



New Mexico Labor Market Review

Bill Richardson
Governor

Betty Sparrow Doris
Secretary

Volume 36, No. 11, (published - December 31, 2007)

HIGHLIGHTS — November 2007

...New Mexico's rate of over-the-year job growth was 1.2 percent, adding 9,800 jobs. We rank 23rd highest for job growth among the states.

...Over-the-year growth in the Albuquerque MSA was 1.1 percent (4,500 jobs), having slowed considerably from its most recent peak of 4.5 percent in March 2006.

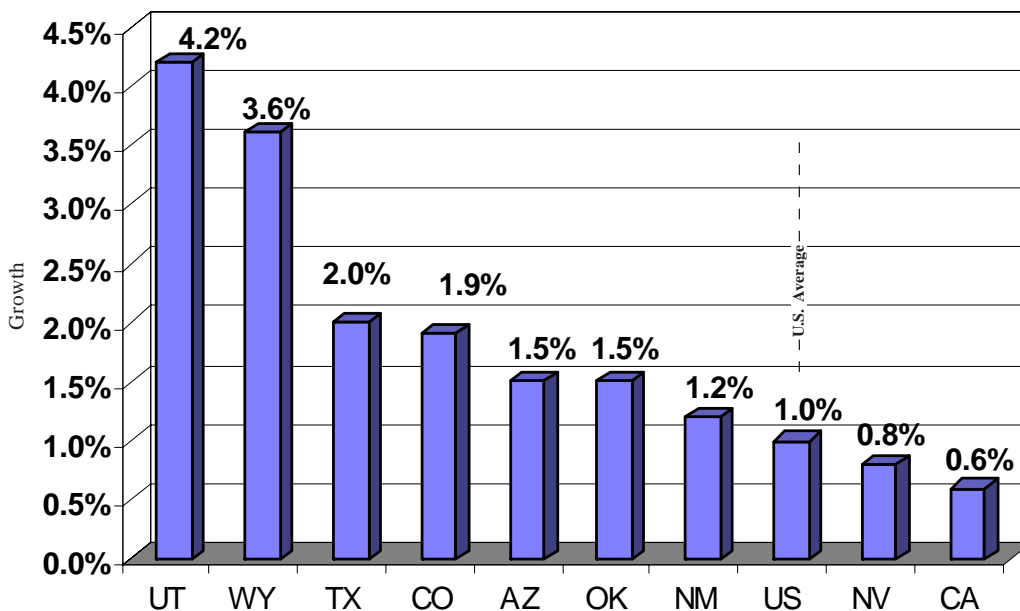
...The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces MSA was 2.1 percent. This rate of job growth is well above the average for the state, adding 1,400 jobs.

...Over-the-year job growth for the Santa Fe MSA was 4.3 percent, adding 2,700 jobs. Job growth is now more than three times higher than the statewide average, and the Santa Fe area is the fastest growing metro area in the state.

...Over the last year, the Farmington MSA has added 1,100 jobs, growing 2.1 percent. This rate of job growth is above the average for the state. Substantial fluctuation in the growth rate from month-to-month is fairly typical for a small metro area like Farmington.

Current Regional Nonfarm Employment Growth

November 2007 over November 2006 - Not Seasonally Adjusted



INSIDE

NM & MSA Highlights
Page 2-6

NM Household Data History
Page 7

Total Nonfarm Growth
NM Ranking
Page 7

NM Labor Force Estimates
Page 8

Unemployment Rate Rankings
by County
Page 8

Unemployment Rate
Rankings by State
Page 9

Nonfarm Employment:
State & MSAs
Page 9-12

Average Hours & Earnings
& US Consumer Price Index
Page 13

NM Economic Activity by Area
Page 14-15



New Mexico Labor Force and Payroll Employment

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.4 percent in November 2007, up from 3.1 percent in October. The October rate marked the lowest level for the state since the current series began in 1976, and New Mexico has now been below four percent for 14 consecutive months. The national unemployment rate, currently 4.7 percent, has equaled or exceeded New Mexico's rate for 27 consecutive months. A year ago, the state's unemployment rate was 3.9 percent.

The rate of over-the-year job growth, comparing November 2007 with November 2006, was 1.2 percent. The state has added 9,800 jobs over the last year, and we rank 23rd highest for job growth among the states. Job growth has weakened since peaking at 3.6 percent in June 2006 near the end of 28-month period during which the rate never dropped below two percent. Current levels are below the long-term trend and the lowest we have seen in over four years.

Contractions in manufacturing and construction continued to restrain overall growth, while service-providing industries generally exhibited only a slight loss of momentum. Construction employment was down 0.7 percent or 400 jobs from November 2006, continuing the industry's first period of sustained losses since the completion of several large construction projects in Albuquerque in 2002. Significant layoffs in semiconductor manufacturing more than offset recent employment gains posted elsewhere in manufacturing, and the industry has shed 1,500 jobs, declining by 4.0 percent over the year. Mining employment has reached levels that are about as high as that industry can sustain, compared to a year ago when expansion was rapid.

Despite recent slowing, natural resources & mining still managed to grow 3.6 percent, adding 700 jobs. This performance is impressive but well below the 2,000 jobs added as recently as the summer of 2006. The educational & health services industry is always reliable for adding jobs, up 3.5 percent, adding 3,900 jobs. This industry is so large that even moderate rates of growth translate into significant job gains.

The leisure & hospitality industry continues to do fairly well, increasing 2.9 percent, adding 2,500 jobs. Most of the new jobs are at eating and drinking places. The transportation,

warehousing, & utilities industry reported growth of 2.4 percent over the year, adding 600 jobs. The professional & business services industry, which now includes Los Alamos National Laboratory, has added just 100 jobs, equating to job growth of only 0.1 percent since last year. Higher operating costs and proposed funding reductions have prompted LANL to reduce contract staffing and prepare for the layoff of several hundred permanent employees.

Financial activities employment expanded by 400 jobs since last year, continuing a slight improvement from a recent softening that began in July of last year. The small wholesale trade industry added 200 jobs, and the much larger retail trade industry added 1,500 jobs. The miscellaneous *other services* category added 200 jobs.

The information industry had been the fastest growing industry in the state but is now struggling to match last year's high employment levels. Currently, the information industry is reporting the same number of jobs as last year. During times of intensive film work, employment in the state's film industry has been as many as 3,000 jobs above baseline levels of a few years ago. Much of the film work is of short duration, which has resulted in employment swings as large as 2,000 jobs in just one month. Recent growth was preceded by a three-year period of losses totaling more than 3,000 jobs that was due to weakness in the telecommunications components of the industry. Even with the current boost from the film industry, employment totals are still below the levels set in the spring of 2001.

Government employment has increased at a rate that is below the average for the private sector, adding just 1,600 jobs. State and local government employment have increased over the year, while federal government employment remains unchanged.

New Mexico				Change From	
Seasonally Adjusted	Nov 2007	Oct 2007	Nov 2006	Oct 2007	Nov 2006
Civilian Labor Force	946,600	946,500	939,100	+100	+7,500
Employment	914,700	917,600	902,800	-2,900	+11,900
Unemployment	32,000	28,900	36,300	+3,100	-4,300
Rate	3.4%	3.1%	3.9%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.2%	2.8%	3.6%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Albuquerque MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance & Valencia Counties)

Seasonally adjusted unemployment in the Albuquerque MSA was 3.3 percent in November, up from 2.9 percent the month before. Unemployment has fallen three tenths of a percentage point from last November's rate of 3.6 percent.

Payroll employment in the Albuquerque area rose 0.4 percent in November, adding 1,400 jobs. Six of the 12 major industry groups expanded their payrolls over the month, while four others lost jobs and two remained unchanged. Retail trade grew by 1,500 as stores added temporary workers to help with the holiday shopping season. Government and educational & health services each added 200 jobs, while wholesale trade; transportation, warehousing, & utilities; and information each added 100. Seasonal losses totaling 200 jobs in leisure & hospitality combined with a loss of 100 jobs in miscellaneous *other services* to partially offset the gains. Employment in financial activities and professional & business services remained unchanged over the month.

