

New Mexico Labor Market Report

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HIGHLIGHTS — March 2003

...New Mexico's annual rate of job growth was 1.8 percent in March 2003 — a net gain of 13,600 jobs over the year. The rate of job growth remains modest by historical standards, but has recently become stronger than it has been for almost two years.

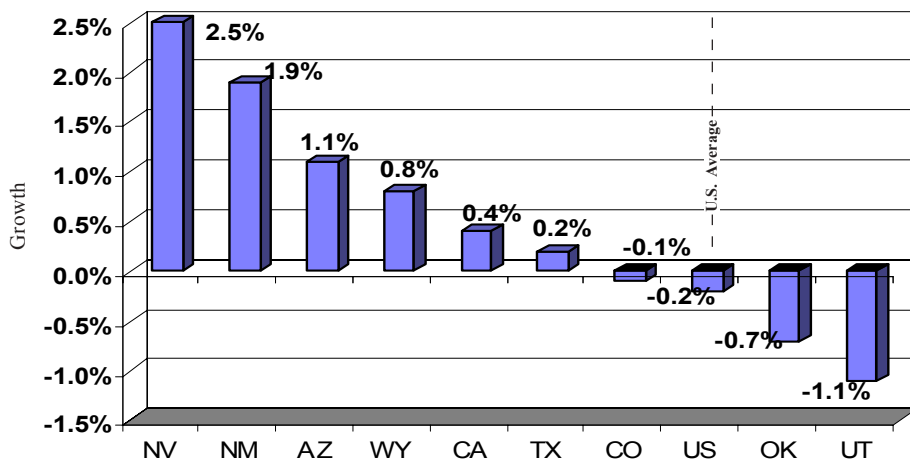
...Over-the-year trends in the Albuquerque MSA are encouraging. February's increase of 1.6 percent carried over into March for a second month of healthy economic expansion. This was the metro area's strongest growth in a year and a half.

...The Las Cruces MSA continues to enjoy job growth above the statewide rate. The annual rate of job growth now stands at 2.7 percent. The number of jobs added since last year now stands at 1,600.

...Santa Fe reclaimed the honor of being the fastest growing metro area of the state; employment grew at an annual rate of 2.9 percent. The area has shown a remarkable economic turnaround over the last 18 months.

Current Regional Nonfarm Employment Growth

February 2003 over February 2002 - Not Seasonally Adjusted
(Most Current Available)



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New Mexico Labor Force and Payroll Employment

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.9 percent in March 2003, up slightly from 5.8 percent the previous month. New Mexico's unemployment rate has increased from 5.4 percent a year ago. Even though we are adding more jobs, unemployment has not started to come down yet.

March employment gains were fairly modest this year compared to the seasonal increases that are typical for March. Employment increased 5,100 jobs from the previous month's level. Even with this increase being smaller than in the past five years, the New Mexico economy continues to show signs of improvement. February was a good month for jobs and most of the momentum continued into March.

The employment survey was taken in early March, just days before the country was officially at war in the Middle East. The survey counts the civilian labor force, so troop deployments do not directly affect the employment counts. However, with large numbers of military personnel leaving the area, there would be less trade for businesses serving members of the armed forces such as shops and restaurants, especially those near New Mexico's military bases. Also some private businesses have had their reservist employees called to active duty. Those employees would only continue to be counted as employed if they received pay (or were on paid leave) from their regular employer for the pay period that includes the 12th of the month. Overall the war should have only minimal impact on the employment numbers. Many economists believe that the broader element of uncertainty as to the timing and duration of the war, with the associated high-energy prices has been the most harmful influence on the economy.

New Mexico's annual rate of job growth was 1.8 percent in March 2003 ñ a net gain of 13,600 jobs over the year. The rate of job growth remains modest by historical standards, but has recently become stronger than it has been for almost two years. Two-fifths of the new jobs are in health care and social assistance. The health care industry has added 3,900 jobs, and social assistance has added 1,500 jobs. Most components of health care have been growing at moderate rates for a number of years. However, the home health services component has seen astonishing growth that started in the summer of 2000, almost entirely caused by the Medicaid personal care option, which pays family members or other care givers to care for qualifying Medicaid recipients with self-care limitations. The home health services industry has grown 2,300 jobs since last year and the industry has doubled in size since June 2001. Any time that an industry grows this fast, there is always the danger that it could contract just as quickly. However, from information gained from Medicaid administrators as well as directly from the service providers, it does appear that this industry will continue to grow into the near future. The Medicaid reimbursement was adjusted down slightly last year, but the main financial incentives remain. Also, the Medicaid allocation has already been made for the upcoming year, and there is adequate funding to continue the program.

Another recently emerging trend is government jobs growing more slowly than the private sector. During 2002, government employment provided most of the new jobs in the state, while many private industries lost jobs. An average of about 60 percent of the net increase in jobs came from the government sector. Now government only accounts for just over 20 percent of the new jobs. The trend has changed as job growth in the private sector has increased, but also the rate of growth in government employment has dropped. The drop is most noticeable in local government, where the annual job growth is only half what it was last year.

Overall, five industries are down from last year's employment level and eight have increased. Even those industries that have lost jobs on the year are faring better than they did a few months back. The natural resources and mining super sector was still down 800 jobs on the year, but that is only half the average loss reported in 2002. The number of oil and gas mining jobs appears to be finally coming back following many months of persistent losses. Local industry analysts point to price stability that is leading to increased drilling activity. The same is true for the construction super sector, which has suffered over-the-year losses for 14 months. The annual losses peaked at 2,900 last summer following the completion of several major industrial and public works projects around the state. Since that time, the residential construction market has taken up much of the slack with the help of 40-year low mortgage interest rates that had the effect of enabling more people to afford to buy a home, and enabling others to borrow affordably and move up. Much of the new construction is at the lower end of the market aimed at first time buyers including former apartment dwellers. Construction employment is still down from year ago levels, but only by 300 jobs. The same is true for manufacturing, which was down 1,200 jobs since last year, much better than the 3,500 annual job loss last March.

Retail trade grew 2.2 percent, adding 1,900 jobs. Most of the increase came from other general merchandise stores at the expense of traditional department stores. A recent industry trend has been for large discount stores to expand, adding food and other grocery items to become a supercenter. Upon full conversion these stores change classification from department stores to other general merchandise stores. More conversions will show up in the numbers next month.

Prospects for the leisure and hospitality industry have improved recently, with many of northern New Mexico's ski resorts reporting a *normal year* compared to a *dismal year* last year. Snowfall appeared uncertain at first, but sufficient amounts arrived at various times during the season. Also the food services and drinking places component has added 2,000 jobs since last year, all but 100 of them have been in full-service restaurants.

New Mexico Seasonally Adjusted	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Mar 2003	Feb 2003	Mar 2002	Feb 2003	Mar 2002
Civilian Labor Force	894,400	891,500	872,300	+2,900	+22,100
Employment	841,600	839,800	825,000	+1,800	+16,600
Unemployment	52,800	51,700	47,300	+1,100	+5,500
Rate	5.9%	5.8%	5.4%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	5.8%	5.7%	5.3%		

Albuquerque MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Bernalillo, Sandoval & Valencia Counties)

Seasonally adjusted unemployment in the Albuquerque MSA was 5.3 percent in March, unchanged from February's rate. Unemployment has increased by four tenths of a percentage point from the March 2002 rate of 4.9 percent.

Payroll employment enjoyed a second straight month of robust growth, adding 3,100 jobs on top of the 3,700 that were generated in February. The metro area is emerging from the winter doldrums with a renewed sense of optimism for a strong economic recovery. Over-the-month increases of 0.9 percent were seen in both goods-producing and service-providing industries. Seven of the 12 economic sectors added employment over the month, led by gains of 900 in the leisure & hospitality sector and in professional & business services. Construction increased by 500, its strongest monthly gain since June 2001. The four declining sectors—manufacturing; wholesale trade; transportation, warehousing, and utilities; and financial activities—experienced relatively minor losses of one or two hundred each. The miscellaneous category of other services was unchanged over the month.

Looking at over-the-year trends, it is encouraging to note that February's increase of 1.6 percent carried over into March for a second month of healthy economic expansion. This was the metro area's strongest growth in a year and a half. The economy experienced 10 months of negative growth from September 2001 through June 2002 before creeping back into positive territory.

Goods-producing employment declined for the twentieth consecutive month, with losses of 700 jobs each in construction and manufacturing. Construction employment has fallen from the high levels attained during the last two years when work was proceeding on the Intel expansion and the Big I interchange reconstruction project. March's employment level was up by 900 from the same month three years ago, before work on either of those projects had begun, indicating the sector is not as weak as might appear at first glance. Manufacturing employment was down by 2.8 percent over the year, stemming primarily from cutbacks in the semiconductor industry. Manufacturing has now undergone 21 straight months of over-the-year losses.

A much brighter picture was painted by the services-providing sector, where 7,200 new jobs were added during the last 12 months for growth of 2.3 percent. Foremost among the industries in this

sector was educational & health services, growing 2,800 or 6.8 percent. Most of its growth came from the health portion of the sector, which was recently given a big shot in the arm by changes to Medicaid funding for home health care. As a result, home health care employment has skyrocketed in the Albuquerque area, as it has statewide, and is responsible for much of the growth in health services.

