

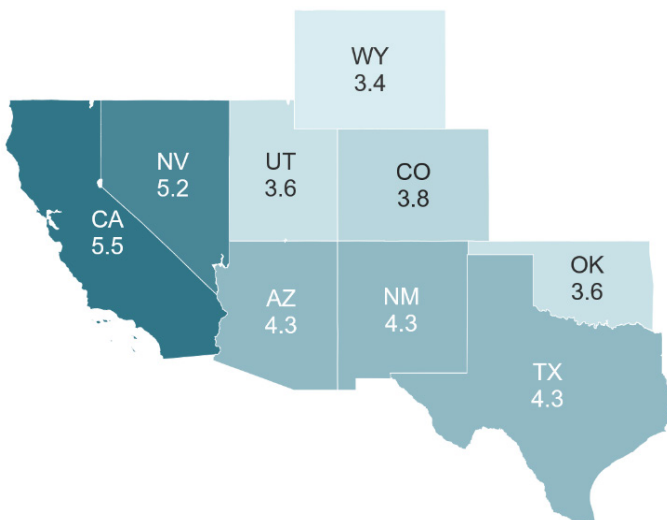
NEW MEXICO LABOR MARKET REVIEW DECEMBER 2025

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The New Mexico Labor Market Review (LMR) presents the most up-to-date labor market highlights and happenings. The LMR is produced and published monthly and includes data on the labor force, jobs, and unemployment for the state and select substate areas. Additional information and historical data are available at our website: www.dws.state.nm.us/LMI.

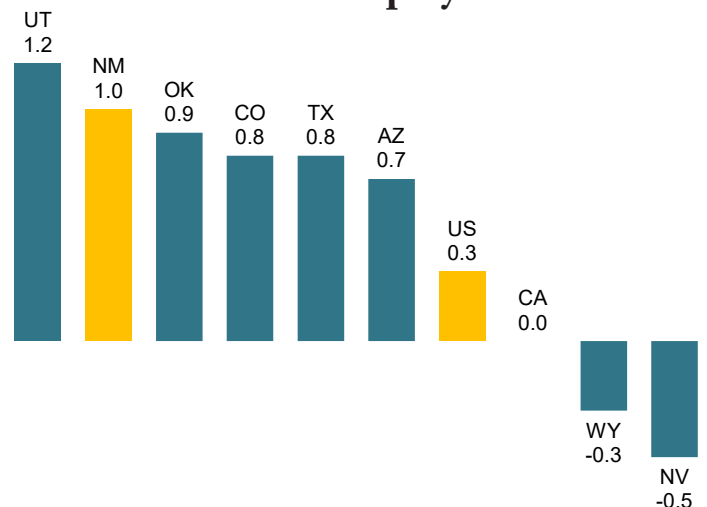
4.3%

Unemployment Rate



+ 8,800 jobs / 1%

**Over-the-Year Change in Total
Nonfarm Employment**



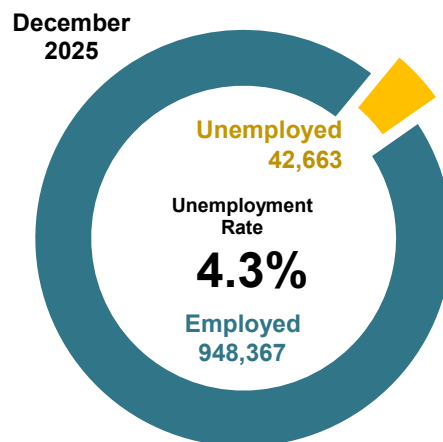
Statewide Unemployment

December 2025 • Seasonally Adjusted

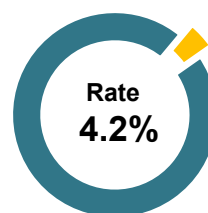
New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate (based on the Current Population Survey, also known as the household survey) was 4.3 percent in December 2025, up from 4.2 percent in November 2025, and unchanged from December 2024. The national unemployment rate in December was 4.4 percent, down from 4.5 percent in November, and up from 4.1 percent the previous year.

Highlights

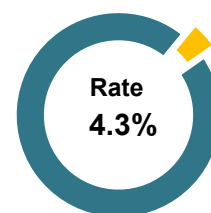
Among all states, New Mexico tied with Arizona, Florida, Rhode Island, and Texas for the 17th highest unemployment rate in the country. Washington D.C. had the highest unemployment rate (6.7 percent) while Hawaii and South Dakota had the lowest (both at 2.2 percent).



November 2025

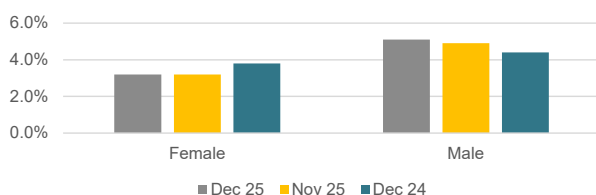


December 2024

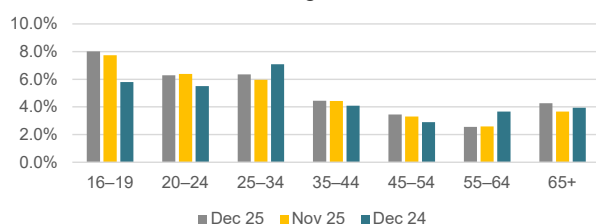


New Mexico Unemployment Rates by
Demographic Category

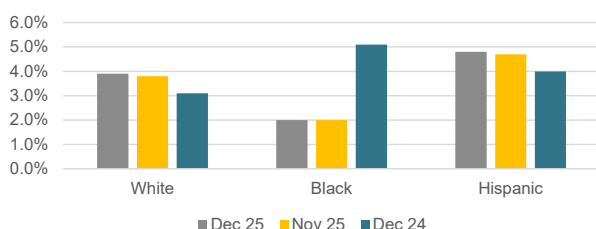
Gender



Age



Race

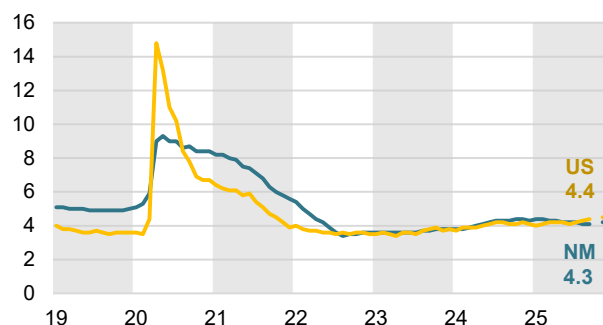


Current Population Survey (CPS)

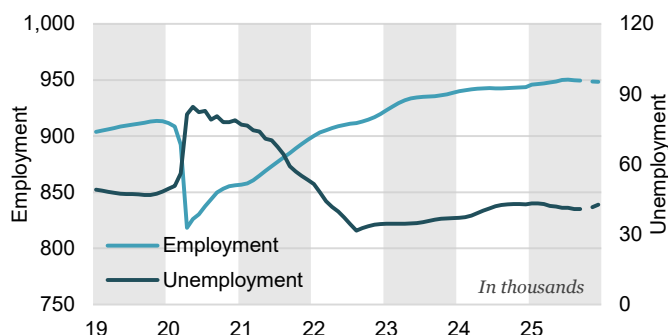
For persons 16 and older, 12-month moving average. Note: Data based on small sample. Beginning in November 2025, data are 11-month moving averages due to the absence of October 2025 data from the 2025 lapse in Federal appropriations.

<https://www.bls.gov/lau/notescps.htm>

January 1919 to December 2025
Unemployment Rate



Employment and Unemployment



Substate Unemployment

December 2025 • *Not Seasonally Adjusted*

Highlights

At 13.7 percent, Luna County had New Mexico's highest (not seasonally adjusted) unemployment rate, followed by Hidalgo County (6.1 percent). Luna County frequently has the highest unemployment rate in the state because agriculture, which is a major industry in the county, is highly seasonal.

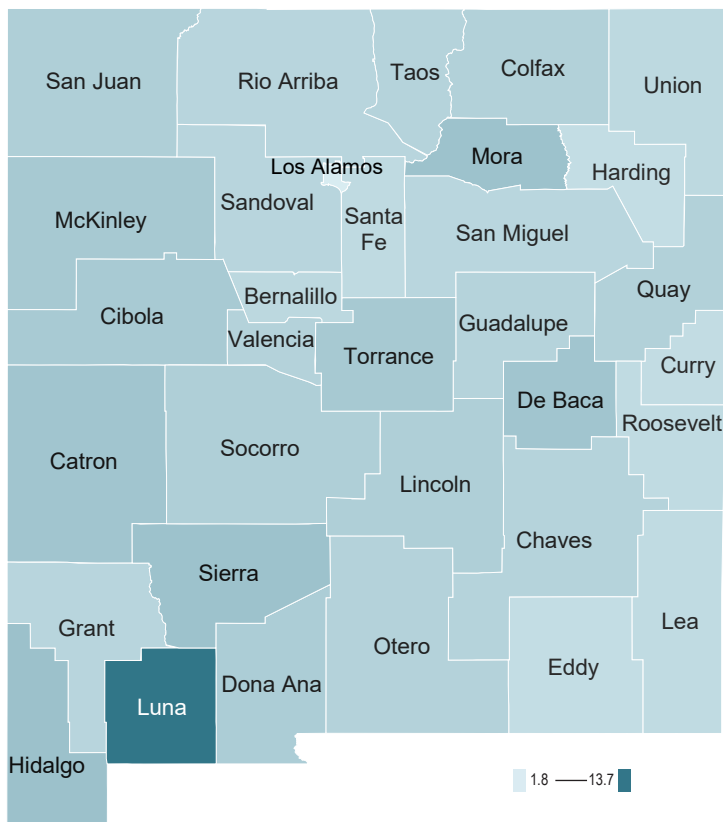
This month, Los Alamos County had the lowest unemployment rate (1.8 percent), followed by Eddy and Harding Counties (both at 3.3 percent).

Luna County had the largest over-the-year decrease in unemployment rate, with a 0.7 percentage point decrease. De Baca County had the largest over-the-year increase (up 2.0 percentage points).

Unemployment Rate %

Area	Dec 25	Nov 25	Dec 24	OTY Chg
Counties				
Bernalillo	3.8	4.3	3.5	0.3
Catron	5.7	5.9	5.3	0.4
Chaves	4.3	4.7	3.7	0.6
Cibola	5.2	5.8	5.1	0.1
Colfax	4.5	5.2	4.5	0.0
Curry	3.4	3.9	3.0	0.4
De Baca	5.7	6.4	3.7	2.0
Dona Ana	4.9	5.3	4.5	0.4
Eddy	3.3	3.7	2.9	0.4
Grant	4.1	4.6	3.9	0.2
Guadalupe	4.3	4.5	3.7	0.6
Harding	3.3	3.3	3.4	-0.1
Hidalgo	6.1	6.7	4.8	1.3
Lea	3.5	4.0	3.1	0.4
Lincoln	4.7	5.1	4.7	0.0
Los Alamos	1.8	2.2	1.7	0.1
Luna	13.7	12.7	14.4	-0.7
McKinley	5.3	6.0	5.0	0.3
Mora	6.0	6.4	5.5	0.5
Otero	4.4	5.1	4.1	0.3
Quay	4.5	5.0	3.8	0.7
Rio Arriba	4.1	4.7	3.7	0.4
Roosevelt	3.5	4.1	3.4	0.1
Sandoval	4.1	4.6	3.6	0.5
San Juan	4.7	5.2	4.2	0.5
San Miguel	4.0	4.6	4.3	-0.3
Santa Fe	3.6	4.1	3.4	0.2
Sierra	6.0	6.1	5.6	0.4
Socorro	4.7	5.4	4.2	0.5
Taos	4.3	4.9	4.2	0.1
Torrance	5.3	5.8	5.1	0.2
Union	3.7	4.3	3.2	0.5
Valencia	4.4	5.0	4.0	0.4
MSAs				
Albuquerque	3.9	4.4	3.6	0.3
Farmington	4.7	5.2	4.2	0.5
Las Cruces	4.9	5.3	4.5	0.4
Santa Fe	3.6	4.1	3.4	0.2

Unemployment Rate %



At 3.6 percent, the Santa Fe MSA had the lowest not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate among the state's metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs). The Albuquerque MSA had a rate of 3.9 percent. Las Cruces had the highest unemployment rate among the MSAs (4.9 percent) followed by the Farmington MSA (4.7 percent).

