



New Mexico Labor Market Review

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

...New Mexico's rate of over-the-year job growth was 0.1 percent, representing an increase of just 1,000 jobs. Even with such low job growth, New Mexico ranked eighteenth highest among all states, as the U.S. economy posted its tenth consecutive month of job losses.

...October's over-the-year loss of 1,500 jobs marked the third consecutive month of employment declines in the Albuquerque MSA.

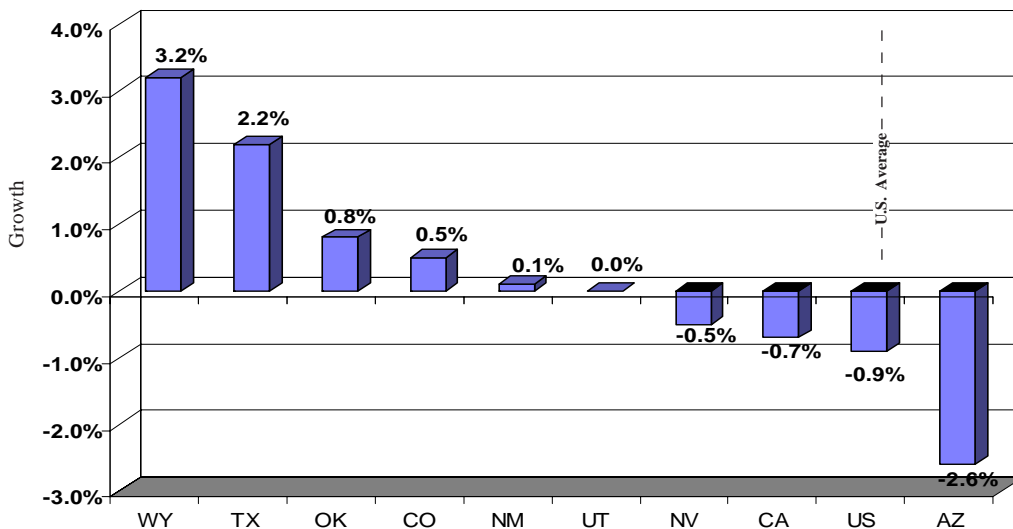
...The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces MSA was 2.0 percent. Employment growth was well above the average for the state, and the Las Cruces MSA added 1,400 jobs over the last year.

...The rate of over-the-year job growth for Santa Fe was a negative 0.3 percent, representing a loss of 200 jobs. The recorded losses started in June—the first instance of negative growth since April 2001. The Santa Fe MSA is now about a year past the conclusion of a one-year period strong job growth.

...Over the last year, the Farmington MSA has added 300 jobs, growing 0.6 percent. This rate of job growth is still higher than 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

October 2008 over October 2007 - Not Seasonally Adjusted



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New Mexico Labor Force and Payroll Employment

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.4 percent in October 2008, up from 4.0 percent in September and 3.3 percent a year ago. The national unemployment rate was 6.5 percent.

The rate of over-the-year job growth, comparing October 2008 with October 2007, was 0.1 percent, representing an increase of just 1,000 jobs. The state's job growth has not been this low since the summer of 1991, 17 years ago. Even with such low job growth, New Mexico ranked eighteenth highest among all states, as the U.S. economy posted its tenth consecutive month of job losses.

There are still clear regional differences around the state in terms of job growth, but the areas of strength are becoming harder to find. Albuquerque and Santa Fe are both reporting overall job losses, while the Farmington area has added a small number of jobs since last year. The Las Cruces area, by contrast, has increased its jobs base by 2.0 percent over the year.

Statewide, the goods-producing sector has shown the most volatility, having been up by around 7,000 jobs in the 12 months ending October 2006, posting a loss of 1,500 jobs to October 2007, and then recording a 12-month loss of 2,900 jobs by October 2008. Among component industries, manufacturing and construction employment have contracted while mining employment has continued to grow.

The state has lost 2,500 manufacturing jobs over the last year, with particular difficulties in semiconductor manufacturing. Other manufacturers have also hit upon hard times, and many firms have reduced their workforces. The widely reported Eclipse Aviation layoffs added to the employment decline.

The construction industry is going through a period of adjustment following four years of growth that resulted in the creation of 14,000 new jobs. Construction employment boomed with work on various large public works projects and continued when residential construction was strong. The boom has now ended, and some job losses have occurred. Overall, the construction industry reported 1,400 fewer jobs in October 2008 than in October 2007. When considering larger job losses reported at the national level in construction, New Mexico could be doing much worse. Mining employment has increased by 1,000 jobs from its year-ago level, as a result of continued exploration activity. Actual production of oil and natural gas, however, continues to decline.

On the service-providing side, the educational & health services industry increased employment by 4,400 jobs. This industry,

largely made up of health services, added far more jobs than any other. The health services industry acts as a form of recession insurance for New Mexico, expanding employment while other industries are laying off workers. Only time will tell if job growth in the health services industry will keep the economy from dipping below the zero line as job losses mount in other industries.

Only two other service industries—government and retail trade—added more than just a few hundred jobs. Government employment increased at a rate of 1.0 percent overall, adding a net total of 1,900 jobs. The bulk of the gain came from local government, which expanded by 1,600 jobs. Federal government increased by 200 jobs, while state government added 100. Retail trade grew by 0.8 percent, adding 800 jobs, which is a solid increase during a difficult period when the national numbers are showing reduced employment levels.

The information industry continues to prosper, even though October's over-the-year increase was just 100 jobs because of last year's near-record employment level. The source of many new employment opportunities has been the state's film industry. This industry had a bumper year in 2006, which continued into 2007. Recent trends indicate that 2008 may be the best year yet, but large month-to-month swings in employment are not unusual because of the nature of film production work. During times of intensive production, employment in the state's film industry has been as many as 3,000 jobs above baseline levels. Weakness in its telecommunications components reduced information industry employment by more than 3,000 during a three-year period ending in early 2005. Even with the current boost from film production, employment levels are still about 2,000 jobs below the peak set in the spring of 2001.

The small wholesale trade industry added 300 jobs, up 1.3 percent, while the transportation, warehousing & utilities industry remained at last year's employment level. The miscellaneous *other services* category reported 100 more jobs over the year.

The three remaining service industries recorded employment losses. Leisure & hospitality reported 1,400 fewer jobs than at this time last year, continuing a period of decelerating growth that began in early 2007. By most accounts, this will likely be a year of underperformance for travel and tourism. The professional & business services industry, which includes several firms that rely upon national defense contracts, reported employment that was down by 1,600 jobs from last year. The financial activities industry also lost jobs, declining by 700 since last October.

New Mexico <u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	<u>Oct 2008</u>	<u>Sep 2008</u>	<u>Oct 2007</u>	<u>Sep 2008</u>	<u>Oct 2007</u>
Civilian Labor Force	961,600	958,000	945,100	+3,600	+16,500
Employment	919,800	919,400	913,700	+400	+6,100
Unemployment	41,800	38,600	31,400	+3,200	+10,400
Rate	4.4%	4.0%	3.3%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	4.1%	3.8%	3.1%		

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 4.6 percent in October 2008, up six tenths of a percentage point over the month. The unemployment rate was 3.3 percent in October 2007.

Payroll employment in the Albuquerque area fell by 500 jobs (0.1 percent) in October to 394,900. Employment declines are not uncommon for October, when there is often a temporary lull between summer tourist activity and the holiday shopping season. This year, only three of the 12 industry groups gained employment over the month, while three lost employment and the remaining six were unchanged. Things normally pick up again in November when businesses begin hiring for the upcoming holiday period, but this year the outlook is less certain because of increasing weakness in the economy.

October's over-the-year loss of 1,500 jobs marked the third consecutive month of employment declines in the Albuquerque MSA. Goods-producing industries have shed 2,200 jobs since last year, far outweighing a 700-job gain by the service-providing industries.

Manufacturing employment shrank to 21,900, a loss of 1,400 jobs or 6.0 percent. The industry has posted over-the-year job losses for 17 consecutive months and reduced employment by nearly 23 percent from a peak of 28,300 in March 2001.

Professional & business services declined by 1,000 jobs from its year-ago level, shrinking 1.6 percent. The industry has posted negative growth for five consecutive months, having fallen sharply from a recent peak of 4.1 percent in August 2007. Professional & business services is the area's largest private-sector industry, employing 63,400 in October and ranking second to government among all industries.

