



New Mexico Labor Market Review

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

...New Mexico's rate of over-the-year job growth was 0.6 percent, adding 5,300 jobs. New Mexico ranked 25th among the states for total nonfarm employment growth.

...In the past 12 months, Albuquerque MSA payroll employment grew by 0.3 percent, adding 1,300 jobs. Job growth has gradually diminished following a recent peak of 4.1 percent in June 2006.

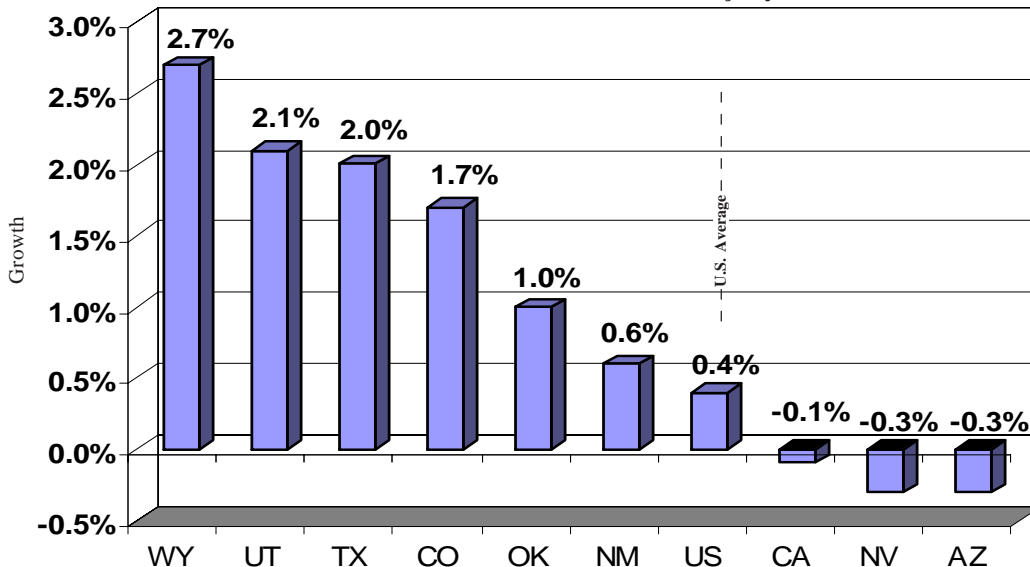
...The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces MSA was 1.6 percent. This rate of job growth is still above the average for the state, and the Las Cruces area has added 1,100 jobs over the last year.

...The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Santa Fe MSA was 1.4 percent, adding 900 jobs. Santa Fe posted a year of strong job growth that ended about five months ago, although job growth has settled at a rate that is still above the average for the state.

...Over the last year, the Farmington MSA has added 1,800 jobs, growing 3.5 percent. This rate of job growth is far above the average for the state. Substantial fluctuation in the growth rate from month-to-month is fairly typical for a small metro area like Farmington.

Current Regional Nonfarm Employment Growth

March 2008 over March 2007 - Not Seasonally Adjusted



Bill Richardson
Governor

Betty Sparrow Doris
Secretary

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New Mexico Labor Force and Payroll Employment

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.7 percent in March 2008, up from 3.2 percent in February. The national rate also increased in March, from 4.8 percent to 5.1 percent, so New Mexico moved in the same direction as many other states. Even though this is the highest unemployment rate we have seen in the last 12 months, New Mexico's unemployment remains remarkably low, below the national average and not far above January's record low of 3.1 percent. A year ago, the state's unemployment rate stood at 3.7 percent.

The rate of over-the-year job growth, comparing March 2008 with March 2007, is 0.6 percent, and the state has added 5,300 jobs. New Mexico's ranking among the states is in the middle range. Job growth peaked at 3.5 percent in mid-2006 and has since trended downward, reaching levels not seen for five years. The decline in job growth is similar to what New Mexico experienced in 2001 during the last national recession. Job growth has slowed considerably, but employment conditions are stable in most industry sectors. New Mexico had more than two years of job growth above 2.0 percent, and the state has retained most of the gains from that period.

The goods-producing sector has shown the most volatility, having been up by 10,000 jobs in the 12 months ending March 2006 and adding another 1,000 jobs by March 2007. Now in March 2008, the 12-month change is a loss of 2,600 jobs. Most of the job losses are in manufacturing, but construction has also lost jobs, and mining growth has slowed markedly.

Having lost 6,000 manufacturing jobs between 2001 and 2005, the state regained about 2,000 jobs in the industry during 2005 and 2006, before losses began again last year. High-profile layoffs in semiconductor manufacturing were widely reported by the media. Other manufacturing components have also hit upon hard times, and many firms have reduced their workforces during 2007 and early 2008.

The construction industry is going through a period of adjustment following four years of growth. Construction employment boomed with work on various large public works projects and continued when residential construction was strong. The boom has now ended and some job losses have occurred. However, job losses of about 500 are still minimal when compared to the 14,000 jobs gained in construction between 2002 and 2006. Mining employment is 200 jobs higher than at this time last year, reflecting incentives to companies to explore and produce while commodity prices are high, even though actual production of oil and natural gas has declined.

On the services-providing side, a number of industries are reporting employment that is not much higher than last year. The professional & business services industry, which includes several firms that rely upon national defense contracts, reported employment that is down 300 jobs from last year. Also declining, financial activities employment was reported at 100 jobs below last year's level. Job growth in the leisure & hospitality industry has slowed from the industry's typical pattern of higher job growth. The industry added 400 jobs over the year, continuing a trend of low growth not seen for a number of years. The situation would have been worse were it not for a good year in New Mexico's ski industry, which benefited from abundant snowfall in most resort areas. The miscellaneous *other services* category reported 200 more jobs than last year.

The educational & health services industry has added more jobs than any other industry, expanding by 4,000 jobs, growing 3.6 percent on the year. This industry is so large that even modest rates of growth translate into a considerable number of new jobs. The small wholesale trade industry added 1,000 jobs, up 4.3 percent, while the much larger retail trade industry added 400 jobs. The transportation, warehousing, & utilities industry reported growth of 2.4 percent over the year, adding 600 jobs.

Information employment was 500 jobs higher than last year, largely due to continuing activity in the state's film industry. This industry had a bumper year in 2006, which continued into 2007. Recent trends indicate that 2008 may be the best year yet; however, large month-to-month swings in employment are not unusual because of the nature of film production work. During times of intensive film work, employment in the state's film industry has been as many as 3,000 jobs above baseline levels. Due to weakness in its telecommunications components, the information industry lost more than 3,000 jobs during a three-year period ending in early 2005. Even with the current boost from film production, employment levels are still below the peak set in the spring of 2001.

Government employment has increased at a rate of 0.6 percent, adding 1,200 jobs. State and local government added 500 and 700 jobs, respectively. The number of federal government jobs remains at last year's level.

New Mexico Seasonally Adjusted	Revised			Change From	
	Prel. Mar 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2007
Civilian Labor Force	950,100	946,800	943,300	+3,300	+6,800
Employment	915,300	916,300	908,500	-1,000	+6,800
Unemployment	34,800	30,500	34,800	+4,300	0
Rate	3.7%	3.2%	3.7%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.7%	3.5%	3.5%		

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 in the Albuquerque MSA was 3.8 percent in March 2008, up from 3.3 percent in February. The unemployment rate was 3.4 percent in March 2007.

Over the month, payroll employment in the Albuquerque area grew by 3,200 or 0.8 percent, a typical increase for this time of year. Warmer weather spurred the construction industry to add 600 new jobs. The government sector also added a total of 600 jobs, with the gain split evenly between the state and local levels. Educational & health services gained 700 jobs, while seasonal growth pushed the leisure & hospitality industry to an increase of 500 jobs. Professional & business services posted an over-the-month increase of 400 jobs, and four other industries—manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, and miscellaneous *other services*—added 100 jobs each. Employment remained unchanged in transportation, warehousing, & utilities; information; and financial activities.

