

New Mexico Labor Market Report

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Volume 32, No. 9, October 31, 2003

HIGHLIGHTS — September 2003

...New Mexico's over-the-year job growth was 1.6 percent in September 2003 — a gain of 12,000 jobs since last year. The state's rate of job growth, while not particularly strong, remains one of the highest in the nation.

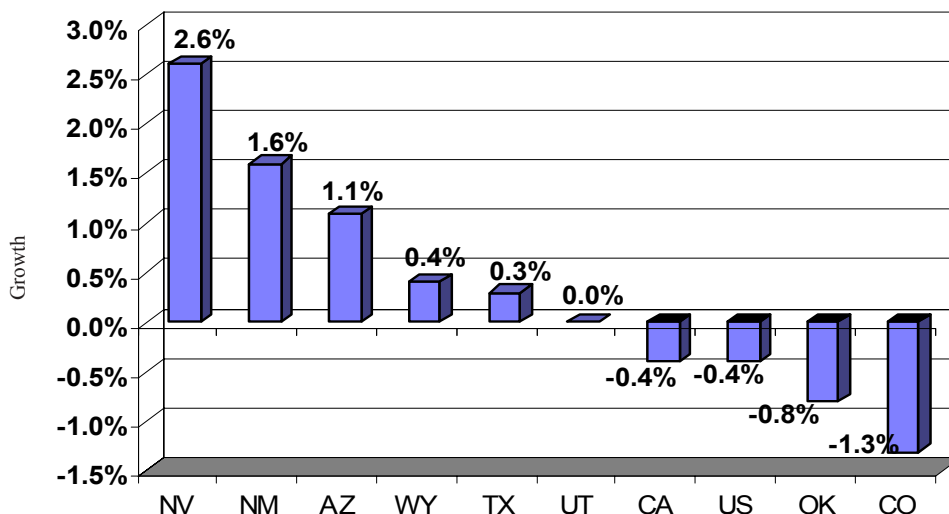
...Over the year, moderate growth continued in the Albuquerque MSA with an annual increase of 1.8 percent or 6,500 jobs.

...The over-the-year rate of job growth for the Las Cruces MSA has rebounded back to the highest level the area has seen for six months — 3.2 percent. Record fall semester student enrollment at New Mexico State University has helped boost employment levels. Since this time last year the area has added 1,900 jobs.

...Over the year job growth in the Santa Fe MSA has been below the statewide average since April. Job growth currently stands at 1.5 percent, which is far below the 3.3 percent average earlier this year.

Current Regional Nonfarm Employment Growth

September 2003 over September 2002 - Not Seasonally Adjusted



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New Mexico Labor Force and Payroll Employment

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.1 percent in September 2003, unchanged from last month's rate. New Mexico's unemployment rate has increased over the year from a rate of 5.5 percent last September. Nationally the unemployment rate also remained at 6.1 percent, the same as New Mexico's rate.

The September employment count increased by 3,600 jobs compared to August. The increase was on the low side of what was expected, but was similar to last year's trend. In September, state and local government added jobs at schools and colleges around the state, almost returning to employment levels set prior to the summer break. Private educational services also added jobs during the month. Offsetting the gains were seasonal losses in the leisure & hospitality industry and job losses in *other services*. The *other services* industry includes summer youth camps and the Philmont Scout Ranch in Northern New Mexico. Other non-seasonal industries mostly lost a small number of jobs in September. The opening of two new Wal-mart supercenters in the southern part of the state last month did not add enough employment to stop the loss of 600 retail trade jobs in September, which is never a strong month for retail employment.

New Mexico's over-the-year job growth was 1.6 percent in September 2003 – a gain of 12,000 jobs since last year. The state's rate of job growth, while not particularly strong, remains one of the highest in the nation. We were third highest along with Hawaii. The two fastest growing states were Nevada and Georgia. Nationally the economy has lost 507,000 jobs over the year and is down by 0.4 percent.

In New Mexico, manufacturing is the only industry to have lost a large number of jobs. The industry is currently down 1,300 since last year, a 3.3 percent drop. The job losses are not a new happening; the industry is down 3,300 jobs from two years ago, and down 5,300 jobs from three years ago.

Four other industries have lowered the overall rate of job growth by not adding any employment since last year. These industries are wholesale trade; transportation, warehousing & utilities; information; and professional & business services. Most of these industries have been weak for a while, except for professional & business services, which has shed a number of jobs this summer. The closure of the Stream International call center in Silver City in July caused the loss of hundreds of jobs. A number of employee leasing establishments also have reduced employment below last year's levels. The only component of professional & business services that has added employment is *professional, scientific, & technical services*, which includes scientific research and development.

Construction has recently overtaken educational & health services to become the state's fastest growing industry, having not long ago

been one of the state's weakest industries. As of September 2003, employment in the construction industry was up 3,000 jobs from a year ago, a 6.6 percent increase. Despite interest rates that have increased from record low levels, residential construction remains very strong. Even in the hardest hit non-residential building and heavy and civil engineering components, employment levels have recovered from the worst of the industry's job losses. Specialty trade contractors, which is the largest industry component, has increased 8.7 percent. This component includes the subcontractors that are typically employed by homebuilders for specific activities such as site preparation and electrical work.

The state's largest private industry, educational & health services, continues to add the most jobs, increasing 4,700 jobs since this time last year, growing 4.9 percent. The home health services component started expanding in the summer of 2000 and has since tripled in size. Over the last year, home health services added 2,100 jobs. Home health care employers are expanding services in response to Medicaid funding for the personal care option, hiring caregivers to care for qualifying Medicaid recipients with self-care limitations. The effect has been to create hundreds of new part-time jobs in communities throughout the state. Other components of educational & health services have also increased employment faster than most other industries. Social assistance, which includes privately run agencies providing assistance directly to clients such as youth services and child day care, has increased 6.5 percent over the year, adding 1,200 jobs.

In July natural resources & mining ended an almost two-year streak of jobs losses. Earlier this year the industry had been down almost 2,000 jobs. The industry has since become the state's third fastest growing industry, up 2.9 percent from last year's relatively low level. Sustained higher prices for both oil and natural gas are responsible for the industry's improvement. Still, the industry remains well below its 1990 employment level.

The leisure & hospitality industry added 1,800 jobs since last year. Most of the jobs were at full-service restaurants, which increased 1,200 compared to the same time last year. Retail trade employment has grown at a rate that is below the overall rate of job growth in the state, with weakness in most components except for general merchandise stores.

The over-the-year growth of government employment has recently slowed to the lowest level since Census 2000 employment ended. Government employment had kept the state's economy strong for a while but has recently grown more slowly than the private sector. Total government jobs have increased 0.7 percent since last year, adding just 1,400 jobs. Federal employment has fallen by 400 jobs, while local government has increased just 600 jobs. State government employment has fared a little better and has increased 1,200 jobs.

New Mexico	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Sep 2003	Aug 2003	Sep 2002	Aug 2003	Sep 2002
Seasonally Adjusted Civilian Labor Force	900,400	898,700	880,300	+1,700	+20,100
Employment	845,500	844,300	831,900	+1,200	+13,600
Unemployment	54,900	54,400	48,400	+500	+6,500
Rate	6.1%	6.1%	5.5%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	5.9%	6.0%	5.4%		

Albuquerque MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Bernalillo, Sandoval & Valencia Counties)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Albuquerque area crept up to 5.1 percent in September, three tenths of a percentage point higher than August's rate of 4.8 percent. A year ago, the unemployment rate was 4.9 percent. The number of unemployed individuals in the Albuquerque MSA has risen by 1,600 over the year and by nearly 5,000 over the last two years.

Payroll employment edged up by 1,300 in September for growth of 0.4 percent. Only two economic sectors posted employment increases, but those gains were large enough to keep overall growth within positive territory. Seven other sectors saw decreased employment over the month and three were unchanged. Government grew by 2,800, returning to levels that existed before the summer reductions of school-related employees. Adding to the growth in education-related employment was the annual spike in hiring for the New Mexico State Fair. The only other sector to experience growth in September was educational & health services (up 500), largely due to seasonal increases in private education at the start of the school year.

Partially offsetting the gains were declines of 600 in retail trade and 500 in leisure & hospitality. The greater part of these losses was seasonal in nature, as tourism began to wind down for the year. Manufacturing employment was down by 100, reversing last month's increase. A decline of 300 in construction employment marked the first loss for this sector since last January. Small over-the-month declines were also seen in information (-200), financial activities (-100), and professional & business services (-200). Wholesale trade was unchanged over the month, as was the miscellaneous category of other services.

Over the year, moderate growth continued in the metro area with an annual increase of 1.8 percent or 6,500 jobs. All but two of the 12 sectors have expanded their payrolls since last September. Construction supplied the largest number of new jobs, growing 1,400 or 6.1 percent. Recently one of the area's weakest sectors, construction employment has roared back to life with renewed vigor. Construction employment has grown steadily for several months now, fueled by a strong resurgence in home building. Recent fluctuations in home mortgage rates have failed to deter this sector from its upward trajectory. For the first six months of 2003, building permit activity for single-family homes in the Albuquerque MSA was 20.6 percent higher than for the same period a year ago. Early comparisons for third quarter activity also appear favorable.

Manufacturing losses have diminished to 500 or 2.0 percent over the year, dropping from a peak decline of 3,500 in March 2002. The losses were centered in computer and electronic products.

Albuquerque area manufacturing employment is currently faring better than the state (down 3.3 percent in September), as well as the U.S. (down 4.2 percent). Employment has remained fairly steady in recent months and has not suffered any significant declines since last March.

