

New Mexico Labor Market Report

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Volume 33, No. 9, October 31, 2004

HIGHLIGHTS — September 2004

...Job growth in New Mexico has reached an over-the-year rate above two percent and has remained there for four consecutive months. The September year-ago comparison reached 2.3 percent, meaning that jobs are being added in NM at a rate that is consistent with our long-term average. The state has not seen numbers this high since March 2001.

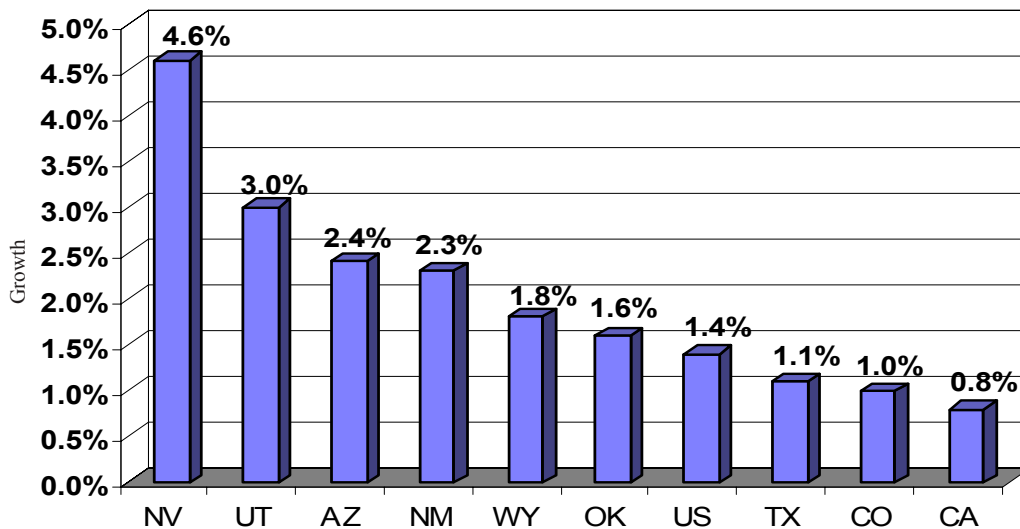
...Over the year, moderate growth continued in the Albuquerque MSA with an annual increase of 1.8 percent or 6,600 jobs.

...The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces MSA increased to 3.4 percent for September 2004. The increase came after government education employment recovered after dropping to lower than normal levels during the summer. Currently the area has added 2,100 jobs since the same month last year.

...Over-the-year job growth for the Santa Fe MSA was 1.4 percent, adding just 1,100 jobs. Since April, the rate of job growth in Santa Fe has been below the statewide average.

Current Regional Nonfarm Employment Growth

September 2004 over September 2003 - Not Seasonally Adjusted



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New Mexico Labor Force and Payroll Employment

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.3 percent in September 2004, down a fraction from 5.4 percent in August. A year ago New Mexico's unemployment rate was 6.6 percent. Nationally the unemployment rate was 5.4 percent in September, which is slightly higher than New Mexico's rate.

Job growth in New Mexico has reached an over-the-year rate above two percent and has remained there for four consecutive months. The September year-ago comparison reached 2.3 percent, meaning that jobs are being added in the state at a rate that is consistent with our long-term average. The state has not seen numbers this high since March 2001. A number of industries have added a significant number of jobs. However, the biggest contrast from previous performance comes from the industries that were losing jobs and have started to add to the numbers again. Only one industry, information, remains down by a large number of jobs. The other twelve industries are either doing very well, or better than in the recent past. Overall, the state has added 18,200 jobs since last year and we remain one of the fastest growing states in the nation for employment.

Construction employment remains very strong, up 6.7 percent from a year ago, adding 3,200 jobs. Most of the strong employment growth has come from sustained higher demand for new homes as a result of interest rates that still remain very low by historical standards. The threat of higher interest rates always appears as a looming and immanent threat waiting to quash the fragile construction boom, but so far rises in rates have been minimal, despite expectations of such increases.

Mining employment has also done very well, increasing 5.6 percent, adding 800 jobs. The industry received a tremendous boost from sustained higher prices for oil and natural gas. Higher prices justify the investment in equipment and new exploration that is needed for expansion. Other types of mining in New Mexico are also showing improvement.

The educational and health services industry also continues to add jobs at a strong pace. Since this industry is so large, the 4.4 percent growth rate translates into 4,400 jobs. Most health services components have added a lot of jobs. Ambulatory health care services, the largest industry component, added 2,500 jobs. This industry segment is sometimes referred to as outpatient services. The *home health care services* component had been the driving force behind much of the job growth, but this has not been the case recently. Job growth in this

component has fallen to just 1.2 percent, which is below the industry average. Employment in home health care services has stabilized at a high level. Private educational services added just 100 jobs, growing 0.8 percent. Social assistance employment grew 3.1 percent, adding 600 jobs, which is also a reduction from the higher levels of growth six months ago.

The professional and business services industry has done well to turn around earlier job losses into a 2,900-job gain in September. Prospects for this industry have improved, following three difficult years. The employment services component has gathered strength as a sign that the rest of the economy is improving. Employment services increased employment 6.7 percent, adding 1,100 jobs. Business support services has increased 21.7 percent, adding 1,000 jobs. Another sign of general improvement in the state's job market can be seen in retail trade, which has added 1,800 jobs since last year. Retail trade had been unable to add this many jobs since the late 1990s. Wholesale trade increased employment by 200 jobs from last year's employment level.

Leisure and hospitality employment continues to do fairly well due to expanding employment in food services and drinking places, especially at full-service restaurants. Financial activities employment has added 500 jobs, mostly in the real estate category that has benefited from the booming housing market. The finance and insurance component has reduced employment levels.

Government employment has increased 3,600 jobs since last year, growing 1.8 percent. Most of the new government jobs were in local government, which has added 3,100. New or expanding tribally-owned casinos and resorts around the state are responsible for many of the new jobs. State government has added 600 jobs. Federal government employment continues the recent downward trend, dropping 100 jobs on the year.

Manufacturing employment was down just 200 jobs on the year. The industry is poised to start adding jobs in the next couple of months, having lost 6,200 jobs since September 2000. The information industry remains the only area where employment levels have not recovered. Information was down 1,600 jobs on the year, and down 1,700 jobs in the telecommunications component of the industry. The full effect of the recent MCI call center closure is reflected in the numbers.

New Mexico	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Seasonally Adjusted Sep 2004	Aug 2004	Sep 2003	Aug 2004	Sep 2003
Civilian Labor Force	911,100	910,900	900,700	+200	+10,400
Employment	862,500	861,700	841,200	+800	+21,300
Unemployment	48,600	49,200	59,500	-600	-10,900
Rate	5.3%	5.4%	6.6%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	5.3%	5.4%	6.5%		

Albuquerque MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Bernalillo, Sandoval & Valencia Counties)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Albuquerque MSA was 4.6 percent in September, unchanged from August. A year ago, the area's unemployment rate was nine tenths of a point higher at 5.5 percent.

Payroll employment rose by 2,400 in September for growth of 0.7 percent. Only three major industries posted employment increases, but those gains were large enough to keep overall growth within positive territory. Six other industries saw decreased employment over the month and three were unchanged. Government grew by 2,500, returning to employment levels that existed before the summer reductions of school-related employees. Government employment was further lifted by the annual spike in hiring for the New Mexico State Fair. Educational & health services added 1,100 jobs, largely due to seasonal increases in private education at the start of the school year. Professional and business services rose by 100 over the month.

Partially offsetting the gains were declines of 100 in retail trade and 400 in leisure and 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 200, reversing last month's increase. A decline of 300 in construction employment marked the first loss for this industry since last January. Over-the-month declines were also seen in information (-100) and "other services" (-200). Employment remained unchanged in transportation, warehousing, and utilities; financial activities; and wholesale trade.

Over the year, moderate growth continued in the metro area with an annual increase of 1.8 percent or 6,600 jobs. Jobs were added in all but three of the 12 major industry divisions since last September. Educational and health services contributed the largest number of new jobs, growing 2,100 or 4.8 percent. All of the increase was in the health care and social assistance portion. Following three difficult years, the professional and business services industry recently surged ahead to become the area's second largest provider of new jobs. About 1,700 jobs were added to this industry, which includes businesses as diverse as telephone call centers and scientific research laboratories.

Government employment grew by 1,600 over the year, largely due to increases in state and local educational institutions, as well as in state-run medical facilities like UNM Hospital.

Some growth has been seen in tribally-owned casinos as well, which are classified in local government. Federal employment was up 100, its third straight month of over-the-year increases following 12 months of declines. Government continues to be one of the Albuquerque area's largest industries, accounting for about one in every five jobs.

Construction has added 1,400 jobs in the last 12 months, as low interest rates continued to drive up the demand for new homes. September's employment level of 26,000 was only slightly below the industry's all-time high that was set the month before. Housing is expected to remain strong due to favorable market conditions coupled with continued increases in household formations.

With growth of 2.4 percent (1,000 jobs), the retail trade industry continued on an upward trajectory following a long period of weakness. Over-the-year growth has averaged 2.5 percent since June, compared to just 0.1 percent for the 12 preceding months. The current rebound can be attributed to growth in general merchandise stores like Wal-Mart as well as home improvement warehouses. Other areas of strength include the unpublished categories of motor vehicle dealers, sporting goods stores, and electronics.

Leisure and hospitality added 1,000 jobs in the last 12 months, of which 700 were in full-service restaurants. Over-the-year growth reached a six-month high of 2.8 percent in September but is likely to return to more sustainable levels in the coming months. Although a few new restaurants are currently in the works, the metro area is unlikely to see a return to last year's furious pace of openings.