The Farmington MSA had the largest unemployment rate increase, up 0.5 percentage points since December 2024. The Las Cruces MSA had a 0.4 percentage point increase and the Albuquerque MSA had a 0.3 percentage point increase. The Santa Fe MSA had the smallest unemployment rate increase, up 0.2 percentage points over-the-year.

LAUS publishes estimates of the civilian labor force, employment, and unemployment monthly. Data measure persons 16 years old and older who are employed or actively seeking employment.

For more LAUS data and to customize what you see, visit the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Dashboard at:

<https://www.dws.state.nm.us/Researchers/Data/Labor-Force-Unemployment>

For customized data you can analyze, visit LASER at:
www.jobs.state.nm.us/analyzer

Statewide Industry Employment Growth

December 2025 • *Not Seasonally Adjusted*

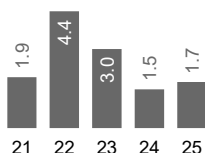
Over the year, **New Mexico's** total nonagricultural employment increased by 8,800 jobs, or 1.0 percent. The private sector was up 3,000 jobs, or 0.4 percent, while the public sector was up 5,800 jobs, or 3.0 percent. Three of the nine major private industry sectors reported employment increases.

2021 to 2025

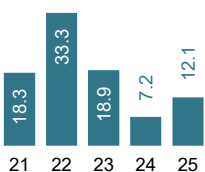
Annual Average

Over-the-Year Change

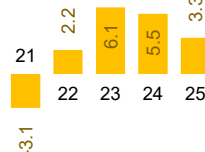
Total Nonfarm Growth Rate (%)



Private-Sector Jobs (1000s)



Government Jobs (1000s)



New Mexico

Industry	Jobs	Monthly Change	Annual Change from Dec 24	
			Number	Percent
TOTAL NONFARM	909,300	-800	8,800	1.0
Total Private	709,600	-1,100	3,000	0.4
Private Service-Providing	596,900	-1,500	-800	-0.1
Goods-Producing	112,700	400	3,800	3.5
Mining & Construction	83,500	500	4,000	5.0
Mining & Logging	24,400	0	500	2.1
Construction	59,100	500	3,500	6.3
Manufacturing	29,200	-100	-200	-0.7
Durable Goods	16,000	-100	-300	-1.8
Non-Durable Goods	13,200	0	100	0.8
Service-Providing	796,600	-1,200	5,000	0.6
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	149,300	1,400	-1,400	-0.9
Wholesale Trade	20,800	0	100	0.5
Retail Trade	98,400	1,400	500	0.5
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	30,100	0	-2,000	-6.2
Information	8,900	-100	-1,100	-11.0
Financial Activities	37,600	300	1,400	3.9
Professional & Business Services	118,000	-500	-4,600	-3.8
Prvt. Education & Health Services	159,600	-900	7,200	4.7
Prvt. Educational Services	23,200	-100	600	2.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	136,400	-800	6,600	5.1
Leisure & Hospitality	96,300	-1,600	-1,800	-1.8
Other Services	27,200	-100	-500	-1.8
Government	199,700	300	5,800	3.0
Federal Government	26,800	0	-2,800	-9.5
State Government	61,100	500	1,900	3.2
State Government Education	26,200	400	600	2.3
Local Government	111,800	-200	6,700	6.4
Local Government Education	59,600	-600	4,100	7.4

Highlights

Private education and health services was up 7,200 jobs, or 4.7 percent. Within the private education and health services industry, health care and social assistance was up 6,600 jobs, while private education services was up 600 jobs. Mining and construction was up 4,000 jobs, or 5.0 percent, with most gains occurring in construction. Employment in financial activities was up 1,400 jobs, or 3.9 percent.

Professional and business services was down 4,600 jobs, or 3.8 percent. Employment in leisure and hospitality was down 1,800 jobs, or 1.8 percent. Trade, transportation, and utilities was down

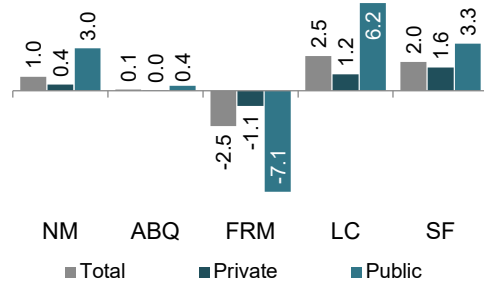
1,400 jobs, or 0.9 percent. In the trade, transportation, and utilities industry, retail trade was up 500 jobs, wholesale trade was up 100 jobs, and transportation, warehousing, and utilities was down 2,000 jobs. Information employment was down 1,100 jobs, or 11.0 percent. Miscellaneous other services was down 500 jobs, or 1.8 percent. Manufacturing was down 200 jobs, or 0.7 percent, with all losses in durable goods manufacturing.

Metro Industry Employment Growth

December 2025 • *Not Seasonally Adjusted*

Highlights

Dec 24 to Dec 25
Over-the-Year % Change



In the public sector, employment in local government was up 6,700 jobs, or 6.4 percent. State government was up 1,900 jobs, or 3.2 percent. Federal government employment was down 2,800 jobs, or 9.5 percent.

Over the year, the **Albuquerque MSA** grew by 400 jobs, or 0.1 percent, in total nonfarm employment. The private sector was up 100 jobs, representing less than 0.1 percent growth, while the public sector was up 300 jobs, or 0.4 percent. The following private-sector industries added jobs: private education and health services, up 3,800 jobs, or 5.1 percent; financial activities, up 900 jobs, or 4.6 percent; and leisure and hospitality, up 800 jobs, or 1.8 percent.

Professional and business services was down 2,900 jobs, or 4.2 percent. Trade, transportation, and utilities was down 800 jobs, or 1.1 percent. Manufacturing was down 600 jobs, or 3.5 percent. Mining and construction was down 500 jobs, or 1.8 percent. Information employment was down 400 jobs, or 7.4 percent. Miscellaneous *other services* was down 200 jobs, or 1.5 percent.

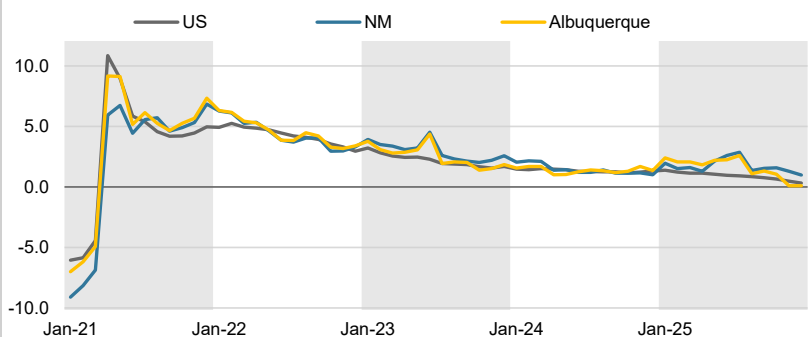
In the public sector, state government was up 1,000 jobs, or 3.4 percent; local government was up 1,000 jobs, or 2.5 percent; and federal government employment was down 1,700 jobs, or 11.6 percent.

The **Las Cruces MSA** total nonfarm employment was up 2,000 jobs, or 2.5 percent. The private sector was up 700 jobs, or 1.2 percent, and the public sector was up 1,300 jobs, or 6.2 percent. Of the private sector industries, private education and

Albuquerque MSA

Industry	Jobs	Monthly	Annual	#	%
Total Nonfarm	428,400	-300		400	0.1
Total Private	343,400	-900		100	0.0
Mining & Construction	27,800	0		-500	-1.8
Manufacturing	16,700	0		-600	-3.5
Trade, Transp. & Utilities	71,600	500		-800	-1.1
Information	5,000	-100		-400	-7.4
Financial Activities	20,500	400		900	4.6
Prof. & Business Svcs	65,500	-700		-2,900	-4.2
Prvt. Ed. & Health Svcs	77,900	-300		3,800	5.1
Leisure & Hospitality	45,200	-700		800	1.8
Other Svcs	13,200	0		-200	-1.5
Government	85,000	600		300	0.4
Federal Government	12,900	0		-1,700	-11.6
State Government	30,800	100		1,000	3.4
Local Government	41,300	500		1,000	2.5

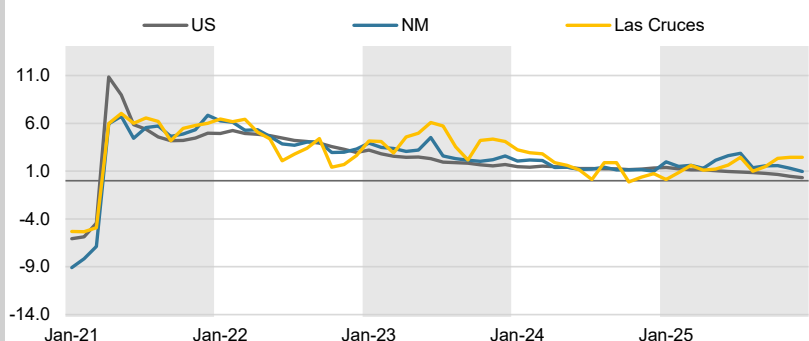
Total Nonfarm Over-the-Year Growth Rates (%)



Las Cruces MSA

Industry	Jobs	Monthly	Annual	#	%
Total Nonfarm	83,600	-200		2,000	2.5
Total Private	61,300	0		700	1.2
Mining & Construction	4,900	100		300	6.5
Manufacturing	3,200	0		0	0.0
Trade, Transp. & Utilities	12,500	100		-100	-0.8
Information	500	0		0	0.0
Financial Activities	2,700	0		0	0.0
Prof. & Business Svcs	7,600	0		-100	-1.3
Prvt. Ed. & Health Svcs	19,300	0		700	3.8
Leisure & Hospitality	8,600	-200		-100	-1.1
Other Svcs	2,000	0		0	0.0
Government	22,300	-200		1,300	6.2
Federal Government	3,200	0		-200	-5.9
State Government	7,800	0		100	1.3
Local Government	11,300	-200		1,400	14.1

Total Nonfarm Over-the-Year Growth Rates (%)



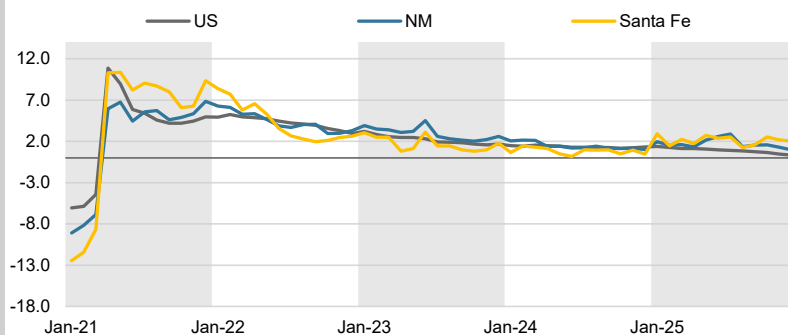
Metro Industry Employment

(Continued)

Santa Fe MSA

Industry	Jobs	Monthly	Annual	#	%
Total Nonfarm	65,200	100		1,300	2.0
Total Private	49,700	100		800	1.6
Mining & Construction	3,100	0		100	3.3
Manufacturing	800	0		0	0.0
Trade, Transp. & Utilities	10,800	300		400	3.8
Information	800	0		-100	-11.1
Financial Activities	2,300	0		0	0.0
Prof. & Business Svcs	5,200	0		-100	-1.9
Prvt. Ed. & Health Svcs	11,800	0		300	2.6
Leisure & Hospitality	11,800	-200		300	2.6
Other Svcs	3,100	0		-100	-3.1
Government	15,500	0		500	3.3
Federal Government	900	0		-100	-10.0
State Government	7,800	0		500	6.8
Local Government	6,800	0		100	1.5

Total Nonfarm Over-the-Year Growth Rates (%)



December 2025 • Not Seasonally Adjusted

Highlights

health services was up 700 jobs, or 3.8 percent, and mining and construction was up 300 jobs, or 6.5 percent. Professional and business services was down 100 jobs, or 1.3 percent. Leisure and hospitality was down 100 jobs, or 1.1 percent. Trade, transportation, and utilities was down 100 jobs, or 0.8 percent.

