



New Mexico Labor Market Review

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HIGHLIGHTS — January 2007

...New Mexico's rate of over-the-year job growth was 2.4 percent for January 2007. The state added 19,500 jobs and ranks 13th highest for job growth among the states.

...Over the last 12 months, the Albuquerque area economy has added 9,400 jobs for an increase of 2.5 percent. The largest number of new jobs came from professional & business services, up 2,500 or 4.1 percent.

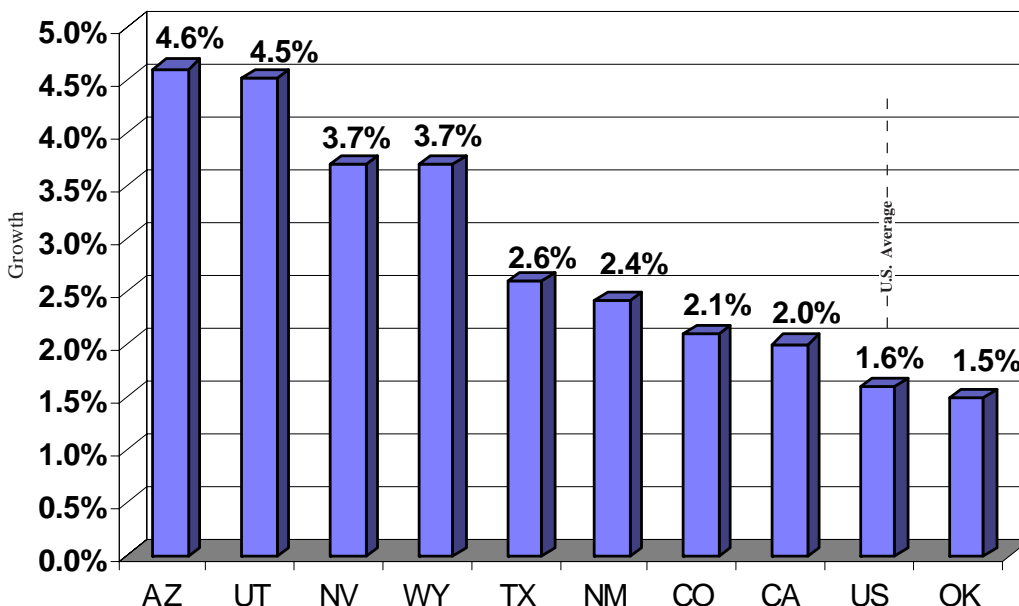
...The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces area was 2.3 percent, adding 1,500 jobs.

...Over-the-year job growth for Santa Fe was 2.2 percent, adding 1,300 jobs.

...Over the last year, the Farmington area has added 1,900 jobs, growing 3.9 percent. Job growth in the area remains substantially above the statewide average, and the Farmington area continues to have a strong job market.

Current Regional Nonfarm Employment Growth

January 2007 over January 2006 - Not Seasonally Adjusted



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New Mexico Labor Force and Payroll Employment

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 3.8 percent in January 2007, the same as the rate in December. The current rate is the lowest recorded since the current series began in 1976. The unemployment rate is determined by statistical sampling of the state's households. Sampling error means that the true unemployment rate (were a complete count taken) is likely in the range of 3.0 percent to 4.6 percent. The national unemployment rate at 4.6 percent was much higher than ours. A year ago, the state's unemployment rate was 4.7 percent.

The employment estimates from the Current Employment Statistics survey released this month are newly benchmarked to the full count of employment from the QCEW program. Benchmarking replaces previous estimates with more complete counts of employment and updated estimates for employment not covered by the QCEW program. New Mexico uses the replacement methodology through to September 2006 and then re-estimates employment for the rest of 2006 using sample data. Again this year the revisions to the data are fairly small at the statewide level, having negligible impact on the over-the-year growth rate for April 2005 through January 2006 and then increasing the growth rate by an average of 0.5 percent from February 2006 to June 2006. This means that employment growth in early 2006 was stronger than originally measured. Benchmark revisions for the state's metro areas brought stronger job growth to Albuquerque and much weaker job growth in both Santa Fe and Las Cruces. Farmington employment was revised higher some months and lower in others, only slightly increasing the average employment level for the year. Seventeen years of employment data by industry have been updated on the Department of Labor home page on the Internet.

Job growth recently peaked in June 2006 at 3.6 percent, which was the highest the state had achieved in 11 years. The peak month coincided with a one-month 2,000-job boost in the information industry from activity in the state's film industry. Job growth has since declined to lower levels that are still above our long-term average. We remain one of the highest job growth states, substantially above the national rate of 1.6 percent.

New Mexico's rate of over-the-year job growth was 2.4 percent for January 2007. The state has added 19,500 jobs over the last year, and we rank 13th highest for job growth among the states. The job growth remains broad-based, with most of the 13 industry groups expanding.

Last June, a new consortium started managing the operations of Los Alamos National Laboratory. Previously, the University of California had run the National Laboratory. This change in management caused a shift in employment from state government into private professional & business services. The administrative change distorts the employment numbers so that it appears that thousands of government jobs were lost and thousands of professional & business services jobs were created. Adjusting for this administrative change, both industries are growing in the two to three percent range, consistent with both industries' recent trends.

The information industry has grown faster than any other industry in the state, adding 11.7 percent to last year's employment levels, creating 1,700 additional jobs. The new jobs are in the state's film industry, which has seen a lot of activity. During times of intensive film work, employment levels have been as much as 3,000 jobs above baseline levels of a few years ago. Much of the film work is of short duration, which can be seen in the recent history of the information industry showing swings in employment as large as 2,000 jobs in just one month. Previously, the information industry lost more than 3,000 jobs during a three-year period ending in early 2005 due to weakness in the telecommunications components of the industry. Even with the current boost from the film industry, employment levels are still below the peak employment levels set in the spring of 2001.

The state's second fastest growing industry, natural resources & mining, has enjoyed four years of job growth due to sustained higher prices for oil and natural gas. Job growth currently stands at 10.1 percent over the year, adding 1,800 jobs. Up until a few months ago, the construction industry was also adding jobs in the double-digit percentage range. Slowing conditions, which have been seen nationally, have finally caught up with New Mexico, and the industry is now only up by 100 jobs from a year ago, a 0.2 percent increase. The industry appears to be at the end of a sustained four-year winning streak, with prospects for a relatively soft landing. The last time the construction industry saw sustained losses was when several large construction projects in Albuquerque ended back in 2002.

The small wholesale trade industry added 900 jobs, which is impressive when compared to the four times bigger retail trade industry that added 1,800 jobs. For much of 2006, wholesale trade was actually adding more jobs than was retail trade.

Manufacturing employment has added 1,300 jobs, growing an impressive 3.6 percent. Some manufacturing firms are still struggling to maintain employment levels, but others are expanding into new markets and adding hundreds of jobs. In many ways 2006 was the turning point that defined the success of the state's manufacturing industry, which previously lost thousands of jobs.

Educational & health services, the state's largest private industry, added 3,400 jobs, growing 3.2 percent. This industry can consistently be relied upon for adding new jobs. Current levels look a little restrained compared to the past few years, but the number of new jobs is still substantial.

The leisure & hospitality industry made gains of 1,600 jobs, with recent expansive growth in eating and drinking places. The transportation, warehousing & utilities industry increased employment by 300 jobs. The miscellaneous *other services* category added 200 jobs. Financial activities employment did not add any jobs since last year, continuing a weak employment trend that has been evident since last July.

New Mexico	Change From				
	Jan 2007	Dec 2006	Jan 2006	Dec 2006	Jan 2006
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	937,200	939,000	927,500	-1,800	+9,700
Employment	901,800	903,500	883,600	-1,700	+18,200
Unemployment	35,400	35,500	43,900	-100	-8,500
Rate	3.8%	3.8%	4.7%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.9%	3.3%	4.7%		

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 3.7 percent in January 2007, up from 3.5 percent in December. A year ago, Albuquerque's unemployment rate was 4.4 percent. Albuquerque's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate peaked at 5.0 percent in February 2006, and then settled at levels slightly below the statewide rate. Data users should note that the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program is currently benchmarking labor force data for calendar years 2002-2006. The 2006 labor force data included in this publication are under final review by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and are therefore subject to revision.