In the past 12 months, payroll employment grew by 0.3 percent, adding 1,300 jobs to the Albuquerque area economy. Job growth has gradually diminished following a recent peak of 4.1 percent in June 2006. Albuquerque's employment growth is lower than the statewide rate of 0.6 percent and currently the weakest of New Mexico's four MSAs.

Educational & health services continued its consistent growth, increasing 3.0 percent and adding 1,500 jobs. The industry currently employs 51,000, trailing only professional & business services among private sector employers.

Retail trade growth has tapered to 1.4 percent after having experienced much stronger increases last year. Industry growth reached 3.0 percent in June 2007 but has gradually slowed since then. Employment is now 600 jobs higher than the year-ago level.

Professional & business services also continued a trend of slowing growth, rising 0.6 percent over the year and adding

400 new jobs. The Albuquerque MSA's largest private sector industry has posted growth of less than 1.0 percent for four consecutive months.

Transportation, warehousing, & utilities followed a strong 2007 with 2008 over-the-year growth rates of 3.7 percent in January, 2.8 percent in February, and 3.7 percent in March. The industry has added 400 jobs since March 2007 and now employs 11,200 in the Albuquerque area.

Information employment increased by 200 jobs or 2.2 percent over the year. The industry began adding jobs again in 2008 after recording negative growth throughout much of the previous year. The 2007 rates marked a slowing from annual growth of 8.0 percent for 2006. The industry lost 3,000 jobs between February 2001 and January 2006 before finally reversing course.

Miscellaneous *other services*, wholesale trade, and leisure & hospitality also added 200 new jobs each, growing 1.6 percent, 1.5 percent, and 0.5 percent, respectively. The increase in leisure & hospitality was the industry's smallest since May 2005.

Government employment increased by 100 jobs, growing 0.1 percent. Two of the sector's three branches, state government (+300) and local government (+100), added jobs over the year, but a 300-job loss in federal government employment offset nearly all of the gain. Federal government has posted over-the-year employment declines for ten consecutive months.

Manufacturing and construction continued to shed jobs and suppress overall employment growth. The two industries lost a combined 2,400 jobs over the year, as manufacturing employment fell 6.7 percent (-1,600 jobs) and construction employment slipped 2.6 percent (-800 jobs). Construction has recorded negative growth for 15 consecutive months and manufacturing for ten. Financial activities employment was also down, falling by 100 jobs or 0.5 percent from last March.

Albuquerque Seasonally Adjusted	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Mar 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2007
Civilian Labor Force	407,700	406,400	407,100	+1,300	+600
Employment	392,200	392,900	393,100	-700	-900
Unemployment	15,500	13,500	14,000	+2,000	+1,500
Rate	3.8%	3.3%	3.4%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.6%	3.4%	3.3%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Las Cruces MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Doña Ana County)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the Las Cruces MSA was 4.0 percent in March 2008, up from 3.6 percent in February. A year ago, the area's unemployment rate was also 4.0 percent.

In March 2008, the Las Cruces area added 600 jobs, with 200 new state government jobs and 100 additional jobs in each of four private sector industries. Employment was unchanged from February in seven other industries.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces area was 1.6 percent, comparing March 2008 with the same month a year ago. This rate of job growth is still above the average for the state, and the Las Cruces area has added 1,100 jobs over the last year.

Educational & health services expanded more than any other industry, gaining 500 jobs for growth of 4.7 percent. Leisure & hospitality added 300 jobs to last year's level, while transportation, warehousing, & utilities added 200 jobs. Wholesale trade and professional & business services each gained 100 jobs.

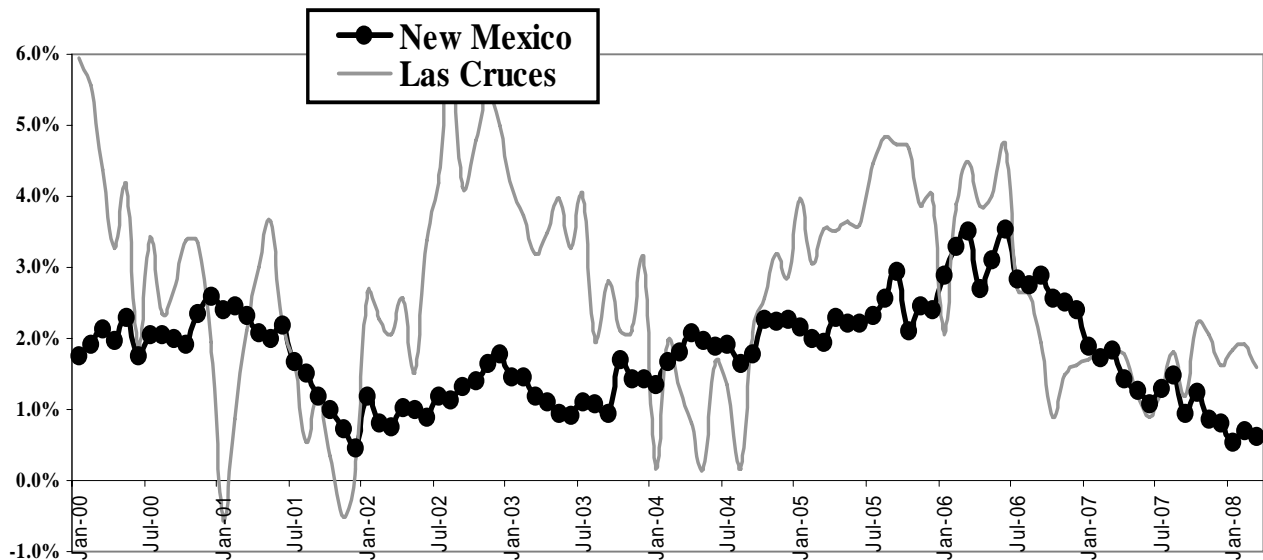
Government employers reported 400 more jobs than last March. Local government led the way, adding 200 jobs, while state and federal government each added 100.

Four industries reported reduced employment compared to year-ago levels, as manufacturing firms reported 200 fewer jobs and information, construction, and financial activities each lost 100. Two remaining industries, retail trade and miscellaneous *other services*, each reported employment levels that were unchanged from last year.

Las Cruces <u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Mar 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2007	Feb 2008	Mar 2007
Civilian Labor Force	88,400	88,000	87,300	+400	+1,100
Employment	84,900	84,800	83,800	+100	+1,100
Unemployment	3,500	3,200	3,500	+300	0
Rate	4.0%	3.6%	4.0%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	4.2%	4.0%	4.1%		

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 3.1 percent in March 2008, up from 2.8 percent in February. A year ago, the area had an unemployment rate of 2.8 percent.

Santa Fe area employment increased by 500 jobs in March, with the gain split evenly among five industries. Gaining industries this month were construction, information, professional & business services, government, and miscellaneous *other services*.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for Santa Fe was 1.4 percent, adding 900 jobs. The Santa Fe area posted a year of strong job growth that ended about five months ago. Job growth has settled at a rate that is still above the average for the state. Some of the strength over the last year was from the state's film industry, which saw peak activity in 2007. Current levels of job growth are in the low to moderate range, with four of the area's 12 industries adding jobs.