Construction recorded its twenty-second consecutive month of negative growth, falling 2.7 percent while losing 800 jobs. Industry employment was off nearly 11 percent from its June 2006 peak of 32,200. Some welcome relief is expected early next year when construction begins in Rio Rancho on two new hospitals, one for the University of New Mexico and the other for Presbyterian Healthcare Services, and a downtown Central New Mexico/University of New Mexico campus.

Employment fell by 700 jobs or 1.8 percent in leisure & hospitality, the industry's largest over-the-year drop since November 1991. Recent record declines in gasoline prices occurred after the summer tourist season, and the Travel Industry Association's

latest forecast indicates that U.S. leisure travel (-0.2 percent) and business travel (-3.7 percent) will each post declines for 2008.

Financial activities continued to struggle, down 400 jobs or 2.1 percent since last October. Over-the-year employment has fallen for eight consecutive months, and improvement may be slow in coming as effects of the subprime mortgage crises and subsequent credit crunch continue to ripple through the economy. Transportation, warehousing & utilities and wholesale trade also reported reduced employment levels.

Government led the gaining industries, adding 1,400 jobs, growing 1.7 percent. The lion's share of the increase was in local government, up 1,200 jobs or 3.0 percent over the year, while federal and state government each added 100 jobs. Tribally owned casinos and related operations have contributed to increases in local government employment.

Educational & health services increased employment by 1,300, leading all industries with a 2.6 percent growth rate. A consistent provider of new jobs, educational & health services has expanded by 7,400 over the past five years to lead all private-sector industries. Its 17.1 percent growth over the period trailed only that of construction, at 18.0 percent.

Employment gains were minimal outside of government and educational & health services. Information added 200 jobs over the year, growing by 2.2 percent. Employment levels have been far less volatile this year than in the previous years, ranging from a low of 9,200 to a high of 9,500. In contrast, employment totals ranged from 8,700 to 9,800 in 2007 and from 8,700 to 10,000 in 2006. Miscellaneous *other services* also added 200 jobs, expanding by 1.6 percent.

Retail trade added just 100 jobs while growing 0.2 percent, the industry's weakest performance since December 2006. Retailers have struggled to attract customers as the economic slowdown has deepened. Wal-Mart announced plans to reduce prices on Thanksgiving and Christmas merchandise, and other retailers will likely to do the same. If falling prices fail to spur demand, businesses will be forced to reduce hours or trim payrolls, further weakening the employment situation.

Albuquerque	Prel.		Revised		Change From	
	Oct 2008	Sep 2008	Oct 2007	Sep 2008	Oct 2007	
Seasonally Adjusted						
Civilian Labor Force	412,600	411,000	406,500	+1,600	+6,100	
Employment	393,700	394,500	393,000	-800	+700	
Unemployment	18,900	16,500	13,500	+2,400	+5,400	
Rate	4.6%	4.0%	3.3%			
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	4.4%	4.1%	3.2%			

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 October 2008, up from 4.0 percent in September. A year ago, the area's unemployment rate was 3.6 percent.

During October, 600 government jobs returned to the Las Cruces economy with the continuing return of students to institutions of learning. In the private sector, employment declined by 100 jobs, making for an overall gain of 500 jobs in all sectors. Local government added 100 jobs and state government, which includes New Mexico State University, gained 500 jobs.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces area was 2.0 percent, comparing October 2008 with the same month a year ago. Employment growth was well above the average for the state, and the Las Cruces area added 1,400 jobs over the last year.

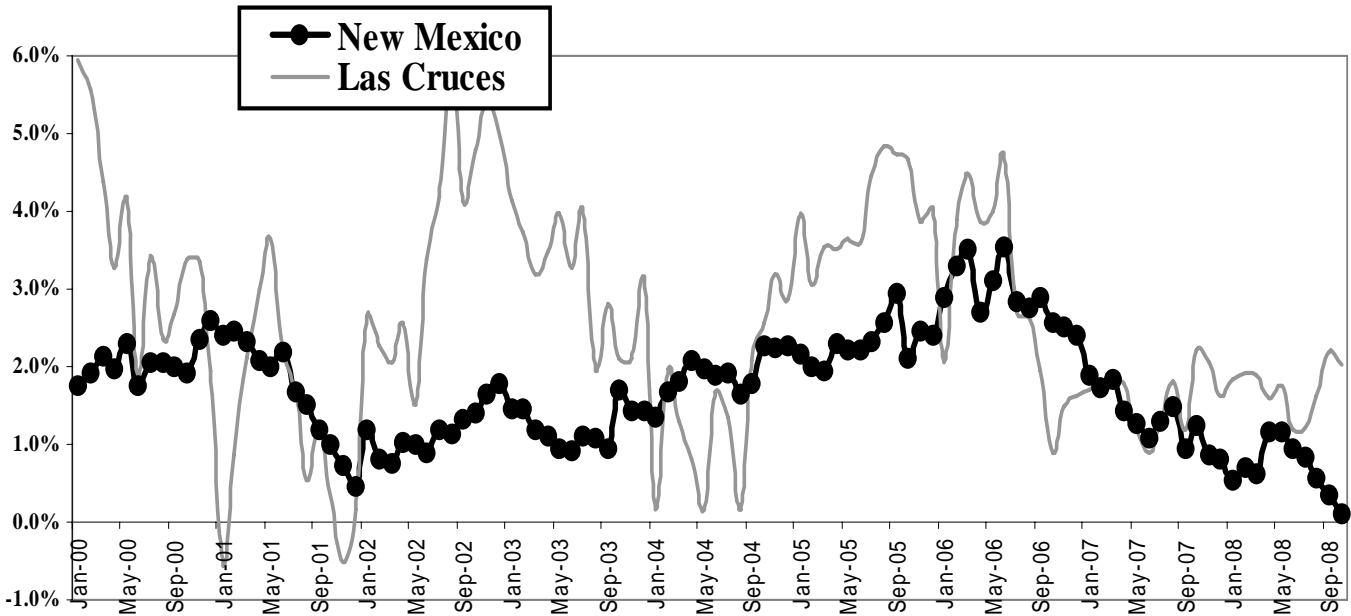
Employment increases at area call centers helped the professional & business services industry expand by 800 jobs on the year. Educational & health services gained 300 jobs, growing 2.8 percent. Financial activities and miscellaneous *other services* each added 200 jobs, while wholesale and retail trade, manufacturing, and government (with reported increases at the federal level) each added 100.

Three industries—construction, information, and transportation, warehousing & utilities—reported fewer jobs compared to year-ago levels. Construction, which has been declining for some time, lost 300 jobs, while information and transportation, warehousing & utilities lost 100 each. Employment was unchanged from last year in the one remaining industry, leisure & hospitality.

Las Cruces Seasonally Adjusted	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Oct 2008	Sep 2008	Oct 2007	Sep 2008	Oct 2007
Civilian Labor Force	90,700	89,800	87,800	+900	+2,900
Employment	88,600	86,200	84,700	+400	+1,900
Unemployment	4,200	3,600	3,200	+600	+1,000
Rate	4.6%	4.0%	3.6%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	4.1%	3.8%	3.2%		

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 3.7 percent in October 2008, up from 3.2 percent in September. A year ago, the local area had an unemployment rate of 2.6 percent.

The Santa Fe area lost 700 jobs in October 2008 at the very end of the summer tourist season and after filming ended for a local production. The information industry lost 500 temporary film industry jobs, many of which were added the previous month. Decreased employment at area hotels and restaurants pushed leisure & hospitality to a 100-job loss. Professional & business services and miscellaneous *other services* also shed 100 jobs each. Government jobs increased by 100, with increases reported at the local government level.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for Santa Fe was a negative 0.3 percent, representing a loss of 200 jobs. The recorded losses started in June—the first instance of negative growth since April 2001. The Santa Fe MSA is now about a year past the conclusion of a one-year period strong job growth. Overall, the Santa Fe job market has stagnated in recent months, with only five of the area's 12 industries adding jobs.