Transportation, warehousing, and utilities gained 200 jobs over the year, as did the miscellaneous classification of "other services." Employment in financial activities was unchanged both over the year and over the month at 19,100.

Manufacturing and information each lost 1,200 jobs since last September. Manufacturing is poised to regain some of its lost jobs in the next year or so due to the anticipated expansion of aircraft manufacturing in the area and the upcoming arrival of a mattress manufacturing plant. Unfortunately, no such help is on the way for the information industry, where employment levels are expected to decline even more before stabilizing. Wholesale trade employment was down 200 over the year.

Albuquerque	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Sep 2004</u>	<u>Aug 2004</u>	<u>Sep 2003</u>	<u>Aug 2004</u>	<u>Sep 2003</u>
Civilian Labor Force	401,600	406,100	394,200	-4,500	+7,400
Employment	383,300	387,300	372,700	-4,000	+10,600
Unemployment	18,300	18,800	21,500	-500	-3,200
Rate	4.6%	4.6%	5.5%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	4.9%	4.9%	5.8%		

Las Cruces MSA Labor Force and Payroll Employment

(Doña Ana County)

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the Las Cruces MSA was 6.6 percent in September 2004, little changed from August's revised rate of 6.5 percent. A year ago the area's unemployment rate was 7.9 percent.

During September, 1,600 government jobs returned to the Las Cruces economy with the return of students to institutions of learning. Local government school districts added 300 jobs and state government, which includes New Mexico State University, gained 1,300 jobs. In the private sector, employment remained at the same levels as in August, with the only movements being an increase of 100 retail trade jobs offsetting the loss of 100 construction jobs.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for the Las Cruces area increased to 3.4 percent for September 2004. The increase came after government education employment recovered after dropping to lower than normal levels during the summer. Every year seasonal reductions in education employment cause large declines in the numbers, but timing and other differences from year to year can artificially raise or lower the overall trend. Currently the Las Cruces area has added 2,100 jobs since the same month last year.

A number of the industry groups have added a significant number of jobs within the county. Manufacturing employment continues to do well in contrast to the declines in other parts of the state and country. Over the last year, Doña Ana County has added 9.4 percent to its manufacturing base. Most of the 300 new jobs are at the Santa Teresa Industrial Park. Also adding 300 jobs, growing 8.1 percent, the construction industry has done well recently. The boom has come from continuing low interest rates, which makes housing more affordable to consumers.

Retail trade added 300 jobs, increasing at a respectable 4.4 percent from a year ago. Another 300 jobs were in the much larger educational and health services industry. This is better performance than the industry has shown for a while, but still constrained compared to earlier years. The health services component has seen fierce competition between rival hospitals that overheated the industry for a while until employment settled at lower but more sustainable levels.

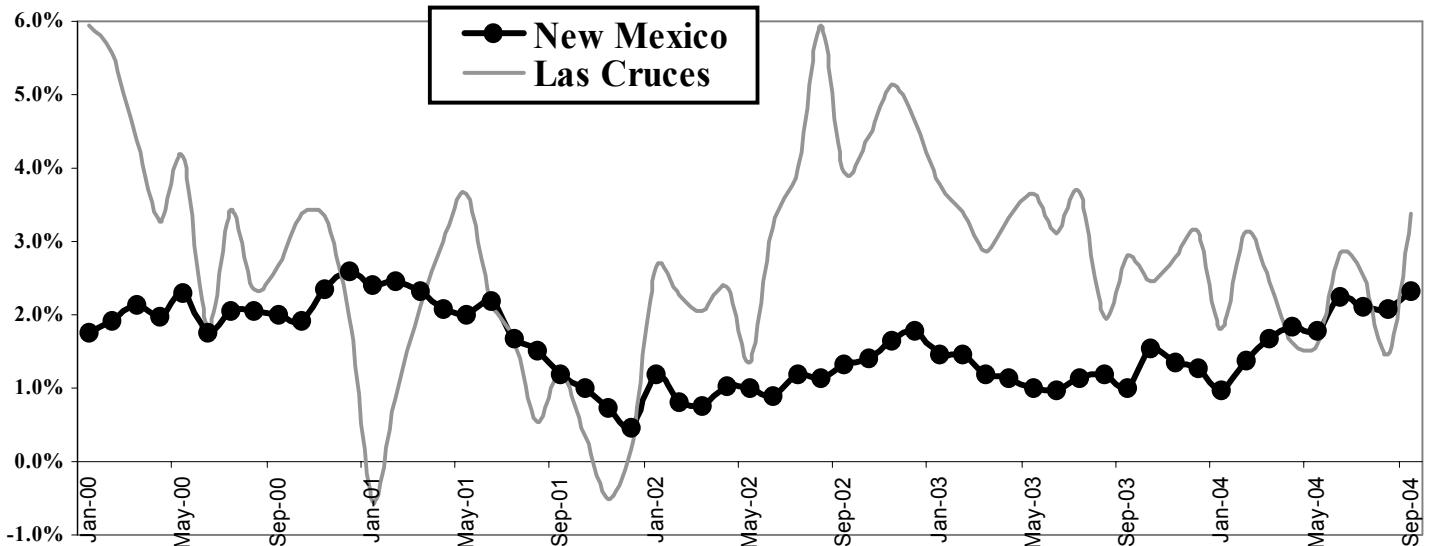
Another 200 new jobs were added to the leisure and hospitality industry, mostly working at local eating and drinking establishments. The transportation, warehousing and utilities industry gained 200 jobs, growing 13.3 percent. Financial activities added 100 jobs, in the real estate component of the industry. Also adding 100 jobs, making modest gains, was wholesale trade.

Two private industries have reduced employment compared to a year ago. Both the information industry and professional and business services were down 100 workers each. The professional and business services industry was devastated by the loss of the Excell call center at the end of last year. Information employment has suffered in most areas of the state due to weakness in telecommunications.

Government employment once again has added a fair number of jobs, following a couple of very low months as seasonal declines came in larger than is typical for the area. Federal and state government have each added 100 jobs. Local government has added 300 jobs since last year.

Las Cruces Seasonally Adjusted	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Sep 2004	Aug 2004	Sep 2003	Aug 2003	Sep 2003
Civilian Labor Force	81,600	80,600	79,800	+1,000	+1,800
Employment	76,200	75,400	73,500	+800	+2,700
Unemployment	5,400	5,200	6,300	+200	-900
Rate	6.6%	6.5%	7.9%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	6.0%	6.0%	7.2%		

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 3.1 percent in September 2004, a rate that has not changed since June. A year ago, the area had a higher unemployment rate of 3.6 percent.

The Santa Fe area lost 300 jobs in September 2004 as the tourist season moved past its peak, and also summer youth programs ended for the year. The leisure and hospitality industry had 600 fewer jobs than last month, with fewer jobs at area hotels and at places like the Santa Fe Opera. The miscellaneous other services industry lost 600 jobs, mostly from summer youth programs. Retail trade and construction also dropped by 100 jobs each. Offsetting some of the seasonal job losses were an additional 400 jobs in private education, at such places as the College of Santa Fe, and 400 local government jobs in school districts. Two other industries also added 100 jobs each. Those industries were manufacturing and professional services.

Over-the-year job growth for the Santa Fe area was 1.4 percent, adding just 1,100 jobs. Since April, the rate of job growth in Santa Fe has been below the statewide average. The job growth rate has declined since peaking at 3.6 percent in January 2003. Eight industries have added jobs, one industry lost jobs, and three others remain at last year's levels.

Educational and health services has added 200 jobs since last year, which is lower than we have seen for a while. The health care and social assistance component is responsible for all the

new employment; private education has not increased from last year's level. The professional and business services industry also added 200 jobs, as did financial activities.

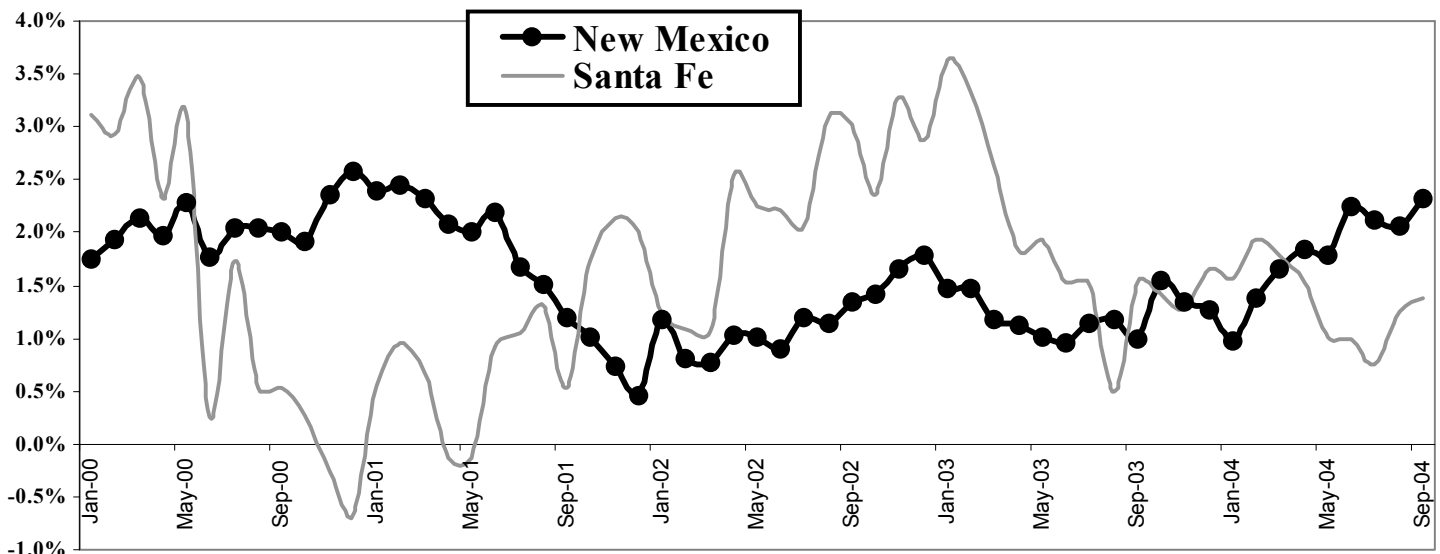
The large government sector has increased employment by 200 jobs, a 0.7 percent gain. Federal government employment continues to subtract from the employment count, having lost 100 jobs since last year. State government increased by 100 jobs, and local government has added 200 jobs. Employment at Los Alamos National Laboratory is included in state government because the University of California runs the facility.