Retail trade gained 1,600 jobs over the year, with strong growth in general merchandise, building materials, and food stores. Employment in this sector was boosted by the addition of several large home improvement warehouses, a couple of Wal-Mart supercenters, and two new health food stores during the last 12 months. However, the good fortune enjoyed by retail trade did not extend to its counterpart, wholesale trade, which has shed 200 jobs since last March.

Government employment has risen by 1,600 jobs, largely due to growth in state and local government. Increases in public school employment were responsible for most of the growth in local government, while state government growth was largely the result of increases in state-run universities and hospitals. Only 100 new federal government jobs have been added over the year.

The leisure & hospitality sector added 700 new jobs since last March, boosted by the arrival of several large franchise restaurants in the Albuquerque area. Growth in lodging employment also contributed to the increase. Employment in the miscellaneous category known as other services was up by 900 jobs or 8.0 percent. This sector includes repair and maintenance, personal and laundry services, and membership organizations. Financial services added 600 new jobs over the year, with real estate and insurance carriers responsible for most of the increase. Meager growth of 0.3 percent or 200 jobs was seen in professional & business services. Strength in scientific research and development was partially offset by weakness in other industries within this sector.

Employment in information fell for the tenth straight month due to a continued downturn in the telecommunications sub-sector. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities lost 200 jobs over the year.

Albuquerque Seasonally Adjusted	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Mar 2003	Feb 2003	Mar 2002	Feb 2003	Mar 2002
Civilian Labor Force	382,300	389,000	378,900	-6,700	+3,400
Employment	362,200	368,400	360,400	-6,200	+1,800
Unemployment	20,100	20,600	18,500	-500	+1,600
Rate	5.3%	5.3%	4.9%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	4.8%	4.8%	4.4%		

Las Cruces MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Doña Ana County)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the Las Cruces MSA was 6.7 percent in March 2003, not that different from February's rate of 6.8 percent. A year ago the unemployment rate was also 6.7 percent.

Las Cruces nonfarm employment added only 100 jobs in March. This increase was the smallest March gain for the area in the last six years, but it follows some substantial gains in previous months. In March 200 jobs were added to state government and another 100 jobs were added to construction. At the same time the professional and business services super sector lost 100 jobs, and educational, health care and social services lost 100 jobs.

The Las Cruces economy continues to make decent recovery from two years of falling annual job growth. The trend reached bottom in the winter of 2001/2002 and has moved up since. The Las Cruces area continues to enjoy job growth above the statewide rate. The annual rate of job growth now stands at 2.7 percent. The number of jobs added since last year to the Las Cruces economy now stands at 1,600.

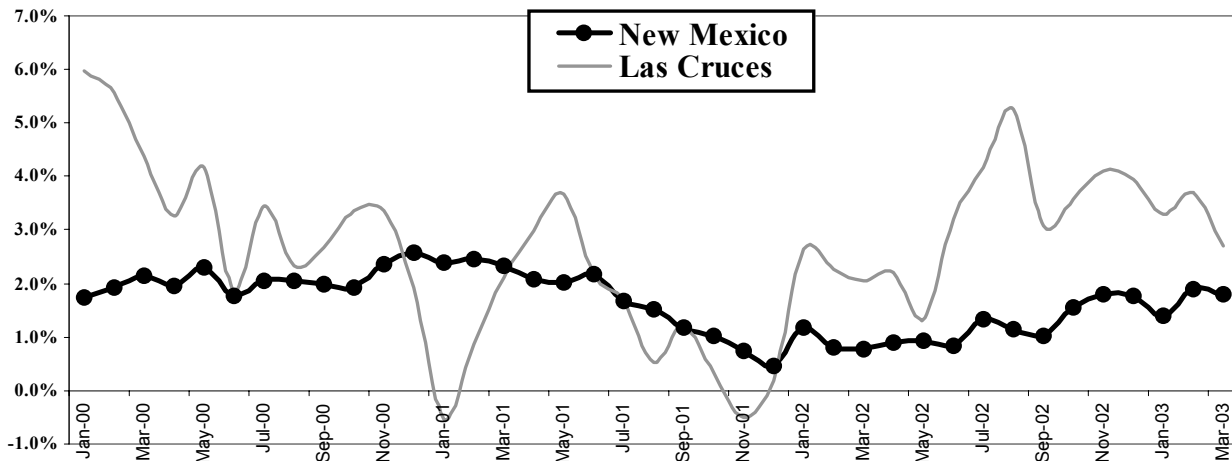
Eleven of the twelve NAICS industries added jobs or stayed at the same level as last year. Only the professional and business services super sector has lost employment, down 300 jobs. This industry suffered the closure of a direct marketing call center at the end of August and also the out-of-state relocation of another firm engaged in scientific research and development.

The leisure and hospitality super sector increased 400 jobs, all of them in food service and drinking places. The increase makes for a 9.3 percent increase in food service and drinking places, most of them at full-service restaurants. Educational and health services increased 500 jobs, 200 of them in health care and social assistance. The new hospital in Las Cruces opened in August 2002, for a net increase in employment after some reductions were made at other hospitals in the area. Retail trade (which no longer includes eating and drinking places) was up 200 jobs, while wholesale trade was up 100. The natural resources, mining and construction industry, which is mostly made up of construction employment in Las Cruces, increased 100 jobs. The manufacturing super sector gained 100 jobs over the year, a good sign that the worst of the employment losses in this industry may be over. With manufacturing employment losses that had accumulated over the previous two years, employment in the manufacturing super sector is at the same level as it was four years ago.

Government employment was up a total of 500 jobs, with 200 jobs added to both state and local government. Federal government added 100 jobs. The overall rate of government job growth was 2.5 percent, which remains below the private sector growth rate for the area. Finally, four remaining industries reported employment levels unchanged from last year. Those industries were information; transportation, warehousing & utilities; financial activities; and other services.

Las Cruces <u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	<u>Mar 2003</u>	<u>Feb 2003</u>	<u>Mar 2002</u>	<u>Feb 2003</u>	<u>Mar 2002</u>
Civilian Labor Force	74,200	76,700	73,500	-2,500	+700
Employment	69,200	71,500	68,600	-2,300	+600
Unemployment	5,000	5,200	4,900	-200	+100
Rate	6.7%	6.8%	6.7%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	7.2%	7.2%	7.2%		

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Las Cruces



Santa Fe MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Santa Fe & Los Alamos Counties)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the Santa Fe MSA was 3.2 percent in March 2003, up from February's rate of 3.0 percent. A year ago the area's unemployment rate was 2.7 percent.

Santa Fe added 700 jobs in March; a number that was lower than the 900 average March increase measured the last four years. Still, recent gains leave the Santa Fe area economy in fairly good shape. During March, jobs were added to six industries, while six others remained unchanged. The leisure and hospitality super sector added 200 jobs, all of them in food service and drinking places. Construction, retail trade, education, other services, and federal government shared the rest of the monthly increase, each adding 100 jobs.

Santa Fe reclaimed the honor of being the fastest growing metro area of the state; employment grew at an annual rate of 2.9 percent. The area has shown a remarkable economic turnaround over the last 18 months. Job growth in Santa Fe stopped for a few months at the end of 2000, and hesitated until the summer of 2001. Since that time, job growth in the Santa Fe area has shown a clear upward trend. Much of the area's success has been due to increasing employment at Los Alamos National Laboratory and their many local private sector business partners. Construction remains the only super sector to have lost jobs over the year. Other super sectors have increased employment, or at least, remained at the same level.

Like every other area of the state, except for Albuquerque, government employment has grown at a lower rate than the private sector. The only branch of government to add any jobs since last year has been state government, which includes Los Alamos National Laboratory. State government is up 4.0 percent, adding 700 jobs. Employment in both federal and local government remained at the same level as last year.

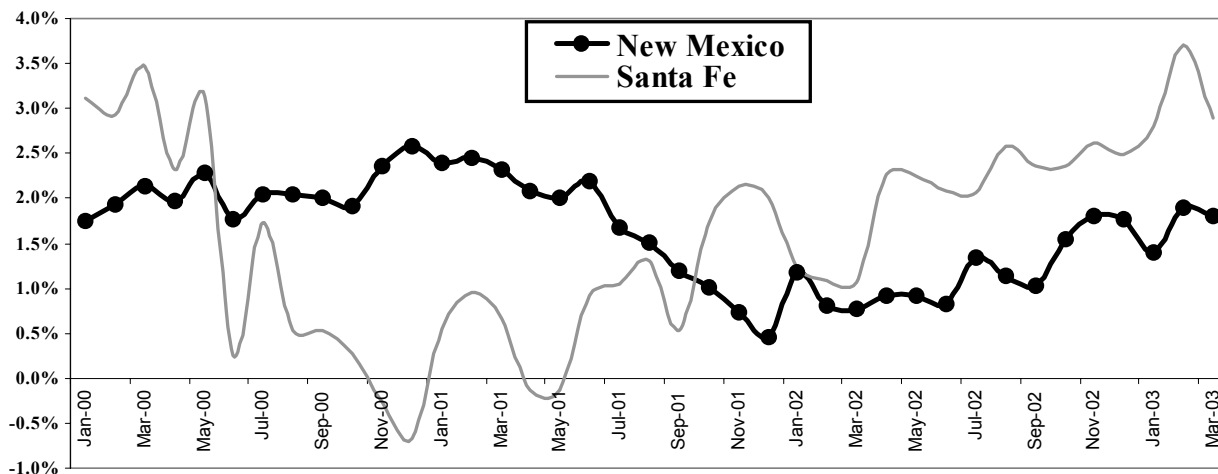
The professional and business services super sector has added 400 jobs, a 4.9 percent increase. Half of those new jobs are in the sub-category of *administrative support and waste management and remediation services*. This industry is made up of establishments performing routine support activities for the day-to-day operations of other organizations. Educational and health services also added 400 jobs, mostly from increasing employment in health care and social assistance.

