

Lea County Fact Book

Prepared by the



Economic Development Corporation of Lea County

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Welcome

Welcome to the Land of Enchantment

It gives our organization great joy to have this opportunity to provide you with information on Lea County. Lea County is busy with commerce based on the oil and gas industry and agriculture. Professional services also provide a key element in the growth and stability of the area.

Lea County offers a low-key lifestyle, while still providing the business community the environment it needs to compete and grow. Our cost of living is ten percent (10%) below the national average, "commuting" is a five-minute drive and we enjoy a moderate climate with four distinct seasons. Four-lane highways in and out provide easy access to this stress-free oasis.

Education is an important aspect of the quality of life in Lea County. With Kindergarten through Masters level education available, our work force is pretty bright -- which bodes well for your company's future. Our elementary and secondary schools are all fully accredited, and we have two colleges.

Our water and natural gas are plentiful and low-cost. Southwestern Public Service - New Century Energies Company, our electricity supplier offers industry rates that are the 5th lowest in the United States at a ninety-nine percent (99%) reliability rating. Match that with local governments that are pro-business and who will try to make the move of your business to Lea County "headache-free."

Lea County has many great assets, (including lots of sunshine) that will make doing business here successful. From a highly motivated labor force to our build-to-suit capabilities, the view of your company's future will look pretty bright from your Lea County front porch. Plus, we will try to take advantage on your behalf of every tax break and incentive we can find.

To learn more about our business climate, please take a few minutes to review this **Lea County Fact Book**. Designed to give you a good site selection overview, it should answer most questions regarding doing business in any of our hometowns within Lea County. If you do have any questions or need any additional information, just ask, and we will be more than happy to meet your needs!

Sincerely yours,

Jim Berry, CED
Executive Director

History

Lea County

"Lea County was established in 1917, just five years after New Mexico was admitted to the Union as a State. The area had virtually nothing to offer except the vision of a handful of hardy settlers. Wagon roads and cattle trails were the only roads connecting the sparse settlements; there was no railroad, no telegraph, no daily newspaper, no running streams or rivers, no major center of population that could be properly called a city and even the mail was a horse-conveyed means of communication requiring days to come in or out.

Political realists in Santa Fe could not justify the creation of a county from an area that was little more than a vast pastureland for cattle and sheep on the semi-arid, windswept, southwestern corner of the High Plains, or Llano Estacado, cradled in the arm of neighboring Texas to the west and south. There was no known tax-generating natural resources other than grass and water. Little did they know that deep in the confines of the High Plains country, behind the Caprock that looked down on their rich

Pecos River Valley lands, was more wealth in gas, oil and potash than had been known in all the centuries since the Spaniards had proclaimed the Kingdom of New Mexico.

Lea County's history has been one of change and growth. The original settlers to this area would find it hard to believe that Lea County is now so populated and vital to the production of energy sources for the nation.

Once known as part of the "Great American Desert," the area held no promise of open water for the traveler. At one time, a spring was discovered which flowed in the early part of the year, and a tall mound of rocks was built to mark the spot. This "monument" was a welcome sight to the people who passed this way. It is no longer standing, as the rocks were used to build a house, but the spring still flows near Monument, New Mexico.

Today, Lea County flourishes not only in oil and gas, but in agriculture, cattle and the dairy industry."

Eunice

With the granting of a U.S. Post Office certificate to operate to John Ceasar, the City of Eunice was founded in June of 1909. The city name was established from a list of potential names prepared for the Post Office Department by Ceasar. This list included the name of his eldest daughter Eunice, which the Department accepted.

Initial growth in the area was spurred by homesteaders to the area.

Many cattle ranches were settled during this time. One of the area's well known cattle ranches, the "84 Ranch," was established in 1885. The onset of a drought and severe weather conditions during the late 1910's saw a lull in the community growth.

The discovery of oil and gas in 1929 would provide the resources needed for the community, which resulted in its incorporation in 1937.



Hobbs

In early 1907, a chance meeting between two covered wagons on a trail across the Llano Estacado staked plain led to the founding of Hobbs. James Isaac Hobbs was headed for Alpine, Texas, with his family of five when they met an eastbound wagon of pioneers returning from Alpine where they were unable to make a living.

James Hobbs then turned his wagon north and settled in the southern corner of the New Mexico Territory at the present site of Hobbs. In March 1907, they built the first dugout in the vicinity of what is now First and Texas streets. The promise of free land brought other settlers to the Territory.

By 1911, land claims show Hobbs with about 25 landowners.

The discovery of oil in June 1928 would create a "black gold rush." Following its discovery, the area experienced rapid growth resulting in the community's incorporation in September 1929. The tiny ranching community on the vast 'staked plains' turned virtually overnight into a tent city of 5,000 enthusiastic souls. Today, some 65 years later, it is a thriving community that has become the economic and residential growth center for the southeastern Permian Basin of New Mexico.

Jal

Founded with the establishment of a Post Office by Charles Justis, the name Jal was taken from the JAL Ranch. This ranch was established in 1886 and at one time encompassed over 192,000 acres in southern Lea County. With the location of settlers during the turn of the century, the JAL Ranch diminished in size, but the community itself continued to grow.