Retail trade was up by a scant 100 jobs (0.2 percent) over the year, in what is hoped is just a momentary respite from the stronger growth seen in the last several months. Retail trade growth has lately been powered by building material & garden equipment stores, where growth has averaged nearly 14 percent for the first three quarters of 2003. This sub-sector will receive an additional boost next year with the announced opening of a new Home Depot in Rio Rancho. Wholesale trade added 300 jobs for the fourth consecutive month of growth, a positive indication that recovery from its recent slump is firmly underway. Between April 2001 and May 2003, wholesale trade endured 26 consecutive months of over-the-year declines.

Educational & health services continued to grow at a rapid pace, up 3.1 percent from a year ago. Most of the 1,300 new jobs were in the health services portion, thanks to strong growth in home health care, and, to a lesser extent, in hospitals. Employment in home health care has benefited from the Medicaid personal care option, which allows payment to persons caring for qualifying recipients who continue to live at home.

Strong growth in food services was the major force behind a solid gain of 3.4 percent in the leisure & hospitality sector. In the last year or so, several large national restaurant chains have opened in the Albuquerque MSA, averaging about 100 new jobs each. The roaring success of these establishments has convinced others to locate in the area, some of which are yet to be built. While the restaurant market may be nearing its saturation point, there still appears to be some room left for growth.

Professional & business services moved ahead by 900, due largely to increases in scientific research & development, temporary employment services, and business support. Scientific research & development has benefited from the present emphasis on national security, which has boosted growth at Sandia National Laboratory and its many contractors.

Government employment grew 1,300 or 1.8 percent, with the state component responsible for three quarters of the increase. Employment gains in state government were largely related to increases at the University of New Mexico as well as in state run hospitals. Most of the growth in local government came from public school employment.

Albuquerque <u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	Prel.		Revised		Change From	
	<u>Sep 2003</u>	<u>Aug 2003</u>	<u>Sep 2002</u>	<u>Aug 2003</u>	<u>Sep 2002</u>	
Civilian Labor Force	401,200	402,200	391,500	-1,000	+9,700	
Employment	380,600	383,000	372,500	-2,400	+8,100	
Unemployment	20,600	19,200	19,000	+1,400	+1,600	
Rate	5.1%	4.8%	4.9%			
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	5.3%	5.3%	5.0%			

Las Cruces MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Doña Ana County)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the Las Cruces MSA increased to 7.3 percent in September 2003, up slightly from August's rate of 7.1 percent. A year ago the area's unemployment rate was 6.6 percent.

The Las Cruces economy gained another 700 jobs in September 2003, returning to employment levels reflective of school being back in session. This month's employment gains were all education-related and came from state and local government. State government, which includes New Mexico State University, added 800 jobs. Local government hiring in local school districts added another 200 jobs. The only other changes during the month were the loss of 100 jobs in each of three private sector industries. These industries were wholesale trade, financial activities, and education & health services.

The over-the-year rate of job growth for the Las Cruces area has rebounded back to the highest level the area has seen for six months ó 3.2 percent. Record fall semester student enrollment at New Mexico State University has helped boost employment levels. Since this time last year the area has added 1,900 jobs. Six industries have contributed to the job gain, four mostly smaller industries have stayed at last year's employment level, and two industries have lost a small number of jobs.

Government employment is about a third of the area's workforce, a similar proportion to the size of the government sector in Santa Fe. State government, which in Las Cruces is dominated by New Mexico State University, has grown 7.1 percent over the year, adding 600 jobs. This increase in state government employment

increases total government employment 3.5 percent, even with relatively flat employment growth in the other branches of government. Local government has added just 100 jobs and federal government remains at last year's level.

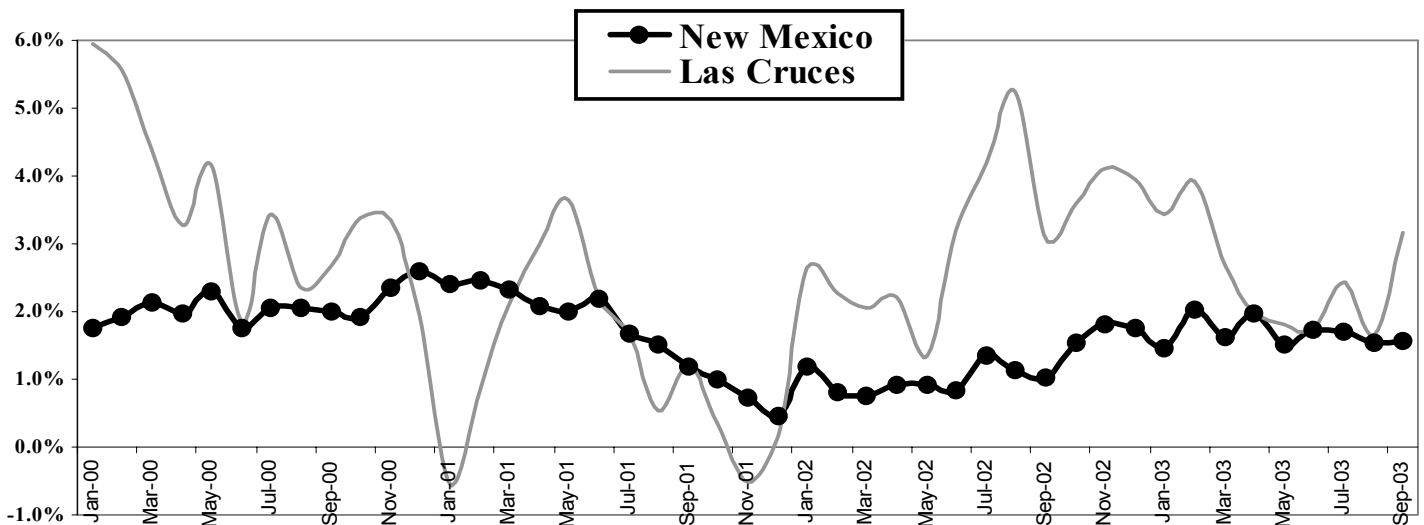
Following the trend in other areas of the state, the educational & health services industry has added the most employment, increasing 600 jobs since last year. Most of the new employment is working in health care, much of it in home health care. Also the area's new hospital, which opened last year, has provided a net gain in jobs to the community despite reductions at competing hospitals in the area.

Retail trade has done better in Las Cruces than in most other parts of the state, increased by 300 jobs since last year, growing 4.6 percent. Leisure & hospitality industries increased 200 jobs, all working in food service and drinking places. The increase makes for a 4.3 percent increase in food service & drinking places. The natural resources, mining & construction industry (mostly construction employment in Las Cruces), gained 200 jobs. Another 100 jobs were added to transportation, warehousing & utilities.

Four other industries reported employment levels unchanged from last year. Those industries were manufacturing, wholesale trade, information, and other services. Two industries reported employment levels lower than a year ago. The financial activities industry was down 100 jobs; professional & business services employment was also down 100 jobs. Professional & business services had been down as many as 600 jobs recently, but it has now been more than a year since the closure of a direct marketing call center.

Las Cruces Seasonally Adjusted	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Sep 2003	Aug 2003	Sep 2002	Aug 2003	Sep 2002
Civilian Labor Force	79,600	75,100	76,800	+4,500	+2,800
Employment	73,800	69,800	71,700	+4,000	+2,100
Unemployment	5,800	5,300	5,100	500	700
Rate	7.3%	7.1%	6.6%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	6.5%	6.3%	6.0%		

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Las Cruces



Santa Fe MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Santa Fe & Los Alamos Counties)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the Santa Fe MSA was 3.3 percent in September 2003, unchanged from the rate in August. A year ago the area's unemployment rate was 2.5 percent. The Santa Fe MSA still has one of the lowest rates of unemployment in the state.

The Santa Fe area lost 900 jobs in September 2003 as the tourist season passed its peak and also summer youth programs ended for the year. The leisure & hospitality industry had 1,000 fewer jobs than last month, with fewer jobs at area hotels, restaurants and the Santa Fe Opera. Offsetting some of the seasonal job losses were an additional 500 jobs in private education, at such places as the College of Santa Fe, and 400 local government jobs in school districts.

Over the year job growth in the Santa Fe area has been below the statewide average since April. Job growth currently stands at 1.5 percent, which is far below the 3.3 percent average earlier this year. Santa Fe is still doing fairly well. The rate of job growth has fallen from higher rates that were unsustainable in the long term.

Slow job growth is especially evident in the government sector, which makes up more than a third of the area's jobs. Overall government employment is up by just 0.7 percent. Employment in state government, which includes Los Alamos National Laboratory, has increased only 100 jobs over the year, a rate of job growth of only 0.6 percent. Local government employment has also increased only 100 jobs. Federal government employment was unchanged from last year's level.

Seven of the local area's 12 industries have added jobs since last year. Three industries are still struggling to recover from earlier losses and continue to be down over the year. Two remaining industries have kept employment at last year's levels.