The leisure and hospitality super sector added 300 jobs, all of them in eating and drinking places. Retail trade added another 300 jobs. Customer flow remained brisk in the financial activities super sector due to 40-year low interest rates. Financial activities increased 100 jobs from a year ago. Wholesale trade also gained 100 jobs since last year. The miscellaneous other services industry, which includes establishments such as automotive repair and churches, added 200 jobs.

Three super sectors — manufacturing; information; and transportation, warehousing, and utilities — reported the same number of jobs as last year.

Santa Fe	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Mar 2003</u>	<u>Feb 2003</u>	<u>Mar 2002</u>	<u>Feb 2003</u>	<u>Mar 2002</u>
Civilian Labor Force	78,200	80,700	77,200	-2,500	+1,000
Employment	75,700	78,300	75,100	-2,600	+600
Unemployment	2,500	2,400	2,100	100	+400
Rate	3.2%	3.0%	2.7%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.0%	2.8%	2.5%		

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Santa Fe



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

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

		Civilian Labor Force	Un- Employ- ment	Un- Employ- ment Rate %	Unadj. Rate %	
1983		609,000	547,000	62,000	10.2%	
1984		628,000	581,000	47,000	7.5%	
1985		644,000	587,000	57,000	8.9%	
1986		678,000	616,000	62,000	9.1%	
1987		682,000	622,000	60,000	8.8%	
1988		689,000	635,000	54,000	7.8%	
1989		697,000	651,000	46,000	6.6%	
1990		707,500	661,500	46,000	6.5%	
1991		725,900	674,100	51,800	7.1%	
1992		740,900	688,800	52,100	7.0%	
1993		756,000	697,800	58,200	7.7%	
1994		778,100	729,300	48,800	6.3%	
1995		791,000	741,400	49,600	6.3%	
1996		797,900	733,600	64,300	8.1%	
1997		814,200	763,300	50,900	6.3%	
1998		831,100	779,700	51,400	6.2%	
1999		809,100	763,600	45,500	5.6%	
2000		854,600	812,300	42,300	5.0%	
2001		861,500	819,800	41,700	4.8%	
2002		877,600	829,800	47,800	5.4%	
2002	JAN	868,000	822,400	45,600	5.3%	5.5%
	FEB	870,300	823,500	46,800	5.4%	5.3%
	MAR	872,300	825,000	47,300	5.4%	5.3%
	APR	873,800	826,100	47,700	5.5%	5.2%
	MAY	875,900	827,700	48,200	5.5%	5.4%
	JUN	877,700	829,200	48,500	5.5%	6.6%
	JUL	880,000	831,100	48,900	5.6%	5.9%
	AUG	879,700	831,500	48,200	5.5%	5.4%
	SEP	880,300	831,900	48,400	5.5%	5.4%
	OCT	883,400	835,100	48,300	5.5%	5.2%
	NOV	884,800	836,600	48,200	5.4%	5.2%
	DEC	885,000	837,200	47,800	5.4%	5.0%
2003	JAN	890,600	838,900	51,700	5.8%	6.1%
	FEB	891,500	839,800	51,700	5.8%	5.7%
	MAR	894,400	841,600	52,800	5.9%	5.8%
	APR					
	MAY					
	JUN					
	JUL					
	AUG					
	SEP					
	OCT					
	NOV					
	DEC					
# CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	2,900	1,800	1,100	0.1%	0.1%
	Year Ago	22,100	16,600	5,500	0.5%	0.5%
	2 Yrs. Ago	32,800	20,100	12,700	1.2%	1.3%
	3 Yrs. Ago	51,100	40,200	10,900	0.9%	0.9%
% CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	0.3%	0.2%	2.1%		
	Year Ago	2.5%	2.0%	11.6%		
	2 Yrs. Ago	3.8%	2.4%	31.7%		
	3 Yrs. Ago	6.1%	5.0%	26.0%		

(Most Current Available)

State	Rank	February 2002	February 2003	Change	% Change
Hawaii	1	549.4	564.8	15.4	2.8%
Nevada	2	1,025.9	1,051.5	25.6	2.5%
New Mexico	3	754.1	768.2	14.1	1.9%
Alaska	4	280.3	285.0	4.7	1.7%
Florida	5	7,157.3	7,272.9	115.6	1.6%
South Dakota	6	365.7	369.8	4.1	1.1%
Arizona	7	2,251.8	2,275.5	23.7	1.1%
Idaho	8	548.2	552.8	4.6	0.8%
Vermont	9	299.4	301.9	2.5	0.8%
Wyoming	10	237.7	239.5	1.8	0.8%
South Carolina	11	1,773.6	1,786.5	12.9	0.7%
North Dakota	12	323.9	326.1	2.2	0.7%
Montana	13	383.3	385.9	2.6	0.7%
Delaware	14	653.4	657.5	4.1	0.6%
Rhode Island	15	467.1	469.8	2.7	0.6%
Mississippi	16	1,113.8	1,119.8	6.0	0.5%
Kansas	17	1,318.6	1,325.3	6.7	0.5%
Wisconsin	18	2,717.6	2,731.3	13.7	0.5%
Washington	19	2,611.2	2,623.0	11.8	0.5%
Arkansas	20	1,132.8	1,137.6	4.8	0.4%
California	21	14,328.0	14,383.5	55.5	0.4%
Oregon	22	1,546.2	1,551.3	5.1	0.3%
Tennessee	23	2,623.1	2,628.3	5.2	0.2%
Louisiana	24	1,882.3	1,886.0	3.7	0.2%
Kentucky	25	1,761.8	1,765.0	3.2	0.2%
Texas	26	9,366.3	9,382.3	16.0	0.2%
Maryland	27	2,436.6	2,440.1	3.5	0.1%
New Hampshire	28	608.6	609.4	0.8	0.1%
Nebraska	29	891.7	892.7	1.0	0.1%
Maine	30	585.5	585.8	0.3	0.1%
West Virginia	31	719.9	720.0	0.1	0.0%
Alabama	32	1,868.4	1,867.3	-1.1	-0.1%
Illinois	33	5,781.8	5,777.3	-4.5	-0.1%
Iowa	34	1,420.8	1,419.3	-1.5	-0.1%
Indiana	35	2,847.0	2,842.8	-4.2	-0.1%
Colorado	36	2,158.0	2,154.8	-3.2	-0.1%
New Jersey	37	3,940.2	3,934.3	-5.9	-0.1%
United States		129,310.0	129,104.0	-206.0	-0.2%
Georgia	38	3,876.5	3,869.8	-6.7	-0.2%
Pennsylvania	39	5,575.0	5,562.7	-12.3	-0.2%
Minnesota	40	2,601.0	2,594.9	-6.1	-0.2%
Virginia	41	3,444.5	3,433.4	-11.1	-0.3%
Michigan	42	4,401.3	4,381.1	-20.2	-0.5%
North Carolina	43	3,809.6	3,790.3	-19.3	-0.5%
Ohio	44	5,363.6	5,332.4	-31.2	-0.6%
New York	45	8,339.0	8,281.2	-57.8	-0.7%
Oklahoma	46	1,476.8	1,466.4	-10.4	-0.7%
Connecticut	47	1,648.7	1,635.2	-13.5	-0.8%
Massachusetts	48	3,203.9	3,175.8	-28.1	-0.9%
DC	49	405.1	401.3	-3.8	-0.9%
Utah	50	1,069.6	1,057.6	-12.0	-1.1%
Missouri	51	2,667.0	2,620.2	-46.8	-1.8%

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

Employment numbers are not seasonally adjusted.

Employment numbers are in thousands.