In 1928, shortly following the discovery of oil and gas in the area, Jal was officially incorporated. There were several significant oil and gas

companies in the area including the Texas Company (later to become Texaco), The Continental Oil Company and El Paso Natural Gas Company. With the establishment of these major companies, the community of Jal began to grow and develop. With this growth came the community's self-proclaimed title of "Gas Capital" of the nation.

This community's heritage was established from the natural resources of the region and its economic prosperity continues to thrive today.

Lovington

Lovington was named for and founded by the Love brothers who moved to the area in 1900. Robert F. Love homesteaded the land on which Lovington is located in 1903 and the first business, Jim B. Love Grocery Store, was built by his brother in 1908. This very first venture also housed the first post office.

To encourage community development, a unique strategy was employed. Free lots were provided to families with children and resulted in a spur of growth in 1910. The community's future prosperity was assured with its designation as the county seat in 1917. Incorporation would follow in May of 1918.

To establish its status, leaders of the community, again relying on their own initiative, focused their attention on extending rail service to the area. Although their generous offer did not initially attract the investment of the railroads, the discovery of oil and gas

in the area did. The impact of the area's oil and gas industry, although affecting Lovington, was most prevalent during the 1940's and early 50's with the drilling of the "Sawyer Discovery" a deep oil production well drilled to 12,000 feet.

Since that time, the community which was primarily a ranching and farming center, witnessed many factors in the economic development that played important parts in present day Lovington. The oil industry that helped to shape the economy's labor force and life styles of the community, has declined and left an indelible mark. Numerous businesses have survived and other diversified entities have provided a base for gradual but steady growth which continues today. The self-reliance of Lovington is still prevalent today with its commitment to public affairs and its aggressive dedication of its future.

Tatum

The City of Tatum has long been established as an ancient crossroad, first by the Apache and Comanche Indians and later as the center point of the Great Four Lakes Ranch which encompassed 1.5 million acres. In August 1909, James B. Tatum homesteaded the area and established a general store. The location was granted a Certificate of Operation as

the U.S. Post Office in December of 1909.

Tatum was first established as a center of commerce, due to the rich agricultural area of the High Plains of Lea County, known for abundant water and good land. The community grew and 1948 was incorporated as Tatum, New Mexico.

Demographics

Lea County Profile

	1980 Census	1990 Census	1997 Estimate	2002 Projection
Total Population	55,993	55,765	56,582	56,722
Ethnic Break Down				
White	83.2%	82.2%	81.5%	-
Black	4.8%	4.7%	5.1%	-
American Indian	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%	-
Asian	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	-
Other	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	-
Hispanic*	21.3%	29.8%	30.3%	-
*Hispanic population includes anyone of Hispanic origin & they are added into the white category.				
Total Households	18,947	19,306	19,189	19,156
Avg. HH Size	2.94	2.86	2.92	2.93
Household Income				
\$0 - \$9,999	25.1%	22.4%	16.1%	-
\$10,000 - \$14,999	14.8	10.6	10.2	-
\$15,000 - \$24,999	31.6	19.9	16.7	-
\$25,000 - \$34,999	16.7	17.4	14.9	-
\$35,000 - \$49,999	7.6	13.8	18.2	-
\$50,000 - \$74,999	2.5	8.4	15.0	-
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1.5	1.7	5.4	-
\$100,000 - \$149,999	-	0.6	2.6	-
\$150,000 +	-	0.0	0.9	-
Median Household Income	\$18,172	23,352	29,561	33,165
Med. Family Income	20,152	26,571	33,636	37,737
Per Capita Income	6,994	10,084	13,212	15,983
Average Household Income	-	28,655	38,564	46,845
Median Age Total Population	26.7	30.0	31.5	-
Median Age Adult Population	39.3	41.0	43.0	-
Median Age Female Population	27.3	31.1	33.0	-
Median Age Adult Female Population	40.1	41.7	44.0	-
Median Age Male Population	26.1	29.3	30.0	-
Median Age Adult Male Population	38.4	39.9	42.0	-
Population Density per Square Mile*	12.7	12.9	12.9	-
*Total Lea County Area is 4,393.3 Square Miles				

LEA COUNTY

	1980 Census	1990 Census	1997 Estimate	2002 Projection
Total Population	55,993	55,765	56,582	56,722
Percentage By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	10.5	10.5	-	-
6-13	14.4	15.8	15.3	-
14-17	7.4	6.9	6.9	-
18-24	12.9	8.9	8.4	-
25-34	15.5	15.9	13.3	-
34-44	10.6	13.6	15.2	-
45-54	10.4	9.0	10.7	-
55-64	8.4	8.7	8.3	-
65-74	8.0	6.4	6.3	-
75-84	-	3.3	3.8	-
85+ -	0.9	1.3	-	-
Total Female Population	-	28,087	28,226	-
Total Female Percentage	-	50.3%	50.7%	-
Female Population % By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	12.1	10.1	10.2	-
6-13	14.0	15.1	14.6	-
14-17	7.3	6.8	6.8	-
18-24	12.7	8.7	8.2	-
25-34	15.2	15.9	13.1	-
35-44	10.6	13.4	14.9	-
45-54	10.7	9.1	10.8	-
55-64	8.4	9.0	8.4	-
65-74	9.1	6.8	6.8	-
75-84	-	3.9	4.4	-
85+	-	1.3	1.8	-
Total Male Population	-	27,906	27,539	-
Total Male Percentage	-	50.6%	49.3%	-
Male Population % By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	12.7	10.9	10.9	-
6-13	14.7	16.5	16.0	-
14-17	7.5	7.1	7.0	-
18-24	13.1	9.0	8.6	-
25-34	15.9	16.0	13.5	-
35-44	10.6	13.9	15.5	-
45-54	10.2	8.8	10.7	-
55-64	8.4	8.4	8.1	-
65-74	7.0	6.0	5.8	-
75-84	-	2.7	3.2	-
85+	-	0.6	0.8	-