Over the month, seasonal layoffs in many industries caused payroll employment to drop 6,100 or 1.5 percent. This was a typical January, marked by seasonal cutbacks in retail trade, construction, and temporary help, along with smaller declines in a host of other categories. Professional & business services (300 jobs) and educational & health services (100 jobs) were the only two industries that increased employment since December. Since most of the layoffs are only temporary, payroll employment should begin to creep back up over the next few months.

Over the last 12 months, the Albuquerque area economy has added 9,400 jobs for an increase of 2.5 percent. Job gains were posted in ten of the 12 major industry divisions, evidence of the overall health of the Albuquerque area economy. The largest number of new jobs came from professional & business services, up 2,500 or 4.1 percent over the year. Industry growth has exceeded 3.5 percent for nine consecutive months.

Government employment grew by 1,600 jobs (2.1 percent), with increases in all three of its branches. Local government led the way, adding 900 jobs, while state government added 600 and federal government 100. Government employment growth exceeded 2.0 percent for each month in 2006, rebounding from three years of relatively slower growth.

Employment growth in educational & health services remained strong at 3.2 percent, though it has slowed by nearly half from its most recent peak of 6.2 percent in late 2004. The industry added 1,500 new jobs in the last 12 months.

Leisure & hospitality grew 3.9 percent thanks to an increase in restaurant employment. This industry experienced a temporary setback during parts of 2004 and 2005 but is now adding jobs once again. Employment growth exceeded 4.0 percent in each of the last eight months of 2006.

Things are looking up for the manufacturing industry, where growth has managed to remain in positive territory since September 2005 after emerging from a severe downturn from mid-2001 through late 2004. The industry added 900 jobs over the year, growing 3.9 percent. Job opportunities are expected to further increase in the manufacture of airplanes, solar cells, cabinets and mattresses, as firms establish new plants in the metro area or expand existing operations.

The information industry gained 600 jobs in the last 12 months, a robust 6.9 percent rate of growth. The industry experienced strong growth through all of 2006 after losing 2,700 jobs the previous three years.

Wholesale trade has begun to grow steadily following a seven-year slump in employment. The turnaround began in May 2005 and gained momentum through 2006, as industry growth exceeded 3.0 percent for each of the last eight months of the year. Industry employment grew 3.9 percent in January, adding 500 jobs.

Retail trade was up 400 jobs or 0.9 percent in January. Employment declined each month during the second half of 2006 after registering solid growth over the previous year.

The miscellaneous category of *other services* gained 200 jobs since last January, while transportation, warehousing & utilities added 100. Financial activities employment declined 100.

Construction employment fell 200 over the year, the industry's first month in negative territory since March 2003. The four-year expansion resulted in 9,000 new jobs, but it appears that the inevitable slowdown is now underway.

Albuquerque				Change From	
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Jan 2007</u>	<u>Dec 2006</u>	<u>Jan 2006</u>	<u>Dec 2006</u>	<u>Jan 2006</u>
Civilian Labor Force	406,500	408,500	398,100	-2,000	+8,400
Employment	391,400	394,200	380,400	-2,800	+11,000
Unemployment	15,100	14,300	17,700	+800	-2,600
Rate	3.7%	3.5%	4.4%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.7%	3.2%	4.3%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Las Cruces MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Doña Ana County)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the Las Cruces MSA was 4.5 percent in January 2007, up from 4.0 percent in December. A year ago, the area's unemployment rate was 4.9 percent.

The Las Cruces economy lost 2,800 jobs in January 2007, mostly from seasonal declines in government employment. State government employment declined by 2,200 jobs at the end of the semester at New Mexico State University. Another 100 jobs were lost in federal government employment. Retail trade dropped 300 jobs at the end of the holiday shopping season, which is typical for this time of year. Another 200 jobs left manufacturing industries. There were no gains in January.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces area was 2.3 percent comparing January 2007 with the same month a year ago. The Las Cruces area has added 1,500 jobs. This rate of job growth is close to the average for the state.

Three industries have each added 300 jobs to the local economy over the last year. The educational & health services industry gained 300 jobs, increasing 3.0 percent. Construction em-

ployment also has done well for many years in the local area, currently increasing 300 jobs from year-ago levels, growing 6.4 percent. The leisure & hospitality industry has done well employment-wise for the last two years and currently reports gains of 300 jobs over the year, growing 4.5 percent.

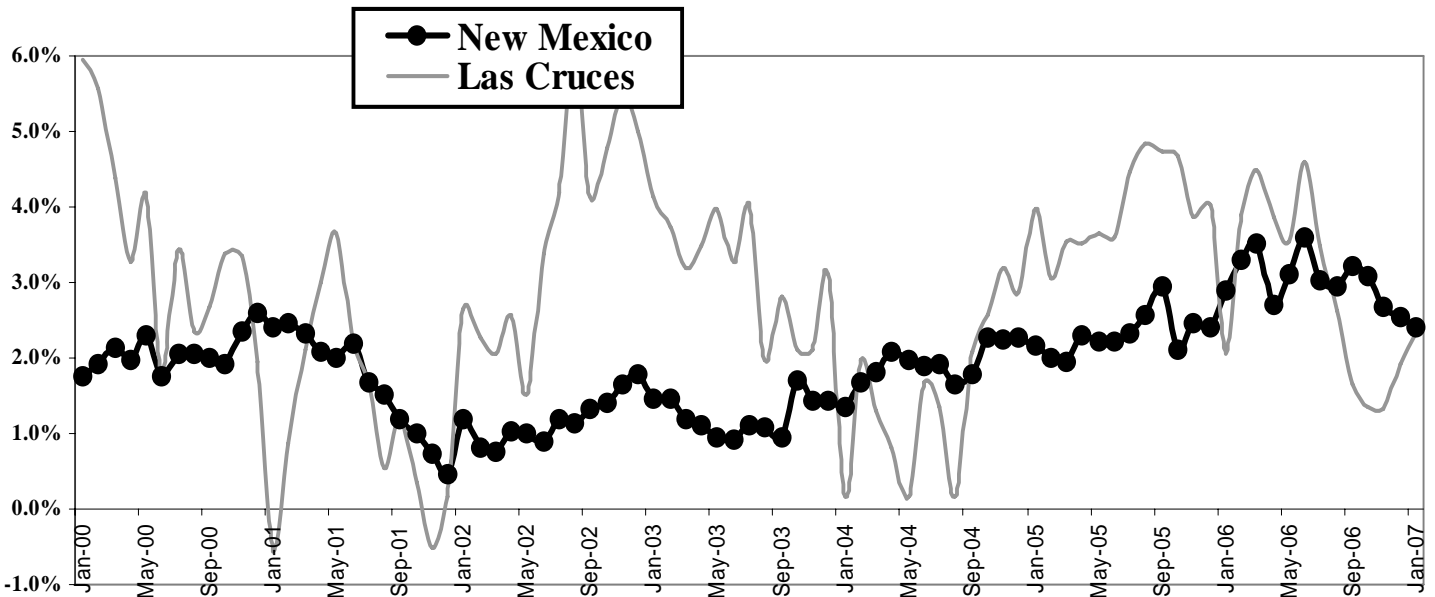
The transportation, warehousing & utilities industry reported employment that was up 200 jobs from last year. A similar 200-job increase was also reported in professional & business services, following four months of lost jobs at the end of last year. Wholesale trade managed to gain 100 jobs from last year's level. Manufacturing employment also added 100 jobs, improving slightly from two years of less-than-stellar performance.