In the public sector, local government was up 1,400 jobs, or 14.1 percent; state government was up 100 jobs, or 1.3 percent; and federal government was down 200 jobs, or 5.9 percent.

Total nonfarm employment in the **Santa Fe MSA** was up 1,300 jobs, or 2.0 percent. The private sector was up 800 jobs, or 1.6 percent, while the public sector was up 500 jobs, or 3.3 percent.

Trade, transportation, and utilities was up 400 jobs, or 3.8 percent, with all gains in retail trade. Leisure and hospitality was up 300 jobs, or 2.6 percent. Private education and health services was up 300 jobs, or 2.6 percent. Mining and construction was up 100 jobs, or 3.3 percent.

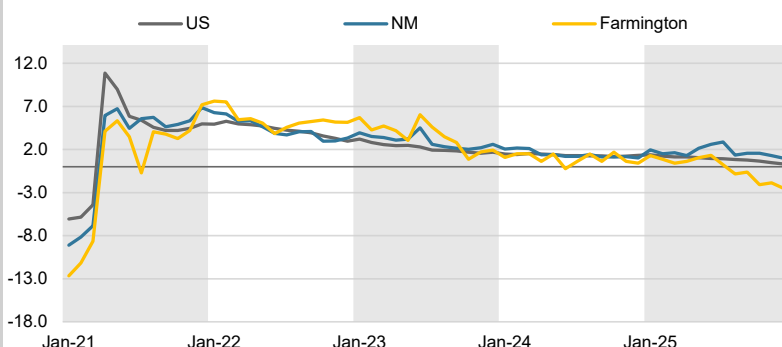
Information was down 100 jobs, or 11.1 percent. Miscellaneous *other services* was down 100 jobs, or 3.1 percent. Professional and business services was down 100 jobs, or 1.9 percent.

In the public sector, state government was up 500 jobs, or 6.8 percent. Local government was up 100 jobs, or 1.5 percent. Employment in federal government was down 100 jobs, or 10.0 percent.

Farmington MSA

Industry	Jobs	Monthly	Annual	#	%
Total Nonfarm	46,900	-100		-1,200	-2.5
Total Private	36,500	0		-400	-1.1
Goods-Producing	9,000	0		-400	-4.3
Private Service-Providing	27,500	0		0	0.0
Government	10,400	-100		-800	-7.1
Federal Government	1,400	0		-200	-12.5
State Government	500	0		0	0.0
Local Government	8,500	-100		-600	-6.6

Total Nonfarm Over-the-Year Growth Rates (%)



The **Farmington MSA's** total nonfarm employment was down 1,200 jobs, or 2.5 percent. The private sector was down 400 jobs, or 1.1 percent. The goods producing sector was down 400 jobs, or 4.3 percent. The private service providing sector was unchanged from its level of the previous year. The public sector was down 800 jobs, or 7.1 percent (with most losses in local government).

For more CES data, visit our dashboard:

<https://www.dws.state.nm.us/en-us/Researchers/Data/State-Local-Employment>

For customized data, visit LASER at:

www.jobs.state.nm.us/analyzer

Major Employment Developments

December 2025

Major employment developments are activities driving either the creation or loss of around 50 jobs or more. Information is gathered from published articles, government documents, private- and public-sector news releases, and reports from America's Job Center New Mexico locations. In most cases, information is not verified for accuracy.

For an updated listing of these and other recent major employment developments, visit <https://www.dws.state.nm.us/Labor-Market-Information/Publications/Labor-Market-Review>.

Job Gains

Statewide

At its December meeting, the New Mexico Economic Development Department's Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) board approved \$1,701,586 in funding to support the creation of 56 jobs with six New Mexico companies, including: UbiQD, Los Alamos (3 jobs); 3D Glass Solutions, Albuquerque (13 jobs); Redwire Space, Albuquerque (14 jobs); Mantis Space, Albuquerque (8 jobs); Gnomad, Tatum (11 jobs); and Quantinuum, Albuquerque (7 jobs).

Bernalillo

Mantis Space plans to build a facility for manufacturing outer space energy infrastructure equipment in Albuquerque. The facility is expected to begin initial operations in 2027 with an expected 200 jobs..

Chaves

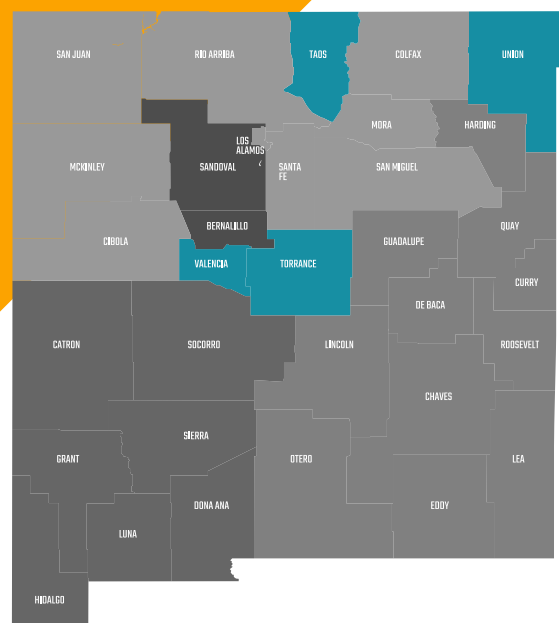
Zenith Volts Corp. plans to build a data center south of Roswell. The site is expected to be operational by late 2027 with 140 permanent jobs and up to 900 jobs during construction.



NEW MEXICO REGION PROFILES

December 2025

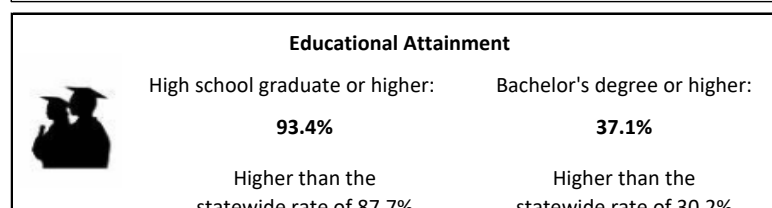
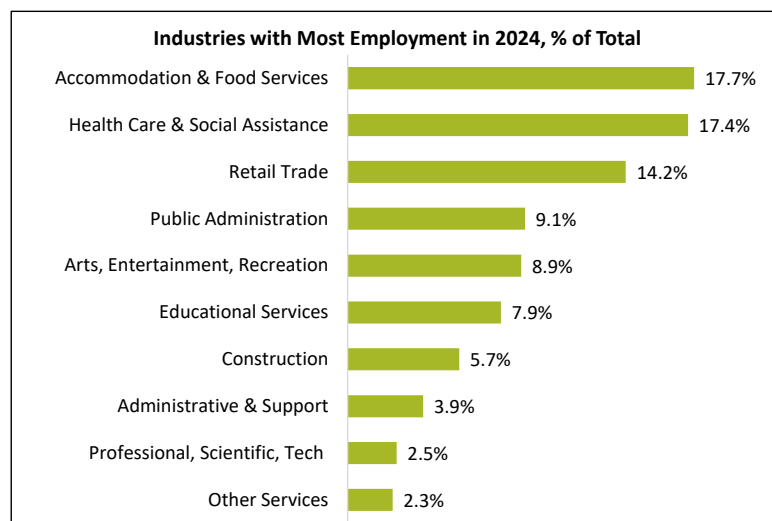
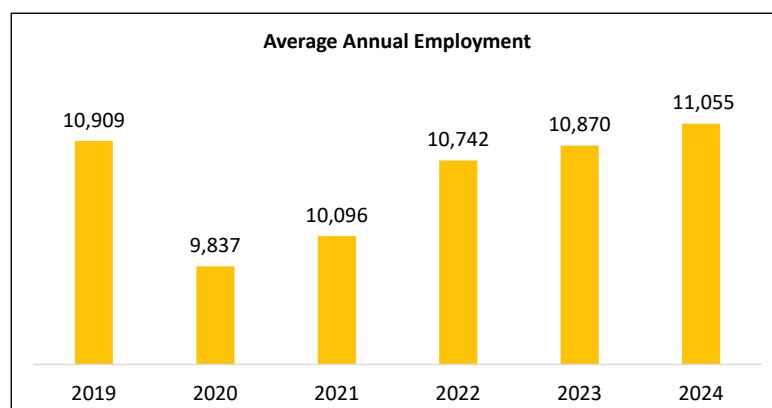
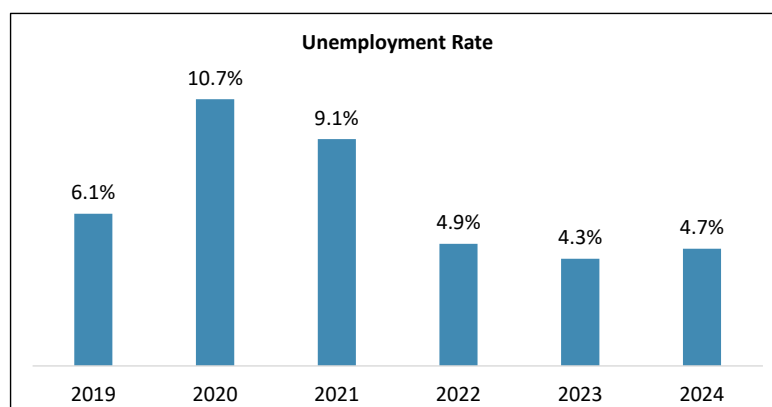
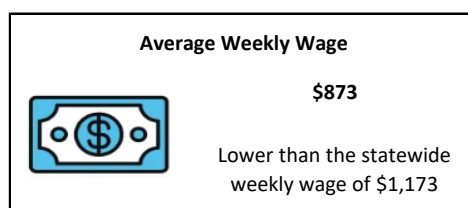
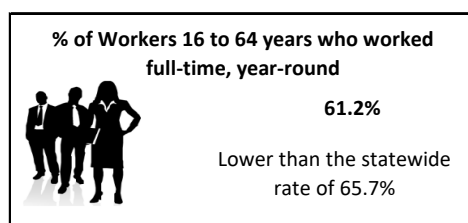
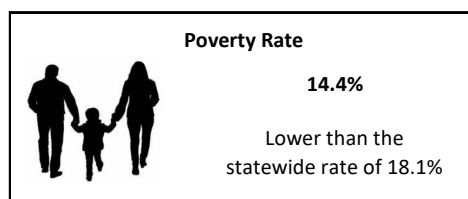
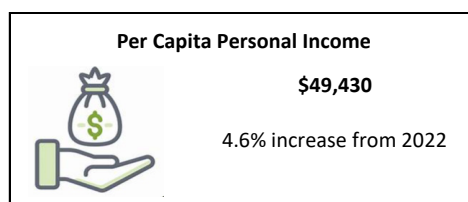
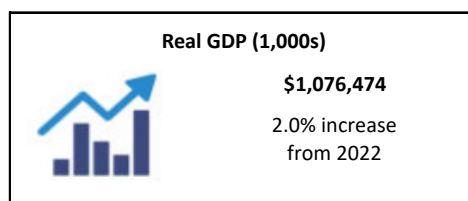
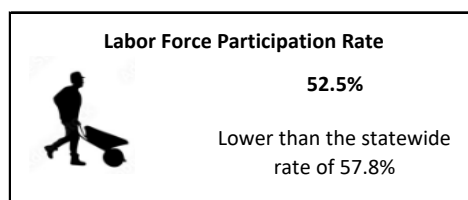
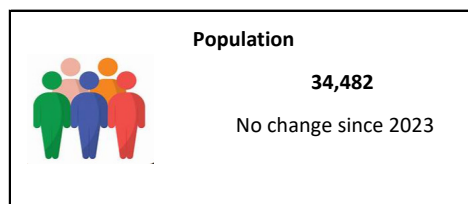
- Taos
- Union
- Torrance
- Valencia



Every month, we will provide labor market and economic data for three New Mexico counties. We are progressing alphabetically, so this month we feature Taos, Torrance, Union, and Valencia counties. Like what you see? Or are we missing a stat? Let us know! Contact us at NMDWS.Economicresearch@dws.nm.gov.