Lea County Education Information (1990 Census)

Population Enrolled in School (Age 3 & Over)

Preprimary School	5.1%
Elementary and High School	78.1%
College	16.8%
Total School Enrollment	16,457

Educational Attainment (Age 25 & Over)

Less than Grade 9	16.8%
Grade 9-12 (No Diploma)	19.5%
High School Graduate or Equivalency	27.4%
Some College (No Degree)	19.8%
Associate Degree	5.1%
Bachelor Degree	7.6%
Graduate or Professional Degree	3.9%

Labor Information (1990 Census)

Employment Status Total Labor Force

Armed Forces	0.1%
Civilian	
Employed	54.6%
Unemployed	4.3%
Not In Labor Force	41.1%

Female Labor Force

Armed Forces	0.0%
Civilian	
Employed	40.9%
Unemployed	4.5%
Not In Labor Force	54.6%

Working Mothers

Child < 6 Only	10.6%
Child 6-17 Only	29.1%
Child < 6 & 6-17	10.4%
Non-working Mothers	49.9%
Total Mothers	8,364

Industry Employment

Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing	3.1%
Mining	20.0%
Construction	7.3%
Manufacturing	
Non-durable Goods	3.0%
Durable Goods	2.5%
Transportation	3.6%
Communications & Public Utilities	3.7%
Wholesale Trade	4.5%
Retail Trade	17.9%
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	3.9%
Services	
Business & Repair	5.2%
Personal	3.8%
Entertainment & Recreation	0.8%
Health	4.8%
Educational	7.4%
Other Professional & Related	4.7%
Public Administration	4.0%

LEA COUNTY

Total	21,364
<u>Occupation</u>	
Executive & Managerial	10.4%
Professional Specialty	9.9%
Technical Support	1.9%
Sales	11.6%
Administrative Support	13.8%
Service: Private Household	0.8%
Service: Protective	1.5%
Service: Other	10.0%
Farming, Forestry & Fishing	3.0%
Precision Production, Craft & Repair	20.0%
Machine Operator, Assemblers & Inspectors	4.2%
Transportation & Material Moving	8.0%
Laborers	5.1%
White Collar Total	47.4%
Blue Collar Total	37.3%
Total Employed	21,346

Household Information (1990 Census)

Marital Status

Total Male	19,465
Never Married	22.5%
Married	65.6%
Separated	1.8%
Widowed	2.5%
Divorced	7.7%
Total Female	20,614
Never Married	15.6%
Married	61.4%
Separated	2.7%
Widowed	11.3%
Divorced	9.0%

1990 Households by Type

One Person Households	3,919
Two Person Households	5,916
Three Person Households	3,186
Four or More Person Households	6,285

Family Households

Married Couple	12,235
Male Householder	671
Female Householder	2,027
Non-family Households	4,373

Family Households With Children

Married Couple Family	6,865
Male Householder	452
Female Householder	1,573

Households With:

Children Under 18	8,970
Persons Over 65	4,263
Householder Over 65	3,946
1990 Average Family Size	3.31

Housing Information (1990 Census)

LEA COUNTY

1990 Median Home Value	\$40,437
1990 Average Home Value	\$47,510
1990 Median Contract Rent	\$242
1990 Average Contract Rent	\$248

Housing Unit Counts

Total Units	23,333
% Occupied	82.7%
% Vacant	17.3%
% Year Round	17.0%
% Seasonal	0.3%
Occupied Units	19,306
% Owner Occupied	71.5%
% Renter Occupied	28.5%

Total Housing Units in Structure

1, Detached	71.2%
1, Attached	2.1%
2,	1.4%
3-9	3.7%
10-49	3.1%
50+	1.0%
Mobile Home or Trailer	15.8%
Other	1.9%

1990 Housing Units by Year Built

Built 1985 to March, 1990	4.6%
Built 1980 to 1984	15.8%
Built 1970 to 1979	18.1%
Built 1970 to 1969	20.3%
Built 1970 to 1959	29.4%
Built 1949 or Earlier	11.9%

Transportation (1990 Census)

Means of Transportation to Work

Car, Truck or Van:	
Drove Alone	76.8%
Carpooled	16.1%
Public Transportation	0.2%
Other Means	4.5%
Worked at Home	2.5%

Travel Time to Work

0-14 Minutes	60.9%
15-29 Minutes	23.5%
30-59 Minutes	10.6%
60-89 Minutes	2.8%
90+ Minutes	2.2%