Retail trade has added 100 jobs, growing 1.1 percent over-the-year. Another 100 jobs were added to the miscellaneous other services industry. Construction employment increased a modest 100 jobs, which suggests the area is not experiencing as much housing activity as in other parts of the state. Manufacturing employment increased 100 jobs, which was the first increase in more than four years.

Troubles in the information industry have finally caught up with Santa Fe. After two years of maintaining ground, employment has now fallen 100 lower than a year ago. The three industries reporting employment levels unchanged from last year were leisure and hospitality; wholesale trade; and transportation, warehousing & utilities.

Santa Fe	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>	<u>Sep 2004</u>	<u>Aug 2004</u>	<u>Sep 2003</u>	<u>Aug 2004</u>	<u>Sep 2003</u>
Civilian Labor Force	83,800	84,400	82,200	-600	+1,600
Employment	81,200	81,800	79,200	-600	+2,000
Unemployment	2,600	2,600	3,000	0	-400
Rate	3.1%	3.1%	3.6%		
Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	3.2%	3.2%	3.9%		

Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates - NM and Santa Fe



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

		Civilian Labor Force	Employ- ment	Un- Employ- ment	Rate %	Unadj. Rate %
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		708,400	662,300	46,100	6.5%	
1991		728,500	676,500	52,000	7.1%	
1992		744,400	692,000	52,400	7.0%	
1993		761,100	702,500	58,600	7.7%	
1994		781,500	732,500	49,000	6.3%	
1995		797,000	747,000	50,000	6.3%	
1996		806,900	741,900	65,000	8.1%	
1997		825,900	774,300	51,600	6.2%	
1998		845,100	792,900	52,200	6.2%	
1999		824,300	778,000	46,300	5.6%	
2000		854,100	811,800	42,300	5.0%	
2001		860,100	818,500	41,600	4.8%	
2002		875,300	827,600	47,700	5.4%	
2003		896,900	839,700	57,200	6.4%	
2003	JAN	888,100	835,200	52,900	6.0%	6.1%
	FEB	888,400	835,800	52,600	5.9%	5.8%
	MAR	890,400	836,000	54,400	6.1%	5.9%
	APR	892,400	837,000	55,400	6.2%	5.9%
	MAY	894,400	837,700	56,700	6.3%	6.3%
	JUN	898,400	838,500	59,900	6.7%	7.6%
	JUL	900,300	839,900	60,400	6.7%	7.1%
	AUG	900,300	840,800	59,500	6.6%	6.6%
	SEP	900,700	841,200	59,500	6.6%	6.5%
	OCT	902,700	843,800	58,900	6.5%	6.3%
	NOV	903,000	844,700	58,300	6.5%	6.2%
	DEC	903,400	845,500	57,900	6.4%	5.9%
2004	JAN	897,200	846,200	51,000	5.7%	5.8%
	FEB	898,000	847,700	50,300	5.6%	5.5%
	MAR	901,100	850,600	50,500	5.6%	5.4%
	APR	903,600	853,400	50,200	5.6%	5.3%
	MAY	905,500	856,400	49,100	5.4%	5.3%
	JUN	906,400	857,100	49,300	5.4%	6.4%
	JUL	905,700	857,300	48,400	5.3%	5.8%
	AUG	910,900	861,700	49,200	5.4%	5.4%
	SEP	911,100	862,500	48,600	5.3%	5.3%
	OCT					
	NOV					
	DEC					
# CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	200	800	-600	-0.1%	-0.1%
	Year Ago	10,400	21,300	-10,900	-1.3%	-1.2%
	2 Yrs. Ago	31,600	31,600	0	0.4%	-0.2%
	3 Yrs. Ago	51,300	44,700	6,600	0.4%	0.5%
% CHANGE FROM						
	Month Ago	0.0%	0.1%	-1.2%		
	Year Ago	1.2%	2.5%	-18.3%		
	2 Yrs. Ago	3.6%	3.8%	0.0%		
	3 Yrs. Ago	6.0%	5.5%	15.7%		

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

State	Rank	September 2003	September 2004	Change	% Change
Nevada	1	1,103.2	1,154.3	51.1	4.6%
Utah	2	1,083.0	1,115.2	32.2	3.0%
Idaho	3	582.6	599.0	16.4	2.8%
Hawaii	4	564.5	580.1	15.6	2.8%
Arizona	5	2,295.8	2,349.9	54.1	2.4%
New Mexico	6	781.8	800.0	18.2	2.3%
Virginia	7	3,517.1	3,595.1	78.0	2.2%
Oregon	8	1,568.6	1,601.0	32.4	2.1%
Washington	9	2,680.6	2,735.2	54.6	2.0%
Maryland	10	2,493.5	2,541.3	47.8	1.9%
Wisconsin	11	2,798.3	2,851.2	52.9	1.9%
Kansas	12	1,310.3	1,334.2	23.9	1.8%
Wyoming	13	257.4	262.0	4.6	1.8%
Florida	14	7,298.7	7,423.7	125.0	1.7%
New Jersey	15	3,986.9	4,055.0	68.1	1.7%
Oklahoma	16	1,444.8	1,468.0	23.2	1.6%
DC	17	418.6	425.3	6.7	1.6%
Missouri	18	2,695.9	2,735.0	39.1	1.5%
New Hampshire	19	622.2	631.1	8.9	1.4%
United States		130,135.0	131,916.0	1,781.0	1.4%
Alaska	20	313.4	317.6	4.2	1.3%
West Virginia	21	730.5	740.1	9.6	1.3%
North Carolina	22	3,824.9	3,872.8	47.9	1.3%
Texas	23	9,382.9	9,490.4	107.5	1.1%
Delaware	24	663.8	671.4	7.6	1.1%
Kentucky	25	1,791.9	1,810.7	18.8	1.0%
Colorado	26	2,155.9	2,178.5	22.6	1.0%
Mississippi	27	1,117.8	1,129.4	11.6	1.0%
Montana	28	407.1	411.3	4.2	1.0%
South Carolina	29	1,824.9	1,843.7	18.8	1.0%
Maine	30	617.8	624.0	6.2	1.0%
South Dakota	31	380.9	384.5	3.6	0.9%
Pennsylvania	32	5,617.0	5,664.5	47.5	0.8%
Rhode Island	33	489.6	493.5	3.9	0.8%
California	34	14,425.6	14,539.1	113.5	0.8%
Georgia	35	3,882.4	3,912.8	30.4	0.8%
Arkansas	36	1,154.6	1,162.5	7.9	0.7%
Minnesota	37	2,664.6	2,682.7	18.1	0.7%
New York	38	8,388.2	8,444.2	56.0	0.7%
Nebraska	39	904.9	910.6	5.7	0.6%
Iowa	40	1,450.7	1,459.4	8.7	0.6%
Tennessee	41	2,689.1	2,704.5	15.4	0.6%
Vermont	42	301.4	303.1	1.7	0.6%
Indiana	43	2,928.6	2,943.0	14.4	0.5%
North Dakota	44	338.5	339.8	1.3	0.4%
Alabama	45	1,880.9	1,886.8	5.9	0.3%
Connecticut	46	1,643.6	1,646.9	3.3	0.2%
Illinois	47	5,849.3	5,859.2	9.9	0.2%
Louisiana	48	1,905.8	1,906.8	1.0	0.1%
Massachusetts	49	3,196.7	3,189.8	-6.9	-0.2%
Ohio	50	5,408.1	5,393.1	-15.0	-0.3%
Michigan	51	4,437.2	4,385.7	-51.5	-1.2%

