | 43,300 | -1,200 | -4,500 |
| SERVICE PROVIDING | 332,700 | 330,200 | 336,200 | 2,500 | -3,500 |
| MINING, LOGGING & CONSTRUCTION | 21,600 | 22,800 | 24,000 | -1,200 | -2,400 |
| MANUFACTURING | 17,200 | 17,200 | 19,300 | 0 | -2,100 |
| WHOLESALE TRADE | 11,900 | 12,000 | 12,100 | -100 | -200 |
| RETAIL TRADE | 39,700 | 39,900 | 41,200 | -200 | -1,500 |
| TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING & UTILITIES | 9,300 | 9,400 | 10,200 | -100 | -900 |
| INFORMATION | 9,000 | 8,900 | 8,700 | 100 | 300 |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES | 17,800 | 17,700 | 18,000 | 100 | -200 |
| PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES | 58,100 | 58,100 | 61,200 | 0 | -3,100 |
| EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES | 54,500 | 54,100 | 53,500 | 400 | 1,000 |
| LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY | 36,800 | 36,900 | 36,100 | -100 | 700 |
| OTHER SERVICES | 11,600 | 11,600 | 12,000 | 0 | -400 |
| GOVERNMENT | 84,000 | 81,600 | 83,200 | 2,400 | 800 |
| Federal Government | 15,200 | 15,300 | 14,800 | -100 | 400 |
| State Government | 26,600 | 24,700 | 26,300 | 1,900 | 300 |
| Local Government | 42,200 | 41,600 | 42,100 | 600 | 100 |

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

| LAS CRUCES MSA | Preliminary Feb-10 | Revised Jan-10 | Revised Feb-09 | Change | |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|
| | | | | Monthly | Yearly |
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 68,100 | 65,900 | 68,500 | 2,200 | -400 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 6,100 | 6,300 | 6,700 | -200 | -600 |
| SERVICE PROVIDING | 62,000 | 59,600 | 61,800 | 2,400 | 200 |
| MINING, LOGGING & CONSTRUCTION | 3,400 | 3,500 | 3,800 | -100 | -400 |
| MANUFACTURING | 2,700 | 2,800 | 2,900 | -100 | -200 |
| WHOLESALE TRADE | 1,100 | 1,100 | 1,200 | 0 | -100 |
| RETAIL TRADE | 6,700 | 6,700 | 6,800 | 0 | -100 |
| TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING & UTILITIES | 1,700 | 1,700 | 1,800 | 0 | -100 |
| INFORMATION | 800 | 800 | 900 | 0 | -100 |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 0 | 0 |
| PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES | 6,600 | 6,500 | 6,600 | 100 | 0 |
| EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES | 11,600 | 11,500 | 11,200 | 100 | 400 |
| LEISURE & HOSPITALITY | 7,000 | 6,900 | 7,100 | 100 | -100 |
| OTHER SERVICES | 1,700 | 1,700 | 1,600 | 0 | 100 |
| GOVERNMENT | 22,300 | 20,200 | 22,100 | 2,100 | 200 |
| Federal | 4,100 | 4,100 | 3,900 | 0 | 200 |
| State | 9,100 | 7,100 | 9,100 | 2,000 | 0 |
| Local | 9,100 | 9,000 | 9,100 | 100 | 0 |
| SANTA FE MSA | Preliminary Feb-10 | Revised Jan-10 | Revised Feb-09 | Change | |
| | | | | Monthly | Yearly |
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 60,500 | 59,400 | 61,600 | 1,100 | -1,100 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 3,400 | 3,400 | 4,200 | 0 | -800 |
| SERVICE PROVIDING | 57,100 | 56,000 | 57,400 | 1,100 | -300 |
| MINING, LOGGING & CONSTRUCTION | 2,700 | 2,700 | 3,400 | 0 | -700 |
| MANUFACTURING | 700 | 700 | 800 | 0 | -100 |
| WHOLESALE TRADE | 1,100 | 1,100 | 1,100 | 0 | 0 |
| RETAIL TRADE | 8,400 | 8,400 | 8,400 | 0 | 0 |
| TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING & UTILITIES | 700 | 700 | 700 | 0 | 0 |
| INFORMATION | 900 | 900 | 1,300 | 0 | -400 |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES | 2,600 | 2,600 | 2,700 | 0 | -100 |
| PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES | 4,500 | 4,400 | 4,700 | 100 | -200 |
| EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES | 10,000 | 9,600 | 10,200 | 400 | -200 |
| LEISURE & HOSPITALITY | 9,100 | 9,100 | 8,500 | 0 | 600 |
| OTHER SERVICES | 2,700 | 2,700 | 2,700 | 0 | 0 |
| GOVERNMENT | 17,100 | 16,500 | 17,100 | 600 | 0 |
| Federal | 1,100 | 1,100 | 1,000 | 0 | 100 |
| State | 8,400 | 8,100 | 8,400 | 300 | 0 |
| Local | 7,600 | 7,300 | 7,700 | 300 | -100 |
| FARMINGTON MSA | Preliminary Feb-10 | Revised Jan-10 | Revised Feb-09 | Change | |
| | | | | Monthly | Yearly |
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | 47,600 | 47,500 | 51,600 | 100 | -4,000 |
| TOTAL PRIVATE | 36,200 | 36,500 | 40,300 | -300 | -4,100 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 9,600 | 9,700 | 12,200 | -100 | -2,600 |
| SERVICE PROVIDING | 38,000 | 37,800 | 39,400 | 200 | -1,400 |
| PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING | 26,600 | 26,800 | 28,100 | -200 | -1,500 |
| GOVERNMENT | 11,400 | 11,000 | 11,300 | 400 | 100 |
| Federal | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,500 | 0 | 100 |
| State | 500 | 500 | 500 | 0 | 0 |
| Local | 9,300 | 8,900 | 9,300 | 400 | 0 |