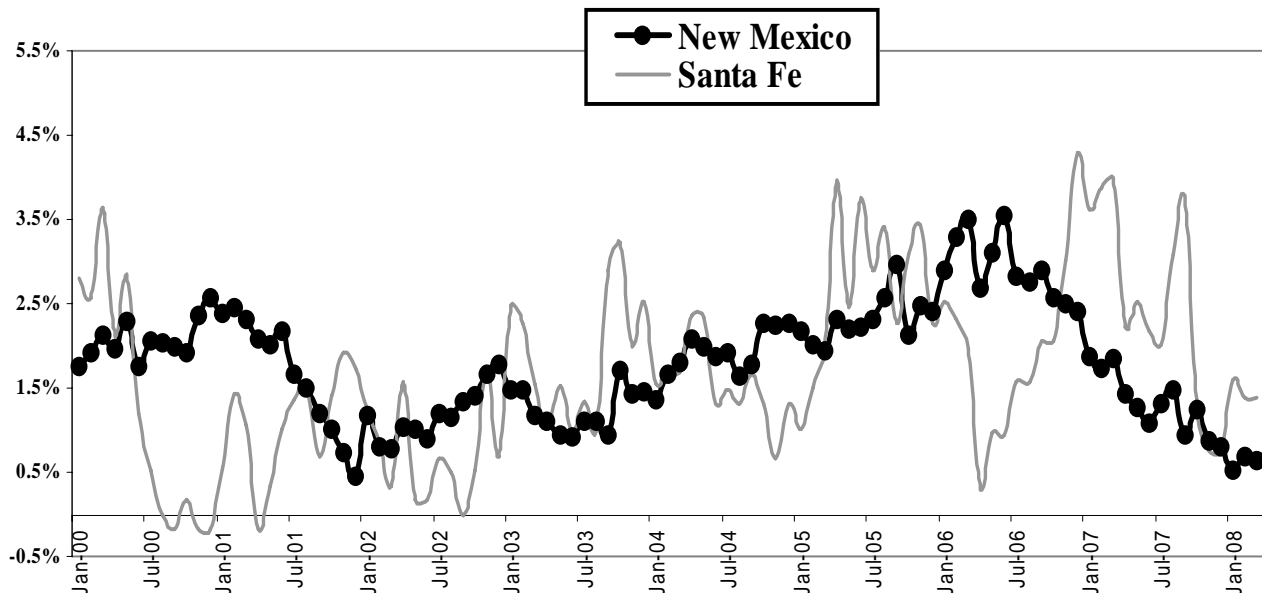
The information industry gained 800 jobs, which is more than any other industry in the local area, as the result of continuing activity in the state's film industry. The educational & health services industry added 400 jobs. Santa Fe's professional & business services industry gained 200 jobs since last year, showing surprising strength in comparison to the poor performance of this industry elsewhere in the state. Financial activities added 100 jobs since this time last year. Elsewhere, not much activity was reported, with four industries—retail trade; transportation, warehousing, & utilities; wholesale trade; and miscellaneous *other services*—recording the same employment levels as last year.

The government sector reported 300 fewer jobs than at this time last year, with losses in local and federal government and no change in state government employment. Manufacturing, construction, and leisure & hospitality industries each reported 100 fewer jobs than at this time last year.

Santa Fe	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Mar 2008</u>	<u>Feb 2008</u>	<u>Mar 2007</u>	<u>Feb 2008</u>	<u>Mar 2007</u>
Civilian Labor Force	79,600	79,200	79,300	+400	+300
Employment	77,200	77,000	77,100	+200	+100
Unemployment	2,500	2,200	2,200	+300	+300
Rate	3.1%	2.8%	2.8%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.0%	2.9%	2.8%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Santa Fe



Farmington MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(San Juan County)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Farmington was 3.3 percent in March 2008, up from 2.9 percent in February. A year ago, the area also had an unemployment rate of 3.3 percent.

The Farmington area gained another 700 jobs in March, adding to the 900 gained in February, which is consistent with what usually happens this time of year. The largest addition was an increase of 300 private-sector service jobs.

Over the last year, the Farmington area has added 1,800 jobs, growing 3.5 percent. This rate of job growth is far above the average for the state. Substantial fluctuation in the growth rate from month-to-month is fairly typical for a small metro area like Farmington. Job growth peaked in the local area in December 2004 when the over-the-year rate of job growth reached 5.1 percent. Job growth reached this peak again in June 2006, matching the highest increase in jobs since mid-1995. Job growth dipped to 0.4 percent in April 2007 before rebounding to its current level. The outlook for job growth in the area remains favorable, and the Farmington MSA continues to have a strong job market.

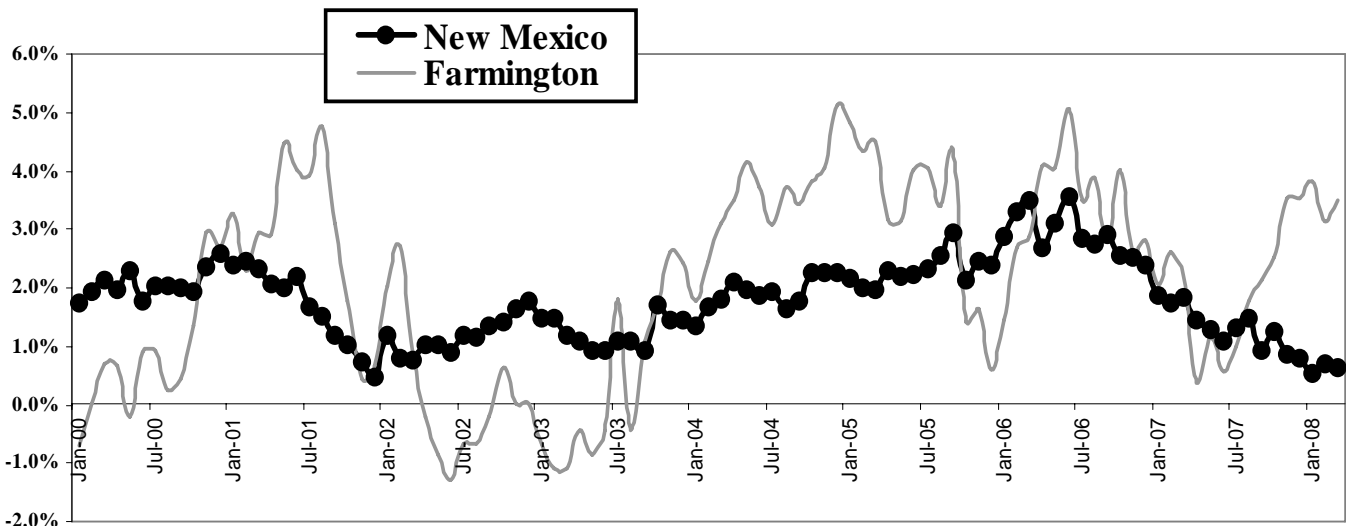
Goods-producing industries have added 1,000 jobs, growing 8.5 percent over the year. Private services-providing industries have added 500 jobs over the year, growing 1.8 percent. Government employment had been sluggish for a while but currently shows 300 additional local government jobs. State and federal government employment are unchanged from last year's levels.