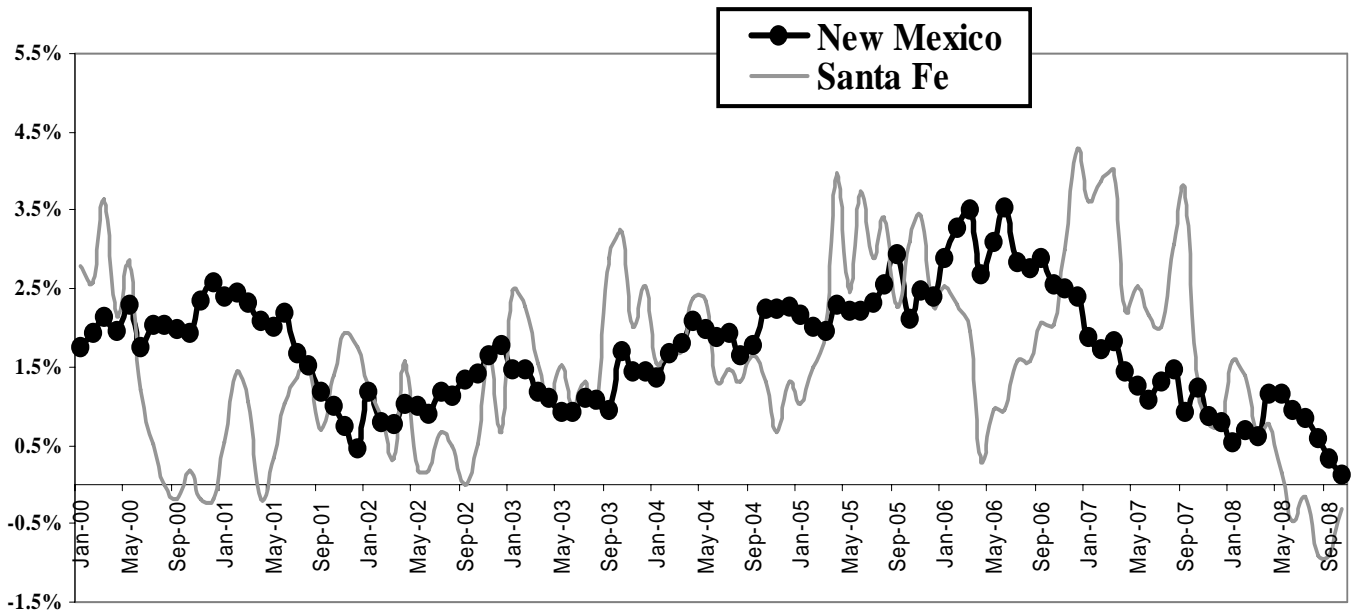
Retail trade showed surprising strength by adding 300 jobs, more than any other local industry. Educational & health services, leisure & hospitality, and information each gained 200 jobs, while the miscellaneous *other services* industry added 100.

The government sector reported 200 fewer jobs than in October 2007, with the losses coming at the local government level. Federal and state government held steady at last year's employment totals. Four private industries—construction, manufacturing, financial activities, and professional & business services—each lost jobs over the year, while two others—transportation, warehousing & utilities and wholesale trade—remained unchanged.

Santa Fe	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Oct 2008</u>	<u>Sep 2008</u>	<u>Oct 2007</u>	<u>Sep 2008</u>	<u>Oct 2007</u>
Civilian Labor Force	79,500	80,200	78,500	-700	+1,000
Employment	76,500	77,600	76,400	-1,100	+100
Unemployment	3,000	2,600	2,100	+400	+900
Rate	3.7%	3.2%	2.6%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.5%	3.3%	2.5%		

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 3.8 percent in October 2008, up from 3.5 percent in September. A year ago, the unemployment rate was 2.8 percent.

The Farmington area maintained September's employment level into October. Declines in goods-producing industries offset increases in local government employment, resulting in no change in total employment.

Over the last year, the Farmington area has added 300 jobs, growing 0.6 percent. This rate of job growth is still higher than 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 reached 5.1 percent. Job growth reached this peak again in June 2006, matching the highest increase since mid-1995. Growth dipped to 0.4 percent in April 2007 before rebounding to its current level. The outlook for job growth in the area remains favorable.

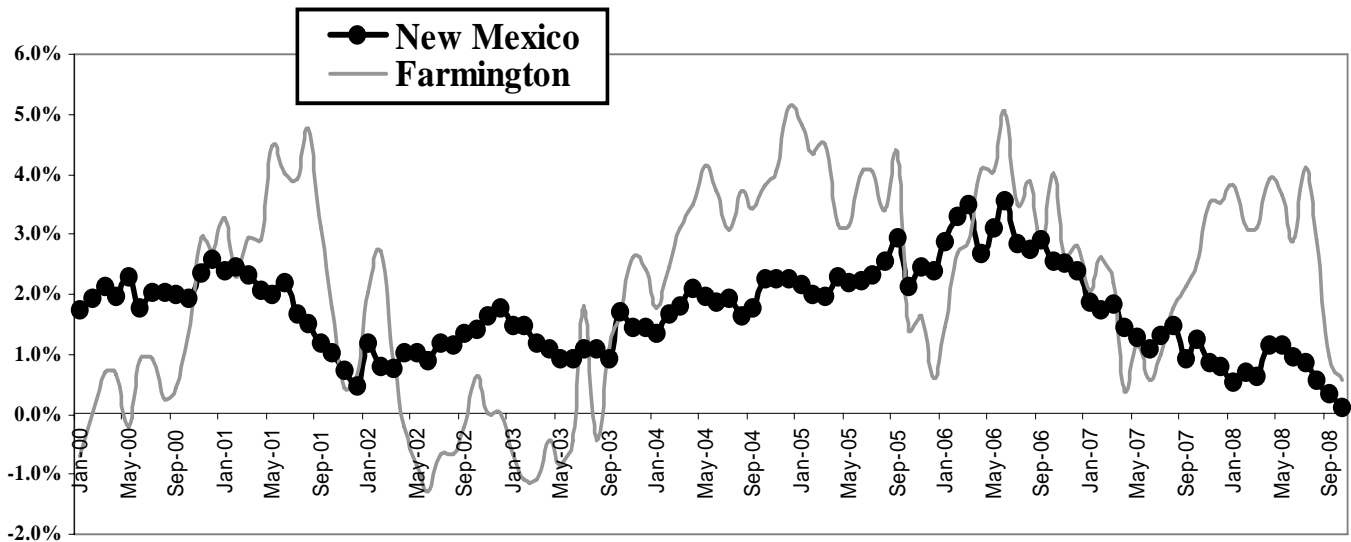
Goods-producing industries have added 200 jobs, growing 1.6 percent over the year, while private service-providing industries have added 300 jobs, growing 1.0 percent. Government employment has been sluggish for a while, and local government actually reported 200 fewer jobs than at this time last year. State and federal government employment were unchanged.

The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has discontinued funding in the Current Employment Statistics program for 65 small metropolitan areas across the country, including the Farmington MSA. The CES program produces monthly employment estimates by industry. The BLS announced the change on its website as follows: "These cutbacks are being implemented to accommodate a reduction in funding to the BLS that resulted from The 2008 Consolidated Appropriations Act enacted on December 26, 2007." The state did not anticipate these funding cuts, nor were we given sufficient time to survey data users as to their continued need for local area employment data. We will end the estimation and subsequent publication of Farmington area employment estimates in March 2009 if federal government funding is not restored.

Farmington <i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	<u>Oct 2008</u>	<u>Sep 2008</u>	<u>Oct 2007</u>	<u>Sep 2008</u>	<u>Oct 2007</u>
Civilian Labor Force	57,700	57,800	56,600	-100	+1,100
Employment	55,500	55,800	55,000	-300	+500
Unemployment	2,200	2,000	1,600	+200	+600
Rate	3.8%	3.5%	2.8%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.5%	3.4%	2.6%		