Taos

Taos County is located in northern New Mexico. It covers 2,202.4 square miles and had a Census 2020 population density of 15.7 persons per square mile.



Sources: Population: U.S. Census Bureau, July 1, 2024 Resident Population Estimates. LFPR: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S2301. Real GDP and Personal Income: BEA, Chained 2017 dollars. Poverty: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701. % FT workers: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S2303. Education: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S1501. Unemployment Rate: LAUS Annual Average. Avg Weekly Wage, Employment, Top Industries: QCEW 2024 Annual Average, all ownership types, covered employers only. Industries with suppressed data are excluded.

Torrance

Torrance is one of four counties that make up the Albuquerque Metropolitan Statistical area. It covers 3,345.2 square miles and had a Census 2020 population density of 4.5 persons per square mile.



Population

15,986

1.8% increase since 2023



Labor Force Participation Rate

49.1%

Lower than the statewide rate of 57.8%



Real GDP (1,000s)

\$595,372

8.4% increase from 2022



Per Capita Personal Income

\$47,308

3.9% increase from 2022



Poverty Rate

20.4%

Higher than the statewide rate of 18.1%



% of Workers 16 to 64 years who worked full-time, year-round

52.9%

Lower than the statewide rate of 65.7%

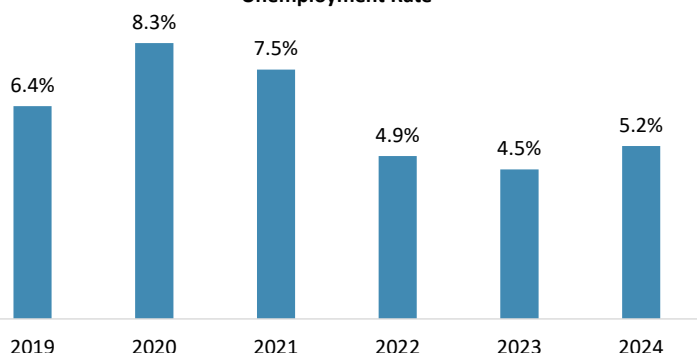


Average Weekly Wage

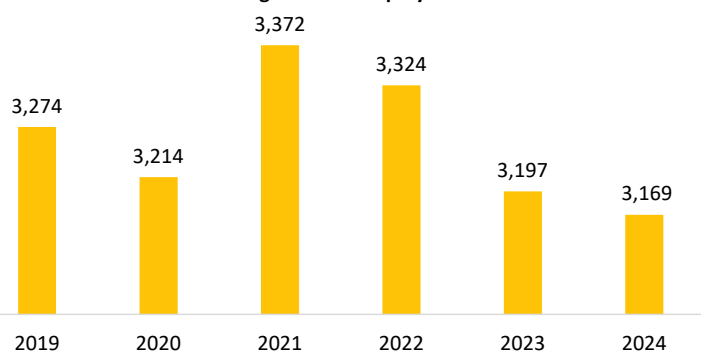
\$989

Lower than the statewide weekly wage of \$1,173

Unemployment Rate



Average Annual Employment



Industries with Most Employment in 2024, % of Total



Educational Attainment



High school graduate or higher:

86.5%

Lower than the statewide rate of 87.7%

Bachelor's degree or higher:

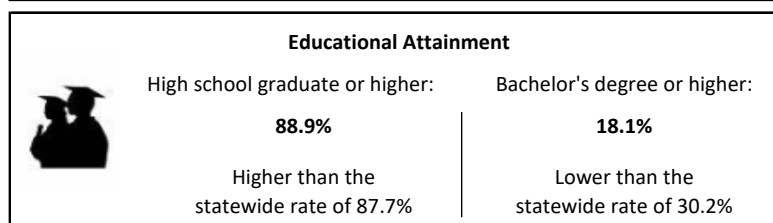
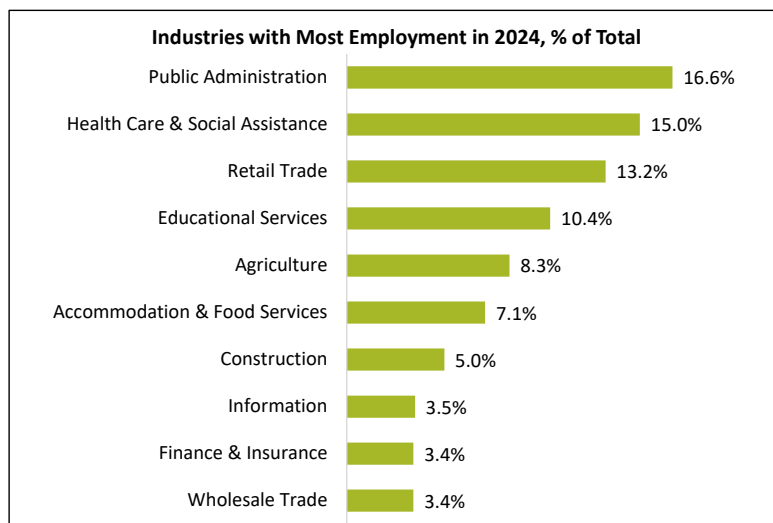
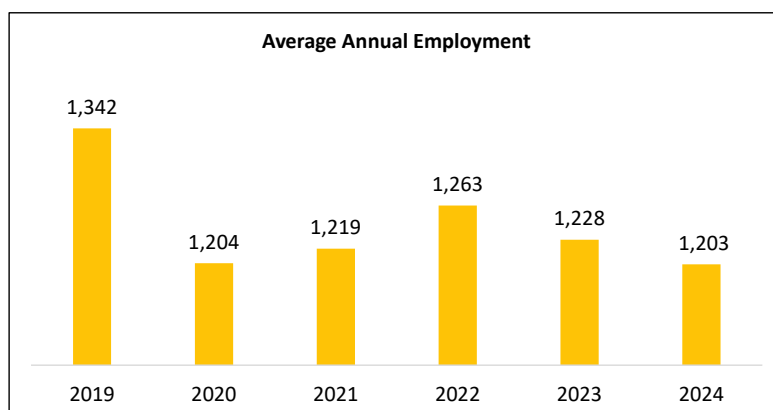
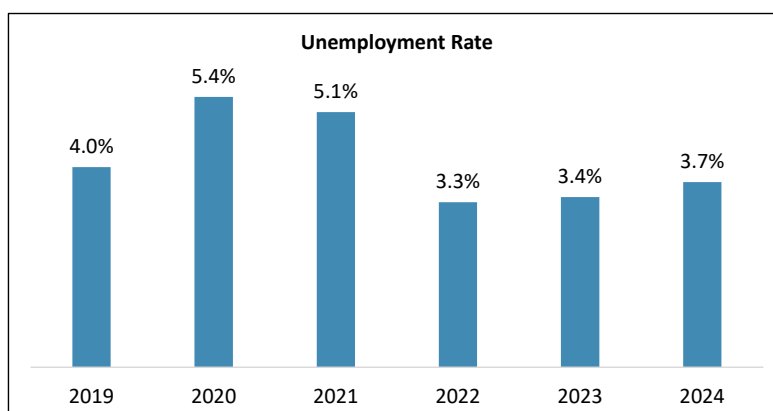
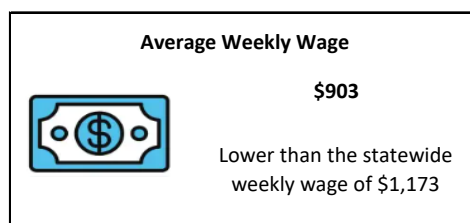
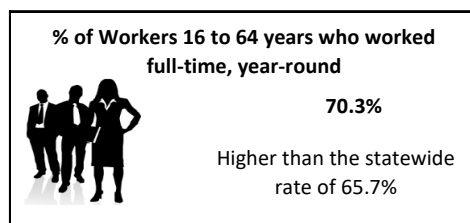
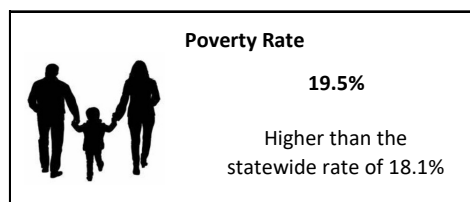
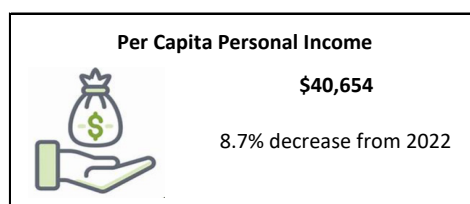
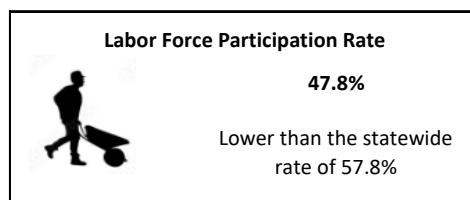
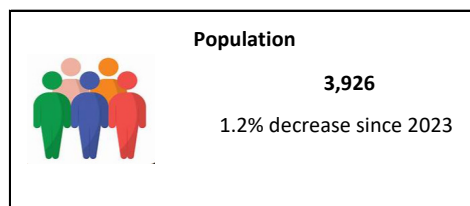
14.9%

Lower than the statewide rate of 30.2%

Sources: Population: U.S. Census Bureau, July 1, 2024 Resident Population Estimates. LFPR: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S2301. Real GDP and Personal Income: BEA, Chained 2017 dollars. Poverty: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701. % FT workers: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S2303. Education: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S1501. Unemployment Rate: LAUS Annual Average. Avg Weekly Wage, Employment, Top Industries: QCEW 2024 Annual Average, all ownership types, covered employers only. Industries with suppressed data are excluded.