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 2004				REVISED AUGUST 2004				Absolute Change			Percent Change		
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.
STATEWIDE	909,972	861,482	48,490	5.3%	910,306	860,751	49,555	5.4%	-334	731	-1,065	0.0%	0.1%	-2.1%
Albuquerque MSA 2/	397,530	378,169	19,361	4.9%	396,897	377,366	19,531	4.9%	633	803	-170	0.2%	0.2%	-0.9%
Bernalillo	319,072	303,766	15,306	4.8%	318,544	303,121	15,423	4.8%	528	645	-117	0.2%	0.2%	-0.8%
Sandoval	47,394	44,983	2,411	5.1%	47,347	44,888	2,459	5.2%	47	95	-48	0.1%	0.2%	-2.0%
Valencia	31,064	29,420	1,644	5.3%	31,007	29,358	1,649	5.3%	57	62	-5	0.2%	0.2%	-0.3%
Las Cruces MSA 3/	80,256	75,433	4,823	6.0%	79,243	74,498	4,745	6.0%	1,013	935	78	1.3%	1.3%	1.6%
Santa Fe MSA 4/	83,648	80,934	2,714	3.2%	84,166	81,492	2,674	3.2%	-518	-558	40	-0.6%	-0.7%	1.5%
Los Alamos	10,675	10,519	156	1.5%	10,775	10,592	183	1.7%	-100	-73	-27	-0.9%	-0.7%	-14.8%
Santa Fe	72,973	70,415	2,558	3.5%	73,391	70,900	2,491	3.4%	-418	-485	67	-0.6%	-0.7%	2.7%
Catron	1,222	1,156	66	5.4%	1,245	1,180	65	5.2%	-23	-24	1	-1.8%	-2.0%	1.5%
Chaves	25,470	23,714	1,756	6.9%	25,552	23,872	1,680	6.6%	-82	-158	76	-0.3%	-0.7%	4.5%
Cibola	14,532	13,790	742	5.1%	14,664	13,843	821	5.6%	-132	-53	-79	-0.9%	-0.4%	-9.6%
Colfax	6,660	6,315	345	5.2%	7,635	7,273	362	4.7%	-975	-958	-17	-12.8%	-13.2%	-4.7%
Curry	21,618	20,876	742	3.4%	21,611	20,906	705	3.3%	7	-30	37	0.0%	-0.1%	5.2%
De Baca	894	840	54	6.0%	923	872	51	5.5%	-29	-32	3	-3.1%	-3.7%	5.9%
Eddy	23,860	22,576	1,284	5.4%	23,968	22,657	1,311	5.5%	-108	-81	-27	-0.5%	-0.4%	-2.1%
Grant	11,323	10,452	871	7.7%	11,248	10,337	911	8.1%	75	115	-40	0.7%	1.1%	-4.4%
Guadalupe	1,672	1,578	94	5.6%	1,696	1,597	99	5.8%	-24	-19	-5	-1.4%	-1.2%	-5.1%
Harding	460	441	19	4.1%	462	443	19	4.1%	-2	-2	0	-0.4%	-0.5%	0.0%
Hidalgo	1,930	1,812	118	6.1%	1,985	1,840	145	7.3%	-55	-28	-27	-2.8%	-1.5%	-18.6%
Lea	26,704	25,684	1,020	3.8%	26,700	25,658	1,042	3.9%	4	26	-22	0.0%	0.1%	-2.1%
Lincoln	8,990	8,672	318	3.5%	9,283	8,967	316	3.4%	-293	-295	2	-3.2%	-3.3%	0.6%
Luna	13,887	11,934	1,953	14.1%	14,385	12,295	2,090	14.5%	-498	-361	-137	-3.5%	-2.9%	-6.6%
McKinley	27,332	25,129	2,203	8.1%	27,375	24,918	2,457	9.0%	-43	211	-254	-0.2%	0.8%	-10.3%
Mora	1,936	1,703	233	12.0%	1,897	1,687	210	11.1%	39	16	23	2.1%	0.9%	11.0%
Otero	22,095	21,021	1,074	4.9%	22,065	20,899	1,166	5.3%	30	122	-92	0.1%	0.6%	-7.9%
Quay	4,038	3,839	199	4.9%	4,058	3,864	194	4.8%	-20	-25	5	-0.5%	-0.6%	2.6%
Rio Arriba	22,804	21,185	1,619	7.1%	22,789	21,115	1,674	7.3%	15	70	-55	0.1%	0.3%	-3.3%
Roosevelt	8,464	8,231	233	2.8%	7,783	7,556	227	2.9%	681	675	6	8.7%	8.9%	2.6%
San Juan	53,132	49,816	3,316	6.2%	53,195	49,509	3,686	6.9%	-63	307	-370	-0.1%	0.6%	-10.0%
San Miguel	13,826	12,883	943	6.8%	13,724	12,755	969	7.1%	102	128	-26	0.7%	1.0%	-2.7%
Sierra	4,245	4,052	193	4.5%	4,224	4,053	171	4.0%	21	-1	22	0.5%	0.0%	12.9%
Socorro	7,333	6,959	374	5.1%	7,335	6,958	377	5.1%	-2	1	-3	0.0%	0.0%	-0.8%
Taos	14,310	12,930	1,380	9.6%	14,477	13,113	1,364	9.4%	-167	-183	16	-1.2%	-1.4%	1.2%
Torrance	7,704	7,305	399	5.2%	7,635	7,197	438	5.7%	69	108	-39	0.9%	1.5%	-8.9%
Union	2,093	2,049	44	2.1%	2,084	2,029	55	2.6%	9	20	-11	0.4%	1.0%	-20.0%

	PRELIMINARY SEPTEMBER 2004				REVISED SEPTEMBER 2003				Absolute Change			Percent Change		
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.
STATEWIDE	909,972	861,482	48,490	5.3%	899,105	840,235	58,870	6.5%	10,867	21,247	-10,380	1.2%	2.5%	-17.6%
Albuquerque MSA 2/	397,530	378,169	19,361	4.9%	390,160	367,403	22,757	5.8%	7,370	10,766	-3,396	1.9%	2.9%	-14.9%
Bernalillo	319,072	303,766	15,306	4.8%	312,872	295,118	17,754	5.7%	6,200	8,648	-2,448	2.0%	2.9%	-13.8%
Sandoval	47,394	44,983	2,411	5.1%	46,731	43,702	3,029	6.5%	663	1,281	-618	1.4%	2.9%	-20.4%
Valencia	31,064	29,420	1,644	5.3%	30,557	28,583	1,974	6.5%	507	837	-330	1.7%	2.9%	-16.7%
Las Cruces MSA 3/	80,256	75,433	4,823	6.0%	78,509	72,834	5,675	7.2%	1,747	2,599	-852	2.2%	3.6%	-15.0%
Santa Fe MSA 4/	83,648	80,934	2,714	3.2%	82,092	78,916	3,176	3.9%	1,556	2,018	-462	1.9%	2.6%	-14.5%
Los Alamos	10,675	10,519	156	1.5%	10,453	10,257	196	1.9%	222	262	-40	2.1%	2.6%	-20.4%
Santa Fe	72,973	70,415	2,558	3.5%	71,639	68,659	2,980	4.2%	1,334	1,756	-422	1.9%	2.6%	-14.2%
Catron	1,222	1,156	66	5.4%	1,231	1,125	106	8.6%	-9	31	-40	-0.7%	2.8%	-37.7%
Chaves	25,470	23,714	1,756	6.9%	25,777	23,591	2,186	8.5%	-307	123	-430	-1.2%	0.5%	-19.7%
Cibola	14,532	13,790	742	5.1%	14,293	13,370	923	6.5%	239	420	-181	1.7%	3.1%	-19.6%
Colfax	6,660	6,315	345	5.2%	6,761	6,247	514	7.6%	-101	68	-169	-1.5%	1.1%	-32.9%
Curry	21,618	20,876	742	3.4%	21,135	20,284	851	4.0%	483	592	-109	2.3%	2.9%	-12.8%
De Baca	894	840	54	6.0%	933	821	112	12.0%	-39	19	-58	-4.2%	2.3%	-51.8%
Eddy	23,860	22,576	1,284	5.4%	24,125	22,216	1,909	7.9%	-265	360	-625	-1.1%	1.6%	-32.7%
Grant	11,323	10,452	871	7.7%	12,189	10,280	1,909	15.7%	-866	172	-1,038	-7.1%	1.7%	-54.4%
Guadalupe	1,672	1,578	94	5.6%	1,695	1,561	134	7.9%	-23	17	-40	-1.4%	1.1%	-29.9%
Harding	460	441	19	4.1%	466	442	24	5.2%	-6	-1	-5	-1.3%	-0.2%	-20.8%
Hidalgo	1,930	1,812	118	6.1%	1,929	1,790	139	7.2%	1	22	-21	0.1%	1.2%	-15.1%
Lea	26,704	25,684	1,020	3.8%	26,234	24,890	1,344	5.1%	470	794	-324	1.8%	3.2%	-24.1%
Lincoln	8,990	8,672	318	3.5%	8,749	8,414	335	3.8%	241	258	-17	2.8%	3.1%	-5.1%
Luna	13,887	11,934	1,953	14.1%	13,841	11,675	2,166	15.6%	46	259	-213	0.3%	2.2%	-9.8%
McKinley	27,332	25,129	2,203	8.1%	27,220	24,904	2,316	8.5%	112	225	-113	0.4%	0.9%	-4.9%
Mora	1,936	1,703	233	12.0%	1,892	1,688	204	10.8%	44	15	29	2.3%	0.9%	14.2%
Otero	22,095	21,021	1,074	4.9%	22,019	20,370	1,649	7.5%	76	651	-575	0.3%	3.2%	-34.9%
Quay	4,038	3,839	199	4.9%	4,052	3,814	238	5.9%	-14	25	-39	-0.3%	0.7%	-16.4%
Rio Arriba	22,804	21,185	1,619	7.1%	22,624	20,942	1,682	7.4%	180	243	-63	0.8%	1.2%	-3.7%
Roosevelt	8,464	8,231	233	2.8%	8,451	8,151	300	3.5%	13	80	-67	0.2%	1.0%	-22.3%
San Juan	53,132	49,816	3,316	6.2%	53,253	48,832	4,421	8.3%	-121	984	-1,105	-0.2%	2.0%	-25.0%
San Miguel	13,826	12,883	943	6.8%	13,824	12,763	1,061	7.7%	2	120	-118	0.0%	0.9%	-11.1%
Sierra	4,245	4,052	193	4.5%	4,229	4,037	192	4.5%	16	15	1	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%
Socorro	7,333	6,959	374	5.1%	7,318	6,875	443	6.1%	15	84	-69	0.2%	1.2%	-15.6%
Taos	14,310	12,930	1,380	9.6%	14,330	12,723	1,607	11.2%	-20	207	-227	-0.1%	1.6%	-14.1%
Torrance	7,704	7,305	399	5.2%	7,666	7,234	432	5.6%	38	71	-33	0.5%	1.0%	-7.6%
Union	2,093	2,049	44	2.1%	2,107	2,041	66	3.1%	-14	8	-22	-0.7%	0.4%	-33.3%

