

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."

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News Release For Business Editor

New Mexico's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.9 percent in January 2015, down from 6.0 percent in December and down from 6.7 percent a year ago. The national unemployment rate was 5.7 percent, up from December's rate of 5.6 percent but down from 6.6 percent in January 2014.

With the release of January 2015 data, the annual revision of estimates of employment from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) monthly survey of nonfarm establishments was also introduced. Each year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics realigns the sample-based estimates of the CES survey to incorporate universe counts of employment—a process known as benchmarking. Where relevant, impacts due to benchmark revisions have been mentioned.

The rate of over-the-year job growth for nonfarm payroll employment, comparing January 2015 with January 2014, was 1.3 percent, representing a gain of 10,200 jobs. This month's net job gains were somewhat lower than gains in November and December, which were themselves reduced as a result of the recent benchmark. This is a consequence of the significant upward revision of employment in the fourth quarter of 2013. Following the benchmark, total nonfarm employment showed continuous growth from September 2012, with over-the-year growth ranging between 8,000 and 12,000 jobs for every month since July 2014. While education and health services employment continued to dominate the share of gross job gains, the trend in 2014 was towards an increase in the number of growing industries. In January 2015, nine industries added jobs, and four posted losses.

Between January 2014 and January 2015, education and health services added 4,700 jobs, or 3.7 percent. This is down from last month's over-the-year gains, which were the highest seen since July 2003, in spite of last month's over-the-year gains being somewhat reduced by benchmark revisions. Gains in the industry accounted for just under 39 percent of total over-the-year gross job gains. Employment within professional and business services showed positive over-the-year growth this month, and, with the preceding 12 months' employment also revised up significantly, all months but one (October) in the latter half of 2014 tipped into positive growth. The industry was up 1,700 jobs, or 1.7 percent, compared to last year's employment. Mining employment was up 1,400 jobs, or 5.2 percent, though the industry experienced its first consecutive over-the-month losses since April and May 2009, indicating that oil price declines may be having a ripple effect on employment. Miscellaneous *other services* saw an over-the-month gain between December and January. This is unusual, as employment in many industries drops off after the holiday season; indeed, it is the first time that an over-the-month gain in January has happened in this industry since 1995. Unsurprisingly, this underlies an over-the-year gain of 1,200 jobs, or 4.4 percent, its highest since February 1999. Retail trade's employment during 2014 was revised down, on average, during benchmark. In January, the industry posted a gain of 1,200 jobs, or 1.3 percent. Despite revisions, the industry has shown continuous growth since April 2013, apart from a loss in October 2014. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities added 900 jobs, or 3.8 percent. Information, up 600 jobs, financial activities, up 300 jobs, and wholesale trade, up 300 jobs, contributed smaller increases.

The remaining three private-sector industries each reported losses. Leisure and hospitality lost 600 jobs, or 0.7 percent, which, following benchmark revisions, is the first loss in the industry since September 2010. Manufacturing, which was revised upward significantly during benchmark, was down by 200 jobs, or 0.7 percent, continuing the industry's recent trend towards substantially fewer losses than those seen in 2013 and most of 2014. Construction was down 100 jobs, or 0.2 percent. These losses would have been reduced but for significant upward revisions in January 2014.

Government employment registered a net loss of 1,200 jobs since January of last year, representing a 0.6 percent decline, though it should be mentioned that government employment estimates for 2014 were revised upward, and significantly so in January 2014. Losses occurred at all three levels of government, with local government, down 600 jobs, and federal government, down 500 jobs, contributing most of the losses. State government posted a loss of 100 jobs, which would have been more dramatic but for gains of 1,100 jobs in state government education.

Detailed analysis, and further comment on this year's benchmark revisions, will be provided in the *Labor Market Review* scheduled for release on March 23.