Union

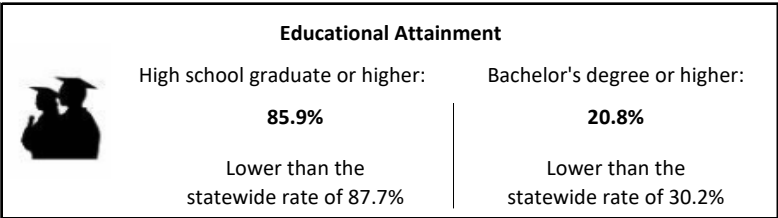
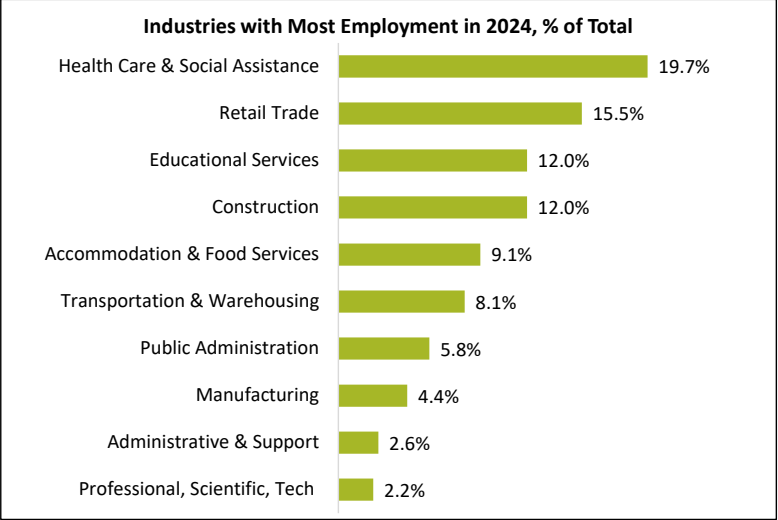
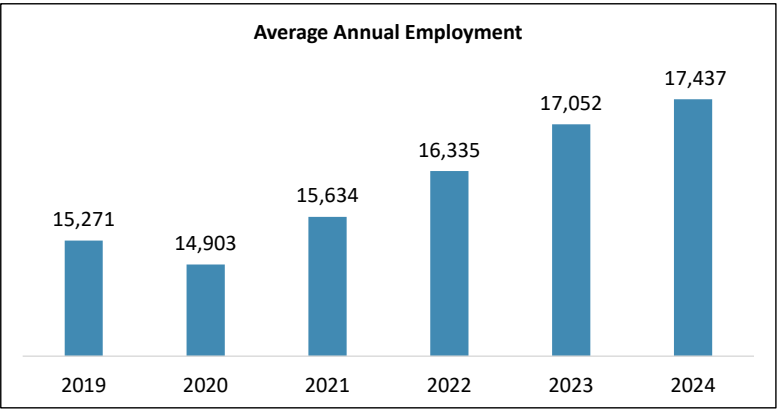
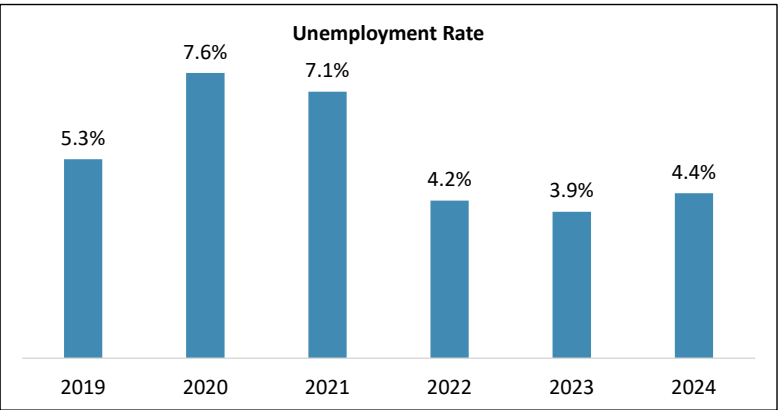
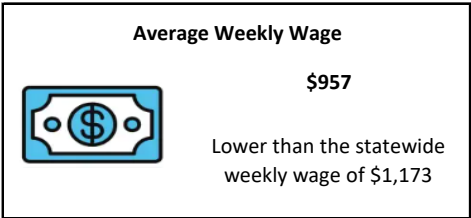
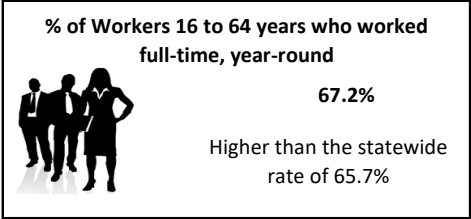
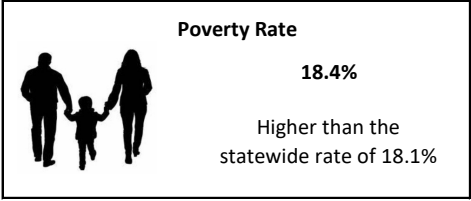
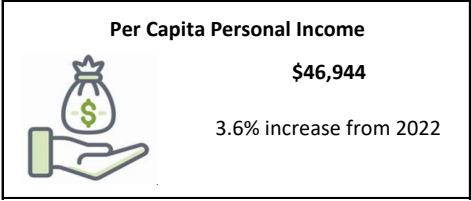
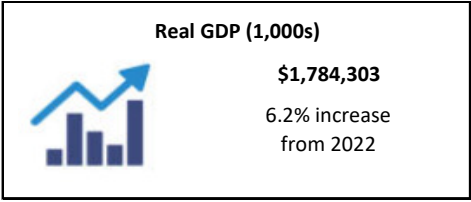
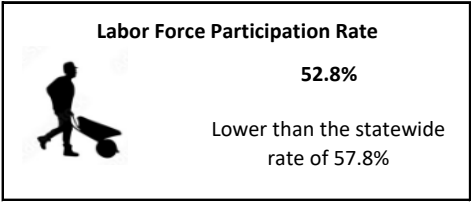
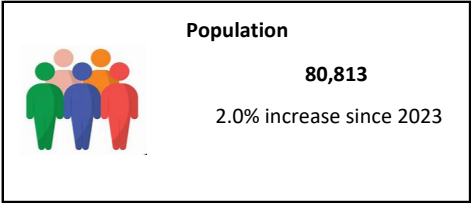
Union County is located in the northeastern corner of New Mexico. It covers 3,825.1 square miles and had a Census 2020 population density of 1.1 persons per square mile.



Sources: Population: U.S. Census Bureau, July 1, 2024 Resident Population Estimates. LFPR: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S2301. Real GDP and Personal Income: BEA, Chained 2017 dollars. Poverty: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701. % FT workers: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S2303. Education: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S1501. Unemployment Rate: LAUS Annual Average. Avg Weekly Wage, Employment, Top Industries: QCEW 2024 Annual Average, all ownership types, covered employers only. Industries with suppressed data are excluded.

Valencia

Valencia is one of four counties that make up the Albuquerque Metropolitan Statistical area. It covers 1,067 square miles and had a Census 2020 population density of 71.4 persons per square mile.



Sources: Population: U.S. Census Bureau, July 1, 2024 Resident Population Estimates. LFPR: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S2301. Real GDP and Personal Income: BEA, Chained 2017 dollars. Poverty: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701. % FT workers: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S2303. Education: 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Table S1501. Unemployment Rate: LAUS Annual Average. Avg Weekly Wage, Employment, Top Industries: QCEW 2024 Annual Average, all ownership types, covered employers only. Industries with suppressed data are excluded.

New Mexico Data Focus: 2024 Employment and Unemployment for New Mexico's Municipalities

Nathan Friedman, Economist

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program produces official labor force estimates for over 7,500 areas in the U.S. For New Mexico, labor force estimates are available for the state and its four metropolitan statistical areas and 33 counties and is released monthly. To access LAUS data for New Mexico, visit our dashboard at <https://www.dws.state.nm.us/en-us/Researchers/Data/Labor-Force-Unemployment>.

BLS also produces unemployment rates for municipalities with populations as low as 5,000, but data are released annually because monthly figures have high margins of error. For more information, please visit www.bls.gov/lau.

2024 Unemployment Rates for Municipalities with Population Greater than 5,000

Lowest Rates

Carlsbad 3.3%
Artesia and Clovis 3.4%
Hobbs and Santa Fe 3.5%
Corrales 3.6%

Highest Rates

Deming 10.9%
Anthony 5.5%
Gallup and Grants 5.2%
Las Vegas and Bloomfield 5.0%

Area	Unemployment Rates		2023-2024		Employment		2023-2024	2023-2024
	2024	2023	%	Point Change	2024	2023	# Change	% Change
Alamogordo	4.0	3.8	0.2		11,398	11,503	-105	-0.9%
Albuquerque	3.7	3.3	0.4		287,614	284,753	2,861	1.0%
Anthony	5.5	5.0	0.5		2,996	2,961	35	1.2%
Artesia	3.4	3.0	0.4		6,132	5,966	166	2.8%
Aztec	4.2	3.5	0.7		2,742	2,726	16	0.6%
Belen	4.6	4.5	0.1		2,863	2,834	29	1.0%
Bernalillo	4.1	3.8	0.3		3,895	3,850	45	1.2%
Bloomfield	5.0	4.5	0.5		2,867	2,850	17	0.6%
Carlsbad	3.3	2.8	0.5		15,990	15,558	432	2.8%
Clovis	3.4	3.0	0.4		16,746	16,480	266	1.6%
Corrales	3.6	3.5	0.1		3,823	3,779	44	1.2%
Deming	10.9	9.2	1.7		5,108	5,164	-56	-1.1%
Española	4.5	3.8	0.7		4,378	4,357	21	0.5%
Farmington	4.3	3.9	0.4		19,270	19,159	111	0.6%
Gallup	5.2	4.6	0.6		7,613	7,775	-162	-2.1%
Grants	5.2	4.8	0.4		3,032	2,870	162	5.6%
Hobbs	3.5	3.1	0.4		19,241	18,537	704	3.8%
Las Cruces	4.3	3.7	0.6		51,901	51,295	606	1.2%
Las Vegas	5.0	4.9	0.1		4,720	4,749	-29	-0.6%
Los Lunas	4.8	4.2	0.6		6,982	6,912	70	1.0%
Los Ranchos de Abq.	3.7	3.4	0.3		2,415	2,391	24	1.0%
Lovington	3.7	3.2	0.5		4,698	4,526	172	3.8%
Portales	4.3	3.9	0.4		4,901	4,960	-59	-1.2%
Raton	4.1	3.4	0.7		2,459	2,510	-51	-2.0%
Rio Rancho	3.8	3.2	0.6		54,038	53,417	621	1.2%
Roswell	4.2	3.7	0.5		20,135	19,847	288	1.5%
Ruidoso	4.5	3.2	1.3		3,373	3,426	-53	-1.5%
Santa Fe	3.5	3.1	0.4		43,373	43,126	247	0.6%
Silver City	4.3	3.9	0.4		3,675	3,608	67	1.9%
Socorro	4.0	3.6	0.4		3,703	3,736	-33	-0.9%
Sunland Park	4.1	3.6	0.5		8,004	7,910	94	1.2%
Taos	4.8	4.3	0.5		3,021	3,005	16	0.5%
Truth or Consequences	4.1	4.0	0.1		2,166	2,133	33	1.5%
Tucumcari	4.0	3.7	0.3		2,067	2,108	-41	-1.9%

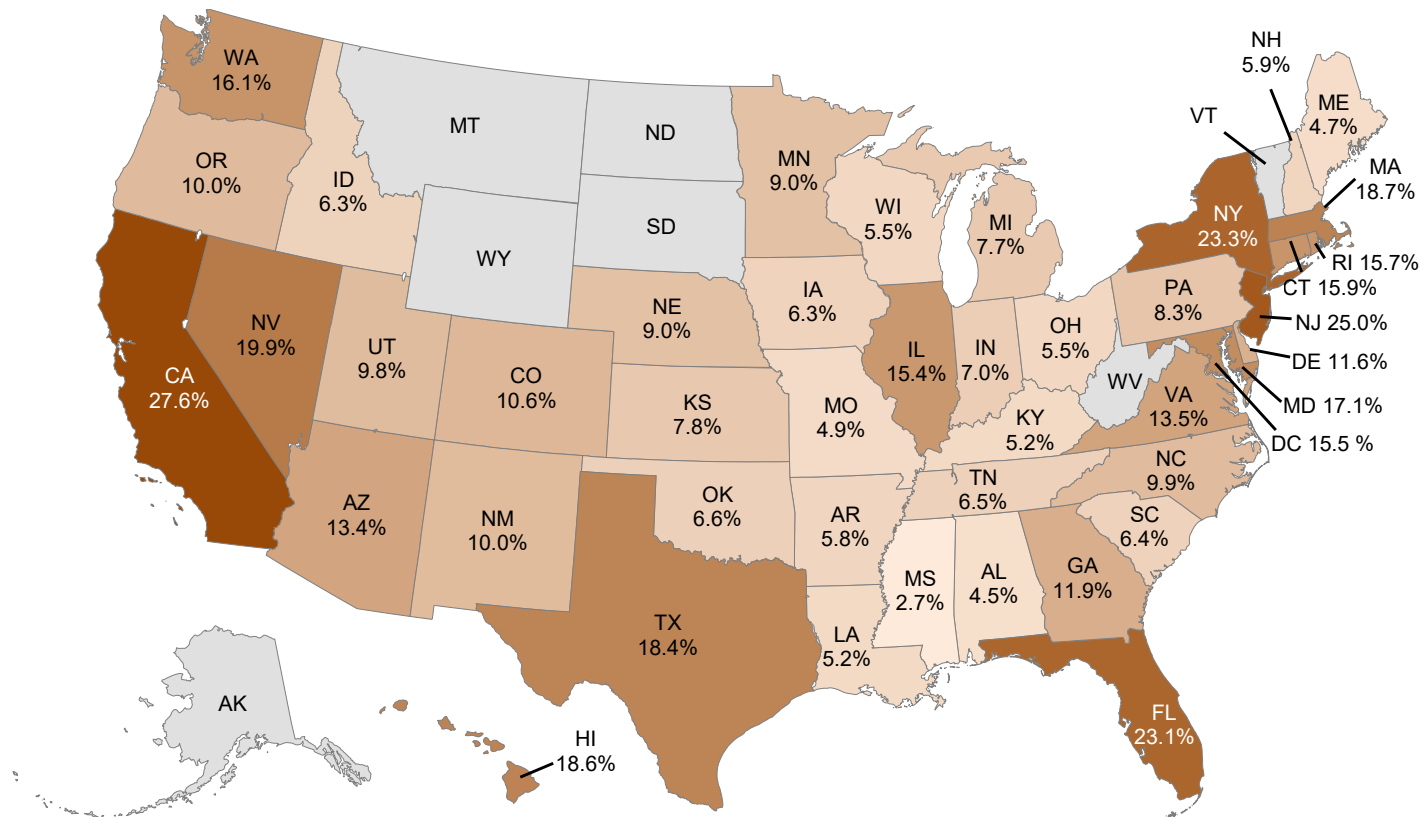
U.S.- and Foreign-born Population in New Mexico: 2024

Raymond Sena, Economist

The U.S. Census Bureau recently released its 2024 American Community Survey 1-year estimates on U.S. and foreign-born people living in the United States in the past 12 months. The foreign-born population includes anyone who is not a U.S. citizen at birth, including those who become U.S. citizens through naturalization. The U.S.-born population includes anyone who is a U.S. citizen at birth.

