

Employment Summary, Released Jan. 26, 2012

- New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.6 percent in December 2011, up slightly from 6.5 percent in November but down from 8.6 percent a year ago. The national unemployment rate dropped to 8.5 percent.
- We are now adding back jobs at a modest pace in the private sector. Recovery in the government sector is still not evident.
- The rate of over-the-year job growth, comparing December 2011 with December 2010, was 0.9 percent, representing an increase of 7,400 jobs.
- December marked the seventh straight month of over-the-year job growth after a sustained period of losses that began in November 2008.
- The employment survey showed seven industries adding jobs, five industries losing jobs, and one industry unchanged from a year earlier.
- Educational & health services accounted for nearly half of the private-sector employment increase.
- The following industries have added the most jobs since last December:
 - Educational & Health Services – 4,300 jobs
 - Retail Trade – 3,700 jobs
 - Financial Activities – 2,800 jobs
 - Mining – 2,400 jobs
 - Wholesale Trade – 1,800 jobs
 - Leisure & Hospitality – 1,400 jobs
 - Manufacturing – 100 jobs