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**Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

NEW MEXICO	Preliminary	Revised	Revised	Change	
	Jan-15	Dec-14	Jan-14	Monthly	Yearly
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	816,700	833,200	806,500	-16,500	10,200
TOTAL PRIVATE	628,300	638,500	616,900	-10,200	11,400
GOODS-PRODUCING	97,600	100,000	96,500	-2,400	1,100
SERVICE-PROVIDING	719,100	733,200	710,000	-14,100	9,100
MINING & LOGGING	28,200	28,400	26,800	-200	1,400
CONSTRUCTION	41,600	43,300	41,700	-1,700	-100
MANUFACTURING	27,800	28,300	28,000	-500	-200
WHOLESALE TRADE	21,600	21,800	21,300	-200	300
RETAIL TRADE	92,700	95,600	91,500	-2,900	1,200
TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING & UTILITIES	24,600	25,300	23,700	-700	900
INFORMATION	12,200	12,700	11,600	-500	600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	33,400	33,600	33,100	-200	300
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	99,800	100,300	98,100	-500	1,700
EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	130,800	131,900	126,100	-1,100	4,700
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	87,100	89,000	87,700	-1,900	-600
OTHER SERVICES	28,500	28,300	27,300	200	1,200
GOVERNMENT	188,400	194,700	189,600	-6,300	-1,200
Federal Government	28,900	29,200	29,400	-300	-500
State Government	56,300	59,800	56,400	-3,500	-100
<i>State Government Education</i>	<i>27,200</i>	<i>29,900</i>	<i>26,100</i>	<i>-2,700</i>	<i>1,100</i>
Local Government	103,200	105,700	103,800	-2,500	-600
<i>Local Government Education</i>	<i>54,400</i>	<i>56,200</i>	<i>55,300</i>	<i>-1,800</i>	<i>-900</i>

U.S. Labor Force Estimates

	JANUARY 2015				DECEMBER 2014				JANUARY 2014			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Seasonally Adjusted	157,180	148,201	8,979	5.7%	156,129	147,442	8,688	5.6%	155,486	145,206	10,280	6.6%
Not Seasonally Adjusted	156,050	146,552	9,498	6.1%	155,521	147,190	8,331	5.4%	154,381	143,526	10,855	7.0%

Note: Numbers are in thousands.

