

EMPLOYMENT NEWS RELEASE

The New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions will post data online concurrently with the releases listed at www.dws.state.nm.us under "Labor Market Information."

Susana Martinez
Governor

Celina Bussey
Secretary

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Contact: Erin Thompson (505) 250-3926
Economic Research & Analysis Bureau
P.O. Box 1928, Albuquerque, NM 87103
For Release: January 23, 2018

News Release For Business Editor

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.0 percent in December 2017, down from 6.1 percent in November and from 6.7 percent in December 2016. The national unemployment rate was 4.1 percent for the third month in a row but down from 4.7 percent a year ago.

New Mexico added 10,800 total nonagricultural jobs between December 2016 and December 2017, representing an over-the-year increase of 1.3 percent. For the thirteenth consecutive month, all aggregate gains came from the private sector, which expanded by 11,500 jobs, or 1.8 percent. Within the private sector, the private service-providing industries posted a gain of 9,300 jobs, or 1.7 percent, while the goods-producing industries grew by 2,200 jobs, or 2.5 percent. Seven industries added jobs, five posted losses, and one reported no change from its December 2016 estimate.

The construction industry and the leisure and hospitality industry jointly reported the largest gain among all industries, each adding 3,100 jobs. This represented a 7.0 percent gain in construction, the largest percentage growth in the state, and a 3.2 percent gain in leisure and hospitality. Employment in education and health services grew by 2,300 jobs, or 1.6 percent. The majority of the education and health services increase came from educational services, which was up 1,700 jobs, or 7.6 percent. Health care and social assistance was up 600 jobs, or 0.5 percent. Financial activities employment was up 1,700 jobs, or 5.1 percent. Employment in retail trade was up 1,200 jobs, or 1.3 percent. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities added 1,000 jobs to its year-ago employment level, representing a gain of 3.9 percent. Employment in professional and business services was up 600 jobs, or 0.6 percent.

Employment in the mining industry fell by 700 jobs, or 3.7 percent. Information reported a loss of 400 jobs, representing a decrease of 3.1 percent. Each of miscellaneous *other services* (down 0.7 percent) and manufacturing (down 0.8 percent) reported an employment loss of 200 jobs. Within manufacturing, a gain of 100 jobs, or 0.9 percent, in non-durable goods was offset by a loss of 300 jobs, or 2.0 percent, in durable goods. Employment in wholesale trade was unchanged from its year-earlier estimate.

Government employment contracted by 700 jobs, or 0.4 percent, over the year. The majority of the loss came from state government employment, which decreased by 500 jobs, or 0.8 percent. State government education was down 400 jobs, or 1.4 percent. The remaining government losses were in federal government employment, which was down 200 jobs, or 0.7 percent. In the aggregate, local government employment was unchanged from December 2016, though local government education added 100 jobs, representing a gain of 0.2 percent.

Detailed analysis will be provided in the *Labor Market Review* scheduled for release on January 30.

###



Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary Dec-17	Revised Nov-17	Revised Dec-16	Change	
				Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	851,700	852,200	840,900	-500	10,800
Total Private	658,600	658,600	647,100	0	11,500
Goods-Producing	91,500	92,700	89,300	-1,200	2,200
Mining, Logging & Construction	65,200	66,200	62,800	-1,000	2,400
<i>Mining & Logging</i>	18,000	18,400	18,700	-400	-700
<i>Construction</i>	47,200	47,800	44,100	-600	3,100
Manufacturing	26,300	26,500	26,500	-200	-200
<i>Durable Goods</i>	14,800	14,900	15,100	-100	-300
<i>Non-Durable Goods</i>	11,500	11,600	11,400	-100	100
Service-Providing	760,200	759,500	751,600	700	8,600
Private Service-Providing	567,100	565,900	557,800	1,200	9,300
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	144,700	143,700	142,500	1,000	2,200
<i>Wholesale Trade</i>	21,400	21,400	21,400	0	0
<i>Retail Trade</i>	96,900	96,000	95,700	900	1,200
<i>Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities</i>	26,400	26,300	25,400	100	1,000
Information	12,500	12,900	12,900	-400	-400
Financial Activities	35,200	35,000	33,500	200	1,700
Professional & Business Services	103,600	103,900	103,000	-300	600
Education & Health Services	143,600	143,300	141,300	300	2,300
<i>Educational Services</i>	24,100	24,200	22,400	-100	1,700
<i>Health Care & Social Assistance</i>	119,500	119,100	118,900	400	600
Leisure & Hospitality	99,200	98,300	96,100	900	3,100
Other Services	28,300	28,800	28,500	-500	-200
Government	193,100	193,600	193,800	-500	-700
Federal Government	29,300	29,200	29,500	100	-200
State Government	58,900	59,400	59,400	-500	-500
<i>State Government Education</i>	27,500	28,100	27,900	-600	-400
Local Government	104,900	105,000	104,900	-100	0
<i>Local Government Education</i>	55,600	55,800	55,500	-200	100

U.S. Labor Force Estimates

	December 2017				November 2017				December 2016			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Seasonally Adjusted	160,597	154,021	6,576	4.1%	160,533	153,917	6,616	4.1%	159,736	152,233	7,502	4.7%
Not Seasonally Adjusted	159,880	153,602	6,278	3.9%	160,466	154,180	6,286	3.9%	158,968	151,798	7,170	4.5%

Note: Numbers are in thousands.