Five industries reported employment levels that were unchanged from last year. Those industries were retail trade, information, financial activities, the miscellaneous *other services* category of employment, and government. Government employment made small offsetting gains in local government and losses in federal government. State government includes New Mexico State University.

Las Cruces			Change From		
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Jan 2007</u>	<u>Dec 2006</u>	<u>Jan 2006</u>	<u>Dec 2006</u>	<u>Jan 2006</u>
Civilian Labor Force	85,300	87,300	83,500	-2,000	+1,800
Employment	81,500	83,800	79,400	-2,300	+2,100
Unemployment	3,800	3,500	4,100	+300	-300
Rate	4.5%	4.0%	4.9%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	4.7%	3.7%	5.5%		

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 3.2 percent in January 2007, up from 2.9 percent in December. A year ago, the area had an unemployment rate of 3.5 percent.

As is typical for Santa Fe, January was a very weak month for employment. January 2007 saw reductions in the Santa Fe workforce amounting to 1,600 fewer jobs than in December. The largest drop, 500 jobs, was in retail trade at the end of the Christmas shopping season. Another large drop in employment came from educational & health services, down 400 jobs on the month. Five other industries also contributed to the monthly decline.

Over-the-year job growth for Santa Fe was 2.2 percent, adding 1,300 jobs. This rate of job growth is still below the average for the state but shows improvement from growth rates that were below one percent during most of 2006 and averaged just 1.1 percent for the year. Job growth is now evident in nine of the area's 12 industries.

The construction industry has currently added more jobs than any other industry, increasing by 300 jobs from last year, growing 6.7 percent. Three other private sector industries have each increased by 200 jobs from last year's levels. Retail trade has done fairly well, maintaining a 200-job gain. Professional & business services

also has gained 200 jobs on the year, as has educational & health services. The health services industry appears to be back on track after having gone through a period of job losses last year.

The information industry, which includes motion picture and video industries, gained 100 jobs but has seen much larger gains during months when there was filming activity. Three other private sector industries each gained 100 jobs. These were financial activities, wholesale trade, and the miscellaneous *other services* industry.

Two industries maintained employment levels the same as last year's levels. Those industries were transportation, warehousing & utilities and leisure & hospitality.

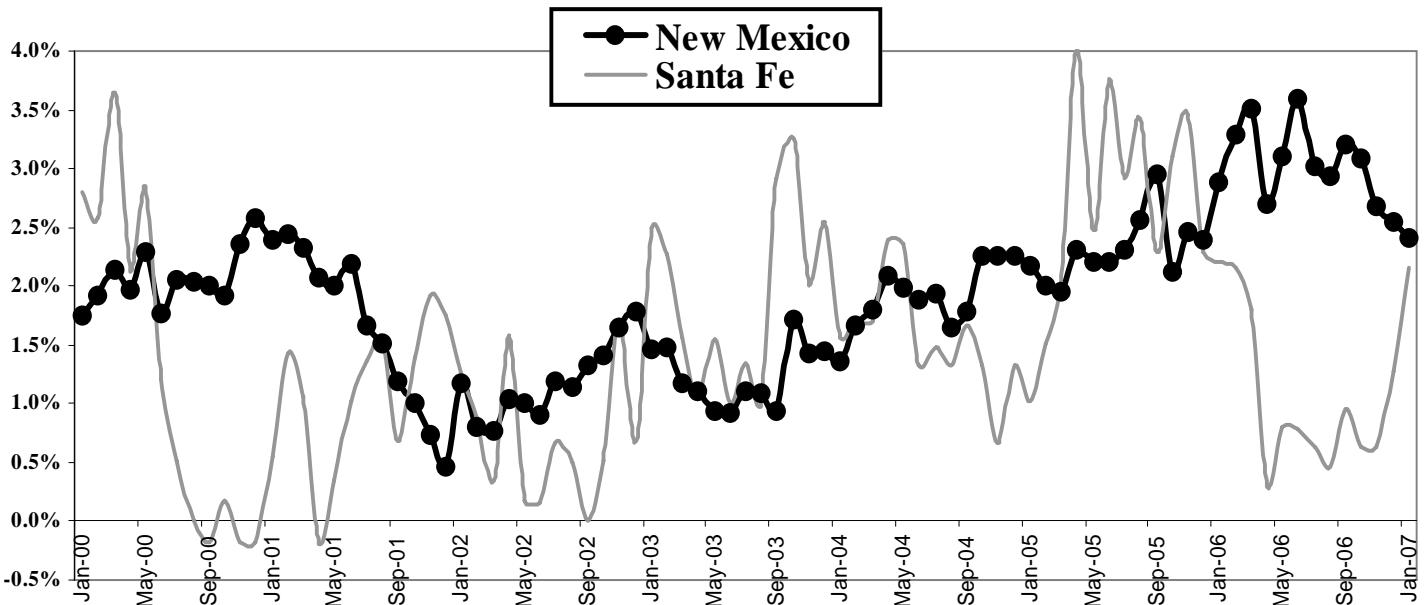
Manufacturing employment in the Santa Fe area has not done very well for a while and currently stands 100 jobs lower than last year's employment level. The local area has not been fortunate enough to enjoy the gains that are being made in Albuquerque.

In the government sector there is little to report except a modest gain of 100 local government jobs and no change in either federal or state government employment. There has not been much of an increase in government employment in Santa Fe since local government school employment stopped increasing about a year ago.

Santa Fe		Change From			
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Jan 2007</u>	<u>Dec 2006</u>	<u>Jan 2006</u>	<u>Dec 2006</u>	<u>Jan 2006</u>
Civilian Labor Force	77,100	77,500	75,300	-400	+1,800
Employment	74,700	75,300	72,700	-600	+2,000
Unemployment	2,500	2,200	2,600	+300	-100
Rate	3.2%	2.9%	3.5%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.2%	2.7%	3.9%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Santa Fe



Farmington MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(San Juan County)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Farmington was 3.7 percent in January 2007, up from 3.5 percent in December. A year ago, the area had an unemployment rate of 4.4 percent.

The Farmington area lost 1,100 jobs in January, which is expected this time of year. Both the private sector and local government lost jobs over the month.

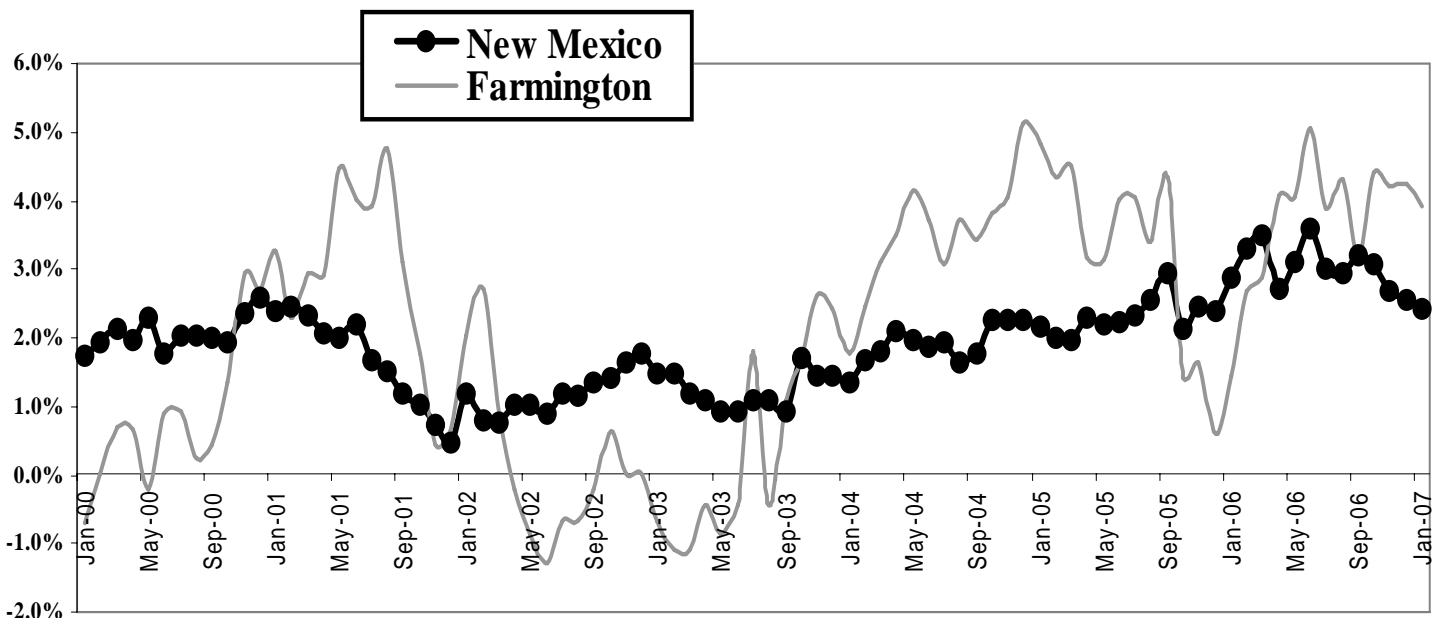
Over the last year, the Farmington area has added 1,900 jobs, growing 3.9 percent. The rate of job growth remains higher than most other areas of the state. Substantial fluctuation in the growth rate from month-to-month is fairly typical for a small metro area like Farmington. Job growth peaked in the local area in December 2004 when the over-the-year rate of job growth reached 5.1 percent. Job growth reached this peak again in June 2006, matching the highest increase in jobs since mid-1995. Job growth in the area remains substantially above the statewide average, and the Farmington area continues to have a strong job market.

