

NEW MEXICO

Labor Market Report

Bill Richardson
Governor

Conroy Chino
Secretary

Volume 35, No. 5, (published - June 30, 2006)

HIGHLIGHTS — May 2006

...New Mexico's rate of over-the-year job growth was 2.5 percent for May 2006, adding 20,300 jobs over the last year. We rank 11th highest for job growth among the states.

...Over the last 12 months, payroll employment in the Albuquerque MSA expanded by 2.5 percent as 9,400 new jobs were added. Construction growth remained strong as still relatively low interest rates continued to drive up the demand for new homes.

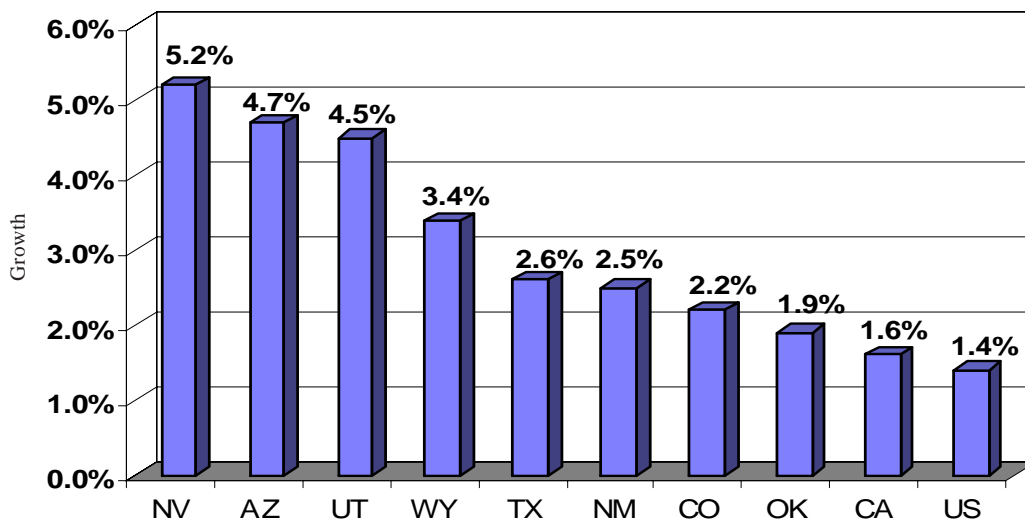
...The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces MSA was 4.3 percent, adding 2,800 jobs.

...Over-the-year job growth for the Santa Fe MSA was only 1.0 percent, adding just 600 jobs. This is the lowest rate of job growth the area has seen in about 18 months.

...Over the last year the Farmington MSA added 1,000 jobs, growing 2.0 percent. The rate of growth has steadily declined over the last 16 months, following a period of rapid job growth.

Current Regional Nonfarm Employment Growth

May 2006 over May 2005 - Not Seasonally Adjusted



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New Mexico
Department of
LABOR

www.dol.state.nm.us

Economic Research and Analysis
P.O. Box 1928, Albuquerque, N.M. 87103
505.222.4684

New Mexico Labor Force and Payroll Employment

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.2 percent in May 2006, down from 4.3 percent in April. The official unemployment rate remains on the low side of what is likely for the state, considering that the national unemployment rate was 4.6 percent. Statistical sampling used in the calculation of the unemployment rate provides 90 percent assurance that the real unemployment rate is somewhere in the range of 3.4 percent to 5.0 percent. A year ago the state's unemployment rate was 5.3 percent.

New Mexico's rate of over-the-year job growth was 2.5 percent for May 2006. The state has added 20,300 jobs over the last year, and we rank 11th highest for job growth among the states. The job growth remains broad based, with 12 of the 13 industries expanding. However, just three industries account for more than half of the added jobs. The large government and health services industries are joined by the moderately-sized construction industry, adding a total of 11,700 jobs between them. The outlook remains very favorable, with many companies signaling the intent to expand their workforces and a construction industry that appears to be withstanding higher raw material costs and higher interest rates.

As has been the case for many months, the mining and construction industries are way ahead in generating the highest rates of job growth. These are not the largest industries in the state, but the growth rates are very high. Natural resources and mining has enjoyed about three years of job growth with sustained higher prices for oil and natural gas. Job growth currently stands at 12.2 percent over the year, adding 2,000 jobs. Construction employment continues to enjoy rapid growth as well, currently up 8.2 percent on the year, adding 4,400 jobs. The recent construction boom is also about three years old, following losses when several large construction projects in Albuquerque ended. Both residential and non-residential construction continue to grow at a fast pace.

Educational and health services, the state's largest private industry, added 3,800 jobs, growing 3.6 percent. Most components of this industry are growing at a moderate rate following some setbacks early last year. Government employment increased 1.7 percent, adding 3,500 jobs over the year. Federal government added 700 jobs, gaining 2.3 percent, while state

government added 800 jobs from a year ago. Local government employment increased by 2,000 jobs, with just over half the job gains being reported at local school districts. Local government also includes Indian tribes and their casinos.

Manufacturing employment made a gain of 1,200 jobs, with clear strength in computer and electronic products. Professional and business services added 1,100 jobs, making a moderate contribution to the overall job gain. Financial activities employment added 500 jobs from gains that were in the real estate and finance and insurance components.

Retail trade employment continues to enjoy moderate gains, currently showing a 1.2 percent increase on the year, rising by 1,100 jobs. Wholesale trade also made gains recently, adding 300 jobs over the year. The leisure and hospitality industry made gains of 1,000 jobs, with modest gains in eating and drinking places and in accommodation. Arts, entertainment and recreation also added to the gains. The transportation, warehousing and utilities industry increased employment by 300 jobs, having seen very little growth recently. The miscellaneous *other services* category added 600 jobs, growing at 2.1 percent.

The information industry reported employment levels that were unchanged from a year ago, which shows improvement from last month's losses. These numbers are a little misleading; the industry continues to do very well but is being compared to a strong period a year ago when the state's film industry had record-level activity. Activity remains moderately strong this year, rivaling last year's record levels.

New Mexico	Change From				
	May 2006	Apr 2006	May 2005	Apr 2006	May 2005
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	956,100	958,000	933,800	-1,900	+22,300
Employment	916,100	916,900	883,900	-800	+32,200
Unemployment	40,000	41,100	49,900	-1,100	-9,900
Rate	4.2%	4.3%	5.3%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	4.1%	4.2%	5.3%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Albuquerque MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Bernalillo, Sandoval, Tarrant & Valencia Counties)

The Albuquerque area seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.8 percent in May, down two tenths of a percentage point from April's rate. Unemployment has fallen 1.2 percent from last May's rate of 5.0 percent. Statewide and substate unemployment rates are primarily derived from the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, which has produced extremely favorable unemployment estimates for New Mexico in recent months. While rates are expected to remain relatively low, they will likely rise from current levels in the coming months.

Payroll employment rose by 1,600 or 0.4 percent over the month, with expansions in seven of the 12 major industry divisions. The goods-producing sector grew 0.7 percent with the addition of 400 new construction jobs, while manufacturing held steady over the month at 23,400. In the services-providing sector, 1,200 jobs were added in May for growth of 0.4 percent. An increase of 500 jobs in leisure and hospitality was largely seasonal, as businesses geared up for the usual summer influx of tourists. Professional and business services gained 300 jobs, while retail trade, educational and health services, and the miscellaneous category of *other services* each added 100 jobs. Government employment also increased by 100 jobs, as federal and local government gains of 200 each were offset by a state government loss of 300. Employment was unchanged from last month's levels in transportation, warehousing, and utilities; financial activities; information; and wholesale trade.

Over the last 12 months, payroll employment expanded by 2.5 percent as 9,400 new jobs were added to the metro area economy. Construction growth remained strong at 8.2 percent (2,300 jobs), as still relatively low interest rates continued to drive up the demand for new homes. Nearly 6,500 new jobs have been added since the current housing boom began three years ago, and May's employment level of 30,500 established a new industry high for the metro area.

Government continued to play a vital role in the Albuquerque area economy with its contribution of 2,300 new jobs. Local government led the way with an increase of 900 jobs, while state and federal government each added 700. The 5.0 percent over-the-year increase in federal government employment was the largest since May 2000.