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*

		Civilian Labor Force	Employ- ment	Un- Employ- ment	Rate %	Unadj. Rate %
1988		681,996	630,267	51,729	7.6%	
1989		691,811	645,302	46,509	6.7%	
1990		711,891	663,698	48,193	6.8%	
1991		719,243	667,698	51,545	7.2%	
1992		735,446	680,463	54,983	7.5%	
1993		755,054	700,258	54,795	7.3%	
1994		776,827	725,387	51,440	6.6%	
1995		798,621	744,557	54,064	6.8%	
1996		812,862	751,826	61,036	7.5%	
1997		822,627	768,596	54,031	6.6%	
1998		835,879	783,661	52,218	6.2%	
1999		839,987	793,052	46,936	5.6%	
2000		852,293	810,024	42,269	5.0%	
2001		863,682	821,003	42,679	4.9%	
2002		871,512	823,191	48,321	5.5%	
2003		888,468	835,835	52,633	5.9%	
2004		903,803	851,967	51,835	5.7%	
2005		920,227	872,037	48,189	5.2%	
2006		936,998	896,885	40,113	4.3%	
2007		943,061	909,967	33,094	3.5%	
2007	JAN	940,135	904,243	35,892	3.8%	3.9%
	FEB	941,572	906,250	35,322	3.8%	3.8%
	MAR	943,258	908,484	34,774	3.7%	3.5%
	APR	941,340	907,097	34,243	3.6%	3.4%
	MAY	941,949	908,220	33,729	3.6%	3.4%
	JUN	942,437	909,204	33,233	3.5%	3.9%
	JUL	942,567	909,805	32,762	3.5%	4.1%
	AUG	944,241	911,938	32,303	3.4%	3.4%
	SEP	944,095	912,243	31,852	3.4%	3.3%
	OCT	945,079	913,661	31,418	3.3%	3.1%
	NOV	944,885	913,881	31,004	3.3%	3.2%
	DEC	945,177	914,582	30,595	3.2%	3.1%
2008	JAN	946,227	916,598	29,629	3.1%	3.2%
	FEB	946,789	916,304	30,485	3.2%	3.5%
	MAR	950,059	915,318	34,741	3.7%	3.7%
	APR	951,024	917,360	33,664	3.5%	3.4%
	MAY	949,666	913,904	35,762	3.8%	3.7%
	JUN	951,334	914,027	37,307	3.9%	4.5%
	JUL	953,175	914,213	38,962	4.1%	4.6%
	AUG	957,929	913,595	44,334	4.6%	4.7%
	SEP	958,034	919,414	38,620	4.0%	3.8%
	OCT	961,616	919,782	41,834	4.4%	4.1%
	NOV					
	DEC					
# CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	3,582	368	3,214	0.4%	0.3%
	Year Ago	16,537	6,121	10,416	1.1%	1.0%
	2 Yrs. Ago	22,653	18,556	4,097	0.4%	0.5%
	3 Yrs. Ago	36,575	40,950	-4,375	-0.6%	-0.6%
% CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	0.4%	0.0%	8.3%		
	Year Ago	1.7%	0.7%	33.2%		
	2 Yrs. Ago	2.4%	2.1%	10.9%		
	3 Yrs. Ago	4.0%	4.7%	-9.5%		

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

State	Rank	October 2007	October 2008	Change	% Change
Wyoming	1	292.7	302.2	9.5	3.2%
Texas	2	10,470.4	10,701.8	231.4	2.2%
DC	3	699.5	710.1	10.6	1.5%
North Dakota	4	365.0	369.5	4.5	1.2%
South Dakota	4	410.2	415.1	4.9	1.2%
Montana	4	449.2	454.5	5.3	1.2%
Maryland	7	2,627.9	2,650.7	22.8	0.9%
Oklahoma	8	1,582.6	1,595.3	12.7	0.8%
Nebraska	9	972.1	978.8	6.7	0.7%
Alaska	9	314.6	316.7	2.1	0.7%
Kansas	11	1,393.7	1,402.3	8.6	0.6%
New Hampshire	12	658.1	661.7	3.6	0.5%
Virginia	12	3,777.6	3,798.2	20.6	0.5%
Louisiana	12	1,941.2	1,951.1	9.9	0.5%
Colorado	12	2,348.5	2,360.2	11.7	0.5%
Iowa	16	1,534.5	1,540.4	5.9	0.4%
West Virginia	17	763.8	765.3	1.5	0.2%
Massachusetts	18	3,310.0	3,314.5	4.5	0.1%
New Mexico	18	849.9	850.9	1.0	0.1%
Arkansas	20	1,211.9	1,212.3	0.4	0.0%
Utah	20	1,262.6	1,262.4	-0.2	0.0%
Delaware	20	438.4	438.3	-0.1	0.0%
New York	20	8,831.5	8,828.6	-2.9	0.0%
Alabama	24	2,014.2	2,011.3	-2.9	-0.1%
Connecticut	25	1,712.5	1,709.0	-3.5	-0.2%
Pennsylvania	26	5,851.0	5,834.6	-16.4	-0.3%
Vermont	26	312.1	311.2	-0.9	-0.3%
Hawaii	26	623.4	621.5	-1.9	-0.3%
Illinois	26	6,029.2	6,009.9	-19.3	-0.3%
Ohio	26	5,456.6	5,439.1	-17.5	-0.3%
New Jersey	31	4,093.7	4,075.4	-18.3	-0.4%
North Carolina	32	4,198.1	4,177.0	-21.1	-0.5%
Nevada	32	1,294.1	1,287.4	-6.7	-0.5%
Missouri	32	2,819.1	2,804.1	-15.0	-0.5%
Minnesota	35	2,796.9	2,780.0	-16.9	-0.6%
Washington	35	2,972.8	2,954.4	-18.4	-0.6%
Maine	37	626.3	622.2	-4.1	-0.7%
California	37	15,228.6	15,127.7	-100.9	-0.7%
Kentucky	37	1,885.3	1,872.6	-12.7	-0.7%
Tennessee	40	2,808.5	2,786.7	-21.8	-0.8%
United States		138,837.0	137,656.0	-1,181.0	-0.9%
Wisconsin	41	2,909.8	2,882.5	-27.3	-0.9%
Indiana	42	3,025.9	2,993.9	-32.0	-1.1%
South Carolina	42	1,970.0	1,949.1	-20.9	-1.1%
Mississippi	44	1,159.0	1,143.6	-15.4	-1.3%
Oregon	45	1,753.9	1,729.4	-24.5	-1.4%
Georgia	46	4,171.4	4,110.1	-61.3	-1.5%
Michigan	47	4,282.8	4,210.6	-72.2	-1.7%
Idaho	48	664.5	652.7	-11.8	-1.8%
Florida	49	8,022.4	7,870.3	-152.1	-1.9%
Arizona	50	2,679.8	2,608.9	-70.9	-2.6%
Rhode Island	51	497.1	482.5	-14.6	-2.9%

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

Employment numbers are not seasonally adjusted.

Employment numbers are in thousands.