Projections Tools: Occupational Growth in Varying Industries

Ashley Leach, Economist

Industry and Occupational projections are one of the strongest data tools available to understand the potential for employment growth in New Mexico. Identifying industries and occupations that will provide New Mexicans with jobs in the future is critical to multiple facets of overall workforce development, from job matching to focused training programs. Ultimately, understanding the direction of the future workforce in New Mexico assists and drives economic development initiatives. For the job seeker, projections, coupled with occupational wage information, not only provide valuable information on occupations that will likely have openings in the future, but also those occupations that will pay higher wages.

Traditionally, industry and occupational projections simply look at growth of employment over time. This analysis delves deeper into employment projections by evaluating occupations that are projected to grow overall but may experience declines in employment in select industries. For example, actors may be projected to grow in the Motion Picture and Sound Recording industries but may be projected to decrease in the Performing Arts and Related industries. For job seekers, this information gives them one more tool to focus their job search on industries where their specific occupation is anticipated to increase in demand.

This analysis identifies many occupations that are projected to grow overall and highlights where employment is declining in select industries. These occupations were identified using occupational projections between 2008 and 2018 and the staffing patterns of industries. The occupations presented below represent occupations that typically experience high employment growth.



General and Operations Managers

2008-2018 Growth: 310

Growth Industries

Educational Svcs
Food Svcs & Drinking Places
Local Government

Contraction Industries

Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers
Miscellaneous Store Retailers
Computer & Elec. Product Mfg

General and Operations Managers: Growth in the listed industries comprise nearly one-third of total projected growth in the occupation. General and Operations Managers are projected to contract in many industries.

Accountants and Auditors

2008-2018 Growth: 850

Growth Industries

Prof., Scientific, & Tech. Svcs
State Government
Educational Svcs

Contraction Industries

Federal Government
Crop Production

Accountants and Auditors: Growth in the listed industries comprises over half of total projected growth. Contraction of this occupation in Federal Government and Crop Production is minimal compared to the overall growth of this occupation.

