



New Mexico Labor Market Review

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To Hire Someone?
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A Publication Presenting Highlights of March 2009 Labor Market Data

...New Mexico's rate of over-the-year job growth was negative 1.9 percent, representing an over-the-year loss of 16,400 jobs.

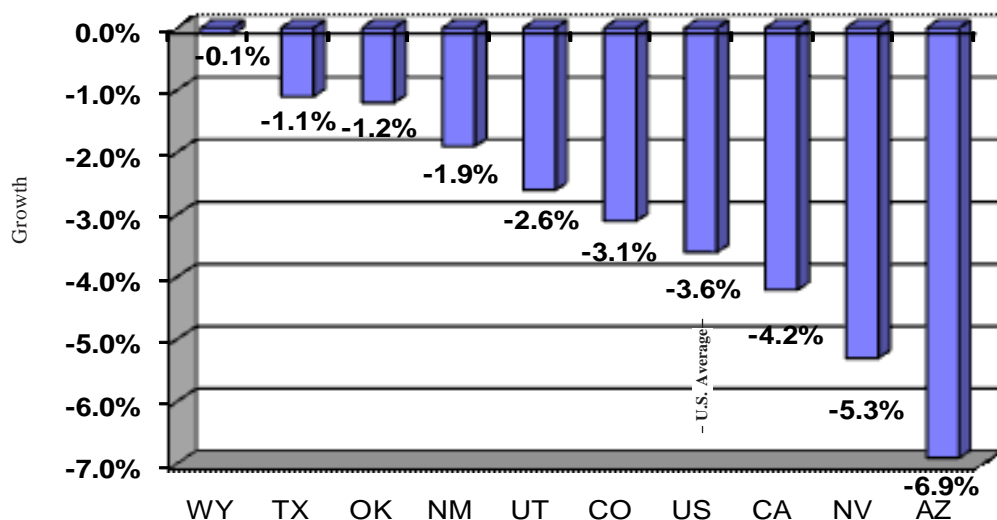
...Over the past 12 months, payroll employment has declined by 2.0 percent, subtracting 7,700 jobs from the Albuquerque area economy. Job growth has been negative for six consecutive months, and the Albuquerque MSA is losing jobs at a slightly faster rate than is the state as a whole.

...The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces MSA was flat at 0 percent. Las Cruces has not seen job growth this weak since over-the-year rate fell below 1 percent for three consecutive months in 2001.

...The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Santa Fe MSA was minus 1.7 percent, representing a loss of 1,100 jobs. The Santa Fe job market has been weak for the last year and a half.

Current Regional Nonfarm Employment Growth

March 2009 over March 2008 - Not Seasonally Adjusted



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New Mexico Labor Force and Payroll Employment

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.9 percent in March 2009, up from 5.4 percent in February and 3.9 percent a year ago. The national unemployment rate increased to 8.5 percent.

The rate of over-the-year job growth, comparing March 2009 with March 2008, was negative 1.9 percent, representing an over-the-year loss of 16,400 jobs. Even with strongly negative job growth, New Mexico outperformed many other states, ranking twelfth highest in both February and March. All but the top three states and the District of Columbia reported job losses. In this economic climate, the good news may be the ability to claim that we have fared better than many other states. The New Mexico economy is doing about as well as can be expected under the circumstances, but recent performance is worse than we have experienced in decades.

Prior to October 2008, the state's job growth had not been negative since June 1991, more than 17 years ago. At that time, job growth turned negative for just one month. The last period of sustained job losses in the state occurred from October 1986 through February 1987. To find job growth that dropped as low as the minus 1.9 percent reported this month requires going back to the mid-1950s. One of the worst years for employment in New Mexico was back in 1954 when jobs declined by an average of 2.3 percent. That year followed a decade where job growth averaged more than 6 percent. We are clearly living through times that are without recent precedent.

Health care and government appear to offer the best employment prospects for the state as we continue to navigate difficult economic times. Only two of the state's 13 industries posted any job growth since last year, while the 11 others reported employment declines. Most of the gains came from the health care component of the educational & health services industry, which was up 4,400 jobs on the year. Government jobs also continued to grow, increasing by 2,000. Most of the new government jobs are at the local level, many at tribally owned casinos.

Mining had added jobs until last month when job losses escalated, reducing employment below last year's level. Layoffs increased this month, and the industry is now down 900 jobs on the year. Previous gains in mining employment were a carryover from last summer when commodity prices reached record levels. The construction industry reported 7,800 fewer jobs in March 2009 than in March 2008. The industry is going through a difficult period of adjustment following four years of growth that resulted in the creation of 14,000 new jobs. The state also lost 3,200 manufacturing jobs over the last year, with reductions reported across the board.

As was widely reported by the local media, Eclipse Aviation recently ceased production of its light aircraft, adding to layoffs of manufacturing workers.

With a rather dismal holiday shopping season far behind us, the short-term outlook for retail trade appears no better, with a reported 3,600 fewer jobs than at this time last year. A number of faltering retailers held on through the peak holiday season then had liquidation sales early in the new year before finally closing. The much smaller wholesale trade industry did not fare much better, reporting 1,000 fewer jobs. The professional & business services industry, often considered a barometer for the rest of the economy, reported employment that was down by 1,600 jobs from last year. The transportation, warehousing & utilities industry lost 1,300 jobs, down 5.1 percent.

Leisure & hospitality reported 2,100 fewer jobs, with most of the declines reported in the accommodation and food services component. The financial activities industry also lost jobs, declining by 800 since last March. The miscellaneous *other services* category reported 200 fewer jobs than at this time last year. This follows a seven-month boom in employment in the run-up to the national election. The major political parties and social advocacy organizations boosted employment by as many as 1,000 jobs from April to October last year.

Finally, the information industry reported an over-the-year decline of 300 jobs. This industry is still doing fairly well, but the comparison is to a strong month last year. The source of employment opportunities has been the state's film industry. This industry has done well over the last three years; however, large month-to-month employment swings are common in film production work. During times of intensive production, employment in the state's film industry has been as many as 3,000 jobs above baseline levels.

New Mexico <u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	<u>Mar 2009</u>	<u>Feb 2009</u>	<u>Mar 2008</u>	<u>Feb 2009</u>	<u>Mar 2008</u>
Civilian Labor Force	954,600	957,400	955,000	-2,800	-400
Employment	898,700	905,800	918,200	-7,100	-19,500
Unemployment	56,000	51,600	36,800	+4,400	+19,200
Rate	5.9%	5.4%	3.9%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	6.0%	5.7%	3.7%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Albuquerque MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance & Valencia Counties)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the Albuquerque MSA was 6.6 percent in March, up from 5.9 percent in February and 3.8 percent a year ago. The unemployment rate has doubled since falling to a low of 3.3 percent in May 2007.

Over the month, payroll employment in the Albuquerque area grew by 1,000 or 0.3 percent, slightly less than the typical February to March increase. Five of the 12 major industry divisions expanded employment, with service-providing industries adding 1,600 jobs and goods-producing industries losing 600. Government and educational & health services each grew by 500 jobs to lead the gaining industries. Leisure & hospitality contributed 300 new jobs, while retail trade added 200 and miscellaneous *other services* 100. Warmer weather in March normally prompts an upsurge in building activity that boosts the construction industry, but such was not the case this year amid the continuing economic malaise. Construction employment was down 500 or 2.0 percent over the month, while manufacturing contracted by 100. The five remaining industries—wholesale trade; transportation, warehousing & utilities; information; financial activities; and professional & business services—each remained unchanged from February.

Over the past 12 months, payroll employment has declined by 2.0 percent, subtracting 7,700 jobs from the Albuquerque area economy. Job growth has been negative for six consecutive months, and the Albuquerque MSA is losing jobs at a slightly faster rate than is the state as a whole. Only three of the 12 major industry divisions have added jobs since last March.

Educational & health services continued to experience the strongest growth of any industry division, increasing employment by 5.1 percent (+2,600 jobs) over the year. This industry has been a consistent source of new jobs in the Albuquerque area, exceeding 3 percent annual average growth on seven occasions during the past decade. Over that time, educational & health services expanded its share of total nonfarm employment from 10.3 percent to 12.9 percent, the largest percentage increase for any industry. The recession-proof nature of educational & health services is evident in observing its job creation during the two most recent periods of negative growth in the Albuquerque MSA. The industry posted 5.1 percent annual average growth in 2002 when total nonfarm employment contracted by 0.1 percent and, similarly, grew by 4.3 percent last year while total nonfarm employment again declined by 0.1 percent.

Government added 1,900 new jobs for an increase of 2.3 percent. The lion's share of the growth came from local government, which was up 1,500. Federal government gained 400 jobs, while state

government employment remained unchanged from a year ago. Government, like educational & health services, has proved to be a consistent provider of new jobs during difficult times, posting 3.1 percent annual average growth in 2002 and 2.3 percent last year. Many of the new local government jobs have come from the expansion of casino-related operations at Isleta and Laguna pueblos.

Information was the only other gainer, adding 400 jobs over the year for growth of 4.3 percent. This small industry employed 9,700 in March, up 1,000 from its 2005 annual average. Film production has been a significant, albeit erratic, contributor to the information industry's recent employment growth.

Construction posted an over-the-year loss of 4,500 jobs in March, a 15.6 percent decline. This follows contractions of 13.3 percent in February and 10.8 percent in January. Industry employment has slipped nearly 23 percent since the close of 2006, recording 27 consecutive months of year-to-year losses along the way. Nuggets of good news have been few and far between, but the New Mexico Business Weekly recently reported that Rio Rancho home construction permits surged in February to nearly equal the number recorded a year earlier. The gain boosted the Albuquerque MSA's total by 54 percent over the January number and should positively impact construction employment in the coming months.

Manufacturing employment was down 2,100 or 9.4 percent, marking the industry's twenty-second consecutive month of negative growth. Eclipse Aviation's remaining employees left their jobs on March 4 after a motion was granted to convert the company's bankruptcy protection from Chapter 11 to Chapter 7. Eclipse had grown to more than 1,800 employees, nearly all of them in Albuquerque, before financial struggles prompted its demise.

Employment fell by 2,000 or 5.2 percent in leisure & hospitality as restrained consumer spending continued to hamper job growth in its largest component, accommodation and food services. Retail trade recorded its sixth consecutive month of negative growth, down 1,900 jobs or 4.3 percent. The other industries posting over-the-year job losses for March were professional & business services (-800); wholesale trade (-500), financial activities (-400); transportation, warehousing & utilities (-300), and miscellaneous *other services* (-100).

Albuquerque Seasonally Adjusted	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Mar 2009	Feb 2009	Mar 2008	Feb 2009	Mar 2008
Civilian Labor Force	406,300	408,900	410,800	-2,600	-4,500
Employment	379,500	385,000	395,000	-5,500	-15,500
Unemployment	26,800	23,900	15,700	+2,900	+11,100
Rate	6.6%	5.9%	3.8%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	6.3%	6.0%	3.7%		

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 5.8 percent in March 2009, up from 5.4 percent in February. A year ago, the area's unemployment rate was 4.0 percent.

In March 2009, the Las Cruces area added 400 jobs, with a loss of 200 jobs in manufacturing partially offsetting gains of 200 jobs in state government and 100 jobs in each of four private-sector industries. Employment was unchanged in the remaining six private industries.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces area was flat at 0 percent, comparing March 2009 with March 2008. Las Cruces has not seen job growth this weak since the over-the-year rate fell below 1 percent for three consecutive months in 2001. March marks the seventh consecutive month of job growth less than 1 percent that began in September 2008. However, job growth remains higher than other areas and above statewide averages.