New Mexico Labor Force Estimates – Not Seasonally Adjusted 1/

	PRELIMINARY OCTOBER 2008				REVISED SEPTEMBER 2008				REVISED OCTOBER 2007			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	964,413	925,110	39,303	4.1%	956,609	919,953	36,656	3.8%	946,164	917,189	28,975	3.1%
Albuquerque MSA 2/	412,615	394,545	18,070	4.4%	409,354	392,672	16,682	4.1%	406,576	393,611	12,965	3.2%
Bernalillo	318,583	305,128	13,455	4.2%	316,047	303,680	12,367	3.9%	313,971	304,406	9,565	3.0%
Sandoval	54,442	51,727	2,715	5.0%	54,026	51,481	2,545	4.7%	53,717	51,605	2,112	3.9%
Torrance	7,764	7,407	357	4.6%	7,716	7,372	344	4.5%	7,656	7,389	267	3.5%
Valencia	31,826	30,283	1,543	4.8%	31,566	30,139	1,427	4.5%	31,232	30,211	1,021	3.3%
Farmington MSA 3/	58,696	56,652	2,044	3.5%	58,299	56,311	1,988	3.4%	57,531	56,047	1,484	2.6%
Las Cruces MSA 4/	91,544	87,835	3,709	4.1%	90,100	86,672	3,428	3.8%	88,649	85,836	2,813	3.2%
Santa Fe MSA 5/	79,827	77,016	2,811	3.5%	79,917	77,299	2,618	3.3%	78,803	76,849	1,954	2.5%
Catron	1,630	1,546	84	5.2%	1,596	1,539	57	3.6%	1,554	1,494	60	3.9%
Chaves	27,989	26,950	1,039	3.7%	27,693	26,691	1,002	3.6%	28,046	27,199	847	3.0%
Cibola	12,320	11,797	523	4.2%	12,280	11,772	508	4.1%	11,939	11,518	421	3.5%
Colfax	6,507	6,235	272	4.2%	6,517	6,268	249	3.8%	6,349	6,154	195	3.1%
Curry	21,636	21,025	611	2.8%	21,408	20,827	581	2.7%	21,613	21,108	505	2.3%
De Baca	861	832	29	3.4%	855	824	31	3.6%	857	828	29	3.4%
Eddy	27,800	27,067	733	2.6%	27,566	26,866	700	2.5%	26,353	25,726	627	2.4%
Grant	12,834	12,189	645	5.0%	12,648	12,060	588	4.6%	12,461	12,069	392	3.1%
Guadalupe	1,746	1,657	89	5.1%	1,705	1,622	83	4.9%	1,788	1,701	87	4.9%
Harding	438	429	9	2.1%	432	422	10	2.3%	421	411	10	2.4%
Hidalgo	3,024	2,930	94	3.1%	2,893	2,806	87	3.0%	2,977	2,912	65	2.2%
Lea	30,608	29,848	760	2.5%	30,077	29,351	726	2.4%	28,461	27,882	579	2.0%
Lincoln	11,358	10,989	369	3.2%	11,422	11,102	320	2.8%	10,939	10,656	283	2.6%
Los Alamos	10,116	9,846	270	2.7%	10,067	9,809	258	2.6%	10,343	10,155	188	1.8%
Luna	13,290	12,238	1,052	7.9%	13,599	12,576	1,023	7.5%	12,998	12,242	756	5.8%
McKinley	27,357	26,016	1,341	4.9%	26,953	25,679	1,274	4.7%	26,534	25,549	985	3.7%
Mora	2,087	1,930	157	7.5%	2,059	1,915	144	7.0%	2,067	1,948	119	5.8%
Otero	26,645	25,550	1,095	4.1%	26,173	25,190	983	3.8%	26,217	25,368	849	3.2%
Quay	4,012	3,843	169	4.2%	4,069	3,900	169	4.2%	3,989	3,850	139	3.5%
Rio Arriba	20,775	19,762	1,013	4.9%	20,705	19,757	948	4.6%	20,568	19,783	785	3.8%
Roosevelt	9,958	9,707	251	2.5%	9,838	9,597	241	2.4%	9,881	9,681	200	2.0%
San Miguel	13,627	13,031	596	4.4%	13,388	12,804	584	4.4%	13,841	13,368	473	3.4%
Sierra	6,085	5,876	209	3.4%	5,935	5,743	192	3.2%	5,888	5,721	167	2.8%
Socorro	9,582	9,284	298	3.1%	9,520	9,228	292	3.1%	9,434	9,187	247	2.6%
Taos	17,352	16,447	905	5.2%	17,415	16,575	840	4.8%	17,019	16,308	711	4.2%
Union	2,090	2,036	54	2.6%	2,123	2,075	48	2.3%	2,069	2,030	39	1.9%

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

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

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - San Juan County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County

5/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe County

Unemployment Rates in New Mexico (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

PRELIMINARY OCTOBER 2008			REVISED SEPTEMBER 2008			REVISED OCTOBER 2007		
AREAS	RANK	RATE	AREAS	RANK	RATE	AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	7.9%	LUNA	1	7.5%	LUNA	1	5.8%
MORA	2	7.5%	MORA	2	7.0%	MORA	2	5.8%
TAOS	3	5.2%	GUADALUPE	3	4.9%	GUADALUPE	3	4.9%
CATRON	3	5.2%	TAOS	4	4.8%	TAOS	4	4.2%
GUADALUPE	5	5.1%	MCKINLEY	5	4.7%	CATRON	5	3.9%
GRANT	6	5.0%	GRANT	6	4.6%	RIO ARRIBA	6	3.8%
MCKINLEY	7	4.9%	RIO ARRIBA	6	4.6%	MCKINLEY	7	3.7%
RIO ARRIBA	7	4.9%	SAN MIGUEL	8	4.4%	CIBOLA	8	3.5%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	9	4.4%	QUAY	9	4.2%	QUAY	8	3.5%
SAN MIGUEL	9	4.4%	CIBOLA	10	4.1%	SAN MIGUEL	10	3.4%
CIBOLA	11	4.2%	ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	10	4.1%	DE BACA	10	3.4%
QUAY	11	4.2%	STATEWIDE		3.8%	OTERO	12	3.2%
COLFAX	11	4.2%	COLFAX	12	3.8%	ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	12	3.2%
OTERO	14	4.1%	LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	12	3.8%	LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	12	3.2%
STATEWIDE		4.1%	OTERO	12	3.8%	GRANT	15	3.1%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	14	4.1%	DE BACA	15	3.6%	COLFAX	15	3.1%
CHAVES	16	3.7%	CHAVES	15	3.6%	STATEWIDE		3.1%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	17	3.5%	CATRON	15	3.6%	CHAVES	17	3.0%
FARMINGTON MSA 2/	17	3.5%	FARMINGTON MSA 2/	18	3.4%	SIERRA	18	2.8%
SIERRA	19	3.4%	SANTA FE MSA 4/	19	3.3%	SOCORRO	19	2.6%
DE BACA	19	3.4%	SIERRA	20	3.2%	LINCOLN	19	2.6%
LINCOLN	21	3.2%	SOCORRO	21	3.1%	FARMINGTON MSA 2/	19	2.6%
SOCORRO	22	3.1%	HIDALGO	22	3.0%	SANTA FE MSA 4/	22	2.5%
HIDALGO	22	3.1%	LINCOLN	23	2.8%	EDDY	23	2.4%
CURRY	24	2.8%	CURRY	24	2.7%	HARDING	23	2.4%
LOS ALAMOS	25	2.7%	LOS ALAMOS	25	2.6%	CURRY	25	2.3%
EDDY	26	2.6%	EDDY	26	2.5%	HIDALGO	26	2.2%
UNION	26	2.6%	ROOSEVELT	27	2.4%	LEA	27	2.0%
ROOSEVELT	28	2.5%	LEA	27	2.4%	ROOSEVELT	27	2.0%
LEA	28	2.5%	HARDING	29	2.3%	UNION	29	1.9%
HARDING	30	2.1%	UNION	29	2.3%	LOS ALAMOS	30	1.8%

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

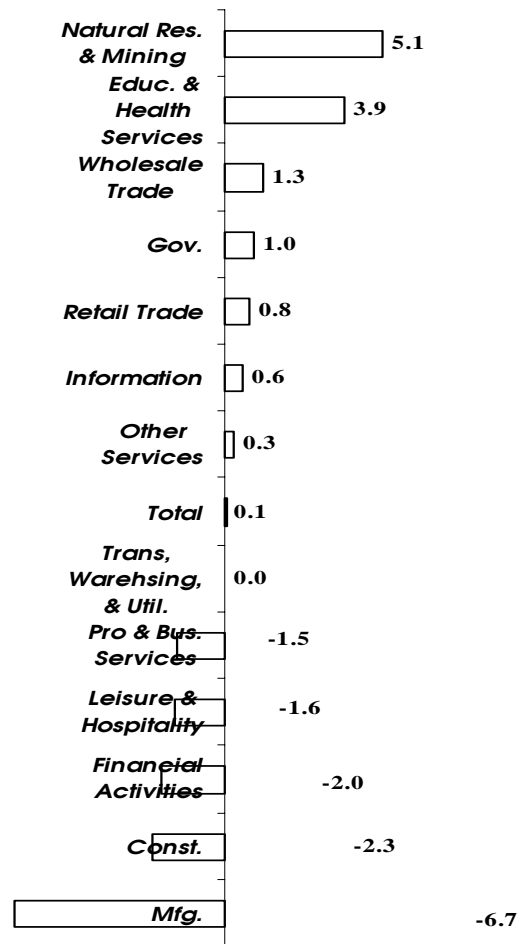
Unemployment Rate by State (Seasonally Adjusted)