Over-the-year growth in the Albuquerque MSA was 1.1 percent (4,500 jobs), having slowed considerably from its most recent peak of 4.5 percent in March 2006. The area's growth rate was below the statewide average of 1.2 percent and the lowest of the state's four metropolitan statistical areas.

Educational & health services added 1,100 jobs since November 2006, growing 2.3 percent. This industry is a major component in the Albuquerque economy, employing more workers than any other private sector industry except professional & business services. Since the start of 2005, employment growth has remained relatively consistent, ranging from 2.1 to 4.1 percent. This follows an especially robust performance in 2004 when growth rates averaged 5.2 percent.

Retail trade also added 1,100 jobs for growth of 2.4 percent, the industry's highest rate in over two years. This industry will soon receive an added boost from the December opening of a Costco in Albuquerque and the planned March opening of a Wal-Mart Supercenter in Bernalillo.

Leisure & hospitality was the third industry to post an over-the-year increase of 1,100 jobs. Employment growth has slowed from its most recent peak of 6.1 percent in July 2006, but November's rate of 2.9 percent trailed only information

and transportation, warehousing, & utilities—two much smaller industries.

Government gained 1,000 jobs over the year, growing 1.2 percent. Local government added 600 jobs and state government 400, while federal government employment remained at last year's level. Government comprises about 20 percent of all nonfarm wage and salary employment in the Albuquerque area, employing more than 81,000 workers. Industry growth has fallen short of two percent in all but one of the first 11 months of this year.

Weakness continued in professional & business services as Albuquerque's largest private sector industry added just 700 jobs for growth of 1.1 percent. Growth reached a recent peak of 5.1 percent in October 2006 but has since declined steadily, posting over-the-year increases of less than 1.5 percent for each of the past six months.

Information added 400 jobs over the year, growing 4.3 percent. The industry is subject to relatively large changes in employment as individual film productions begin and end. Total employment has grown more than 15 percent over the past two years, adding 1,300 jobs to the area's economy. As existing operations expand and new companies enter the market, the rapidly developing motion picture and sound recording component is expected to be an important source of future job growth.

Transportation, warehousing, & utilities employment rose by 400 jobs or 3.8 percent. November's employment total of 11,000 matches the highest level for any month since the series began in 1990. Miscellaneous *other services* added 300 jobs over the year, while financial activities remained unchanged.

Manufacturing employment was down 1,400 jobs or 5.8 percent, primarily due to layoffs at Intel. The industry is now at its lowest employment level since August 2005. Construction slipped by 100 jobs or 0.3 percent, marking the ninth month of over-the-year declines in 2007. The current slowdown began in late 2006 as housing construction declined and several large construction projects were completed. Wholesale trade employment was also down, falling by 100 jobs or 0.7 percent from last November.

Albuquerque			Change From		
Seasonally Adjusted	<u>Nov 2007</u>	<u>Oct 2007</u>	<u>Nov 2006</u>	<u>Oct 2007</u>	<u>Nov 2006</u>
Civilian Labor Force	409,900	409,600	407,900	+300	+2,000
Employment	396,100	397,600	393,100	-1,500	+3,000
Unemployment	13,700	12,000	14,800	+1,700	-1,100
Rate	3.3%	2.9%	3.6%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.2%	2.9%	3.5%		

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 3.6 percent in November 2007, up from 3.2 percent in October. A year ago, the area's unemployment rate was 4.2 percent.

During November, the Las Cruces area added 100 jobs as the net result of increases in retail trade and educational & health services and decreases in financial activities. Employment remained unchanged in all other industries.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces area was 2.1 percent, comparing November 2007 with the same month a year ago. This rate of job growth is well above the average for the state. The Las Cruces area has added 1,400 jobs.

The educational & health services industry expanded more than any other industry, adding 600 jobs, growing 5.8 percent. Growth in the leisure & hospitality industry added 400 jobs to last year's levels. The professional & business services industry reported employment that was 200 jobs higher than last

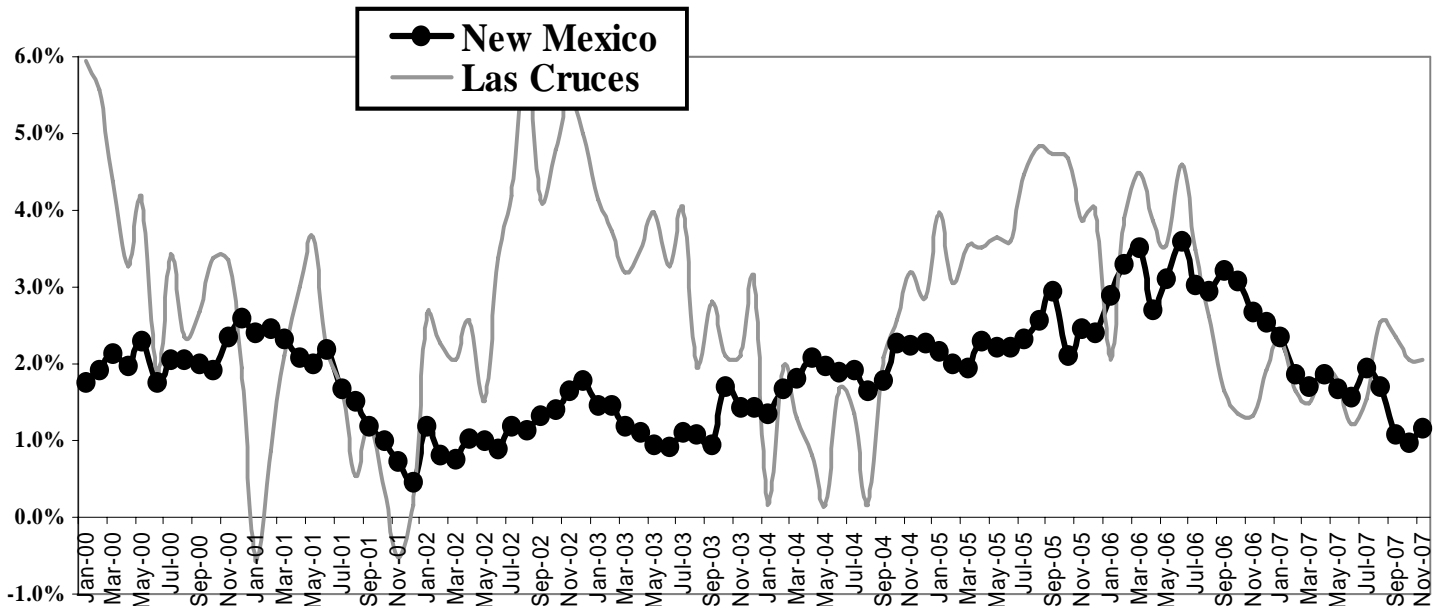
November. Construction employment has done well for many years in the local area, currently increasing 100 jobs from year-ago levels. Retail trade added 100 jobs, as did the transportation, warehousing & utilities industry.

Government employment reported 200 more jobs than last year, with increases in federal and local government employment. State government, which includes New Mexico State University, remained at last year's level. Three industries — manufacturing, information, and financial activities — each lost 100 jobs from last November's levels, while employment totals remained unchanged in wholesale trade and miscellaneous *other services*.

Las Cruces Seasonally Adjusted	Change From				
	Nov 2007	Oct 2007	Nov 2006	Oct 2007	Nov 2006
Civilian Labor Force	86,900	87,200	86,700	-300	+200
Employment	83,700	84,400	83,100	-700	+600
Unemployment	3,200	2,800	3,700	+400	-500
Rate	3.6%	3.2%	4.2%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.3%	2.9%	3.8%		

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 2.7 percent in November 2007, up from 2.3 percent in October. A year ago, the area had an unemployment rate of 3.1 percent.