Private services-providing industries have added 1,000 jobs over the year, growing 3.7 percent. Government employment has been sluggish for a while and currently shows 100 more jobs than a year ago, with 200 additional jobs reported in local government and 100 fewer federal government jobs. There was no growth reported in state government jobs.

Farmington	Change From				
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Jan 2007</u>	<u>Dec 2006</u>	<u>Jan 2006</u>	<u>Dec 2006</u>	<u>Jan 2006</u>
Civilian Labor Force	55,800	56,200	53,900	-400	+1,900
Employment	53,800	54,200	51,500	-400	+2,300
Unemployment	2,100	2,000	2,400	+100	-300
Rate	3.7%	3.5%	4.4%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.8%	3.2%	5.0%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Farmington



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

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

		Civilian Labor Force	Employ- ment	Un- Employ- ment	Rate %	Unadj. Rate %
1987		674,200	613,400	60,800	9.0%	
1988		682,000	630,300	51,700	7.6%	
1989		691,800	645,300	46,500	6.7%	
1990		711,900	663,700	48,200	6.8%	
1991		719,200	667,700	51,500	7.2%	
1992		735,500	680,500	55,000	7.5%	
1993		755,100	700,300	54,800	7.3%	
1994		776,800	725,400	51,400	6.6%	
1995		798,700	744,600	54,100	6.8%	
1996		812,800	751,800	61,000	7.5%	
1997		822,600	768,600	54,000	6.6%	
1998		835,900	783,700	52,200	6.2%	
1999		840,000	793,100	46,900	5.6%	
2000		852,300	810,000	42,300	5.0%	
2001		863,700	821,000	42,700	4.9%	
2002		871,500	823,200	48,300	5.5%	
2003		885,300	832,600	52,700	5.9%	
2004		902,100	850,200	51,900	5.7%	
2005		915,500	867,300	48,200	5.3%	
2006		935,350	895,623	39,727	4.2%	
2006	JAN	927,502	883,575	43,927	4.7%	4.7%
	FEB	930,872	887,718	43,154	4.6%	4.9%
	MAR	933,049	890,663	42,386	4.5%	4.3%
	APR	932,502	890,872	41,630	4.5%	4.4%
	MAY	934,426	893,550	40,876	4.4%	4.3%
	JUN	936,817	896,695	40,122	4.3%	5.0%
	JUL	935,455	896,088	39,367	4.2%	4.8%
	AUG	936,361	897,756	38,605	4.1%	4.1%
	SEP	939,704	901,869	37,835	4.0%	3.9%
	OCT	939,447	902,388	37,059	3.9%	3.7%
	NOV	939,071	902,796	36,275	3.9%	3.6%
	DEC	938,992	903,503	35,489	3.8%	3.3%
2007	JAN	937,238	901,837	35,401	3.8%	3.9%
	FEB					
	MAR					
	APR					
	MAY					
	JUN					
	JUL					
	AUG					
	SEP					
	OCT					
	NOV					
	DEC					
# CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	-1,754	-1,666	-88	0.0%	0.6%
	Year Ago	9,736	18,262	-8,526	-0.9%	-0.8%
	2 Yrs. Ago	27,947	43,273	-15,326	-1.8%	-1.7%
	3 Yrs. Ago	42,349	59,845	-17,496	-2.1%	-2.2%
% CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	-0.2%	-0.2%	-0.2%		
	Year Ago	1.0%	2.1%	-19.4%		
	2 Yrs. Ago	3.1%	5.0%	-30.2%		
	3 Yrs. Ago	4.7%	7.1%	-33.1%		

State	Rank	January 2006	January 2007	Change	% Change
Louisiana	1	1,789.8	1,880.9	91.1	5.1%
Arizona	2	2,562.0	2,680.8	118.8	4.6%
Utah	3	1,162.9	1,215.5	52.6	4.5%
Idaho	4	607.9	632.4	24.5	4.0%
Nevada	5	1,239.7	1,285.9	46.2	3.7%
Wyoming	6	262.4	272.0	9.6	3.7%
Hawaii	7	600.2	617.4	17.2	2.9%
North Dakota	8	341.1	350.2	9.1	2.7%
Mississippi	9	1,116.2	1,145.5	29.3	2.6%
Kansas	10	1,316.4	1,350.6	34.2	2.6%
Texas	11	9,806.6	10,061.1	254.5	2.6%
North Carolina	12	3,921.8	4,019.2	97.4	2.5%
New Mexico	13	809.2	828.7	19.5	2.4%
Washington	14	2,775.5	2,841.9	66.4	2.4%
Montana	15	414.6	424.0	9.4	2.3%
South Dakota	16	383.8	392.4	8.6	2.2%
Nebraska	17	924.5	944.1	19.6	2.1%
Colorado	18	2,221.1	2,267.1	46.0	2.1%
Oregon	19	1,648.2	1,681.6	33.4	2.0%
California	20	14,755.6	15,046.2	290.6	2.0%
Florida	21	7,887.6	8,039.1	151.5	1.9%
Alabama	22	1,944.9	1,980.8	35.9	1.8%
South Carolina	23	1,859.5	1,891.3	31.8	1.7%
Alaska	24	291.4	296.3	4.9	1.7%
United States		132,962.0	135,102.0	2,140.0	1.6%
Oklahoma	25	1,516.2	1,539.5	23.3	1.5%
Georgia	26	4,018.0	4,074.8	56.8	1.4%
Rhode Island	27	475.5	482.2	6.7	1.4%
Iowa	28	1,462.9	1,482.3	19.4	1.3%
Delaware	29	675.4	683.9	8.5	1.3%
New York	30	8,401.3	8,506.7	105.4	1.3%
Massachusetts	31	3,158.0	3,196.4	38.4	1.2%
Virginia	32	3,654.1	3,697.7	43.6	1.2%
New Hampshire	33	625.2	632.5	7.3	1.2%
Illinois	34	5,774.8	5,840.9	66.1	1.1%
Missouri	35	2,706.5	2,736.8	30.3	1.1%
Pennsylvania	36	5,621.0	5,682.0	61.0	1.1%
Connecticut	37	1,648.5	1,665.5	17.0	1.0%
Tennessee	38	2,727.1	2,754.7	27.6	1.0%
Maryland	39	2,522.5	2,546.4	23.9	0.9%
New Jersey	40	3,984.6	4,021.6	37.0	0.9%
Kentucky	41	1,810.2	1,826.5	16.3	0.9%
West Virginia	42	738.2	744.7	6.5	0.9%
Arkansas	43	1,178.3	1,188.1	9.8	0.8%
DC	44	425.6	428.8	3.2	0.8%
Minnesota	45	2,701.9	2,721.2	19.3	0.7%
Maine	46	592.1	594.9	2.8	0.5%
Indiana	47	2,911.1	2,921.6	10.5	0.4%
Vermont	48	305.2	306.2	1.0	0.3%
Wisconsin	49	2,790.0	2,793.1	3.1	0.1%
Ohio	50	5,326.3	5,321.3	-5.0	-0.1%
Michigan	51	4,266.0	4,209.7	-56.3	-1.3%

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

Employment numbers are not seasonally adjusted.