October 2008			October 2007		
State	Rank	Rate	State	Rank	Rate
Michigan	1	9.3	Michigan	1	7.5
Rhode Island	1	9.3	Mississippi	2	6.3
California	3	8.2	Alaska	3	6.2
South Carolina	4	8.0	South Carolina	4	6.0
Nevada	5	7.6	California	5	5.7
Alaska	6	7.4	District of Columbia	5	5.7
District of Columbia	6	7.4	Ohio	5	5.7
Illinois	8	7.3	Arkansas	8	5.5
Ohio	8	7.3	Kentucky	9	5.4
Oregon	8	7.3	Missouri	9	5.4
Mississippi	11	7.2	Oregon	9	5.4
Florida	12	7.0	Illinois	12	5.3
Georgia	12	7.0	Nevada	13	5.1
North Carolina	12	7.0	Rhode Island	13	5.1
Tennessee	12	7.0	Tennessee	15	5.0
Kentucky	16	6.8	Maine	16	4.9
Connecticut	17	6.5	Connecticut	17	4.8
Missouri	17	6.5	United States		4.8
United States		6.5	Wisconsin	17	4.8
Indiana	19	6.4	North Carolina	19	4.7
Washington	20	6.3	West Virginia	19	4.7
Arizona	21	6.1	Minnesota	21	4.6
Minnesota	22	6.0	New York	21	4.6
New Jersey	22	6.0	Washington	21	4.6
Pennsylvania	24	5.8	Georgia	24	4.5
Colorado	25	5.7	Indiana	24	4.5
Maine	25	5.7	Pennsylvania	26	4.4
New York	25	5.7	Florida	27	4.3
Alabama	28	5.6	Massachusetts	27	4.3
Texas	28	5.6	Oklahoma	27	4.3
Louisiana	30	5.5	Texas	27	4.3
Massachusetts	30	5.5	New Jersey	31	4.2
Arkansas	32	5.4	Kansas	32	4.0
Delaware	32	5.4	Arizona	33	3.9
Idaho	34	5.3	Colorado	33	3.9
Vermont	35	5.2	Vermont	33	3.9
Wisconsin	36	5.1	Iowa	36	3.8
Maryland	37	5.0	Louisiana	37	3.6
Kansas	38	4.9	Maryland	37	3.6
Montana	39	4.8	Alabama	39	3.5
West Virginia	40	4.7	Delaware	39	3.5
Hawaii	41	4.5	New Hampshire	41	3.3
Iowa	42	4.4	New Mexico	41	3.3
New Mexico	42	4.4	Montana	43	3.2
Virginia	42	4.4	North Dakota	43	3.2
Oklahoma	45	4.3	Virginia	43	3.2
New Hampshire	46	4.1	Nebraska	46	3.1
Nebraska	47	3.6	South Dakota	47	2.9
Utah	48	3.5	Wyoming	47	2.9
North Dakota	49	3.4	Hawaii	49	2.8
South Dakota	50	3.3	Utah	49	2.8
Wyoming	50	3.3	Idaho	51	2.7

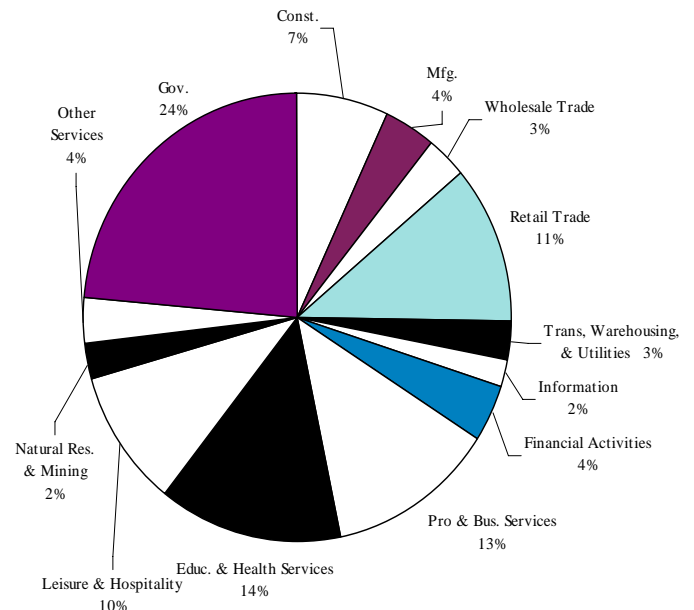
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

New Mexico Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Annual Growth Rates by Industry



NAICS Industries



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Oct-08	Sep-08	Oct-07	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	850,900	853,300	849,900	-2,400	1,000
GOODS-PRODUCING	113,900	114,900	116,800	-1,000	-2,900
SERVICE-PROVIDING	737,000	738,400	733,100	-1,400	3,900
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	20,600	20,500	19,600	100	1,000
CONSTRUCTION	58,500	59,200	59,900	-700	-1,400
MANUFACTURING	34,800	35,200	37,300	-400	-2,500
WHOLESALE TRADE	24,300	24,300	24,000	0	300
RETAIL TRADE	96,800	96,600	96,000	200	800
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	25,300	25,400	25,300	-100	0
INFORMATION	16,300	16,800	16,200	-500	100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	34,500	34,500	35,200	0	-700
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	107,400	108,400	109,000	-1,000	-1,600
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	117,300	116,500	112,900	800	4,400
Educational Services	14,300	14,000	14,100	300	200
Health Care and Social Assistance	103,000	102,500	98,800	500	4,200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	85,900	88,000	87,300	-2,100	-1,400
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7,900	8,200	7,900	-300	0
Accommodation and Food Services	78,000	79,800	79,400	-1,800	-1,400
OTHER SERVICES	29,100	29,300	29,000	-200	100
GOVERNMENT	200,100	198,600	198,200	1,500	1,900
Federal Government	30,400	30,800	30,200	-400	200
State Government	61,800	60,800	61,700	1,000	100
<i>State Government Education</i>	<i>28,800</i>	<i>27,400</i>	<i>28,900</i>	<i>1,400</i>	<i>-100</i>
Local Government	107,900	107,000	106,300	900	1,600
<i>Local Government Education</i>	<i>58,800</i>	<i>57,600</i>	<i>57,700</i>	<i>1,200</i>	<i>1,100</i>

ALBUQUERQUE	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Oct-08	Sep-08	Oct-07	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	394,900	395,400	396,400	-500	-1,500
GOODS-PRODUCING	50,700	50,900	52,900	-200	-2,200
SERVICE-PROVIDING	344,200	344,500	343,500	-300	700
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING & CONSTRUCTION	28,800	29,100	29,600	-300	-800
MANUFACTURING	21,900	21,800	23,300	100	-1,400
WHOLESALE TRADE	13,200	13,200	13,300	0	-100
RETAIL TRADE	44,600	44,600	44,500	0	100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	10,800	10,800	11,100	0	-300
INFORMATION	9,200	9,200	9,000	0	200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	18,800	18,700	19,200	100	-400
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	63,400	64,000	64,400	-600	-1,000
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	50,600	50,600	49,300	0	1,300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	39,000	39,500	39,700	-500	-700
OTHER SERVICES	12,500	12,500	12,300	0	200
GOVERNMENT	82,100	81,400	80,700	700	1,400
Federal Government	14,500	14,500	14,400	0	100
State Government	26,700	26,300	26,600	400	100
Local Government	40,900	40,600	39,700	300	1,200

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

LAS CRUCES MSA	Preliminary Oct-08	Revised Sep-08	Revised Oct-07	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	70,700	70,200	69,300	500	1,400
GOODS-PRODUCING	7,800	7,800	8,000	0	-200
SERVICE-PROVIDING	62,900	62,400	61,300	500	1,600
NATURAL RESOURCES MINING & CONSTRUCTION	4,500	4,600	4,800	-100	-300
MANUFACTURING	3,300	3,200	3,200	100	100
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,400	1,400	1,300	0	100
RETAIL TRADE	7,300	7,300	7,200	0	100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	1,800	1,800	1,900	0	-100
INFORMATION	1,000	1,000	1,100	0	-100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,500	2,500	2,300	0	200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	6,700	6,700	5,900	0	800
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	11,200	11,200	10,900	0	300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	7,300	7,400	7,300	-100	0
OTHER SERVICES	1,700	1,700	1,500	0	200
GOVERNMENT	22,000	21,400	21,900	600	100
Federal	3,800	3,800	3,700	0	100
State	9,300	8,800	9,300	500	0
Local	8,900	8,800	8,900	100	0
SANTA FE MSA	Preliminary Oct-08	Revised Sep-08	Revised Oct-07	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	65,300	66,000	65,500	-700	-200
GOODS-PRODUCING	5,700	5,700	6,000	0	-300
SERVICE-PROVIDING	59,600	60,300	59,500	-700	100
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTRUCTION	4,800	4,800	5,000	0	-200
MANUFACTURING	900	900	1,000	0	-100
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	9,200	9,200	8,900	0	300
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	700	700	700	0	0
INFORMATION	1,800	2,300	1,600	-500	200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,800	2,800	3,000	0	-200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,200	5,300	5,700	-100	-500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	10,100	10,100	9,900	0	200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	9,400	9,500	9,200	-100	200
OTHER SERVICES	2,900	3,000	2,800	-100	100
GOVERNMENT	16,300	16,200	16,500	100	-200
Federal	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0
State	8,200	8,200	8,200	0	0
Local	7,100	7,000	7,300	100	-200
FARMINGTON MSA	Preliminary Oct-08	Revised Sep-08	Revised Oct-07	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	53,400	53,400	53,100	0	300
TOTAL PRIVATE	41,800	42,000	41,300	-200	500
GOODS-PRODUCING	12,900	13,100	12,700	-200	200
SERVICE-PROVIDING	40,500	40,300	40,400	200	100
PRIVATE SERVICE-PROVIDING	28,900	28,900	28,600	0	300
GOVERNMENT	11,600	11,400	11,800	200	-200
Federal	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
State	500	500	500	0	0
Local	9,600	9,400	9,800	200	-200