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

Farmington	Prel.		Revised		Change From	
	<u>Mar 2008</u>	<u>Feb 2008</u>	<u>Mar 2007</u>	<u>Feb 2008</u>	<u>Mar 2007</u>	
Seasonally Adjusted Civilian Labor Force	57,500	57,100	56,000	+400	+1,500	
Employment	55,600	55,400	54,100	+200	+1,500	
Unemployment	1,900	1,700	1,900	+200	0	
Rate	3.3%	2.9%	3.3%			
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.1%	3.0%	3.1%			

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Farmington



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

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

		Civilian Labor Force	Employ- ment	Un- Employ- ment	Rate %	Unadj. Rate %
1988		681,996	630,267	51,729	7.6%	
1989		691,811	645,302	46,509	6.7%	
1990		711,891	663,698	48,193	6.8%	
1991		719,243	667,698	51,545	7.2%	
1992		735,446	680,463	54,983	7.5%	
1993		755,054	700,258	54,795	7.3%	
1994		776,827	725,387	51,440	6.6%	
1995		798,621	744,557	54,064	6.8%	
1996		812,862	751,826	61,036	7.5%	
1997		822,627	768,596	54,031	6.6%	
1998		835,879	783,661	52,218	6.2%	
1999		839,987	793,052	46,936	5.6%	
2000		852,293	810,024	42,269	5.0%	
2001		863,682	821,003	42,679	4.9%	
2002		871,512	823,191	48,321	5.5%	
2003		888,468	835,835	52,633	5.9%	
2004		903,803	851,967	51,835	5.7%	
2005		920,227	872,037	48,189	5.2%	
2006		936,998	896,885	40,113	4.3%	
2007		943,061	909,967	33,094	3.5%	
2007	JAN	940,135	904,243	35,892	3.8%	3.9%
	FEB	941,572	906,250	35,322	3.8%	3.8%
	MAR	943,258	908,484	34,774	3.7%	3.5%
	APR	941,340	907,097	34,243	3.6%	3.4%
	MAY	941,949	908,220	33,729	3.6%	3.4%
	JUN	942,437	909,204	33,233	3.5%	3.9%
	JUL	942,567	909,805	32,762	3.5%	4.1%
	AUG	944,241	911,938	32,303	3.4%	3.4%
	SEP	944,095	912,243	31,852	3.4%	3.3%
	OCT	945,079	913,661	31,418	3.3%	3.1%
	NOV	944,885	913,881	31,004	3.3%	3.2%
	DEC	945,177	914,582	30,595	3.2%	3.1%
2008	JAN	946,227	916,598	29,629	3.1%	3.2%
	FEB	946,789	916,304	30,485	3.2%	3.5%
	MAR	950,079	915,327	34,752	3.7%	3.7%
	APR					
	MAY					
	JUN					
	JUL					
	AUG					
	SEP					
	OCT					
	NOV					
	DEC					
# CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	3,290	-977	4,267	0.5%	0.2%
	Year Ago	6,821	6,843	-22	0.0%	0.2%
	2 Yrs. Ago	14,913	22,648	-7,735	-0.8%	-0.7%
	3 Yrs. Ago	35,597	50,991	-15,394	-1.8%	-1.8%
% CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	0.3%	-0.1%	14.0%		
	Year Ago	0.7%	0.8%	-0.1%		
	2 Yrs. Ago	1.6%	2.5%	-18.2%		
	3 Yrs. Ago	3.9%	5.9%	-30.7%		

State	Rank	March 2007	March 2008	Change	% Change
Wyoming	1	280.3	287.8	7.5	2.7%
Utah	2	1,238.5	1,265.0	26.5	2.1%
Texas	3	10,301.8	10,511.0	209.2	2.0%
Colorado	4	2,306.3	2,344.8	38.5	1.7%
Nebraska	4	947.4	963.3	15.9	1.7%
North Dakota	4	352.6	358.6	6.0	1.7%
South Dakota	4	396.4	403.2	6.8	1.7%
Washington	4	2,891.4	2,940.4	49.0	1.7%
Louisiana	9	1,915.5	1,945.8	30.3	1.6%
New Hampshire	10	635.8	645.1	9.3	1.5%
Montana	11	436.4	442.2	5.8	1.3%
Kentucky	12	1,849.8	1,870.1	20.3	1.1%
North Carolina	12	4,117.2	4,162.8	45.6	1.1%
Maryland	14	2,586.3	2,611.2	24.9	1.0%
Oklahoma	14	1,565.2	1,580.9	15.7	1.0%
Massachusetts	16	3,221.1	3,248.6	27.5	0.9%
DC	17	693.1	698.7	5.6	0.8%
Iowa	17	1,496.4	1,508.1	11.7	0.8%
Mississippi	17	1,148.3	1,157.7	9.4	0.8%
New York	17	8,627.9	8,698.2	70.3	0.8%
Connecticut	21	1,671.9	1,683.4	11.5	0.7%
Georgia	21	4,130.9	4,161.3	30.4	0.7%
Hawaii	21	626.6	630.8	4.2	0.7%
Kansas	21	1,372.9	1,382.8	9.9	0.7%
Alabama	25	2,004.4	2,015.6	11.2	0.6%
Minnesota	25	2,722.2	2,739.7	17.5	0.6%
New Mexico	25	842.3	847.6	5.3	0.6%
Oregon	25	1,717.7	1,728.1	10.4	0.6%
Alaska	29	305.8	307.2	1.4	0.5%
South Carolina	29	1,939.6	1,949.6	10.0	0.5%
Illinois	31	5,903.2	5,924.5	21.3	0.4%
United States		136,533.0	137,015.0	482.0	0.4%
Virginia	32	3,737.1	3,748.5	11.4	0.3%
Delaware	33	430.4	431.3	0.9	0.2%
New Jersey	33	4,020.6	4,029.5	8.9	0.2%
Pennsylvania	33	5,742.4	5,756.7	14.3	0.2%
West Virginia	33	752.0	753.6	1.6	0.2%
Idaho	37	642.3	643.2	0.9	0.1%
Vermont	37	306.4	306.8	0.4	0.1%
Arkansas	39	1,207.8	1,207.2	-0.6	0.0%
Indiana	39	2,965.4	2,966.5	1.1	0.0%
Maine	39	599.1	599.3	0.2	0.0%
Tennessee	39	2,784.0	2,783.2	-0.8	0.0%
California	43	15,151.5	15,134.9	-16.6	-0.1%
Ohio	43	5,369.0	5,361.6	-7.4	-0.1%
Missouri	45	2,785.3	2,778.4	-6.9	-0.2%
Wisconsin	45	2,830.0	2,825.1	-4.9	-0.2%
Arizona	47	2,686.3	2,678.8	-7.5	-0.3%
Nevada	47	1,290.7	1,286.8	-3.9	-0.3%
Florida	49	8,141.6	8,063.7	-77.9	-1.0%
Michigan	50	4,234.0	4,161.6	-72.4	-1.7%
Rhode Island	51	485.9	477.0	-8.9	-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 1/