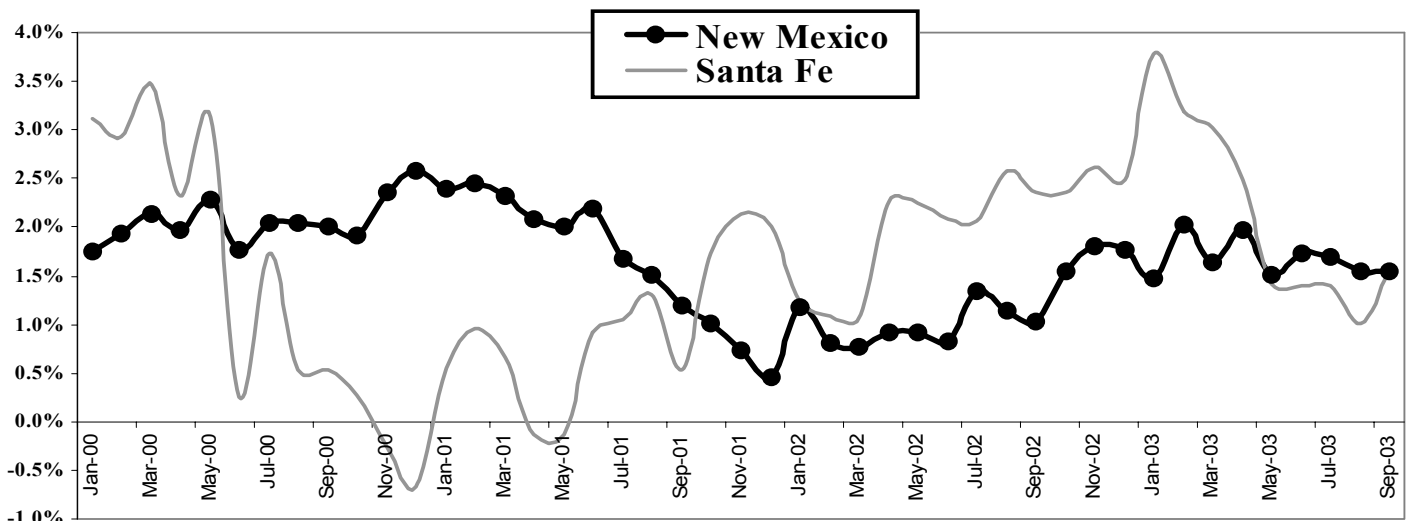
Educational and health services increased 500, adding more jobs than any other industry. Most of the increase came from health care & social assistance employment. The professional & business services industry added 300 jobs. This industry has done better in Santa Fe than elsewhere in the state. *Other services* gained 200 jobs, growing 6.5 percent. This industry includes establishments such as automotive repair shops and church-run youth programs. Retail trade added just 100 jobs over the year, slowing from recent stronger performance. The leisure & hospitality industry added 100 jobs, with food service & drinking places being the strongest industry component. The financial activities industry also added 100 jobs.

The three industries with declining employment are dealing with long-standing difficulties. Manufacturing employment was down 100 jobs, which is consistent with both statewide and national trends. Transportation, warehousing & utilities remained down 100 jobs. Construction also had fewer jobs than at this time last year, down 100 jobs. The decline appears to be due to local conditions, since this industry has added jobs in the rest of the state.

The two industries reporting employment levels unchanged from last year were wholesale trade and information. Both of these industries have stagnated in Santa Fe for a while.

Santa Fe	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Sep 2003</u>	<u>Aug 2003</u>	<u>Sep 2002</u>	<u>Aug 2003</u>	<u>Sep 2002</u>
Civilian Labor Force	81,800	82,600	79,000	-800	+2,800
Employment	79,100	79,900	77,000	-800	+2,100
Unemployment	2,700	2,700	2,000	0	+700
Rate	3.3%	3.3%	2.5%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.4%	3.4%	2.7%		

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Santa Fe



**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	Unadj. Rate %	Unadj. Rate %
1983		609,000	547,000	62,000	10.2%	
1984		628,000	581,000	47,000	7.5%	
1985		644,000	587,000	57,000	8.9%	
1986		678,000	616,000	62,000	9.1%	
1987		682,000	622,000	60,000	8.8%	
1988		689,000	635,000	54,000	7.8%	
1989		697,000	651,000	46,000	6.6%	
1990		707,500	661,500	46,000	6.5%	
1991		725,900	674,100	51,800	7.1%	
1992		740,900	688,800	52,100	7.0%	
1993		756,000	697,800	58,200	7.7%	
1994		778,100	729,300	48,800	6.3%	
1995		791,000	741,400	49,600	6.3%	
1996		797,900	733,600	64,300	8.1%	
1997		814,200	763,300	50,900	6.3%	
1998		831,100	779,700	51,400	6.2%	
1999		809,100	763,600	45,500	5.6%	
2000		854,600	812,300	42,300	5.0%	
2001		861,500	819,800	41,700	4.8%	
2002		877,600	829,800	47,800	5.4%	
2002	JAN	868,000	822,400	45,600	5.3%	5.5%
	FEB	870,300	823,500	46,800	5.4%	5.3%
	MAR	872,300	825,000	47,300	5.4%	5.3%
	APR	873,800	826,100	47,700	5.5%	5.2%
	MAY	875,900	827,700	48,200	5.5%	5.4%
	JUN	877,700	829,200	48,500	5.5%	6.6%
	JUL	880,000	831,100	48,900	5.6%	5.9%
	AUG	879,700	831,500	48,200	5.5%	5.4%
	SEP	880,300	831,900	48,400	5.5%	5.4%
	OCT	883,400	835,100	48,300	5.5%	5.2%
	NOV	884,800	836,600	48,200	5.4%	5.2%
	DEC	885,000	837,200	47,800	5.4%	5.0%
2003	JAN	890,600	838,900	51,700	5.8%	6.1%
	FEB	891,500	839,800	51,700	5.8%	5.7%
	MAR	893,600	841,000	52,600	5.9%	5.7%
	APR	895,700	843,200	52,500	5.9%	5.6%
	MAY	898,100	844,400	53,700	6.0%	5.9%
	JUN	900,900	847,400	53,500	5.9%	7.0%
	JUL	902,500	847,300	55,200	6.1%	6.5%
	AUG	898,700	844,300	54,400	6.1%	6.0%
	SEP	900,400	845,500	54,900	6.1%	5.9%
	OCT					
	NOV					
	DEC					
# CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	1,700	1,200	500	0.0%	-0.1%
	Year Ago	20,100	13,600	6,500	0.6%	0.5%
	2 Yrs. Ago	39,200	26,900	12,300	1.2%	1.1%
	3 Yrs. Ago	35,100	23,000	12,100	1.2%	1.1%
% CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	0.2%	0.1%	0.9%		
	Year Ago	2.3%	1.6%	13.4%		
	2 Yrs. Ago	4.6%	3.3%	28.9%		
	3 Yrs. Ago	4.1%	2.8%	28.3%		

State	Rank	September 2002	September 2003	Change	% Change
Nevada	1	1,062.9	1,090.1	27.2	2.6%
Georgia	2	3,912.5	3,980.8	68.3	1.7%
Hawaii	3	555.4	564.3	8.9	1.6%
New Mexico	4	771.8	783.8	12.0	1.6%
Florida	5	7,206.7	7,303.2	96.5	1.3%
Alaska	6	310.7	314.5	3.8	1.2%
Idaho	7	579.0	585.9	6.9	1.2%
Arizona	8	2,267.3	2,292.3	25.0	1.1%
Vermont	9	300.9	304.1	3.2	1.1%
New Jersey	10	3,990.3	4,011.5	21.2	0.5%
Wyoming	11	253.2	254.1	0.9	0.4%
Texas	12	9,453.6	9,483.0	29.4	0.3%
North Dakota	13	333.7	334.6	0.9	0.3%
Virginia	14	3,505.5	3,513.0	7.5	0.2%
South Dakota	15	381.2	381.9	0.7	0.2%
Rhode Island	16	483.8	484.6	0.8	0.2%
Montana	17	402.8	403.2	0.4	0.1%
Kansas	18	1,338.7	1,339.8	1.1	0.1%
Delaware	19	665.5	665.9	0.4	0.1%
Tennessee	20	2,687.5	2,688.5	1.0	0.0%
Utah	21	1,078.5	1,078.7	0.2	0.0%
Iowa	22	1,453.1	1,452.9	-0.2	0.0%
New Hampshire	23	624.8	624.4	-0.4	-0.1%
Nebraska	24	906.5	905.7	-0.8	-0.1%
Mississippi	25	1,129.2	1,127.9	-1.3	-0.1%
Maryland	26	2,480.0	2,476.9	-3.1	-0.1%
Washington	27	2,674.1	2,669.5	-4.6	-0.2%
Wisconsin	28	2,793.6	2,788.1	-5.5	-0.2%
Maine	29	617.3	615.7	-1.6	-0.3%
Louisiana	30	1,905.1	1,899.3	-5.8	-0.3%
Arkansas	31	1,159.0	1,154.9	-4.1	-0.4%
West Virginia	32	735.3	732.6	-2.7	-0.4%
Pennsylvania	33	5,672.1	5,650.1	-22.0	-0.4%
United States		130,603.0	130,096.0	-507.0	-0.4%
California	34	14,491.3	14,433.7	-57.6	-0.4%
North Carolina	35	3,846.6	3,830.6	-16.0	-0.4%
New York	36	8,422.2	8,379.4	-42.8	-0.5%
Minnesota	37	2,659.6	2,642.0	-17.6	-0.7%
DC	38	416.1	413.2	-2.9	-0.7%
Oklahoma	39	1,483.4	1,472.1	-11.3	-0.8%
Missouri	40	2,696.3	2,672.2	-24.1	-0.9%
Illinois	41	5,927.0	5,871.7	-55.3	-0.9%
Kentucky	42	1,794.4	1,777.6	-16.8	-0.9%
Oregon	43	1,585.6	1,569.0	-16.6	-1.0%
Ohio	44	5,463.7	5,397.4	-66.3	-1.2%
Alabama	45	1,896.7	1,872.6	-24.1	-1.3%
Colorado	46	2,190.8	2,162.4	-28.4	-1.3%
Connecticut	47	1,668.9	1,646.9	-22.0	-1.3%
Indiana	48	2,920.3	2,881.1	-39.2	-1.3%
Massachusetts	49	3,259.7	3,211.0	-48.7	-1.5%
Michigan	50	4,509.0	4,426.9	-82.1	-1.8%
South Carolina	51	1,822.7	1,781.3	-41.4	-2.3%