Number of Vehicles per household

1 Vehicle	6,834
2 Vehicles	7,456
3 Vehicles	2,712
4 or More Vehicles	1,051

Demographics

Eunice Profile

	1980 Census	1990 Census	1997 Estimate	2002 Projection
Total Population	2,748	2,676	2,794	2,843
Ethnic Break Down				
White	89.8%	96.6%	96.7%	-
Black	1.9%	1.0%	.9%	-
American Indian	0.5%	0.9%	0.9%	-
Asian	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	-
Other	7.9%	1.5%	1.5%	-
Hispanic*	27.9%	27.0%	27.6%	-
*Hispanic population includes anyone of Hispanic origin & they are added into the white category.				
Total Households	935	924	945	959
Avg. HH Size	2.94	2.90	2.96	2.96
Household Income				
\$0 - \$9,999	22.6%	21.7%	14.8%	-
\$10,000 - \$14,999	20.5%	9.5%	11.0%	-
\$15,000 - \$24,999	32.6%	20.7%	14.4%	-
\$25,000 - \$34,999	12.6%	16.0%	16.3%	-
\$35,000 - \$49,999	10.3%	18.0%	16.2%	-
\$50,000 - \$74,999	0.8%	11.7%	17.8%	-
\$75,000 - \$99,999	.5%	2.3%	6.6%	-
\$100,000 - \$149,999	-	0.0%	3.0%	-
\$150,000 +	-	0.0%	0.0%	-
Median Household Income	\$17,097	24,142	31,108	34,635
Med. Family Income	18,656	27,964	36,033	40,118
Per Capita Income	6,595	9,855	13,046	15,335
Average Household Income	-	28,144	38,571	45,460
Median Age Total Population	26.2	30.0	31.0	-
Median Age Adult Population	40.0	41.0	43.0	-
Median Age Female Population	26.8	30.1	32.0	-
Median Age Adult Female Population	41.7	41.3	43.5	-
Median Age Male Population	25.6	29.8	30.5	-
Median Age Adult Male Population	38.4	40.3	43.0	-
Population Density per Square Mile*	-	916.8	957.2	974.0
*Total Eunice Area is 2.92 Square Miles				

	1980 Census	1990 Census	1997 Estimate	2002 Projection
Total Population	2,748	2,676	2,794	2,843
Percentage By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	13.9	9.5	9.8	-
6-13	13.5	17.5	16.5	-
14-17	6.6	7.8	7.7	-
18-24	14.1	8.2	7.7	-
25-34	14.5	15.6	12.5	-
34-44	8.7	13.4	15.8	-
45-54	10.4	8.3	10.3	-
55-64	9.5	8.7	7.8	-
65-74	8.8	7.3	6.9	-
75-84	-	3.2	4.0	-
85+ -	-	0.6	1.0	-
Total Female Population	1,383	1,341	-	-
Total Female Percentage	50.3%	50.1%	-	-
Female Population % By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	13.1	8.9	9.5	-
6-13	13.6	15.9	15.1	-
14-17	6.9	8.9	8.5	-
18-24	13.6	8.4	7.6	-
25-34	13.9	15.4	12.6	-
35-44	8.5	13.0	15.4	-
45-54	11.4	7.8	9.9	-
55-64	9.3	9.5	7.8	-
65-74	9.8	7.5	7.8	-
75-84	-	3.7	4.4	-
85+	-	0.8	1.3	-
Total Male Population	1,366	1,355	-	-
Total Male Percentage	49.7%	49.9%	-	-
Male Population % By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	14.7	10.0	10.1	-
6-13	13.4	19.2	17.9	-
14-17	6.2	6.6	6.8	-
18-24	14.6	8.0	7.8	-
25-34	15.2	15.7	12.5	-
35-44	8.9	13.8	16.1	-
45-54	9.4	8.8	10.7	-
55-64	9.7	7.8	7.8	-
65-74	7.8	7.1	6.1	-
75-84	-	2.6	3.5	-
85+	-	0.4	0.6	-

Lea County Education Information (1990 Census)

Population Enrolled in School (Age 3 & Over)

Preprimary School	0.0%
Elementary and High School	91.6%
College.....	8.4%
Total School Enrollment.....	833

Educational Attainment (Age 25 & Over)

Less than Grade 9	17.5%
Grade 9-12 (No Diploma).....	27.7%
High School Graduate or Equivalency.....	31.3%
Some College (No Degree).....	12.6%
Associate Degree	4.5%
Bachelor Degree	4.8%
Graduate or Professional Degree	1.6%

Labor Information (1990 Census)

Employment Status Total Labor Force

Armed Forces	0.0%
Civilian	
Employed.....	52.9%
Unemployed	3.9%
Not In Labor Force	43.1%

Female Labor Force

Armed Forces	0.0%
Civilian	
Employed.....	37.8%
Unemployed	3.7%
Not In Labor Force	58.5%

Working Mothers

Child < 6 Only	5.3%
Child 6-17 Only.....	36.1%
Child < 6 & 6-17.....	7.3%
Non-working Mothers.....	51.4%
Total Mothers	438