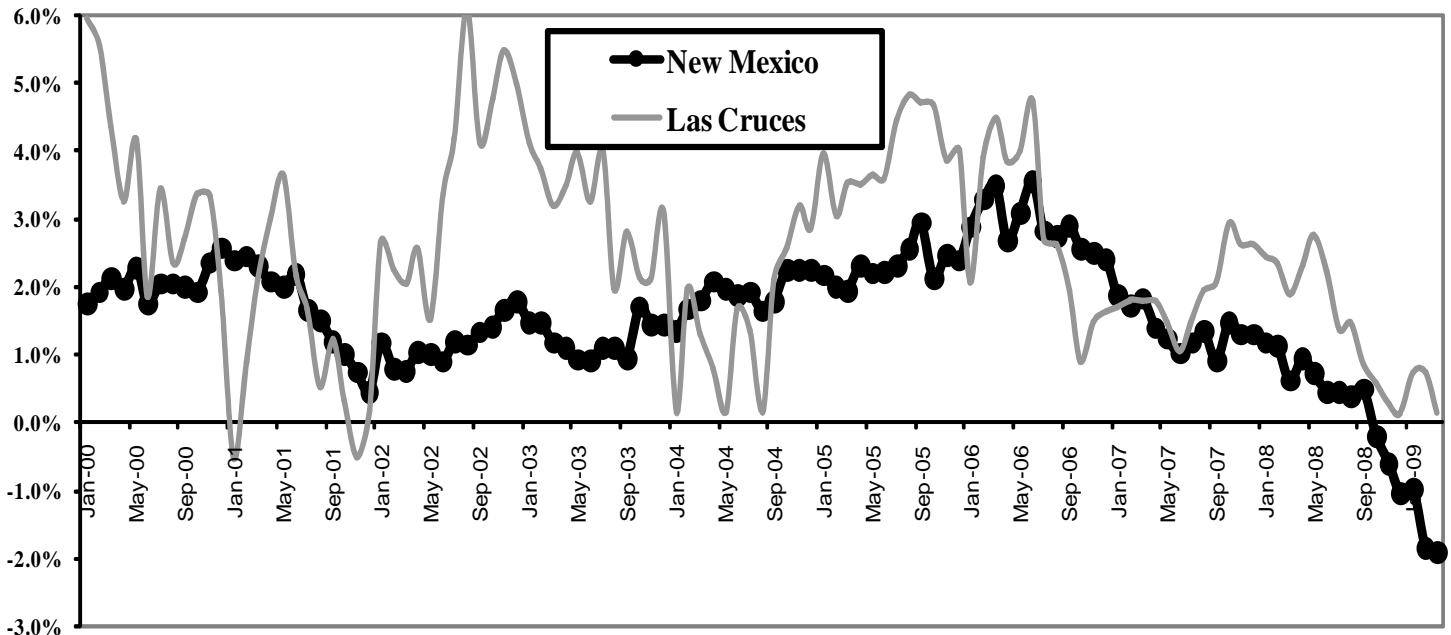
Educational & health services gained 500 jobs, growing 4.5 percent. Employment increases at area call centers helped the professional & business services industry expand by 300 jobs since last year. Financial activities added 200 jobs, and miscellaneous *other services* added 100. The government sector expanded by 200 jobs since last year, with increases reported at the federal and local levels.

Five industries—construction (-500); retail trade (-300); manufacturing (-200); leisure & hospitality (-200); and transportation, warehousing & utilities (-100)—reported fewer jobs compared to year-ago levels. Declining construction employment has been evident for some time. Employment was unchanged from last year in the two remaining industries—wholesale trade and information.

Las Cruces <u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	Prel. Revised			Change From	
	<u>Mar 2009</u>	<u>Feb 2009</u>	<u>Mar 2008</u>	<u>Feb 2009</u>	<u>Mar 2008</u>
Civilian Labor Force	89,500	90,100	89,700	-600	-200
Employment	84,300	85,200	86,000	-900	-1,700
Unemployment	5,200	4,900	3,600	+300	+1,600
Rate	5.8%	5.4%	4.0%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	6.1%	5.9%	4.2%		

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 5.3 percent in March 2009, up from 4.8 percent in February. A year ago, the local area had an unemployment rate of 3.1 percent.

Santa Fe saw no overall employment change during the month of March 2009, with increases in two industries offset by declines in two others. The month of March typically posts employment gains, so the local economy appears to be suffering.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for Santa Fe was minus 1.7 percent, representing a loss of 1,100 jobs. The Santa Fe job market has been weak for the last year and a half. Job growth has alternated between positive and negative territory, mostly staying close to the zero line. Some months have been better than others, but employment prospects in the local area have been fairly poor.

Educational & health services added 200 jobs, which was more than for any other private industry. The government sector also reported 200 additional jobs, all of which were added at the local level as employment at both the federal and state levels remained unchanged. The only other industry to expand employment was leisure & hospitality, up just 100 jobs.

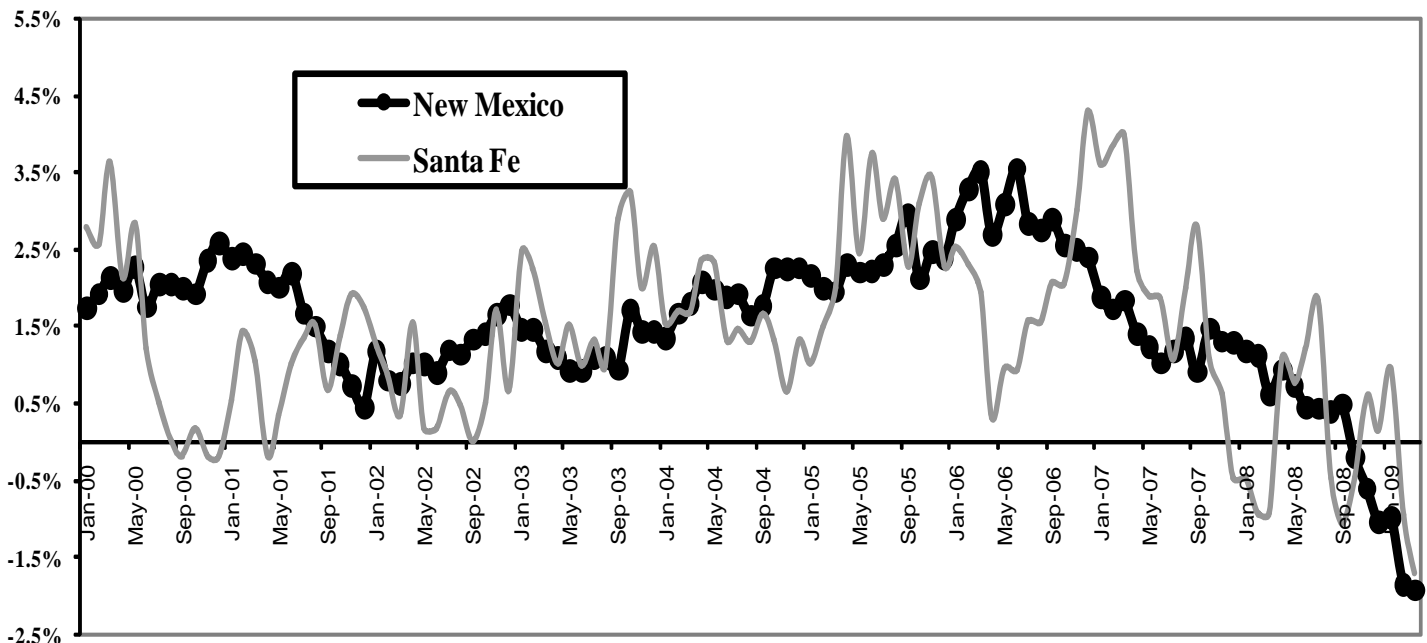
The largest drop occurred in construction, which was down 700 jobs. This performance is consistent with the current poor fortunes of construction in most other parts of the state. Six other industries also reported lower employment levels than a year ago. Retail trade was down by 400 jobs, and the much smaller wholesale trade industry was down 100 jobs. Professional & business services reported 100 fewer jobs, as did the information, financial activities and miscellaneous *other services*.

Two other industries reported job counts that were unchanged from year-ago levels. Those industries were manufacturing and transportation, warehousing & utilities.

Santa Fe	Prel.		Revised		Change From	
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Mar 2009</u>	<u>Feb 2009</u>	<u>Mar 2008</u>	<u>Feb 2009</u>	<u>Mar 2008</u>	
Civilian Labor Force	78,300	78,600	79,100	-300	-800	
Employment	74,200	74,900	76,600	-700	-2,400	
Unemployment	4,100	3,800	2,500	+300	+1,600	
Rate	5.3%	4.8%	3.1%			
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	5.2%	5.1%	3.1%			

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Santa Fe



Area Spotlight: Southwestern WIA

Joy Forehand, Economist



The average weekly wage for the Southwestern WIA in 3rd Quarter 2008 was \$597. This would be equivalent to \$14.93 per hour or \$31,044 per year, assuming a 40-hour week worked the year around. The average weekly wage statewide is \$712, which is equivalent to \$17.80 per hour or \$37,024 per year.

The total civilian labor force in the Southwestern WIA for March 2009 was 134,384, of which 124,358 were employed and 10,026 were unemployed. The seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate was 7.5 percent as compared to the statewide unemployment rate of 6.0 percent.

The total number of employees located in the Southwestern WIA in 3rd Quarter 2008 was 99,105. The largest major industry sector was Health Care and Social Assistance (with 15 percent of the employment), followed by Education Services (with 14 percent), and Retail Trade (with 11 percent).

The largest major occupational group was Office and Administrative Support Occupations (with 14 percent of the estimated employment), followed by Sales and Related Occupations (with 10 percent), and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (with 9 percent). These employment figures are for the 2006-2016 timeframe.

