JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR AMY KLOBUCHAR



UNITED STATES CONGRESS

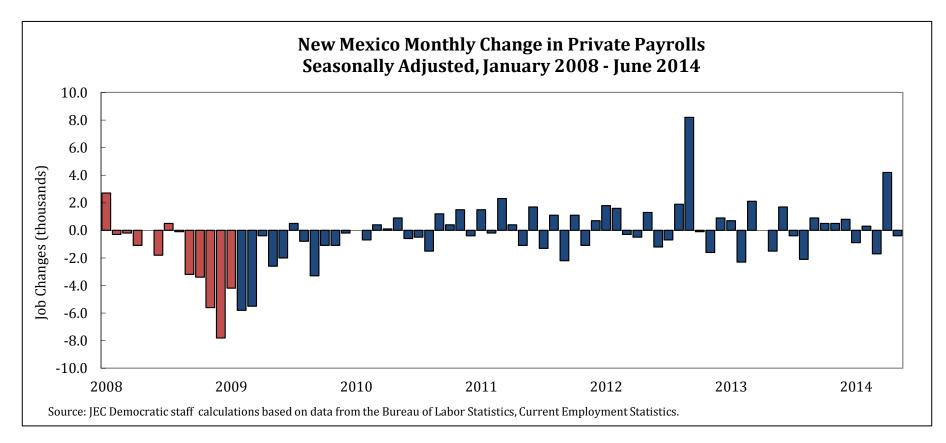
**JULY 2014** 

# **ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: NEW MEXICO**

\*\*Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through June 2014\*\*

#### JOBS

- In June, private-sector employment in New Mexico fell by 400 jobs. Over the past year, the New Mexico private sector has added 3,400 jobs. This compares with an increase of 6,400 jobs over the 12 months ending in June 2013.
- New Mexico private-sector employers have added 17,400 jobs (an increase of 2.9 percent) since February 2010, the national low 0 point for private-sector employment.
- In New Mexico, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: mining and logging (9,700 jobs), Ο education and health services (7,700 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (5,500 jobs).
- The New Mexico sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (54.5 percent), 0 leisure and hospitality (6.6 percent) and education and health services (6.5 percent).



### **UNEMPLOYMENT**

- The unemployment rate in New Mexico was 6.5 percent in June 2014, holding constant from May. The rate is down 0.4 percentage 0 point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.0 percent in November 2010.
- 60,500 New Mexico residents were unemployed during June 2014, down from a recent high of 74,700 in August 2010. There are still 0 27,000 more people unemployed in New Mexico than when the recession began.
- In New Mexico, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 5,731 during May, up 1.6 percent from the previous month. Ο Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 11.7 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

### **EXPORTS**

- In New Mexico, exports totaled \$222 million in May and \$3.2 billion over the past year, up 16.3 percent from the 12 months ending in May 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- New Mexico exports over the past 12 months are up 102.0 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

#### Housing

- Home prices in New Mexico increased by 0.7 percent from the first quarter of 2013 to the first quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 2.2 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 13.8 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in New Mexico totaled 3,420 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in May 2014, a decrease of 3.7 percent from April. 0
- Within the West census region, which includes New Mexico, sales of new single-family homes totaled 130,000 units in May 2014, an 0 increase of 34.0 percent from April. Sales of existing single-family homes remained steady at 940,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from April to May 2014.

\* For New Mexico-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the New Mexico office: http://www.dws.state.nm.us/LaborMarketInformation/DataandStatistics/EconomicData

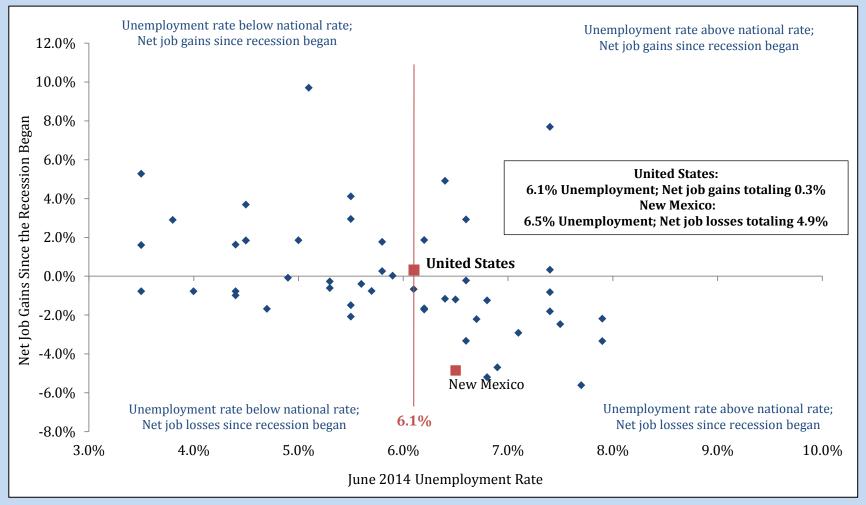
Prepared by the Vice Chair's Staff of the Joint Economic Committee

## How Does New Mexico Compare to Other States?

Workers across the country were hit hard during the recent recession. Since then, employment in some states has returned to pre-recession levels, while employment in other states remains below pre-recession levels. The chart below allows for a comparison of New Mexico to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in New Mexico, while net job gains since the recession began (current nonfarm jobs as a share of jobs prior to the recession) measures progress toward labor-market recovery (vertical axis).

States falling in the upper left quadrant have net job gains since the start of the recession and unemployment rates lower than the national unemployment rate. States falling in the lower right quadrant have higher unemployment rates than the United States overall and are still experiencing net job losses relative to pre-recession levels.



Note: The figure above excludes North Dakota, which has a current unemployment rate of 2.7% and net job gains totaling 28.3% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS				
		New Mexico	United States	
Unemployment Rates	June 2014	6.5%	6.1%	
	June 2013	6.9%	7.5%	
	June 2012	7.2%	8.2%	
	June 2011	7.7%	9.1%	
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	. 2013	11.7%	9.0%	
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.3%	6.6%	
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	. 2013	11.1%	9.0%	

Median Household Income		\$ 43,424	\$ 51,017
(2012 \$)	2007	\$ 49,119	\$ 55,627
Poverty Rate	2012	20.4%	15.0%
	2007	14.0%	12.5%
No Health Insurance		21.9%	15.4%
	2007	21.8%	14.7%

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