Industry Employment

Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing.....	2.0%
Mining	28.2%
Construction.....	14.7%
Manufacturing	
Non-durable Goods	3.3%
Durable Goods.....	1.7%
Transportation.....	5.3%
Communications & Public Utilities	0.0%
Wholesale Trade.....	3.6%
Retail Trade	18.1%
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	0.7%
Services	
Business & Repair	4.1%
Personal	3.5%
Entertainment & Recreation	1.4%
Health	2.5%
Educational.....	7.4%
Other Professional & Related	1.4%
Public Administration.....	2.3%

Total	1,008
<u>Occupation</u>	
Executive & Managerial	8.6%
Professional Specialty.....	5.7%
Technical Support.....	3.1%
Sales.....	12.9%
Administrative Support.....	6.8%
Service: Private Household.....	0.5%
Service: Protective.....	0.6%
Service: Other.....	11.9%
Farming, Forestry & Fishing.....	2.0%
Precision Production, Craft & Repair	23.8%
Machine Operator, Assemblers & Inspectors	3.9%
Transportation & Material Moving.....	13.5%
Laborers.....	6.8%
White Collar Total	37.1%
Blue Collar Total	47.9%
Total Employed.....	1,008

Household Information (1990 Census)

Marital Status

Total Male	917
Never Married.....	18.6%
Married	70.9%
Separated	1.6%
Widowed.....	2.6%
Divorced	6.2%
Total Female	975
Never Married.....	16.4%
Married	66.6%
Separated	2.0%
Widowed.....	9.9%
Divorced	5.1%

1990 Households by Type

One Person Households	174
Two Person Households	308
Three Person Households	124
Four or More Person Households	318

Family Households

Married Couple.....	634
Male Householder.....	42
Female Householder	62
Non-family Households	186

Family Households With Children

Married Couple Family.....	349
Male Householder.....	31
Female Householder	50

Households With:

Children Under 18	431
Persons Over 65.....	222
Householder Over 65.....	214
1990 Average Family Size	3.33

Housing Information (1990 Census)

1990 Median Home Value	\$28,858
1990 Average Home Value	\$32,659
1990 Median Contract Rent	\$176
1990 Average Contract Rent	\$177
<u>Housing Unit Counts</u>	
Total Units	1,140
% Occupied	81.1%
% Vacant	19.0%
% Year Round	19.0%
% Seasonal.....	0.0%
Occupied Units	924
% Owner Occupied.....	78.1%
% Renter Occupied.....	21.9%
<u>Total Housing Units in Structure</u>	
1, Detached.....	77.3%
1, Attached.....	1.2%
2,	1.6%
3-9	4.2%
10-49.....	0.0%
50+	0.0%
Mobile Home or Trailer.....	14.7%
Other	1.0%
<u>1990 Housing Units by Year Built</u>	
Built 1985 to March, 1990.....	4.3%
Built 1980 to 1984.....	13.9%
Built 1970 to 1979.....	10.8%
Built 1970 to 1969.....	14.8%
Built 1970 to 1959.....	26.5%
Built 1949 or Earlier.....	29.8%

Transportation (1990 Census)

<u>Means of Transportation to Work</u>	
Car, Truck or Van:	
Drove Alone	79.6%
Carpooled	10.4%
Public Transportation	0.0%
Other Means	7.4%
Worked at Home.....	2.6%
<u>Travel Time to Work</u>	
0-14 Minutes.....	77.2%
15-29 Minutes.....	11.9%
30-59 Minutes.....	8.6%
60-89 Minutes.....	2.2%
90+ Minutes.....	0.0%
<u>Number of Vehicles per household</u>	
1 Vehicle.....	328
2 Vehicles	332
3 Vehicles	135
4 or More Vehicles	48

Demographics

Hobbs Profile

	1980 Census	1990 Census	1997 Estimate	2002 Projection
Total Population	27,863	29,115	29,284	29,222
Ethnic Break Down				
White	82.6%	78.7%	77.3%	-
Black	7.7%	7.4%	8.2%	-
American Indian	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	-
Asian	0.2%	0.5%	0.6%	-
Other	8.8%	12.8%	13.5%	-
Hispanic*	20.2%	30.1%	31.9%	-
*Hispanic population includes anyone of Hispanic origin & they are added into the white category.				
Total Households	9,660	10,242	10,095	10,030
Avg. HH Size	2.86	2.81	2.87	2.88
Household Income				
\$0 - \$9,999	26.1%	24.3%	17.2%	-
\$10,000 - \$14,999	15.0	10.0	10.5	-
\$15,000 - \$24,999	30.3	19.4	16.3	-
\$25,000 - \$34,999	16.3	16.6	13.7	-
\$35,000 - \$49,999	7.6	14.8	17.1	-
\$50,000 - \$74,999	3.0	10.0	14.9	-
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1.7	2.6	5.9	-
\$100,000 - \$149,999	1.5	1.5	3.1	-
\$150,000 +	-	0.8	1.3	-
Median Household Income	\$17,928	22,807	29,249	32,422
Med. Family Income	20,442	25,821	33,114	36,707
Per Capita Income	7,204	10,315	13,951	16,830
Average Household Income	-	29,134	40,054	48,525
Median Age Total Population	26.7	30.0	31.0	-
Median Age Adult Population	38.9	40.0	42.5	-
Median Age Female Population	27.5	30.5	32.5	-
Median Age Adult Female Population	40.1	41.3	43.5	-
Median Age Male Population	25.9	28.7	29.5	-
Median Age Adult Male Population	37.6	39.3	41.5	-
Population Density per Square Mile*	-	1,540.8	1,549.8	1,546.5
*Total Hobbs Area is 18.9 Square Miles				

