

EMPLOYMENT NEWS RELEASE

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News Release For Business Editor

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New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 7.2 percent in February 2012, up from 7.0 percent in January but down from 7.6 percent a year earlier.

The rate of over-the-year employment growth, comparing February 2012 with February 2011, came in at 0.6 percent, representing a gain of 5,100 jobs. This was the seventh straight month of year-over-year increases, following decreases for 32 of the preceding 33 months. The employment survey showed gains in seven industries and losses in five others, with one industry unchanged from its year-earlier level.

Educational & health services, up 5,700 jobs, and mining, up 2,500, posted the largest employment increases, while professional & business services, down 4,600, and construction, down 1,100, posted the largest decreases. Government, down 900 jobs, also slipped lower, with losses reported at both the federal and local levels.

Detailed analysis will be provided in the *Labor Market Review* scheduled for release on April 6.

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Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Feb-12	Revised Jan-12	Revised Feb-11	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	800,800	793,300	795,700	7,500	5,100
TOTAL PRIVATE	603,300	602,100	597,300	1,200	6,000
GOODS PRODUCING	90,700	90,500	89,300	200	1,400
SERVICE PROVIDING	710,100	702,800	706,400	7,300	3,700
MINING & LOGGING	22,500	22,200	20,000	300	2,500
CONSTRUCTION	39,400	39,700	40,500	-300	-1,100
MANUFACTURING	28,800	28,600	28,800	200	0
WHOLESALE TRADE	20,800	21,300	20,600	-500	200
RETAIL TRADE	89,200	89,900	88,100	-700	1,100
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING & UTILITIES	22,500	21,800	22,300	700	200
INFORMATION	14,300	13,700	13,400	600	900
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	32,100	33,000	32,400	-900	-300
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	96,400	97,400	101,000	-1,000	-4,600
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	126,700	125,000	121,000	1,700	5,700
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	83,800	83,200	82,000	600	1,800
OTHER SERVICES	26,800	26,300	27,200	500	-400
GOVERNMENT	197,500	191,200	198,400	6,300	-900
Federal Government	31,100	31,200	32,400	-100	-1,300
State Government	60,200	56,600	59,600	3,600	600
<i>State Government Education</i>	<i>26,700</i>	<i>23,100</i>	<i>27,700</i>	<i>3,600</i>	<i>-1,000</i>
Local Government	106,200	103,400	106,400	2,800	-200
<i>Local Government Education</i>	<i>58,100</i>	<i>55,600</i>	<i>58,500</i>	<i>2,500</i>	<i>-400</i>

U.S. Labor Force Estimates

	FEBRUARY 2012				JANUARY 2012				FEBRUARY 2011			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Seasonally Adjusted	154,871	142,065	12,806	8.3%	154,395	141,637	12,758	8.3%	153,302	139,551	13,751	9.0%
Not Seasonally Adjusted	154,114	140,684	13,430	8.7%	153,485	139,944	13,541	8.8%	152,635	138,093	14,542	9.5%

New Mexico Labor Force Estimates (Not Seasonally Adjusted Unless Noted as "SA")