Top Ten Industry Groups	Establishments	Employees
Total, All Industries	6,561	99,105
Health Care & Social Assistance	744	14,950
Education Services	151	14,246
Retail Trade (44 & 45)	755	10,975
Public Administration	307	9,068
Accommodation & Food Services	525	9,048
Construction	934	6,223
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	279	6,048
Transportation & Warehousing (48 & 49)	303	2,275
Finance & Insurance	287	2,268
Mining	34	1,753

Top Ten Occupational Groups	2006 Estimated Number of Employed	2016 Projected Number of Employed
Total, All Occupations	100,909	118,727
Office & Administrative Support Occupations	14,273	15,749
Sales & Related Occupations	10,274	11,164
Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	8,658	10,357
Education, Training & Library Occupations	8,593	11,860
Construction & Extraction Occupations	7,359	8,546
Management Occupations	5,702	6,576
Protective Service Occupations	4,966	5,827
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	4,897	6,271
Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	4,576	4,966
Production Occupations	4,506	5,074

*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 %
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		901,832	849,970	51,863	5.8%	
2005		917,569	870,288	47,281	5.2%	
2006		935,396	896,359	39,037	4.2%	
2007		945,700	912,167	33,533	3.5%	
2008		959,458	919,466	39,992	4.2%	
2008	JAN	953,182	917,942	35,240	3.7%	3.7%
	FEB	954,767	918,771	35,996	3.8%	3.8%
	MAR	954,996	918,195	36,801	3.9%	3.7%
	APR	956,306	918,662	37,644	3.9%	3.5%
	MAY	957,148	918,626	38,522	4.0%	3.9%
	JUN	957,813	918,384	39,429	4.1%	4.6%
	JUL	959,044	918,687	40,357	4.2%	4.8%
	AUG	961,695	920,398	41,297	4.3%	4.6%
	SEP	964,253	922,013	42,240	4.4%	4.2%
	OCT	964,525	921,336	43,189	4.5%	4.3%
	NOV	964,878	920,747	44,131	4.6%	4.4%
	DEC	964,892	919,833	45,059	4.7%	4.5%
2009	JAN	957,791	908,921	48,870	5.1%	5.2%
	FEB	957,436	905,836	51,600	5.4%	5.7%
	MAR	954,629	898,658	55,971	5.9%	6.0%
	APR					
	MAY					
	JUN					
	JUL					
	AUG					
	SEP					
	OCT					
	NOV					
	DEC					
# CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	-2,807	-7,178	4,371	0.5%	0.3%
	Year Ago	-367	-19,537	19,170	2.0%	2.3%
	2 Yrs. Ago	10,638	-11,747	22,385	2.3%	2.5%
	3 Yrs. Ago	21,598	7,197	14,401	1.4%	1.7%
% CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	-0.3%	-0.8%	8.5%		
	Year Ago	0.0%	-2.1%	52.1%		
	2 Yrs. Ago	1.1%	-1.3%	66.6%		
	3 Yrs. Ago	2.3%	0.8%	34.6%		

State	Rank	March 2008	March 2009	Change	% Change
DC	1	698.2	703.0	4.8	0.7%
Alaska	1	308.5	310.6	2.1	0.7%
Louisiana	3	1,937.6	1,944.2	6.6	0.3%
North Dakota	4	361.6	362.2	0.6	0.2%
Wyoming	5	289.8	289.6	-0.2	-0.1%
Texas	6	10,579.9	10,466.3	-113.6	-1.1%
Oklahoma	7	1,592.5	1,574.1	-18.4	-1.2%
South Dakota	7	403.5	398.8	-4.7	-1.2%
Kansas	9	1,389.2	1,367.5	-21.7	-1.6%
New Hampshire	9	637.9	627.5	-10.4	-1.6%
Nebraska	11	956.8	940.0	-16.8	-1.8%
New York	12	8,720.3	8,554.4	-165.9	-1.9%
New Mexico	12	847.5	831.1	-16.4	-1.9%
Missouri	14	2,782.3	2,724.3	-58.0	-2.1%
Iowa	14	1,509.6	1,477.6	-32.0	-2.1%
West Virginia	16	754.9	738.4	-16.5	-2.2%
Pennsylvania	16	5,761.0	5,634.0	-127.0	-2.2%
Montana	16	440.1	430.3	-9.8	-2.2%
Maryland	19	2,588.9	2,529.2	-59.7	-2.3%
Virginia	20	3,749.0	3,659.5	-89.5	-2.4%
Arkansas	20	1,207.9	1,179.0	-28.9	-2.4%
Utah	22	1,253.3	1,220.2	-33.1	-2.6%
Maine	23	601.8	584.4	-17.4	-2.9%
Colorado	24	2,343.6	2,271.7	-71.9	-3.1%
Massachusetts	25	3,254.1	3,151.4	-102.7	-3.2%
Kentucky	26	1,848.2	1,787.7	-60.5	-3.3%
Mississippi	26	1,157.6	1,119.6	-38.0	-3.3%
New Jersey	26	4,042.7	3,909.4	-133.3	-3.3%
Washington	26	2,949.4	2,851.7	-97.7	-3.3%
Hawaii	26	629.6	608.6	-21.0	-3.3%
Connecticut	31	1,692.5	1,633.5	-59.0	-3.5%
United States		136,944.0	132,072.0	-4,872.0	-3.6%
Minnesota	32	2,729.4	2,631.3	-98.1	-3.6%
Illinois	33	5,903.8	5,672.2	-231.6	-3.9%
Wisconsin	34	2,836.9	2,724.5	-112.4	-4.0%
Alabama	35	2,002.7	1,921.3	-81.4	-4.1%
Indiana	36	2,950.0	2,826.7	-123.3	-4.2%
Ohio	36	5,325.7	5,103.1	-222.6	-4.2%
California	36	15,082.4	14,445.4	-637.0	-4.2%
Vermont	39	306.6	293.5	-13.1	-4.3%
Rhode Island	39	478.2	457.4	-20.8	-4.3%
Tennessee	41	2,790.1	2,667.6	-122.5	-4.4%
Georgia	42	4,131.8	3,945.9	-185.9	-4.5%
Delaware	42	431.1	411.5	-19.6	-4.5%
South Carolina	44	1,944.5	1,850.2	-94.3	-4.8%
North Carolina	45	4,154.0	3,940.3	-213.7	-5.1%
Idaho	46	643.7	610.1	-33.6	-5.2%
Nevada	47	1,275.4	1,208.0	-67.4	-5.3%
Oregon	47	1,721.7	1,630.3	-91.4	-5.3%
Florida	49	7,949.4	7,499.1	-450.3	-5.7%
Michigan	50	4,160.0	3,890.1	-269.9	-6.5%
Arizona	51	2,666.3	2,483.2	-183.1	-6.9%

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 2009				REVISED FEBRUARY 2009				REVISED MARCH 2008			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	948,002	891,473	56,529	6.0%	953,357	899,122	54,235	5.7%	950,448	915,186	35,262	3.7%
Albuquerque MSA 2/	405,115	379,652	25,463	6.3%	408,077	383,569	24,508	6.0%	409,541	394,587	14,954	3.7%
Bernalillo	312,666	293,745	18,921	6.1%	315,002	296,776	18,226	5.8%	316,262	305,301	10,961	3.5%
Sandoval	54,286	50,426	3,860	7.1%	54,620	50,946	3,674	6.7%	54,837	52,409	2,428	4.4%
Torrance	7,134	6,591	543	7.6%	7,190	6,659	531	7.4%	7,156	6,850	306	4.3%
Valencia	31,030	28,891	2,139	6.9%	31,267	29,189	2,078	6.6%	31,287	30,027	1,260	4.0%
Farmington MSA 3/	57,787	54,760	3,027	5.2%	57,944	55,100	2,844	4.9%	57,679	55,895	1,784	3.1%
Las Cruces MSA 4/	89,453	84,029	5,424	6.1%	90,074	84,756	5,318	5.9%	89,558	85,789	3,769	4.2%
Santa Fe MSA 5/	77,283	73,258	4,025	5.2%	78,007	74,043	3,964	5.1%	78,091	75,684	2,407	3.1%
Catron	1,536	1,412	124	8.1%	1,555	1,435	120	7.7%	1,493	1,414	79	5.3%
Chaves	27,624	26,178	1,446	5.2%	27,682	26,296	1,386	5.0%	27,460	26,503	957	3.5%
Cibola	12,291	11,607	684	5.6%	12,419	11,739	680	5.5%	12,171	11,696	475	3.9%
Colfax	6,657	6,243	414	6.2%	6,655	6,256	399	6.0%	6,649	6,422	227	3.4%
Curry	21,284	20,543	741	3.5%	21,299	20,542	757	3.6%	21,427	20,830	597	2.8%
De Baca	890	848	42	4.7%	889	845	44	4.9%	884	854	30	3.4%
Eddy	28,260	27,048	1,212	4.3%	28,358	27,261	1,097	3.9%	27,104	26,412	692	2.6%
Grant	13,069	11,604	1,465	11.2%	12,579	11,579	1,000	7.9%	12,595	12,137	458	3.6%
Guadalupe	1,703	1,590	113	6.6%	1,723	1,597	126	7.3%	1,749	1,649	100	5.7%
Harding	442	426	16	3.6%	453	439	14	3.1%	428	417	11	2.6%
Hidalgo	2,480	2,303	177	7.1%	2,498	2,335	163	6.5%	2,472	2,378	94	3.8%
Lea	30,933	29,419	1,514	4.9%	30,897	29,584	1,313	4.2%	29,374	28,728	646	2.2%
Lincoln	11,007	10,525	482	4.4%	11,098	10,598	500	4.5%	10,864	10,511	353	3.2%
Los Alamos	9,559	9,294	265	2.8%	9,719	9,435	284	2.9%	10,072	9,797	275	2.7%
Luna	12,425	10,257	2,168	17.4%	12,341	10,300	2,041	16.5%	12,180	10,533	1,647	13.5%
McKinley	26,839	25,113	1,726	6.4%	27,137	25,404	1,733	6.4%	26,996	25,784	1,212	4.5%
Mora	2,011	1,801	210	10.4%	2,023	1,817	206	10.2%	2,006	1,831	175	8.7%
Otero	26,077	24,743	1,334	5.1%	26,511	25,177	1,334	5.0%	26,125	25,188	937	3.6%
Quay	4,035	3,816	219	5.4%	4,095	3,871	224	5.5%	4,071	3,898	173	4.2%
Rio Arriba	20,506	19,208	1,298	6.3%	20,487	19,195	1,292	6.3%	20,672	19,611	1,061	5.1%
Roosevelt	9,838	9,525	313	3.2%	9,745	9,433	312	3.2%	9,964	9,719	245	2.5%
San Miguel	13,368	12,640	728	5.4%	13,435	12,718	717	5.3%	13,452	12,882	570	4.2%
Sierra	5,763	5,479	284	4.9%	5,901	5,615	286	4.8%	5,589	5,371	218	3.9%
Socorro	9,658	9,274	384	4.0%	9,756	9,372	384	3.9%	9,652	9,373	279	2.9%
Taos	17,990	16,827	1,163	6.5%	17,852	16,737	1,115	6.2%	18,019	17,225	794	4.4%
Union	2,121	2,052	69	3.3%	2,151	2,076	75	3.5%	2,113	2,071	42	2.0%