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

- Seasonally Adjusted -

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Oct-08	Revised Sep-08	Monthly Change
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT*	846,300	846,500	-200
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	20,500	20,400	100
CONSTRUCTION	57,400	57,600	-200
MANUFACTURING	34,200	34,400	-200
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	145,600	145,900	-300
INFORMATION (Not Seasonally Adjusted)	16,300	16,800	-500
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	106,400	107,500	-1,100
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	34,600	34,500	100
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	116,400	115,700	700
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	86,800	86,300	500
OTHER SERVICES	29,700	29,600	100
GOVERNMENT	198,400	197,800	600

* 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

NEW MEXICO	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Oct 08	Sep 08	Oct 07	Oct 08	Sep 08	Oct 07	Oct 08	Sep 08	Oct 07
CONSTRUCTION	\$685.31	\$677.20	\$665.66	40.1	40.0	40.1	\$17.09	\$16.93	\$16.60
MANUFACTURING	\$583.42	\$578.68	\$561.44	39.5	39.1	38.8	\$14.77	\$14.80	\$14.47
WHOLESALE TRADE	\$550.60	\$554.04	\$538.79	35.8	36.0	35.1	\$15.38	\$15.39	\$15.35
RETAIL TRADE	\$367.55	\$373.89	\$368.88	32.7	33.0	32.5	\$11.24	\$11.33	\$11.35

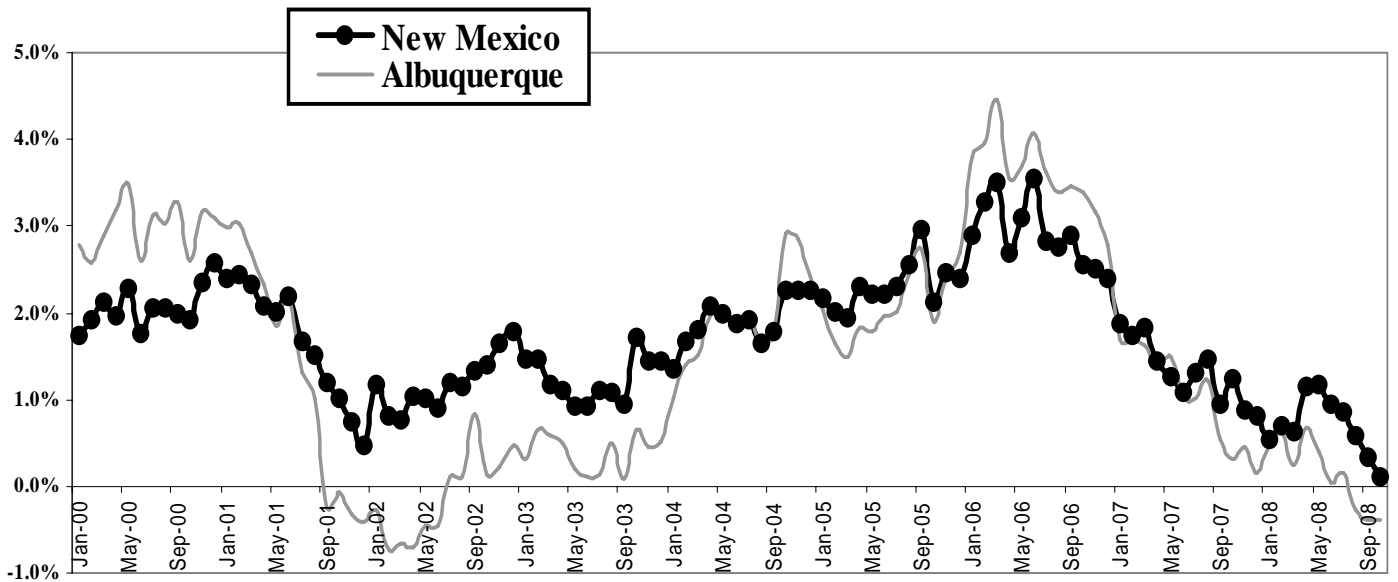
Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The average earnings are "gross" reflecting not 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	
	Oct 08	Sep 08	Oct 07	Month to Month	Year to Year
CPI-U	216.6	218.8	209.0	-1.0%	3.7%
CPI-W	212.2	214.9	204.3	-1.3%	3.8%

*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 Occupational Shortages and Surpluses*

Shortages	
Statewide Summary	
Assemblers & Fabricators	Security Guards
Food Preparation & Serving Workers	Stock Clerks
Grounds Maintenance Workers	Teacher Assistants
Helpers--Production Workers	Waiters & Waitresses
Home Health Aides	
Insurance Sales Agents	
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	
Nursing Aides, Orderlies & Attendants	
Personal & Home Care Aides	
Albuquerque MSA	
First-Line Supervisors/Managers	
Hotel, Motel, & Resort Desk Clerks	
Janitors & Cleaners	
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	
Personal & Home Care Aides	
Personnel Recruiters	
Registered Nurses	
Sales & Related Workers	
Security Guards	
Las Cruces MSA	
Accountants	
Craft Artists	
Heating & Air Condition Mech & Installers	
Helpers--Construction Trades	
Logisticians	
Management Analysts	
Personal & Home Care Aides	
Santa Fe MSA	
Bus Drivers	Tax Preparers
Cashiers	Truck Drivers
Gaming Change Persons & Booth Cashiers	
Gaming Dealers	
Gaming Service Workers	
Gaming Surv. Officers & Gaming Investigators	
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technicians	
Personal & Home Care Aides	
Police Patrol Officers	
Slot Key Persons	
Farmington MSA	
Helpers--Production Workers	
Home Health Aides	
Hotel, Motel & Resort Desk Clerks	
Janitors & Cleaners	
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	
Security Guards	
Truck Drivers	

Surpluses	
Statewide Summary	
Accountants	Office Clerks
Administrative Services Managers	Production Workers
Assemblers & Fabricators	Truck Drivers
Bookkeeping, Acct & Auditing Clerks	
Construction Carpenters	
Construction Managers	
Exec Secretaries & Admin Assistants	
General & Operations Managers	
Maintenance & Repair Workers	
Managers	
Albuquerque MSA	
Accountants	Office Clerks
Administrative Services Managers	Sales Representatives
Assemblers & Fabricators	Truck Drivers
Construction Laborers	
Construction Managers	
Exec Secretaries & Admin Assistants	
General & Operations Managers	
Inspectors, Testers & Sorters	
Maintenance & Repair Workers	
Office & Administrative Support Workers	
Las Cruces MSA	
Construction Laborers	Truck Drivers
Home Health Aides	
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	
Cashiers	
Construction Carpenters	
Cooks	
Exec Secretaries & Admin Assistants	
Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	
Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	
Stock Clerks	
Santa Fe MSA	
Business Operations Specialists	
Chief Executives	
Construction Carpenters	
Exec Secretaries & Admin Assistants	
First-Line Supervisors/Managers	
Telecommunications Equip Installers & Repairers	
Farmington MSA	
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	
Cashiers	
Customer Service Representatives	
Managers	
Office Clerks	
Retail Salespersons	

*Based on posted job orders & resumes entered in the NM Workforce Connection System by occupation in the last 30 Days (November 25, 2008)

New Mexico Area Economic Activity

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

Statewide:

Mervyn's LLC, which filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in July, has started liquidation sales at its remaining 149 department stores as it winds down its business. The chain operated three stores in New Mexico—one in Santa Fe and two in Albuquerque. The Santa Fe Mervyn's opened in 1985 and employed about 75 people. The Albuquerque stores were located in the Cottonwood Mall and at Coronado Center.