Educational and health services gained 1,300 jobs since this time last year, an increase of 2.8 percent. This industry has exhibited exceptional growth for quite some time, having jumped 22 percent in the last five years. By comparison, total payroll employment increased by only 6 percent during the same time period.

Leisure and hospitality employment expanded by 800 jobs, marking the twelfth consecutive month of over-the-year increases. Full-service restaurants accounted for 400 of the new jobs, a solid 3.1 percent increase over May 2005 employment.

Growth in professional and business services proceeded at a moderate pace of 1.3 percent or 800 jobs. Business support services contributed 500 new jobs or 11.9 percent, which follows over-the-year gains of 9.3 percent in April and 6.8 percent in March.

Retail trade was up by 700 jobs or 1.6 percent over the past year. About 200 of those jobs came from general merchandise stores, which includes big box retailers like Wal-Mart and Target. Employment at food and beverage stores also increased by 200 jobs or 4.1 percent. The remainder of the growth in retail trade came from unpublished components such as motor vehicle dealers, electronics stores, and sporting goods stores.

Manufacturing employment increased by 600 jobs or 2.6 percent over the year, continuing a streak of over-the-year increases that began in September 2005. The rebound in manufacturing follows a four-year downturn during which the industry shed 4,000 jobs. Employment gains are likely to continue as firms establish or expand operations in the manufacture of airplanes, solar cells, cabinets, and mattresses.

Transportation, warehousing, and utilities added 200 jobs over the year, as did the miscellaneous category of *other services*. Employment was up by 100 both in wholesale trade and financial services, while information-industry employment was unchanged from this time last year. May was the first month in 2006 in which information did not produce a gain in over-the-year employment.

Albuquerque Seasonally Adjusted	Change From				
	May 2006	Apr 2006	May 2005	Apr 2006	May 2005
Civilian Labor Force	409,400	410,200	397,600	-800	+11,800
Employment	393,800	393,900	377,600	-100	+16,200
Unemployment	15,600	16,400	20,100	-800	-4,500
Rate	3.8%	4.0%	5.0%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.7%	3.8%	4.9%		

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 4.6 percent in May 2006, down from 4.7 percent in April. The drop this month resulted from the statewide decline in unemployment. A year ago the area's unemployment rate was 6.1 percent.

The Las Cruces area gained 200 jobs in May 2006 from an increase of 100 jobs in retail trade and a similar 100-job increase in state government. All other industries reported no change from the prior month.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces area was 4.3 percent comparing May 2006 with the same month a year ago. The Las Cruces area has added 2,800 jobs. This rate of job growth is higher than the average for the state.

The educational and health services industry gained 700 jobs, increasing 7.2 percent. The health services industry has enjoyed a long period of rapid growth, with only a brief pause in 2004. Construction employment also has done well recently in the local area, increasing 300 jobs, growing 7.0 percent.

Government employment made gains of 500 jobs, with an increase of 100 jobs in federal government and 200 jobs in both state and local government. Local government includes New Mexico State University.

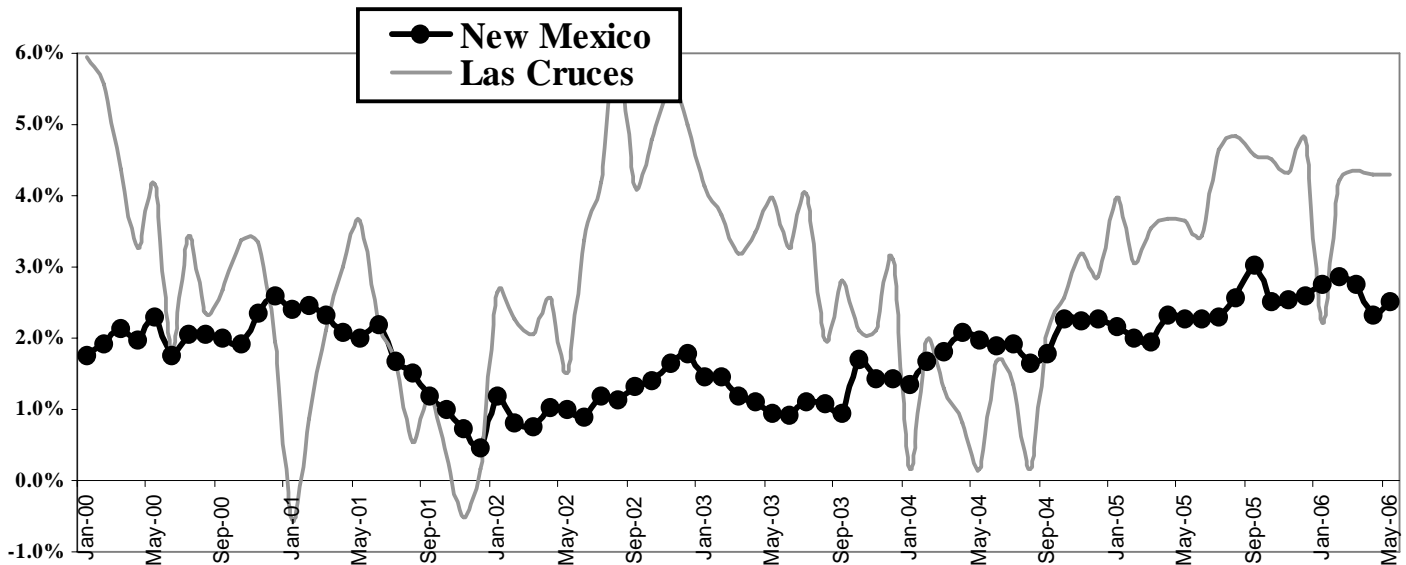
Retail trade made gains of 200 jobs from a year ago, while wholesale trade added 100. The professional and business services industry gained 200 jobs, growing 3.6 percent, making a solid contribution to overall job gains in Las Cruces. Three other industries – leisure and hospitality, information, and manufacturing – also added 200 jobs over last year's levels.

A gain of 100 jobs was reported in financial activities and also in the miscellaneous *other services* category of employment. Transportation, warehousing and utilities remained at last year's employment level.

Las Cruces Seasonally Adjusted	Change From				
	May 2006	Apr 2006	May 2005	Apr 2006	May 2005
Civilian Labor Force	88,500	88,800	85,500	-300	+3,000
Employment	84,400	84,600	80,300	-200	+4,100
Unemployment	4,000	4,200	5,200	-200	-1,200
Rate	4.6%	4.7%	6.1%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	4.6%	4.8%	6.2%		

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 3.3 percent in May 2006, down from 3.5 the previous month. A year ago, the area had an unemployment rate of 4.3 percent.

Santa Fe lost 300 jobs in May, which is similar to what happened last year. Small gains were made in construction and retail trade, but those gains were more than offset by losses in other industries. There were 200 fewer government jobs and 200 fewer leisure and hospitality jobs. Also reported was the loss of 100 information jobs and another 100 jobs in educational and health services.

Over-the-year job growth for Santa Fe was only 1.0 percent, adding just 600 jobs. This is the lowest rate of job growth the area has seen in about 18 months. Previously the rate of job growth had been close to the average for the state. The job growth is evident in only five of the area's 12 industries. Five industries remain at the same level of employment as last year, and two industries have lost jobs over the year.

The large government sector added just 200 jobs on the year, growing 1.2 percent. Federal government jobs have declined in number over the year, and state government has shown no

growth. All of the new government jobs are in local government. The local government gains have come mostly from employment at local schools.

In the private sector, educational and health services added 200 jobs, growing 2.3 percent. This is a slight reduction from recent trends for this industry. The information industry, which includes motion picture and video industries, also gained 200 jobs, a 20.0 percent increase for this small industry.