Electrical & Electronic Engineering Technicians

2008-2018 Growth: 80

Growth Industries

Prof., Scientific, & Tech. Svcs
Admin. & Support Svcs

Contraction Industries

Telecommunications

Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technicians: Growth in the listed industries comprises nearly 90 percent of total projected growth in this occupation.

Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses:

Growth in the listed industries comprises 85 percent of total projected growth. Employment in this occupation is projected to decrease significantly in the Hospitals industry.

Cashiers: Growth in the listed industries comprises over 90 percent of total growth. This occupation is projected to contract significantly in Miscellaneous Store Retailers, Gasoline Stations, and Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers.

Retail Salespersons: Growth in the listed industries comprises over 60 percent of total projected growth. Like Cashiers, Retail Salespersons are projected to decrease in Miscellaneous Store Retailers.

Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks: This occupation is projected to grow in many industries. Projected employment contraction in both Crop Production and Transportation Equipment Manufacturing is minimal compared to the overall growth in this occupation.

Executive Secretaries and Administrative Assistants:

Nearly 50 percent of this occupations growth is projected to occur in the listed industries. Contraction in the listed industries is projected to be minor.

Secretaries: More than 50 percent of this occupation's growth is projected to occur in the listed industries. Employment is projected to decrease significantly in Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, along with several other industries.

Maintenance and Repair Workers, General: This occupation is projected to grow in many industries. Projected contraction in both Repair and Maintenance and Nonstore Retailers is minimal compared to the overall growth in this occupation.

Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand:

This occupation is projected to grow in many industries. This occupation is also projected to contract in several industries including, Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores and Wood Product Manufacturing.

| <u>Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses</u> | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 2008-2018 Growth: 220 | |
| Growth Industries | Contraction Industries |
| Ambulatory Health Care Svcs | Hospitals |
| Nursing & Residential Care Facilities | |
| <u>Cashiers</u> | |
| 2008-2018 Growth: 1,720 | |
| Growth Industries | Contraction Industries |
| Food & Beverage Stores | Miscellaneous Store Retailers |
| General Merchandise Stores | Gasoline Stations |
| Food Svcs & Drinking Places | Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers |
| <u>Retail Salespersons</u> | |
| 2008-2018 Growth: 4,440 | |
| Growth Industries | Contraction Industries |
| General Merchandise Stores | Miscellaneous Store |
| Bldg. Material & Garden | Retailers |
| Equip. & Supplies Dealers | |
| <u>Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks</u> | |
| 2008-2018 Growth: 1,520 | |
| Growth Industries | Contraction Industries |
| Ambulatory Health Care Svcs | Crop Production |
| Administrative & Support Svcs | Transportation Equipment Mfg |
| Educational Svcs | |
| <u>Executive Secretaries and Administrative Assistants</u> | |
| 2008-2018 Growth: 760 | |
| Growth Industries | Contraction Industries |
| Educational Svcs | Computer & Elec. Product Mfg |
| Prof., Scientific, & Tech. Svcs | Printing & Related Support |
| Educational Svcs | Activities |
| <u>Secretaries</u> | |
| 2008-2018 Growth: 260 | |
| Growth Industries | Contraction Industries |
| Educational Svcs | Prof., Scientific, & Tech. Svcs |
| Ambulatory Health Care Svcs | |
| <u>Maintenance and Repair Workers, General</u> | |
| 2008-2018 Growth: 1,010 | |
| Growth Industries | Contraction Industries |
| Local Government | Repair & Maintenance |
| Educational Svcs | Nonstore Retailers |
| Rental & Leasing Svcs | |
| <u>Laborers and Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand</u> | |
| 2008-2018 Growth: 200 | |
| Growth Industries | Contraction Industries |
| Bldg. Material & Garden | Furniture & Home Furnishing |
| Equip. & Supplies Dealers | Stores |
| Food & Beverage Stores | Wood Product Mfg |
| Local Government | |

What is Benchmark?