New Mexico Labor Force Estimates – Not Seasonally Adjusted 11

	PRELIMINARY MARCH 2003				REVISED FEBRUARY 2003				Absolute Change			Percent Change		
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.
STATEWIDE	895,058	843,393	51,665	5.8%	885,394	834,789	50,605	5.7%	9,664	8,604	1,060	1.1%	1.0%	2.1%
Albuquerque MSA 2	397,524	378,328	19,196	4.8%	391,282	372,609	18,673	4.8%	6,242	5,719	523	1.6%	1.5%	2.8%
Bernalillo	318,313	303,764	14,549	4.6%	313,425	299,172	14,253	4.5%	4,888	4,592	296	1.6%	1.5%	2.1%
Sandoval	47,668	44,835	2,833	5.9%	46,850	44,157	2,693	5.7%	818	678	140	1.7%	1.5%	5.2%
Valencia	31,545	29,730	1,815	5.8%	31,008	29,280	1,728	5.6%	537	450	87	1.7%	1.5%	5.0%
Las Cruces MSA 3/	77,958	72,363	5,595	7.2%	77,048	71,472	5,576	7.2%	910	891	19	1.2%	1.2%	0.3%
Santa Fe MSA 4/	81,331	78,911	2,420	3.0%	80,611	78,339	2,272	2.8%	720	572	148	0.9%	0.7%	6.5%
Los Alamos	10,399	10,249	150	1.4%	10,309	10,174	135	1.3%	90	75	15	0.9%	0.7%	11.1%
Santa Fe	70,932	68,662	2,270	3.2%	70,302	68,165	2,137	3.0%	630	497	133	0.9%	0.7%	6.2%
Catron	1,070	960	110	10.3%	1,037	934	103	9.9%	33	26	7	3.2%	2.8%	6.8%
Chaves	25,311	23,364	1,947	7.7%	25,240	23,311	1,929	7.6%	71	53	18	0.3%	0.2%	0.9%
Cibola	12,769	12,066	703	5.5%	12,635	11,957	678	5.4%	134	109	25	1.1%	0.9%	3.7%
Colfax	6,816	6,387	429	6.3%	6,801	6,368	433	6.4%	15	19	-4	0.2%	0.3%	-0.9%
Curry	20,353	19,582	771	3.8%	20,343	19,585	758	3.7%	10	-3	13	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%
De Baca	966	917	49	5.1%	942	881	61	6.5%	24	36	-12	2.5%	4.1%	-19.7%
Eddy	24,135	22,701	1,434	5.9%	24,023	22,547	1,476	6.1%	112	154	-42	0.5%	0.7%	-2.8%
Grant	13,136	11,423	1,713	13.0%	13,141	11,475	1,666	12.7%	-5	-52	47	0.0%	-0.5%	2.8%
Guadalupe	1,734	1,602	132	7.6%	1,703	1,576	127	7.5%	31	26	5	1.8%	1.6%	3.9%
Harding	447	419	28	6.3%	445	420	25	5.6%	2	-1	3	0.4%	-0.2%	12.0%
Hidalgo	1,636	1,557	79	4.8%	1,609	1,548	61	3.8%	27	9	18	1.7%	0.6%	29.5%
Lea	25,648	24,539	1,109	4.3%	25,512	24,433	1,079	4.2%	136	106	30	0.5%	0.4%	2.8%
Lincoln	8,307	7,971	336	4.0%	8,174	7,847	327	4.0%	133	124	9	1.6%	1.6%	2.8%
Luna	10,948	7,897	3,051	27.9%	10,781	7,824	2,957	27.4%	167	73	94	1.5%	0.9%	3.2%
McKinley	25,962	24,210	1,752	6.7%	25,857	24,155	1,702	6.6%	105	55	50	0.4%	0.2%	2.9%
Mora	1,908	1,610	298	15.6%	1,861	1,601	260	14.0%	47	9	38	2.5%	0.6%	14.6%
Otero	21,625	20,292	1,333	6.2%	21,552	20,228	1,324	6.1%	73	64	9	0.3%	0.3%	0.7%
Quay	4,234	4,003	231	5.5%	4,190	3,935	255	6.1%	44	68	-24	1.1%	1.7%	-9.4%
Rio Arriba	21,333	19,695	1,638	7.7%	21,247	19,625	1,622	7.6%	86	70	16	0.4%	0.4%	1.0%
Roosevelt	8,413	8,148	265	3.1%	8,337	8,067	270	3.2%	76	81	-5	0.9%	1.0%	-1.9%
San Juan	52,735	48,835	3,900	7.4%	52,442	48,588	3,854	7.3%	293	247	46	0.6%	0.5%	1.2%
San Miguel	13,387	12,451	936	7.0%	13,300	12,385	915	6.9%	87	66	21	0.7%	0.5%	2.3%
Sierra	4,082	3,901	181	4.4%	4,084	3,911	173	4.2%	-2	-10	8	0.0%	-0.3%	4.6%
Socorro	7,043	6,682	361	5.1%	7,055	6,668	387	5.5%	-12	14	-26	-0.2%	0.2%	-6.7%
Taos	14,450	13,136	1,314	9.1%	14,340	13,059	1,281	8.9%	110	77	33	0.8%	0.6%	2.6%
Torrance	7,771	7,463	308	4.0%	7,771	7,460	311	4.0%	0	3	-3	0.0%	0.0%	-1.0%
Union	2,028	1,981	47	2.3%	2,028	1,979	49	2.4%	0	2	-2	0.0%	0.1%	-4.1%

	PRELIMINARY MARCH 2003				REVISED MARCH 2002				Absolute Change			Percent Change		
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.
STATEWIDE	895,058	843,393	51,665	5.8%	872,917	826,756	46,161	5.3%	22,141	16,637	5,504	2.5%	2.0%	11.9%
Albuquerque MSA 2	397,524	378,328	19,196	4.8%	384,719	367,840	16,879	4.4%	12,805	10,488	2,317	3.3%	2.9%	13.7%
Bernalillo	318,313	303,764	14,549	4.6%	308,323	295,343	12,980	4.2%	9,990	8,421	1,569	3.2%	2.9%	12.1%
Sandoval	47,668	44,835	2,833	5.9%	46,041	43,592	2,449	5.3%	1,627	1,243	384	3.5%	2.9%	15.7%
Valencia	31,545	29,730	1,815	5.8%	30,355	28,905	1,450	4.8%	1,190	825	365	3.9%	2.9%	25.2%
Las Cruces MSA 3/	77,958	72,363	5,595	7.2%	75,282	69,883	5,399	7.2%	2,676	2,480	196	3.6%	3.5%	3.6%
Santa Fe MSA 4/	81,331	78,911	2,420	3.0%	77,845	75,866	1,979	2.5%	3,486	3,045	441	4.5%	4.0%	22.3%
Los Alamos	10,399	10,249	150	1.4%	9,949	9,853	96	1.0%	450	396	54	4.5%	4.0%	56.3%
Santa Fe	70,932	68,662	2,270	3.2%	67,896	66,013	1,883	2.8%	3,036	2,649	387	4.5%	4.0%	20.6%
Catron	1,070	960	110	10.3%	1,017	939	78	7.7%	53	21	32	5.2%	2.2%	41.0%
Chaves	25,311	23,364	1,947	7.7%	24,930	23,447	1,483	5.9%	381	-83	464	1.5%	-0.4%	31.3%
Cibola	12,769	12,066	703	5.5%	12,660	12,047	613	4.8%	109	19	90	0.9%	0.2%	14.7%
Colfax	6,816	6,387	429	6.3%	6,772	6,475	297	4.4%	44	-88	132	0.6%	-1.4%	44.4%
Curry	20,353	19,582	771	3.8%	20,333	19,421	912	4.5%	20	161	-141	0.1%	0.8%	-15.5%
De Baca	966	917	49	5.1%	964	926	38	3.9%	2	-9	11	0.2%	-1.0%	28.9%
Eddy	24,135	22,701	1,434	5.9%	23,774	22,407	1,367	5.7%	361	294	67	1.5%	1.3%	4.9%
Grant	13,136	11,423	1,713	13.0%	13,257	11,743	1,514	11.4%	-121	-320	199	-0.9%	-2.7%	13.1%
Guadalupe	1,734	1,602	132	7.6%	1,791	1,635	156	8.7%	-57	-33	-24	-3.2%	-2.0%	-15.4%
Harding	447	419	28	6.3%	430	410	20	4.7%	17	9	8	4.0%	2.2%	40.0%
Hidalgo	1,636	1,557	79	4.8%	1,667	1,577	90	5.4%	-31	-20	-11	-1.9%	-1.3%	-12.2%
Lea	25,648	24,539	1,109	4.3%	25,638	24,504	1,134	4.4%	10	35	-25	0.0%	0.1%	-2.2%
Lincoln	8,307	7,971	336	4.0%	8,057	7,782	275	3.4%	250	189	61	3.1%	2.4%	22.2%
Luna	10,948	7,897	3,051	27.9%	10,983	7,832	3,151	28.7%	-35	65	-100	-0.3%	0.8%	-3.2%
McKinley	25,962	24,210	1,752	6.7%	25,459	24,052	1,407	5.5%	503	158	345	2.0%	0.7%	24.5%
Mora	1,908	1,610	298	15.6%	1,859	1,598	261	14.0%	49	12	37	2.6%	0.8%	14.2%
Otero	21,625	20,292	1,333	6.2%	21,630	20,559	1,071	5.0%	-5	-267	262	0.0%	-1.3%	24.5%
Quay	4,234	4,003	231	5.5%	4,220	4,106	114	2.7%	14	-103	117	0.3%	-2.5%	102.6%
Rio Arriba	21,333	19,695	1,638	7.7%	21,134	19,571	1,563	7.4%	199	124	75	0.9%	0.6%	4.8%
Roosevelt	8,413	8,148	265	3.1%	8,360	8,091	269	3.2%	53	57	-4	0.6%	0.7%	-1.5%
San Juan	52,735	48,835	3,900	7.4%	52,071	48,969	3,102	6.0%	664	-134	798	1.3%	-0.3%	25.7%
San Miguel	13,387	12,451	936	7.0%	13,176	12,359	817	6.2%	211	92	119	1.6%	0.7%	14.6%
Sierra	4,082	3,901	181	4.4%	4,022	3,839	183	4.5%	60	62	-2	1.5%	1.6%	-1.1%
Socorro	7,043	6,682	361	5.1%	7,098	6,686	412	5.8%	-55	-4	-51	-0.8%	-0.1%	-12.4%
Taos	14,450	13,136	1,314	9.1%	14,027	12,819	1,208	8.6%	423	317	106	3.0%	2.5%	8.8%
Torrance	7,771	7,463	308	4.0%	7,768	7,457	311	4.0%	3	6	-3	0.0%	0.1%	-1.0%
Union	2,028	1,981	47	2.3%	1,977	1,917	60	3.0%	51	64	-13	2.6%	3.3%	-21.7%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