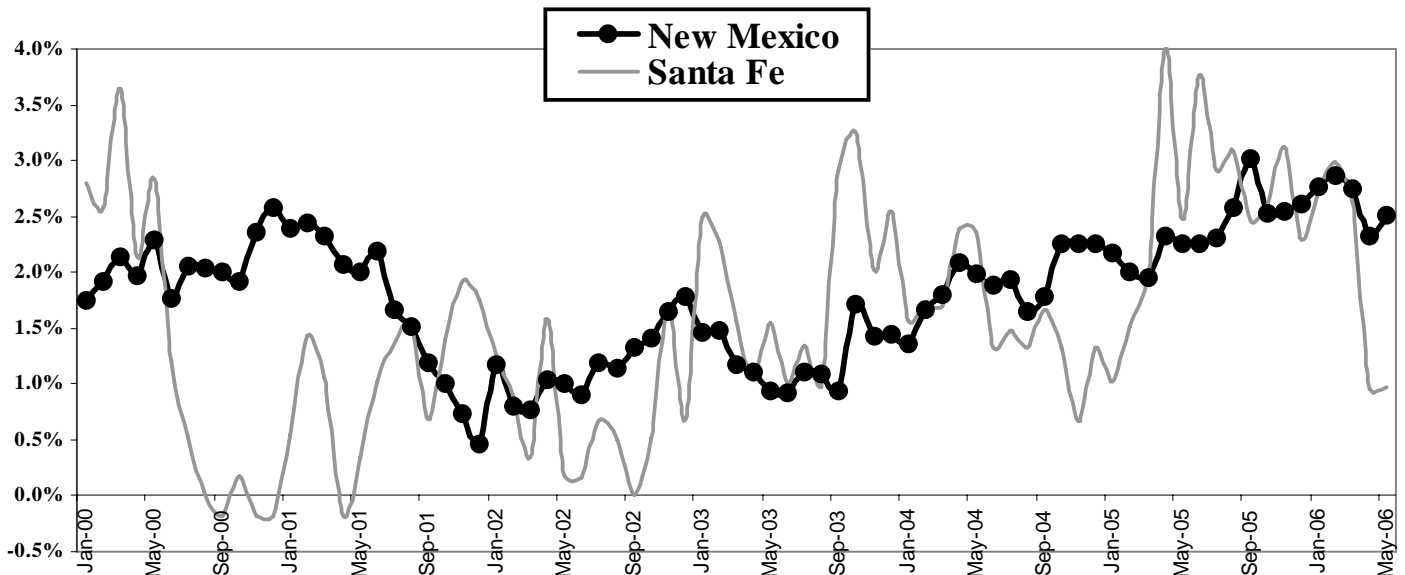
Leisure and hospitality employment managed to make gains of 100 jobs, still recovering from a disappointing year on the barren ski slopes. The miscellaneous *other services* industry also added 100 jobs.

The five industries reporting employment that was unchanged from last year's levels were construction; wholesale trade; transportation, warehousing, and utilities; financial activities; and professional and business services. The two industries reporting lost jobs over the year were manufacturing and retail trade. Each of these declining industries was down by 100 jobs since last year.

Santa Fe				Change From	
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>May 2006</u>	<u>Apr 2006</u>	<u>May 2006</u>	<u>Apr 2006</u>	<u>May 2005</u>
Civilian Labor Force	79,000	80,100	77,600	-1,100	+1,400
Employment	76,300	77,300	74,300	-1,000	+2,000
Unemployment	2,600	2,800	3,300	+200	-700
Rate	3.3%	3.5%	4.3%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.3%	3.4%	4.2%		

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 4.4 percent in May 2006, down from 4.5 percent in April. The decrease (and rise last month) parallels the statewide unemployment changes. A year ago the area had an unemployment rate of 5.6 percent.

The Farmington area gained 500 jobs in May, which is a time when employment typically increases. The May gains were in private services-providing industries as well as federal and local government.

Over the last year, the Farmington area has added 1,000 jobs, growing 2.0 percent. The rate of job growth has steadily declined over the last 16 months, following a period of rapid job growth. Job growth in Farmington has moderated from previous very high levels, not so much because of anything bad happening this year, but because last year economic activity was extra strong.

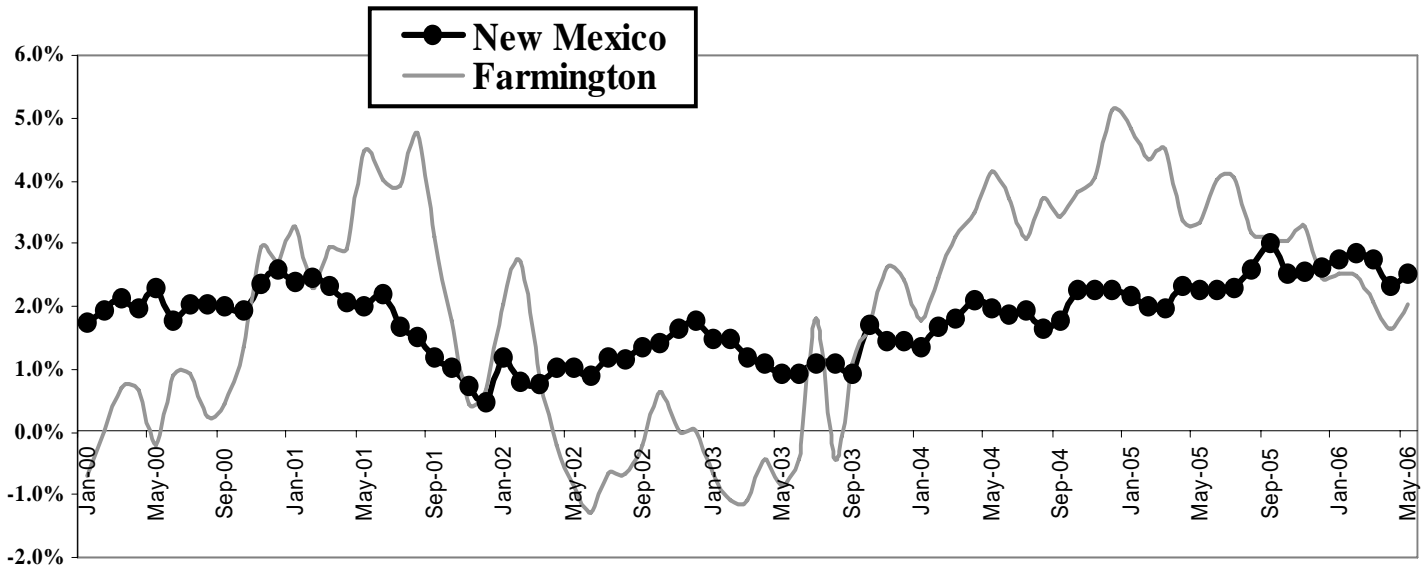
Job growth in Farmington peaked in December 2004 when the over-the-year rate of job growth reached 5.1 percent. This was the fastest increase in jobs since mid-1995. Since reaching this recent peak, job growth has gradually returned to more sustainable levels.

Private services-providing industries continue to do fairly well, adding 500 jobs over the year, growing 1.8 percent. Government employment has been sluggish for a while and shows 100 fewer jobs in federal government than a year ago, no growth in state government employment, and growth of just 100 jobs in local government.

Farmington	Change From				
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>May 2006</u>	<u>Apr 2006</u>	<u>May 2005</u>	<u>Apr 2006</u>	<u>May 2005</u>
Civilian Labor Force	56,600	56,500	55,000	+100	+1,600
Employment	54,100	53,900	52,000	+200	+2,100
Unemployment	2,500	2,600	3,100	-100	-600
Rate	4.4%	4.5%	5.6%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	4.2%	4.2%	5.3%		