The Santa Fe area gained 200 jobs in November 2007 as the net result of four industries gaining and three others losing jobs over the month. The information industry recorded the largest loss over the month, while educational & health services and local government posted the largest gains.

Over-the-year job growth for Santa Fe was 4.3 percent, adding 2,700 jobs to the area economy. Job growth is now more than three times higher than the statewide average, and the Santa Fe area is the fastest growing metro area in the state. Six of the area's twelve industries have added jobs since last November.

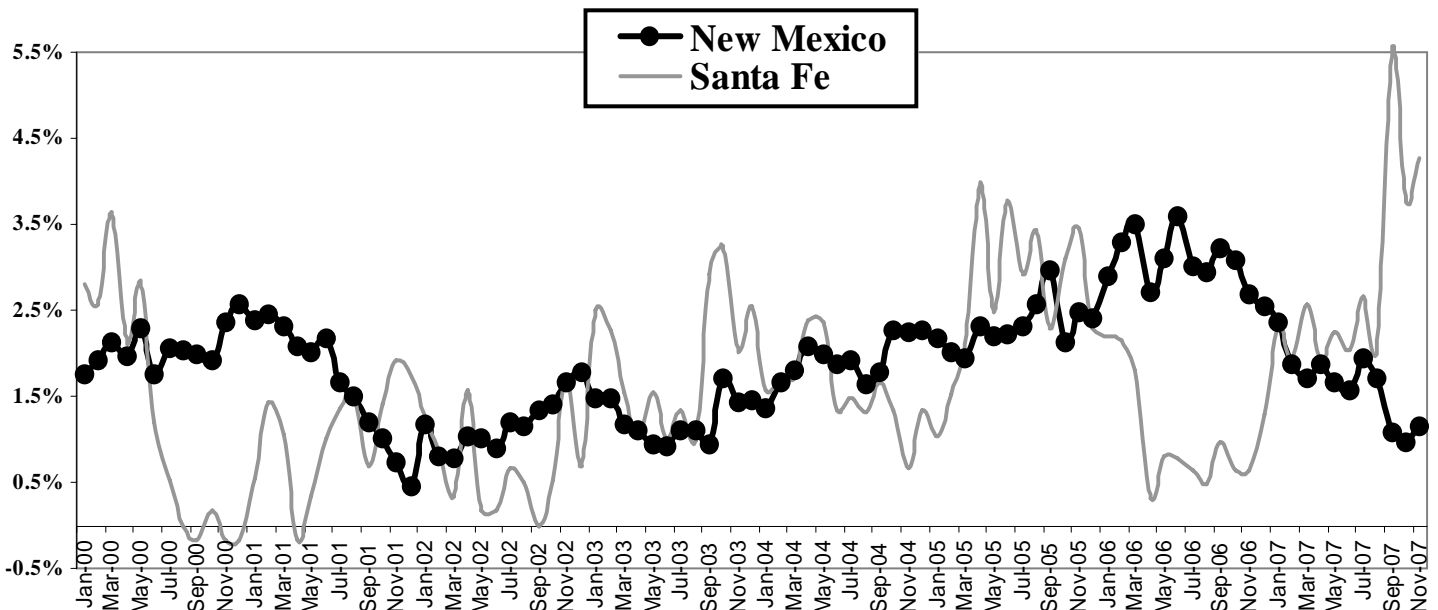
The educational & health services industry added 800 jobs, more than any other individual industry in the local area. Information gained 500 jobs from additional activity in the state's film industry. Government employment also increased by 500 jobs at the local level but remained unchanged at the state and federal levels.

Santa Fe's professional & business services and leisure & hospitality industries each gained 400 jobs over last year's levels, while wholesale trade added 100 jobs. Employment remained unchanged in retail trade; transportation, warehousing, & utilities; construction; financial activities; manufacturing; and miscellaneous *other services*.

Santa Fe	Change From				
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Nov 2007</u>	<u>Oct 2007</u>	<u>Nov 2006</u>	<u>Oct 2007</u>	<u>Nov 2006</u>
Civilian Labor Force	79,100	79,000	77,600	+100	+1,500
Employment	77,000	77,200	75,200	-200	+1,800
Unemployment	2,100	1,800	2,400	+300	-300
Rate	2.7%	2.3%	3.1%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	2.6%	2.3%	3.0%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Santa Fe



Farmington MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(San Juan County)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Farmington was 3.1 percent in November 2007, up from 2.6 percent in October. A year ago, the area had an unemployment rate of 3.7 percent.

The Farmington area reported employment levels in all industries that were unchanged from the previous month. This is fairly common at a time of year when few seasonal changes take place.

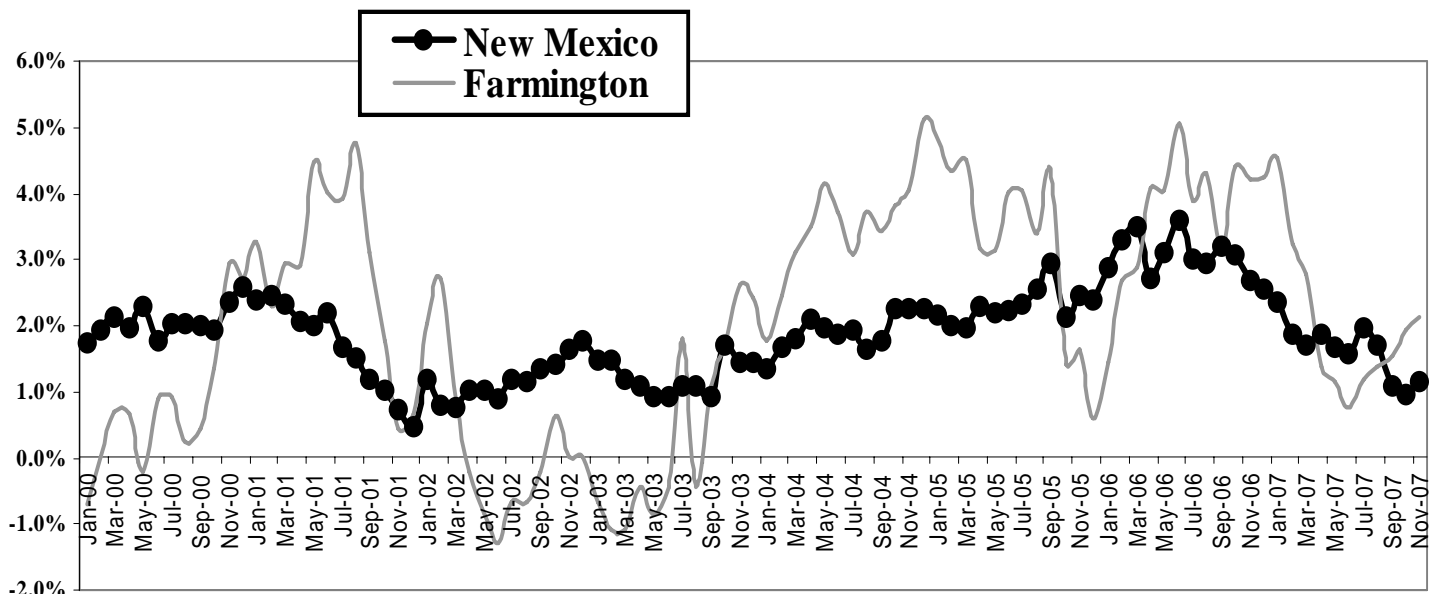
Over the last year, the Farmington area has added 1,100 jobs, growing 2.1 percent. This rate of job growth is above the average for the state. Substantial fluctuation in the growth rate from month-to-month is fairly typical for a small metro area like Farmington. Job growth peaked in the local area in December 2004 when the over-the-year rate of job growth reached 5.1 percent. Job growth reached this peak again in June 2006, matching the highest increase in jobs since mid-1995. The outlook for growth in the area remains favorable, and the Farmington MSA continues to have a strong job market.