Suzan Reagan, LMI Webmaster

At the beginning of every year, two of our statistical series that herald the state of the economy go through a planned revision called benchmark. Both the Current Employment Statistics (CES) and Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) data series go through this adjustment process.

Why do these statistical data series have revisions?

To answer a question with a question, does everybody pay their taxes on time? Revisions in CES and LAUS happen because both series rely in part on unemployment tax information. Therefore, both series are revised as additional information from late filers becomes available. There are also additional data inputs and historical updates for both series that cause the need to revise the estimates and provide better understanding of the economic situation.

CES publishes preliminary estimates and revised estimates each month and then revised estimates for the prior year at the beginning of each year. The monthly estimates incorporate additional sample receipts from respondents in the survey and recalculated seasonal adjustment factors. For more information on the monthly revisions, please visit <http://www.bls.gov/ces/cesrevinfo.htm>.

Annually, the CES survey incorporates a benchmark revision that re-anchors estimates to the nearly complete employment counts available from unemployment insurance tax records. The benchmark helps to control for sampling and modeling errors in the estimates. For more information on the annual benchmark revision, please visit www.bls.gov/web/cesbmart.htm.

LAUS annual processing is done at the beginning of each calendar year on the previous year's estimates, incorporating revisions to such inputs as population estimates, Current Employment Statistics-based employment figures, unemployment insurance claims counts, and updated historical relationships. For more information on this process, please visit www.bls.gov/lau/launews1.htm.



Current Employment Statistics (CES):

CES is a federal-state cooperative program funded by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Every month, CES surveys business establishments in order to produce estimates of employment, hours, and earnings data. CES data are compiled for all States, major metropolitan statistical areas (MSA), and the nation as a whole and broken down by industry according to the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).

CES defines employment as the number of employees receiving pay for the pay period that includes the 12th of the month. This includes both full and part time employees, temporary employees, workers on paid sick or holiday leave, and those who worked for only part of the pay period. People included on multiple payrolls are counted at each establishment. CES data do not include: self-employed, farm workers, volunteers, unpaid family workers, employees on leave without pay, domestic workers, and those on strike for the entire pay period. Striking employees who work a portion of the survey period and are paid are counted in the survey.



Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS):

LAUS is also a federal-state cooperative program funded by the BLS. The program provides a monthly estimate of an area's labor force, employment, unemployment, and unemployment rate. Data is taken from surveys and unemployment claims recorded during the monthly reference week, which is usually the week including the 12th day of each month. LAUS is a count of people employed by place of residence, not a count of jobs by place of work. In order to be considered unemployed an individual must have had no employment during the reference week, been available for work, and made an effort to find employment for four weeks leading up to the reference week.

Workforce Information Tip

How do I find an employment time series which shows the business cycles for New Mexico in general and specifically in construction from January 2007 to January 2010?

Also, how do I find statistics that show the construction industry in relationship to all industries in New Mexico?

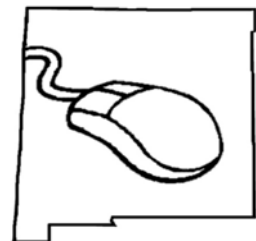
1. Start at <http://laser.state.nm.us/>
2. Click on "Industry."
3. Click on "Current Employment Statistics (CES)."
4. In Step 1 use the pull-down list to select "New Mexico." Then click on "Select."
5. In Step 2 select "Monthly" from the pull-down list and then click on January 2010 and drag the cursor until January 2007 is highlighted. Click on "Select."
6. In the next box click on "Total Nonfarm" and then holding down the Ctrl button also click on "Construction." Now click on "Search."
7. The next page will have Total Nonfarm employment for each month from January 2007 to January 2010 for both total nonfarm and construction. At the bottom of the page you can click on the "Excel" link to save the data to you computer. You can also change the number of records that show on one page by changing the select box from 25 to 50.