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 %
1986		667,200	605,800	61,400	9.2%	
1987		674,200	613,400	60,800	9.0%	
1988		682,000	630,300	51,700	7.6%	
1989		691,800	645,300	46,500	6.7%	
1990		711,900	663,700	48,200	6.8%	
1991		719,200	667,700	51,500	7.2%	
1992		735,500	680,500	55,000	7.5%	
1993		755,100	700,300	54,800	7.3%	
1994		776,800	725,400	51,400	6.6%	
1995		798,700	744,600	54,100	6.8%	
1996		812,800	751,800	61,000	7.5%	
1997		822,600	768,600	54,000	6.6%	
1998		835,900	783,700	52,200	6.2%	
1999		840,000	793,100	46,900	5.6%	
2000		852,300	810,000	42,300	5.0%	
2001		863,700	821,000	42,700	4.9%	
2002		875,600	827,300	48,300	5.5%	
2003		893,100	840,400	52,700	5.9%	
2004		914,500	862,400	52,100	5.7%	
2005		935,900	886,700	49,200	5.3%	
2005	JAN	926,900	875,900	51,000	5.5%	5.5%
	FEB	928,400	877,700	50,800	5.5%	5.9%
	MAR	930,100	879,600	50,500	5.4%	5.6%
	APR	933,400	883,200	50,200	5.4%	5.3%
	MAY	933,800	883,900	49,900	5.3%	5.3%
	JUN	934,100	884,600	49,500	5.3%	5.9%
	JUL	935,600	886,500	49,100	5.2%	5.7%
	AUG	937,200	888,600	48,700	5.2%	5.1%
	SEP	940,700	892,400	48,200	5.1%	5.1%
	OCT	942,300	894,500	47,800	5.1%	4.7%
	NOV	943,400	896,000	47,300	5.0%	4.7%
	DEC	944,600	897,700	46,900	5.0%	4.4%
2006	JAN	944,700	898,600	46,100	4.9%	5.0%
	FEB	961,700	916,000	45,700	4.8%	5.0%
	MAR	954,400	916,300	38,100	4.0%	3.9%
	APR	958,000	916,900	41,100	4.3%	4.2%
	MAY	956,100	916,100	40,000	4.2%	4.1%
	JUN					
	JUL					
	AUG					
	SEP					
	OCT					
	NOV					
	DEC					
# CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	-1,900	-800	-1,100	-0.1%	-0.1%
	Year Ago	22,300	32,200	-9,900	-1.1%	-1.2%
	2 Yrs. Ago	44,200	56,500	-12,400	-1.5%	-1.8%
	3 Yrs. Ago	66,000	78,700	-12,700	-1.7%	-1.8%
% CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	-0.2%	-0.1%	-2.7%		
	Year Ago	2.4%	3.6%	-19.8%		
	2 Yrs. Ago	4.8%	6.6%	-23.7%		
	3 Yrs. Ago	7.4%	9.4%	-24.1%		

State	Rank	May 2005	May 2006	Change	% Change
Nevada	1	1,221.5	1,285.1	63.6	5.2%
Idaho	2	609.6	640.9	31.3	5.1%
Arizona	3	2,504.9	2,622.4	117.5	4.7%
Utah	4	1,140.2	1,191.0	50.8	4.5%
Oregon	5	1,652.6	1,711.9	59.3	3.6%
Wyoming	6	263.9	273.0	9.1	3.4%
Washington	7	2,780.7	2,870.1	89.4	3.2%
Florida	8	7,826.1	8,075.9	249.8	3.2%
Hawaii	9	601.8	618.0	16.2	2.7%
Texas	10	9,733.7	9,985.4	251.7	2.6%
New Mexico	11	810.5	830.8	20.3	2.5%
South Carolina	12	1,877.1	1,922.6	45.5	2.4%
South Dakota	13	393.8	402.6	8.8	2.2%
Colorado	14	2,215.8	2,264.6	48.8	2.2%
Montana	15	422.0	430.9	8.9	2.1%
North Carolina	16	3,926.6	4,004.8	78.2	2.0%
Georgia	17	4,012.9	4,088.5	75.6	1.9%
Oklahoma	18	1,520.6	1,548.9	28.3	1.9%
Alabama	19	1,948.6	1,984.3	35.7	1.8%
Nebraska	20	942.2	958.6	16.4	1.7%
Minnesota	21	2,734.7	2,782.0	47.3	1.7%
Iowa	22	1,494.4	1,519.8	25.4	1.7%
Alaska	23	313.2	318.3	5.1	1.6%
Delaware	24	680.4	691.3	10.9	1.6%
California	25	14,776.7	15,007.1	230.4	1.6%
Virginia	26	3,672.0	3,728.1	56.1	1.5%
North Dakota	27	349.7	354.8	5.1	1.5%
United States		133,924.0	135,810.0	1,886.0	1.4%
Maryland	28	2,565.2	2,601.1	35.9	1.4%
DC	29	433.5	439.1	5.6	1.3%
New Hampshire	30	637.7	645.8	8.1	1.3%
Tennessee	31	2,754.7	2,788.8	34.1	1.2%
Kentucky	32	1,833.2	1,854.4	21.2	1.2%
Arkansas	33	1,182.9	1,195.9	13.0	1.1%
Missouri	34	2,749.0	2,777.6	28.6	1.0%
Wisconsin	35	2,854.2	2,882.7	28.5	1.0%
New Jersey	36	4,057.4	4,096.7	39.3	1.0%
Pennsylvania	37	5,738.0	5,790.6	52.6	0.9%
Illinois	38	5,886.8	5,939.6	52.8	0.9%
Indiana	39	2,973.9	3,000.3	26.4	0.9%
West Virginia	40	751.2	757.7	6.5	0.9%
New York	41	8,561.8	8,635.7	73.9	0.9%
Vermont	42	305.1	307.6	2.5	0.8%
Massachusetts	43	3,211.3	3,234.0	22.7	0.7%
Rhode Island	44	495.5	498.2	2.7	0.5%
Ohio	45	5,464.6	5,493.8	29.2	0.5%
Connecticut	46	1,670.9	1,679.6	8.7	0.5%
Maine	47	614.8	615.9	1.1	0.2%
Kansas	48	1,349.2	1,350.4	1.2	0.1%
Mississippi	49	1,139.3	1,138.3	-1.0	-0.1%
Michigan	50	4,443.8	4,422.7	-21.1	-0.5%
Louisiana	51	1,952.4	1,774.8	-177.6	-9.1%

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

Employment numbers are not seasonally adjusted.

Employment numbers are in thousands.

Unemployment Rates in New Mexico (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

MAY 2006		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	13.4%
MORA	2	8.5%
TAOS	3	6.2%
GUADALUPE	4	5.9%
MCKINLEY	5	5.7%
SAN MIGUEL	6	4.8%
CATRON	7	4.6%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	8	4.6%
RIO ARRIBA	9	4.6%
SIERRA	10	4.6%
CHAVES	11	4.4%
QUAY	12	4.4%
COLFAX	13	4.3%
GRANT	14	4.3%
CIBOLA	15	4.2%
FARMINGTON MSA 2/	16	4.2%
HARDING	17	4.1%
OTERO	18	4.1%
STATEWIDE		4.1%
HIDALGO	19	4.0%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	20	3.7%
DE BACA	21	3.6%
CURRY	22	3.5%
EDDY	23	3.5%
SOCORRO	24	3.5%
LINCOLN	25	3.3%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	26	3.3%
LEA	27	3.2%
ROOSEVELT	28	3.1%
UNION	29	2.9%
LOS ALAMOS	30	2.3%

APRIL 2006		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	13.5%
MORA	2	9.4%
GUADALUPE	3	6.1%
TAOS	4	6.1%
MCKINLEY	5	5.7%
CATRON	6	5.1%
RIO ARRIBA	7	5.0%
SAN MIGUEL	8	4.9%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	9	4.8%
QUAY	10	4.8%
SIERRA	11	4.7%
CHAVES	12	4.6%
COLFAX	13	4.5%
GRANT	14	4.5%
CIBOLA	15	4.4%
HARDING	16	4.4%
OTERO	17	4.3%
FARMINGTON MSA 2/	18	4.2%
HIDALGO	19	4.2%
STATEWIDE		4.2%
DE BACA	20	4.0%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	21	3.8%
CURRY	22	3.8%
EDDY	23	3.8%
LINCOLN	24	3.7%
SOCORRO	25	3.7%
LEA	26	3.4%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	27	3.4%
ROOSEVELT	28	3.3%
UNION	29	3.1%
LOS ALAMOS	30	2.5%

MAY 2005		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	15.5%
MORA	2	11.5%
TAOS	3	8.0%
GUADALUPE	4	7.8%
MCKINLEY	5	7.2%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	6	6.2%
SAN MIGUEL	7	6.2%
CATRON	8	6.1%
HIDALGO	9	6.1%
CHAVES	10	6.0%
GRANT	11	6.0%
RIO ARRIBA	12	6.0%
COLFAX	13	5.8%
DE BACA	14	5.7%
QUAY	15	5.5%
SIERRA	16	5.5%
CIBOLA	17	5.4%
FARMINGTON MSA 2/	18	5.3%
STATEWIDE		5.3%
EDDY	19	5.0%
OTERO	20	5.0%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	21	4.9%
HARDING	22	4.6%
LEA	23	4.5%
SOCORRO	24	4.5%
CURRY	25	4.4%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	26	4.2%
LINCOLN	27	4.1%
ROOSEVELT	28	3.9%
UNION	29	3.8%
LOS ALAMOS	30	2.8%

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

Need Labor Market Information?