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 SEPTEMBER 2003				REVISED AUGUST 2003				Absolute Change			Percent Change		
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.
STATEWIDE	896,891	843,646	53,245	5.9%	897,506	843,566	53,940	6.0%	-615	80	-695	-0.1%	0.0%	-1.3%
Albuquerque MSA 2/	394,477	373,723	20,754	5.3%	393,759	372,781	20,978	5.3%	718	942	-224	0.2%	0.3%	-1.1%
Bernalillo	316,262	300,066	16,196	5.1%	315,578	299,310	16,268	5.2%	684	756	-72	0.2%	0.3%	-0.4%
Sandoval	47,027	44,289	2,738	5.8%	47,028	44,177	2,851	6.1%	-1	112	-113	0.0%	0.3%	-4.0%
Valencia	31,188	29,368	1,820	5.8%	31,153	29,294	1,859	6.0%	35	74	-39	0.1%	0.3%	-2.1%
Las Cruces MSA 3/	78,000	72,940	5,060	6.5%	77,433	72,544	4,889	6.3%	567	396	171	0.7%	0.5%	3.5%
Santa Fe MSA 4/	81,845	79,030	2,815	3.4%	82,556	79,758	2,798	3.4%	-711	-728	17	-0.9%	-0.9%	0.6%
Los Alamos	10,436	10,264	172	1.6%	10,537	10,359	178	1.7%	-101	-95	-6	-1.0%	-0.9%	-3.4%
Santa Fe	71,409	68,766	2,643	3.7%	72,019	69,399	2,620	3.6%	-610	-633	23	-0.8%	-0.9%	0.9%
Catron	1,189	1,095	94	7.9%	1,200	1,105	95	7.9%	-11	-10	-1	-0.9%	-0.9%	-1.1%
Chaves	25,671	23,612	2,059	8.0%	25,843	23,786	2,057	8.0%	-172	-174	2	-0.7%	-0.7%	0.1%
Cibola	13,029	12,184	845	6.5%	13,119	12,279	840	6.4%	-90	-95	5	-0.7%	-0.8%	0.6%
Colfax	6,559	6,082	477	7.3%	7,322	6,870	452	6.2%	-763	-788	25	-10.4%	-11.5%	5.5%
Curry	20,561	19,801	760	3.7%	20,668	19,917	751	3.6%	-107	-116	9	-0.5%	-0.6%	1.2%
De Baca	941	837	104	11.1%	975	874	101	10.4%	-34	-37	3	-3.5%	-4.2%	3.0%
Eddy	23,722	21,999	1,723	7.3%	23,828	22,167	1,661	7.0%	-106	-168	62	-0.4%	-0.8%	3.7%
Grant	12,696	10,937	1,759	13.9%	12,593	10,803	1,790	14.2%	103	134	-31	0.8%	1.2%	-1.7%
Guadalupe	1,716	1,588	128	7.5%	1,741	1,608	133	7.6%	-25	-20	-5	-1.4%	-1.2%	-3.8%
Harding	444	418	26	5.9%	454	426	28	6.2%	-10	-8	-2	-2.2%	-1.9%	-7.1%
Hidalgo	1,854	1,733	121	6.5%	1,923	1,808	115	6.0%	-69	-75	6	-3.6%	-4.1%	5.2%
Lea	25,505	24,313	1,192	4.7%	25,340	24,094	1,246	4.9%	165	219	-54	0.7%	0.9%	-4.3%
Lincoln	8,478	8,167	311	3.7%	8,885	8,554	331	3.7%	-407	-387	-20	-4.6%	-4.5%	-6.0%
Luna	13,178	11,257	1,921	14.6%	13,634	11,609	2,025	14.9%	-456	-352	-104	-3.3%	-3.0%	-5.1%
McKinley	26,639	24,563	2,076	7.8%	26,557	24,304	2,253	8.5%	82	259	-177	0.3%	1.1%	-7.9%
Mora	1,864	1,685	179	9.6%	1,868	1,655	213	11.4%	-4	30	-34	-0.2%	1.8%	-16.0%
Otero	21,026	19,610	1,416	6.7%	21,050	19,557	1,493	7.1%	-24	53	-77	-0.1%	0.3%	-5.2%
Quay	4,119	3,908	211	5.1%	4,155	3,938	217	5.2%	-36	-30	-6	-0.9%	-0.8%	-2.8%
Rio Arriba	21,765	20,232	1,533	7.0%	21,938	20,347	1,591	7.3%	-173	-115	-58	-0.8%	-0.6%	-3.6%
Roosevelt	8,636	8,363	273	3.2%	8,050	7,783	267	3.3%	586	580	6	7.3%	7.5%	2.2%
San Juan	53,030	49,042	3,988	7.5%	53,070	48,869	4,201	7.9%	-40	173	-213	-0.1%	0.4%	-5.1%
San Miguel	14,015	13,034	981	7.0%	13,732	12,805	927	6.8%	283	229	54	2.1%	1.8%	5.8%
Sierra	4,396	4,221	175	4.0%	4,270	4,091	179	4.2%	126	130	-4	3.0%	3.2%	-2.2%
Socorro	7,155	6,753	402	5.6%	7,217	6,773	444	6.2%	-62	-20	-42	-0.9%	-0.3%	-9.5%
Taos	14,486	13,068	1,418	9.8%	14,631	13,244	1,387	9.5%	-145	-176	31	-1.0%	-1.3%	2.2%
Torrance	7,787	7,404	383	4.9%	7,575	7,163	412	5.4%	212	241	-29	2.8%	3.4%	-7.0%
Union	2,110	2,048	62	2.9%	2,117	2,052	65	3.1%	-7	-4	-3	-0.3%	-0.2%	-4.6%

	PRELIMINARY SEPTEMBER 2003				REVISED SEPTEMBER 2002				Absolute Change			Percent Change		
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.
STATEWIDE	896,891	843,646	53,245	5.9%	877,098	830,133	46,965	5.4%	19,793	13,513	6,280	2.3%	1.6%	13.4%
Albuquerque MSA 2/	394,477	373,723	20,754	5.3%	384,896	365,799	19,097	5.0%	9,581	7,924	1,657	2.5%	2.2%	8.7%
Bernalillo	316,262	300,066	16,196	5.1%	308,427	293,704	14,723	4.8%	7,835	6,362	1,473	2.5%	2.2%	10.0%
Sandoval	47,027	44,289	2,738	5.8%	46,164	43,350	2,814	6.1%	863	939	-76	1.9%	2.2%	-2.7%
Valencia	31,188	29,368	1,820	5.8%	30,304	28,745	1,559	5.1%	884	623	261	2.9%	2.2%	16.7%
Las Cruces MSA 3/	78,000	72,940	5,060	6.5%	75,222	70,756	4,466	5.9%	2,778	2,184	594	3.7%	3.1%	13.3%
Santa Fe MSA 4/	81,845	79,030	2,815	3.4%	79,017	76,918	2,099	2.7%	2,828	2,112	716	3.6%	2.7%	34.1%
Los Alamos	10,436	10,264	172	1.6%	10,083	9,990	93	0.9%	353	274	79	3.5%	2.7%	84.9%
Santa Fe	71,409	68,766	2,643	3.7%	68,934	66,928	2,006	2.9%	2,475	1,838	637	3.6%	2.7%	31.8%
Catron	1,189	1,095	94	7.9%	1,159	1,102	57	4.9%	30	-7	37	2.6%	-0.6%	64.9%
Chaves	25,671	23,612	2,059	8.0%	25,616	23,737	1,879	7.3%	55	-125	180	0.2%	-0.5%	9.6%
Cibola	13,029	12,184	845	6.5%	12,781	12,101	680	5.3%	248	83	165	1.9%	0.7%	24.3%
Colfax	6,559	6,082	477	7.3%	6,401	6,075	326	5.1%	158	7	151	2.5%	0.1%	46.3%
Curry	20,561	19,801	760	3.7%	20,555	19,740	815	4.0%	6	61	-55	0.0%	0.3%	-6.7%
De Baca	941	837	104	11.1%	899	872	27	3.0%	42	-35	77	4.7%	-4.0%	285.2%
Eddy	23,722	21,999	1,723	7.3%	23,724	22,212	1,512	6.4%	-2	-213	211	0.0%	-1.0%	14.0%
Grant	12,696	10,937	1,759	13.9%	13,028	11,382	1,646	12.6%	-332	-445	113	-2.5%	-3.9%	6.9%
Guadalupe	1,716	1,588	128	7.5%	1,706	1,577	129	7.6%	10	11	-1	0.6%	0.7%	-0.8%
Harding	444	418	26	5.9%	436	422	14	3.2%	8	-4	12	1.8%	-0.9%	85.7%
Hidalgo	1,854	1,733	121	6.5%	1,833	1,752	81	4.4%	21	-19	40	1.1%	-1.1%	49.4%
Lea	25,505	24,313	1,192	4.7%	25,490	24,253	1,237	4.9%	15	60	-45	0.1%	0.2%	-3.6%
Lincoln	8,478	8,167	311	3.7%	8,307	8,044	263	3.2%	171	123	48	2.1%	1.5%	18.3%
Luna	13,178	11,257	1,921	14.6%	12,390	10,996	1,394	11.3%	788	261	527	6.4%	2.4%	37.8%
McKinley	26,639	24,563	2,076	7.8%	25,803	24,276	1,527	5.9%	836	287	549	3.2%	1.2%	36.0%
Mora	1,864	1,685	179	9.6%	1,915	1,670	245	12.8%	-51	15	-66	-2.7%	0.9%	-26.9%
Otero	21,026	19,610	1,416	6.7%	20,693	19,277	1,416	6.8%	333	333	0	1.6%	1.7%	0.0%
Quay	4,119	3,908	211	5.1%	4,137	3,957	180	4.4%	-18	-49	31	-0.4%	-1.2%	17.2%
Rio Arriba	21,765	20,232	1,533	7.0%	21,398	20,037	1,361	6.4%	367	195	172	1.7%	1.0%	12.6%
Roosevelt	8,636	8,363	273	3.2%	8,648	8,356	292	3.4%	-12	7	-19	-0.1%	0.1%	-6.5%
San Juan	53,030	49,042	3,988	7.5%	52,330	48,922	3,408	6.5%	700	120	580	1.3%	0.2%	17.0%
San Miguel	14,015	13,034	981	7.0%	13,744	12,916	828	6.0%	271	118	153	2.0%	0.9%	18.5%
Sierra	4,396	4,221	175	4.0%	4,375	4,205	170	3.9%	21	16	5	0.5%	0.4%	2.9%
Socorro	7,155	6,753	402	5.6%	7,032	6,677	355	5.0%	123	76	47	1.7%	1.1%	13.2%
Taos	14,486	13,068	1,418	9.8%	13,922	12,808	1,114	8.0%	564	260	304	4.1%	2.0%	27.3%
Torrance	7,787	7,404	383	4.9%	7,566	7,259	307	4.1%	221	145	76	2.9%	2.0%	24.8%
Union	2,110	2,048	62	2.9%	2,077	2,036	41	2.0%	33	12	21	1.6%	0.6%	51.2%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