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

	PRELIMINARY JANUARY 2015				REVISED DECEMBER 2014				REVISED JANUARY 2014			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE SA	918,633	864,193	54,440	5.9%	916,707	861,618	55,089	6.0%	918,846	856,925	61,921	6.7%
STATEWIDE	918,828	861,556	57,272	6.2%	922,619	870,658	51,961	5.6%	915,576	850,608	64,968	7.1%
Albuquerque MSA SA	See notes below.				See notes below.				412,906	385,510	27,396	6.6%
Albuquerque MSA	412,864	388,346	24,518	5.9%	414,520	391,974	22,546	5.4%	411,688	383,298	28,390	6.9%
Bernalillo	318,460	300,437	18,023	5.7%	319,913	303,322	16,591	5.2%	317,337	296,495	20,842	6.6%
Sandoval	59,983	56,067	3,916	6.5%	60,059	56,475	3,584	6.0%	59,840	55,253	4,587	7.7%
Torrance	5,129	4,654	475	9.3%	5,167	4,733	434	8.4%	5,178	4,617	561	10.8%
Valencia	29,292	27,188	2,104	7.2%	29,381	27,444	1,937	6.6%	29,333	26,933	2,400	8.2%
Farmington MSA SA	See notes below.				See notes below.				54,320	50,754	3,566	6.6%
Farmington MSA	56,585	53,268	3,317	5.9%	56,761	53,802	2,959	5.2%	54,351	50,657	3,694	6.8%
Las Cruces MSA SA	See notes below.				See notes below.				93,450	86,559	6,891	7.4%
Las Cruces MSA	92,082	85,517	6,565	7.1%	94,148	88,247	5,901	6.3%	92,420	85,089	7,331	7.9%
Santa Fe MSA SA	See notes below.				See notes below.				71,950	67,986	3,964	5.5%
Santa Fe MSA	71,240	67,517	3,723	5.2%	71,791	68,549	3,242	4.5%	71,290	67,045	4,245	6.0%
Catron	1,210	1,101	109	9.0%	1,402	1,305	97	6.9%	1,278	1,157	121	9.5%
Chaves	27,075	25,602	1,473	5.4%	26,851	25,502	1,349	5.0%	27,018	25,292	1,726	6.4%
Cibola	9,009	8,347	662	7.3%	8,922	8,320	602	6.7%	8,998	8,250	748	8.3%
Colfax	6,179	5,805	374	6.1%	6,080	5,732	348	5.7%	6,205	5,770	435	7.0%
Curry	21,732	20,755	977	4.5%	21,510	20,611	899	4.2%	21,566	20,446	1,120	5.2%
De Baca	798	762	36	4.5%	768	733	35	4.6%	787	754	33	4.2%
Eddy	29,671	28,543	1,128	3.8%	29,609	28,608	1,001	3.4%	28,283	27,028	1,255	4.4%
Grant	12,069	11,259	810	6.7%	12,317	11,585	732	5.9%	12,362	11,470	892	7.2%
Guadalupe	1,631	1,502	129	7.9%	1,638	1,525	113	6.9%	1,634	1,506	128	7.8%
Harding	332	309	23	6.9%	350	330	20	5.7%	312	296	16	5.1%
Hidalgo	1,946	1,818	128	6.6%	1,957	1,838	119	6.1%	2,018	1,862	156	7.7%
Lea	30,696	29,486	1,210	3.9%	30,454	29,390	1,064	3.5%	29,506	28,229	1,277	4.3%
Lincoln	8,744	8,223	521	6.0%	8,657	8,180	477	5.5%	9,036	8,452	584	6.5%
Los Alamos	8,401	8,100	301	3.6%	8,297	8,022	275	3.3%	8,431	8,074	357	4.2%
Luna	10,216	7,986	2,230	21.8%	10,135	8,102	2,033	20.1%	10,358	7,936	2,422	23.4%
McKinley	23,598	21,310	2,288	9.7%	23,784	21,700	2,084	8.8%	24,164	21,702	2,462	10.2%
Mora	2,126	1,879	247	11.6%	2,105	1,873	232	11.0%	2,202	1,908	294	13.4%
Otero	25,194	23,743	1,451	5.8%	24,813	23,489	1,324	5.3%	25,263	23,721	1,542	6.1%
Quay	3,439	3,218	221	6.4%	3,378	3,193	185	5.5%	3,457	3,227	230	6.7%
Río Arriba	16,229	14,909	1,320	8.1%	16,306	15,129	1,177	7.2%	16,292	14,694	1,598	9.8%
Roosevelt	7,850	7,461	389	5.0%	8,093	7,734	359	4.4%	8,006	7,535	471	5.9%
San Miguel	11,048	10,224	824	7.5%	11,091	10,358	733	6.6%	11,333	10,427	906	8.0%
Sierra	3,743	3,375	368	9.8%	3,797	3,491	306	8.1%	3,756	3,353	403	10.7%
Socorro	6,506	6,050	456	7.0%	6,468	6,072	396	6.1%	6,507	6,010	497	7.6%
Taos	14,976	13,587	1,389	9.3%	14,902	13,631	1,271	8.5%	15,451	13,902	1,549	10.0%
Union	1,638	1,553	85	5.2%	1,709	1,630	79	4.6%	1,608	1,519	89	5.5%

Notes: Current MSA SA labor force estimates will be released March 23 in the January 2015 *Labor Market Review* publication, available under the Labor Market Information tab at <http://www.dws.state.nm.us/>. **TEMPORARY, STATE-PRODUCED MSA SA ESTIMATES PUBLISHED ABOVE WILL BE REPLACED LATER WITH OFFICIAL BLS ESTIMATES.**

Totals may not sum due to rounding.

County Unemployment Rates, January 2015 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