1. Foreign-born as a Percentage of the Population, by State, 2024

US: 14.8%



As of 2024, New Mexico had 212,830 foreign-born residents, representing 10.0 percent of the state's population. Within the U.S., foreign-born residents accounted for 14.8 percent of the total population. New Mexico's foreign-born population was tied for twentieth in the nation for concentration of foreign-born residents. As shown in Exhibit 1, California had the highest proportion of foreign-born residents at 27.6 percent, while Mississippi had the lowest at 2.7 percent.

The median age for the U.S.-born residents was 38.8 years, compared to 46.7 years for the foreign-born population (Exhibit 2).

Gender distribution between the two groups was nearly identical. U.S.-born males in New Mexico accounted for 50.1 percent of the population and females 49.9 percent, while foreign-born males accounted for 49.5 percent and females 50.5 percent.

2. Median Age for U.S.-born and Foreign-born in New Mexico

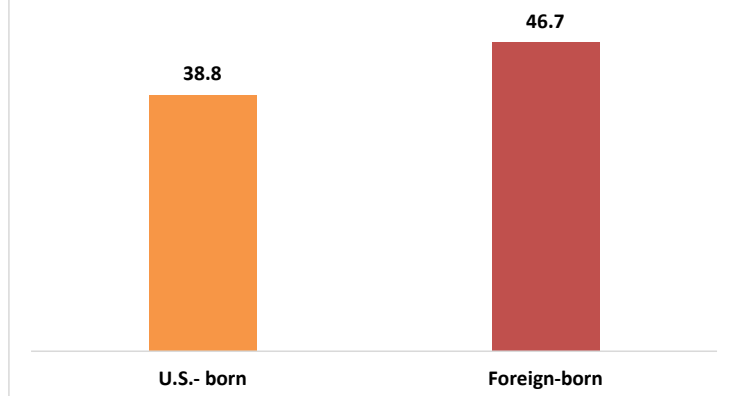
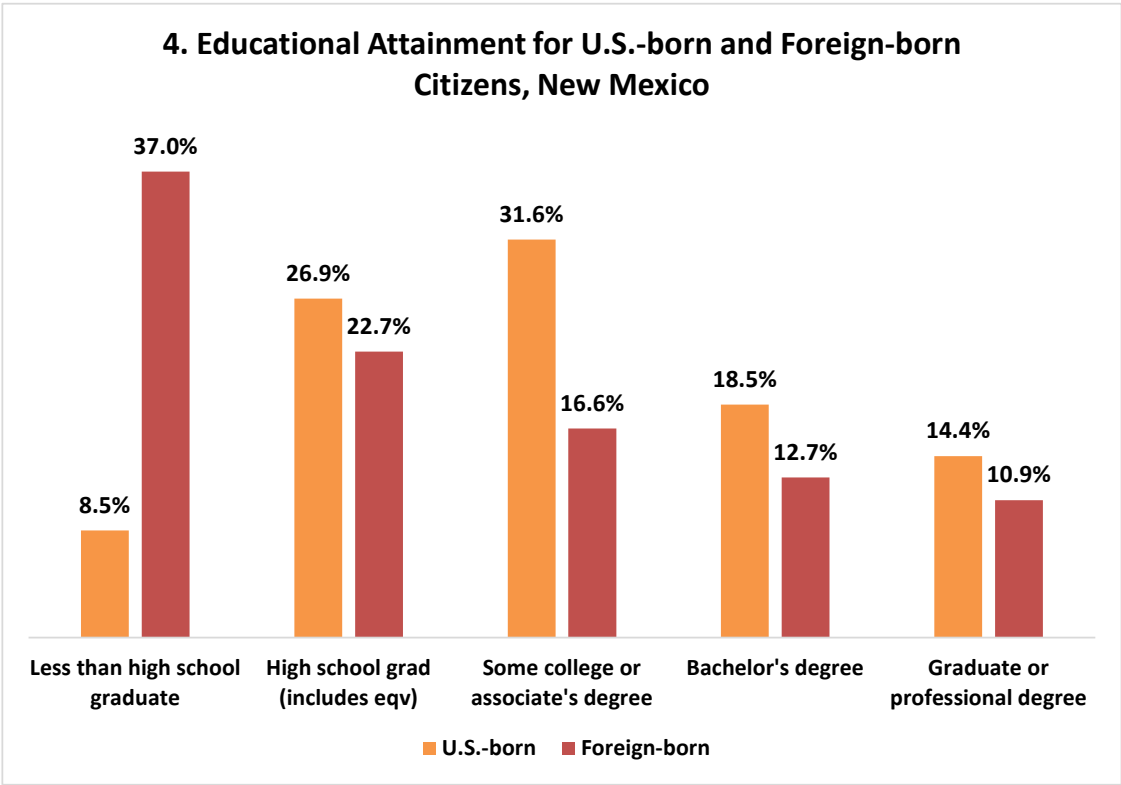


Exhibit 3 illustrates the racial and ethnic composition of New Mexico's U.S.- and foreign-born populations. In 2024, 49.9 percent of the U.S.-born population identified as White, more than three times the share of foreign-born residents (14.7 percent). The percentage of Black or African American and American Indian and Alaska Native were also lower among the foreign-born population, compared to U.S.-born. However, the foreign-born population had a significantly higher share of people identifying as Asian (13.2 percent) compared to U.S.-born residents (0.8 percent). Additionally, 46.3 percent of U.S.-born New Mexicans identified as Hispanic or Latino, compared to 74.7 percent of the foreign-born population. Among those identifying as two or more races, U.S.-born residents accounted for 25.1 percent, 7.7 percentage points lower than the foreign-born population (32.8 percent).

3 RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN FOR NEW MEXICO				
	U.S.-born		Foreign-born	
White		49.9%		14.7%
Black or African American		2.4%		2.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native		10.5%		1.9%
Asian		0		13.2%
Some other race		11.4%		35.2%
Two or more races 2		5.1% 32.8%		
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)		46.3%		74.7%

Native Hawaiian is included in "Some other race".

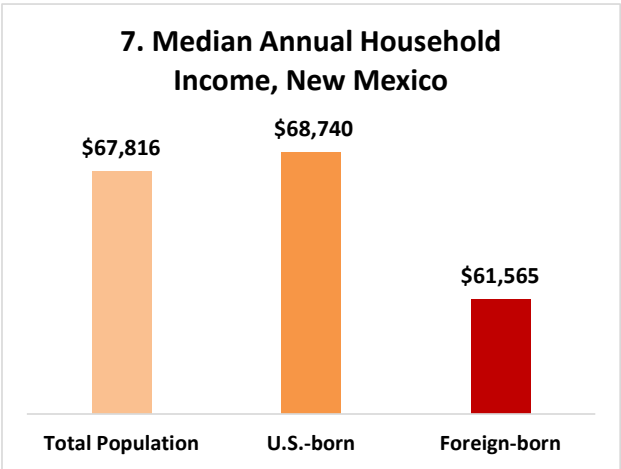
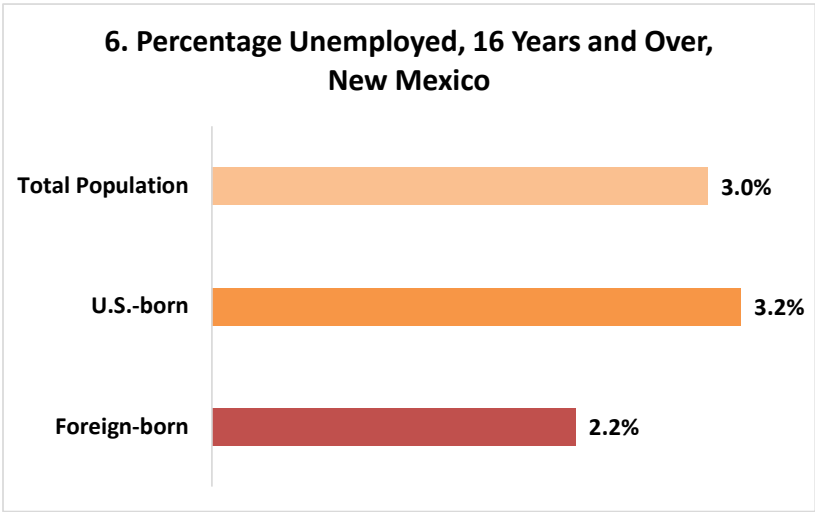
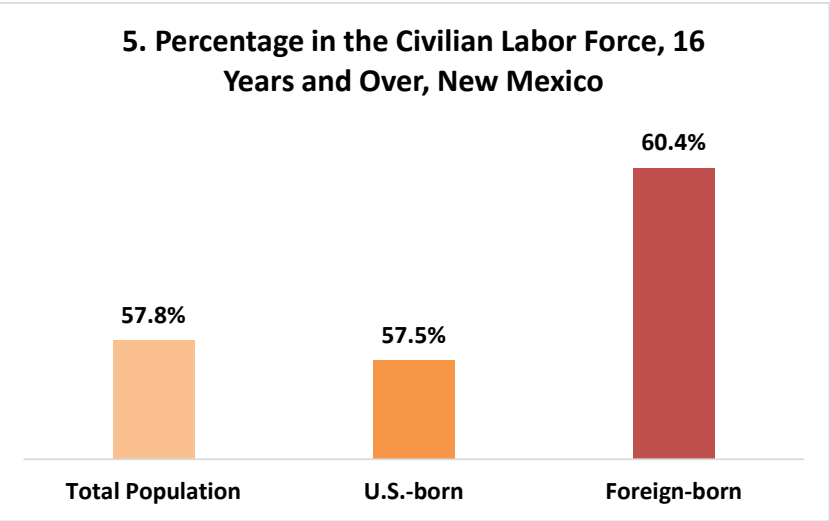
U.S.-born New Mexicans had a higher educational attainment than their foreign-born counterparts (Exhibit 4). In 2024, only 8.5 percent of U.S.-born New Mexicans had less than a high school diploma or equivalent certificate, compared to 37.0 percent of foreign-born residents. The U.S.-born population was also more likely to have additional education beyond high school. In 2024, 31.6 percent of New Mexico's U.S.-born population completed some college or associate's degree, 15.0 percentage points higher than the foreign-born population. Additionally, 18.5 percent of U.S.-born received a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 12.7 percent of foreign-born, a difference of 5.8 percentage points.