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 2004		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	14.1%
MORA	2	12.0%
TAOS	3	9.6%
MCKINLEY	4	8.1%
GRANT	5	7.7%
RIO ARRIBA	6	7.1%
CHAVES	7	6.9%
SAN MIGUEL	8	6.8%
SAN JUAN	9	6.2%
HIDALGO	10	6.1%
DE BACA	11	6.0%
LAS CRUCES MSA 2/	12	6.0%
GUADALUPE	13	5.6%
CATRON	14	5.4%
EDDY	15	5.4%
STATEWIDE		5.3%
COLFAX	16	5.2%
TORRANCE	17	5.2%
CIBOLA	18	5.1%
SOCORRO	19	5.1%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	20	4.9%
OTERO	21	4.9%
QUAY	22	4.9%
SIERRA	23	4.5%
HARDING	24	4.1%
LEA	25	3.8%
LINCOLN	26	3.5%
CURRY	27	3.4%
SANTA FE MSA 3/	28	3.2%
ROOSEVELT	29	2.8%
UNION	30	2.1%

REVISED AUGUST 2004		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
LUNA	1	14.5%
MORA	2	11.1%
TAOS	3	9.4%
MCKINLEY	4	9.0%
GRANT	5	8.1%
HIDALGO	6	7.3%
RIO ARRIBA	7	7.3%
SAN MIGUEL	8	7.1%
SAN JUAN	9	6.9%
CHAVES	10	6.6%
LAS CRUCES MSA 2/	11	6.0%
GUADALUPE	12	5.8%
TORRANCE	13	5.7%
CIBOLA	14	5.6%
DE BACA	15	5.5%
EDDY	16	5.5%
STATEWIDE		5.4%
OTERO	17	5.3%
CATRON	18	5.2%
SOCORRO	19	5.1%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	20	4.9%
QUAY	21	4.8%
COLFAX	22	4.7%
HARDING	23	4.1%
SIERRA	24	4.0%
LEA	25	3.9%
LINCOLN	26	3.4%
CURRY	27	3.3%
SANTA FE MSA 3/	28	3.2%
ROOSEVELT	29	2.9%
UNION	30	2.6%

REVISED SEPTEMBER 2003		
AREAS	RANK	RATE
GRANT	1	15.7%
LUNA	2	15.6%
DE BACA	3	12.0%
TAOS	4	11.2%
MORA	5	10.8%
CATRON	6	8.6%
MCKINLEY	7	8.5%
CHAVES	8	8.5%
SAN JUAN	9	8.3%
EDDY	10	7.9%
GUADALUPE	11	7.9%
SAN MIGUEL	12	7.7%
COLFAX	13	7.6%
OTERO	14	7.5%
RIO ARRIBA	15	7.4%
LAS CRUCES MSA 2/	16	7.2%
HIDALGO	17	7.2%
STATEWIDE		6.5%
CIBOLA	18	6.5%
SOCORRO	19	6.1%
QUAY	20	5.9%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 1/	21	5.8%
TORRANCE	22	5.6%
HARDING	23	5.2%
LEA	24	5.1%
SIERRA	25	4.5%
CURRY	26	4.0%
SANTA FE MSA 3/	27	3.9%
LINCOLN	28	3.8%
ROOSEVELT	29	3.5%
UNION	30	3.1%

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

Need Labor Market Information?

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

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

...Check Out Our Website!



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

www.dol.state.nm.us

Unemployment Rate by State (Seasonally Adjusted)

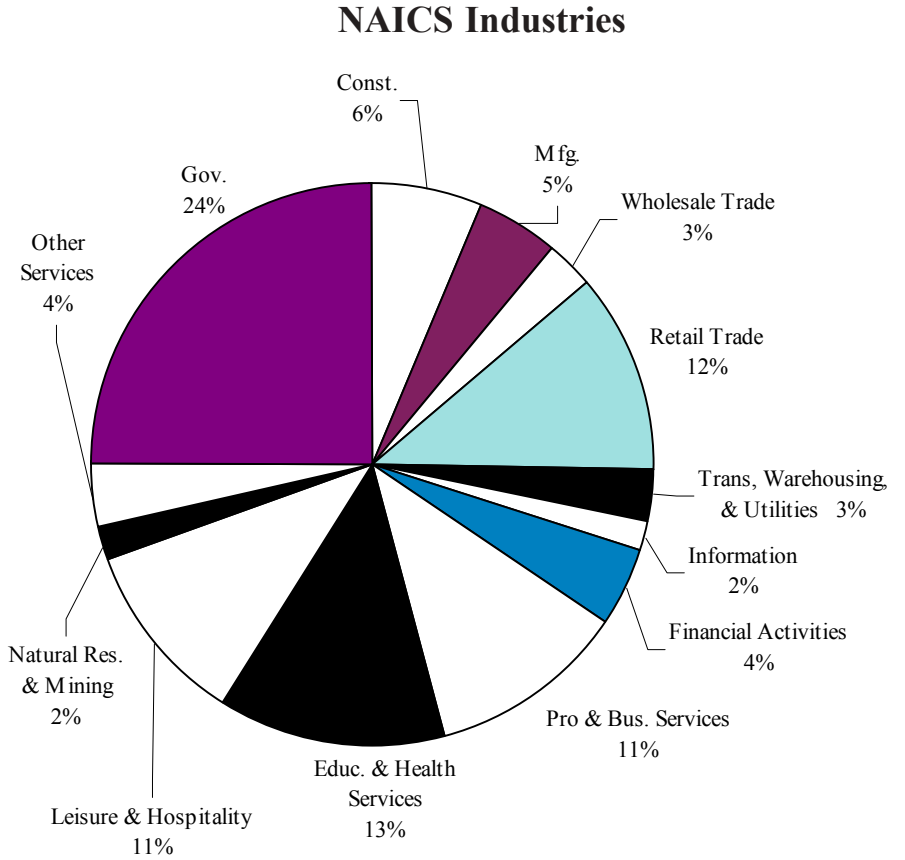
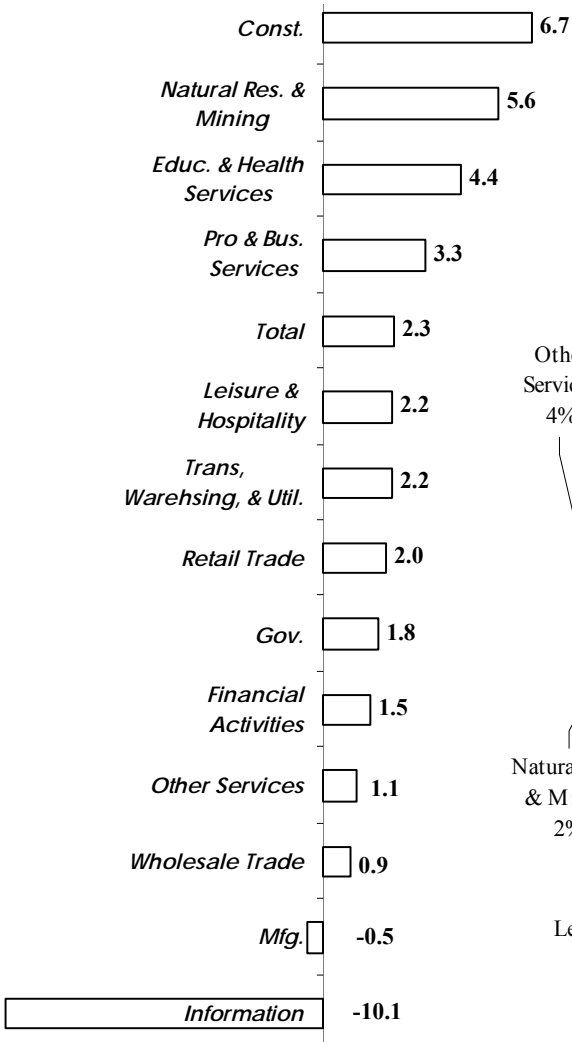
Preliminary	September	
State	Rank	2004 Rate
District of Columbia	1	7.9
Alaska	2	7.6
Oregon	3	7.3
South Carolina	4	6.9
Michigan	5	6.8
Illinois	6	6.0
Mississippi	6	6.0
Ohio	6	6.0
California	9	5.9
Alabama	10	5.7
Missouri	11	5.6
Washington	11	5.6
Arkansas	13	5.5
New York	13	5.5
Texas	13	5.5
United States		5.4
New Mexico	16	5.3
Louisiana	16	5.3
Pennsylvania	16	5.3
Indiana	19	5.2
Montana	20	5.1
Tennessee	20	5.1
Idaho	22	5.0
Rhode Island	22	5.0
West Virginia	22	5.0
Wisconsin	22	5.0
Colorado	26	4.9
Arizona	27	4.8
New Jersey	27	4.8
North Carolina	27	4.8
Utah	27	4.8
Connecticut	31	4.7
Iowa	31	4.7
Kansas	31	4.7
Maine	31	4.7
Kentucky	35	4.6
Massachusetts	35	4.6
Minnesota	35	4.6
Florida	38	4.5
Oklahoma	39	4.4
Georgia	40	4.1
Maryland	40	4.1
Delaware	42	3.9
Nevada	42	3.9
Wyoming	42	3.9
Nebraska	45	3.7
North Dakota	46	3.6
New Hampshire	47	3.5
South Dakota	48	3.4
Vermont	49	3.3
Virginia	50	3.2
Hawaii	51	3.1