Goods-producing industries have added 700 jobs, growing 6.0 percent over the year. Private services-providing industries have added 200 jobs over the year, growing 0.7 percent. Government employment has been sluggish for a while and currently shows 200 additional local government jobs and no change in the number of state or federal jobs.

Farmington Seasonally Adjusted	Change From				
	Nov 2007	Oct 2007	Nov 2006	Oct 2007	Nov 2006
Civilian Labor Force	57,000	56,300	56,500	+700	+500
Employment	55,200	54,900	54,400	+300	+800
Unemployment	1,700	1,400	2,100	+300	-400
Rate	3.1%	2.6%	3.7%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	2.8%	2.4%	3.5%		

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Farmington



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

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

		Civilian Labor Force	Employ- ment	Un- Employ- ment	Rate %	Unadj. Rate %
1987		674,200	613,400	60,800	9.0%	
1988		682,000	630,300	51,700	7.6%	
1989		691,800	645,300	46,500	6.7%	
1990		711,900	663,700	48,200	6.8%	
1991		719,200	667,700	51,500	7.2%	
1992		735,500	680,500	55,000	7.5%	
1993		755,100	700,300	54,800	7.3%	
1994		776,800	725,400	51,400	6.6%	
1995		798,700	744,600	54,100	6.8%	
1996		812,800	751,800	61,000	7.5%	
1997		822,600	768,600	54,000	6.6%	
1998		835,900	783,700	52,200	6.2%	
1999		840,000	793,100	46,900	5.6%	
2000		852,300	810,000	42,300	5.0%	
2001		863,700	821,000	42,700	4.9%	
2002		871,500	823,200	48,300	5.5%	
2003		885,300	832,600	52,700	5.9%	
2004		902,100	850,200	51,900	5.7%	
2005		915,500	867,300	48,200	5.3%	
2006		935,400	895,600	39,700	4.2%	
2006	JAN	927,500	883,600	43,900	4.7%	4.7%
	FEB	930,900	887,700	43,200	4.6%	4.9%
	MAR	933,000	890,700	42,400	4.5%	4.3%
	APR	932,500	890,900	41,600	4.5%	4.4%
	MAY	934,400	893,600	40,900	4.4%	4.3%
	JUN	936,800	896,700	40,100	4.3%	5.0%
	JUL	935,500	896,100	39,400	4.2%	4.8%
	AUG	936,400	897,800	38,600	4.1%	4.1%
	SEP	939,700	901,900	37,800	4.0%	3.9%
	OCT	939,400	902,400	37,100	3.9%	3.7%
	NOV	939,100	902,800	36,300	3.9%	3.6%
	DEC	939,000	903,500	35,500	3.8%	3.3%
2007	JAN	937,200	901,800	35,400	3.8%	3.9%
	FEB	938,500	905,500	33,000	3.5%	3.7%
	MAR	937,800	903,000	34,800	3.7%	3.6%
	APR	938,100	904,000	34,100	3.6%	3.5%
	MAY	946,100	911,100	35,000	3.7%	3.6%
	JUN	937,500	907,000	30,400	3.2%	3.8%
	JUL	944,700	910,100	34,600	3.7%	4.2%
	AUG	941,200	905,300	35,900	3.8%	3.8%
	SEP	949,500	916,800	32,700	3.4%	3.3%
	OCT	946,500	917,600	28,900	3.1%	2.8%
	NOV	946,600	914,700	32,000	3.4%	3.2%
	DEC					
# CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	100	-2,900	3,100	0.3%	0.4%
	Year Ago	7,500	11,900	-4,300	-0.5%	-0.4%
	2 Yrs. Ago	23,700	37,200	-13,500	-1.5%	-1.5%
	3 Yrs. Ago	37,900	57,200	-19,100	-2.2%	-2.1%
% CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	0.0%	-0.3%	10.7%		
	Year Ago	0.8%	1.3%	-11.8%		
	2 Yrs. Ago	2.6%	4.2%	-29.7%		
	3 Yrs. Ago	4.2%	6.7%	-37.4%		

State	Rank	November 2006	November 2007	Change	% Change
Utah	1	1,230.9	1,283.2	52.3	4.2%
Wyoming	2	277.9	287.8	9.9	3.6%
Montana	3	437.6	451.7	14.1	3.2%
Louisiana	4	1,895.6	1,937.8	42.2	2.2%
Texas	5	10,213.3	10,418.3	205.0	2.0%
Colorado	6	2,302.5	2,345.7	43.2	1.9%
Washington	7	2,910.5	2,963.1	52.6	1.8%
Georgia	7	4,131.0	4,203.8	72.8	1.8%
Idaho	9	653.4	664.8	11.4	1.7%
Virginia	9	3,764.6	3,828.2	63.6	1.7%
North Carolina	11	4,088.3	4,155.2	66.9	1.6%
South Dakota	11	403.6	410.2	6.6	1.6%
Kansas	11	1,384.3	1,406.5	22.2	1.6%
Iowa	14	1,524.4	1,548.0	23.6	1.5%
Arizona	14	2,712.0	2,753.5	41.5	1.5%
Oklahoma	14	1,573.4	1,596.4	23.0	1.5%
Mississippi	17	1,159.3	1,176.1	16.8	1.4%
Delaware	17	695.7	705.5	9.8	1.4%
Oregon	17	1,729.3	1,753.6	24.3	1.4%
Maryland	17	2,613.8	2,650.2	36.4	1.4%
South Carolina	21	1,921.2	1,946.3	25.1	1.3%
New Hampshire	21	644.9	653.3	8.4	1.3%
New Mexico	23	844.3	854.1	9.8	1.2%
Alabama	23	2,003.5	2,028.4	24.9	1.2%
North Dakota	23	360.8	365.1	4.3	1.2%
Connecticut	23	1,703.0	1,722.6	19.6	1.2%
Florida	27	8,111.0	8,201.5	90.5	1.1%
Nebraska	28	962.0	972.1	10.1	1.0%
United States		138,052.0	139,493.0	1,441.0	1.0%
Hawaii	28	630.1	636.4	6.3	1.0%
Massachusetts	30	3,289.4	3,318.9	29.5	0.9%
Alaska	30	305.9	308.6	2.7	0.9%
New York	32	8,751.9	8,824.6	72.7	0.8%
Nevada	32	1,303.6	1,314.0	10.4	0.8%
Pennsylvania	32	5,832.3	5,876.7	44.4	0.8%
Kentucky	35	1,860.4	1,873.8	13.4	0.7%
Tennessee	35	2,813.2	2,833.2	20.0	0.7%
Maine	35	620.4	624.8	4.4	0.7%
New Jersey	35	4,112.6	4,140.8	28.2	0.7%
Illinois	35	6,005.2	6,045.4	40.2	0.7%
Rhode Island	40	502.6	505.8	3.2	0.6%
California	40	15,299.0	15,385.6	86.6	0.6%
Arkansas	42	1,208.4	1,215.0	6.6	0.5%
Wisconsin	43	2,890.4	2,902.8	12.4	0.4%
Missouri	43	2,807.9	2,819.8	11.9	0.4%
West Virginia	43	765.8	768.7	2.9	0.4%
Vermont	46	310.0	310.9	0.9	0.3%
Indiana	46	3,013.3	3,021.8	8.5	0.3%
DC	46	442.8	444.0	1.2	0.3%
Minnesota	49	2,793.3	2,796.3	3.0	0.1%
Ohio	50	5,496.7	5,488.7	-8.0	-0.1%
Michigan	51	4,383.2	4,305.1	-78.1	-1.8%

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

Employment numbers are not seasonally adjusted.

Employment numbers are in thousands.