Suzan Reagan

Labor Market Information Webmaster

New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions

Economic Research & Analysis Bureau



For more labor market information and publications, give it a click!

www.dws.state.nm.us/dws-lmi.html

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

- Seasonally Adjusted -

| NEW MEXICO | Preliminary Feb-10 | Revised Jan-10 | Monthly Change |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT* | 802,900 | 802,200 | 700 |
| MINING & LOGGING | 16,400 | 16,300 | 100 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 43,200 | 44,700 | -1,500 |
| MANUFACTURING | 29,600 | 29,800 | -200 |
| TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES | 131,500 | 131,200 | 300 |
| Wholesale Trade | 20,900 | 21,000 | -100 |
| Retail Trade | 90,200 | 89,300 | 900 |
| Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities | 20,400 | 20,900 | -500 |
| INFORMATION (Not Seasonally Adjusted) | 14,600 | 14,100 | 500 |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES | 33,600 | 33,200 | 400 |
| PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES | 99,000 | 100,800 | -1,800 |
| EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES | 119,300 | 118,200 | 1,100 |
| LEISURE & HOSPITALITY | 87,700 | 87,700 | 0 |
| OTHER SERVICES | 27,600 | 28,200 | -600 |
| GOVERNMENT | 200,400 | 198,000 | 2,400 |
| Federal Government | 32,500 | 32,500 | 0 |
| State Government | 58,900 | 58,000 | 900 |
| Local Government | 109,000 | 107,500 | 1,500 |
| ALBUQUERQUE | 374,300 | 374,800 | -500 |
| FARMINGTON | 48,200 | 48,400 | -200 |
| LAS CRUCES | 67,700 | 67,600 | 100 |
| SANTA FE | 61,000 | 60,900 | 100 |

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

Average Hours and Earnings

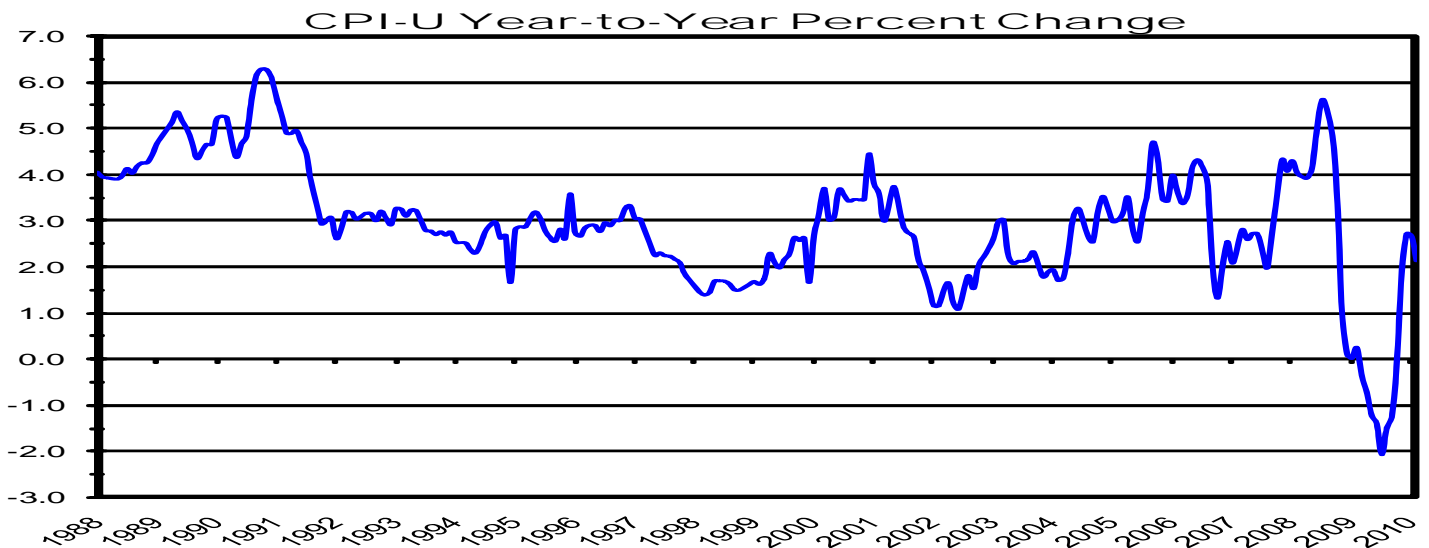
Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