Employment numbers are in thousands.

Statewide 2006 benchmarked data are under review by the US BLS, and therefore subject to revision.

New Mexico Labor Force Estimates – Not Seasonally Adjusted 1/

	JANUARY 2007				DECEMBER 2006				JANUARY 2006			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	927,130	890,951	36,179	3.9%	940,773	909,723	31,050	3.3%	911,273	868,207	43,066	4.7%
Albuquerque MSA 2/	402,849	387,996	14,853	3.7%	406,843	394,014	12,829	3.2%	394,645	377,543	17,102	4.3%
Bernalillo	312,518	301,333	11,185	3.6%	315,695	306,007	9,688	3.1%	306,086	293,215	12,871	4.2%
Sandoval	51,320	49,172	2,148	4.2%	51,767	49,934	1,833	3.5%	50,195	47,847	2,348	4.7%
Torrance	7,742	7,433	309	4.0%	7,804	7,549	255	3.3%	7,592	7,233	359	4.7%
Valencia	31,270	30,058	1,212	3.9%	31,576	30,524	1,052	3.3%	30,771	29,248	1,523	4.9%
Farmington MSA 3/	55,119	53,018	2,101	3.8%	55,932	54,122	1,810	3.2%	53,467	50,820	2,647	5.0%
Las Cruces MSA 4/	84,132	80,193	3,939	4.7%	86,892	83,679	3,213	3.7%	82,799	78,265	4,534	5.5%
Santa Fe MSA 5/	75,427	72,989	2,438	3.2%	77,201	75,145	2,056	2.7%	74,686	71,773	2,913	3.9%
Catron	1,434	1,348	86	6.0%	1,459	1,379	80	5.5%	1,412	1,319	93	6.6%
Chaves	26,814	25,736	1,078	4.0%	27,201	26,225	976	3.6%	26,333	24,966	1,367	5.2%
Cibola	11,623	11,136	487	4.2%	11,782	11,357	425	3.6%	11,568	10,965	603	5.2%
Colfax	6,351	6,084	267	4.2%	6,380	6,153	227	3.6%	6,445	6,109	336	5.2%
Curry	21,134	20,495	639	3.0%	21,437	20,869	568	2.6%	20,648	19,853	795	3.9%
De Baca	875	842	33	3.8%	887	856	31	3.5%	873	830	43	4.9%
Eddy	25,568	24,720	848	3.3%	25,757	25,025	732	2.8%	24,874	23,900	974	3.9%
Grant	12,386	11,890	496	4.0%	12,555	12,128	427	3.4%	12,026	11,395	631	5.2%
Guadalupe	1,858	1,750	108	5.8%	1,834	1,758	76	4.1%	1,782	1,664	118	6.6%
Harding	379	365	14	3.7%	404	389	15	3.7%	394	380	14	3.6%
Hidalgo	2,420	2,329	91	3.8%	2,883	2,814	69	2.4%	2,262	2,161	101	4.5%
Lea	26,978	26,268	710	2.6%	27,250	26,633	617	2.3%	26,044	25,103	941	3.6%
Lincoln	10,118	9,725	393	3.9%	10,322	9,974	348	3.4%	10,393	9,901	492	4.7%
Los Alamos	11,455	11,198	257	2.2%	11,410	11,195	215	1.9%	11,382	11,080	302	2.7%
Luna	11,721	10,403	1,318	11.2%	12,205	11,141	1,064	8.7%	11,868	10,251	1,617	13.6%
McKinley	26,972	25,712	1,260	4.7%	27,256	26,101	1,155	4.2%	26,733	25,128	1,605	6.0%
Mora	2,021	1,841	180	8.9%	2,050	1,894	156	7.6%	2,025	1,790	235	11.6%
Otero	25,925	24,916	1,009	3.9%	26,729	25,821	908	3.4%	26,172	24,902	1,270	4.9%
Quay	4,006	3,796	210	5.2%	4,065	3,900	165	4.1%	3,909	3,686	223	5.7%
Rio Arriba	21,866	20,828	1,038	4.7%	21,809	20,928	881	4.0%	21,666	20,448	1,218	5.6%
Roosevelt	9,296	9,015	281	3.0%	9,508	9,276	232	2.4%	9,221	8,893	328	3.6%
San Miguel	13,255	12,644	611	4.6%	13,651	13,141	510	3.7%	12,980	12,235	745	5.7%
Sierra	5,490	5,268	222	4.0%	5,440	5,260	180	3.3%	5,551	5,258	293	5.3%
Socorro	9,469	9,146	323	3.4%	9,600	9,324	276	2.9%	9,215	8,816	399	4.3%
Taos	18,142	17,317	825	4.5%	17,969	17,212	757	4.2%	17,852	16,793	1,059	5.9%
Union	2,048	1,983	65	3.2%	2,060	2,009	51	2.5%	2,048	1,982	66	3.2%

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, Torrance & Valencia Counties

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - San Juan County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County

5/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe County

Unemployment Rates in New Mexico (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

JANUARY 2007			DECEMBER 2006			JANUARY 2006		
AREAS	RANK	RATE	AREAS	RANK	RATE	AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	11.2%	LUNA	1	8.7%	LUNA	1	13.6%
MORA	2	8.9%	MORA	2	7.6%	MORA	2	11.6%
CATRON	3	6.0%	CATRON	3	5.5%	CATRON	3	6.6%
GUADALUPE	4	5.8%	MCKINLEY	4	4.2%	GUADALUPE	4	6.6%
QUAY	5	5.2%	TAOS	5	4.2%	MCKINLEY	5	6.0%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	6	4.7%	GUADALUPE	6	4.1%	TAOS	6	5.9%
MCKINLEY	7	4.7%	QUAY	7	4.1%	QUAY	7	5.7%
RIO ARRIBA	8	4.7%	RIO ARRIBA	8	4.0%	SAN MIGUEL	8	5.7%
SAN MIGUEL	9	4.6%	HARDING	9	3.7%	RIO ARRIBA	9	5.6%
TAOS	10	4.5%	LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	10	3.7%	LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	10	5.5%
CIBOLA	11	4.2%	SAN MIGUEL	11	3.7%	SIERRA	11	5.3%
COLFAX	12	4.2%	CHAVES	12	3.6%	CHAVES	12	5.2%
CHAVES	13	4.0%	CIBOLA	13	3.6%	CIBOLA	13	5.2%
GRANT	14	4.0%	COLFAX	14	3.6%	COLFAX	14	5.2%
SIERRA	15	4.0%	DE BACA	15	3.5%	GRANT	15	5.2%
LINCOLN	16	3.9%	GRANT	16	3.4%	FARMINGTON MSA 2/	16	5.0%
OTERO	17	3.9%	LINCOLN	17	3.4%	DE BACA	17	4.9%
STATEWIDE		3.9%	OTERO	18	3.4%	OTERO	18	4.9%
DE BACA	18	3.8%	SIERRA	19	3.3%	LINCOLN	19	4.7%
FARMINGTON MSA 2/	19	3.8%	STATEWIDE		3.3%	STATEWIDE		4.7%
HIDALGO	20	3.8%	ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	20	3.2%	HIDALGO	20	4.5%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	21	3.7%	FARMINGTON MSA 2/	21	3.2%	ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	21	4.3%
HARDING	22	3.7%	SOCORRO	22	2.9%	SOCORRO	22	4.3%
SOCORRO	23	3.4%	EDDY	23	2.8%	CURRY	23	3.9%
EDDY	24	3.3%	SANTA FE MSA 4/	24	2.7%	EDDY	24	3.9%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	25	3.2%	CURRY	25	2.6%	SANTA FE MSA 4/	25	3.9%
UNION	26	3.2%	UNION	26	2.5%	HARDING	26	3.6%
CURRY	27	3.0%	HIDALGO	27	2.4%	LEA	27	3.6%
ROOSEVELT	28	3.0%	ROOSEVELT	28	2.4%	ROOSEVELT	28	3.6%
LEA	29	2.6%	LEA	29	2.3%	UNION	29	3.2%
LOS ALAMOS	30	2.2%	LOS ALAMOS	30	1.9%	LOS ALAMOS	30	2.7%