Revised	September	
State	Rank	2003 Rate
Oregon	1	8.2
Alaska	2	8.0
Washington	3	7.7
Michigan	4	7.6
South Carolina	5	7.0
Illinois	6	6.9
District of Columbia	7	6.8
Texas	7	6.8
California	9	6.7
New Mexico	10	6.6
Arkansas	10	6.6
Louisiana	12	6.5
New York	13	6.4
North Carolina	13	6.4
Kentucky	15	6.2
Mississippi	16	6.1
Ohio	16	6.1
Tennessee	16	6.1
United States		6.1
Colorado	19	6.0
West Virginia	19	6.0
Massachusetts	21	5.9
Alabama	22	5.8
New Jersey	22	5.8
Oklahoma	22	5.8
Missouri	25	5.7
Wisconsin	26	5.6
Arizona	27	5.5
Connecticut	27	5.5
Utah	27	5.5
Kansas	30	5.4
Pennsylvania	30	5.4
Idaho	32	5.3
Nevada	32	5.3
Indiana	34	5.2
Maine	34	5.2
Florida	36	5.1
Minnesota	36	5.1
Vermont	38	5.0
Rhode Island	39	4.9
Montana	40	4.8
Iowa	41	4.6
Delaware	42	4.5
Georgia	42	4.5
Hawaii	42	4.5
Maryland	42	4.5
New Hampshire	46	4.3
Wyoming	46	4.3
Nebraska	48	4.1
Virginia	48	4.1
North Dakota	50	3.9
South Dakota	51	3.7

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

New Mexico Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Annual Growth Rates by Industry



New Mexico and Albuquerque Annual Nonfarm Job Growth Rates

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Sep-04	Aug-04	Sep-03	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	800,000	793,500	781,800	6,500	18,200
GOODS PRODUCING	103,600	103,800	99,800	-200	3,800
SERVICES-PROVIDING	696,400	689,700	682,000	6,700	14,400
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	15,200	15,000	14,400	200	800
<i>Oil & Gas Extraction, Well Drilling</i>	11,500	11,400	10,700	100	800
<i>Mining, Except Oil and Gas</i>	3,800	3,700	3,600	100	200
CONSTRUCTION	51,300	51,500	48,100	-200	3,200
Construction of Buildings	14,200	14,200	13,700	0	500
<i>Residential Building Construction</i>	7,900	7,900	7,500	0	400
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	8,500	8,600	8,100	-100	400
Specialty Trade Contractors	28,600	28,700	26,300	-100	2,300
MANUFACTURING	37,100	37,300	37,300	-200	-200
Durable Goods	24,900	25,000	25,100	-100	-200
<i>Computer and Electronic Products</i>	10,600	10,700	10,700	-100	-100
<i>Semiconductor and Other Electronics</i>	7,100	7,100	7,400	0	-300
Non-Durable Goods	12,200	12,300	12,200	-100	0
WHOLESALE TRADE	22,300	22,400	22,100	-100	200
RETAIL TRADE	92,300	92,900	90,500	-600	1,800
<i>Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers</i>	12,900	13,000	12,600	-100	300
<i>Food and Beverage Stores</i>	12,300	12,300	12,700	0	-400
<i>General Merchandise Stores</i>	20,900	21,000	20,300	-100	600
<i>Department Stores</i>	6,300	6,300	6,900	0	-600
<i>Other General Merchandise Stores</i>	14,600	14,600	13,400	0	1,200
<i>Miscellaneous Store Retailers</i>	7,000	7,000	7,100	0	-100
<i>Nonstore Retailers</i>	2,700	2,700	2,600	0	100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	23,600	23,100	23,100	500	500
Utilities	3,900	3,900	4,000	0	-100
Transportation and Warehousing	19,700	19,200	19,100	500	600
<i>Truck Transportation</i>	7,000	7,000	6,600	0	400
INFORMATION	14,200	14,400	15,800	-200	-1,600
<i>Telecommunications</i>	6,100	6,300	7,800	-200	-1,700
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	34,700	34,900	34,200	-200	500
Finance and Insurance	23,900	24,000	24,000	-100	-100
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities</i>	12,800	12,800	12,600	0	200
<i>Insurance Carriers and Related Activities</i>	9,400	9,300	9,500	100	-100
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	10,800	10,900	10,200	-100	600
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	91,400	91,100	88,500	300	2,900
Professional, Scientific, and Technical	41,800	41,900	41,100	-100	700
<i>Architectural, Engineering, and Related</i>	11,000	11,200	10,800	-200	200
<i>Scientific Research and Development</i>	13,500	13,400	13,100	100	400
Management of Companies and Enterprises	5,000	5,000	5,100	0	-100
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services	44,600	44,200	42,300	400	2,300
<i>Employment Services</i>	17,600	17,500	16,500	100	1,100
<i>Business Support Services</i>	5,600	5,500	4,600	100	1,000
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	104,500	100,700	100,100	3,800	4,400
Educational Services	12,700	9,000	12,600	3,700	100
Health Care and Social Assistance	91,800	91,700	87,500	100	4,300
Ambulatory Health Care Services	35,800	35,900	33,300	-100	2,500
<i>Offices of Physicians</i>	10,300	10,300	9,900	0	400
<i>Outpatient Care Centers</i>	5,000	5,200	4,700	-200	300
<i>Home Health Care Services</i>	8,400	8,500	8,300	-100	100
Hospitals	22,000	22,000	21,400	0	600
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	13,800	13,700	13,200	100	600
<i>Nursing Care Facilities</i>	7,500	7,400	7,300	100	200
Social Assistance	20,200	20,100	19,600	100	600
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	84,400	86,900	82,600	-2,500	1,800
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7,600	8,800	7,300	-1,200	300
Accommodation and Food Services	76,800	78,100	75,300	-1,300	1,500
Accommodation	13,700	14,300	13,800	-600	-100
Food Services and Drinking Places	63,100	63,800	61,500	-700	1,600
<i>Full-Service Restaurants</i>	30,100	30,700	28,500	-600	1,600
<i>Limited-Service Eating Places</i>	26,100	26,200	25,800	-100	300
OTHER SERVICES	28,600	30,900	28,300	-2,300	300
<i>Repair and Maintenance</i>	7,800	7,800	7,700	0	100
GOVERNMENT	200,400	192,400	196,800	8,000	3,600
Federal Government	30,000	30,200	30,100	-200	-100
State Government 2/	68,700	64,300	68,100	4,400	600
<i>State Government Education</i>	27,700	23,500	27,300	4,200	400
Local Government	101,700	97,900	98,600	3,800	3,100
<i>Local Government Education</i>	53,900	50,200	53,000	3,700	900

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-04	Aug-04	Sep-03	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	369,900	367,500	363,300	2,400	6,600
GOODS PRODUCING	48,500	49,000	48,300	-500	200
SERVICES-PROVIDING	321,400	318,500	315,000	2,900	6,400
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING & CONSTRUCTION	26,000	26,300	24,600	-300	1,400
<i>Specialty Trade Contractors</i>	16,400	16,400	15,000	0	1,400
MANUFACTURING	22,500	22,700	23,700	-200	-1,200
<i>Computer and Electronic Products</i>	9,600	9,700	10,200	-100	-600
<i>Semiconductor and Other Electronics</i>	6,700	6,700	7,100	0	-400
WHOLESALE TRADE	12,800	12,800	13,000	0	-200
RETAIL TRADE	42,100	42,200	41,100	-100	1,000
<i>Building Material and Garden Equipment</i>	3,800	3,800	3,600	0	200
<i>Food and Beverage Stores</i>	4,600	4,600	4,700	0	-100
<i>General Merchandise Stores</i>	8,500	8,500	8,200	0	300
<i>Department Stores</i>	3,300	3,300	3,500	0	-200
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	10,600	10,600	10,400	0	200
INFORMATION	9,000	9,100	10,200	-100	-1,200
<i>Telecommunications</i>	4,800	4,800	5,700	0	-900
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	19,100	19,100	19,100	0	0
<i>Finance and Insurance</i>	13,600	13,600	13,800	0	-200
<i>Credit Intermediation and Related Activities</i>	5,900	6,000	5,900	-100	0
<i>Depository Credit Intermediation</i>	4,000	4,000	4,000	0	0
<i>Insurance Carriers</i>	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	58,900	58,800	57,200	100	1,700
Professional, Scientific, and Technical	28,400	28,600	28,100	-200	300
<i>Scientific Research and Development</i>	11,800	11,800	11,300	0	500
Management of Companies and Enterprises	3,800	3,800	4,000	0	-200
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services	26,700	26,400	25,100	300	1,600
<i>Employment Services</i>	13,200	13,000	12,200	200	1,000
<i>Business Support Services</i>	3,300	3,200	2,800	100	500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	45,600	44,500	43,500	1,100	2,100
<i>Health Care and Social Assistance</i>	40,200	39,900	38,100	300	2,100
<i>Ambulatory Health Care Services</i>	16,800	16,700	15,700	100	1,100
<i>Hospitals</i>	9,700	9,700	9,300	0	400
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	37,300	37,700	36,300	-400	1,000
<i>Food Services and Drinking Places</i>	28,700	28,900	28,100	-200	600
<i>Full-Service Restaurants</i>	13,300	13,600	12,600	-300	700
OTHER SERVICES	12,000	12,200	11,800	-200	200
GOVERNMENT	74,000	71,500	72,400	2,500	1,600
Federal Government	14,000	14,000	13,900	0	100
State Government /2	24,900	22,900	24,300	2,000	600
Local Government	35,100	34,600	34,200	500	900