New Mexico Labor Force Estimates – Not Seasonally Adjusted 1/

	NOVEMBER 2007				OCTOBER 2007				NOVEMBER 2006			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	950,537	920,334	30,203	3.2%	949,182	922,701	26,481	2.8%	946,038	912,168	33,870	3.6%
Albuquerque MSA 2/	411,107	397,816	13,291	3.2%	409,193	397,383	11,810	2.9%	409,303	395,009	14,294	3.5%
Bernalillo	318,795	308,960	9,835	3.1%	317,372	308,623	8,749	2.8%	317,576	306,780	10,796	3.4%
Sandoval	52,524	50,416	2,108	4.0%	52,253	50,361	1,892	3.6%	52,133	50,061	2,072	4.0%
Torrance	7,897	7,621	276	3.5%	7,855	7,613	242	3.1%	7,850	7,568	282	3.6%
Valencia	31,891	30,819	1,072	3.4%	31,711	30,785	926	2.9%	31,745	30,601	1,144	3.6%
Farmington MSA 3/	57,143	55,515	1,628	2.8%	57,323	55,962	1,361	2.4%	56,652	54,682	1,970	3.5%
Las Cruces MSA 4/	87,660	84,806	2,854	3.3%	87,948	85,403	2,545	2.9%	87,518	84,202	3,316	3.8%
Santa Fe MSA 5/	79,107	77,077	2,030	2.6%	79,238	77,447	1,791	2.3%	77,557	75,246	2,311	3.0%
Catron	1,484	1,414	70	4.7%	1,570	1,515	55	3.5%	1,519	1,442	77	5.1%
Chaves	27,864	27,008	856	3.1%	27,952	27,175	777	2.8%	27,244	26,209	1,035	3.8%
Cibola	11,721	11,297	424	3.6%	11,732	11,347	385	3.3%	11,904	11,407	497	4.2%
Colfax	6,231	6,002	229	3.7%	6,332	6,147	185	2.9%	6,236	5,978	258	4.1%
Curry	21,777	21,230	547	2.5%	21,714	21,242	472	2.2%	21,410	20,793	617	2.9%
De Baca	826	797	29	3.5%	825	798	27	3.3%	863	834	29	3.4%
Eddy	26,437	25,789	648	2.5%	26,187	25,617	570	2.2%	25,693	24,871	822	3.2%
Grant	12,778	12,350	428	3.3%	12,734	12,370	364	2.9%	12,657	12,185	472	3.7%
Guadalupe	1,890	1,801	89	4.7%	1,861	1,778	83	4.5%	1,856	1,764	92	5.0%
Harding	408	397	11	2.7%	399	390	9	2.3%	405	389	16	4.0%
Hidalgo	3,255	3,182	73	2.2%	3,158	3,098	60	1.9%	3,426	3,341	85	2.5%
Lea	28,451	27,863	588	2.1%	28,343	27,809	534	1.9%	27,357	26,658	699	2.6%
Lincoln	10,440	10,136	304	2.9%	10,527	10,262	265	2.5%	10,361	9,989	372	3.6%
Los Alamos	10,521	10,326	195	1.9%	10,590	10,417	173	1.6%	11,394	11,167	227	2.0%
Luna	12,758	11,825	933	7.3%	13,184	12,508	676	5.1%	12,906	11,949	957	7.4%
McKinley	26,874	25,819	1,055	3.9%	26,809	25,908	901	3.4%	27,229	25,948	1,281	4.7%
Mora	1,991	1,847	144	7.2%	1,991	1,882	109	5.5%	2,030	1,878	152	7.5%
Otero	25,995	25,108	887	3.4%	26,098	25,310	788	3.0%	26,453	25,489	964	3.6%
Quay	3,989	3,839	150	3.8%	3,985	3,861	124	3.1%	4,095	3,936	159	3.9%
Rio Arriba	21,314	20,491	823	3.9%	21,346	20,620	726	3.4%	21,902	20,971	931	4.3%
Roosevelt	9,953	9,744	209	2.1%	9,821	9,637	184	1.9%	9,674	9,422	252	2.6%
San Miguel	13,896	13,408	488	3.5%	13,823	13,386	437	3.2%	13,707	13,144	563	4.1%
Sierra	5,798	5,614	184	3.2%	5,769	5,614	155	2.7%	5,612	5,421	191	3.4%
Socorro	9,457	9,201	256	2.7%	9,335	9,109	226	2.4%	9,607	9,311	296	3.1%
Taos	17,323	16,587	736	4.2%	17,323	16,670	653	3.8%	17,442	16,559	883	5.1%
Union	2,093	2,047	46	2.2%	2,073	2,037	36	1.7%	2,027	1,974	53	2.6%

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)

NOVEMBER 2007			OCTOBER 2007			NOVEMBER 2006		
AREAS	RANK	RATE	AREAS	RANK	RATE	AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	7.3%	MORA	1	5.5%	MORA	1	7.5%
MORA	2	7.2%	LUNA	2	5.1%	LUNA	2	7.4%
CATRON	3	4.7%	GUADALUPE	3	4.5%	CATRON	3	5.1%
GUADALUPE	3	4.7%	TAOS	4	3.8%	TAOS	3	5.1%
TAOS	5	4.2%	CATRON	5	3.5%	GUADALUPE	5	5.0%
MCKINLEY	6	3.9%	RIO ARRIBA	6	3.4%	MCKINLEY	6	4.7%
RIO ARRIBA	6	3.9%	MCKINLEY	6	3.4%	RIO ARRIBA	7	4.3%
QUAY	8	3.8%	CIBOLA	8	3.3%	CIBOLA	8	4.2%
COLFAX	9	3.7%	DE BACA	8	3.3%	COLFAX	9	4.1%
CIBOLA	10	3.6%	SAN MIGUEL	10	3.2%	SAN MIGUEL	9	4.1%
SAN MIGUEL	11	3.5%	QUAY	11	3.1%	HARDING	11	4.0%
DE BACA	11	3.5%	OTERO	12	3.0%	QUAY	12	3.9%
OTERO	13	3.4%	COLFAX	13	2.9%	CHAVES	13	3.8%
GRANT	14	3.3%	LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	13	2.9%	LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	13	3.8%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	14	3.3%	ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	13	2.9%	GRANT	15	3.7%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	16	3.2%	GRANT	13	2.9%	OTERO	16	3.6%
STATEWIDE		3.2%	STATEWIDE		2.8%	LINCOLN	16	3.6%
SIERRA	16	3.2%	CHAVES	17	2.8%	STATEWIDE		3.6%
CHAVES	18	3.1%	SIERRA	18	2.7%	ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	18	3.5%
LINCOLN	19	2.9%	LINCOLN	19	2.5%	FARMINGTON MSA 2/	18	3.5%
FARMINGTON MSA 2/	20	2.8%	SOCORRO	20	2.4%	SIERRA	20	3.4%
SOCORRO	21	2.7%	FARMINGTON MSA 2/	20	2.4%	DE BACA	20	3.4%
HARDING	21	2.7%	SANTA FE MSA 4/	22	2.3%	EDDY	22	3.2%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	23	2.6%	HARDING	22	2.3%	SOCORRO	23	3.1%
CURRY	24	2.5%	EDDY	24	2.2%	SANTA FE MSA 4/	24	3.0%
EDDY	24	2.5%	CURRY	24	2.2%	CURRY	25	2.9%
HIDALGO	26	2.2%	HIDALGO	26	1.9%	UNION	26	2.6%
UNION	26	2.2%	LEA	26	1.9%	ROOSEVELT	26	2.6%
ROOSEVELT	28	2.1%	ROOSEVELT	26	1.9%	LEA	26	2.6%
LEA	28	2.1%	UNION	29	1.7%	HIDALGO	29	2.5%
LOS ALAMOS	30	1.9%	LOS ALAMOS	30	1.6%	LOS ALAMOS	30	2.0%

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

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - San Juan County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe County

Unemployment Rate by State (highest to lowest)