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

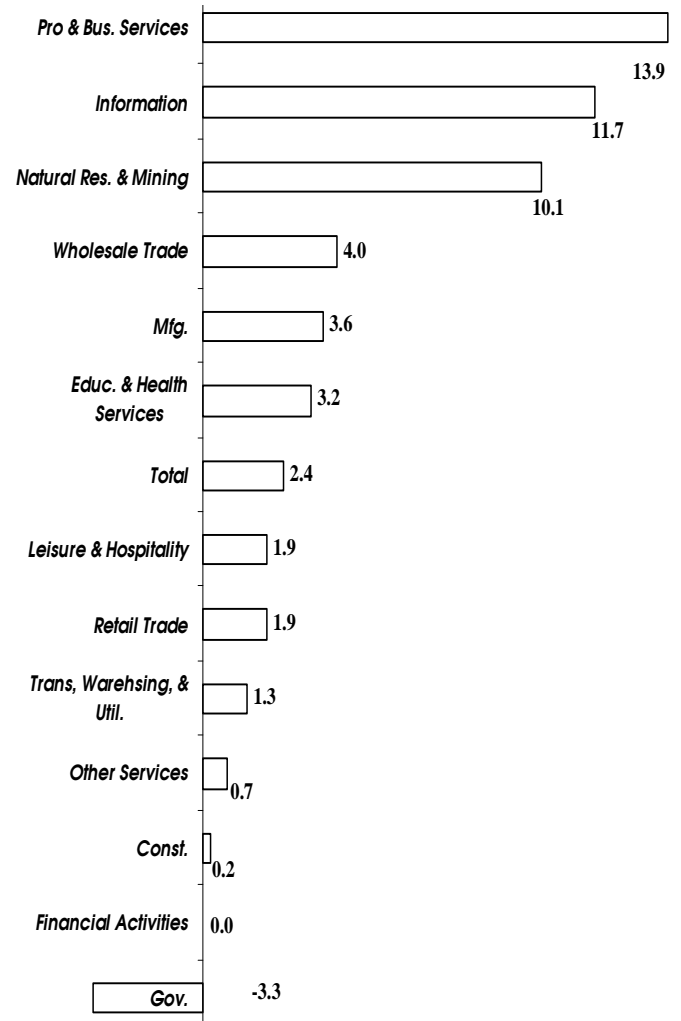
(Seasonally Adjusted)

January 2007			January 2006		
State	Rank	Rate	State	Rank	Rate
Michigan	1	6.9	Mississippi	1	7.6
Alaska	2	6.4	Alaska	2	7.0
South Carolina	3	6.4	Michigan	3	6.8
Mississippi	4	6.2	South Carolina	4	6.6
District of Columbia	5	6.1	Kentucky	5	6.0
Kentucky	6	5.6	District of Columbia	6	5.9
Massachusetts	7	5.3	Ohio	7	5.5
Ohio	8	5.3	Oregon	8	5.5
Oregon	9	5.2	Illinois	9	5.2
Arkansas	10	5.1	Rhode Island	10	5.2
Indiana	11	5.1	Tennessee	11	5.2
Washington	12	5.1	Texas	12	5.2
Wisconsin	13	4.9	California	13	5.1
California	14	4.8	Arkansas	14	5.0
Tennessee	15	4.8	Indiana	15	5.0
Pennsylvania	16	4.7	Georgia	16	4.9
Rhode Island	17	4.7	Washington	17	4.9
Illinois	18	4.6	Massachusetts	18	4.8
Missouri	19	4.6	New Jersey	19	4.8
North Carolina	20	4.6	New York	20	4.8
United States	4.6		Colorado	21	4.7
Georgia	21	4.5	Missouri	22	4.7
Nevada	22	4.5	New Mexico	23	4.7
Texas	23	4.5	North Carolina	24	4.7
Connecticut	24	4.4	Pennsylvania	25	4.7
Maine	25	4.4	United States	4.7	
Minnesota	26	4.4	Wisconsin	26	4.7
New York	27	4.3	Louisiana	27	4.6
Arizona	28	4.2	West Virginia	28	4.6
New Jersey	29	4.2	Connecticut	29	4.5
Colorado	30	4.1	Kansas	30	4.5
Kansas	31	4.1	Maine	31	4.5
Vermont	32	4.0	Arizona	32	4.4
West Virginia	33	4.0	Minnesota	33	4.2
Maryland	34	3.8	Nevada	34	4.1
Oklahoma	35	3.8	Iowa	35	4.0
New Mexico	36	3.8	Oklahoma	36	3.9
Louisiana	37	3.7	Delaware	37	3.8
New Hampshire	38	3.7	Maryland	38	3.8
Delaware	39	3.4	Idaho	39	3.7
Iowa	40	3.4	Alabama	40	3.6
Alabama	41	3.3	Vermont	41	3.6
Florida	42	3.3	Montana	42	3.5
South Dakota	43	3.3	Florida	43	3.4
North Dakota	44	3.2	New Hampshire	44	3.4
Idaho	45	3.0	Utah	45	3.4
Nebraska	46	3.0	South Dakota	46	3.3
Virginia	47	2.8	North Dakota	47	3.2
Montana	48	2.7	Nebraska	48	3.1
Utah	49	2.6	Virginia	49	3.0
Wyoming	50	2.6	Wyoming	50	3.0
Hawaii	51	2.2	Hawaii	51	2.4

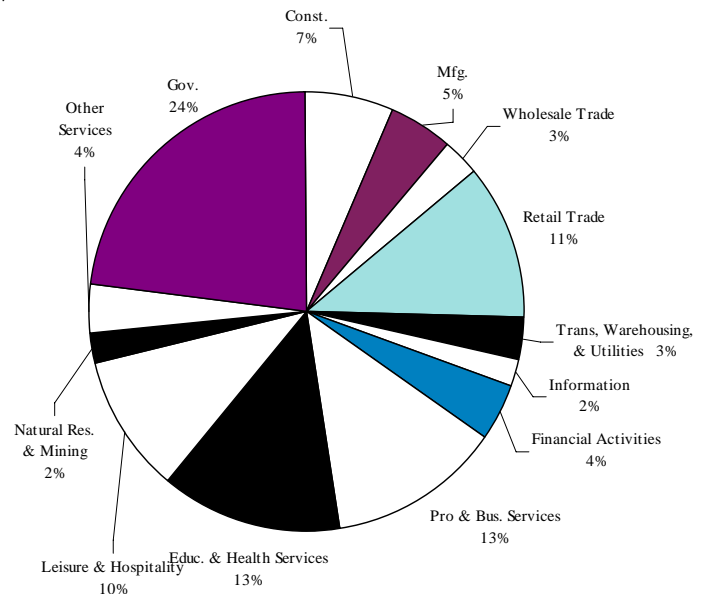
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Annual Growth Rates by Industry