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

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

Unemployment Rates in New Mexico (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

PRELIMINARY SEPTEMBER 2003		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	14.6%
GRANT	2	13.9%
DE BACA	3	11.1%
TAOS	4	9.8%
MORA	5	9.6%
CHAVES	6	8.0%
CATRON	7	7.9%
MCKINLEY	8	7.8%
GUADALUPE	9	7.5%
SAN JUAN	10	7.5%
COLFAX	11	7.3%
EDDY	12	7.3%
RIO ARRIBA	13	7.0%
SAN MIGUEL	14	7.0%
OTERO	15	6.7%
CIBOLA	16	6.5%
HIDALGO	17	6.5%
LAS CRUCES MSA 2/	18	6.5%
HARDING	19	5.9%
STATEWIDE		5.9%
SOCORRO	20	5.6%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	21	5.3%
QUAY	22	5.1%
TORRANCE	23	4.9%
LEA	24	4.7%
SIERRA	25	4.0%
CURRY	26	3.7%
LINCOLN	27	3.7%
SANTA FE MSA 3/	28	3.4%
ROOSEVELT	29	3.2%
UNION	30	2.9%

REVISED AUGUST 2003		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	14.9%
GRANT	2	14.2%
MORA	3	11.4%
DE BACA	4	10.4%
TAOS	5	9.5%
MCKINLEY	6	8.5%
CHAVES	7	8.0%
CATRON	8	7.9%
SAN JUAN	9	7.9%
GUADALUPE	10	7.6%
RIO ARRIBA	11	7.3%
OTERO	12	7.1%
EDDY	13	7.0%
SAN MIGUEL	14	6.8%
CIBOLA	15	6.4%
LAS CRUCES MSA 2/	16	6.3%
COLFAX	17	6.2%
HARDING	18	6.2%
SOCORRO	19	6.2%
HIDALGO	20	6.0%
STATEWIDE		6.0%
TORRANCE	21	5.4%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	22	5.3%
QUAY	23	5.2%
LEA	24	4.9%
SIERRA	25	4.2%
LINCOLN	26	3.7%
CURRY	27	3.6%
SANTA FE MSA 3/	28	3.4%
ROOSEVELT	29	3.3%
UNION	30	3.1%

REVISED SEPTEMBER 2002		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
MORA	1	12.8%
GRANT	2	12.6%
LUNA	3	11.3%
TAOS	4	8.0%
GUADALUPE	5	7.6%
CHAVES	6	7.3%
OTERO	7	6.8%
SAN JUAN	8	6.5%
EDDY	9	6.4%
RIO ARRIBA	10	6.4%
SAN MIGUEL	11	6.0%
LAS CRUCES MSA 2/	12	5.9%
MCKINLEY	13	5.9%
STATEWIDE		5.4%
CIBOLA	14	5.3%
COLFAX	15	5.1%
SOCORRO	16	5.0%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	17	5.0%
CATRON	18	4.9%
LEA	19	4.9%
HIDALGO	20	4.4%
QUAY	21	4.4%
TORRANCE	22	4.1%
CURRY	23	4.0%
SIERRA	24	3.9%
ROOSEVELT	25	3.4%
HARDING	26	3.2%
LINCOLN	27	3.2%
DE BACA	28	3.0%
SANTA FE MSA 3/	29	2.7%
UNION	30	2.0%

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

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

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www.dol.state.nm.us

Unemployment Rate by State (Seasonally Adjusted)

	Preliminary	September 2003
State	Rank	Rate
Oregon	1	8.0
Alaska	2	7.8
Washington	3	7.6
Michigan	4	7.4
Illinois	5	7.1
Texas	6	6.5
California	7	6.4
New York	8	6.4
North Carolina	9	6.4
South Carolina	10	6.4
District of Columbia	11	6.1
Louisiana	12	6.1
New Mexico	13	6.1
United States		6.1
Arkansas	14	6.0
Kentucky	15	5.8
New Jersey	16	5.8
Ohio	17	5.8
West Virginia	18	5.8
Massachusetts	19	5.7
Wisconsin	20	5.7
Arizona	21	5.6
Colorado	22	5.6
Alabama	23	5.5
Idaho	24	5.5
Missouri	25	5.4
Tennessee	26	5.4
Mississippi	27	5.3
Pennsylvania	28	5.3
Florida	29	5.2
Indiana	30	5.2
Nevada	31	5.2
Oklahoma	32	5.1
Utah	33	5.1
Connecticut	34	5.0
Maine	35	4.9
Montana	36	4.9
Kansas	37	4.7
Iowa	38	4.6
Minnesota	39	4.6
New Hampshire	40	4.5
Rhode Island	41	4.5
Delaware	42	4.4
Georgia	43	4.4
Maryland	44	4.3
Vermont	45	4.3
Hawaii	46	4.2
Nebraska	47	4.0
Wyoming	48	4.0
North Dakota	49	3.7
Virginia	50	3.7
South Dakota	51	3.4

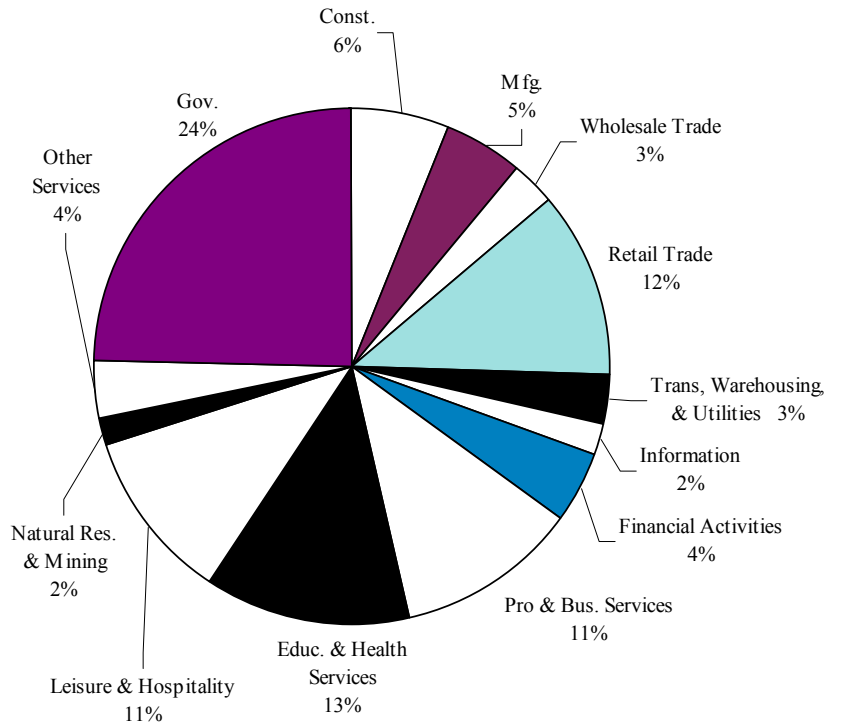
	Revised	September 2002
State	Rank	Rate
Alaska	1	8.2
Oregon	2	7.2
Washington	3	7.2
California	4	6.7
Illinois	5	6.7
Mississippi	6	6.7
North Carolina	7	6.6
Texas	8	6.4
District of Columbia	9	6.3
Arizona	10	6.2
Utah	11	6.2
West Virginia	12	6.2
Louisiana	13	6.1
Michigan	14	6.1
New Jersey	15	6.0
New York	16	6.0
Alabama	17	5.9
South Carolina	18	5.9
Colorado	19	5.8
Idaho	20	5.8
Pennsylvania	21	5.7
United States		5.7
Ohio	22	5.6
Arkansas	23	5.5
Massachusetts	24	5.5
Missouri	25	5.5
New Mexico	26	5.5
Wisconsin	27	5.5
Florida	28	5.4
Kentucky	29	5.4
Rhode Island	30	5.3
Georgia	31	5.2
Kansas	32	5.2
Indiana	33	5.1
Nevada	34	5.0
Tennessee	35	4.9
New Hampshire	36	4.8
Connecticut	37	4.5
Montana	38	4.5
Oklahoma	39	4.5
Maine	40	4.4
Delaware	41	4.3
Maryland	42	4.3
Minnesota	43	4.3
Iowa	44	4.2
North Dakota	45	4.2
Wyoming	46	4.2
Hawaii	47	4.0
Virginia	48	3.9
Vermont	49	3.7
Nebraska	50	3.6
South Dakota	51	2.9