Seasonally Adjusted

November 2007			November 2006		
State	Rank	Rate	State	Rank	Rate
Michigan	1	7.4	Michigan	1	7.1
Alaska	2	6.4	Mississippi	2	7.0
Mississippi	3	6.3	Alaska	3	6.6
South Carolina	4	5.9	South Carolina	4	6.6
Arkansas	5	5.7	District of Columbia	5	6.1
District of Columbia	6	5.7	Kentucky	6	5.6
California	7	5.6	Ohio	7	5.5
Ohio	8	5.6	Arkansas	8	5.4
Oregon	9	5.5	Oregon	9	5.4
Nevada	10	5.4	Massachusetts	10	5.2
Illinois	11	5.2	Rhode Island	11	5.1
Missouri	12	5.2	West Virginia	12	5.1
Rhode Island	13	5.2	Tennessee	13	5.0
Wisconsin	14	5.1	Washington	14	5.0
Connecticut	15	5.0	Missouri	15	4.9
Kentucky	16	5.0	North Carolina	16	4.9
Maine	17	4.9	California	17	4.7
Tennessee	18	4.9	Indiana	18	4.7
Indiana	19	4.7	Maine	19	4.7
North Carolina	20	4.7	Pennsylvania	20	4.7
United States		4.7	Texas	21	4.7
Washington	21	4.7	Wisconsin	22	4.7
New York	22	4.6	Georgia	23	4.6
West Virginia	23	4.6	Kansas	24	4.5
Oklahoma	24	4.5	United States		4.5
Georgia	25	4.4	New Jersey	25	4.4
Minnesota	26	4.4	Louisiana	26	4.3
Florida	27	4.3	Nevada	27	4.3
Massachusetts	28	4.3	Connecticut	28	4.2
New Jersey	29	4.2	New York	29	4.2
Pennsylvania	30	4.2	Arizona	30	4.1
Texas	31	4.2	Colorado	31	4.1
Arizona	32	4.1	Minnesota	32	4.1
Colorado	33	4.1	Oklahoma	33	4.1
Iowa	34	3.9	Illinois	34	4.0
Vermont	35	3.9	Maryland	35	3.9
Kansas	36	3.8	New Mexico	36	3.9
Maryland	37	3.7	Vermont	37	3.7
Alabama	38	3.5	Alabama	38	3.6
Louisiana	39	3.5	Iowa	39	3.5
Delaware	40	3.4	New Hampshire	40	3.5
Montana	41	3.4	Delaware	41	3.4
New Hampshire	42	3.4	North Dakota	42	3.4
New Mexico	43	3.4	Florida	43	3.3
Virginia	44	3.2	Idaho	44	3.2
Nebraska	45	3.1	South Dakota	45	3.2
North Dakota	46	3.1	Wyoming	46	3.2
Hawaii	47	2.9	Virginia	47	3.0
Wyoming	48	2.9	Montana	48	2.9
South Dakota	49	2.8	Nebraska	49	2.9
Utah	50	2.8	Utah	50	2.6
Idaho	51	2.7	Hawaii	51	2.1

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

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Nov-07	Revised Oct-07	Revised Nov-06	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	854,100	851,900	844,300	2,200	9,800
GOODS PRODUCING	115,700	117,500	116,900	-1,800	-1,200
SERVICES PROVIDING	738,400	734,400	727,400	4,000	11,000
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	20,000	20,000	19,300	0	700
CONSTRUCTION	59,300	60,300	59,700	-1,000	-400
MANUFACTURING	36,400	37,200	37,900	-800	-1,500
WHOLESALE TRADE	24,000	23,900	23,800	100	200
RETAIL TRADE	98,500	95,900	97,000	2,600	1,500
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	25,100	25,200	24,500	-100	600
INFORMATION	16,100	16,400	16,100	-300	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	35,400	35,400	35,000	0	400
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	108,700	108,900	108,600	-200	100
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	114,400	113,300	110,500	1,100	3,900
Educational Services	14,800	14,100	14,500	700	300
Health Care and Social Assistance	99,600	99,200	96,000	400	3,600
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	87,500	87,400	85,000	100	2,500
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7,800	7,900	7,500	-100	300
Accommodation and Food Services	79,700	79,500	77,500	200	2,200
OTHER SERVICES	29,100	29,100	28,900	0	200
GOVERNMENT	199,600	198,900	198,000	700	1,600
Federal Government	30,300	30,300	30,300	0	0
State Government	61,700	61,700	60,600	0	1,100
<i>State Government Education</i>	28,900	28,900	28,900	0	0
Local Government	107,600	106,900	107,100	700	500
<i>Local Government Education</i>	59,100	58,300	58,900	800	200

ALBUQUERQUE	Preliminary Nov-07	Revised Oct-07	Revised Nov-06	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	401,100	399,700	396,600	1,400	4,500
GOODS PRODUCING	53,400	53,900	54,900	-500	-1,500
SERVICES PROVIDING	347,700	345,800	341,700	1,900	6,000
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING & CONSTRUCTION	30,600	30,900	30,700	-300	-100
MANUFACTURING	22,800	23,000	24,200	-200	-1,400
WHOLESALE TRADE	13,400	13,300	13,500	100	-100
RETAIL TRADE	46,700	45,200	45,600	1,500	1,100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	11,000	10,900	10,600	100	400
INFORMATION	9,800	9,700	9,400	100	400
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	19,200	19,200	19,200	0	0
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	64,600	64,600	63,900	0	700
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	49,800	49,600	48,700	200	1,100
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	39,500	39,700	38,400	-200	1,100
OTHER SERVICES	12,500	12,600	12,200	-100	300
GOVERNMENT	81,200	81,000	80,200	200	1,000
Federal Government	14,500	14,500	14,500	0	0
State Government	26,700	26,700	26,300	0	400
Local Government	40,000	39,800	39,400	200	600

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

LAS CRUCES MSA	Preliminary Nov-07	Revised Oct-07	Revised Nov-06	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	69,600	69,500	68,200	100	1,400
GOODS PRODUCING	8,500	8,500	8,500	0	0
SERVICES PROVIDING	61,100	61,100	59,700	0	1,400
NATURAL RESOURCES MINING & CONSTRUCTION	5,100	5,100	5,000	0	100
MANUFACTURING	3,400	3,400	3,500	0	-100
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	7,400	7,300	7,300	100	100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	1,900	1,900	1,800	0	100
INFORMATION	1,100	1,100	1,200	0	-100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,300	2,400	2,400	-100	-100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,800	5,800	5,600	0	200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	10,900	10,800	10,300	100	600
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	7,200	7,200	6,800	0	400
OTHER SERVICES	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
GOVERNMENT	21,800	21,800	21,600	0	200
Federal	3,700	3,700	3,600	0	100
State	9,200	9,200	9,200	0	0
Local	8,900	8,900	8,800	0	100

SANTA FE MSA	Preliminary Nov-07	Revised Oct-07	Revised Nov-06	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	66,000	65,800	63,300	200	2,700
GOODS PRODUCING	6,200	6,300	6,200	-100	0
SERVICES PROVIDING	59,800	59,500	57,100	300	2,700
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTRUCTION	5,100	5,200	5,100	-100	0
MANUFACTURING	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,200	1,200	1,100	0	100
RETAIL TRADE	9,200	9,100	9,200	100	0
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	700	700	700	0	0
INFORMATION	1,500	1,700	1,000	-200	500
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	3,100	3,100	3,100	0	0
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,600	5,500	5,200	100	400
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	9,500	9,300	8,700	200	800
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	9,100	9,200	8,700	-100	400
OTHER SERVICES	2,900	2,900	2,900	0	0
GOVERNMENT	17,000	16,800	16,500	200	500
Federal	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
State	8,200	8,200	8,200	0	0
Local	7,700	7,500	7,200	200	500

FARMINGTON MSA	Preliminary Nov-07	Revised Oct-07	Revised Nov-06	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	53,000	53,000	51,900	0	1,100
TOTAL PRIVATE	41,100	41,100	40,200	0	900
GOODS PRODUCING	12,400	12,400	11,700	0	700
SERVICES PROVIDING	40,600	40,600	40,200	0	400
PRIVATE SERVICES PROVIDING	28,700	28,700	28,500	0	200
GOVERNMENT	11,900	11,900	11,700	0	200
Federal	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
State	500	500	500	0	0
Local	9,900	9,900	9,700	0	200