We have several major publications detailing New Mexico's:

- Current economic conditions and trends
- Wages by occupations and areas
- Larger employers
- Growing jobs with skills and training needs
- Job market with hints for finding and keeping a job

They are available, at no cost, by dropping by any NMDOL office.

...Check Out Our Website!

For fast and easy access to the latest labor market information, please visit the New Mexico Department of Labor's website. There you will find a wide variety of information and tools for all kinds of people, including job seekers, employers, teachers, grant writers, career counselors, and students. All of our publications, including the one you are reading now, can be accessed online and are available sooner than if delivered by mail. This website also includes information on Department of Labor programs, contact names and addresses, and frequently asked questions about Department functions. In addition, all NMDOL employer forms can be downloaded from our website for easy access. Also provided are links to other related websites, including America's Job Bank for nationwide job searches. All this and more is available on our website at:

www.dol.state.nm.us



Unemployment Rate by State (Seasonally Adjusted)

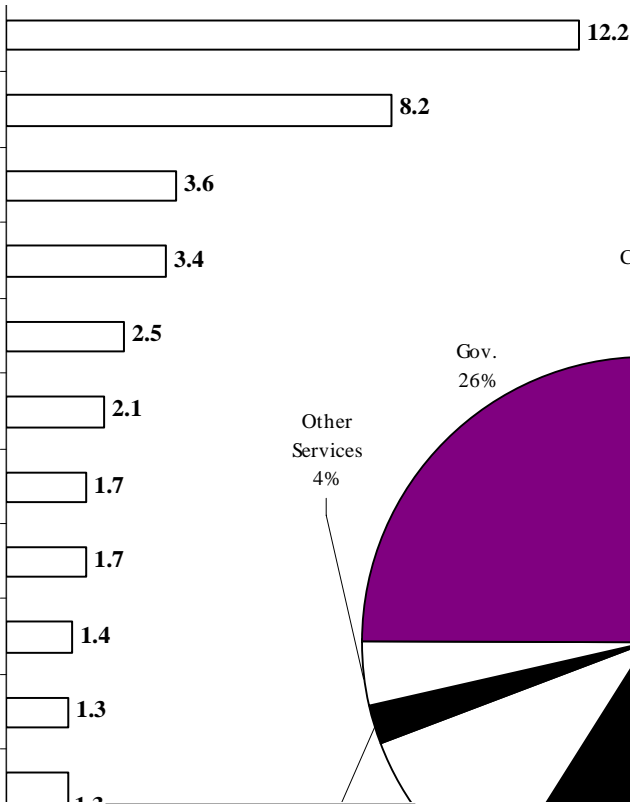
Preliminary		May 2006
State	Rank	Rate
Mississippi	1	7.3
Alaska	2	7.1
South Carolina	3	6.5
Michigan	4	6.0
District of Columbia	5	5.7
Kentucky	6	5.6
Oregon	7	5.6
Rhode Island	8	5.5
Tennessee	9	5.4
Arkansas	10	5.3
Ohio	11	5.3
Louisiana	12	5.2
Texas	13	5.1
Washington	14	5.1
California	15	5.0
Indiana	16	5.0
Massachusetts	17	5.0
New Jersey	18	5.0
Georgia	19	4.9
Pennsylvania	20	4.8
West Virginia	21	4.8
Wisconsin	22	4.7
Illinois	23	4.6
New York	24	4.6
North Carolina	25	4.6
United States	4.6	
Colorado	26	4.5
Kansas	27	4.5
Maine	28	4.4
Missouri	29	4.4
New Mexico	30	4.2
Arizona	30	4.2
Oklahoma	32	4.1
Connecticut	33	4.0
Nevada	34	4.0
Delaware	35	3.8
Maryland	36	3.8
Montana	37	3.8
Minnesota	38	3.7
Wyoming	39	3.7
Alabama	40	3.6
Idaho	41	3.5
Utah	42	3.5
Iowa	43	3.4
New Hampshire	44	3.3
North Dakota	45	3.3
Florida	46	3.2
Nebraska	47	3.2
Hawaii	48	3.0
Vermont	49	3.0
Virginia	50	3.0
South Dakota	51	2.9

Revised		May 2005
State	Rank	Rate
Mississippi	1	7.1
Michigan	2	6.8
District of Columbia	3	6.7
Alaska	4	6.6
South Carolina	5	6.5
Oregon	6	6.3
Kentucky	7	6.0
Ohio	8	6.0
Illinois	9	5.8
Tennessee	10	5.7
Washington	11	5.6
California	12	5.4
Louisiana	13	5.4
Missouri	14	5.4
New Mexico	15	5.3
Georgia	15	5.3
Colorado	17	5.2
Indiana	18	5.2
North Carolina	19	5.2
Texas	20	5.2
Kansas	21	5.1
New York	22	5.1
United States	5.1	
Connecticut	23	5.0
Pennsylvania	24	5.0
Rhode Island	25	5.0
Arkansas	26	4.9
Maine	27	4.9
West Virginia	28	4.9
Massachusetts	29	4.8
Arizona	30	4.7
Wisconsin	31	4.7
Iowa	32	4.6
Oklahoma	33	4.4
Utah	34	4.4
Maryland	35	4.2
New Jersey	36	4.2
Delaware	37	4.1
Montana	38	4.1
Nevada	39	4.1
Alabama	40	4.0
Minnesota	41	4.0
Florida	42	3.9
Idaho	43	3.9
South Dakota	44	3.9
Nebraska	45	3.8
Wyoming	46	3.8
New Hampshire	47	3.6
North Dakota	48	3.5
Virginia	49	3.5
Vermont	50	3.2
Hawaii	51	2.8