HOBBS

	1980 Census	1990 Census	1997 Estimate	2002 Projection
Total Population	27,863	29,115	29,284	29,222
Percentage By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	12.3	11.1	15.3	-
6-13	14.2	15.8	6.5	-
14-17	7.3	6.4	3.9	-
18-24	13.3	9.4	4.7	-
25-34	15.8	16.4	13.7	-
34-44	10.5	13.3	15.1	-
45-54	9.9	8.6	10.4	-
55-64	8.3	8.1	7.8	-
65-74	8.4	6.4	6.3	-
75-84	-	3.4	3.9	-
85+ -	-	1.1	1.4	-
Total Female Population	14,077	15,024	-	-
Total Female Percentage	50.5%	51.6%	-	-
Female Population % By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	11.8	10.6	10.6	-
6-13	13.8	15.2	14.7	-
14-17	7.1	6.2	6.4	-
18-24	13.0	9.2	8.4	-
25-34	10.4	13.0	13.5	-
35-44	10.3	8.7	14.7	-
45-54	8.4	8.5	10.3	-
55-64	9.9	6.8	8.0	-
65-74	-	4.1	6.8	-
75-84	-	-	4.6	-
85+	-	-	2.0	-
Total Male Population	13,772	14,091	-	-
Total Male Percentage	49.5%	48.4%	-	-
Male Population % By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	12.7	11.7	11.5	-
6-13	14.6	16.4	16.0	-
14-17	7.5	6.7	6.7	-
18-24	13.6	9.5	9.0	-
25-34	16.2	16.6	13.9	-
35-44	10.7	13.7	15.4	-
45-54	9.6	8.5	10.4	-
55-64	8.2	7.8	7.5	-
65-74	7.0	5.9	5.7	-
75-84	-	2.6	3.2	-
85+	-	0.6	0.8	-

Lea County Education Information (1990 Census)

Population Enrolled in School (Age 3 & Over)

Preprimary School	5.5%
Elementary and High School	75.1%
College	19.4%
Total School Enrollment	8,753

Educational Attainment (Age 25 & Over)

Less than Grade 9	16.0%
Grade 9-12 (No Diploma)	17.5%
High School Graduate or Equivalency	26.4%
Some College (No Degree)	21.4%
Associate Degree	5.2%
Bachelor Degree	8.7%
Graduate or Professional Degree	4.7%

Labor Information (1990 Census)

Employment Status Total Labor Force

Armed Forces	0.1%
Civilian	
Employed	54.4%
Unemployed	4.5%
Not In Labor Force	41.0%

Female Labor Force

Armed Forces	0.0%
Civilian	
Employed	41.1%
Unemployed	4.5%
Not In Labor Force	54.5%

Working Mothers

Child < 6 Only	10.7%
Child 6-17 Only	27.8%
Child < 6 & 6-17	10.4%
Non-working Mothers	51.1%
Total Mothers	4,419

Industry Employment

Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing	1.4%
Mining	18.9%
Construction	5.2%
Manufacturing	
Non-durable Goods	3.2%
Durable Goods	2.7%
Transportation	3.3%
Communications & Public Utilities	3.7%
Wholesale Trade	4.4%
Retail Trade	19.4%
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	4.8%
Services	
Business & Repair	5.9%
Personal	4.3%
Entertainment & Recreation	0.9%
Health	4.8%
Educational	7.7%
Other Professional & Related	5.8%
Public Administration	3.4%

Total	11,071
<u>Occupation</u>	
Executive & Managerial	12.0%
Professional Specialty	10.7%
Technical Support	2.1%
Sales	12.9%
Administrative Support	13.6%
Service: Private Household	0.9%
Service: Protective	1.5%
Service: Other	10.8%
Farming, Forestry & Fishing	1.6%
Precision Production, Craft & Repair	18.5%
Machine Operator, Assemblers & Inspectors	3.4%
Transportation & Material Moving	7.1%
Laborers	5.0%
White Collar Total	51.2%
Blue Collar Total	34.0%
Total Employed	11,071

Household Information (1990 Census)

Marital Status

Total Male	9,882
Never Married	23.7%
Married	63.8%
Separated	1.8%
Widowed	2.7%
Divorced	8.1%
Total Female	10,898
Never Married	16.4%
Married	57.4%
Separated	3.1%
Widowed	12.4%
Divorced	10.6%

1990 Households by Type

One Person Households	2,273
Two Person Households	3,040
Three Person Households	1,693
Four or More Person Households	3,236

Family Households

Married Couple	6,037
Male Householder	359
Female Householder	1,290
Non-family Households	2,556

Family Households With Children

Married Couple Family	3,402
Male Householder	240
Female Householder	1,015

Households With:

Children Under 18	4,705
Persons Over 65	2,269
Householder Over 65	2,085
1990 Average Family Size	3.31

Housing Information (1990 Census)