Linens 'n Things, a home furnishings retailer, has begun liquidating its remaining stores. The company's New Mexico locations are at 4700 Cutler Avenue NE and 3731 Ellison Road NW in Albuquerque and 3525 Zafarano Drive in Santa Fe. Liquidation sales were started in mid-October, and stores should be completely closed by January 1. According to its website, Linens 'n Things operates more than 500 stores in 47 states. About fifty people were employed in the company's Albuquerque stores.

Central WIA Area:

Albuquerque Area, Bernalillo County:

Wal-Mart is building a new 195,000-square-foot green store, the first of its kind in Albuquerque. The location, at 2266 Wyoming NE, is near the busy Menaul/Wyoming intersection and across from the Hoffmantown Shopping Center, among the oldest strip malls in the city. The nearest existing Wal-Mart location is just three miles away, at Eubank and I-40. Wal-Mart began experimenting with green stores in 2005 at test locations in Colorado and Texas. The company was able to reduce its carbon footprint and save electricity by using radiant floor heating, photovoltaic skylights, and wind turbines. The test locations also featured rainwater collection systems. The new Duke City facility will include some of these features and is expected to generate between 300 and 400 jobs.

Construction is scheduled to begin in January on **Unser Crossing**, a 500,000-square-foot project that will be the largest shopping center in Albuquerque's southwest quadrant. The \$15.3 million deal between Pittsburgh-based Armstrong Development and the Unser Brothers Real Property Trust took more than a year to complete. The project's main anchor will be a 150,000-square-foot Lowe's home improvement store. CVS Pharmacy will also be part of the project.

Moriarty Area, Torrance County:

The Connection, one of Torrance County's largest employers, will close on December 6. The call center opened in 2000 and at one point employed about 400 workers. The closure was prompted in part by the loss of one of the company's largest clients in late October. About 150 full- and part-time workers will be laid off.

Rio Rancho Area, Sandoval County:

The **Victoria's Secret** call center intends to add about 360 new employees for sales and customer service positions. The company

has already started hiring, and some of the new employees are currently in training. About 120 of the new positions will be for seasonal employees as the company ramps up for the holiday season. The new hires will give the call center a total of about 700 employees. The call center, which takes an average of 10,000 calls per day, has been in Rio Rancho since 1997. The company is especially looking for bilingual employees. Those interested should visit the "career opportunities" section at www.limitedbrands.com or apply in person at 7001 Zenith in Rio Rancho.

Southwestern WIA Area:

Las Cruces Area, Doña Ana County:

Las Cruces' third Quiznos Sub location is expected to open in late November. The store's sign is already up, and work has started on the new eatery in the plaza at 3125 N Main Street, next door to Domino's Pizza. The store's owners hope to open around Thanksgiving, employing approximately 12 to 14 people.

After a little more than a year in business, the **Shoe Pavilion** store at the Mesilla Valley Mall will be closing. Shoe Pavilion Inc. filed for bankruptcy this summer, announcing that it planned to close only some of its 117 stores. However, the company recently decided to close all of its remaining 64 stores. The Las Cruces store will remain open long enough to liquidate the inventory, probably about ten days to two weeks.

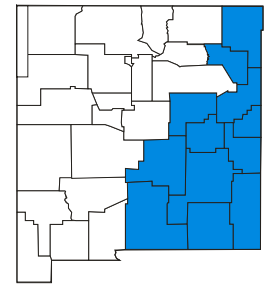
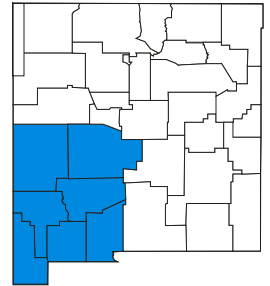
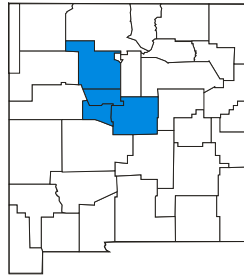
Silver City Area, Grant County:

Verety LLC, which employs more than 400 people, is using Western New Mexico University's computer labs to train remote order specialists. The company provides one client, McDonald's, with employees who take food orders over the Internet. Once they complete their training and pass a test, employees are supplied with a computer and a headset to do their jobs from home.

Eastern WIA Area:

Hobbs Area, Lea County:

International Isotopes, an eastern Idaho company, is aiming to build a \$55 million plant to extract industrial gases from depleted uranium somewhere in the West. The company has narrowed its search to two sites in Lea County, New Mexico; a site in nearby Andrews County, Texas; and a site in Idaho. One of the two New Mexico sites is near Eunice and the other is on the Carlsbad Highway, west of Hobbs. Site location studies for the new UF6 processing facility note that all of these locations have many excellent attributes and that each would be a good choice for the company's new facility. International Isotopes will conduct a series of local meetings with individuals and groups and



hold open house meetings in each location as part of the site selection process.

Tucumcari Area, Quay County:

Due to delays in the refurbishing of the Tucumcari Ethanol Plant, it will probably be early 2009 before the **Route 66 Ethanol** plant becomes operational. When the plant is operating at full capacity, it is slated to produce 10 million gallons of ethanol per year and employ more than 30 individuals. According to estimates, the plant is expected to consume 3.8 million bushels of milo and/or corn and produce 84,000 tons of wet distillers grain annually. SOZO Ethanol LCC of Texas originally purchased the plant in August 2006 from the Greater Tucumcari Economic Development Corp.

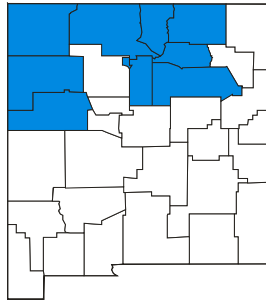
Portales Area, Roosevelt County:

More than 20 full- and part-time jobs will be created when **Papa Murphy's Take 'N' Bake Pizza** opens in Portales next spring. The pizzeria will be located at the corner of West First Street and Avenue C. Papa Murphy's is a national restaurant chain that makes pizzas to order for cooking later at home.

Northern WIA Area:

Los Alamos Area, Los Alamos County:

Los Alamos National Laboratory has awarded a five-year, \$65 million contract to **TSAY Construction and Services LLC** to provide custodial services. TSAY is owned and operated by Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo. The award is LANL's largest ever to an American Indian business. Work should start in early November.



Church Rock Area, McKinley County:

Construction of the **Fire Rock Casino** is back on track and the facility is set to open on November 15. The originally planned October opening was scuttled when the New Mexico Department of Transportation took three months longer than expected to review the site's construction permit. The site also lost time in finding enough fill dirt for the parking lot. The lot had to be lifted six feet and leveled, requiring 180,000 cubic yards of dirt fill, well more than twice what was originally estimated. The casino's public opening is set for Wednesday, November 19 at 4 p.m., but officials are rushing to prepare for its debut to a by-invitation-only VIP audience on Sunday, November 16 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Aztec Area, San Juan County:

San Juan Regional Medical Center is remodeling the old 6,100-square-foot post office building at 120 Llano Street in Aztec. SJRMC will open a rural health clinic at the site to serve the area's growing number of Medicare recipients.

Farmington Area, San Juan County:

Defined Fitness has opened its first location outside the Albuquerque metropolitan area at the old Furr's grocery store in Farmington. The 37,000-square-foot facility, at 1700 East 20th

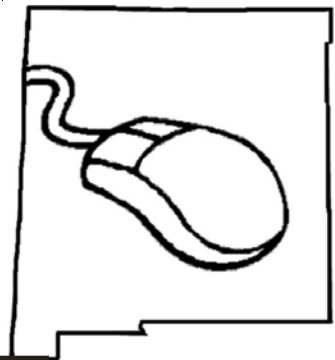
Street, has exercise equipment and free weights, an indoor pool, a hot tub, a sauna, and a steam room. The center offers classes in yoga, Pilates, salsa, hip-hop, and kickboxing. The new facility brings the total number of Defined locations to five. The company is planning a major expansion that will include three new gyms in Albuquerque and possible sites in Colorado Springs, Santa Fe, Los Lunas, and Las Cruces. The Farmington fitness center will employ 30 to 50 people.

Santa Fe Area, Santa Fe County:

Thornburg Mortgage has laid off 29 sales and support staff in its home-lending division, following a year of what a statement from the firm deemed "unprecedented turmoil in the mortgage banking and credit markets." The layoff was the company's first ever, and staff members were surprised by the move. Of the 29 positions eliminated, about half were in Santa Fe and the rest were located elsewhere around the country. The company now employs 156 people in Santa Fe and at other locations. ☒

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