| NEW MEXICO | AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS | | | AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS | | | AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|--------|--------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
| | Feb 10 | Jan 10 | Feb 09 | Feb 10 | Jan 10 | Feb 09 | Feb 10 | Jan 10 | Feb 09 |
| MANUFACTURING | \$589.38 | \$595.57 | \$522.00 | 38.0 | 38.3 | 37.5 | \$15.51 | \$15.55 | \$13.92 |

U.S. Consumer Price Index

| | Index Base Year 1982-84 = 100 | | | PERCENT CHANGE | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--------|--------|----------------|--------------|
| | Feb 10 | Jan 10 | Feb 09 | Month to Month | Year to Year |
| CPI-U | 216.7 | 216.7 | 212.2 | 0.0% | 2.1% |
| CPI-W | 212.5 | 212.6 | 206.7 | 0.0% | 2.8% |

*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 Occupational Shortages and Surpluses *

| Shortages | | Surpluses | |
|---|--|--|---|
| Statewide Summary | | Statewide Summary | |
| Farmworkers & Laborers, Crop Interviewers - Census Takers Lic Practical & Lic Vocational Nurses | | Admin Services Managers Bookkeeping, Acct & Audit Clerks Cashiers Const Carpenters Const Laborers Data Entry Keyers Exec Secretaries & Admin Assts Helpers--Production Workers Janitors & Cleaners Laborers & Freight, Stock & Mat Movers | Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners Maintenance & Repair Wrkrs Office Clerks Receptionists & Info Clerks Retail Salespersons Security Guards Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Waiters & Waitresses |
| Albuquerque MSA | | Albuquerque MSA | |
| Lic Practical & Lic Vocational Nurses Registered Nurses Tax Preparers | | Admin Services Managers Cashiers Const Carpenters Const Laborers Cooks Data Entry Keyers Electricians Exec Secretaries & Admin Assts Laborers & Freight, Stock & Mat Movers Managers | Office Clerks Retail Salespersons Sales Representatives Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer |
| Las Cruces MSA | | Las Cruces MSA | |
| Interpreters & Translators Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants | | Admin Services Managers Cashiers Const Laborers Exec Secretaries & Admin Assts Maintenance & Repair Workers Medical Assistants Office Clerks Receptionists & Info Clerks Retail Salespersons Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-trailer | |
| Santa Fe MSA | | Santa Fe MSA | |
| Interviewers - Census Takers Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists Physical Therapists | | Admin Services Managers Cashiers Const Laborers Exec Secretaries & Admin Assts Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers Managers Retail Salespersons | |
| Farmington MSA | | Farmington MSA | |
| Home Health Aides Hydrologists Power Plant Operators | | Accountants Admin Services Managers Bookkeeping, Acct & Audit Clerks Const Laborers Electricians 1st-Line Managers of Retail Sales Office Clerks Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-trailer | |
| Occupational Rollover Statistics** | | | |
| Computer Support Specialists Correctional Officers & Jailers | | Customer Service Representatives Home Health Aides | |

*Based on posted job orders & resumes entered in the NM Workforce Connection System by occupation in the last 30 Days (April 1, 2010).

**Occupational Rollover Statistics is an indicator of occupational activity with both numerous job orders & resumes in NM Workforce Connection.

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:

Virginia-based **Five Guys Burgers and Fries** is expanding into New Mexico with plans to open 15 restaurants over the next five years. The first Five Guys location is in Albuquerque's Holly Plaza, a shopping center between San Pedro and Louisiana boulevards on Paseo del Norte. The 2,500-square-foot restaurant is under construction and scheduled to open in mid-to-late March. Other restaurants in the chain employ about 55 workers on average.