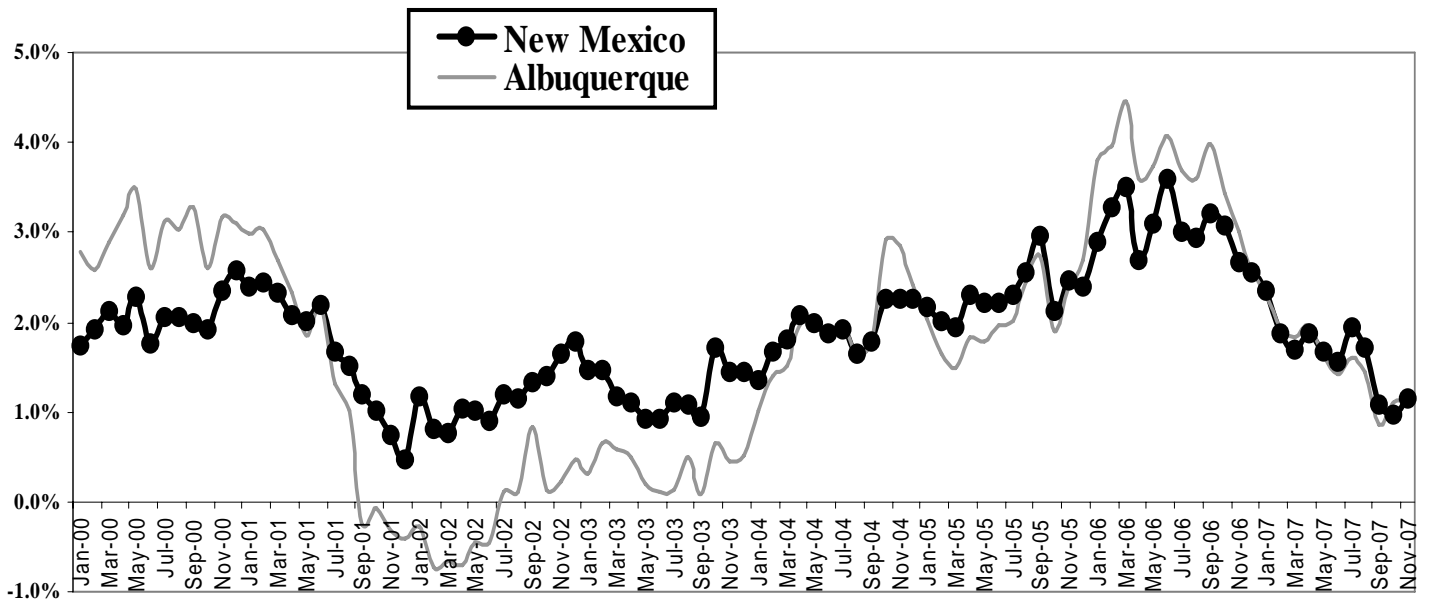
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

- Seasonally Adjusted -

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Nov-07	Revised Oct-07	Monthly Change
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT*	850,000	847,800	2,200
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	19,900	19,900	0
CONSTRUCTION	59,200	59,300	-100
MANUFACTURING	36,400	36,300	100
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	144,700	144,500	200
INFORMATION <i>(Not Seasonally Adjusted)</i>	16,100	16,400	-300
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	35,700	35,500	200
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	108,200	108,100	100
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	113,100	112,700	400
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	89,700	88,300	1,400
OTHER SERVICES	29,700	29,700	0
GOVERNMENT	197,300	197,100	200

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

New Mexico and Albuquerque Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates



Average Hours and Earnings

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

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Nov 07	Oct 07	Nov 06	Nov 07	Oct 07	Nov 06	Nov 07	Oct 07	Nov 06
NEW MEXICO									
NATURAL RES. & MINING	\$848.79	\$844.04	\$814.97	44.3	44.4	44.1	\$19.16	\$19.01	\$18.48
CONSTRUCTION	\$659.34	\$664.00	\$658.94	39.6	40.0	40.5	\$16.65	\$16.60	\$16.27
MANUFACTURING	\$566.18	\$563.27	\$558.45	38.7	38.9	39.3	\$14.63	\$14.48	\$14.21
WHOLESALE TRADE	\$539.84	\$537.95	\$531.30	35.1	35.0	35.0	\$15.38	\$15.37	\$15.18
RETAIL TRADE	\$370.01	\$368.88	\$364.00	32.6	32.5	32.5	\$11.35	\$11.35	\$11.20
ALBUQUERQUE MSA									
MANUFACTURING	\$605.63	\$597.46	\$622.40	37.5	37.6	41.8	\$16.15	\$15.89	\$14.89

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	
	Nov 07	Oct 07	Nov 06	Month to Month	Year to Year
CPI-U	210.2	209.0	201.8	0.6%	4.3%
CPI-W	205.9	204.3	197.0	0.8%	4.6%

*CPI-U - All Urban Consumers

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

Labor Market Review is Available Only Online!

We have chosen to make this change due to the ever-increasing costs of printing and the fact that most of our data users have Internet access. Electronic publication ensures timely availability of the Labor Market Review each month by eliminating the possibility of mail delays.

To access the Labor Market Review online, simply go to the web page listed below and click on the current issue or a previous issue to download, and view the PDF file. You may choose to save the file to your hard drive, print it in its entirety, or print only selected portions.

We will continue to produce a limited number of printed copies to accommodate data users who do not have Internet access. For continued delivery of the Labor Market Review by mail, please send your detailed request to the address below.

NMDWS, Economic Research & Analysis Bureau
P.O. Box 1928, Albuquerque, N.M. 87103
Attn: LMR subscriber list

Labor Market Review

**Now Exclusively
Online!**



Give it a Click!

www.dws.state.nm.us/dws-lmr-past.html

New Mexico Area Economic Activity

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

Statewide:

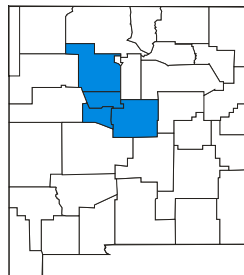
The National Nuclear Security Administration approved a plan in late November to cut hundreds of jobs from the **Los Alamos National Laboratory's** staff. More than 7,000 employees at the lab were given a week to decide whether to accept the buyout or risk being laid off. Just before Thanksgiving, lab management announced plans to cut between 500 and 750 jobs. The buyout offer—which has now been approved by the NNSA—is based on length of service at the lab. The buyout could total more than nine months' salary for the longest-serving employees and also offers health coverage. The deadline for employees to decide whether to take the buyout or risk a layoff was Thursday, December 6. On December 20, lab management informed those employees whose buyout applications had been accepted that January 10 would be their last day on the job. Sandia National Laboratories employees are also facing federal budget cuts, and Sandia management is expected to announce plans to lay off part of the lab's 8,400 workforce.

The State of New Mexico will soon have its own dedicated supercomputer. SGI, a California company, has been awarded an \$11 million state contract to build the supercomputer, which will be housed at Intel Corporation in Rio Rancho. Businesses, governments, and schools will be able to use the **New Mexico Computing Applications Center** to model complex problems—everything from creating new products to modeling scenarios for New Mexico's future water supply. The supercomputer is projected to operate at 172 teraflops per second. (One teraflop represents 1 trillion calculations per second.) It's powered by 14,336 Intel Xenon processor cores and has enough memory for 28,000 office computers. Supercomputers are often used for modeling or quickly solving complex problems. For example, companies could use the supercomputer to develop new airplane designs, simulate crash tests for new cars, and design life-saving drugs. They're also used to model hurricanes and global warming. The New Mexico Department of Information Technology will manage the supercomputer project. Formal partnerships have been established with Los Alamos and Sandia national laboratories, the University of New Mexico, New Mexico State University, and New Mexico Tech. SGI has formed a separate partnership to keep the computer at Intel's Rio Rancho plant.