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 2009			REVISED FEBRUARY 2009			REVISED MARCH 2008		
AREAS	RANK	RATE	AREAS	RANK	RATE	AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	17.4%	LUNA	1	16.5%	LUNA	1	13.5%
GRANT	2	11.2%	MORA	2	10.2%	MORA	2	8.7%
MORA	3	10.4%	GRANT	3	7.9%	GUADALUPE	3	5.7%
CATRON	4	8.1%	CATRON	4	7.7%	CATRON	4	5.3%
HIDALGO	5	7.1%	GUADALUPE	5	7.3%	RIO ARRIBA	5	5.1%
GUADALUPE	6	6.6%	HIDALGO	6	6.5%	MCKINLEY	6	4.5%
TAOS	7	6.5%	MCKINLEY	7	6.4%	TAOS	7	4.4%
MCKINLEY	8	6.4%	RIO ARRIBA	8	6.3%	QUAY	8	4.2%
RIO ARRIBA	9	6.3%	TAOS	9	6.2%	SAN MIGUEL	8	4.2%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	9	6.3%	ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	10	6.0%	LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	8	4.2%
COLFAX	11	6.2%	COLFAX	10	6.0%	CIBOLA	11	3.9%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	12	6.1%	LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	12	5.9%	SIERRA	11	3.9%
STATEWIDE		6.0%	STATEWIDE		5.7%	HIDALGO	13	3.8%
CIBOLA	13	5.6%	CIBOLA	13	5.5%	STATEWIDE		3.7%
SAN MIGUEL	14	5.4%	QUAY	13	5.5%	ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	14	3.7%
QUAY	14	5.4%	SAN MIGUEL	15	5.3%	GRANT	15	3.6%
FARMINGTON MSA 2/	16	5.2%	SANTA FE MSA 4/	16	5.1%	OTERO	15	3.6%
CHAVES	16	5.2%	OTERO	17	5.0%	CHAVES	17	3.5%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	16	5.2%	CHAVES	17	5.0%	COLFAX	18	3.4%
OTERO	19	5.1%	DE BACA	19	4.9%	DE BACA	18	3.4%
SIERRA	20	4.9%	FARMINGTON MSA 2/	19	4.9%	LINCOLN	20	3.2%
LEA	20	4.9%	SIERRA	21	4.8%	FARMINGTON MSA 2/	21	3.1%
DE BACA	22	4.7%	LINCOLN	22	4.5%	SANTA FE MSA 4/	21	3.1%
LINCOLN	23	4.4%	LEA	23	4.2%	SOCORRO	23	2.9%
EDDY	24	4.3%	SOCORRO	24	3.9%	CURRY	24	2.8%
SOCORRO	25	4.0%	EDDY	24	3.9%	LOS ALAMOS	25	2.7%
HARDING	26	3.6%	CURRY	26	3.6%	HARDING	26	2.6%
CURRY	27	3.5%	UNION	27	3.5%	EDDY	26	2.6%
UNION	28	3.3%	ROOSEVELT	28	3.2%	ROOSEVELT	28	2.5%
ROOSEVELT	29	3.2%	HARDING	29	3.1%	LEA	29	2.2%
LOS ALAMOS	30	2.8%	LOS ALAMOS	30	2.9%	UNION	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

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Unemployment Rate by State

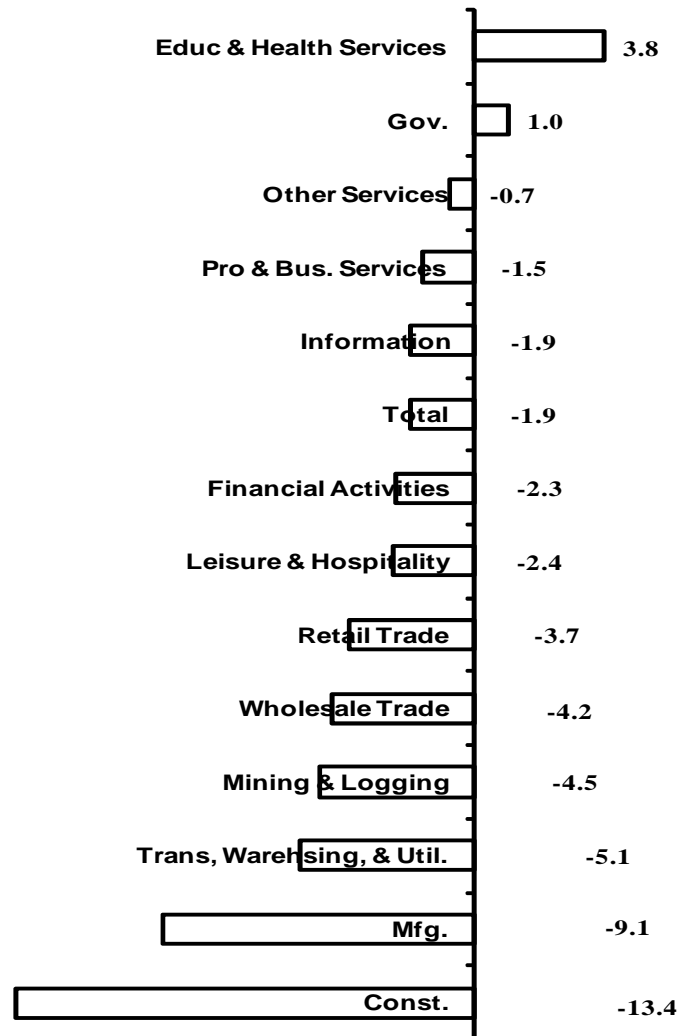
(Seasonally Adjusted)

March 2009			March 2008		
State	Rank	Rate	State	Rank	Rate
Michigan	1	12.6	Michigan	1	7.6
Oregon	2	12.1	Rhode Island	2	6.8
South Carolina	3	11.4	Alaska	3	6.5
California	4	11.2	California	4	6.4
North Carolina	5	10.8	District of Columbia	5	6.2
Rhode Island	6	10.5	Mississippi	6	6.1
Nevada	7	10.4	Ohio	6	6.1
Indiana	8	10.0	Illinois	8	6.0
District of Columbia	9	9.8	Kentucky	9	5.9
Kentucky	9	9.8	South Carolina	9	5.9
Florida	11	9.7	Tennessee	11	5.7
Ohio	11	9.7	Georgia	12	5.6
Tennessee	13	9.6	Missouri	12	5.6
Mississippi	14	9.4	Nevada	12	5.6
Georgia	15	9.2	Oregon	15	5.5
Washington	15	9.2	Florida	16	5.4
Illinois	17	9.1	North Carolina	16	5.4
Alabama	18	9.0	Connecticut	18	5.3
Missouri	19	8.7	Indiana	18	5.3
Alaska	20	8.5	Minnesota	20	5.1
United States		8.5	United States		5.1
Wisconsin	20	8.5	Maine	21	5.0
New Jersey	22	8.3	Pennsylvania	22	4.9
Minnesota	23	8.2	Arkansas	23	4.8
Maine	24	8.1	New Jersey	23	4.8
Arizona	25	7.8	New York	23	4.8
Massachusetts	25	7.8	Washington	23	4.8
New York	25	7.8	Arizona	27	4.7
Pennsylvania	25	7.8	Massachusetts	27	4.7
Delaware	29	7.7	Colorado	29	4.6
Colorado	30	7.5	Texas	29	4.6
Connecticut	30	7.5	Vermont	29	4.6
Vermont	32	7.2	Wisconsin	32	4.4
Hawaii	33	7.1	Alabama	33	4.3
Idaho	34	7.0	Louisiana	34	4.2
Maryland	35	6.9	West Virginia	34	4.2
West Virginia	35	6.9	Delaware	36	4.1
Virginia	37	6.8	Idaho	36	4.1
Texas	38	6.7	Kansas	36	4.1
Arkansas	39	6.5	Montana	36	4.1
New Hampshire	40	6.2	Iowa	40	3.9
Kansas	41	6.1	New Mexico	40	3.9
Montana	41	6.1	Maryland	42	3.8
New Mexico	43	5.9	New Hampshire	43	3.7
Oklahoma	43	5.9	Virginia	44	3.6
Louisiana	45	5.8	Oklahoma	45	3.3
Iowa	46	5.2	Utah	45	3.3
Utah	46	5.2	Hawaii	47	3.1
South Dakota	48	4.9	Nebraska	47	3.1
Nebraska	49	4.6	North Dakota	49	3.0
Wyoming	50	4.5	Wyoming	50	2.9
North Dakota	51	4.2	South Dakota	51	2.8

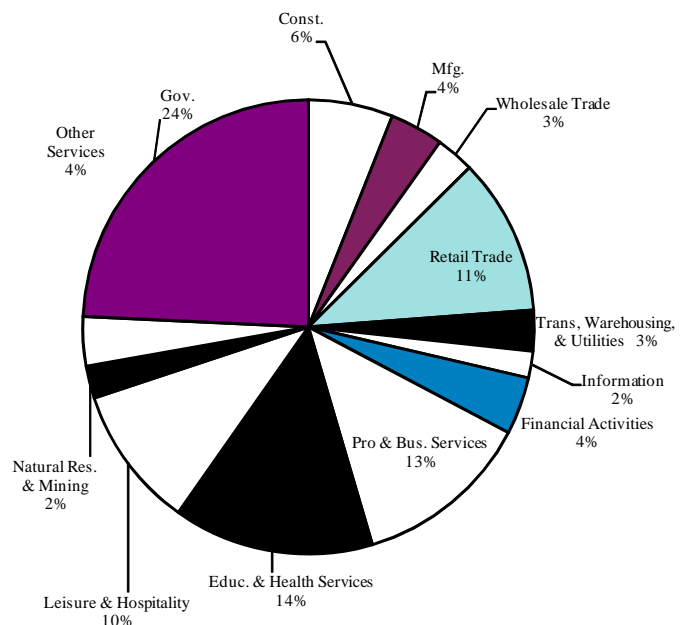
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

New Mexico Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Annual Growth Rates by Industry



NAICS Industries



Why Is It So Difficult To Hire Someone?

Bob Richards, Economist

Recall just one year ago when we were discussing the national labor shortage (New Mexico included) and the challenges employers faced attracting workers from competitor firms. The unemployment rate in New Mexico hovered around 3.5 percent, while nationally the rate was about 5.1 percent. Obviously all that has changed. New Mexico's unemployment rate is now nearing 6 percent and nationally the rate has climbed to over 8 percent with no clear leveling off in sight.

So why are employers, who are ready, willing, and able to hire, not getting applicants for positions like nurses? At the closing of a recent job fair where I represented the Department of Workforce Solutions, I heard several employers talk about not being able to hire employees for what should be popular positions. I'm just picking on nurses; there were many other occupations that circulated the discussion. The issue seemed to be an ongoing one dating back a couple years for these companies. That would have been prior to the current business cycle swing, during that labor shortage time. As I stood there, behind a table full of labor market information, I wondered how many business people have either not seen my information or have not had the time to read it. All day long I had been talking to the attendees, the job seekers, not the employers. (Note to self... next job fair, pass out information to the employers too.)



While there are a host of reasons for potential employees not to beat a path to your door, I am going to go straight to the age-old motivator, greed. Are the wages for your positions competitive with other firms in your industry and your area? How would you know if the wages were not in line? The Bureau of Economic Research and Analysis produces a series of wages, by occupation, for New Mexico, the four workforce investment areas, and the four Metropolitan Statistical Areas. This can ONLY be accomplished with the help of employers. Every six months we send out an Occupational Employment Statistics questionnaire to almost 2,000 businesses in New Mexico. Thanks to the business owners who respond, we have reached a response rate of over 90 percent for the past three years. This kind of response dramatically improves the quality of the data we produce. And just to confirm, all information about the business and the employees is strictly confidential.

How can I use the data? OES data reveal the competitive wages that can assist businesses in offering wages for attracting workers. Analysts use OES data to compare wages and employment in geographical locations when considering business relocation or expansion. Educators use OES data to identify important occupations and job skills and use that information to update or modify education programs and course content to reflect the economy's current and future needs for particular occupations. Career counselors use job projection information that is derived from OES data to help students and clients decide on courses of study and career paths. The OES data assists students, job seekers, and military personnel transitioning into civilian life in making informed career decisions.

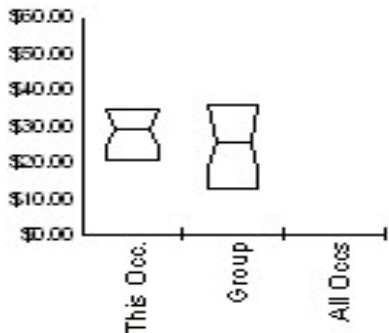
Again, using nurses as an example, if you go to our website at www.dws.state.nm.us/eds/EDS200702/State/TOC001.htm, you have access to the following data on over 800 occupations. The first column, in the chart below, lists the number of firms in New Mexico that reported employing nurses, followed by the number of nurses employed. Then annual and hourly wages are displayed.