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

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

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

LAS CRUCES MSA	Preliminary Sep-04	Revised Aug-04	Revised Sep-03	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT /1	64,300	62,700	62,200	1,600	2,100
GOODS PRODUCING	7,500	7,600	6,900	-100	600
SERVICE PRODUCING	56,800	55,100	55,300	1,700	1,500
NATURAL RESOURCES MINING & CONSTRUCTION	4,000	4,100	3,700	-100	300
MANUFACTURING	3,500	3,500	3,200	0	300
WHOLESALE TRADE	1,200	1,200	1,100	0	100
RETAIL TRADE	7,100	7,000	6,800	100	300
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING, AND UTILITIES	1,700	1,700	1,500	0	200
INFORMATION	1,100	1,100	1,200	0	-100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,400	2,400	2,300	0	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	5,100	5,100	5,200	0	-100
<i>Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services</i>	2,300	2,300	2,400	0	-100
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	9,400	9,400	9,100	0	300
<i>Health Care & Social Assistance</i>	8,500	8,500	8,500	0	0
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	6,400	6,400	6,200	0	200
OTHER SERVICES	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0
GOVERNMENT	21,000	19,400	20,500	1,600	500
Federal	3,600	3,600	3,500	0	100
State	9,100	7,800	9,000	1,300	100
Local	8,300	8,000	8,000	300	300

SANTA FE MSA	Preliminary Sep-04	Revised Aug-04	Revised Sep-03	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT /1	80,800	81,100	79,700	-300	1,100
GOODS PRODUCING	6,300	6,300	6,100	0	200
SERVICE PRODUCING	74,500	74,800	73,600	-300	900
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTRUCTION	5,000	5,100	4,900	-100	100
MANUFACTURING	1,300	1,200	1,200	100	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	700	0	0
INFORMATION	1,000	1,000	1,100	0	-100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	3,600	3,600	3,400	0	200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	9,200	9,100	9,000	100	200
<i>Administrative & Support & Waste Mgt & Remediation Services</i>	4,700	4,600	4,700	100	0
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	9,400	8,900	9,200	500	200
<i>Health Care & Social Assistance</i>	7,400	7,300	7,200	100	200
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	9,500	10,100	9,500	-600	0
<i>Food Service & Drinking Places</i>	6,400	6,400	6,100	0	300
OTHER SERVICES	3,400	4,000	3,300	-600	100
GOVERNMENT	27,500	27,100	27,300	400	200
Federal	1,400	1,400	1,500	0	-100
State /2	18,400	18,400	18,300	0	100
Local	7,700	7,300	7,500	400	200

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-04	Revised Aug-04	Monthly Change
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	795,100	793,100	2,000
NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING	15,100	14,900	200
CONSTRUCTION	50,300	49,800	500
MANUFACTURING	35,400	35,600	-200
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	138,400	138,200	200
INFORMATION <i>(Not Seasonally Adjusted)</i>	14,200	14,400	-200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	34,600	34,600	0
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	90,700	90,200	500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	104,000	104,000	0
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	82,900	83,900	-1,000
OTHER SERVICES	29,200	29,200	0
GOVERNMENT	200,300	198,300	2,000

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

New Publication

The Unemployment Insurance Bureau of the Department of Labor has written a new publication, New Mexico Unemployment Insurance Data, Calendar Year 2003. This annual publication provides statistics and analysis of various unemployment insurance data, such as initial claims, weeks claimed, benefits paid, and the trust fund for calendar year 2003. For a free copy please contact Rachel Moskowitz at the Department of Labor at (505) 841-9062, or email at RMoskowitz@state.nm.us

New Mexico Unemployment Insurance Data



2003

New Mexico
Department of
LABOR

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		
	Sep 04	Aug 04	Sep 03	Sep 04	Aug 04	Sep 03	Sep 04	Aug 04	Sep 03
NATURAL RES. & MINING	\$749.96	\$749.09	\$745.59	43.3	43.3	43.5	\$17.32	\$17.30	\$17.14
CONSTRUCTION	\$599.07	\$599.07	\$597.88	39.7	39.7	39.7	\$15.09	\$15.09	\$15.06
MANUFACTURING	\$517.97	\$517.18	\$514.69	39.6	39.6	39.5	\$13.08	\$13.06	\$13.03
WHOLESALE TRADE	\$517.59	\$516.49	\$511.93	35.5	35.4	35.6	\$14.58	\$14.59	\$14.38
RETAIL TRADE	\$337.54	\$334.40	\$337.21	32.3	32.0	32.3	\$10.45	\$10.45	\$10.44
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	\$479.67	\$481.03	\$490.31	35.4	35.5	36.4	\$13.55	\$13.55	\$13.47
ALBUQUERQUE MSA	Sep 04	Aug 04	Sep 03	Sep 04	Aug 04	Sep 03	Sep 04	Aug 04	Sep 03
MANUFACTURING	\$601.85	\$587.20	\$531.60	39.7	40.0	38.3	\$15.16	\$14.68	\$13.88

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

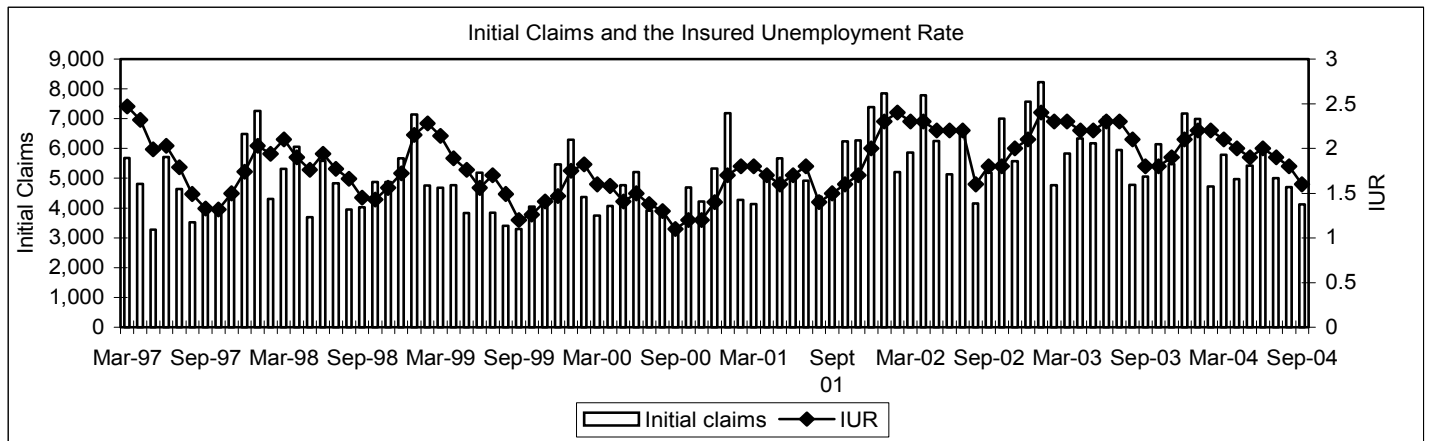
Index Base Year 1982-84 = 100				PERCENT CHANGE	
	Sep 04	Aug 04	Sep 03	Month to Month	Year to Year
CPI-U	189.9	189.5	185.2	0.2%	2.5%
CPI-W	185.4	185.0	181.0	0.2%	2.4%

*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[^]

CLAIMS ACTIVITIES	Sep-04	Aug-04	Sep-03	Percent Change	
				from August-04	From September-03
Initial Claims	4,133	4,698	5,056	-12.0%	-18.3%
Continued Claims #	46,345	62,649	60,940	-26.0%	-23.9%
Insured Unemployed #	11,285	13,120	12,835	-14.0%	-12.1%
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.6%	1.8%	1.8%		
PAYMENT ACTIVITIES					
First Payments	1,869	2,596	2,443	-28.0%	-23.5%
Final Payments	990	1,317	1,307	-24.8%	-24.3%
Weeks Compensated	37,526	52,213	51,616	-28.1%	-27.3%
Net Benefit Payments	\$8,426,201	\$11,452,965	\$11,191,535	-26.4%	-24.7%
Average WBA*	\$214.75	\$214.33	\$207.64	0.2%	3.4%
Average Duration (weeks)*	17.9	18.1	17.6	-0.9%	1.9%
Exhaustion Rate *	43.6%	44.1%	43.5%		
Trust Fund Balance, August 2004	\$513,213,879				



[^] Regular program only, not seasonally adjusted, does not include TEUC. * 12-month moving average. # Includes intrastate & interstate agent continued claims. Questions or comments? Please contact Actuarial Research @ (505) 841-9062 or RMoskowitz@state.nm.us

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:

After two bleak years, a normal yield is expected for the **2004 New Mexico apple harvest**. A normal year means a harvest of 6 to 8 million pounds of apples. Most of the annual \$2 million apple crop is grown in rural northern New Mexico.

All six New Mexico **Factory-2-U** discount clothing stores are holding brief liquidation sales prior to closing. The stores are being closed as part of a seven-state bankruptcy-court proceeding. An additional 166 Factory-2-U stores in California, Texas, Nevada, Arizona, Washington and Oregon are also being closed.

Albuquerque Area, Bernalillo County:

A second Albuquerque area **Circuit City** store opened in September at Cottonwood Corners on the city's Westside near the Cottonwood Mall. The new 33,500-square-foot store is a little smaller than most other Circuit City stores and employs about 60 people.