1990 Median Home Value	\$42,659
1990 Average Home Value	\$50,185
1990 Median Contract Rent	\$255
1990 Average Contract Rent	\$262

Housing Unit Counts

Total Units	12,327
% Occupied	83.1%
% Vacant	16.9%
% Year Round	16.7%
% Seasonal	0.2%
Occupied Units	10,242
% Owner Occupied	66.0%
% Renter Occupied	34.0%

Total Housing Units in Structure

1, Detached	70.1%
1, Attached	2.8%
2,	1.5%
3-9	5.1%
10-49	5.3%
50+	1.8%
Mobile Home or Trailer	10.9%
Other	2.7%

1990 Housing Units by Year Built

Built 1985 to March, 1990	3.2%
Built 1980 to 1984	13.0%
Built 1970 to 1979	15.4%
Built 1970 to 1969	21.7%
Built 1970 to 1959	35.5%
Built 1949 or Earlier	11.3%

Transportation (1990 Census)

Means of Transportation to Work

Car, Truck or Van:	
Drove Alone	79.6%
Carpooled	13.8%
Public Transportation	0.3%
Other Means	3.8%
Worked at Home	2.5%

Travel Time to Work

0-14 Minutes	65.6%
15-29 Minutes	21.6%
30-59 Minutes	8.8%
60-89 Minutes	1.8%
90+ Minutes	2.3%

Number of Vehicles per household

1 Vehicle	3,837
2 Vehicles	3,966
3 Vehicles	1,329
4 or More Vehicles	397

Demographics

Jal Profile

	1980 Census	1990 Census	1997 Estimate	2002 Projection
Total Population	2,472	2,156	1,792	1,614
Ethnic Break Down				
White	76.5%	94.2%	94.2%	-
Black	0.6%	0.2%	0.2%	-
American Indian	0.6%	1.1%	1.1%	-
Asian	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	-
Other	22.1%	4.4%	4.5%	-
Hispanic*	26.6%	36.0%	36.1%	-
*Hispanic population includes anyone of Hispanic origin & they are added into the white category.				
Total Households	849	762	620	557
Avg. HH Size	2.91	2.83	2.89	2.90
Household Income				
\$0 - \$9,999	24.8%	19.0%	13.9%	-
\$10,000 - \$14,999	8.0	13.1	8.6	-
\$15,000 - \$24,999	7.0	24.5	22.4	-
\$25,000 - \$34,999	17.2	15.7	18.2	-
\$35,000 - \$49,999	11.0	16.0	16.3	-
\$50,000 - \$74,999	1.5	7.7	14.5	-
\$75,000 - \$99,999	0.5	3.5	3.4	-
\$100,000 - \$149,999	-	0.5	2.6	-
\$150,000 +	-	0.0	0.2	-
Median Household Income	\$19,635	22,015	27,500	30,324
Med. Family Income	21,184	26,101	32,604	35,952
Per Capita Income	6,926	9,551	11,968	13,678
Average Household Income	-	26,433	34,592	39,634
Median Age Total Population	28.7	33.6	34.5	-
Median Age Adult Population	41.8	46.0	46.5	-
Median Age Female Population	28.1	33.7	36.0	35.2
Median Age Adult Female Population	42.2	46.7	47.0	45.4
Median Age Male Population	29.1	31.6	30.0	30.6
Median Age Adult Male Population	41.4	44.6	44.4	44.0
Population Density per Square Mile*	-	446	370.7	333.9
*Total Jal Area is 4.81 Square Miles				

	1980 Census	1990 Census	1997 Estimate	2002 Projection
Total Population	2,472	2,156	1,792	1,614
Percentage By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	11.6	9.4	10.1	-
6-13	13.7	15.9	15.5	-
14-17	7.6	7.4	7.0	-
18-24	11.2	7.5	6.9	-
25-34	14.6	13.0	11.0	-
34-44	11.3	12.5	14.1	-
45-54	14.7	10.6	11.7	-
55-64	8.4	12.0	10.8	-
65-74	6.9	7.7	7.7	-
75-84	-	3.6	4.2	-
85+ -	-	0.5	1.1	-
Total Female Population	1,246	1,086	-	-
Total Female Percentage	50.4%	50.6%	-	-
Female Population % By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	12.3	9.2	10.1	-
6-13	12.8	14.4	13.4	-
14-17	9.1	7.9	7.6	-
18-24	11.2	6.8	6.9	-
25-34	14.0	13.5	10.7	-
35-44	10.8	12.2	14.9	-
45-54	14.4	11.0	11.9	-
55-64	8.2	12.0	9.9	-
65-74	7.4	8.5	8.5	-
75-84	-	4.0	4.5	-
85+	-	0.6	1.5	-
Total Male Population	1,226	1,070	-	-
Total Male Percentage	49.6%	49.4%	-	-
Male Population % By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	10.9	9.6	10.1	-
6-13	14.5	17.5	17.6	-
14-17	6.1	6.8	6.3	-
18-24	11.3	8.2	6.9	-
25-34	15.3	12.5	11.3	-
35-44	11.8	12.8	13.2	-
45-54	15.1	10.1	11.5	-
55-64	8.6	12.1	11.8	-
65-74	6.4	6.8	6.8	-
75-84	-	3.2	3.8	-
85+	-	0.4	0.7	-