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

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

Unemployment Rates in New Mexico (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

PRELIMINARY MARCH 2003		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	27.9%
MORA	2	15.6%
GRANT	3	13.0%
CATRON	4	10.3%
TAOS	5	9.1%
CHAVES	6	7.7%
RIO ARRIBA	7	7.7%
GUADALUPE	8	7.6%
SAN JUAN	9	7.4%
LAS CRUCES MSA 2/	10	7.2%
SAN MIGUEL	11	7.0%
MCKINLEY	12	6.7%
COLFAX	13	6.3%
HARDING	14	6.3%
OTERO	15	6.2%
EDDY	16	5.9%
STATEWIDE		5.8%
CIBOLA	17	5.5%
QUAY	18	5.5%
DE BACA	19	5.1%
SOCORRO	20	5.1%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	21	4.8%
HIDALGO	22	4.8%
SIERRA	23	4.4%
LEA	24	4.3%
LINCOLN	25	4.0%
TORRANCE	26	4.0%
CURRY	27	3.8%
ROOSEVELT	28	3.1%
SANTA FE MSA 3/	29	3.0%
UNION	30	2.3%

REVISED FEBRUARY 2003		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	27.4%
MORA	2	14.0%
GRANT	3	12.7%
CATRON	4	9.9%
TAOS	5	8.9%
CHAVES	6	7.6%
RIO ARRIBA	7	7.6%
GUADALUPE	8	7.5%
SAN JUAN	9	7.3%
LAS CRUCES MSA 2/	10	7.2%
SAN MIGUEL	11	6.9%
MCKINLEY	12	6.6%
DE BACA	13	6.5%
COLFAX	14	6.4%
EDDY	15	6.1%
OTERO	16	6.1%
QUAY	17	6.1%
STATEWIDE		5.7%
HARDING	18	5.6%
SOCORRO	19	5.5%
CIBOLA	20	5.4%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	21	4.8%
LEA	22	4.2%
SIERRA	23	4.2%
LINCOLN	24	4.0%
TORRANCE	25	4.0%
HIDALGO	26	3.8%
CURRY	27	3.7%
ROOSEVELT	28	3.2%
SANTA FE MSA 3/	29	2.8%
UNION	30	2.4%

REVISED MARCH 2002		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	28.7%
MORA	2	14.0%
GRANT	3	11.4%
GUADALUPE	4	8.7%
TAOS	5	8.6%
CATRON	6	7.7%
RIO ARRIBA	7	7.4%
LAS CRUCES MSA 2/	8	7.2%
SAN MIGUEL	9	6.2%
SAN JUAN	10	6.0%
CHAVES	11	5.9%
SOCORRO	12	5.8%
EDDY	13	5.7%
MCKINLEY	14	5.5%
HIDALGO	15	5.4%
STATEWIDE		5.3%
OTERO	16	5.0%
CIBOLA	17	4.8%
HARDING	18	4.7%
SIERRA	19	4.5%
CURRY	20	4.5%
LEA	21	4.4%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	22	4.4%
COLFAX	23	4.4%
TORRANCE	24	4.0%
DE BACA	25	3.9%
LINCOLN	26	3.4%
ROOSEVELT	27	3.2%
UNION	28	3.0%
QUAY	29	2.7%
SANTA FE MSA 3/	30	2.5%

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

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

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www.dol.state.nm.us

Unemployment Rate by State (Seasonally Adjusted)

(Most Current Available)

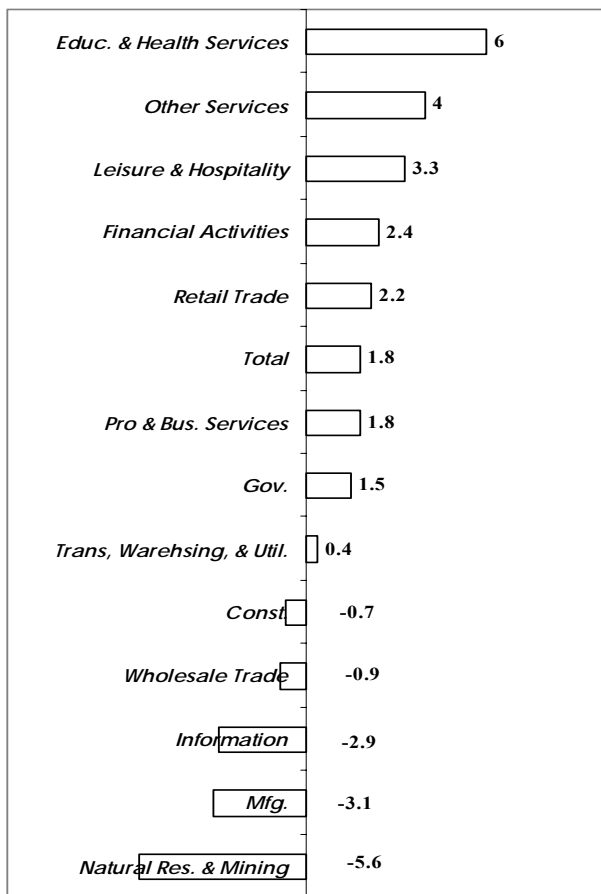
	Preliminary	February 2003
State	Rank	Rate
Oregon	1	7.3
Alaska	2	7.0
Washington	3	6.8
California	4	6.6
Michigan	5	6.6
Texas	6	6.6
District of Columbia	7	6.5
Illinois	8	6.5
Pennsylvania	9	6.2
South Carolina	10	6.2
New York	11	6.1
Mississippi	12	6.0
Ohio	13	6.0
West Virginia	14	5.9
New Mexico	15	5.8
North Carolina	16	5.8
United States		5.8
Arizona	17	5.7
Louisiana	18	5.7
New Jersey	19	5.7
Kentucky	20	5.6
Alabama	21	5.5
Colorado	22	5.5
Idaho	23	5.3
Massachusetts	24	5.3
Utah	25	5.3
Wisconsin	26	5.3
Florida	27	5.2
Oklahoma	28	5.1
Rhode Island	29	5.1
Connecticut	30	5.0
Nevada	31	5.0
Arkansas	32	4.9
Indiana	33	4.9
Missouri	34	4.7
Tennessee	35	4.7
Kansas	36	4.6
Maine	37	4.6
Georgia	38	4.5
Minnesota	39	4.3
Maryland	40	4.2
Virginia	41	4.1
Wyoming	42	4.1
Iowa	43	4.0
Montana	44	4.0
Vermont	45	4.0
New Hampshire	46	3.8
Delaware	47	3.7
North Dakota	48	3.6
Nebraska	49	3.5
South Dakota	50	3.3
Hawaii	51	3.0

	Revised	February 2002
State	Rank	Rate
Oregon	1	8.1
Washington	2	7.3
Alaska	3	7.1
North Carolina	4	6.8
California	5	6.5
District of Columbia	6	6.5
Mississippi	7	6.5
Arizona	8	6.3
Illinois	9	6.2
Nevada	10	6.2
Texas	11	6.2
Louisiana	12	6.1
Michigan	13	6.1
Utah	14	6.1
New York	15	6.0
Idaho	16	5.9
South Carolina	17	5.9
Alabama	18	5.8
Colorado	19	5.7
Florida	20	5.7
West Virginia	21	5.7
Wisconsin	22	5.7
Kentucky	23	5.6
Ohio	24	5.6
United States		5.6
New Jersey	25	5.5
Pennsylvania	26	5.5
Arkansas	27	5.4
Missouri	28	5.4
New Mexico	29	5.4
Indiana	30	5.3
Tennessee	31	5.3
Georgia	32	5.0
Kansas	33	5.0
Massachusetts	34	5.0
Rhode Island	35	4.9
Hawaii	36	4.7
Montana	37	4.6
Minnesota	38	4.5
Oklahoma	39	4.5
Maryland	40	4.4
New Hampshire	41	4.4
Virginia	42	4.3
Maine	43	4.2
Connecticut	44	4.1
Wyoming	45	4.1
Delaware	46	3.9
Iowa	47	3.8
North Dakota	48	3.8
Vermont	49	3.8
Nebraska	50	3.6
South Dakota	51	3.5