NAICS Industries



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Jan-07	Dec-06	Jan-06	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	828,700	845,500	809,200	-16,800	19,500
GOODS PRODUCING	113,300	115,800	110,100	-2,500	3,200
SERVICES-PROVIDING	715,400	729,700	699,100	-14,300	16,300
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	19,600	19,400	17,800	200	1,800
CONSTRUCTION	56,000	58,500	55,900	-2,500	100
MANUFACTURING	37,700	37,900	36,400	-200	1,300
WHOLESALE TRADE	23,500	23,800	22,600	-300	900
RETAIL TRADE	94,900	98,700	93,100	-3,800	1,800
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	24,200	24,600	23,900	-400	300
INFORMATION	16,200	16,000	14,500	200	1,700
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	35,200	35,600	35,200	-400	0
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	106,600	108,500	93,600	-1,900	13,000
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	110,300	110,600	106,900	-300	3,400
Educational Services	13,700	14,000	13,500	-300	200
Health Care and Social Assistance	96,600	96,600	93,400	0	3,200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	84,200	85,600	82,600	-1,400	1,600
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7,900	7,900	7,700	0	200
Accommodation and Food Services	76,300	77,700	74,900	-1,400	1,400
OTHER SERVICES	28,100	28,900	27,900	-800	200
GOVERNMENT	192,200	197,400	198,800	-5,200	-6,600
Federal Government	29,600	30,200	29,800	-600	-200
State Government	57,000	60,300	66,200	-3,300	-9,200
State Government Education	24,500	28,900	24,700	-4,400	-200
Local Government	105,600	106,900	102,800	-1,300	2,800
Local Government Education	57,500	59,000	56,800	-1,500	700

ALBUQUERQUE	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Jan-07	Dec-06	Jan-06	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	390,900	397,000	381,500	-6,100	9,400
GOODS PRODUCING	54,200	54,500	53,500	-300	700
SERVICES-PROVIDING	336,700	342,500	328,000	-5,800	8,700
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING & CONSTRUCTION	30,000	30,300	30,200	-300	-200
MANUFACTURING	24,200	24,200	23,300	0	900
WHOLESALE TRADE	13,400	13,500	12,900	-100	500
RETAIL TRADE	43,700	46,200	43,300	-2,500	400
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	10,600	10,700	10,500	-100	100
INFORMATION	9,300	9,300	8,700	0	600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	19,200	19,200	19,300	0	-100
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	64,200	63,900	61,700	300	2,500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	48,700	48,600	47,200	100	1,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	37,700	38,300	36,300	-600	1,400
OTHER SERVICES	11,900	12,200	11,700	-300	200
GOVERNMENT	78,000	80,600	76,400	-2,600	1,600
Federal Government	14,400	14,500	14,300	-100	100
State Government 2/	24,200	26,400	23,600	-2,200	600
Local Government	39,400	39,700	38,500	-300	900

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 Jan-07	Revised Dec-06	Revised Jan-06	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	65,800	68,600	64,300	-2,800	1,500
GOODS PRODUCING	8,300	8,500	7,900	-200	400
SERVICE PRODUCING	57,500	60,100	56,400	-2,600	1,100
NATURAL RESOURCES MINING & CONSTRUCTION	5,000	5,000	4,700	0	300
MANUFACTURING	3,300	3,500	3,200	-200	100
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,200	1,200	1,100	0	100
RETAIL TRADE	7,100	7,400	7,100	-300	0
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	1,900	1,900	1,700	0	200
INFORMATION	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,400	2,400	2,400	0	0
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,600	5,600	5,400	0	200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	10,300	10,300	10,000	0	300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	6,900	6,900	6,600	0	300
OTHER SERVICES	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
GOVERNMENT	19,300	21,600	19,300	-2,300	0
Federal	3,500	3,600	3,600	-100	-100
State	7,000	9,200	7,000	-2,200	0
Local	8,800	8,800	8,700	0	100

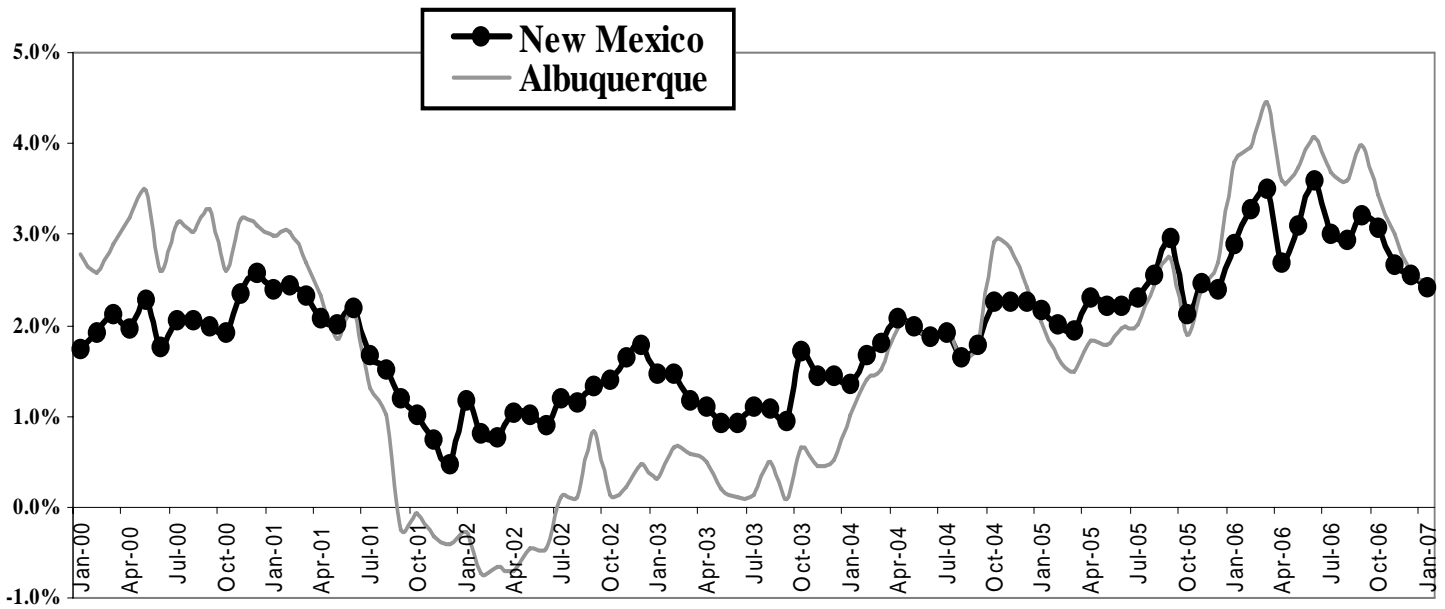
SANTA FE MSA	Preliminary Jan-07	Revised Dec-06	Revised Jan-06	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	61,700	63,300	60,400	-1,600	1,300
GOODS PRODUCING	5,800	6,100	5,600	-300	200
SERVICE PRODUCING	55,900	57,200	54,800	-1,300	1,100
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTRUCTION	4,800	5,000	4,500	-200	300
MANUFACTURING	1,000	1,100	1,100	-100	-100
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,200	1,100	1,100	100	100
RETAIL TRADE	8,700	9,200	8,500	-500	200
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	700	700	700	0	0
INFORMATION	1,100	1,100	1,000	0	100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	3,100	3,100	3,000	0	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,000	5,200	4,800	-200	200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	8,400	8,800	8,200	-400	200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	8,700	8,900	8,700	-200	0
OTHER SERVICES	2,800	2,800	2,700	0	100
GOVERNMENT	16,200	16,300	16,100	-100	100
Federal	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
State 2/	8,100	8,200	8,100	-100	0
Local	7,000	7,000	6,900	0	100

FARMINGTON MSA	Preliminary Jan-07	Revised Dec-06	Revised Jan-06	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	50,500	51,600	48,600	-1,100	1,900
TOTAL PRIVATE	39,500	40,200	37,700	-700	1,800
GOODS PRODUCING	11,400	11,700	10,600	-300	800
SERVICE PRODUCING	39,100	39,900	38,000	-800	1,100
PRIVATE SERVICE PRODUCING	28,100	28,500	27,100	-400	1,000
GOVERNMENT	11,000	11,400	10,900	-400	100
Federal	1,500	1,500	1,600	0	-100
State	500	500	500	0	0
Local	9,000	9,400	8,800	-400	200

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.