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

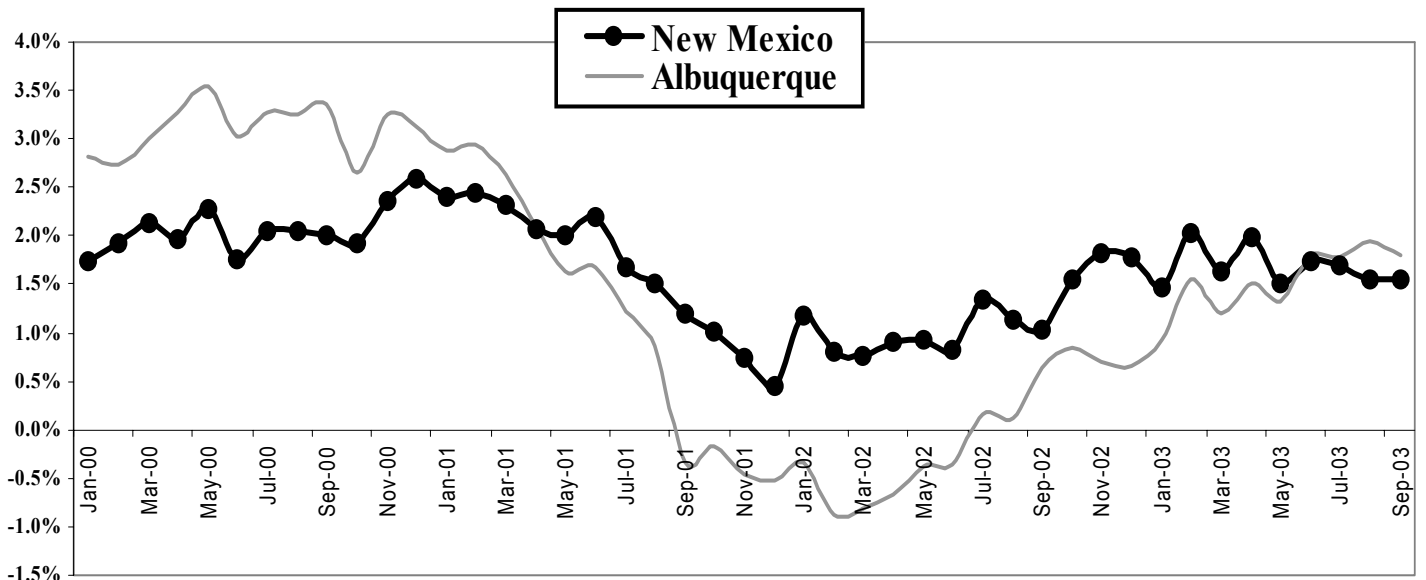
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Annual Growth Rates by Industry

**NAICS Industries
September 2003**



New Mexico and Albuquerque Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Sep-03	Aug-03	Sep-02	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	783,800	780,200	771,800	3,600	12,000
GOODS PRODUCING	100,700	101,100	98,600	-400	2,100
SERVICES-PROVIDING	683,100	679,100	673,200	4,000	9,900
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	14,100	14,000	13,700	100	400
<i>Oil & Gas Extraction, Well Drilling</i>	10,400	10,200	9,800	200	600
<i>Mining, Except Oil and Gas</i>	3,600	3,600	3,900	0	-300
CONSTRUCTION	48,600	49,000	45,600	-400	3,000
Construction of Buildings	13,500	13,500	12,800	0	700
<i>Residential Building Construction</i>	7,100	7,100	6,500	0	600
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	8,800	9,000	8,600	-200	200
Specialty Trade Contractors	26,300	26,500	24,200	-200	2,100
MANUFACTURING	38,000	38,100	39,300	-100	-1,300
Durable Goods	25,800	25,800	26,900	0	-1,100
<i>Computer and Electronic Products</i>	10,800	10,900	11,300	-100	-500
<i>Semiconductor and Other Electronics</i>	7,700	7,800	8,100	-100	-400
Non-Durable Goods	12,200	12,300	12,400	-100	-200
WHOLESALE TRADE	22,600	22,600	22,600	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	91,400	92,000	90,400	-600	1,000
<i>Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers</i>	12,500	12,500	12,500	0	0
<i>Food and Beverage Stores</i>	13,100	13,200	13,600	-100	-500
<i>General Merchandise Stores</i>	20,200	20,200	19,100	0	1,100
<i>Department Stores</i>	6,400	6,500	7,700	-100	-1,300
<i>Other General Merchandise Stores</i>	13,900	13,900	11,400	0	2,500
<i>Miscellaneous Store Retailers</i>	7,100	7,200	7,200	-100	-100
<i>Nonstore Retailers</i>	2,700	2,700	2,700	0	0
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	23,000	22,500	23,000	500	0
Utilities	3,900	4,000	4,000	-100	-100
Transportation and Warehousing	19,100	18,500	19,000	600	100
<i>Truck Transportation</i>	6,600	6,700	6,400	-100	200
INFORMATION	16,500	16,700	16,500	-200	0
<i>Telecommunications</i>	7,800	7,900	7,700	-100	100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	34,400	34,700	33,900	-300	500
Finance and Insurance	24,000	24,100	23,600	-100	400
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities</i>	12,600	12,600	12,100	0	500
<i>Insurance Carriers and Related Activities</i>	9,700	9,700	9,600	0	100
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	10,400	10,600	10,300	-200	100
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	89,900	90,500	89,900	-600	0
Professional, Scientific, and Technical	40,800	40,800	39,600	0	1,200
<i>Architectural, Engineering, and Related</i>	10,700	10,700	10,900	0	-200
<i>Scientific Research and Development</i>	13,100	13,100	12,600	0	500
Management of Companies and Enterprises	5,100	5,200	5,500	-100	-400
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services	44,000	44,500	44,800	-500	-800
<i>Employment Services</i>	17,800	17,900	18,400	-100	-600
<i>Business Support Services</i>	5,600	6,000	5,800	-400	-200
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	100,100	96,600	95,400	3,500	4,700
Educational Services	13,000	9,400	12,800	3,600	200
Health Care and Social Assistance	87,100	87,200	82,600	-100	4,500
Ambulatory Health Care Services	33,600	33,300	30,800	300	2,800
<i>Offices of Physicians</i>	9,900	9,900	9,400	0	500
<i>Outpatient Care Centers</i>	5,200	5,100	4,900	100	300
<i>Home Health Care Services</i>	8,800	8,700	6,700	100	2,100
Hospitals	21,000	21,000	20,500	0	500
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	12,800	13,000	12,800	-200	0
<i>Nursing Care Facilities</i>	6,600	6,600	6,800	0	-200
Social Assistance	19,700	19,900	18,500	-200	1,200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	83,600	85,800	81,800	-2,200	1,800
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7,700	8,700	7,200	-1,000	500
Accommodation and Food Services	75,900	77,100	74,600	-1,200	1,300
Accommodation	13,900	14,500	14,100	-600	-200
Food Services and Drinking Places	62,000	62,600	60,500	-600	1,500
<i>Full-Service Restaurants</i>	29,700	30,100	28,500	-400	1,200
<i>Limited-Service Eating Places</i>	25,400	25,800	25,200	-400	200
OTHER SERVICES	28,600	30,700	28,100	-2,100	500
<i>Repair and Maintenance</i>	7,700	7,600	7,400	100	300
GOVERNMENT	193,000	187,000	191,600	6,000	1,400
Federal Government	29,800	30,300	30,200	-500	-400
State Government 2/	66,900	63,400	65,700	3,500	1,200
<i>State Government Education</i>	27,000	24,000	26,800	3,000	200
Local Government	96,300	93,300	95,700	3,000	600
<i>Local Government Education</i>	51,900	48,500	51,600	3,400	300