Central WIA Area:

Albuquerque Area, Bernalillo County:

The **Value Place** hotel chain has expanded into the Albuquerque market. Quannah Hospitality Partners LP has already opened one Value Place in Albuquerque and is planning three more locations in the Duke City: one on Gibson Boulevard near the Albuquerque International Sunport, one to the west of Downtown, and one north of Downtown. The company also plans to build in or near Santa Fe, Los Alamos, and Truth or Consequences and already has



a hotel located in Las Cruces. The first Albuquerque property is at 13001 Central Ave. NE, near Interstate 40 and Tramway Boulevard. The hotels have 121 rooms that Value Place leases for one week at a time. The rates tend to run about \$200 per week. Each room has a full refrigerator and a two-burner stove, a microwave, and a small workstation, as well as a flat-screen television and high-speed Internet.

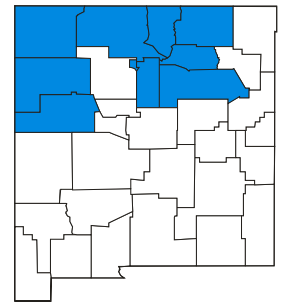
Rio Rancho Area, Sandoval County:

The city of Rio Rancho is giving top priority to issuing a permit for the construction of a 171,000-square-foot **Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse**. The Lowe's is to be the first retail store in a 47-acre site development planned for Loma Colorado and Northern boulevards.

Northern WIA Area:

Las Vegas Area, San Miguel County:

The Connection will remain open for a month longer than announced. The Burnsville, Minnesota-based company initially planned to close its Las Vegas call center in late November but later announced that the center would close in mid to late December instead.



Santa Fe Area, Santa Fe County:

The New Mexico Genome Sequencing Center, a state-of-the-art center featuring two Illumina Genome Analyzer Systems, opened in Santa Fe. The center is capable of sequencing about 400 million bases a day, which corresponds to determining the code of life of 30 infectious disease agents a week or the entire human genome in two months. The opening of this center places New Mexico at the nation's forefront in genome research. The New Mexico Genome Sequencing Center is a partnership between NCGR and the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (New Mexico Tech). New Mexico Tech faculty, researchers, and students will collaborate with NCGR to study real-world problems in human health and environmental contamination. Current genome sequencing projects include the study of fruit rot, leaf spot, and green wilt of chili peppers to help farmers control infestation; research to discover the genetic basis of schizophrenia and infectious disease outcomes; studies to understand food allergy; and research specific to new alternative raw biomaterials for the energy industry.

Grants Pueblo Area, Cibola County:

The **Pueblo of Acoma** will start construction on an \$11 million Hampton Inn and 24-hour travel center in Grants. The project is slated to begin in March and be completed by October. The hotel and travel center will be located adjacent to Interstate 40 on the southwest corner of Exit 85, near the Grants Senior Center and the Lavaland RV Park. The Hampton Inn franchise will be owned by the Pueblo of Acoma and managed by Acoma Business Enterprises,

the business arm of the tribe. The hotel will have 70 rooms on three stories, an indoor swimming pool, a hot tub, an exercise room, and meeting rooms and will provide breakfast for hotel guests. The tribe currently owns two travel centers: SkyWay Travel Center at Exit 89 on I-40 and Sky City Travel Center, part of the Sky City Casino Hotel complex at Exit 102 on I-40. The two new businesses will provide about 50 jobs for area residents and tribal members.

Raton Area, Colfax County:

Miners' Colfax Medical Center has transferred all of its patients to a new location at 203 Hospital Drive. Construction of the \$21 million facility began in May 2006. The 75,000-square-foot facility offers many amenities that were not offered in the old building, such as an FAA-approved helipad, an expanded emergency room, and 15 private rooms on the medical surgical floor. The center serves a regional population of about 12,000 and employs approximately 190.

Farmington Area, San Juan County:

The city of Farmington has invested an estimated \$1.09 million to renovate the Four Corners Regional Airport restaurant. GTA Production, Inc. will lease and operate **The Sky Haven Restaurant and Sky Bar**. The city chose to remodel the airport's formerly defunct restaurant with hopes of luring more travelers, enhancing the airport atmosphere, and making the airport a better place to do business.

Exterran, which specializes in natural gas compression, laid off 30 employees after a merger. The company was created in August 2007 through the merger of the former Hanover and Universal Compression companies. A spokesperson in Exterran's Houston office said that those who were let go were mostly field service technicians. The laid-off employees will receive severance packages that include two weeks of salary for each year of employment. Before the layoffs, Exterran employed 330 people in its San Juan County operations.

The interior work at Farmington's first **Office Depot** was completed in mid-November. The 19,000-square-foot store at 3558 East Main Street is a little smaller than most Office Depot stores. The opening date for the store was not officially announced, but the store's builder, Kenneth Hudson from U.S. Builders, said the company wanted to try to catch the Thanksgiving holiday season.

Eastern WIA Area:

Hobbs Area, Lea County:

Hobbs area diners have a new choice for authentic Mexican food. **La Posta** opened its doors in September at the corner of Broadway and Marland in Hobbs in what was formerly Lucy's Mexicali Restaurant. La Posta features a variety of Mexican food as well as burgers, sandwiches, and salads. The restaurant has a staff of five part-time employees and one full-time employee.

Alamogordo Area, Otero County:

The **Marietta Biscuit Company** officially began production on November 19 and is now producing cookies at the rate of about 110 dozen per minute. Marietta is located at 1301 La Velle Road in the former location of Sunbaked Biscuits. The company employs about 60 people and expects to hire about 100 to 125 more workers in 2008.

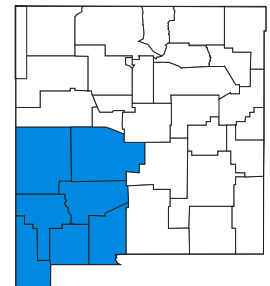
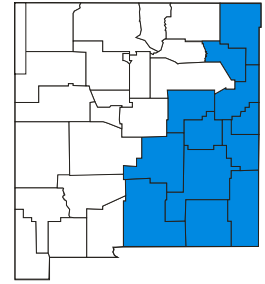
Tucumcari Area, Quay County:

New Mexico's third Flying J Travel Plaza opened this month in Tucumcari. There are 111 employees at the Flying J, according to General Manager Dan Boyd. The travel plaza in Tucumcari has eight diesel lanes and 12 gasoline pumps with two lanes designated for RVs. It is built on 14 acres with parking for 136 semi tractor-trailers. The plaza has showers, a driver's lounge with a television, and a game room, Boyd said. The plaza also offers a Country Market Restaurant & Buffet. The facility's full-serve dining area provides seating for 143 guests and is open 24 hours for travelers. Flying J's other two locations are in Albuquerque and Lordsburg.

Southwestern WIA Area:

Socorro Area, Socorro County:

A collaborative project between New Mexico Economic Development Department and Alamo Navajo Band Chapter will ultimately provide a convenience store, a gas station, a post office, a small café, and a laundromat to Alamo residents. Ground was broken in mid-November on the **T'iistsoh Mini Mart**, to be located in Alamo, New Mexico, in northern Socorro County. The T'iistsoh Mini Mart is the first business for the Alamo Navajo People and is a joint project of the State Economic Development Department's Eastern Regional Business Development Office and the Project Development Department of the Navajo Nation. Sandia Oil Company will operate the new Mini Mart that will serve the 410 households of Alamo. The project will establish a revenue source for the Navajo Nation and create local jobs. Business tax revenues are estimated at \$84,000 with 19 new jobs anticipated. Construction on the \$1.6 million project is scheduled to begin in March 2008.



Labor Market Review

Now Exclusively Online!



Give it a Click!

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



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



Official Business
Penalty for Private Use, \$300



New Mexico Labor Market Review
is a monthly publication from the New Mexico
Department of Workforce Solutions

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