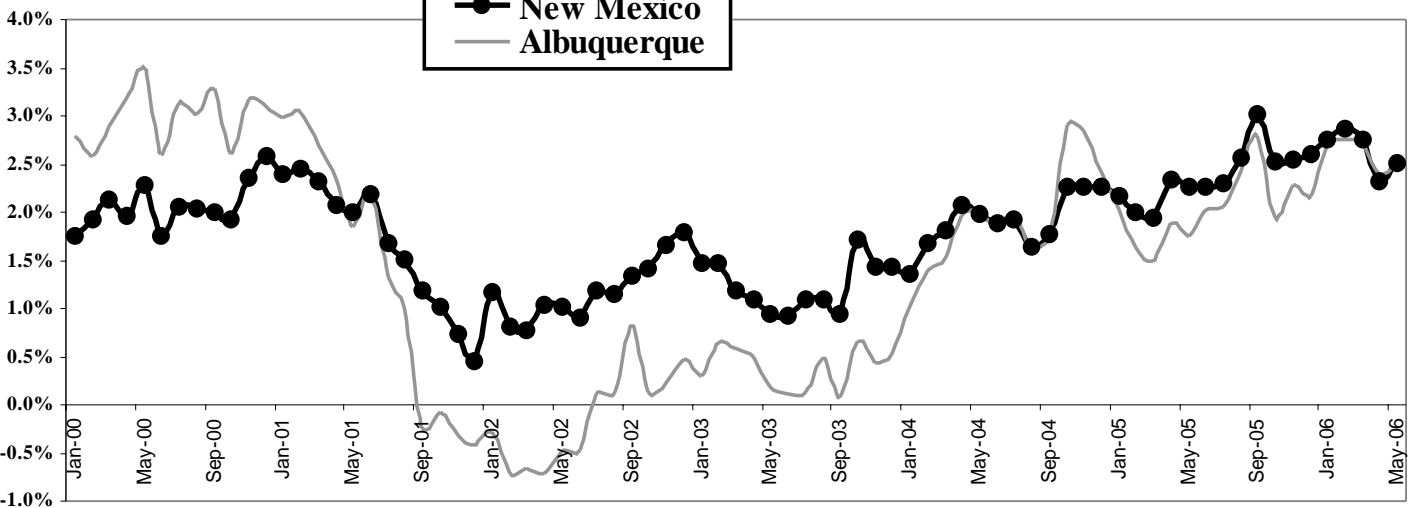
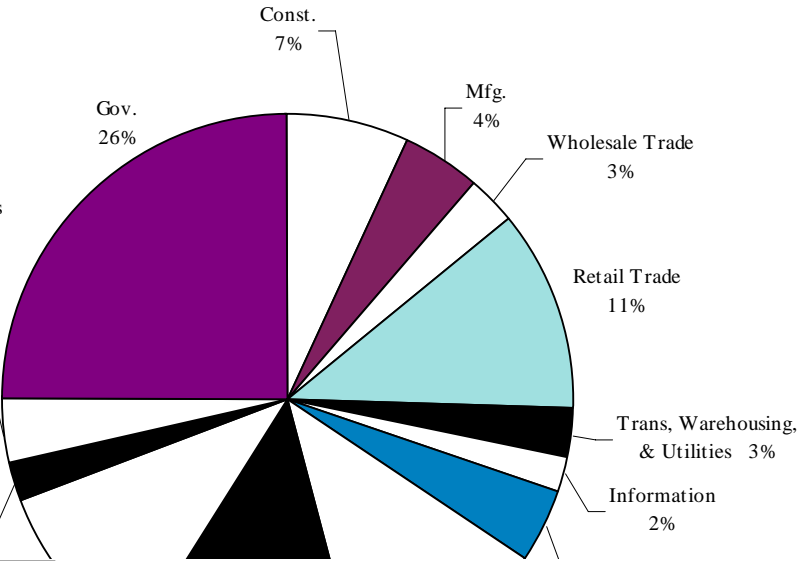
New Mexico Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Annual Growth Rates by Industry

Natural Res. & Mining
Const.
Educ. & Health Services
Mfg.
Total
Other Services
Gov.
Pro & Bus. Services
Financial Activities
Wholesale Trade
Trans, Warehsing, & Util.



NAICS Industries



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	May-06	Apr-06	May-05	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	830,800	825,900	810,500	4,900	20,300
GOODS PRODUCING	113,300	112,500	105,700	800	7,600
SERVICES-PROVIDING	717,500	713,400	704,800	4,100	12,700
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	18,400	18,400	16,400	0	2,000
<i>Oil & Gas Extraction, Well Drilling</i>	<i>14,100</i>	<i>14,100</i>	<i>12,300</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1,800</i>
<i>Mining, Except Oil and Gas</i>	<i>4,100</i>	<i>4,100</i>	<i>3,900</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>200</i>
CONSTRUCTION	58,000	57,200	53,600	800	4,400
Construction of Buildings	16,600	16,200	15,200	400	1,400
<i>Residential Building Construction</i>	<i>10,000</i>	<i>9,700</i>	<i>8,500</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>1,500</i>
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	9,400	9,400	8,700	0	700
Specialty Trade Contractors	32,000	31,600	29,700	400	2,300
MANUFACTURING	36,900	36,900	35,700	0	1,200
Durable Goods	25,900	26,000	25,100	-100	800
<i>Computer and Electronic Products</i>	<i>10,700</i>	<i>10,600</i>	<i>10,100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>600</i>
<i>Semiconductor and Other Electronics</i>	<i>7,300</i>	<i>7,200</i>	<i>6,800</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>500</i>
Non-Durable Goods	11,000	10,900	10,600	100	400
WHOLESALE TRADE	23,100	23,000	22,800	100	300
RETAIL TRADE	94,400	93,300	93,300	1,100	1,100
<i>Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers</i>	<i>13,100</i>	<i>13,100</i>	<i>13,300</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-200</i>
<i>Food and Beverage Stores</i>	<i>12,700</i>	<i>12,500</i>	<i>12,500</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>200</i>
<i>General Merchandise Stores</i>	<i>21,100</i>	<i>20,900</i>	<i>20,300</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>800</i>
<i>Department Stores</i>	<i>6,300</i>	<i>6,300</i>	<i>6,200</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Other General Merchandise Stores</i>	<i>14,800</i>	<i>14,500</i>	<i>14,100</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>700</i>
<i>Miscellaneous Store Retailers</i>	<i>6,700</i>	<i>6,600</i>	<i>6,900</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>-200</i>
<i>Nonstore Retailers</i>	<i>2,600</i>	<i>2,600</i>	<i>2,700</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-100</i>
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	23,500	23,400	23,200	100	300
Utilities	4,000	4,000	3,900	0	100
Transportation and Warehousing	19,500	19,400	19,300	100	200
<i>Truck Transportation</i>	<i>6,900</i>	<i>6,800</i>	<i>6,900</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>0</i>
INFORMATION	15,000	14,900	15,000	100	0
<i>Telecommunications</i>	<i>5,800</i>	<i>5,800</i>	<i>5,900</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-100</i>
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	35,400	35,300	34,900	100	500
Finance and Insurance	24,500	24,500	24,300	0	200
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities</i>	<i>13,800</i>	<i>13,900</i>	<i>13,400</i>	<i>-100</i>	<i>400</i>
<i>Insurance Carriers and Related Activities</i>	<i>8,900</i>	<i>8,900</i>	<i>9,100</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-200</i>
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	10,900	10,800	10,600	100	300
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	93,900	93,600	92,300	300	1,600
Professional, Scientific, and Technical	43,000	43,500	42,600	-500	400
<i>Architectural, Engineering, and Related</i>	<i>10,500</i>	<i>10,500</i>	<i>10,400</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Scientific Research and Development</i>	<i>14,100</i>	<i>14,000</i>	<i>14,100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>0</i>
Management of Companies and Enterprises	5,700	5,600	5,700	100	0
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services	45,200	44,500	44,000	700	1,200
<i>Employment Services</i>	<i>16,600</i>	<i>16,300</i>	<i>16,400</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>200</i>
<i>Business Support Services</i>	<i>6,500</i>	<i>6,600</i>	<i>6,300</i>	<i>-100</i>	<i>200</i>
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	109,600	109,500	105,800	100	3,800
Educational Services	14,500	14,600	14,200	-100	300
Health Care and Social Assistance	95,100	94,900	91,600	200	3,500
Ambulatory Health Care Services	39,600	39,600	38,000	0	1,600
<i>Offices of Physicians</i>	<i>10,900</i>	<i>11,000</i>	<i>10,400</i>	<i>-100</i>	<i>500</i>
<i>Outpatient Care Centers</i>	<i>7,900</i>	<i>8,000</i>	<i>8,100</i>	<i>-100</i>	<i>-200</i>
<i>Home Health Care Services</i>	<i>8,800</i>	<i>8,900</i>	<i>8,200</i>	<i>-100</i>	<i>600</i>
Hospitals	21,200	21,200	20,100	0	1,100
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	13,500	13,500	13,600	0	-100
<i>Nursing Care Facilities</i>	<i>6,900</i>	<i>6,900</i>	<i>7,200</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-300</i>
Social Assistance	20,800	20,600	19,900	200	900
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	85,600	84,300	84,600	1,300	1,000
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	8,200	8,000	8,000	200	200
Accommodation and Food Services	77,400	76,300	76,600	1,100	800
Accommodation	14,000	13,700	13,900	300	100
Food Services and Drinking Places	63,400	62,600	62,700	800	700
<i>Full-Service Restaurants</i>	<i>29,000</i>	<i>28,400</i>	<i>28,600</i>	<i>600</i>	<i>400</i>
<i>Limited-Service Eating Places</i>	<i>28,000</i>	<i>27,700</i>	<i>27,600</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>400</i>
OTHER SERVICES	29,500	29,200	28,900	300	600
<i>Repair and Maintenance</i>	<i>8,300</i>	<i>8,200</i>	<i>8,000</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>300</i>
GOVERNMENT	207,500	206,900	204,000	600	3,500
Federal Government	30,900	30,400	30,200	500	700
State Government 2/	70,800	71,000	70,000	-200	800
<i>State Government Education</i>	<i>28,700</i>	<i>29,100</i>	<i>28,800</i>	<i>-400</i>	<i>-100</i>
Local Government	105,800	105,500	103,800	300	2,000
<i>Local Government Education</i>	<i>59,300</i>	<i>59,200</i>	<i>58,200</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>1,100</i>