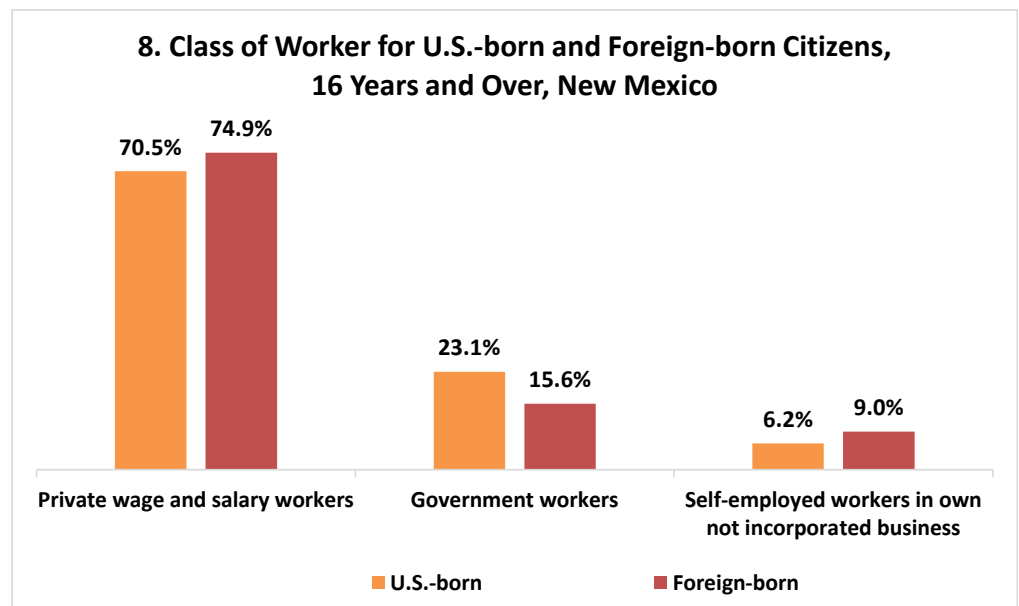
As shown in Exhibit 5, 60.4 percent of New Mexico’s foreign-born population participated in the civilian labor force in 2024, meaning that they were employed or actively seeking work. This rate was 2.9 percentage points higher than that of the U.S.-born population (57.5 percent) and 2.6 percentage points higher than the statewide average (57.8 percent).

As of 2024, 3.0 percent of all New Mexicans were unemployed. Seen in Exhibit 6, the unemployment rate for foreign-born residents was 2.2 percent, one percentage point lower than the unemployment rate of U.S.-born residents.

Exhibit 7 shows that New Mexico’s median annual household income was \$67,816 in 2024. For U.S.-born residents, the median annual household income was \$68,740, compared to \$61,565 for foreign-born residents, a difference of \$7,175.



The class of workers for individuals aged 16 years and over was categorized into private wage and salary workers, government workers, self-employed workers, and unpaid family workers (Exhibit 8). Among New Mexico's foreign-born population, 74.9 percent were private wage and salary employees, 4.4 percentage points higher than the U.S.-born workers. However, 23.1 percent of New Mexico's U.S.-born workers were employed in government positions, 7.5 percentage points higher than foreign-born workers (15.6 percent). Foreign-born workers were also more likely to be self-employed (9.0 percent) compared to U.S.-born workers (6.2 percent).



For U.S.-born New Mexicans, 25.1 percent worked in the education, health care, and social assistance industry, compared to 22.4 percent of foreign-born workers (Exhibit 9). The professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste industry also had a large share of U.S.-born employment, accounting for 13.5 percent of workers versus 12.3 percent for foreign-born residents. Industries with a higher share of foreign-born workers included agriculture and mining, construction, manufacturing, and transportation and warehousing. A greater share of foreign-born workers worked in the construction industry (14.6 percent) compared to U.S.-born workers (7.0 percent). Also, 5.6 percent of foreign-born workers worked in the agriculture and mining industry, a 2.6 percent increase over U.S.-born workers.

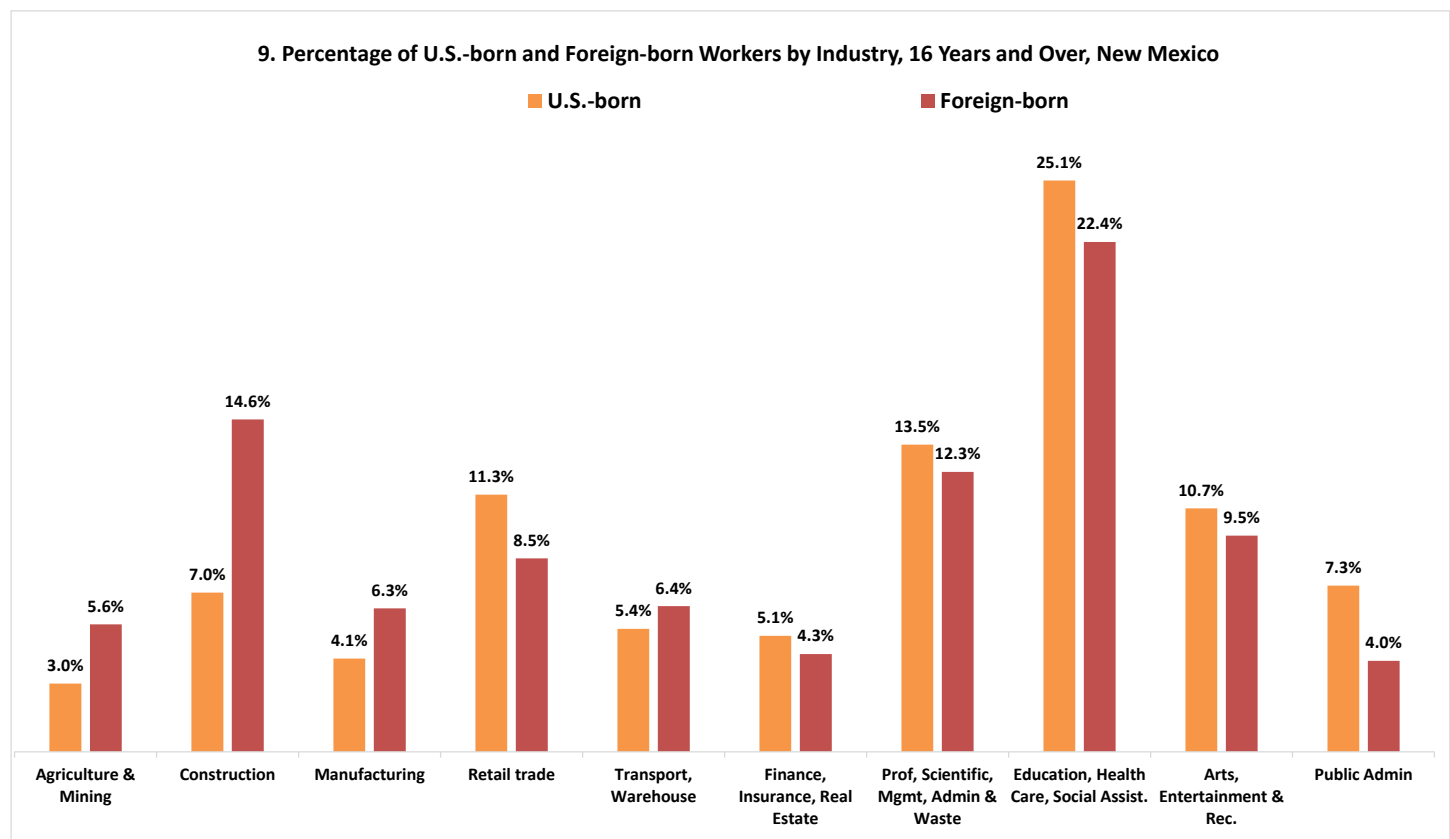
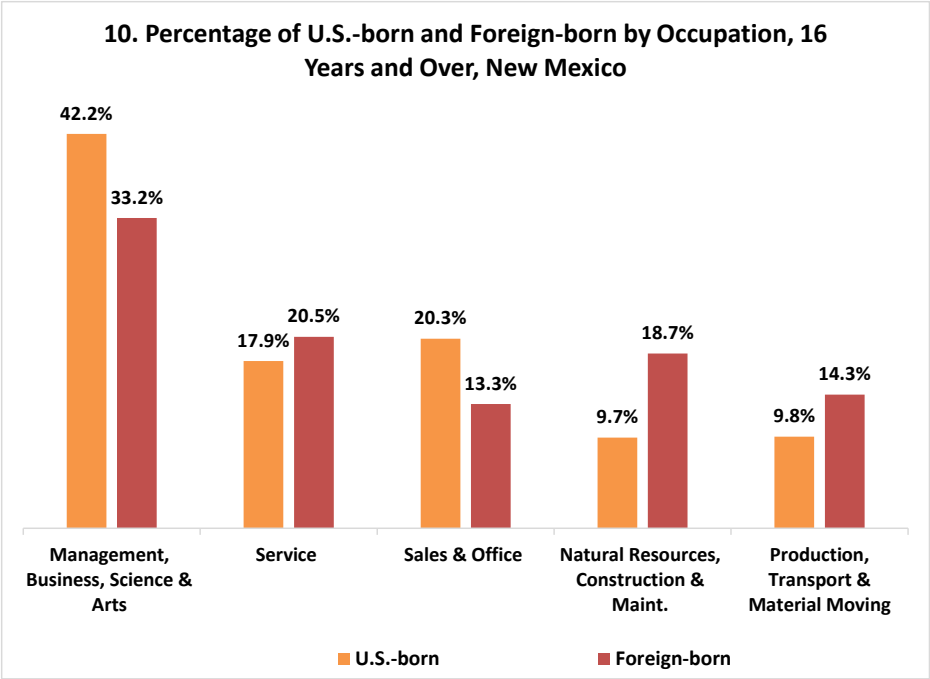


Exhibit 10 shows the percentage of U.S.- and foreign-born workers across occupational groups. For New Mexicans born in the United States, 42.2 percent were employed in management, business, science, and arts occupations, 9.0 percentage points higher than foreign-born workers (33.2 percent). A greater share of U.S.-born workers worked in the sales and office occupations (20.3 percent) compared to foreign-born workers (13.3 percent). Just over 20.0 percent of foreign-born workers were employed in the service occupational group, compared to 17.9 percent of U.S.-born workers. The share of foreign-born workers employed in the natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupational group (18.7 percent) was nearly double that of the share of U.S.-born workers who worked in that industry (9.7 percent).



Data Sources

National and state data are from the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2024 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year estimates, table S0501. Sums may not equal to 100 percent due to rounding. For more information on the foreign-born, including definitions, please go to <https://www.census.gov/topics/population/foreign-born.htm>.

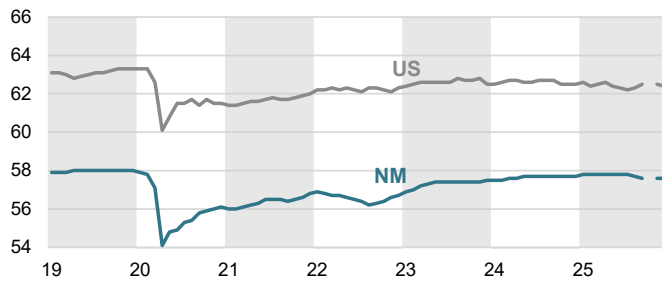


Key Labor Market Indicators for New Mexico

Labor Force & Unemployment

Labor Force Participation Rate (%)

Jan 19-Dec 25

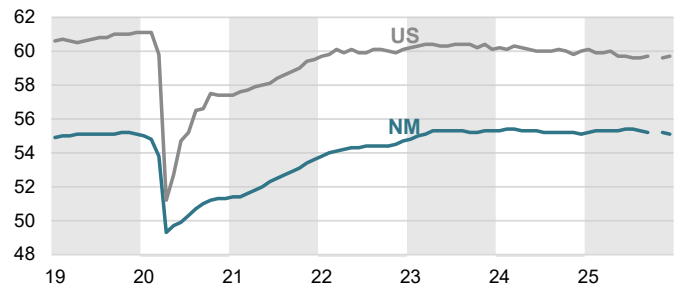


	Dec 25	Nov 25	Dec 24	Percentage Point Change			
				OTM	OTY	2 yr	5 yr
US	62.4	62.5	62.5	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.9
NM	57.6	57.6	57.7	0.0	-0.1	0.1	1.5

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)
Seasonally adjusted

Employment-to-Population Ratio (%)