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

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

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

ALBUQUERQUE	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Sep-03	Aug-03	Sep-02	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	367,600	366,300	361,100	1,300	6,500
GOODS PRODUCING	48,900	49,300	48,000	-400	900
SERVICES-PROVIDING	318,700	317,000	313,100	1,700	5,600
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING & CONSTRUCTION	24,500	24,800	23,100	-300	1,400
<i>Specialty Trade Contractors</i>	15,200	15,400	13,900	-200	1,300
MANUFACTURING	24,400	24,500	24,900	-100	-500
<i>Computer and Electronic Products</i>	10,200	10,300	10,700	-100	-500
<i>Semiconductor and Other Electronics</i>	7,500	7,500	7,700	0	-200
WHOLESALE TRADE	13,600	13,600	13,300	0	300
RETAIL TRADE	41,600	42,200	41,500	-600	100
<i>Building Material and Garden Equipment</i>	4,100	4,100	3,700	0	400
<i>Food and Beverage Stores</i>	4,900	4,900	5,000	0	-100
<i>General Merchandise Stores</i>	8,200	8,400	7,800	-200	400
<i>Department Stores</i>	3,600	3,600	3,900	0	-300
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	10,400	10,400	10,500	0	-100
<i>Transportation and Warehousing</i>	9,700	9,700	9,700	0	0
INFORMATION	10,400	10,600	10,300	-200	100
<i>Telecommunications</i>	5,700	5,700	5,600	0	100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	19,100	19,200	19,000	-100	100
<i>Finance and Insurance</i>	13,800	13,800	13,600	0	200
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities</i>	5,700	5,700	5,600	0	100
<i>Depository Credit Intermediation</i>	3,900	3,800	3,800	100	100
<i>Insurance Carriers</i>	5,000	5,100	5,000	-100	0
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	58,200	58,400	57,300	-200	900
Professional, Scientific, and Technical	28,100	27,900	27,100	200	1,000
<i>Scientific Research and Development</i>	11,300	11,200	10,700	100	600
Management of Companies and Enterprises	4,200	4,200	4,300	0	-100
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services	25,900	26,300	25,900	-400	0
<i>Employment Services</i>	13,200	13,300	12,900	-100	300
<i>Business Support Services</i>	3,100	3,100	2,800	0	300
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	43,500	43,000	42,200	500	1,300
<i>Health Care and Social Assistance</i>	38,700	38,600	36,900	100	1,800
<i>Ambulatory Health Care Services</i>	15,600	15,500	14,800	100	800
<i>Hospitals</i>	9,300	9,200	9,000	100	300
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	36,500	37,000	35,300	-500	1,200
<i>Accommodation and Food Services</i>	33,600	33,800	32,100	-200	1,500
<i>Food Services and Drinking Places</i>	28,500	28,700	27,200	-200	1,300
<i>Full-Service Restaurants</i>	13,600	13,900	12,600	-300	1,000
OTHER SERVICES	12,100	12,100	11,700	0	400
GOVERNMENT	73,300	70,500	72,000	2,800	1,300
Federal Government	13,800	13,900	13,900	-100	-100
State Government /2	24,600	22,900	23,600	1,700	1,000
Local Government	34,900	33,700	34,500	1,200	400

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

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

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

LAS CRUCES MSA	Preliminary Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT /1	61,900	61,200	60,000	700	1,900
GOODS PRODUCING	6,700	6,700	6,500	0	200
SERVICE PRODUCING	55,200	54,500	53,500	700	1,700
NATURAL RESOURCES MINING & CONSTRUCTION	3,600	3,600	3,400	0	200
MANUFACTURING	3,100	3,100	3,100	0	0
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,100	1,200	1,100	-100	0
RETAIL TRADE	6,800	6,800	6,500	0	300
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	1,600	1,600	1,500	0	100
INFORMATION	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,100	2,200	2,200	-100	-100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,000	5,000	5,100	0	-100
<i>Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services</i>	2,400	2,400	2,500	0	-100
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	9,100	9,200	8,500	-100	600
<i>Health Care & Social Assistance</i>	8,500	8,600	7,900	-100	600
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	6,400	6,400	6,200	0	200
<i>Food Service & Drinking Places</i>	4,800	4,800	4,600	0	200
OTHER SERVICES	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0
GOVERNMENT	20,500	19,500	19,800	1,000	700
Federal	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0
State	9,000	8,200	8,400	800	600
Local	8,000	7,800	7,900	200	100

SANTA FE MSA	Preliminary Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Revised Sep-02	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT /1	79,200	80,100	78,000	-900	1,200
GOODS PRODUCING	5,800	5,900	6,000	-100	-200
SERVICE PRODUCING	73,400	74,200	72,000	-800	1,400
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTRUCTION	4,600	4,700	4,700	-100	-100
MANUFACTURING	1,200	1,200	1,300	0	-100
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	9,100	9,200	9,000	-100	100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	700	700	800	0	-100
INFORMATION	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	3,400	3,400	3,300	0	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	8,900	8,800	8,600	100	300
<i>Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services</i>	4,500	4,500	4,400	0	100
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	9,200	8,700	8,700	500	500
<i>Health Care & Social Assistance</i>	7,200	7,200	6,800	0	400
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	10,600	10,600	9,500	0	1,100
<i>Food Service & Drinking Places</i>	6,200	6,300	6,000	-100	200
OTHER SERVICES	3,300	4,000	3,100	-700	200
GOVERNMENT	27,100	26,700	26,900	400	200
Federal	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
State /2	18,200	18,200	18,100	0	100
Local	7,400	7,000	7,300	400	100

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

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

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

- Seasonally Adjusted -

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Sep-03	Revised Aug-03	Monthly Change
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	778,100	779,200	-1,100
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	13,900	13,800	100
CONSTRUCTION	47,600	47,400	200
MANUFACTURING	36,000	36,100	-100
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	136,900	137,000	-100
INFORMATION (Not Seasonally Adjusted)	16,500	16,700	-200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	34,300	34,300	0
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	89,000	89,500	-500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	99,300	100,000	-700
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	82,200	83,000	-800
OTHER SERVICES	29,500	29,000	500
GOVERNMENT	192,900	192,400	500

1/ Total includes the information sector, which is not seasonally adjusted.

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

Labor Market Report

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Average Hours and Earnings

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

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Sep 03	Aug 03	Sep 02	Sep 03	Aug 03	Sep 02	Sep 03	Aug 03	Sep 02
NEW MEXICO									
NATURAL RES. & MINING	\$769.35	\$752.79	\$745.42	44.6	44.1	43.9	17.25	17.07	16.98
CONSTRUCTION	\$602.30	\$598.19	\$566.28	40.1	39.8	39.0	15.02	15.03	14.52
MANUFACTURING	\$526.72	\$521.24	\$528.23	40.3	40.5	40.2	13.07	12.87	13.14
WHOLESALE TRADE	\$530.15	\$533.64	\$500.47	35.7	35.6	34.9	14.85	14.99	14.34
RETAIL TRADE	\$341.92	\$343.74	\$308.48	33.1	33.7	32.0	10.33	10.20	9.64
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	\$524.41	\$508.30	\$489.52	37.7	36.7	36.1	13.91	13.85	13.56
ALBUQUERQUE MSA									
MANUFACTURING	\$575.91	\$562.37	\$602.10	39.8	39.8	40.6	14.47	14.13	14.83

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	
	Sep. 03	Aug 03	Sep 02	Month to Month	Year to Year
CPI-U	185.2	184.6	181.0	0.3%	2.3%
CPI-W	181.0	180.3	177.0	0.4%	2.3%

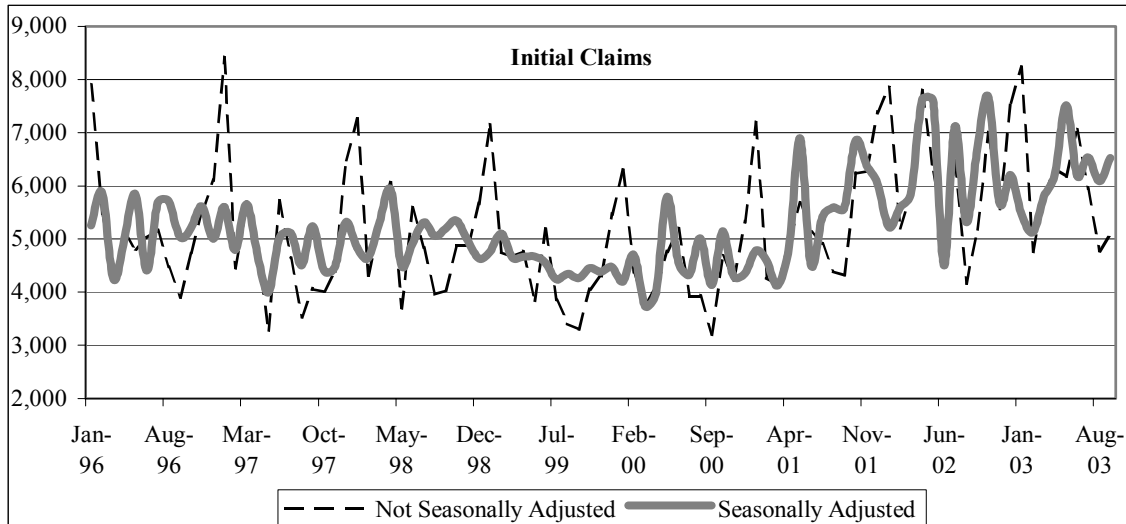
*CPI-U - All Urban Consumers

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

New Mexico Unemployment Insurance

Unemployment Compensation Regular Program, not seasonally adjusted ^

	Sep-03	Aug-03	Sep-02	% Change from Aug-03	% Change from Sep-02
CLAIMS ACTIVITIES					
Initial Claims	5,056	4,772	5,183	6.0%	-2.5%
Continued Claims #	60,940	59,154	59,873	3.0%	1.8%
Insured Unemployed *	12,835	14,575	12,569	-11.9%	2.1%
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.8%	2.1%	1.8%		
PAYMENT ACTIVITIES					
First Payments	2,443	2,747	3,056	-11.1%	-20.1%
Final Payments	1,307	1,165	1,352	12.2%	-3.3%
Weeks Compensated	51,616	50,307	50,719	2.6%	1.8%
Net Benefit Payments	\$11,191,535	\$10,654,552	\$10,959,299	5.0%	2.1%
Average WBA**	\$207.64	\$207.57	203.81	0.0%	1.9%
Average Duration (weeks)**	17.59	17.29	16.67	1.7%	5.5%
Exhaustion Rate **	43.52%	43.58%	39.82%		
TRUST FUND BALANCE, August 2003		\$541,315,048			



^ Information for the UI program only and does not include TEUC. * Reflects residents filing an intrastate continued claim and residents filing a continued claim against another state during the week which includes the 12th of the month. **12-month moving average. # Includes intrastate & interstate agent continued claims. Source: NMDOL, UI Bureau Actuarial Research Unit. (505) 841-9062

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 from the above sources.)