	PRELIMINARY MARCH 2008				REVISED FEBRUARY 2008				REVISED MARCH 2007			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	943,639	908,856	34,783	3.7%	942,525	909,677	32,848	3.5%	938,770	906,155	32,615	3.5%
Albuquerque MSA 2/	406,893	392,201	14,692	3.6%	406,403	392,507	13,896	3.4%	406,375	393,055	13,320	3.3%
Bernalillo	314,080	303,315	10,765	3.4%	313,739	303,552	10,187	3.2%	313,966	303,976	9,990	3.2%
Sandoval	53,796	51,420	2,376	4.4%	53,743	51,460	2,283	4.2%	53,510	51,532	1,978	3.7%
Torrance	7,677	7,363	314	4.1%	7,658	7,368	290	3.8%	7,671	7,379	292	3.8%
Valencia	31,340	30,103	1,237	3.9%	31,263	30,127	1,136	3.6%	31,230	30,169	1,061	3.4%
Farmington MSA 3/	57,052	55,255	1,797	3.1%	56,655	54,950	1,705	3.0%	55,534	53,788	1,746	3.1%
Las Cruces MSA 4/	88,167	84,492	3,675	4.2%	87,864	84,381	3,483	4.0%	87,038	83,437	3,601	4.1%
Santa Fe MSA 5/	78,748	76,366	2,382	3.0%	78,769	76,471	2,298	2.9%	78,421	76,255	2,166	2.8%
Catron	1,499	1,420	79	5.3%	1,522	1,444	78	5.1%	1,528	1,448	80	5.2%
Chaves	27,925	26,977	948	3.4%	27,809	26,922	887	3.2%	27,352	26,317	1,035	3.8%
Cibola	11,783	11,311	472	4.0%	11,827	11,381	446	3.8%	11,829	11,384	445	3.8%
Colfax	6,518	6,291	227	3.5%	6,480	6,266	214	3.3%	6,680	6,471	209	3.1%
Curry	21,747	21,152	595	2.7%	21,602	21,038	564	2.6%	21,281	20,729	552	2.6%
De Baca	857	828	29	3.4%	837	811	26	3.1%	839	813	26	3.1%
Eddy	26,524	25,834	690	2.6%	26,720	26,056	664	2.5%	25,719	24,980	739	2.9%
Grant	12,547	12,093	454	3.6%	12,495	12,062	433	3.5%	12,503	12,068	435	3.5%
Guadalupe	1,844	1,747	97	5.3%	1,829	1,734	95	5.2%	1,875	1,775	100	5.3%
Harding	405	393	12	3.0%	404	393	11	2.7%	372	359	13	3.5%
Hidalgo	2,507	2,413	94	3.7%	2,518	2,424	94	3.7%	2,422	2,354	68	2.8%
Lea	28,690	28,051	639	2.2%	28,619	28,040	579	2.0%	27,495	26,902	593	2.2%
Lincoln	10,597	10,245	352	3.3%	10,641	10,307	334	3.1%	10,457	10,103	354	3.4%
Los Alamos	10,188	9,909	279	2.7%	10,246	9,981	265	2.6%	10,602	10,393	209	2.0%
Luna	11,597	9,969	1,628	14.0%	11,303	9,869	1,434	12.7%	11,973	10,489	1,484	12.4%
McKinley	26,999	25,800	1,199	4.4%	26,951	25,822	1,129	4.2%	27,053	25,955	1,098	4.1%
Mora	2,016	1,840	176	8.7%	2,010	1,846	164	8.2%	1,977	1,818	159	8.0%
Otero	25,928	25,012	916	3.5%	26,285	25,408	877	3.3%	26,209	25,291	918	3.5%
Quay	3,933	3,760	173	4.4%	3,944	3,783	161	4.1%	3,991	3,813	178	4.5%
Rio Arriba	20,221	19,171	1,050	5.2%	20,281	19,287	994	4.9%	20,950	19,992	958	4.6%
Roosevelt	9,940	9,711	229	2.3%	9,763	9,541	222	2.3%	9,828	9,591	237	2.4%
San Miguel	13,685	13,114	571	4.2%	13,654	13,138	516	3.8%	13,720	13,181	539	3.9%
Sierra	5,351	5,131	220	4.1%	5,377	5,171	206	3.8%	5,314	5,110	204	3.8%
Socorro	9,481	9,201	280	3.0%	9,595	9,341	254	2.6%	9,357	9,075	282	3.0%
Taos	17,922	17,137	785	4.4%	18,023	17,246	777	4.3%	17,972	17,162	810	4.5%
Union	2,076	2,033	43	2.1%	2,100	2,057	43	2.0%	2,104	2,047	57	2.7%

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

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

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - San Juan County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County

5/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe County

Unemployment Rates in New Mexico (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

PRELIMINARY MARCH 2008			REVISED FEBRUARY 2008			REVISED MARCH 2007		
AREAS	RANK	RATE	AREAS	RANK	RATE	AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	14.0%	LUNA	1	12.7%	LUNA	1	12.4%
MORA	2	8.7%	MORA	2	8.2%	MORA	2	8.0%
CATRON	3	5.3%	GUADALUPE	3	5.2%	GUADALUPE	3	5.3%
GUADALUPE	3	5.3%	CATRON	4	5.1%	CATRON	4	5.2%
RIO ARRIBA	5	5.2%	RIO ARRIBA	5	4.9%	RIO ARRIBA	5	4.6%
MCKINLEY	6	4.4%	TAOS	6	4.3%	TAOS	6	4.5%
QUAY	6	4.4%	MCKINLEY	7	4.2%	QUAY	6	4.5%
TAOS	6	4.4%	QUAY	8	4.1%	MCKINLEY	8	4.1%
SAN MIGUEL	9	4.2%	LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	9	4.0%	LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	8	4.1%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	9	4.2%	SIERRA	10	3.8%	SAN MIGUEL	10	3.9%
SIERRA	11	4.1%	SAN MIGUEL	10	3.8%	SIERRA	11	3.8%
CIBOLA	12	4.0%	CIBOLA	10	3.8%	CIBOLA	11	3.8%
HIDALGO	13	3.7%	HIDALGO	13	3.7%	CHAVES	11	3.8%
STATEWIDE		3.7%	STATEWIDE		3.5%	STATEWIDE		3.5%
GRANT	14	3.6%	GRANT	14	3.5%	GRANT	14	3.5%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	14	3.6%	ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	15	3.4%	OTERO	14	3.5%
OTERO	16	3.5%	OTERO	16	3.3%	HARDING	14	3.5%
COLFAX	16	3.5%	COLFAX	16	3.3%	LINCOLN	17	3.4%
CHAVES	18	3.4%	CHAVES	18	3.2%	ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	18	3.3%
DE BACA	18	3.4%	LINCOLN	19	3.1%	COLFAX	19	3.1%
LINCOLN	20	3.3%	DE BACA	19	3.1%	DE BACA	19	3.1%
FARMINGTON MSA 2/	21	3.1%	FARMINGTON MSA 2/	21	3.0%	FARMINGTON MSA 2/	19	3.1%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	22	3.0%	SANTA FE MSA 4/	22	2.9%	SOCORRO	22	3.0%
HARDING	22	3.0%	HARDING	23	2.7%	EDDY	23	2.9%
SOCORRO	22	3.0%	SOCORRO	24	2.6%	HIDALGO	24	2.8%
LOS ALAMOS	25	2.7%	CURRY	24	2.6%	SANTA FE MSA 4/	24	2.8%
CURRY	25	2.7%	LOS ALAMOS	24	2.6%	UNION	26	2.7%
EDDY	27	2.6%	EDDY	27	2.5%	CURRY	27	2.6%
ROOSEVELT	28	2.3%	ROOSEVELT	28	2.3%	ROOSEVELT	28	2.4%
LEA	29	2.2%	UNION	29	2.0%	LEA	29	2.2%
UNION	30	2.1%	LEA	29	2.0%	LOS ALAMOS	30	2.0%

