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New Mexico Population At-a-Glance

2008 Population Estimates* - Cities

September 21, 2009

** Source: US Bureau of the Census*

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New Mexico Cities 2008 Population Estimates At-a-Glance

On July 1, 2009, the United States Census Bureau released its latest population estimates for incorporated places in New Mexico. The estimates show the population as of July 1, 2008. Research & Polling, Inc. examined changes from 2000 to 2008, as well as compared the growth from 1990 to 2000 to the estimated growth from 2000 to 2008.

A number of observations can be made.

- ❖ New Mexico now has four cities with a population greater than 70,000 (Albuquerque, Las Cruces, Rio Rancho and Santa Fe). In 2000, there were two, Albuquerque and Las Cruces.
- ❖ Rio Rancho is the fastest growing city so far this decade, increasing in population by 54%. Los Lunas was the fastest growing city from 1990 to 2000 (67%).
- ❖ Four cities have experienced significantly higher growth rates since 2000 than they had from 1990 to 2000: Las Cruces, Santa Fe, Portales and Hobbs.
- ❖ Sunland Park grew by 63% from 1990 to 2000, but since 2000 the city has seen its growth slow to 9%.
- ❖ Deming, Alamogordo and Española have also slowed down or stopped growing over the past eight years, when compared to their strong growth from 1990 to 2000.
- ❖ When ranked by the change in the number of people, Albuquerque had the largest increase over the past eight years (approx. 73,400). It is followed by Rio Rancho, Las Cruces and Santa Fe.
- ❖ Among the smaller cities in New Mexico (not shown on the following table), four cities stand out due to their high growth rates: Bernalillo, Cuba, Edgewood and Milan. Bernalillo's growth, almost 40%, is explained by a new 780 home development on the site of the former Price's Dairy. Milan's growth of 31% is most likely due to an increase in the number of federal inmates housed at the correctional facility within the city limits. Edgewood's increase is due to continued annexation of additional land since 2000. There are no obvious explanations for Cuba's growth.

The table of the state's 20 most populous cities (based on the 2000 Census) is on the next page.



New Mexico Cities
 Population Change: 1990 to 2000 and 2000 to 2008
 20 Largest Cities*

<i>Ranked By Percent Population Change, 2000 to 2008</i>					
City (County)	1990 Population	2000 Population	2008 Population Estimate	% Change 1990 - 2000	% Change 2000 - 2008
Rio Rancho (Sandoval)	32,505	51,765	79,655	59.3%	53.9%
Los Lunas (Valencia)	6,013	10,034	14,153	66.9%	41.1%
Las Cruces (Doña Ana)	62,126	74,267	91,865	19.5%	23.7%
Albuquerque (Bernalillo)	384,736	448,607	521,999	16.6%	16.4%
Santa Fe (Santa Fe)	55,859	62,203	71,831	11.4%	15.5%
Farmington (San Juan)	33,997	37,844	42,637	11.3%	12.7%
Portales (Roosevelt)	10,690	11,131	12,215	4.1%	9.7%
Deming (Luna)	10,970	14,116	15,480	28.7%	9.7%
Sunland Park (Doña Ana)	8,179	13,309	14,453	62.7%	8.6%
Hobbs (Lea)	29,115	28,657	30,476	-1.6%	6.3%
Artesia (Eddy)	10,610	10,692	10,994	0.8%	2.8%
Roswell (Chaves)	44,654	45,293	46,198	1.4%	2.0%
Alamogordo (Otero)	27,596	35,582	35,757	28.9%	0.5%
Española (Rio Arriba/Santa Fe)	8,389	9,688	9,691	15.5%	0.0%
Carlsbad (Eddy)	24,952	25,625	25,629	2.7%	0.0%
Los Alamos (Los Alamos) †	11,455	11,909	11,909	4.0%	0.0%
Clovis (Curry)	30,954	32,667	32,352	5.5%	-1.0%
Gallup (McKinley)	19,154	20,209	19,979	5.5%	-1.1%
Silver City (Grant)	10,683	10,545	10,329	-1.3%	-2.0%
Las Vegas (San Miguel)	14,753	14,565	13,818	-1.3%	-5.1%

* 20 largest cities in New Mexico as of the April 1, 2000 Census

† 1990 and 2000 Census data is used for the Los Alamos town site

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census. Estimates as of July 1, 2008, released on July 1, 2009