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

	Preliminary December 2017				Revised November 2017				Revised December 2016			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE SA	935,651	879,838	55,813	6.0%	932,988	876,483	56,505	6.1%	928,823	866,374	62,449	6.7%
STATEWIDE	941,340	889,998	51,342	5.5%	938,880	884,978	53,902	5.7%	934,596	876,181	58,415	6.3%
Albuquerque MSA SA	See notes below.				See notes below.				425,405	399,844	25,561	6.0%
Albuquerque MSA	433,285	411,384	21,901	5.1%	432,209	408,931	23,278	5.4%	427,698	403,840	23,858	5.6%
Bernalillo	333,173	317,170	16,003	4.8%	332,297	315,207	17,090	5.1%	328,519	310,969	17,550	5.3%
Sandoval	63,847	60,318	3,529	5.5%	63,789	60,062	3,727	5.8%	63,448	59,588	3,860	6.1%
Torrance	5,790	5,232	558	9.6%	5,743	5,190	553	9.6%	5,614	5,122	492	8.8%
Valencia	30,475	28,664	1,811	5.9%	30,380	28,472	1,908	6.3%	30,117	28,161	1,956	6.5%
Farmington MSA SA	See notes below.				See notes below.				53,228	48,406	4,822	9.1%
Farmington MSA	52,846	49,555	3,291	6.2%	52,878	49,509	3,369	6.4%	53,445	48,870	4,575	8.6%
Las Cruces MSA SA	See notes below.				See notes below.				95,739	89,024	6,715	7.0%
Las Cruces MSA	96,459	90,563	5,896	6.1%	95,849	89,856	5,993	6.3%	96,701	90,391	6,310	6.5%
Santa Fe MSA SA	See notes below.				See notes below.				72,534	68,744	3,790	5.2%
Santa Fe MSA	73,752	70,403	3,349	4.5%	73,767	70,175	3,592	4.9%	73,261	69,715	3,546	4.8%
Catron	1,136	1,046	90	7.9%	1,156	1,065	91	7.9%	1,140	1,043	97	8.5%
Chaves	27,556	26,052	1,504	5.5%	27,429	25,826	1,603	5.8%	28,114	26,255	1,859	6.6%
Cibola	9,175	8,535	640	7.0%	9,191	8,509	682	7.4%	9,060	8,330	730	8.1%
Colfax	5,388	5,077	311	5.8%	5,240	4,897	343	6.5%	5,535	5,218	317	5.7%
Curry	22,079	21,173	906	4.1%	21,989	21,001	988	4.5%	21,789	20,779	1,010	4.6%
De Baca	838	799	39	4.7%	839	797	42	5.0%	783	749	34	4.3%
Eddy	28,840	27,663	1,177	4.1%	28,688	27,385	1,303	4.5%	28,101	26,296	1,805	6.4%
Grant	12,364	11,680	684	5.5%	12,394	11,670	724	5.8%	12,488	11,709	779	6.2%
Guadalupe	1,665	1,569	96	5.8%	1,655	1,553	102	6.2%	1,744	1,621	123	7.1%
Harding	288	269	19	6.6%	287	267	20	7.0%	282	266	16	5.7%
Hidalgo	2,096	2,000	96	4.6%	2,134	2,022	112	5.2%	2,136	2,025	111	5.2%
Lea	27,765	26,341	1,424	5.1%	27,874	26,315	1,559	5.6%	26,477	24,234	2,243	8.5%
Lincoln	8,650	8,190	460	5.3%	8,550	8,059	491	5.7%	8,449	7,955	494	5.8%
Los Alamos	9,007	8,704	303	3.4%	8,962	8,628	334	3.7%	8,756	8,418	338	3.9%
Luna	10,157	8,492	1,665	16.4%	9,889	8,460	1,429	14.5%	10,068	8,221	1,847	18.3%
McKinley	24,529	22,596	1,933	7.9%	24,455	22,436	2,019	8.3%	24,477	22,367	2,110	8.6%
Mora	2,179	2,001	178	8.2%	2,173	2,007	166	7.6%	2,210	2,005	205	9.3%
Otero	25,069	23,755	1,314	5.2%	24,993	23,565	1,428	5.7%	25,544	24,097	1,447	5.7%
Quay	3,156	2,995	161	5.1%	3,166	2,987	179	5.7%	3,209	3,009	200	6.2%
Rio Arriba	16,558	15,599	959	5.8%	16,577	15,586	991	6.0%	16,575	15,422	1,153	7.0%
Roosevelt	7,881	7,524	357	4.5%	8,064	7,673	391	4.8%	7,907	7,503	404	5.1%
San Miguel	10,752	10,019	733	6.8%	10,927	10,167	760	7.0%	10,974	10,167	807	7.4%
Sierra	4,019	3,706	313	7.8%	4,129	3,835	294	7.1%	3,987	3,657	330	8.3%
Socorro	6,612	6,235	377	5.7%	6,599	6,200	399	6.0%	6,670	6,221	449	6.7%
Taos	15,377	14,273	1,104	7.2%	14,937	13,784	1,153	7.7%	15,167	14,020	1,147	7.6%
Union	1,865	1,803	62	3.3%	1,880	1,810	70	3.7%	1,850	1,777	73	3.9%

Notes: Current MSA SA labor force estimates will be released January 30 in the December 2017 *Labor Market Review* publication and in the NMDWS LASER system, both available under the Labor Market Information tab at <http://www.dws.state.nm.us/>. All MSA SA series from January 1990 forward are available through LASER and from BLS at <http://www.bls.gov/lau/metrossa.htm>.

Totals may not sum because of rounding.

County Unemployment Rates, December 2017 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