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

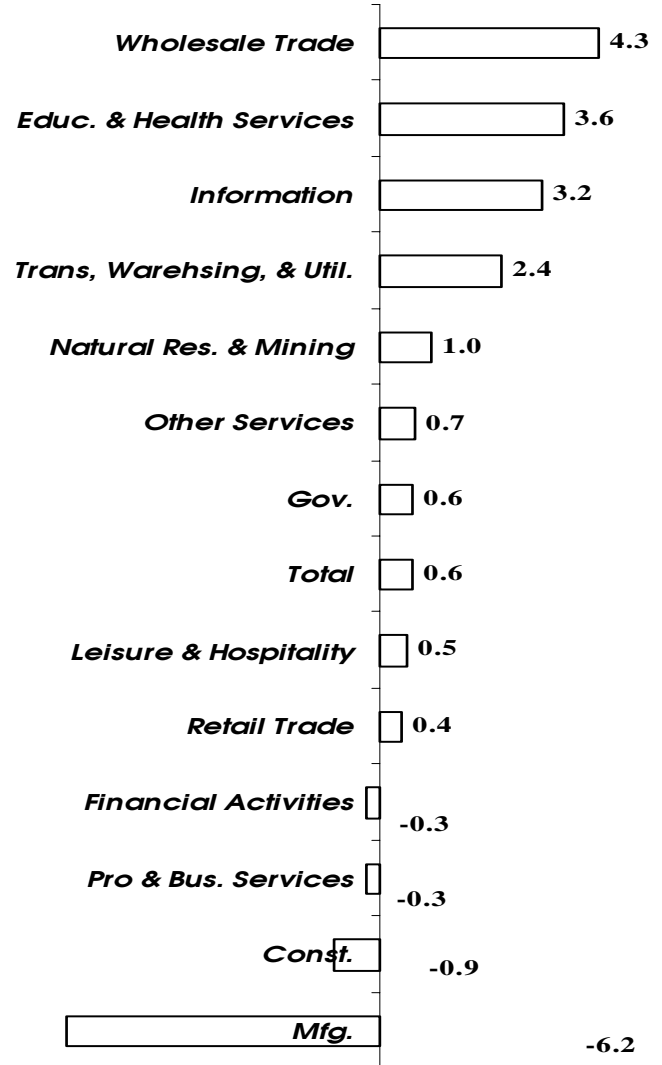
(Seasonally Adjusted)

March 2008			March 2007		
State	Rank	Rate	State	Rank	Rate
Michigan	1	7.2	Michigan	1	7.0
Alaska	2	6.7	Mississippi	2	6.4
California	3	6.2	Alaska	3	6.0
District of Columbia	3	6.2	District of Columbia	4	5.7
Rhode Island	5	6.1	South Carolina	4	5.7
Mississippi	6	6.0	Kentucky	6	5.6
Nevada	7	5.8	Ohio	7	5.5
Kentucky	8	5.7	Arkansas	8	5.3
Missouri	8	5.7	California	9	5.0
Ohio	8	5.7	Oregon	9	5.0
Oregon	8	5.7	Wisconsin	9	5.0
South Carolina	8	5.7	Rhode Island	12	4.9
Tennessee	13	5.6	Missouri	13	4.7
Illinois	14	5.5	Illinois	14	4.6
Connecticut	15	5.3	Indiana	14	4.6
Georgia	15	5.3	Maine	14	4.6
North Carolina	17	5.2	Massachusetts	14	4.6
Indiana	18	5.1	Nevada	14	4.6
United States		5.1	Minnesota	19	4.5
Maine	19	5.0	North Carolina	19	4.5
Arkansas	20	4.9	Tennessee	19	4.5
Florida	20	4.9	Connecticut	22	4.4
Pennsylvania	20	4.9	New York	22	4.4
Washington	20	4.9	Texas	22	4.4
New Jersey	24	4.8	United States		4.4
New York	24	4.8	Washington	22	4.4
Wisconsin	24	4.8	West Virginia	22	4.4
Minnesota	27	4.7	New Jersey	27	4.3
West Virginia	27	4.7	Oklahoma	27	4.3
Vermont	29	4.6	Pennsylvania	27	4.3
Louisiana	30	4.5	Georgia	30	4.2
Colorado	31	4.4	Kansas	31	4.0
Massachusetts	31	4.4	Vermont	31	4.0
Texas	33	4.3	Louisiana	33	3.9
Alabama	34	4.1	New Hampshire	34	3.8
Kansas	34	4.1	Arizona	35	3.7
Arizona	36	4.0	Colorado	35	3.7
New Hampshire	37	3.9	Florida	35	3.7
Delaware	38	3.8	Iowa	35	3.7
New Mexico	39	3.7	New Mexico	35	3.7
Virginia	39	3.7	Maryland	40	3.5
Maryland	41	3.6	Alabama	41	3.4
Montana	41	3.6	Delaware	41	3.4
Iowa	43	3.5	North Dakota	43	3.2
Utah	44	3.3	Montana	44	3.1
Hawaii	45	3.1	South Dakota	45	3.0
North Dakota	45	3.1	Wyoming	45	3.0
Oklahoma	45	3.1	Virginia	47	2.9
Wyoming	45	3.1	Idaho	48	2.8
Idaho	49	3.0	Nebraska	49	2.7
Nebraska	50	2.9	Hawaii	50	2.5
South Dakota	51	2.5	Utah	51	2.4

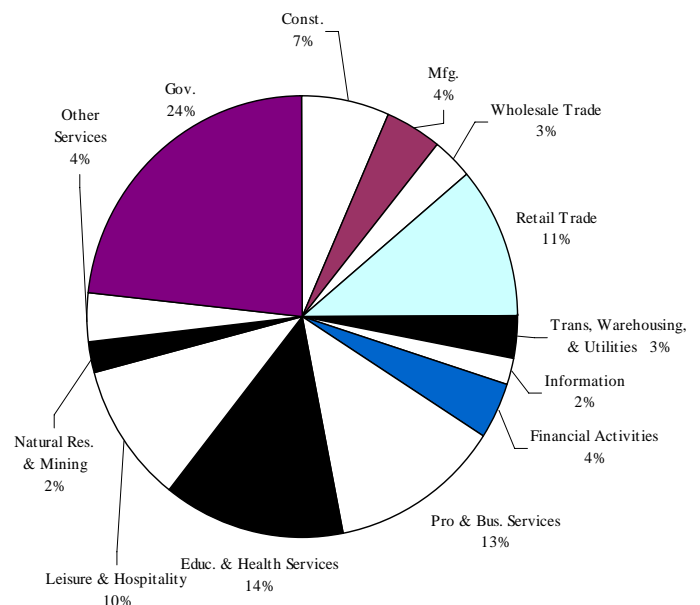
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Annual Growth Rates by Industry



NAICS Industries



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Mar-08	Feb-08	Mar-07	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	847,600	839,700	842,300	7,900	5,300
GOODS PRODUCING	111,800	110,200	114,400	1,600	-2,600
SERVICE PROVIDING	735,800	729,500	727,900	6,300	7,900
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	19,300	19,300	19,100	0	200
CONSTRUCTION	57,600	56,100	58,100	1,500	-500
MANUFACTURING	34,900	34,800	37,200	100	-2,300
WHOLESALE TRADE	24,400	24,200	23,400	200	1,000
RETAIL TRADE	95,400	94,500	95,000	900	400
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	25,400	25,400	24,800	0	600
INFORMATION	16,300	15,800	15,800	500	500
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	35,200	35,200	35,300	0	-100
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	108,000	107,500	108,300	500	-300
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	115,800	114,800	111,800	1,000	4,000
Educational Services	14,900	14,400	14,400	500	500
Health Care and Social Assistance	100,900	100,400	97,400	500	3,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	87,300	85,500	86,900	1,800	400
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	8,600	8,400	8,500	200	100
Accommodation and Food Services	78,700	77,100	78,400	1,600	300
OTHER SERVICES	29,100	28,800	28,900	300	200
GOVERNMENT	198,900	197,800	197,700	1,100	1,200
Federal Government	29,900	29,800	29,900	100	0
State Government	61,800	61,400	61,300	400	500
<i>State Government Education</i>	29,200	28,800	29,200	400	0
Local Government	107,200	106,600	106,500	600	700
<i>Local Government Education</i>	58,700	58,600	59,300	100	-600