Occupation	Occ. code	Estabs. reporting occupation	Est. empl.	Mean wage	Entry wage	Exp. wage	25th pct	Median wage	75th pct
Registered Nurses	29-1111	423	11,400	\$ 61,087	\$ 46,372	\$ 68,450	\$ 51,017	\$ 61,057	\$ 71,742
	hourly			\$ 29.37	\$ 22.29	\$ 32.91	\$ 24.53	\$ 29.35	\$ 34.49

Clicking on the title "Registered Nurses" reveals more detail about the occupation, including the industries that employ nurses. Below is a snapshot of the wage and occupation information available from the OES program. We update this information two times per year. Watch for the next update in June 2009.

For questions email robertc.richards@state.nm.us.

New Mexico Statewide	
All-industry	
Establishments reporting	423
Estimated employment	11,400
Employment RSE	5.40
Mean wage	\$ 29.37
Mean RSE	1.00
Entry wage	\$ 22.29
Experienced wage	\$ 32.91
25th percentile wage	\$ 24.53
50th percentile wage	\$ 29.35
75th percentile wage	\$ 34.49



Registered Nurses (29-1111)

Assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records. Administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients. May advise patients on health maintenance and disease prevention or provide case management. Licensing or registration required. Include advance practice nurses such as: nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse midwives, and certified registered nurse anesthetists. Advanced practice nursing is practiced by RNs who have specialized formal, post-basic education and who function in highly autonomous and specialized roles.

	Mean Wage History				
	This Occupation		Compared to Occupational Group		Difference
Current	\$29.37	+1.0%	\$31.18	+1.0%	-\$1.81
2007	\$29.07	+3.4%	\$30.86	+3.4%	-\$1.79
2006	\$28.10	+4.0%	\$29.83	+4.0%	-\$1.73
2005	\$27.02	+2.8%	\$28.68	+2.8%	-\$1.66
2004	\$26.26	+3.1%	\$27.88	+3.1%	-\$1.62
2003	\$25.45	+3.0%	\$27.02	+3.0%	-\$1.57
2002	\$24.70	+2.3%	\$26.22	+2.3%	-\$1.52
2001	\$24.13		\$25.62		-\$1.49

Top Areas For This Occupation				
	Highest Employment		Best Pay	
	Mean Wage	Employment	Mean Wage	Employment
New Mexico Statewide	\$29.37	11,400	New Mexico Statewide	\$29.37 11,400

Top Employing Industries		
	Employment	
Education and Health Services	9,900	86.8%
Public Administration	960	8.4%
Professional and Business Services	490	4.3%
Trade, Transportation,, and Utilities	30	0.2%

Best Paying Industries		
	Employment	Mean Wage
Manufacturing	10	\$38.34
Financial Activities	10	\$34.11
Public Administration	960	\$32.10
Trade, Transportation,, and Utilities	30	\$31.33



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Mar-09	Revised Feb-09	Revised Mar-08	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	831,100	827,700	847,500	3,400	-16,400
GOODS-PRODUCING	101,200	102,500	113,100	-1,300	-11,900
SERVICE-PROVIDING	729,900	725,200	734,400	4,700	-4,500
MINING & LOGGING	19,100	19,700	20,000	-600	-900
CONSTRUCTION	50,300	50,100	58,100	200	-7,800
MANUFACTURING	31,800	32,700	35,000	-900	-3,200
WHOLESALE TRADE	22,800	23,000	23,800	-200	-1,000
RETAIL TRADE	93,100	92,100	96,700	1,000	-3,600
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING & UTILITIES	24,000	23,800	25,300	200	-1,300
INFORMATION	15,800	15,800	16,100	0	-300
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	34,000	34,100	34,800	-100	-800
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	105,800	105,500	107,400	300	-1,600
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	119,200	118,400	114,800	800	4,400
Educational Services	15,200	14,800	14,700	400	500
Health Care & Social Assistance	104,000	103,600	100,100	400	3,900
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	84,400	82,800	86,500	1,600	-2,100
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8,700	8,500	8,800	200	-100
Accommodation & Food Services	75,700	74,300	77,700	1,400	-2,000
OTHER SERVICES	29,100	29,000	29,300	100	-200
GOVERNMENT	201,700	200,700	199,700	1,000	2,000
Federal Government	30,700	30,600	30,100	100	600
State Government	61,600	61,200	61,800	400	-200
State Government Education	29,500	29,200	29,200	300	300
Local Government	109,400	108,900	107,800	500	1,600
Local Government Education	59,600	59,200	59,000	400	600

ALBUQUERQUE	Preliminary Mar-09	Revised Feb-09	Revised Mar-08	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	386,900	385,900	394,600	1,000	-7,700
GOODS-PRODUCING	44,500	45,100	51,100	-600	-6,600
SERVICE-PROVIDING	342,400	340,800	343,500	1,600	-1,100
MINING, LOGGING & CONSTRUCTION	24,300	24,800	28,800	-500	-4,500
MANUFACTURING	20,200	20,300	22,300	-100	-2,100
WHOLESALE TRADE	12,700	12,700	13,200	0	-500
RETAIL TRADE	42,600	42,400	44,500	200	-1,900
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING & UTILITIES	10,600	10,600	10,900	0	-300
INFORMATION	9,700	9,700	9,300	0	400
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	18,300	18,300	18,700	0	-400
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	63,000	63,000	63,800	0	-800
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	53,300	52,800	50,700	500	2,600
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	36,600	36,300	38,600	300	-2,000
OTHER SERVICES	12,200	12,100	12,300	100	-100
GOVERNMENT	83,400	82,900	81,500	500	1,900
Federal Government	14,800	14,800	14,400	0	400
State Government	26,500	26,300	26,500	200	0
Local Government	42,100	41,800	40,600	300	1,500

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

LAS CRUCES MSA	Preliminary Mar-09	Revised Feb-09	Revised Mar-08	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	69,900	69,500	69,900	400	0
GOODS-PRODUCING	6,600	6,800	7,300	-200	-700
SERVICE-PROVIDING	63,300	62,700	62,600	600	700
MINING, LOGGING & CONSTRUCTION	3,800	3,800	4,300	0	-500
MANUFACTURING	2,800	3,000	3,000	-200	-200
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	7,100	7,000	7,400	100	-300
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING & UTILITIES	1,800	1,800	1,900	0	-100
INFORMATION	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,600	2,600	2,400	0	200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	6,600	6,500	6,300	100	300
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	11,500	11,400	11,000	100	500
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	7,200	7,100	7,400	100	-200
OTHER SERVICES	1,800	1,800	1,700	0	100
GOVERNMENT	22,400	22,200	22,200	200	200
Federal	3,900	3,900	3,800	0	100
State	9,300	9,100	9,300	200	0
Local	9,200	9,200	9,100	0	100

SANTA FE MSA	Preliminary Mar-09	Revised Feb-09	Revised Mar-08	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	63,300	63,300	64,400	0	-1,100
GOODS-PRODUCING	4,800	4,800	5,500	0	-700
SERVICE-PROVIDING	58,500	58,500	58,900	0	-400
MINING, LOGGING & CONSTRUCTION	3,900	3,900	4,600	0	-700
MANUFACTURING	900	900	900	0	0
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,200	1,200	1,300	0	-100
RETAIL TRADE	8,800	8,700	9,200	100	-400
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING & UTILITIES	700	700	700	0	0
INFORMATION	1,200	1,200	1,300	0	-100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,700	2,800	2,800	-100	-100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,100	5,100	5,200	0	-100
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	10,200	10,200	10,000	0	200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	8,800	8,700	8,700	100	100
OTHER SERVICES	2,700	2,700	2,800	0	-100
GOVERNMENT	17,100	17,200	16,900	-100	200
Federal	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0
State	8,300	8,400	8,300	-100	0
Local	7,800	7,800	7,600	0	200

Spotting Job Scams

Suzan Reagan, Labor Market Information Webmaster

The New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions does not solicit additional information after you submit your registration, nor does it require fees for any of its services.

Current tough economic situations are worrying enough! And if you are looking for employment for the first time in several years, you will need to do some research on job hunting issues. Not only do job hunters need to be prepared to put their best face forward to find that new employment opportunity, but they also need to keep an eye out for dubious offers.

In the past we have seen job hunters targeted with e-mail messages identifying the sender as associated with a state job bank. The e-mail directs the seeker to sign up at false websites or requests financial information or money. These are often schemes aimed at identity theft and/or taking money from your bank account.

More worrying than the typical spam e-mail, which can often be discarded because it makes outrageous claims, is a change in tactics of posted jobs on job boards. Noted in The Wall Street Journal February 17, 2009, article *It Isn't Always a Job Behind an Online Job Posting*, "What may look like an ad for employment may lead to something entirely different, like a hard sell for career services or job-training manuals." You can answer a job posting and be invited to do an interview. Then the interview will turn into a sales pitch. Remember that you always have the option to leave. Never be rushed into signing a contract. High-pressure sales tactics are used to get you to act now without giving you time to research the offer.

Here are a few suggestions for spotting job ad scams:

- 1) Ads should clearly contain the name of the hiring company.
- 2) Ads should contain details about the position, including tasks and required education.
- 3) Be skeptical of wage claims significantly higher than the local labor market or what the required education level would indicate. You can review wages for New Mexico at laser.state.nm.us.
- 4) You can research extreme claims at www.snopes.com.
- 5) Be very skeptical of unsolicited e-mails. Keep track of companies you have contacted and check that the e-mail is truly from a company you have submitted an application or resume with.

Always research a potential employer:

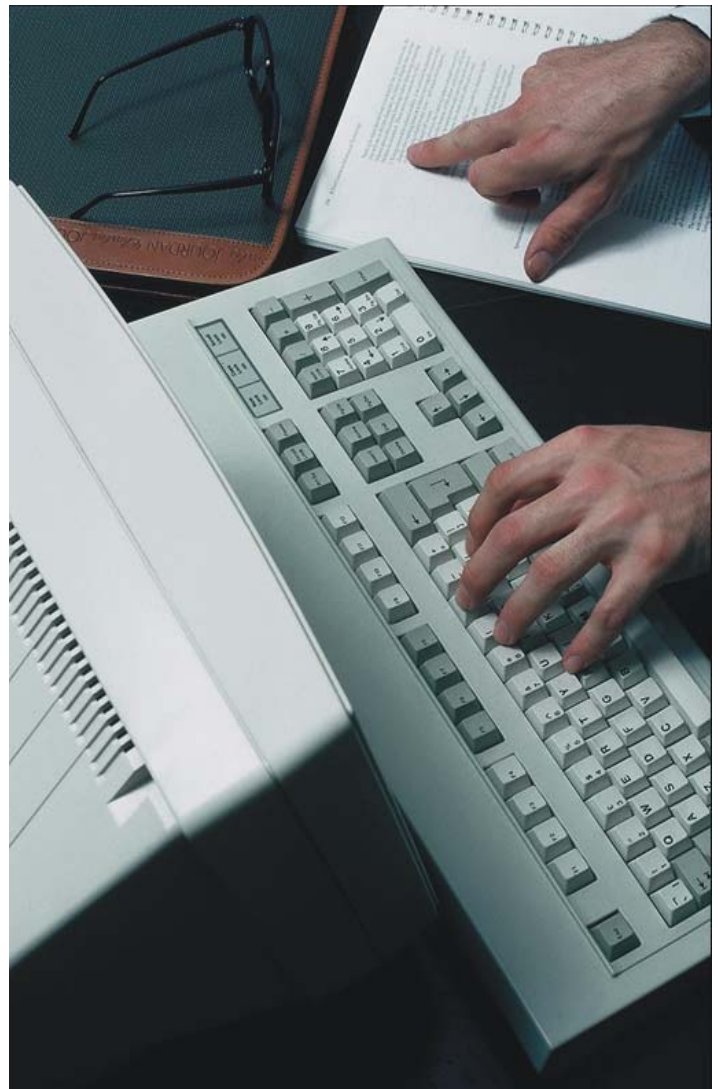
- 1) Google the company's name to research recent articles about its products and services. Not only will this bring to light any shady job announcements, but might give you insight into how to best apply for the job.
- 2) Check for any complaints filed against the company with the Better Business Bureau (www.bbb.com).