SunEdison, headquartered in Beltsville, Maryland plans to build five solar power plants in Lea and Eddy counties within two years. The five proposed plants in New Mexico will produce a total of about 50 megawatts. The company currently has 100 megawatts of solar generating power plants in other locations across the country, including an 8 megawatt facility in Alamosa, Colo. The company plans to have its New Mexico plants operational by the end of 2011 and is currently negotiating with several private land owners for locations for the facilities. SunEdison has said that they will hire locally as much as possible. Construction will require 80-560 jobs and once operational the five plants combined will need 15-20 full-time positions.

Blue Bell Ice Cream is coming to New Mexico stores and the Texas based company is hiring drivers to work out of a new transfer station in Albuquerque. As the company ramps up its New Mexico operations, upwards of 20 to 30 positions are expected to be filled. Blue Bell, of Brenham, Texas, is the No. 3 selling branded ice cream in the U.S. — sold in 19 states. The transfer station is in leased space at 2350 Aztec Road NE, near Interstate 25 and Candelaria Road.

Central WIA Area:

Albuquerque Area, Bernalillo County:

Kohl's will be taking over the former Mervyn's space at Coronado Center and will be open by October. Kohl's has two other stores in Albuquerque, at 6800 Holly Ave. NE in the Paseo del Norte corridor and another store at 3715 Ellison Dr. NW in the Cottonwood Corners shopping center near Hwy. 528 and Ellison. Wisconsin-based Kohl's also operates one store in Santa Fe and one in Las Cruces.

Outcomes Health Information Solutions, LLC is opening their newest office in Albuquerque on July 1, 2010. Outcomes will be hiring an estimated 60 employees over the next few months and plans to employ more than 250 individuals over the next two years. The Albuquerque office will provide clinical auditing services and healthcare data analytics solutions for some of the nation's largest health insurance plans, physician groups, and pharmaceutical clinical research organizations across the 50 states.

A new firm, **Solar Distinction Inc.**, is being launched by the Noribachi Group to build solar panels in Albuquerque. The company plans to employ about 300 workers within two or three years, eventually growing to about 500 employees. The plant is set to open by year-end 2010, with enough operating capacity to produce 25 megawatts of solar panels. It will expand to a 50-megawatt capacity within two years.

Southwestern WIA Area:

Las Cruces Area, Doña Ana County:

A solar power generating company is proposing to build a plant southwest of the Village of Hatch. The company, **Renegix Solar Inc.**, and an unnamed partner would build the 5-megawatt facility. The plant would sit on about 30 acres in Hatch's industrial park, located seven miles from the village along N.M. Highway 28. Construction of the plant could create between 25 and 30 jobs. If all goes well the plant could be up and running within nine months.

A new burrito specialty restaurant is under construction at 1140 E. Amador Ave., across from the bowling alley. The restaurant will be called **Miguel's** and will specialize in burritos but will also offer a variety of Mexican food choices and could eventually be open 24 hours on weekends. The restaurant will have a staff of about 20 to 25 employees and could be open in late March.

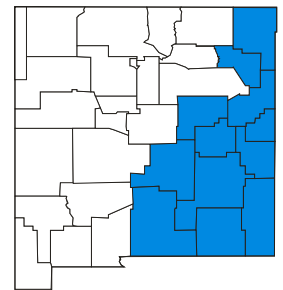
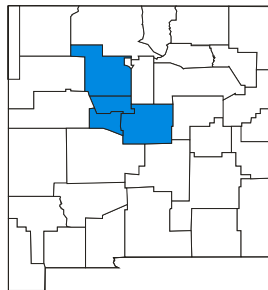
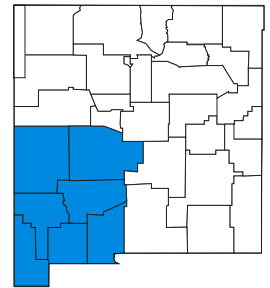
Eastern WIA Area:

Portales Area, Roosevelt County:

Two trucking companies are bringing around 100 jobs to Portales and Eastern New Mexico. **Greatwide Logistics Inc.** is beginning to operate in Portales after winning a county-wide milk hauling contract with Dairy Farmers of America. Greatwide Logistics has hired dozens of local employees and established contracts with other local vendors. Also, **Western Dairy Transport LLC**, which laid off about 75 workers late last year after its milk-hauling contract with DFA expired, is branching out into new non-dairy markets. Western is consolidating its Clovis and Portales operations in Portales and hiring workers.