Statewide:

The president of the **Navajo Nation** signed a gaming compact with the State of New Mexico, and the Navajo Nation is considering building a mega-casino just west of Albuquerque. Under Navajo law, the only area of the tribal lands that could be used for a casino is at Toihajiilee, near the new Route 66 casino (see story below). Governor Bill Richardson has not yet approved the compact, which would have the tribe pay the state up to eight percent of the revenue from gaming.

Rio Grande Air plans to use its four newly leased CATPASS 250 turboprop aircraft to add air service to Artesia, Los Alamos and Gallup. The new aircraft are much faster than the single engine Cessna Grand Caravans that the company currently uses and cuts flying time from Albuquerque to Taos from 48 to 24 minutes. Rio Grande Air also reports increased passenger count on its current routes to Albuquerque, Taos and Alamogordo.

In addition to a 4.1 percent pay raise for members of the armed forces, the \$369.2 billion **2004 Defense Appropriations Act** contains funding for a number of projects of special interest to New Mexico. The 2004 budget approved \$64.8 million for the High Energy Laser-Joint Technology Office in Albuquerque. The Airborne Laser Project, based at Kirtland Air Force Base, was funded for \$624 million. A White Sands project, the Mobile High Energy Laser, received \$46 million. Other major projects include \$5.6 million for a Navy water desalinization project in Alamogordo, and \$4.9 million for a program that may use the Las Cruces International Airport to test unmanned aerial vehicle systems and operations.

The state's **Job Training Incentive Program** board (formerly called the In-Plant Training board) approved training funds for two companies at the September board meeting. **Raytheon**, an electronics systems and equipment manufacturer, received \$84,520 to hire and train 20 employees for its Farmington facility. Albuquerque's **Mechanical Solutions** received \$34,800 to hire three workers at an average wage of \$20.10 per hour. Two New Mexico schools also received training funds. Eastern New Mexico University will receive \$23,512 to train workers for Roswell's Strategic Data Services, and Albuquerque's Technical Vocational Institute will get \$28,877 to provide training for Bio-Tech Imaging.

Albuquerque Area, Bernalillo County:

The remodeling of the **4th and Menaul Market** is nearing completion. The project completely gutted the old 4th Street K-Mart store and created new spaces for retail, dining and warehousing on the north and west sides of the building. The 106,000-square-foot project should be complete by mid-November.

The State Investment Council has agreed to provide **Mesa Semiconductors** with \$15 million to keep the old Phillips Semiconductor plant open. The deal would give the state a 33 percent interest in the

company if Phillips and Mesa can reach an agreement on the sale. Phillips plans to cease production in October and close the facility by the end of the year. The sale to Mesa would keep about 400 of the 600 jobs that the plant provides.

With the addition of four new tenants, the **!25 development** is almost completely filled. All of the 300,000-square-foot of office space and all 13-pad sites have been sold. The latest tenants include two restaurants in the Shops @25: **Zyngis Noodlery**, expected to open in December or January, and **Santa Fe Peppers** opening in mid-November. A bank and three additional restaurants are opening as freestanding businesses. The **First Federal Bank** will move into its 7,700-square-foot location in mid-December. Construction for **Boston's The Gourmet Pizza**, **Krispy Kreme Doughnuts**, and **The Fox and Hound English Pub and Grille** has filled the last of the available freestanding building sites on the development.

Grants Area, Cibola County:

The Connection, an in-bound call center, is temporarily closing its Grants center. The center has about 45 full-time employees and also had a number of temporary employees who had been hired in anticipation of work that did not materialize. The Connection also operates call centers in Moriarty, Las Vegas and Carlsbad.

Laguna Pueblo, Cibola County:

Laguna Pueblo opened its new 1950s-themed **Route 66 Casino** at the Interstate 40 Rio Puerco exit. The 50,000-square-foot casino features a Johnny Rockets restaurant, a nightclub, table games, and 1,250 slot machines. The casino is part of a complex that includes the newly opened Route 66 travel center, a truck stop, and restaurants. The entire complex employs about 1,200 people.

Clovis Area, Curry County:

Construction of **Southwest Cheese Company's** cheese processing plant is expected to begin in the next 60 to 90 days. The plant will be located on 3,000 acres about five miles south of Clovis. About 700 construction workers will be needed to build the plant.

Carlsbad Area, Eddy County:

IMC Global Inc. is laying off 74 workers at its Carlsbad potash mine. Six of the workers were laid off in early September and most of the other layoffs will be in early November.

Eunice Area, Lea County:



Louisiana Energy Services has selected Eunice as the site for the \$1.9 billion National Enrichment Site. The company expects that it will take about two years to obtain the necessary permits before it can begin construction. The company hopes to be operational within two years after the permits are granted. About 400 construction workers will be needed to build the facility, and about another 200 workers will staff the plant.

Los Alamos Area, Los Alamos County:



A three story, 25,000-square-foot office building is going up in downtown Los Alamos. The new building, at 999 Central Avenue, is being built by **Sarcon Construction**. Both retail and office space is offered in the building, with Los Alamos Technical Associates taking the top two floors and a Radio Shack occupying the bottom floor.

Deming Area, Luna County:



The Deming City Council approved a rezoning request that will allow the construction of a **Wendy's Restaurant** just off of Pine Street, near the Wal-Mart. The new 3,200-square-foot restaurant will seat about 100 patrons and should be completed by the end of the year. About 25 to 30 employees will be hired to staff the restaurant.

Shiprock Area, McKinley County:



Three new businesses have opened in the former Navtech-Fairchild industrial building. A **Subway** restaurant, a **7-2-11** convenience store and gas station, and an **Ace Home Center** had grand openings on September 11. The Ace Home Center has about 85 employees and the Subway has a staff of 14.

Alamogordo Area, Otero County:



The Alamogordo Daily News has discontinued printing newspapers in Alamogordo and now uses the printing presses at the Las Cruces Sun News. The move eliminates seven full-time and four part-time jobs in Alamogordo. Both the Alamogordo Daily News and the Las Cruces Sun Times are part of the Gannett media group.

Officials are hoping that reasonably priced land and infrastructure improvements made to develop land for a **new federal prison in Chaparral** will provide a boost for local economic development. Water, electrical and gas lines were installed for the 550-bed prison operated by Management and Training Corp. The facility opened in mid-September and employs about 165 workers.

EspaÒola Area, Rio Arriba County:



V, a voice recognition software company, is considering locating a call center in EspaÒola. The company uses a computer program to determine if an individual is telling the truth by analyzing vocal patterns. As many as 200 positions may be created if the company selects EspaÒola as the site for its center.

Rio Rancho Area, Sandoval County:



The Rio Rancho Planning and Zoning Commission approved site plans for a **Home Depot store** and for **Stainless Motors** to build in the Enchanted Hills Commerce Center. Home Depot plans to build a 137,156-square-foot store at the corner of NM 550 and Sprint Boulevard. The store would employ about 100 people when it opens in 2004. Stainless Motors, which makes electric motors for clean environments, wants to build a 20,597-square-foot plant that would employ about 20 workers in the first year of operation.

Big Lots, a discount merchandiser, opened a 30,000-square-foot store in the Hilltop Plaza at 1660 Rio Rancho Boulevard in Rio Rancho. The store features furniture in addition to seasonal merchandise, house wares, toys and home decorations.

Farmington Area, San Juan County:



An agreement to build a power plant has been reached between the **Navajo Power Authority** and **Steag**, a German company. The agreement calls for construction of a two-unit plant to start in 2005 and be completed by 2008. The project will sustain about 3,000 jobs during the construction phase and about 250 jobs when the plant becomes operational.

Santa Fe Area, Santa Fe County:



Texas-based **Magnolia Pictures** was selected to build a new five-screen movie theater in Santa Fe's downtown Railyard development. The 15,000-square-foot movie theater is part of a larger 52,000-square-foot development of the area that includes a cafe and retail spaces. The city of Santa Fe purchased the 50-acre Railyard area in 1995 to develop as a park and urban area.

Earthstone, a Santa Fe-based maker of cleaning products, would like to expand its operations by building a second manufacturing facility in New Mexico. Earthstone uses recycled glass to make heavy-duty industrial cleaning and sanding products. The company is seeking \$9 million from the State Investment Council to market its products. Frustration with the SIC application process may prompt the firm to locate outside of New Mexico.

Vitamin Cottage Natural Grocers plans to open a 20,000-square-foot store in the Cerrillos Marketplace. The Colorado-based company has 20 stores and plans to open its Santa Fe store November 17.



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

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