ALBUQUERQUE	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Mar-08	Feb-08	Mar-07	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	397,200	394,000	395,900	3,200	1,300
GOODS PRODUCING	52,200	51,500	54,600	700	-2,400
SERVICE PROVIDING	345,000	342,500	341,300	2,500	3,700
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING & CONSTRUCTION	29,800	29,200	30,600	600	-800
MANUFACTURING	22,400	22,300	24,000	100	-1,600
WHOLESALE TRADE	13,400	13,300	13,200	100	200
RETAIL TRADE	44,500	44,400	43,900	100	600
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	11,200	11,200	10,800	0	400
INFORMATION	9,400	9,400	9,200	0	200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	19,100	19,100	19,200	0	-100
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	64,400	64,000	64,000	400	400
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	51,000	50,300	49,500	700	1,500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	39,000	38,500	38,800	500	200
OTHER SERVICES	12,400	12,300	12,200	100	200
GOVERNMENT	80,600	80,000	80,500	600	100
Federal Government	14,200	14,200	14,500	0	-300
State Government	26,700	26,400	26,400	300	300
Local Government	39,700	39,400	39,600	300	100

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

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

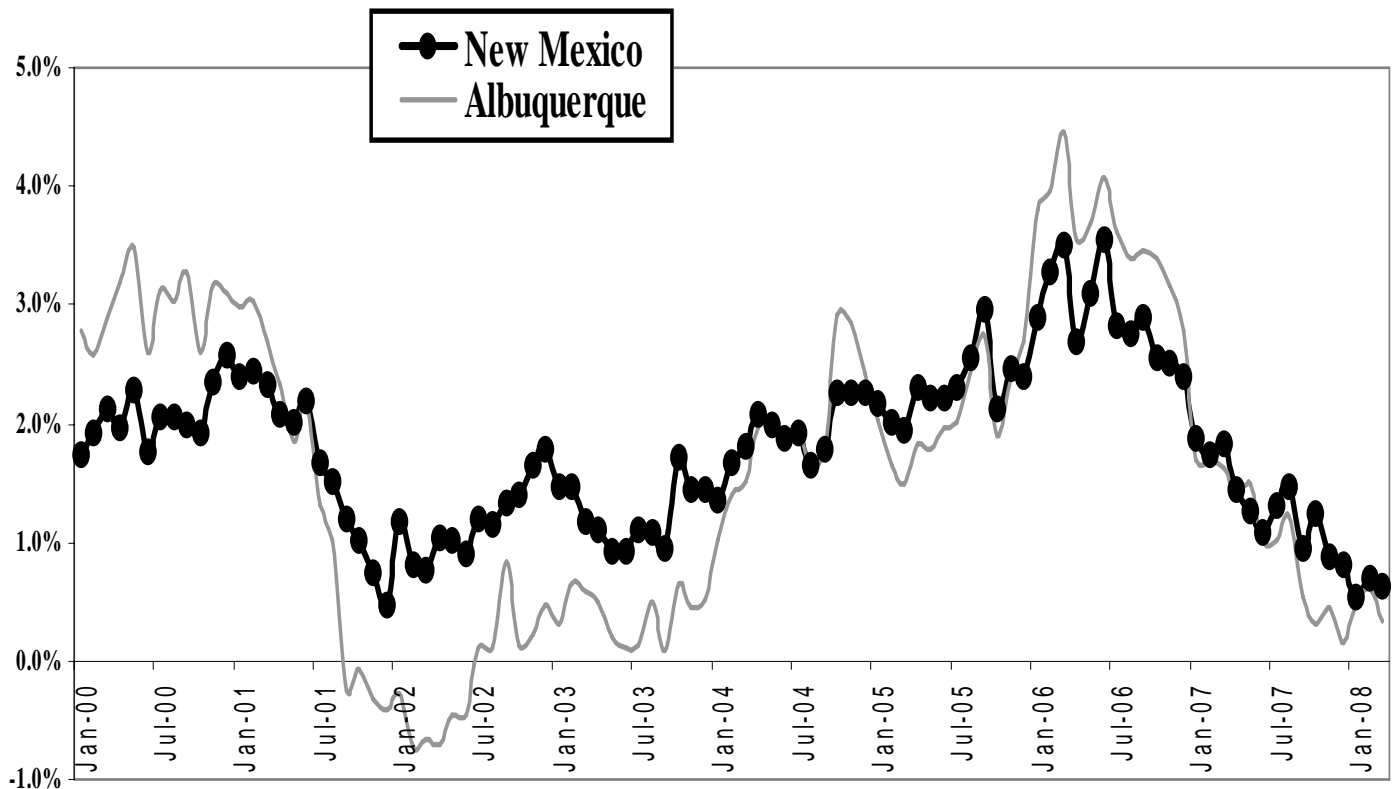
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

- Seasonally Adjusted -

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Mar-08	Revised Feb-08	Monthly Change
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT*	851,300	848,200	3,100
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	19,400	19,500	-100
CONSTRUCTION	59,400	59,000	400
MANUFACTURING	35,300	35,500	-200
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	147,100	146,800	300
INFORMATION (Not Seasonally Adjusted)	16,300	15,800	500
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	35,300	35,400	-100
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	109,300	108,800	500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	114,600	113,700	900
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	89,000	88,700	300
OTHER SERVICES	29,800	29,700	100
GOVERNMENT	195,800	195,300	500

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

New Mexico and Albuquerque Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates



Average Hours and Earnings

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

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07
NEW MEXICO									
CONSTRUCTION	\$673.68	\$669.20	\$659.31	40.1	40.0	40.3	\$16.80	\$16.73	\$16.36
MANUFACTURING	\$572.71	\$565.02	\$560.56	39.2	38.7	39.2	\$14.61	\$14.60	\$14.30
WHOLESALE TRADE	\$542.91	\$542.91	\$534.92	35.3	35.3	35.1	\$15.38	\$15.38	\$15.24
RETAIL TRADE	\$372.88	\$367.90	\$364.50	32.2	32.3	32.4	\$11.58	\$11.39	\$11.25

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 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Month to Month	Year to Year
CPI-U	213.5	211.7	205.4	0.9%	4.0%
CPI-W	209.1	207.3	200.6	0.9%	4.3%

*CPI-U - All Urban Consumers

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

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New Mexico Area Economic Activity

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

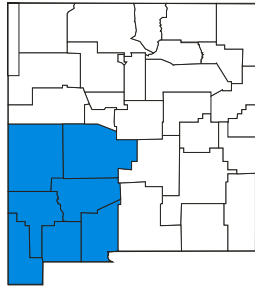
Statewide:

The Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) board at its March meeting approved \$411,222 in funds, facilitating the creation of 52 new jobs for three diverse businesses expanding operations in New Mexico. March's JTIP recipients were **Compass Components, Inc.**, Deming, a cable and harness manufacturer and electro-mechanical assembler for the transportation, semiconductor, capital equipment, and medical industries, \$78,807 supporting 17 new jobs; **Genzyme Genetics**, Santa Fe, provider of complex reproductive and oncology testing, diagnostic, and consulting services, \$277,372 supporting 32 new jobs; **ZTEC Instruments**, Albuquerque, designer and manufacturer of high-performance, miniaturized electronic instruments for military, aerospace, commercial manufacturing, and scientific markets, \$55,043 supporting 3 new jobs.

Southwestern WIA Area:

Las Cruces Area, Doña Ana County:

Starting this summer, about 225 soldiers from the **70th Engineer Battalion** will be stationed at the White Sands Missile Range. The 225 troops are the first of about 750 soldiers from the engineering unit. Congress has appropriated \$71 million to upgrade facilities on the base, including additional living quarters and a new dining facility. Most of the battalion will be stationed at White Sands within the next year. The 70th Engineer Battalion is currently deployed in Iraq.