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

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

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

ALBUQUERQUE	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	May-06	Apr-06	May-05	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	387,200	385,600	377,800	1,600	9,400
GOODS PRODUCING	53,900	53,500	51,000	400	2,900
SERVICES-PROVIDING	333,300	332,100	326,800	1,200	6,500
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING & CONSTRUCTION	30,500	30,100	28,200	400	2,300
<i>Specialty Trade Contractors</i>	19,500	19,200	17,900	300	1,600
MANUFACTURING	23,400	23,400	22,800	0	600
<i>Computer and Electronic Products</i>	9,500	9,500	9,200	0	300
<i>Semiconductor and Other Electronics</i>	6,900	6,900	6,600	0	300
WHOLESALE TRADE	13,100	13,100	13,000	0	100
RETAIL TRADE	44,100	44,000	43,400	100	700
<i>Food and Beverage Stores</i>	5,100	5,100	4,900	0	200
<i>General Merchandise Stores</i>	8,600	8,600	8,400	0	200
<i>Department Stores</i>	3,300	3,300	3,100	0	200
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	10,500	10,500	10,300	0	200
INFORMATION	8,800	8,800	8,800	0	0
<i>Telecommunications</i>	4,100	4,100	4,200	0	-100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	19,400	19,400	19,300	0	100
<i>Finance and Insurance</i>	13,800	13,800	13,700	0	100
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities</i>	6,600	6,600	6,400	0	200
<i>Depository Credit Intermediation</i>	4,600	4,600	4,400	0	200
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	60,900	60,600	60,100	300	800
Professional, Scientific, and Technical	29,700	29,700	29,200	0	500
<i>Scientific Research and Development</i>	12,600	12,600	12,500	0	100
Management of Companies and Enterprises	3,700	3,700	3,900	0	-200
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services	27,500	27,200	27,000	300	500
<i>Employment Services</i>	11,300	11,000	11,700	300	-400
<i>Business Support Services</i>	4,700	4,700	4,200	0	500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	48,000	47,900	46,700	100	1,300
<i>Health Care and Social Assistance</i>	42,000	41,900	40,600	100	1,400
<i>Ambulatory Health Care Services</i>	20,300	20,200	19,400	100	900
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	38,000	37,500	37,200	500	800
<i>Food Services and Drinking Places</i>	28,800	28,600	28,400	200	400
<i>Full-Service Restaurants</i>	13,100	12,900	12,700	200	400
OTHER SERVICES	12,100	12,000	11,900	100	200
GOVERNMENT	78,400	78,300	76,100	100	2,300
Federal Government	14,800	14,600	14,100	200	700
State Government /2	25,500	25,800	24,800	-300	700
Local Government	38,100	37,900	37,200	200	900

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

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

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

LAS CRUCES MSA	Preliminary May-06	Revised Apr-06	Revised May-05	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	68,000	67,800	65,200	200	2,800
GOODS PRODUCING	7,900	7,900	7,400	0	500
SERVICE PRODUCING	60,100	59,900	57,800	200	2,300
NATURAL RESOURCES MINING & CONSTRUCTION	4,600	4,600	4,300	0	300
MANUFACTURING	3,300	3,300	3,100	0	200
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,300	1,300	1,200	0	100
RETAIL TRADE	7,200	7,100	7,000	100	200
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0
INFORMATION	1,300	1,300	1,100	0	200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,500	2,500	2,400	0	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,700	5,700	5,500	0	200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	10,400	10,400	9,700	0	700
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	6,800	6,800	6,600	0	200
OTHER SERVICES	1,600	1,600	1,500	0	100
GOVERNMENT	21,600	21,500	21,100	100	500
Federal	3,600	3,600	3,500	0	100
State	9,200	9,100	9,000	100	200
Local	8,800	8,800	8,600	0	200

SANTA FE MSA	Preliminary May-06	Revised Apr-06	Revised May-05	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	62,800	63,100	62,200	-300	600
GOODS PRODUCING	5,600	5,500	5,700	100	-100
SERVICE PRODUCING	57,200	57,600	56,500	-400	700
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTRUCTION	4,500	4,400	4,500	100	0
MANUFACTURING	1,100	1,100	1,200	0	-100
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	8,400	8,300	8,500	100	-100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	700	700	700	0	0
INFORMATION	1,200	1,300	1,000	-100	200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,900	2,900	2,900	0	0
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,500	5,400	5,500	100	0
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	8,900	9,000	8,700	-100	200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	9,000	9,200	8,900	-200	100
OTHER SERVICES	2,900	2,900	2,800	0	100
GOVERNMENT	16,600	16,800	16,400	-200	200
Federal	1,100	1,100	1,200	0	-100
State /2	8,100	8,200	8,100	-100	0
Local	7,400	7,500	7,100	-100	300

FARMINGTON MSA	Preliminary May-06	Revised Apr-06	Revised May-05	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	50,400	49,900	49,400	500	1,000
TOTAL PRIVATE	38,900	38,600	37,900	300	1,000
GOODS PRODUCING	10,900	10,900	10,400	0	500
SERVICE PRODUCING	39,500	39,000	39,000	500	500
PRIVATE SERVICE PRODUCING	28,000	27,700	27,500	300	500
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTRUCTION	9,300	9,300	8,800	0	500
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	10,500	10,400	10,500	100	0
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	5,800	5,800	5,500	0	300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	5,100	5,000	5,100	100	0
GOVERNMENT	11,500	11,300	11,500	200	0
Federal	1,600	1,500	1,700	100	-100
State	500	500	500	0	0
Local	9,400	9,300	9,300	100	100

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

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

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

- Seasonally Adjusted -

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary May-06	Revised Apr-06	Monthly Change
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	826,300	824,900	1,400
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	18,300	18,400	-100
CONSTRUCTION	57,600	57,700	-100
MANUFACTURING	37,300	37,400	-100
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	141,200	141,100	100
INFORMATION <i>(Not Seasonally Adjusted)</i>	15,000	14,900	100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	35,300	35,300	0
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	93,700	94,100	-400
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	108,400	107,600	800
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	84,500	84,700	-200
OTHER SERVICES	30,100	29,900	200
GOVERNMENT	204,900	203,800	1,100

1/ 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		
	May 06	Apr 06	May 05	May 06	Apr 06	May 05	May 06	Apr 06	May 05
NEW MEXICO									
NATURAL RES. & MINING	\$801.98	\$800.66	\$770.82	43.8	43.8	43.5	\$18.31	\$18.28	\$17.72
CONSTRUCTION	\$640.79	\$637.99	\$616.57	39.9	39.8	39.6	\$16.06	\$16.03	\$15.57
MANUFACTURING	\$550.20	\$550.20	\$532.73	39.3	39.3	39.2	\$14.00	\$14.00	\$13.59
WHOLESALE TRADE	\$525.25	\$524.55	\$520.61	34.9	34.9	35.2	\$15.05	\$15.03	\$14.79
RETAIL TRADE	\$360.94	\$357.92	\$350.08	32.4	32.1	32.0	\$11.14	\$11.15	\$10.94
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	\$499.47	\$498.07	\$492.74	35.1	35.1	35.5	\$14.23	\$14.19	\$13.88
ALBUQUERQUE MSA									
MANUFACTURING	\$617.70	\$628.45	\$596.36	39.8	39.7	38.8	\$15.52	\$15.83	\$15.37

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	
	May 06	Apr 06	May 05	Month to Month	Year to Year
CPI-U	202.5	201.5	194.4	0.5%	4.2%
CPI-W	198.2	197.2	190.0	0.5%	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

New Mexico Area Economic Activity

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

Statewide:

Construction of wind turbines on the eastern plains of the state is expected to bring about 1000 construction workers to live and work in De Baca, Quay, Curry, and Guadalupe counties later this summer. It was reported that **Xcel Energy** intended to buy power from two additional wind turbines that will be constructed near Clovis. Each of the new turbines would be 213 feet high and capable of producing power for about 450 homes. Additionally, the State of New Mexico has leased 640 acres of state land in Colfax County to **WindForce Inc.**, a Santa Fe-based company, to build a 20 turbine wind farm.