New Mexico and Albuquerque Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates



Average Hours and Earnings

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

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Jan 07	Dec 06	Jan 06	Jan 07	Dec 06	Jan 06	Jan 07	Dec 06	Jan 06
NEW MEXICO									
NATURAL RES. & MINING	\$817.17	\$815.85	\$789.60	44.1	44.1	43.6	\$18.53	\$18.50	\$18.11
CONSTRUCTION	\$659.33	\$661.78	\$631.23	40.4	40.6	39.7	\$16.32	\$16.30	\$15.90
MANUFACTURING	\$561.20	\$558.99	\$544.05	39.3	39.2	39.0	\$14.28	\$14.26	\$13.95
WHOLESALE TRADE	\$533.52	\$533.17	\$520.01	35.1	35.1	34.9	\$15.20	\$15.19	\$14.90
RETAIL TRADE	\$362.08	\$363.20	\$353.74	32.3	32.4	32.1	\$11.21	\$11.21	\$11.02
ALBUQUERQUE MSA									
MANUFACTURING	\$633.13	\$589.11	\$603.70	41.3	39.3	39.1	\$15.33	\$14.99	\$15.44

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

U.S. Consumer Price Index

	Index Base Year 1982-84 = 100			PERCENT CHANGE	
	Jan 07	Dec 06	Jan 06	Month to Month	Year to Year
CPI-U	202.4	201.8	198.3	0.3%	2.1%
CPI-W	197.6	197.2	194.0	0.2%	1.8%

*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 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.)

Statewide:

The Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) Board approved \$1,794,266 in funds at its January meeting, creating 355 new jobs in Belen and Albuquerque. January's JTIP recipients are **Origin Laboratories**, Belen, a manufacturer of specialty cleaning and sanitation products, \$33,295 to create four new jobs; **Heel, Inc.**, Albuquerque, the world's largest manufacturer of homeopathic combination medications, \$87,196 to create 16 new jobs; **Poly-Flow Engineering, LLC**, Albuquerque, a manufacturer of high-tech cleaning equipment for the worldwide semiconductor and fiber optical industries, \$193,625 to train 19 new workers. **Verizon Wireless**, Albuquerque, a provider of wireless communications network services, \$1,050,320 to create 252 new jobs; and **PR Newswire**, Albuquerque, a provider of electronic distribution, targeting, measurement and broadcast services on behalf of some 30,000 corporate, government, association, labor, non-profit, and other customers worldwide, \$413,870 for 64 new jobs. New Mexico State University-Alamogordo Branch was approved for \$15,960 to provide training for PreCheck JTIP participants.

The Bush administration is proposing major **reductions in funding** for New Mexico's national laboratories. While the overall \$24.3 billion spending plan for 2007-08 is slightly higher than last year's, Los Alamos' \$1.8 billion budget would be reduced by \$24 million, and Sandia's \$1.4 billion budget would be reduced by almost \$120 million. Both Senators Bingaman and Domenici have expressed concerns about the President's plan.

Albuquerque Area, Bernalillo County:

Tempur-Pedic officially opened its new 800,000-square-foot manufacturing plant on Paseo del Volcan. Eighty workers currently staff the plant, but staffing is expected to reach 300 when the factory is fully operational. Construction of the plant, which is the largest mattress factory in the world, cost about \$95 million. At full capacity, the plant will turn out about 60,000 mattresses per month and will add more than \$15 million per year to New Mexico's economy.

Gridline Communications has moved from Houston, TX, to an 11,550-square-foot building in the Science and Technology Park at the University of New Mexico. The company installs and maintains system equipment and software for the distribution of broadband communications. Gridline uses existing electrical power lines to carry broad-

band communications signals. The growth of the Internet has prompted further development of this technology, which has been used since the 1970s by utility companies to manage their power grids. Gridline currently has 11 employees but expects to have about 40 to 45 employees by the end of the year.

Roswell Area, Chaves County:

Seattle-based **E85, Inc.** plans to build a state-of-the-art 100-million-gallon-per-year ethanol plant in Chaves County. The Roswell area facility will create 45-50 high-wage, full-time jobs as well as hundreds of construction jobs. Plans call for construction to begin in spring 2007 and for the plant to be up and running in mid-2008. The total capital investment is expected to be about \$150 million dollars, pending successful completion of due diligence.

A \$26 million expansion will add 37,000 additional square feet to the **Leprino Foods** plant in Roswell. Leprino Foods is the largest mozzarella producer in the United States, and its plant in Roswell, NM, is the largest of the company's 11 production facilities. Leprino acquired the plant and began operating it in 1994. Over the past 2 1/2 years, various efficiency and capacity projects have increased the plant's cheesemaking capabilities to 6 million pounds of milk per day. Operating seven days a week, Leprino runs product 18 hours a day followed by six hours of cleaning. The expansion will enable Leprino to add about 20 more worker to the plant's current workforce of 400.

Las Cruces Area, Doña Ana County:

Construction is now underway at 4451 East Lohman Avenue in Las Cruces for the **Advanced Care Hospital of Southern New Mexico**. The new 20-room hospital is expected to be completed by July of this year. The hospital will provide long-term acute care and will be staffed by about 50 employees.

The European Space Agency has awarded **Starchaser Industries** a \$200,000 contract to analyze the Thunderstar Starchaser 5 rocket and submit a business plan on the sustainability of space tourism. Starchaser hopes to build a 120-acre "rocket city" in the desert west of Las Cruces that would feature a rocket production building and an astronaut training facility. The company would like to begin launching from the New Mexico Spaceport as early as 2009.

Deming Area, Luna County:

Sparton Corporation announced that it would close its **Deming Electronics** manufacturing plant and lay off its employees. Deming Electronics makes custom cables, wire harnesses and electronic modules. The plant opened in the early 1980s and employs approximately 76 people. Sparton notified its shareholders that the Deming plant would close on March 31.

Alamogordo Area, Otero County:

A breakdown on the production line at **Sunbaked Biscuits** prompted the company to lay off about 85 percent of its workforce, about 80 production workers. While the line was down, details of other difficulties facing the Alamogordo cookie manufacturer came to light. Sunbaked is seeking a buyer to take over operations and assume the company's debt.

Farmington Area, San Juan County:

In January, **Fuddrucker's** opened its first Four Corners area restaurant in Farmington's Animas Valley Mall. Fuddrucker's has over 240 locations in 36 states.

Las Vegas Area, San Miguel County:

IEI Financial Services, LLC, an Indianapolis-based company, will open a new bilingual customer support center in Las Vegas on May 2, 2007. IEI's new center will hire 45 employees within the next four months with plans to hire a total of 150 employees over the course of three years. The new jobs will pay an average salary of \$20,000 a year, plus extensive benefits. IEI Financial Services provides customer relationship outsourcing for the utility industry. The company supports many of the nation's large utility companies in the gas, electric, phone and cable industries and specializes in contact center management, accounts receivable and debt purchasing.

Pojoaque Pueblo, Santa Fe County:

Groundbreaking for the Pueblo of Pojoaque's spectacular **Buffalo Thunder Resort** was scheduled for January 2007. The Buffalo Thunder Resort is located on Highway 84/285, 12 miles north of Santa Fe, NM. Buffalo Thunder is designed to be a four-star destination resort that will include the 390-room Hilton Santa Fe North, a luxury spa and fitness facility, several restaurants, entertainment venues, meeting space and a new upscale casino. Construction is expected to be completed in the fall of 2008.



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