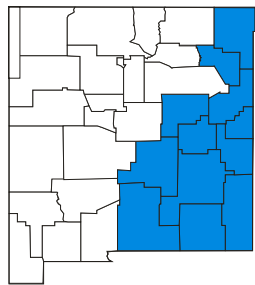
Santa Teresa Area, Dona Ana County:

MCS Industries plans to relocate its El Paso, Texas, distribution warehouse to Santa Teresa in July 2008. The operation will initially employ 20 people, and the company plans to hire an additional 20 within the next three years. MCS will occupy 141,000 square feet of warehouse space located at the Santa Teresa Bi-National Park. At full capacity, MCS expects to employ 60 in New Mexico. MCS Industries is a leading manufacturer of wall and tabletop picture, photograph, document and certificate frames.

Eastern WIA Area:

Roswell Area, Chaves County:

Verety, LLC will establish its remote order services operation in Roswell, bringing 100 new work-at-home jobs to Chaves County. Verety's innovative remote order service (ROS) helps restaurants enhance speed of service, order accuracy, and customer satisfaction by streamlining drive-thru operations. Verety associates receive drive-thru orders remotely then route them electronically to the restaurant using the service. The company expects to begin training in March and will hire 60-80 employees through May when it will officially launch



operations. Verety plans to employ 100 workers in New Mexico by the end of the year.

Alamogordo Area, Otero County:

A recent job fair was held to find employees for the new \$64 million, 1,086-bed prison expected to open in May in southern Otero County. **Management and Training Corp.**, a Utah-based company that manages detainee beds for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, will operate the new Otero County Processing Center. Last May, Otero County issued more than \$62 million in bonds to pay for the processing center. At full capacity, the facility will be able to admit up to 250 immigrants per day and generate more than \$25 million in annual revenue for the county. About 390 employees are needed to staff the prison.

Clovis Area, Curry County:

An Australian company that plans to turn animal fat into biodiesel is delaying the construction of a plant in Clovis until June or July 2008. Construction was originally scheduled to start in March. Company spokespersons cited an increase in the price of animal feedstock and the task of raising capital as causes for the delay. Dallas-based **American Renewable Fuels**, a subsidiary of Australian Renewable Fuels, is the second biodiesel plant to postpone construction because of market and capital conditions. Clovis Biodiesel recently halted construction on an \$18 million plant that was scheduled to open by March in the Clovis Industrial Park. Officials maintain hope that the plant will open within a year.

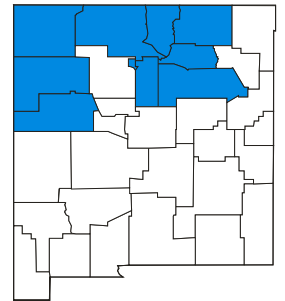
Hobbs Area, Lea County:

Southeastern New Mexico is in the running for another possible nuclear facility. **Areva Inc.** is considering locating a uranium enrichment plant between Hobbs and Carlsbad. The Lea County Commission approved the issuance of industrial revenue bonds to support the project. If the New Mexico site is selected and necessary government approvals are granted, construction of the Areva facility could begin in 2011. Many temporary jobs would be created during the construction phase, and Areva expects to employ about 250 permanent workers to operate the plant.

Northern WIA Area:

Farmington Area, San Juan County:

Farmington's **Hacienda Home Center** is going out of business and will close by May 31. The New Mexico-owned lumber and hardware retailer lost the lease for its location at 900 Main Street and has so far been unable to find a suitable site to relocate. The 25 employees of the Farmington store have been offered employment at Hacienda's other stores in Bosque Farms, Las Vegas, Espanola, and Clovis.



Las Vegas Area, San Miguel County:

The **Brookhaven Nursing Home** at 813 Fourth Street closed in March. Nursing home staff and residents were informed on Friday,

February 29 about plans to close. The home's 15 residents were transferred to other nursing homes, and the 25 staff members received assistance in finding jobs at other nursing facilities.

Invenergy, a Chicago-based clean energy company, has been conducting wind tests in San Miguel County and says it wants to build a wind farm on the mesa south of I-25 and east of Highway 3. The company has requested that the San Miguel County Commission consider approval of industrial revenue bonds to assist the project. Invenergy officials estimate that it would take about a year to build the wind farm, which would employ about 150 to 200 people during the construction phase and create about a dozen permanent jobs.

Santa Fe Area, Santa Fe County:

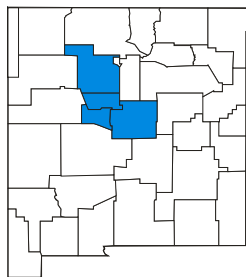
Genzyme Genetics plans to expand information technology services at its Santa Fe laboratories with up to 45 new hires in the next three years. According to company officials, Genzyme will need highly skilled technicians and other very highly skilled workers. The company is in the process of expanding its information technology operations, adding new equipment and refurbishing some buildings. The Santa Fe facility currently employs about 300 people and encompasses five buildings totaling 60,000 square feet at 2000 Vivigen Way. Genzyme Corp. was founded in 1981 and has more than 10,000 employees in offices all over the world. Its 2007 revenues were \$3.8 billion.

La Montanita Co-op Natural Foods Market, in Solana Center, is adding 8,000 square feet and enlarging its departments, including dairy, produce, grocery, hot food, and deli. There's also a new pizza oven in the store. The expansion will make the store better able to improve its market share in Santa Fe's competitive natural-food sector. The store reports very strong sales, and the additional space is expected to promote a 30 percent increase in sales. Other elements of the store's makeover include additional seating for customers, larger offices for workers, better storage space, nicer restrooms, and a sprinkler system. The expanded store will hire another dozen or so people, bolstering its workforce to about 75 people full- and part-time.

Central WIA Area:

Albuquerque Area, Bernalillo County:

Advent Solar Inc. laid off 68 employees on March 19 as part of a broad effort to re-tool its production line and upgrade its solar photovoltaic cells. Last fall, the company decided to switch its manufacturing process from 125-millimeter-wide cells to 156-millimeter units to stay competitive in the industry. The conversion requires a lengthy upgrade to the company's 87,000-square-foot manufacturing facility at Mesa del Sol. Advent laid off 27 workers last fall when it began the upgrade. A total of 95 employees—or about half the company's workforce—have now been let go. The company expects product development to take six months, followed by three months of testing and six months of certification. A company spokesperson said that Advent would probably start rehiring in the first half of 2009.



Fidelity HR Services plans to employ 300-350 workers by the end of the year at a temporary facility in southeast Albuquerque. Fidelity will hold two job fairs in April, one for Kirtland Air Force Base employees and their spouses and another open to the public. Fidelity is also posting open positions at www.fidelitycareers.com. Until construction of its Mesa del Sol facility is completed, the company will occupy the former Lockheed Martin Building at the corner of University and Avenida Cesar Chavez SE. Local employees will earn between \$25,000 and \$60,000 per year.

A \$35 billion U.S. Air Force contract with Northrop Grumman may generate up to 400 jobs in Albuquerque. The contract for military refueling planes is expected to create job openings with several suppliers to Northrop Grumman. Four Albuquerque companies were identified as probable beneficiaries of the contract: **Honeywell**, **GE Aircraft Engines**, and GE suppliers **Sun Country Industries** and **Mach2 Machining**.

Rio Rancho Area, Sandoval County:

A **Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse** will be built on a 47-acre site at Loma Colorado and Northern Boulevard in Rio Rancho. The 171,000-square-foot Lowe's store is part of a planned \$40 million development that will include more than 350,000 square feet of retail space at the Loma Colorado and Northern site.



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The advertisement features a stylized illustration of a computer workstation with a monitor, keyboard, and mouse. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout, with the title 'Labor Market Review' in a large, bold font. Below the title, it says 'Now Exclusively Online!' and 'Give it a Click!' in a smaller font. At the bottom, there is a URL: 'www.dws.state.nm.us/LMI/dws-lmrv.html'. The entire advertisement is enclosed in a black border.

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