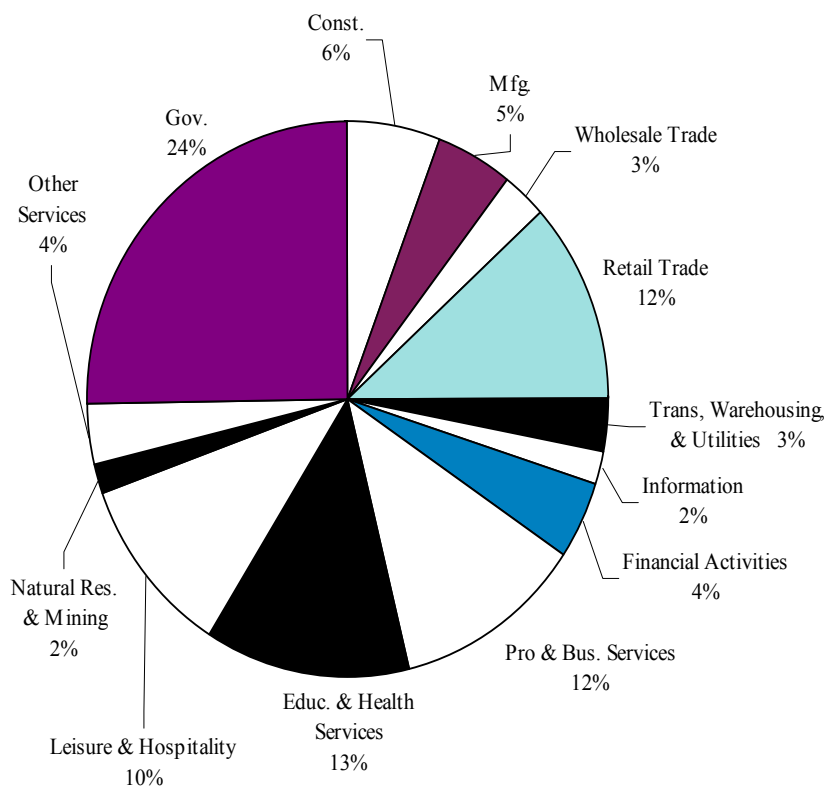
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Annual Growth Rates by Industry



NAICS Industries March 2003



New Mexico and Albuquerque Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Mar-03	Feb-03	Mar-02	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	774,500	769,400	760,900	5,100	13,600
GOODS PRODUCING	95,200	93,800	97,500	1,400	-2,300
SERVICES-PROVIDING	679,300	675,600	663,400	3,700	15,900
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	13,500	13,400	14,300	100	-800
<i>Oil & Gas Extraction, Well Drilling</i>	9,700	9,500	10,100	200	-400
<i>Mining, Except Oil and Gas</i>	3,700	3,800	4,100	-100	-400
CONSTRUCTION	44,800	43,600	45,100	1,200	-300
Construction of Buildings	12,900	12,500	13,200	400	-300
<i>Residential Building Construction</i>	6,600	6,300	6,400	300	200
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	7,700	7,400	8,300	300	-600
Specialty Trade Contractors	24,200	23,700	23,600	500	600
MANUFACTURING	36,900	36,800	38,100	100	-1,200
Durable Goods	26,400	26,300	27,500	100	-1,100
<i>Computer and Electronic Products</i>	10,900	10,900	11,600	0	-700
<i>Semiconductor and Other Electronics</i>	7,700	7,600	8,300	100	-600
Non-Durable Goods	10,500	10,500	10,600	0	-100
WHOLESALE TRADE	22,300	22,500	22,500	-200	-200
RETAIL TRADE	90,100	90,200	88,200	-100	1,900
<i>Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers</i>	12,200	12,300	12,100	-100	100
<i>Food and Beverage Stores</i>	13,500	13,700	13,200	-200	300
<i>General Merchandise Stores</i>	19,300	19,000	18,300	300	1,000
<i>Department Stores</i>	7,600	7,400	8,400	200	-800
<i>Other General Merchandise Stores</i>	11,500	11,400	9,900	100	1,600
<i>Miscellaneous Store Retailers</i>	7,300	7,300	7,200	0	100
<i>Nonstore Retailers</i>	2,900	2,800	3,000	100	-100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	22,500	22,500	22,400	0	100
Utilities	4,000	4,000	4,000	0	0
Transportation and Warehousing	18,500	18,500	18,400	0	100
<i>Truck Transportation</i>	6,200	6,100	6,100	100	100
INFORMATION	16,700	16,800	17,200	-100	-500
<i>Telecommunications</i>	8,200	8,100	8,700	100	-500
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	34,200	34,500	33,400	-300	800
Finance and Insurance	23,900	24,200	23,600	-300	300
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities</i>	12,500	12,500	12,100	0	400
<i>Insurance Carriers and Related Activities</i>	9,800	10,000	9,400	-200	400
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	10,300	10,300	9,800	0	500
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	90,500	90,000	88,900	500	1,600
Professional, Scientific, and Technical	40,800	40,500	39,900	300	900
<i>Architectural, Engineering, and Related</i>	10,900	10,800	10,400	100	500
<i>Scientific Research and Development</i>	12,700	12,600	12,000	100	700
Management of Companies and Enterprises	5,400	5,300	5,600	100	-200
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services	44,300	44,200	43,400	100	900
<i>Employment Services</i>	18,100	17,700	17,100	400	1,000
<i>Business Support Services</i>	6,700	6,500	6,500	200	200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	99,100	98,400	93,500	700	5,600
Educational Services	13,800	13,500	13,600	300	200
Health Care and Social Assistance	85,200	84,800	79,800	400	5,400
Ambulatory Health Care Services	31,700	31,600	28,600	100	3,100
<i>Offices of Physicians</i>	9,400	9,500	9,100	-100	300
<i>Outpatient Care Centers</i>	5,000	4,900	4,800	100	200
<i>Home Health Care Services</i>	7,600	7,400	5,300	200	2,300
Hospitals	21,100	21,000	20,300	100	800
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	12,800	12,700	12,800	100	0
<i>Nursing Care Facilities</i>	6,600	6,600	6,800	0	-200
Social Assistance	19,700	19,600	18,200	100	1,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	80,600	78,400	78,000	2,200	2,600
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7,500	7,100	7,100	400	400
Accommodation and Food Services	73,100	71,300	70,800	1,800	2,300
Accommodation	13,700	13,300	13,500	400	200
Food Services and Drinking Places	59,400	58,000	57,400	1,400	2,000
<i>Full-Service Restaurants</i>	28,400	27,900	26,500	500	1,900
<i>Limited-Service Eating Places</i>	24,600	23,900	24,500	700	100
OTHER SERVICES	28,300	28,200	27,200	100	1,100
<i>Repair and Maintenance</i>	7,500	7,400	7,400	100	100
GOVERNMENT	195,000	194,100	192,100	900	2,900
Federal Government	29,100	29,100	29,400	0	-300
State Government 2/	67,500	66,900	65,800	600	1,700
<i>State Government Education</i>	28,600	28,200	28,500	400	100
Local Government	98,400	98,100	96,900	300	1,500
<i>Local Government Education</i>	54,700	54,600	54,100	100	600

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

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

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

ALBUQUERQUE	Preliminary Mar-03	Revised Feb-03	Revised Mar-02	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	362,200	359,100	356,400	3,100	5,800
GOODS PRODUCING	46,500	46,100	47,900	400	-1,400
SERVICES-PROVIDING	315,700	313,000	308,500	2,700	7,200
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING & CONSTRUCTION	22,500	22,000	23,200	500	-700
<i>Specialty Trade Contractors</i>	13,200	13,000	13,400	200	-200
MANUFACTURING	24,000	24,100	24,700	-100	-700
<i>Computer and Electronic Products</i>	10,200	10,200	11,100	0	-900
<i>Semiconductor and Other Electronics</i>	7,300	7,300	8,000	0	-700
WHOLESALE TRADE	13,200	13,300	13,400	-100	-200
RETAIL TRADE	41,700	41,600	40,100	100	1,600
<i>Building Material and Garden Equipment</i>	3,900	3,800	3,400	100	500
<i>Food and Beverage Stores</i>	5,000	4,900	4,600	100	400
<i>General Merchandise Stores</i>	8,000	7,900	7,100	100	900
<i>Department Stores</i>	4,000	3,900	4,500	100	-500
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	10,000	10,200	10,200	-200	-200
<i>Transportation and Warehousing</i>	9,200	9,500	9,400	-300	-200
INFORMATION	10,700	10,600	11,500	100	-800
<i>Telecommunications</i>	6,000	5,900	6,600	100	-600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	19,200	19,300	18,600	-100	600
<i>Finance and Insurance</i>	13,800	13,900	13,500	-100	300
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities</i>	5,600	5,600	5,600	0	0
<i>Depository Credit Intermediation</i>	3,700	3,700	3,800	0	-100
<i>Insurance Carriers</i>	5,300	5,400	4,800	-100	500
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	57,400	56,500	57,200	900	200
Professional, Scientific, and Technical	27,300	27,000	27,200	300	100
<i>Scientific Research and Development</i>	10,900	10,800	10,200	100	700
Management of Companies and Enterprises	4,200	4,100	4,400	100	-200
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services	25,900	25,400	25,600	500	300
<i>Employment Services</i>	12,900	12,700	12,900	200	0
<i>Business Support Services</i>	3,100	3,100	3,100	0	0
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	44,100	43,400	41,300	700	2,800
<i>Health Care and Social Assistance</i>	38,600	38,100	35,800	500	2,800
<i>Ambulatory Health Care Services</i>	15,200	15,100	13,800	100	1,400
<i>Hospitals</i>	9,300	9,200	8,800	100	500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	34,200	33,300	33,500	900	700
<i>Accommodation and Food Services</i>	31,500	30,600	30,800	900	700
<i>Food Services and Drinking Places</i>	26,500	26,000	26,200	500	300
<i>Full-Service Restaurants</i>	12,600	12,300	12,200	300	400
OTHER SERVICES	12,100	12,100	11,200	0	900
GOVERNMENT	73,100	72,700	71,500	400	1,600
Federal Government	13,800	13,800	13,700	0	100
State Government /2	24,100	23,800	23,400	300	700
Local Government	35,200	35,100	34,400	100	800