	PRELIMINARY FEBRUARY 2012				REVISED JANUARY 2012				REVISED FEBRUARY 2011			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE SA	931,962	865,165	66,797	7.2%	928,517	863,934	64,583	7.0%	930,450	859,591	70,859	7.6%
STATEWIDE	933,247	860,044	73,203	7.8%	920,646	853,652	66,994	7.3%	926,649	853,463	73,186	7.9%
Albuquerque MSA SA	399,707	370,326	29,381	7.4%	399,092	370,828	28,264	7.1%	BLS 2011 MSA SA estimates not yet revised.			
Albuquerque MSA	400,670	367,816	32,854	8.2%	394,314	364,179	30,135	7.6%	398,133	365,734	32,399	8.1%
Bernalillo	306,565	282,229	24,336	7.9%	301,661	279,439	22,222	7.4%	304,624	280,632	23,992	7.9%
Sandoval	56,395	51,363	5,032	8.9%	55,544	50,855	4,689	8.4%	55,994	51,072	4,922	8.8%
Torrance	6,535	5,937	598	9.2%	6,468	5,878	590	9.1%	6,593	5,903	690	10.5%
Valencia	31,175	28,287	2,888	9.3%	30,642	28,008	2,634	8.6%	30,922	28,127	2,795	9.0%
Farmington MSA SA	55,063	51,233	3,830	7.0%	55,347	51,659	3,688	6.7%	BLS 2011 MSA SA estimates not yet revised.			
Farmington MSA	54,835	50,437	4,398	8.0%	54,670	50,641	4,029	7.4%	54,690	49,990	4,700	8.6%
Las Cruces MSA SA	92,170	85,819	6,351	6.9%	91,961	85,814	6,147	6.7%	BLS 2011 MSA SA estimates not yet revised.			
Las Cruces MSA	92,929	85,406	7,523	8.1%	90,369	83,450	6,919	7.7%	92,030	84,618	7,412	8.1%
Santa Fe MSA SA	76,390	72,376	4,014	5.3%	76,893	72,937	3,956	5.1%	BLS 2011 MSA SA estimates not yet revised.			
Santa Fe MSA	75,600	70,793	4,807	6.4%	74,855	70,514	4,341	5.8%	74,420	69,467	4,953	6.7%
Catron	1,387	1,255	132	9.5%	1,383	1,258	125	9.0%	1,470	1,306	164	11.2%
Chaves	26,233	24,283	1,950	7.4%	26,038	24,242	1,796	6.9%	26,665	24,669	1,996	7.5%
Cibola	12,146	11,280	866	7.1%	12,039	11,255	784	6.5%	12,117	11,213	904	7.5%
Colfax	6,383	5,830	553	8.7%	6,414	5,906	508	7.9%	6,315	5,749	566	9.0%
Curry	21,570	20,361	1,209	5.6%	21,373	20,294	1,079	5.0%	21,502	20,350	1,152	5.4%
De Baca	788	745	43	5.5%	779	742	37	4.7%	815	772	43	5.3%
Eddy	29,762	28,322	1,440	4.8%	29,606	28,330	1,276	4.3%	28,712	27,307	1,405	4.9%
Grant	11,763	10,781	982	8.3%	11,528	10,638	890	7.7%	11,511	10,483	1,028	8.9%
Guadalupe	1,720	1,512	208	12.1%	1,701	1,517	184	10.8%	1,774	1,572	202	11.4%
Harding	395	375	20	5.1%	389	372	17	4.4%	379	357	22	5.8%
Hidalgo	2,471	2,307	164	6.6%	2,469	2,316	153	6.2%	2,448	2,258	190	7.8%
Lea	30,003	28,444	1,559	5.2%	29,727	28,330	1,397	4.7%	28,167	26,479	1,688	6.0%
Lincoln	10,239	9,561	678	6.6%	10,246	9,643	603	5.9%	10,287	9,612	675	6.6%
Los Alamos	9,803	9,413	390	4.0%	9,775	9,443	332	3.4%	9,908	9,565	343	3.5%
Luna	12,160	9,644	2,516	20.7%	11,865	9,497	2,368	20.0%	11,829	9,328	2,501	21.1%
McKinley	26,408	23,891	2,517	9.5%	26,364	24,032	2,332	8.8%	26,512	24,052	2,460	9.3%
Mora	1,886	1,598	288	15.3%	1,850	1,577	273	14.8%	1,926	1,617	309	16.0%
Otero	25,735	23,940	1,795	7.0%	25,546	23,918	1,628	6.4%	25,803	24,052	1,751	6.8%
Quay	3,710	3,403	307	8.3%	3,724	3,434	290	7.8%	3,799	3,442	357	9.4%
Rio Arriba	18,718	17,010	1,708	9.1%	18,559	17,004	1,555	8.4%	19,170	17,457	1,713	8.9%
Roosevelt	9,252	8,726	526	5.7%	8,924	8,441	483	5.4%	9,343	8,855	488	5.2%
San Miguel	13,081	12,014	1,067	8.2%	12,622	11,646	976	7.7%	13,065	11,950	1,115	8.5%
Sierra	5,709	5,264	445	7.8%	5,635	5,229	406	7.2%	5,708	5,287	421	7.4%
Socorro	9,160	8,632	528	5.8%	9,026	8,548	478	5.3%	9,264	8,731	533	5.8%
Taos	16,853	15,236	1,617	9.6%	17,008	15,504	1,504	8.8%	17,025	15,442	1,583	9.3%
Union	1,873	1,763	110	5.9%	1,847	1,753	94	5.1%	1,861	1,749	112	6.0%

**County Unemployment Rates, February 2012
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