SBS Technologies is going to build a 48,500-square-foot corporate headquarters on a 4.7-acre plot in the Journal Center II Business Park. Currently, about 115 employees work in the company's headquarters at 2400 Louisiana Blvd. NE. The move to the new location may allow the company to hire at least 60 more employees. The \$8.6 million construction project is expected to be completed by the spring of next year.

Ground was broken on the \$90 million **Temper-Pedic** mattress factory in mid-September. The plant is expected to employ 300 people at wages in the range of \$25,000 to \$50,000 a year when it opens in early 2006. Greater than anticipated demand for Temper-Pedic mattresses has prompted the company to build a larger facility than had been originally planned.

Albuquerque's first **Save-A-Lot** food store opened in the Atrisco Plaza at 4201 West Central. Save-A-Lot stores usually are smaller than many other chain grocery stores and feature deep discounts on the items that they carry. The 12,000-square-foot store stocks about 1,200 of the most requested items in the most popular sizes.

Big 5 Sporting Goods selected the Coors corridor north of Interstate 40 as the site for its fourth Albuquerque area store. The new store under construction at 3140 Coors NW will be the first local store to be built from the ground up for the sporting goods chain. Big 5 entered the Albuquerque and Santa Fe market by purchasing and moving into a number of the old Gardenswartz Sports stores in 1995. The new 10,000-square-foot store is scheduled to open in mid-October.

CarMax, a national new and used auto dealership, plans to open its first New Mexico operation at 5102 Alameda NE in mid-November. The Richmond, Virginia-based company seeks to hire 125 full- and part-time sales staff, service technicians, and office workers. The dealership will stock about 300 to 500 vehicles.

Roswell Area, Chaves County:

A recent report on **New Mexico agriculture** reported that Chaves County is one of the largest agricultural producers in New Mexico and the 11th largest dairy producer in the nation. The county is also an important producer of pecans, sheep and chile peppers. The economic effect of agricultural production for the county was estimated to be \$922 million for 2003.

Clovis Area, Curry County:

The Southwest Cheese plant is about a quarter of the way to completion and the company has 110 employees thus far. The company is planning to hire about 90 more employees over the next few months. When the new plant opens in October 2005, it will be the largest cheese and whey plant in North America.

Santa Teresa Area, Doña Ana County:

Earthstone, a Santa Fe-based company, plans to open a production facility in Santa Teresa and a research and development operation in Las Cruces. The company makes products from recycled glass and hopes to have the Santa Teresa facility operational by mid-2005. As many as 200 people could be employed in Santa Teresa, and another five to eight people could be employed at the R&D facility in Las Cruces.

Hobbs Area, Lea County:

The **First National Bank of Hobbs** is planning to move to a new larger facility in July or August of next year. The new bank will be built just east of the Applebee's restaurant on Joe Harvey Boulevard. The new bank is almost three times larger than the current one and construction of the 10,735-square-foot facility will cost about \$3 to \$3.5 million. The bank plans to add four or five employees after the move.

The **Paper and Party Emporium**, a long-time fixture in the Lovington area, has opened a second location in Hobbs. The new store features educational, gift and party supplies. The new Hobbs store has a staff of five employees and is a little smaller than the store in Lovington.

The **American Medical Group** reopened the medical building formerly occupied by Covenant Healthcare System. The clinic at 2410 North Fowler had been unoccupied for over a year and was opened again in mid-September. The clinic's staff of 12 employees includes a physician, a lab and x-ray technician and two nurses. Half of the staff is bilingual and the clinic features same-day service.

Lovington Area, Lea County:

Auto Zone's market researchers identified Lovington as an ideal area to locate one of their stores. The company favors areas with a concentration of vehicles that are seven or more years old and a large number of do-it-yourselfers. Auto Zone will build a new 6,200-square-foot store at 709 W. Avenue D, formerly the site of the now-demolished Tri-Pump building. The new store is scheduled to open in mid-November and will employ 10 to 12 people.

Tucumcari Area, Quay County:

Ace Hardware opened a new store in Tucumcari in mid-September in the old Cooper's Grocery building. The new hardware store has a staff of six permanent employees.

Velarde Area, Rio Arriba County:

The mica milling operation at Velarde has been shut down and now employs only a skeleton crew. **Oglebay Norton**, the Ohio-based owners of the mill, has also suspended mining operations at the mica mine north of Picuris Pueblo. About 30 workers were laid off by the closure of the Velarde mill.

Rio Rancho Area, Sandoval County:

Retail giant **Wal-Mart** announced plans to build its first Sandoval County store in Rio Rancho. The new store is to be built at the northwest corner of Southern and Unser boulevards near the Walgreen's drug store. The new store could open as early as May of next year. The site is expected to be developed as a 210,000-square-foot supercenter.

Socorro Area, Socorro County:

Auto Zone plans to build a store in Socorro. Construction of the 6,300-square-foot store started in September and completion is scheduled for mid-November. About ten to twelve employees will staff the store.



Publication Updated and Available Now!

Annual Social and Economic Indicators, formerly *Annual Planning Indicators*, is published by the New Mexico Department of Labor (NMDOL), Bureau of Economic Research and Analysis. This report is intended to aid planners by providing information on the current and expected labor market conditions by area, industry, and occupation. This report also provides information on the characteristics of the persons who compose the labor force.



New Mexico Occupational Openings, Applicants, and Projections

NEW MEXICO			
WDC ACTIVITY		PROJECTIONS	
Openings	Applicants	Fastest Growing	Most Openings
Construction Laborers Cashiers Sales Reps, Services Customer Service Reps Stock Clerks Truck Drivers, Heavy Maids and Housekeepers Security Guards Production Helpers Landscaping & Grndskping Workers	Cashiers General Office Clerks Office and Admin, All Others Construction Laborers Administrative Assistants Customer Service Reps Receptionists Retail Salespersons Truck Drivers, Heavy Electricians	Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors Computer Software Engineers, Systems Network Systems & Data Comm. Analysts Medical Assistants Hazardous Materials Removal Workers Medical Records & Health Info. Techs. Social and Human Service Assistants Personal and Home Care Aides Physical Therapist Assistants Self-Enrichment Education Teachers	Retail Salespersons Cashiers Waiters and Waitresses Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers Registered Nurses General and Operations Managers Janitors and Cleaners Office Clerks, General Customer Service Representatives Farmworkers and Laborers
ALBUQUERQUE MSA			
WDC ACTIVITY		PROJECTIONS	
Openings	Applicants	Fastest Growing	Most Openings
Stock Clerks Security Guards Correctional Officers Construction Laborers Janitors and Cleaners Customer Service Reps Grounds Maintenance Workers Production Helpers Sales Reps, Services Cashiers	Customer Services Reps General Office Clerks Administrative Assistants Office and Admin, All Others Cashiers Administrative Managers Stock Clerks Receptionists Computer Support Specialists General Managers	Network Systems & Data Comm. Analysts Computer Software Engineers, Systems Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors Medical Assistants Social and Human Service Assistants Medical Records & Health Info. Techs. Construction Trades, All Other Personal and Home Care Aides Network and Computer Systems Admins. Telecomm. Line Installers and Repairers	Retail Salespersons Cashiers Waiters and Waitresses Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers Customer Service Representatives Registered Nurses General and Operations Managers Office Clerks, General Janitors and Cleaners Security Guards
SANTA FE MSA			
WDC ACTIVITY		PROJECTIONS	
Openings	Applicants	Fastest Growing	Most Openings
Laborers and Freight Workers Retail Salespersons Construction Laborers Sales Reps, Services Maids and Housekeepers Landscaping and Grndskping. Workers Security Guards Truck Drivers, Light Home Health Aides Combined Food Prep/Serving Workers	Office and Admin, All Others Managers, All Others General Office Clerks Cashiers Administrative Assistants Carpenters Home Health Aides Retail Salespersons Administrative Managers Accountants	Medical Assistants Operating Engineers Self-Enrichment Education Teachers Pharmacists Computer and Information Systems Mgrs. Dental Assistants Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors Computer Support Specialists Computer Specialists, All Other Electricians	Retail Salespersons Waiters and Waitresses Cashiers Combined Food Prep. and Serving Workers Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners General and Operations Managers Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers Registered Nurses Janitors and Cleaners Office Clerks, General
LAS CRUCES MSA			
WDC ACTIVITY		PROJECTIONS	
Openings	Applicants	Fastest Growing	Most Openings
Production Helpers Production Clerks Combined Food Prep/Serving Workers Laborers and Freight Workers General Office Clerks Retail Salespersons Construction Laborers Telemarketers School Bus Drivers Landscaping and Grndskping. Workers	Cashiers General Office Clerks Retail Salespersons Bookkeepers Construction Laborers Receptionists Administrative Assistants General Maintenance Workers Home Health Aides Office and Admin, All Others	Medical Assistants Medical Records & Health Info. Technicians Pharmacists Dental Assistants Combined Food Prep. and Serving Workers Registered Nurses Personal and Home Care Aides Waiters and Waitresses Social and Human Service Assistants Cooks, Restaurant	Farmworkers and Laborers Waiters and Waitresses Cashiers Combined Food Prep. and Serving Workers Retail Salespersons Registered Nurses Elementary School Teachers Teacher Assistants General and Operations Managers Janitors and Cleaners

Note: Occupational Openings and Applicants are a 6 month moving average of activity for New Mexico, Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Las Cruces Workforce Development Centers

Note: Occupational Projections are from NM Employment Projections 2002-2006, Published October 2004

Published: 10/29/2004

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

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