- 3) Check the New Mexico Attorney General's website for current scams (www.nmag.gov).

Here are a few suggestions to protect you from identity theft during your job hunt:

- 1) Provide a resume with a post-office box address instead of your home address.
- 2) Use a disposable e-mail address to prevent spam from clogging up your normal e-mail in-box.
- 3) List just your initials in the document and not your full name.
- 4) Don't enter your social security number if the website isn't secure. The Internet Explorer browser shows a closed lock if the site is secure.

If you feel that you've been targeted by one of these scams please notify the New Mexico Attorney General's Office <http://www.nmag.gov/office/contact.aspx>.



Workforce Information Tip

How do I find trade breakouts for a specific county?

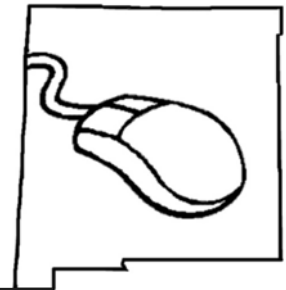
- 1) Start at laser.state.nm.us.
- 2) Click on "Industry."
- 3) Because we want a specific county, click on "Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages."
- 4) In the Search Criteria box, Step 1, the pull down will be set to "County." Also available are MSA 2000, New Mexico and Workforce Development Regions.
- 5) Put a check in the box in front of the county you are interested in, such as Harding. Then click the "Select" button.
- 6) In Step 2, choose "Quarterly" or "Annual" and click on the particular time, for example, "Quarterly," "3rd Qtr. 2008." Then click the "Select" button.
- 7) In Step 3, click on "Total, all industries" and drag your cursor until all options are shaded. This will give us all 2-digit industry categories. Then click the "Search" button.
- 8) Now you will have a result table with number of average establishments, average employment and average weekly wage by industry.

First, note at the bottom of the table you have several options for output. You can open the table in an Excel spreadsheet, a Text file or a Print View. Second, you can further break out the numbers by Ownership type. This includes federal government, state government, local government, private, and total all government.

Finally, a short discussion about the data is in order. If you have followed the steps above and are looking at Harding County 3rd Qtr. 2008, aggregate of all types, you will note there are 37 establishments. Some industries have "*" instead of numbers. This is because the numbers for that industry are too small to report. However, if there were no employment or businesses in an industry, then that industry would not show at all. So you know that some employment and businesses exist in these industries. There are several options you can take to get an idea about the economic status of these small industries. You can click on "Employers" and drill down to the specific industries in Harding to get an idea of actual businesses in these industries. You could go back to step 4 above and change the pull-down box to "Workforce Development Regions" and check "Eastern," which contains Harding County, to find a slightly bigger geography that might show numbers for the expanded area. Or by using the "Compare Areas" you could compare a specific county to the state to find how the local area industry breakout is different.

Suzan Reagan
Labor Market Information Webmaster
New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions
Economic Research & Analysis Bureau

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



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

New Mexico's Healthcare Industry

Joy Forehand, Economist

What is a good field to go into in New Mexico? One answer is health care, as it has been and continues to be a vital industry in our state's economy. An estimated 15 percent of total employment is in health care, and it is usually the second largest sector next to government. Even in these difficult economic times, many of the top jobs listed as recession-proof jobs in New Mexico are health care-related, and the industry as a whole has grown by 57,000 jobs since 1990.

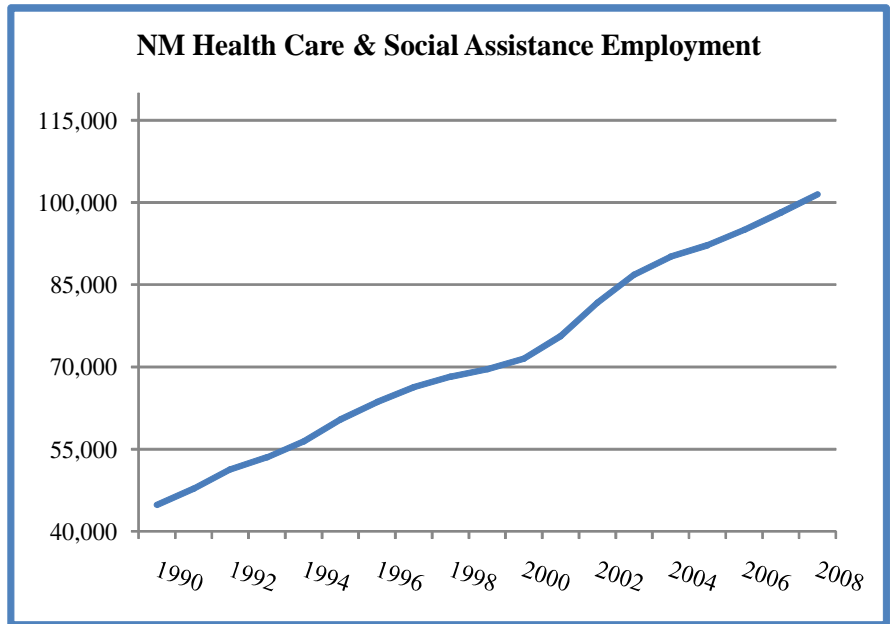
Why has health care been such a large part of our economy? The first answer is population, and it is simply more people equals more health care needs. New Mexico's population has continued to grow at high rates, much like our southwestern neighbors. Since 1990, our population has increased 31 percent, and it is predicted that the 2010 Census results will put New Mexico well above the 2 million mark.

Also, it is the characteristics of our population that result in higher health care demands. Twenty-nine percent of the state population is younger than 20 years old and 13 percent is over the age of 65. Children and older residents are often the highest health care consumers. The demands on our state will increase as the "baby boomers" age, and approximately a quarter of our population fall into this group, according to Census data.

The enrollment rates of government-sponsored health plans, including Medicaid and Medicare, contribute to the large health care sector in New Mexico. The participation in these plans increases

the need for health care services across the state, and during economic hardship, these numbers could dramatically increase.

The 2006-2016 projections include health care and social assistance sector employment increasing to 127,109 jobs for a total change of 25 percent. The growth in health care has been strong and constant, and the



Source: NMDWS, Current Employment Statistics.

industry sector continues to provide thousands of jobs in New Mexico. The key will be monitoring and analyzing labor market information to ensure that our future workforce can meet the demands of this growing field.

2009 Social and Economic Indicators

Now
Exclusively
Online!

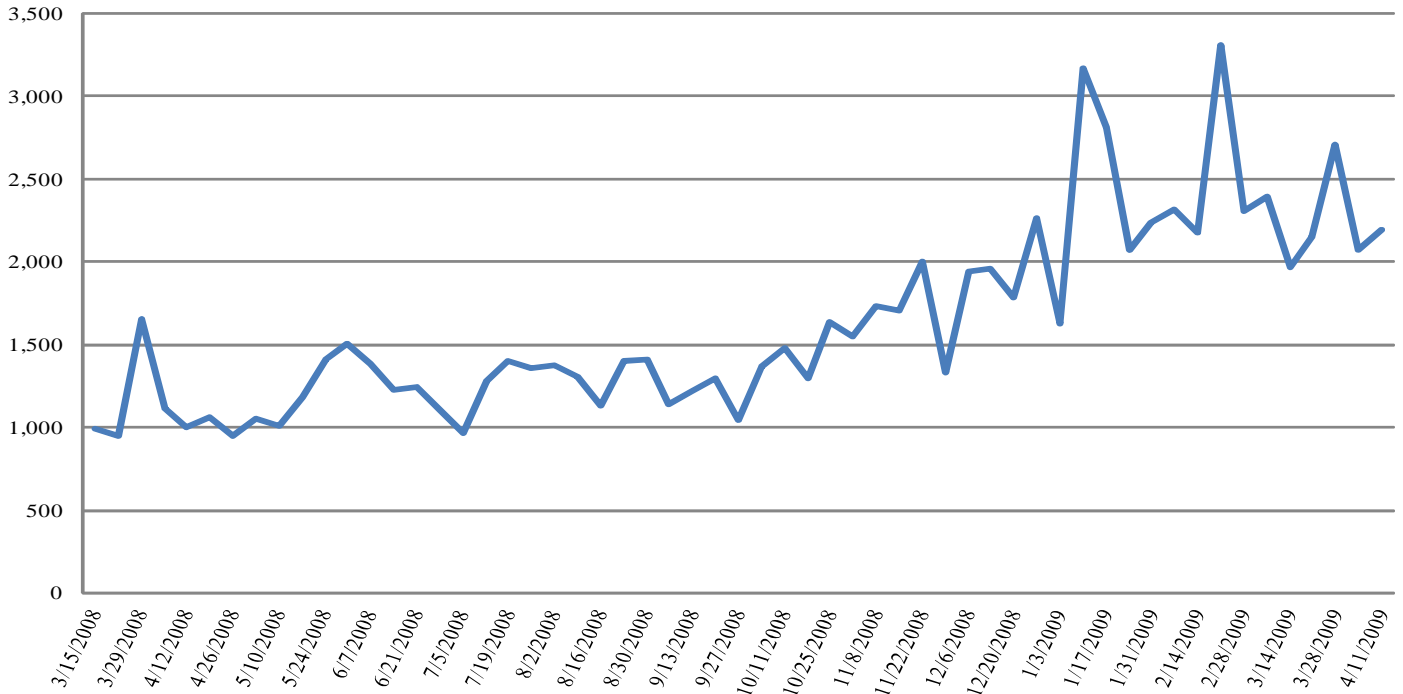
Give it a Click!