Board members at the May Job Training Incentive Program meeting approved funding for projects that will bring a total of 211 new jobs to Albuquerque, Clovis, Socorro, and Taos. Companies awarded funds include **Advanced Call Center Technologies (ACT)**, granted \$184,206 for 58 jobs in Taos at a fraud prevention customer contact service center; **Advent Solar**, a solar photovoltaic start-up company awarded \$125,852 for 11 jobs in Albuquerque; **Aerojet**, a manufacturer of fire suppression systems for police interceptor vehicles funded for 18 jobs in Socorro; **Cabot Superior MicroPowders**, a developer of a patent-protected chemical manufacturing technology granted \$57,126 for six jobs in Albuquerque; **Clovis Community College**, approved for \$238,071 to fund a project that will assist with the specialized delivery of job training for Southwest Cheese; **Delta Group Electronics**, an electronics manufacturing company awarded \$10,280 for three jobs in Albuquerque; and **Exagen Diagnostics**, developer of molecular diagnostic kits for serious illnesses approved for \$93,140 to fund five jobs in Albuquerque.

Albuquerque Area, Bernalillo County:

America Online is cutting about 1,300 customer service workers from its nationwide workforce. Only about four or five positions will be eliminated from the more than 900 workers at the Albuquerque AOL center on Jefferson NE.

Shamrock Foods will open a 180,000-square-foot warehouse and distribution center on the city's West Side next year. The distribution center will be one of the largest in New Mexico and will service the central part of the state. The distribution center is expected to commence operations in the summer of 2007. Hiring for the center is expected to begin late next spring.

Radio Shack will close three Albuquerque area stores as part of its national restructuring. The store at the Four Hills Shopping Center and the one at the West Central Plaza Shopping Center in Albuquerque and the store at 2003 Southern Boulevard in Rio Rancho will be closed. The company is closing 700 of its 5,000 stores. About 60 Albuquerque area employees will be affected by the local area closures.

Defense contractor **Lockheed Martin Corporation** plans to open a call center to process requests for immigration information. The company expects to have the call center in full operation in the next three to four months. The center will be located on one floor in the Plaza Campana building, the location of a recently shuttered Qwest call center. About 350 workers would field toll-free phone calls to a hot line operated by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Callers are expected to be mostly foreign nationals or lawyers seeking information about immigration and naturalization status. Lockheed also expects about 30 percent of the center's workers will be Spanish language speakers.

Grants Area, Cibola County:

More details are now available about Peabody Energy's plan to open the **El Segundo Mine** northwest of Grants. Development of the property is expected to cost about \$90 million and should begin late this year. The facility is expected to reach full production in 2008, and the mine will annually produce about six million tons of coal for Arizona Public Service's Cholla Electric Power Generating Station. The operation is expected to create about 100 permanent jobs at the mine site.

Raton Area, Colfax County:

A renovation of the **McDonald's Restaurant** at Clayton Road was started in April and should be completed by mid-May. The renovation was needed to meet projected growth requirements and to incorporate a Southwestern decor with modernized equipment. About 15 additional staff members will also be added after the renovation is completed.

Carlsbad Area, Eddy County:

Tentoe Inc. laid off nine employees at their Carlsbad facility. The company said that they are re-evaluating and restructuring their Carlsbad operation but that they are hopeful they can bring the jobs back. Tentoe is a product information management software company that distributes product and promotional material for other companies.



Solano Area, Harding County:

New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson attended the grand opening of **Solano Manufacturing** in Harding County. The opening of the new metal fabrication shop is the result of a long-term joint effort between the state Economic Development Department, the state Public Education Department, Harding County Economic Development Corporation, Roy Mayor Lee Fluman, Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico Rural Development Response Council, Eastern Plains Council of Governments, USDA, New Mexico Manufacturers Extension Program, New Mexico Tourism Department, Harding County Commission and Road Department, Senator Clinton D. Harden, and Representative Brian Moore. The project will create at least five new jobs in the first three years of operation at salaries beginning at \$8.00 an hour and going up to \$14.00 an hour.



Ruidoso Downs Area, Lincoln County:

The city council approved the building permit for a new **La Quinta Inn and Suites** at 2115 West Hwy 70. The new three-story La Quinta Inn will have 63 rooms and should be completed by early next year.



Los Alamos Area, Los Alamos County:

Tony's Pizza, a long-time destination for Los Alamos diners has closed after 25 years of operation. The restaurant had struggled for the past several years and had reduced its hours of operation due to slowing sales. High Los Alamos rents were singled out as the primary reason for the closure.



Alamogordo Area, Otero County:

PreCheck Inc., the nation's leading provider of background verification and credentialing services for the healthcare industry, will start hiring workers for their new Alamogordo facility immediately. The company will invest \$6 million in a 20,000-square-foot data center facility on 31 acres of land at the Mesa Village Development. PreCheck Inc.'s decision to expand their operations to New Mexico was based on the quality of available workforce and the offer of economic development incentives from both the State and local community. The city of Alamogordo has made a commitment to PreCheck Inc. for a cash grant in the amount of \$625,000 over the next five years, including \$100,000 up front in order to help jump start operations. Governor Bill Richardson and management team members from PreCheck Inc have said that the company will create over 200 new jobs for Otero County over the next five years.



Rio Rancho Area, Sandoval County:

Members of the Rio Rancho Chamber of Commerce were on hand for the grand opening of Sandoval County's first **Chili's Restaurant**. The restaurant opened in early May and has about 135 workers. The new Chili's is part of the commercial development of the Southern/Unser corridor, and the restaurant's opening comes one month after the opening of a Super Wal-Mart on the corner across the street. A Starbucks and a First Community Bank branch are also under construction on the southwest corner of Southern and Unser boulevards.

The City of Rio Rancho's proposed 2007 budget includes 43 new positions for municipal workers that the city says are needed to keep up with the growth of the community. Most of the new workers would be added to the Department of Public Safety and to the staff of the new public library on Loma Colorado Boulevard.



Farmington Area, San Juan County:

The anticipated merger of **Burlington Resources** and **ConocoPhillips** was approved by 98 percent of Burlington's voting stockholders. Spokespersons for ConocoPhillips have said that the Burlington office on 30th Street will continue its operations at least for the immediate future.



Las Vegas Area, San Miguel County:

Nature's Accent is considering using the old Medite of New Mexico property near the Las Vegas airport for a wood-based manufacturing project. Nature's Accent would thin area forests and use the trees for everything from electric power generation to the creation of wood products. About 400 people could ultimately be employed if the project comes to fruition.



Santa Fe Area, Santa Fe County:

The Santa Fe Historic Design Review Board received the preliminary designs for a 45,000-square-foot expansion to the **Inn and Spa at Loretto** hotel. The proposed design contains a four-story addition that would add 25 guest rooms and a new 7,732-square-foot meeting room to the Inn. The board has made suggestions that the design be modified to blend into the existing structures.

The **Old Navy store** on Zafarano Drive in Santa Fe closed in late May. No comment was offered from Gap Inc., the owners of Old Navy, but national retail sales figures for the first quarter of this year show an 11 percent drop in sales at Old Navy locations.



New Mexico Department of Labor
Economic Research and Analysis (CC6097)
P.O. Box 1928
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103



Official Business
Penalty for Private Use, \$300



New Mexico Labor Market Report
is a monthly publication from the New Mexico
Department of Labor

Art Martinez, Bureau Chief
Economic Research and Analysis Bureau

Major Contributors:

Mark Boyd, Economist
Tracy Shaleen, Economist
Karl Romero, Graphic Artist

Other Contributors:

Herb Greenwall, Economist Supervisor