Hobbs Area, Lea County:

International Isotopes Inc. says its planned uranium de-conversion and flourine extraction plant received great local support at a recent U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) meeting. Over 85 community leaders and residents attended the Hobbs NRC meeting, including Lea County Commission Chairman Gary Schubert, and



Hobbs Mayor Gary Don Reagan. The company plans to build a technologically advanced, safe and environmentally-friendly depleted uranium de-conversion and fluorine extraction plant.

Jal Area, Lea County

Louisiana Energy Services (L.E.S.) is again expanding their operations in southeastern New Mexico. The company is adding 90 jobs; 60 long-term construction jobs and 30 permanent jobs to be located in a renovated building in Jal that will provide both warehouse and office space. The 60 construction positions will work on expansion projects through 2015, including upgrading the existing Burke Junior High School building. The 30 permanent jobs will have an average salary of \$75,000. Since the start of the project, L.E.S. has raised their overall investment in New Mexico to \$3 billion dollars. Their National Enrichment Facility, currently being built in Eunice, will provide 50% of the United States total demand for nuclear fuel by 2015. The new 90 jobs are in addition to the 303 permanent full time jobs L.E.S. has already created in Lea County. The company will also maintain 500-700 construction jobs until 2015. L.E.S.'s payroll for New Mexico in 2010 is expected to reach \$30 million.

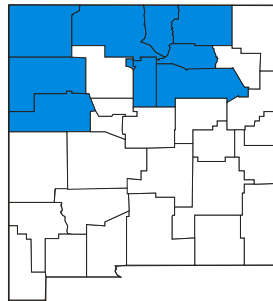
Tucumcari Area, Quay County:

Hamilton Big Country Ford in Tucumcari closed its doors in February after 12 years of servicing Quay County. Larry Birch, a Hamilton Ford manager and salesperson, said sales over the past few years have been dwindling due to the economy. "It is just not cost effective to keep the doors open," Birch said "The economy in Tucumcari has suffered and they can't justify keeping \$1.5 million in inventory on the lot." Birch said employees were offered positions at Hamilton dealerships in Clovis, Portales and Muleshoe Texas. Hamilton owns nine dealerships in New Mexico and Texas.

Northern WIA Area:

Taos Area, Taos County:

Chevron Technology Ventures (CTV), will build a one-megawatt concentrating photovoltaic solar facility on the tailing site of CMI's molybdenum mine in Questa, New Mexico. The project will demonstrate and evaluate an emerging solar technology and a practical use of previously impacted land. The electricity produced will be sold to Kit Carson Electric Cooperative through a power purchase agreement. Project construction is scheduled to begin in spring 2010 and conclude by year-end. The facility will include approximately 175 solar panels placed on about 20 acres of the Questa Mine's tailings site.



Española Area, Rio Arriba County:

The new Santa Claran Hotel Casino opened in January. The facility is located in Espanola, about 20 minutes from Santa Fe, and features a 27,000-square-foot casino, three restaurants, tapas bar and live entertainment. The new hotel has 124 rooms and suites and a fitness center. The Santa Claran Hotel Casino is

owned by the Santa Clara Development Corporation. The facility currently has about 50 full time staff and plans to hire about 20 additional part-time staff.

Farmington Area, San Juan County:

Farmington will be getting its first **Olive Garden** restaurant at 5150 E. Main St., near the Ashley Furniture store. The restaurant is slated to open in late May and will hire about 165 people to operate the 7,500-square-foot restaurant. According to building plans, it will offer three dining rooms capable of seating nearly 250 diners at a time, a size comparable to other large chain restaurants in the area.



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