<http://www.dws.state.nm.us/dws-lmi.html>

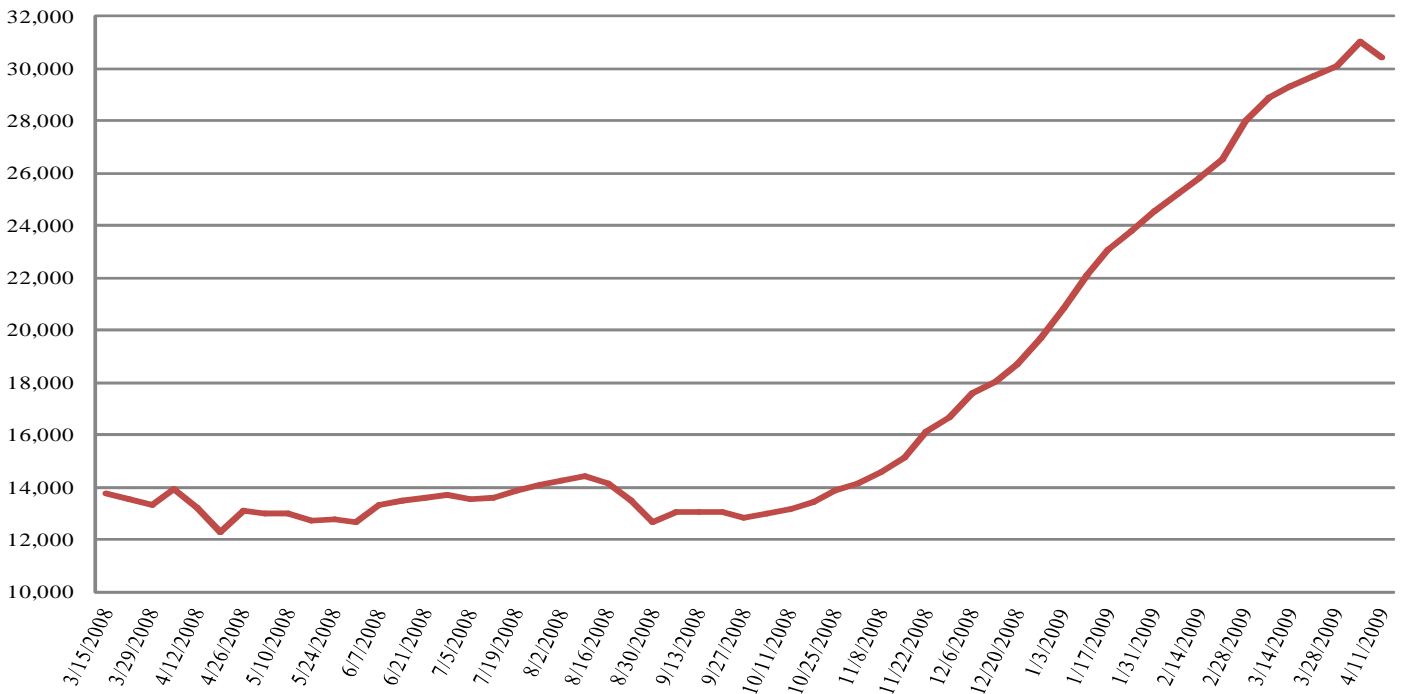
New Mexico Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims

Initial UI Claims (Week ending 04/11/2009)



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

Continued UI Claims (Week ending 04/11/2009)



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

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

- Seasonally Adjusted -

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Mar-09	Revised Feb-09	Monthly Change
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT*	833,700	835,500	-1,800
MINING & LOGGING	19,100	19,900	-800
CONSTRUCTION	51,800	52,800	-1,000
MANUFACTURING	32,300	33,500	-1,200
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	141,300	141,200	100
Wholesale Trade	22,900	23,100	-200
Retail Trade	94,500	94,200	300
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	23,900	23,900	0
INFORMATION (Not Seasonally Adjusted)	15,800	15,800	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	34,100	34,300	-200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	106,900	106,600	300
EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	117,900	117,400	500
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	85,900	85,800	100
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8,800	8,800	0
Accommodation & Food Services	77,100	77,000	100
OTHER SERVICES	29,700	29,800	-100
GOVERNMENT	198,900	198,400	500
Federal Government	31,200	31,100	100
State Government	59,500	59,500	0
Local Government	108,200	107,800	400
ALBUQUERQUE	387,900	389,000	-1,100
LAS CRUCES	69,200	69,400	-200
SANTA FE	63,700	64,000	-300

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

Average Hours and Earnings

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

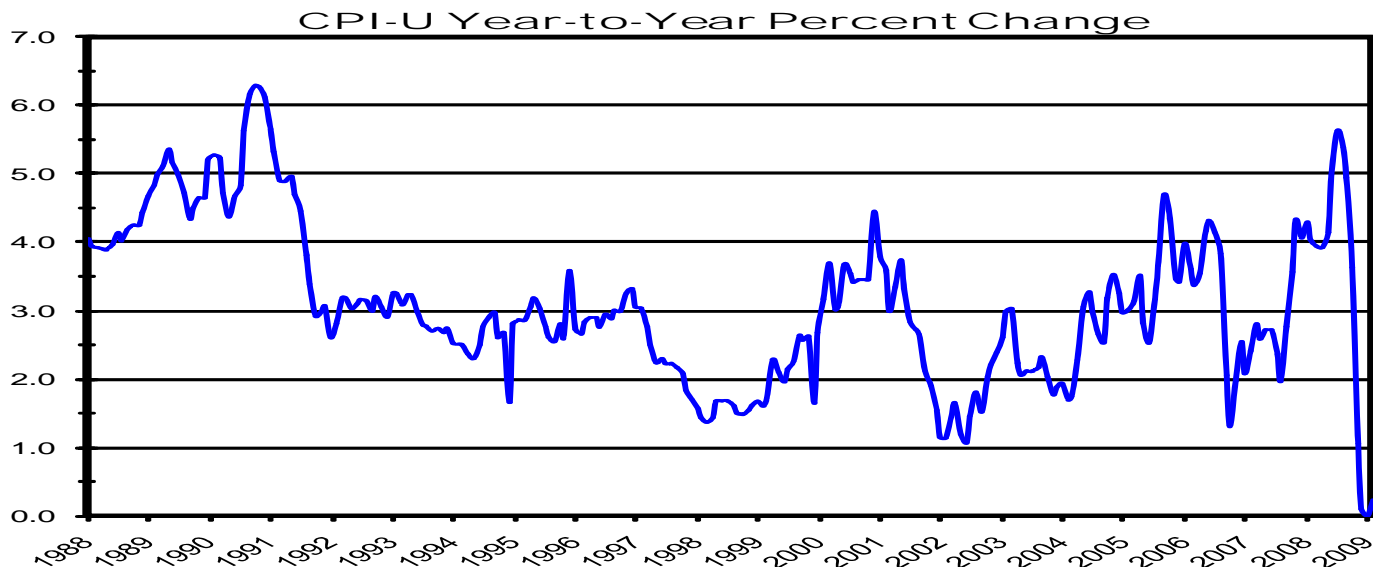
	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Mar 09	Feb 09	Mar 08	Mar 09	Feb 09	Mar 08	Mar 09	Feb 09	Mar 08
NEW MEXICO									
MANUFACTURING	\$528.66	\$522.00	\$563.56	39.6	37.5	38.6	\$13.35	\$13.92	\$14.60

U.S. Consumer Price Index

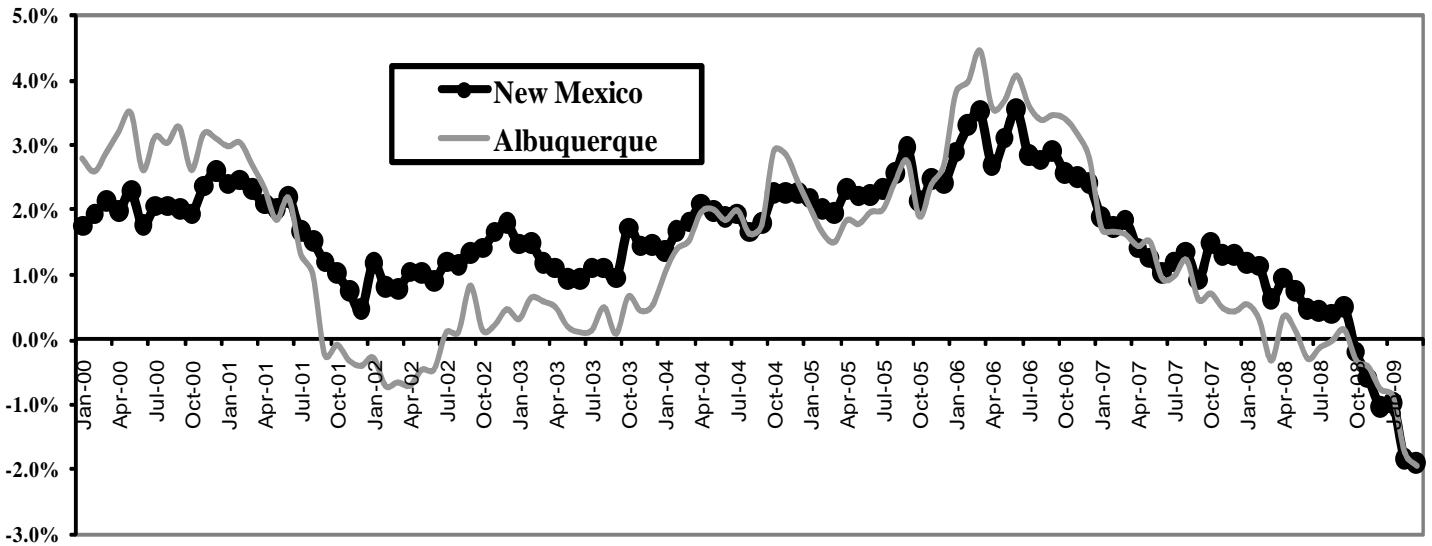
Index Base Year 1982-84 = 100				PERCENT CHANGE		
	Mar 09	Feb 09	Mar 08	Month to Month	Year to Year	
CPI-U	212.7	212.2	213.5	0.2%	-0.4%	
CPI-W	207.2	206.7	209.1	0.2%	-0.9%	

*CPI-U - All Urban Consumers

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



Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Albuquerque



New Mexico Occupational Shortages and Surpluses *

Shortages	
Statewide Summary	
Customer Service Representatives	Stock Clerks
Demonstrators & Product Promoters	Transportation Workers
Forest Fire Fighters	
Gaming Service Workers	
Helpers-Production Workers	
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	
Personal & Home Care Aides	
Pharmacy Technicians	
Police Patrol Officers	
Registered Nurses	
Albuquerque MSA	
Demonstrators & Product Promoters	
Janitors & Cleaners	
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	
Marking Clerks	
Nursing Aides, Orderlies & Attendants	
Personal & Home Care Aides	
Pharmacy Technicians	
Registered Nurses	
Sales Managers	
Stock Clerks	
Las Cruces MSA	
Customer Service Representatives	
Electricians	
Switchboard Operators	
Telecommunications Line Installers & Repairers	
Telemarketers	
Santa Fe MSA	
Police Patrol Officers	
Combined Food Prep & Serving Workers	
Demonstrators & Product Promoters	
Entertainment Attendants & Related Workers	
Gaming Service Workers	
Transportation Workers	
Farmington MSA	
Butchers & Meat Cutters	
Environmental Scientists & Specialists	
Meat, Poultry & Fish Cutters & Trimmers	
Physician Assistants	
Registered Nurses	
Sales & Related Workers	
Security Guards	

Surpluses	
Statewide Summary	
Accountants	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners
Administrative Services Managers	Maintenance & Repair Workers
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	Office & Administrative Support Workers
Computer Support Specialists	Office Clerks
Construction & Related Workers	Operating Eng & Other Const Equip Op
Construction Carpenters	Receptionists & Information Clerks
Cooks	Truck Drivers
Executive Secretaries & Admin Assistants	
General & Operations Managers	
Home Health Aides	
Albuquerque MSA	
Accountants	General & Operations Managers
Administrative Services Managers	Maintenance & Repair Workers
Aircraft Mechanics & Service Technicians	Managers
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	Office & Administrative Support Workers
Combined Food Prep & Serving Workers	Office Clerks
Computer Support Specialists	Production Workers
Construction Carpenters	Receptionists & Information Clerks
Construction Laborers	Truck Drivers
Electricians	
Executive Secretaries & Admin Assistants	
Las Cruces MSA	
Accountants	Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators
Administrative Services Managers	Janitors & Cleaners
Assemblers & Fabricators	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers
Cashiers	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners
Construction & Related Workers	Maintenance & Repair Workers
Construction Carpenters	Medical Records & Health Info Techs
Construction Laborers	Office Clerks
Executive Secretaries & Admin Assistants	Operating Eng & Other Const Equip Op
Helpers, Construction Trades	Paralegals & Legal Assistants
Home Health Aides	Stock Clerks
Santa Fe MSA	
Accountants	Counter & Rental Clerks
Administrative Services Managers	Customer Service Representatives
Bill & Account Collectors	Executive Secretaries & Admin Assistants
Bookkeeping, Accting & Auditing Clerks	First-Line Supervisors/Mngers
Cashiers	Industrial Production Managers
Cement Masons & Concrete Finishers	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers
Child, Family & School Social Workers	Managers
Computer Programmers	Musicians
Computer Support Specialists	Office & Administrative Support Workers
Construction Laborers	Retail Salespersons
Farmington MSA	
Administrative Services Managers	Rotary Drill Operators, Oil & Gas
Bookkeeping, Accting & Auditing Clerks	Welders, Cutters & Welder Fitters
Derrick Operators, Oil & Gas	Wellhead Pumps
Food Preparation Workers	
Helpers-Production Workers	
New Accounts Clerks	
Operating Eng & Other Const Equip Op	
Police Patrol Officers	
Production Workers	
Receptionists & Information Clerks	

*Based on posted job orders & resumes entered in the NM Workforce Connection System by occupation in the last 30 Days (April 13, 2009).

