

Employment Summary, Released Oct. 22, 2009

- New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 7.7 percent in September 2009, up from a revised 7.4 percent in August and 4.4 percent a year ago. The national unemployment rate increased a tenth of a point to 9.8 percent.
- The rate of over-the-year job growth, comparing September 2009 with September 2008, was negative 3.6 percent, representing an over-the-year loss of 30,900 jobs.
- Conditions in the local job market remain bleak. The current drop in employment is unprecedented in recent times.
- Job growth is at a nearly 66-year low, while the unemployment rate is at only a 13-year high. However, job growth may have reached a point from which a recovery can be staged, while the unemployment rate may continue to increase for a number of months.
- Only four of the state's 13 industries posted any job growth since last year, while the nine others reported employment declines.
- The only lasting gains of substance came from educational & health services, which was up 3,600 jobs on the year from strength in the health care component of the industry.
- The following industries expanded employment since last September:
 - Educational & Health Services – 3,600 jobs
 - Information – 1,300 jobs
 - Government (including tribal) – 700 jobs
 - Other Services – 300 jobs