Jan 19-Dec 25

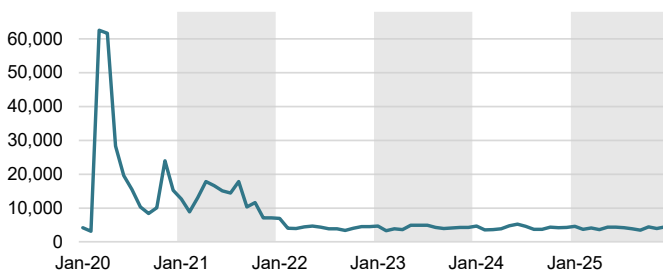


	Dec 25	Nov 25	Dec 24	Percentage Point Change			
				OTM	OTY	2 yr	5 yr
US	59.7	59.6	60.0	0.1	-0.3	-0.4	2.3
NM	55.1	55.2	55.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	3.8

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)
Seasonally adjusted

Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims

Jan 20-Dec 25

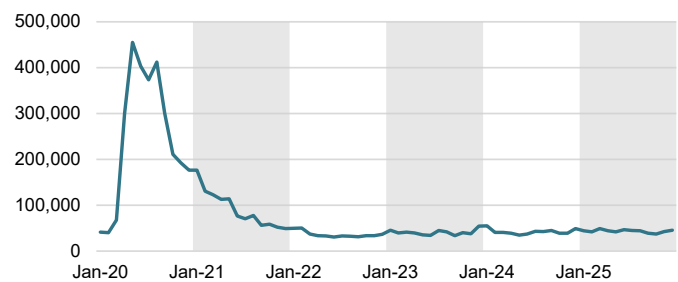


	Dec 25	Nov 25	Dec 24	Percentage Change (%)			
				OTM	OTY	2 yr	5 yr
NM	4,426	3,944	4,295	12.2	3.1	3.9	-71.0

NM Department of Workforce Solutions
New claim applications

Continued Weeks Claimed, Unemployment Insurance

Jan 20-Dec 25



	Dec 25	Nov 25	Dec 24	Percentage Change (%)			
				OTM	OTY	2 yr	5 yr
NM	45,540	42,376	49,075	7.5	-7.2	-16.6	-74.2

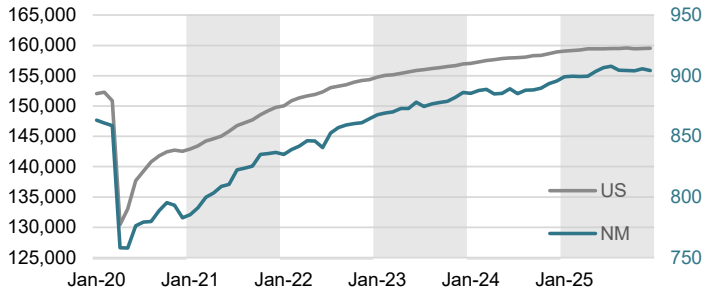
NM Department of Workforce Solutions
Number of weeks claimed for UI benefits or waiting week credit

Key Labor Market Indicators for New Mexico *(Continued)*

Employment, Hours & Earnings

Seasonally Adjusted Employment

Jan 20-Dec 25

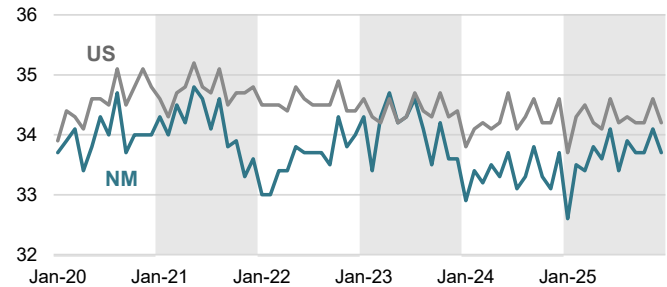


	Dec 25	Nov 25	Dec 24	Percentage Change (%)			
				OTM	OTY	2 yr	5 yr
US	159,526	159,476	158,942	0.0	0.4	1.7	11.9
NM	904.3	905.7	895.7	-0.2	1.0	2.0	15.5

Current Employment Statistics (CES)
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Average Weekly Hours

Jan 20-Dec 25

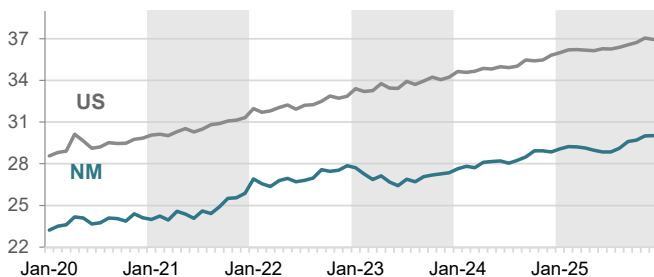


	Dec 25	Nov 25	Dec 24	Change in Hours			
				OTM	OTY	2 yr	5 yr
US	34.2	34.6	34.6	-0.4	-0.4	-0.2	-0.6
NM	33.7	34.1	33.7	-0.4	0.0	0.1	-0.6

Current Employment Statistics (CES)
Private establishments, not seasonally adjusted

Average Hourly Earnings

Jan 20-Dec 25

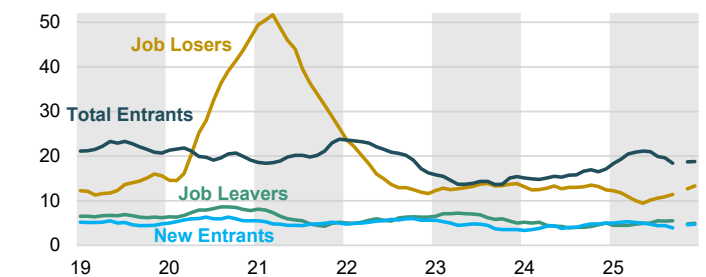


	Dec 25	Nov 25	Dec 24	Change in Dollars			
				OTM	OTY	2 yr	5 yr
US	\$36.94	\$37.04	\$35.82	-\$0.10	\$1.12	\$2.71	\$7.10
NM	\$30.03	\$30.01	\$28.84	\$0.02	\$1.19	\$2.68	\$5.91

Current Employment Statistics (CES)
Private establishments, not seasonally adjusted

People Entering and Leaving the Workforce

Jan 19-Dec 25



	Dec 25	Nov 25	Dec 24	Percentage Point Change			
				OTM	OTY	2 yr	5 yr
Total Entrants	18.8	18.7	17.1	0.1	1.7	3.4	-0.3
New Entrants	4.7	4.6	5.0	0.1	-0.3	1.2	-0.8
Job Losers	13.3	12.7	12.4	0.6	0.9	-0.5	-33.3
Job Leavers	4.9	4.8	5.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-2.9

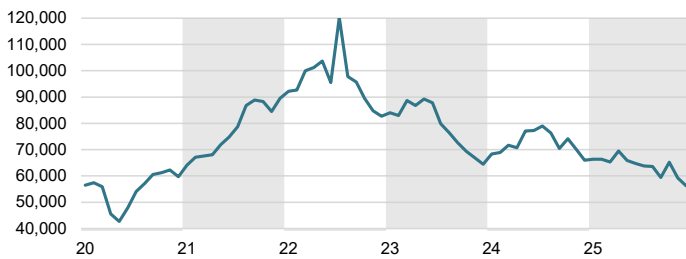
Current Population Survey (CPS)
12-month moving average (11-month moving average starting Nov 25), thousands

Key Labor Market Indicators for New Mexico *(Continued)*

Online Job Postings

Online Job Postings

Jan 20-Dec 25

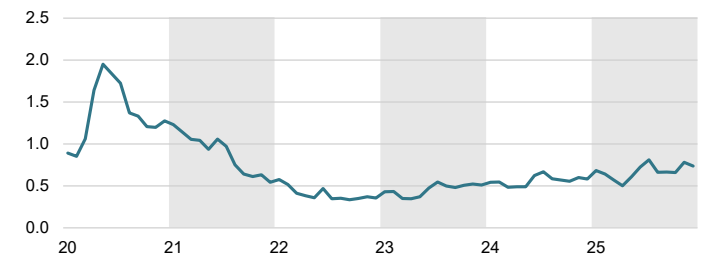


	Dec 25	Nov 25	Dec 24	Percentage Change (%)			
				OTM	OTY	2 yr	5 yr
NM	56,200	59,230	65,941	-5.1	-14.8	-12.8	-5.9

NM Department of Workforce Solutions
Job postings from New Mexico Jobs

Unemployment per Online Job Posting

Jan 20-Dec 25



	Dec 25	Nov 25	Dec 24	Percentage Point Change			
				OTM	OTY	2 yr	5 yr
NM	0.74	0.78	0.58	-5.6	27.1	0.2	-0.5

NM Department of Workforce Solutions. Job postings from New Mexico Jobs and unemployment estimates from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program.

Industries with the Most Online Job Postings

Dec 2025

Top Industries	
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	5,196
Elementary and Secondary Schools	2,077
Employment Placement Agencies and Executive Search Services	1,604
Restaurants and Other Eating Places	1,520
Legislative Bodies	1,163
Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools	1,117
Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Hospitals	1,115
Temporary Help Services	1,106
Home Health Care Services	999
R&D in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences	920

NM Department of Workforce Solutions
Job postings from New Mexico Jobs

Occupations with the Most Online Job Postings

Dec 2025

Top Occupations	
Registered Nurses	7,334
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	2,302
Physicians, All Other	1,663
Customer Service Representatives	998
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	897
Physical Therapists	885
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	828
Retail Salespersons	785
Nurse Practitioners	752
General and Operations Managers	690

NM Department of Workforce Solutions
Job postings from New Mexico Jobs

Initial Claims by County for the Week of December 14, 2025				New Mexico's Unemployment Insurance Program					
				Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed, December 2025					
				Gender		Industry		Occupation	
Bernalillo	398	McKinley	32	Male	6,373	Agriculture	752	Management	1,187
Catron	*	Mora	*	Female	4,920	Mining	240	Business & Finance	487
Chaves	23	Otero	18	NA	11	Utilities	23	Computer & Math	281
Cibola	13	Quay	*	Ethnicity		Construction	1,648	Architecture & Engineering	212
Colfax	*	Rio Arriba	17	Hispanic/Latino	6,129	Manufacturing	526	Life, Physical & Social Sciences	206
Curry	15	Roosevelt	15	Not Hispanic/Latino	4,399	Wholesale Trade	239	Community & Social Services	165
De Baca	*	San Juan	43	NA	776	Retail Trade	1,036	Legal	45
Doña Ana	107	San Miguel	17	Race		Transportation & Warehousing	326	Education, Training & Library	197
Eddy	22	Sandoval	64	Native American/AK Native	1,315	Information	606	Arts, Design, Entertainment	342
Grant	7	Santa Fe	47	Asian	137	Finance & Insurance	189	Healthcare Practitioner & Tech	260
Guadalupe	*	Sierra	*	African American	505	Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	146	Healthcare Support	378
Harding	*	Socorro	11	Native HI/Pacific Islander	41	Professional & Scientific Serv	739	Protective Services	300
Hidalgo	*	Taos	15	White	6,875	Mgmt of Companies	26	Food Prep & Serving Related	499
Lea	24	Torrance	11	NA	2,431	Admin & Support/Waste Mgmt	963	Building, Grounds Maint.	244
Lincoln	9	Union	*	Age		Educational Services	298	Personal Care & Services	165
Los Alamos	*	Unknown	*	<22	354	Healthcare & Social Assistance	1,011	Sales & Related	551
Luna	55	Valencia	30	22-24	507	Arts, Entertainment, Recreation	171	Office & Admin. Support	1,216
		Total	1,023	25-34	2,483	Accommodation & Food Serv	754	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	782
				35-44	2,860	Other Services	237	Construction & Extraction	1,388
				45-54	2,333	Public Administration	382	Installation, Maintenance, Repair	523
				55-59	1,050	NA	992	Production	715
				60-64	926			Transportation, Material Moving	889
				>=65	791			Military Specific	20
								NA	252

* Data <5 can not be released. Initial claims data are for standard UI, intrastate only.

Characteristics data are for individuals with regular state UI continued weeks claimed for both intrastate and interstate agent for the week that includes the 19th of the month. NA=not available. Characteristics data are from ETA 203, which can also be found at <https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/DataDownloads.asp>



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