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:

State legislators gave the **Downs at Albuquerque** a two-year extension on its lease at Expo New Mexico. Noting concerns about the impact of the current economy on revenues, the New Mexico Racing Commission likewise agreed to cut the racino's fall racing season by seven days. The Commission also asked that the Downs' owners answer questions about the delay in the racino's commission-approved relocation from Expo New Mexico to a planned \$65 million racetrack/casino in Moriarty.

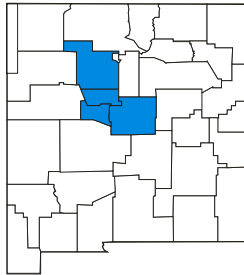
Central WIA Area:

Albuquerque Area, Bernalillo County:

Galles Motor Company announced Thursday that it will end its franchise agreement with Saturn because of General Motors' plans to phase out or spin off the Saturn brand at the end of model year 2011. Saturn of Albuquerque, a division of Galles Motor, has operated on Lomas west of University for 19 years. Customers will be able to service their cars at the Saturn location through Monday. After that, Galles will offer Saturn warranty service and parts through the Galles Chevrolet service center. Galles Motor Company president and CEO Rick Galles said the Saturn site will become part of the adjoining Galles Chevrolet used car operation. The transition will take place over the next several weeks.

La Bella Spa Salon is closing its ABQ Uptown flagship site in early April and will consolidate operations at its Westside location at 10126 Coors Blvd. NW. La Bella spokeswoman Joan Griffin said landlord Hunt Development came to La Bella owner Dawn Davide and asked her to leave to free up the highly visible space for a national tenant in financial services. She described the closing as a "rightsizing" for La Bella. Davide will retain all 60 employees and regroup at her Coors location where she plans to expand by building out a second level. Davide hopes to find a new Northeast Heights location in 2010, Griffin said. La Bella Spa opened at ABQ Uptown two years ago and was the center's most upscale retail location in a standalone building fronting the center's east parking lot. Griffin said the ABQ location was breaking even, but added the difficult economy was a major factor in closing at ABQ Uptown.

ReelzChannel is leasing 30,000 square feet at Albuquerque Studios and will be locating its programming, production, Web development, creative services, marketing and communications divisions in Albuquerque. Advertising sales will remain in New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles. ReelzChannel's original programming includes "Dailies," a news program about movies, and "The Directors," which profiles filmmakers. ReelzChannel reaches 45 million homes through DirecTV (Channel 238) and Dish Network (Channel 299). About 15 to 20 employees will relocate to Albuquerque with their families. The company will hire about 80 more people here.



Rio Rancho Area, Sandoval County:

AeroParts Manufacturing and Repair Inc. in Rio Rancho has laid off 10 employees, attributing the move partly to the collapse of customer Eclipse Aviation. The layoffs included machinists, sheet-metal mechanics, and clerical workers, reducing the company's workforce to 88, CEO Dean Leavengood said. AeroParts, which moved to Rio Rancho in 1993, makes sheet-metal components and does FAA-certified parts repair for commercial aviation interests. The now-closed Eclipse factory was a big factor in the layoffs, according to Leavengood. "We used to build a lot of parts for them," he said.

About 1,200 people attended an early March **Hewlett-Packard** job fair. The technology company is hiring for sales, technical support and technical solutions consultant positions. HP plans to open in late December or early next year with about 600 employees and hopes to employ 1,350 people by the end of 2012. HP recently broke ground on a new facility and plans to employ 1,800 people in 15 years. The company says the majority of the jobs will pay at least \$40,000. For more information on jobs at HP, visit HP.com/go/job or call the New Mexico Workforce Connection at 896-1765.

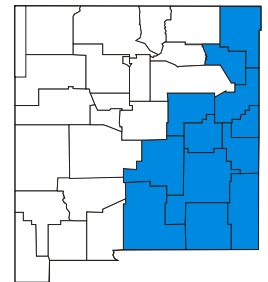
Intel officials have confirmed that another round of layoffs is planned for the company. Liz Shipley, an Intel spokesperson, said the new round of layoffs is an efficiency improvement measure. Shipley would not specify the number of people affected but said it would be "significantly lower" than the 100 to 200 layoffs Intel announced in January, which mainly impacted manufacturing groups. The company in February announced plans to invest \$2.5 billion in its Rio Rancho facility over the next two years, and Shipley reiterated Intel's commitment to New Mexico.

Sprint is looking to fill about 40 customer service positions at its Rio Rancho contact center. The new positions will be added to the 800 employees working at the contact center today. The new hires will be offered competitive salaries and benefits, including medical, dental, a 401K, performance bonuses, free use of the onsite fitness center and participation in the employee wireless phone program. Individuals may apply online at www.sprint.com/callcenterjobs or call (505) 896-5418.

Eastern WIA Area:

Roswell Area, Chaves County:

Great Southwest Aviation has acquired AAR Aircraft Services and will also add a maintenance, repair and overhaul division to its operations, the company announced. Both Great Southwest and AAR operate out of the Roswell International Air Center. The acquisition of AAR adds 100,000 square feet of hangar space to Great Southwest's plant at the center and triples the company's workforce, adding 60 employees to the 30 now employed. The opening of the maintenance division is expected to add another 50 to 100 employees.



Clovis Area, Curry County:

Clovis' **Cummins Natural Gas Engine** recently laid off 16 employees. The company has been hard hit by the recession and let go of a dozen hourly workers assigned to the shop floor and four office workers. The reduction in staff brings the plant's workforce to 39 employees. Cummins is the second area company to cite the soured economy as a reason for layoffs. Last October, **Abengoa Bioenergy** in Portales, an employer of about 40, laid off an undisclosed number of employees and said it was shutting down temporarily due to market conditions.

Hobbs Area, Lea County:

A \$3 billion uranium enrichment facility under construction in southeastern New Mexico is preparing for the first tests of its centrifuge enrichment process. **Louisiana Energy Services** expects an initial shipment of 20 kilograms of uranium hexafluoride to be shipped to the facility for the live tests. The centrifuges are expected to be running by the end of the year. The machines will produce fuel for the nuclear power industry. At present, about 800 construction workers remain at the site, down from 1,600 during peak construction last summer. However, LES spokeswoman Brenda Brooks said the facility is above its projected employee numbers and still hiring.

Portales Area, Roosevelt County:

Tamaki Control, a New Zealand-based company that provides technical support for factory automation systems, is creating its first U.S. branch in Portales. Tamaki specializes in automated systems such as milk pasteurization and monitoring and powder handling and packing for food processing factories. The 20-year-old company was working on the Southwest Cheese plant's automated systems when company founder Derek Turnbull decided to establish the Portales branch. Greg Fisher, who works for the Roosevelt County Economic Development Corporation, says the company will provide well-paying jobs for educated graduates in the area.

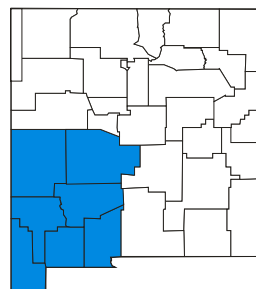
Alamogordo Area, Otero County:

PreCheck Inc., the nation's largest provider of background verification and credentialing services, is moving its corporate operations headquarters from Houston to Alamogordo. The company will increase its Alamogordo workforce by 75 people during the next six months, including the addition of an executive vice president, mid-level managers, and technology professionals. The relocation is expected to create more than 250 jobs during the next two years. The office currently employs more than 40 people. PreCheck will expand its current building at 3453 Las Palomas Road, near the new U.S. Forest Service building.

Southwestern WIA Area:

Las Cruces Area, Doña Ana County:

The **Sportsman's Warehouse** store at 200 N. Telshor Blvd. is one of 23 stores the company will close nationwide while 15 more stores are being sold. All of the merchandise in the Las Cruces store will be liquidated. Trevor Wilson, manager

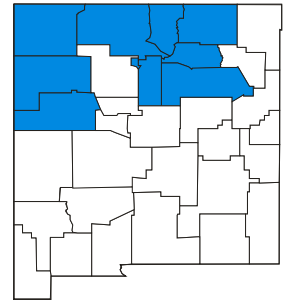


of the Las Cruces location, said the store employs about 50 workers. The Albuquerque Sportsman's Warehouse will be the company's last store remaining in New Mexico.

Northern WIA Area:

Los Alamos Area, Los Alamos County:

The Shaw Group Inc. recently ended its five-year contract to provide site support services for the U.S. Department of Energy's Los Alamos National Laboratory. The company closed its Los Alamos project office and moved some of the small remaining staff to Albuquerque and other offices.



Gallup Area, McKinley County:

Rehoboth McKinley Christian Hospital is eliminating 20 employee positions from non-patient care departments. Pat Wolfram, the hospital's interim CEO, said at the end of January the hospital was in the red after the first five months of the fiscal year by \$875,802 because of a \$1.1 million loss for the month of January. The company is also planning to reduce contract labor and overtime by 50 percent and eliminate some positions which are currently vacant. In February the hospital reduced the number of contract personnel to 16.

Farmington Area, San Juan County:

ConocoPhillips has laid off 22 workers from its San Juan Basin workforce near Farmington or about 3.5 percent of the 600 people who work for the company in the Four Corners area. Corporate officials blamed the slump in natural gas prices for the layoffs. The layoffs come on top of other recent cuts in oil and gas production jobs in northwestern New Mexico.

Las Vegas Area, San Miguel County:

Contract call center operator **Results-Las Vegas** has furloughed 36 employees after one of its clients, Well Care, an insurance company, suspended a line of business with Results. About 130 workers are still employed at the center.

Santa Fe Area, Santa Fe County:

Thornburg Mortgage Inc., a large and troubled provider of "jumbo" mortgage loans, will file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. The Santa Fe-based company has struggled with liquidity problems since the summer of 2007, when the value of mortgages on its balance sheet began to tumble. Thornburg later suffered a series of margin calls from its own creditors. 🏠

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