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 Mar-03	Revised Feb-03	Revised Mar-02	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT /1	61,200	61,100	59,600	100	1,600
GOODS PRODUCING	6,400	6,300	6,200	100	200
SERVICE PRODUCING	54,800	54,800	53,400	0	1,400
NATURAL RESOURCES MINING & CONSTRUCTION	3,400	3,300	3,300	100	100
MANUFACTURING	3,000	3,000	2,900	0	100
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,100	1,100	1,000	0	100
RETAIL TRADE	6,500	6,500	6,300	0	200
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
INFORMATION	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,200	2,200	2,200	0	0
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,000	5,100	5,300	-100	-300
<i>Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services</i>	2,400	2,400	2,700	0	-300
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	8,800	8,900	8,300	-100	500
<i>Health Care & Social Assistance</i>	8,000	8,100	7,800	-100	200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	6,300	6,300	5,900	0	400
<i>Food Service & Drinking Places</i>	4,700	4,700	4,300	0	400
OTHER SERVICES	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0
GOVERNMENT	20,900	20,700	20,400	200	500
Federal	3,500	3,500	3,400	0	100
State	9,300	9,100	9,100	200	200
Local	8,100	8,100	7,900	0	200

SANTA FE MSA	Preliminary Mar-03	Revised Feb-03	Revised Mar-02	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT /1	78,200	77,500	76,000	700	2,200
GOODS PRODUCING	5,800	5,700	6,100	100	-300
SERVICE PRODUCING	72,400	71,800	69,900	600	2,500
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTRUCTION	4,500	4,400	4,800	100	-300
MANUFACTURING	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,100	1,100	1,000	0	100
RETAIL TRADE	8,800	8,700	8,500	100	300
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	700	700	700	0	0
INFORMATION	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	3,400	3,400	3,300	0	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	8,600	8,600	8,200	0	400
<i>Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services</i>	4,300	4,200	4,100	100	200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	9,100	9,000	8,700	100	400
<i>Health Care & Social Assistance</i>	6,900	6,900	6,600	0	300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	9,300	9,100	9,000	200	300
<i>Food Service & Drinking Places</i>	5,900	5,700	5,600	200	300
OTHER SERVICES	3,100	3,000	2,900	100	200
GOVERNMENT	27,300	27,200	26,600	100	700
Federal	1,500	1,400	1,500	100	0
State /2	18,400	18,400	17,700	0	700
Local	7,400	7,400	7,400	0	0

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

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

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

- Seasonally Adjusted -

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Mar-03	Revised Feb-03	Monthly Change
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	777,000	775,700	1,300
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	13,800	13,700	100
CONSTRUCTION	46,300	45,700	600
MANUFACTURING	37,600	37,900	-300
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	136,700	136,700	0
INFORMATION <i>(Not Seasonally Adjusted)</i>	16,700	16,800	-100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	34,500	34,900	-400
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	91,300	91,400	-100
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	97,500	96,900	600
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	82,100	81,100	1,000
OTHER SERVICES	28,600	28,500	100
GOVERNMENT	191,900	192,100	-200

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

New Mexico Unemployment Insurance Data



2002

**DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR**

NM Unemployment Insurance Data Publication Now Available!

The Unemployment Insurance Bureau of the Department of Labor has written a new publication, New Mexico Unemployment Insurance Data, Calendar Year 2002. This annual publication provides statistics and analysis of various unemployment insurance data, such as initial claims, weeks claimed, benefits paid, and the trust fund for calendar year 2002. For a free copy please contact Rachel Moskowitz at the Department of Labor at (505) 841-9062, or email at RMoskowitz@state.nm.us.

New Mexico Occupational Shortages & Surpluses

Statewide Summary		Statewide Summary	
SHORTAGES		SURPLUSES	
Computer Support Technicians	Plumbers	Administrative Assistants	Receptionists
Correction Officers	Police Officers	Cashiers/Checkers	Retail Sales Clerks
Electricians	Security Officers	Construction Laborers	Secretaries
Home Health Attendants	Social Workers, Licensed	General Office Clerks	Wait Staff
Mechanics, Automotive/Diesel	Teachers, Certified	Laborers, Unskilled	
Nurses, RN/LPN's	Truck Drivers, CDL		
Albuquerque MSA		Albuquerque MSA	
SHORTAGES		SURPLUSES	
Customer Service Reps	Nurses, RN's/LPN's	Administrative Assistants	Laborers, General
Electricians, Journeymen	Physical Therapists	Cashiers/Checkers	Office Managers
Engineers, Chemical	Social Workers, Licensed	Construction Laborers	Receptionists
Engineers, Computer	Speech Pathologists	Electronic Technicians	Retail Sales Clerks
HVAC Technicians, Licensed	Truck Drivers, CDL	General Office Clerks	Secretaries
Mechanics, Automotive			
Las Cruces MSA		Santa Fe MSA	
SHORTAGES	SURPLUSES	SHORTAGES	SURPLUSES
Nurses, RN's/LPN's	Cashiers	Correctional Officers	Administrative Assistants
Landscape Architects	Construction Workers	Electricians, Journeymen	Bookkeepers
Librarians	Cooks	HVAC Technicians	Administrative Secretaries
Social Workers	Housekeepers	Mechanics, Automotive	Bank Tellers
	Material Handlers	Nurses, LPN's/RN's	
	Servers	Plumbers	
		Security Officers	
		Sheet Metal Workers	
		Social Workers	
		Teachers	
		Truck Drivers, CDL	
NM WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTERS 2/		PROJECTED LONG TERM NEEDS, 1998-2008: 3/	
TOP 10 JOB OPENINGS	TOP 10 APPLICANTS	FASTEST GROWING OCCS	OCCS W/MOST OPENINGS
Construction Laborers	Construction Laborers	Plastic Mold/Cast Mach Ops/Tdrs	Salespersons, Retail
Telephone Solicitors	General Office Clerks	Secrts/Comdts/Fin Ser Sales Agts	Cashiers
Cleaners, Industrial	Truck Drivers, Heavy	Computer Scientists, NEC	Waiters & Waitresses
Waiters/Waitresses	Construction Helpers	Health Practitioners, NEC	Gen. Managers & Top Execs.
Yard Workers	Cashiers-Checkers, Retail Trade	Computer Support Specialists	General Office Clerks
Security Guards	Bus Drivers	Paper Goods Machine Setters/Ops	Food Prep/Serv Wkrs, Fast Food
Material Handlers	Carpenters	Systems Analysts	Carpenters
Cashiers-Checkers, Retail Trade	Receptionists	Hand Workers, Jewelry, Precision	Janitors & Cleaners
Cooks	Material Handlers	Surgical Technologists	Registered Nurses
Telephone Operators	Retail Sales Clerks	Computer Science Teachers, Post	Helpers/Laborers/Movers, NEC

*Based on monthly reports by NMDOL Workforce Development Centers and quarterly survey of major Albuquerque employers and professional organizations.

2/ Surpluses reflect applicants registering with NMDOL and Shortages reflect employers listing job openings.

3/ Source: iNew Mexico Employment Projections 2010,i NMDOL, JULY 2002.

Average Hours and Earnings

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

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Mar. 03	Feb. 03	Mar. 02	Mar. 03	Feb. 03	Mar. 02	Mar. 03	Feb. 03	Mar. 02
NEW MEXICO									
NATURAL RES. & MINING	\$799.46	\$769.41	\$752.40	44.9	45.1	44.6	17.36	17.06	16.87
CONSTRUCTION	\$603.50	\$586.61	\$551.82	39.6	38.9	37.9	15.24	15.08	14.56
MANUFACTURING	\$515.26	\$523.71	\$545.30	38.8	39.2	39.4	13.28	13.36	13.84
WHOLESALE TRADE	\$515.90	\$515.30	\$471.07	35.0	34.7	32.6	14.74	14.85	14.45
RETAIL TRADE	\$327.04	\$320.49	\$316.85	32.0	31.7	32.2	10.22	10.11	9.84
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	\$502.69	\$489.94	\$476.96	36.8	36.4	35.2	13.66	13.46	13.55
ALBUQUERQUE MSA									
MANUFACTURING	\$553.80	\$553.73	\$607.21	38.7	38.4	39.2	14.31	14.42	15.49

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	
	Mar. 03	Feb. 03	Mar. 02	Month to Month	Year to Year
CPI-U	184.2	183.1	178.8	0.6%	3.0%
CPI-W	180.3	179.2	174.7	0.6%	3.2%

*CPI-U - All Urban Consumers

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

New Mexico Unemployment Insurance

On March 19, 2003 Governor Bill Richardson signed into law legislation that increases benefits to the unemployed and decreases unemployment taxes for employers. Most of these changes will go into effect in July 2003 or January 2004. The cost to the New Mexico Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund is estimated to be about \$54 million in the first year, with \$28 million in benefits going to the unemployed and \$26 million going to employers in the form of tax cuts. Most of the changes will end after four years, or sooner if the trust fund's balance drops too low.

The new law will:

- * **Increase benefits to claimants:** Claimants will be able to receive 52.5 percent of the average weekly wage paid in the high quarter, up from 50 percent (up to the maximum level).
- * **Alternative Base Periods:** Claimants will be allowed to use an alternative base period (the last four completed quarters) if they are not monetarily eligible during their regular base period (the first four of the last five completed quarters).
- * **Dependents Allowance:** A claimant will be entitled to receive an additional \$15.00 a week in benefits for each dependent child under the age of 18, up to a maximum of four children.
- * **Domestic Violence:** Claimants will be eligible for benefits if they voluntarily leave work due to circumstances directly resulting from domestic abuse.
- * **Benefits to workers seeking part-time work:** Claimants will be eligible to receive benefits if they are actively seeking part-time work (at least 20 hours a week).
- * **Eliminate the benefit denial for claimants attending school full-time:** Claimants will be able to receive benefits and attend school full-time if they can demonstrate availability for and accept either full-time or part-time work.
- * **Implement the alternative Extended Benefits trigger:** Claimants will be given an additional 13 weeks of benefits when the EB is triggered "on" (when the total unemployment rate (TUR) is at least 6.5 percent for three months and the TUR is 110 percent above the average in the two preceding years).
- * **Reduce new employer rate to 2.0 percent:** New employers will be charged an unemployment tax rate of 2.0 percent (down from 2.7 percent) of the total taxable wages for at least four years, after which the employer's experience history determines the tax rate.
- * **Implement Schedule 0:** Use Schedule 0, which lowers unemployment tax rates for almost all New Mexico businesses.
- * **Transfer favorable employment history from other states:** Employers that are doing business in another state will be allowed to transfer their experience history if they relocate to New Mexico.

Check out the actual bill on <http://legis.state.nm.us> (click on iBill Finder then enter i Senate Bill 558i)

Source: New Mexico Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Bureau, Actuarial Research Department

Questions? Comments? Please call (505) 841-9062 or via email at RMoskowitz@state.nm.us

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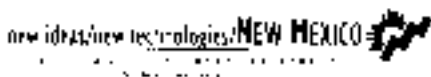
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New Mexico Area Economic Activity

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

Statewide:

New Mexico's In-Plant Training Board provided \$473,000 for three New Mexico companies to hire and train almost 100 new workers. Two Albuquerque companies are included: Lumidigm, a sensor manufacturer, and Aquila Technologies Group, who will hire assemblers and computer engineers. Eighty employees will be hired and trained by Penncro Associates for their Taos call center.

New Mexico's incentives for filmmakers may have helped lure producers to select the state as the location for filming Tony Hillerman's book **iThief of Time. The production is being made for the PBS television's series **iMystery. Filming will start in late April in locations around Santa Fe and Albuquerque. About 80 people will be needed during the three weeks the project is in production.****

Albuquerque Area, Bernalillo County:

Congress approved \$173.3 million to build 867 new homes at Albuquerque's **Kirtland Air Force Base**. Most of the existing base housing dates from the 1950s and will be demolished. A private contractor will lease the land for the homes from the government and will build and manage the new housing units. The project is expected to be the largest construction project in the state since the Big I project and will provide jobs for thousands of New Mexicans.

American Home, a locally owned furniture retailer, will occupy the 85,000 square foot building formerly home to Wal-Mart's Westside store. The new store, near the corner of N.M. 528 and Coors Blvd., will open in mid-April.

Sixty Albuquerque area jobs may be lost when **Johnson and Johnson** closes one of its two Albuquerque-area manufacturing facilities. The facility to be closed produces operating room supplies including hats, gowns and implants. Johnson and Johnson said that they would seek employment opportunities for the displaced workers. The company also operates Ethicon Endo-Surgery, which employs about 900 workers.

About 100 additional workers will be needed at **Boeing-SVSi** Albuquerque facility over the next two years. The company will also acquire an additional 35,000 square feet of space in the **@ 25 Business Park**. The company, which currently has about 180 employees, develops sensors, optical and electronic devices for missile defense and laser weapons.

A 5,000 square foot Irish themed restaurant and saloon opened in downtown Albuquerque on St. Patrick's Day. **Malone's Tavern** features deejay music seven nights a week and is open from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. most days. Malone's has about 90 employees in Albuquerque.

The **Marie Callender's Restaurant and Bakery** closed in late February. The corporate office offered no reason for the closure. **Luby's** Cafeteria on Montgomery also closed recently as part of a corporate restructuring.

Sprint PCS is looking for 100 workers for its Rio Rancho call center. New hires will receive a month of training and will work in billing and technical support positions. New hires will start at \$9 an hour. The wireless phone call center currently has about 1,000 employees, down from about 1,400 employees two years ago.

BF Goodrich Aerospace laid off 18 workers at its Albuquerque Space and Optical Systems Division. The Albuquerque plant, which makes parts for the space shuttle, satellites, and commercial aircraft, has had a serious drop in sales.

Roswell Area, Chaves County:

The state's 18th **Walmart Supercenter** opened in Roswell on March 19. The new Supercenter features a wide range of services including a vision center, a tire and lube area, a deli, a photo lab, and more. About 500 workers are employed at the new store.

Laguna Pueblo, Cibola County:

Laguna Industries received a \$13 million contract to provide advanced technology equipment for the U.S. Army. Laguna Industries, owned and operated by Laguna Pueblo, is the prime contractor for manufacturing command and control shelters for the U.S. Army.

Raton Area, Colfax County:

A proposed \$50 million electric power plant would use trees and other organic material for fuel. **Western Water and Power Production's** proposal has support from the state's Economic Development Department and the Department of Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources. Legislative support is being sought for the project. If constructed, the plant could help reduce the fire danger in nearby forests by removing some of the accumulated biomass.

Clovis Area, Curry County:

A mid-May opening is planned for the **Rib Crib**, a barbecue restaurant at 4020 North Prince Street. The restaurant, part of an Oklahoma based chain of restaurants, features full-service casual dining. About 80 to 100 workers will be employed at the Clovis location.

Las Cruces Area, Doña Ana County:



Memorial Medical Center announced that they would lay off another 19 workers at the end of March. The hospital has eliminated 153 jobs since December 2002.

An April opening is planned for a 10,000 square foot **Gardunoís Chile Packing Company** restaurant in Las Crucesí Mesilla Valley Mall. The new facility will seat 280 diners inside, with seats for an additional 100 patrons on the patio. About 200 workers have been hired to staff the new restaurant.

Carlsbad Area, Eddy County:



The **Covenant Family Healthcare Center** in Carlsbad will be closed as part of a cost containment measure. Because of the closure, more than 24 jobs will be lost in Carlsbad. The clinic operator, Covenant Medical Group will also close its clinic in Hobbs.

Silver City Area, Grant County:



Stream International cut another 55 employees from its Silver City call center. The company had previously laid off about 400 employees. The company has lost several key contracts and has reduced its workforce by over sixty percent. In a further development, as this issue of the *Labor Market Report* goes to press, Stream announced that it would completely shut down the Silver City call center by July.

Hobbs Area, Lea County:



The **Covenant Family Healthcare Center** in Hobbs will be closed.

Deming Area, Luna County:



Border Foods is adding a 200,000 square foot warehouse to accommodate the expanded production of southwestern food products. Company president Norman Mackenzie expects to see a 30% increase in production this year and also expects to see about 50 new jobs in the next two years. Border Foods employs about 1,500 seasonal workers and about 400 non-seasonal workers.

Santa Fe Area, Santa Fe County:



Approval was granted for the demolition of the El Seville Apartments, to make space for construction of 76 condos. The Santa Fe Historic Design Review Boardís decision clears the way for the developers of the **El Corazon de Santa Fe** condominiums to proceed with their project.

Adams American Burgers will open in the site formerly occupied by the Burger King at 3136 Cerrillos Road. A mid-April opening is planned.

Taos Area, Taos County:



The Taos town council voted down a proposed zoning change that would have allowed **Wal-Mart** to build a big-box-superstore in the town limits. An opinion poll conducted before the councilís vote showed opposition to the zoning change from about sixty percent of the town's registered voters. Some council members are concerned that the store may be built outside of the town limits.

Mountainair Area, Torrance County:



Power Energy Fuels Inc. hopes to open a \$30 million plant that will convert forest waste into an ethanol-type fuel called Ecalene. Ethanol can be used as a substitute for petroleum based fuels and has lower carbon monoxide emissions than gasoline. The process of converting forest waste to fuel would also be beneficial to the Forest Service in reducing biomass in overgrown forests.



Labor Market Report

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