Lea County Education Information (1990 Census)

Population Enrolled in School (Age 3 & Over)

Preprimary School	4.0%
Elementary and High School	85.7%
College.....	10.3%
Total School Enrollment.....	600

Educational Attainment (Age 25 & Over)

Less than Grade 9	24.3%
Grade 9-12 (No Diploma).....	19.8%
High School Graduate or Equivalency.....	30.1%
Some College (No Degree).....	18.8%
Associate Degree	2.6%
Bachelor Degree	2.1%
Graduate or Professional Degree	2.4%

Labor Information (1990 Census)

Employment Status Total Labor Force

Armed Forces	0.0%
Civilian	
Employed.....	46.9%
Unemployed	2.6%
Not In Labor Force	50.5%

Female Labor Force

Armed Forces	0.0%
Civilian	
Employed.....	31.3%
Unemployed	2.4%
Not In Labor Force	66.3%

Working Mothers

Child < 6 Only	5.6%
Child 6-17 Only.....	33.5%
Child < 6 & 6-17.....	9.2%
Non-working Mothers.....	51.6%
Total Mothers	304

Industry Employment

Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing.....	0.4%
Mining	31.6%
Construction.....	14.0%
Manufacturing	
Non-durable Goods	2.2%
Durable Goods.....	0.4%
Transportation.....	4.1%
Communications & Public Utilities	5.1%
Wholesale Trade.....	0.7%
Retail Trade	11.9%
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	1.4%
Services	
Business & Repair	2.8%
Personal	1.8%
Entertainment & Recreation	1.3%
Health	4.3%
Educational.....	9.4%
Other Professional & Related	3.7%
Public Administration.....	4.9%

Total	713
Occupation	
Executive & Managerial	5.8%
Professional Specialty.....	7.8%
Technical Support.....	5.8%
Sales.....	7.2%
Administrative Support.....	14.0%
Service: Private Household.....	0.0%
Service: Protective.....	2.0%
Service: Other.....	10.5%
Farming, Forestry & Fishing.....	1.3%
Precision Production, Craft & Repair	25.1%
Machine Operator, Assemblers & Inspectors	1.8%
Transportation & Material Moving.....	10.1%
Laborers.....	8.7%
White Collar Total	40.5%
Blue Collar Total	45.7%
Total Employed.....	713

Household Information (1990 Census)

Marital Status

Total Male	761
Never Married.....	19.0%
Married	71.0%
Separated	1.3%
Widowed.....	3.5%
Divorced	5.1%
Total Female	810
Never Married.....	13.6%
Married	66.5%
Separated	2.0%
Widowed.....	12.7%
Divorced	5.2%

1990 Households by Type

One Person Households	157
Two Person Households	261
Three Person Households	104
Four or More Person Households	240

Family Households

Married Couple.....	525
Male Householder.....	19
Female Householder	52
Non-family Households	166

Family Households With Children

Married Couple Family.....	271
Male Householder.....	13
Female Householder	36

Households With:

Children Under 18	320
Persons Over 65.....	198
Householder Over 65.....	184
1990 Average Family Size	3.30

Housing Information (1990 Census)

1990 Median Home Value	\$21,132
1990 Average Home Value	\$26,425
1990 Median Contract Rent	\$173
1990 Average Contract Rent	\$173

Housing Unit Counts

Total Units	1,026
% Occupied	74.3%
% Vacant	25.7%
% Year Round	25.4%
% Seasonal.....	0.3%
Occupied Units	762
% Owner Occupied.....	81.6%
% Renter Occupied.....	18.4%

Total Housing Units in Structure

1, Detached.....	84.6%
1, Attached.....	0.8%
2,	0.6%
3-9	1.5%
10-49.....	0.0%
50+	12.0%
Mobile Home or Trailer.....	0.6%
Other	1.9%

1990 Housing Units by Year Built

Built 1985 to March, 1990.....	4.4%
Built 1980 to 1984.....	7.0%
Built 1970 to 1979.....	14.5%
Built 1970 to 1969.....	24.4%
Built 1970 to 1959.....	35.5%
Built 1949 or Earlier.....	14.3%

Transportation (1990 Census)

Means of Transportation to Work

Car, Truck or Van:	
Drove Alone	74.1%
Carpooled	17.2%
Public Transportation	0.0%
Other Means	7.7%
Worked at Home.....	1.0%

Travel Time to Work

0-14 Minutes.....	75.5%
15-29 Minutes.....	11.1%
30-59 Minutes.....	10.7%
60-89 Minutes.....	1.5%
90+ Minutes.....	1.3%

Number of Vehicles per household

1 Vehicle.....	272
2 Vehicles	316
3 Vehicles	102
4 or More Vehicles	33

Demographics

Lovington Profile

	1980 Census	1990 Census	1997 Estimate	2002 Projection
Total Population	7,890	9,322	9,323	9,284
Ethnic Break Down				
White	78.6%	74.5%	74.1%	-
Black	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	-
American Indian	0.3%	0.6%	0.4%	-
Asian	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	-
Other	18.2%	22.0%	2.5%	-
Hispanic*	29.2%	44.6%	45.8%	-
*Hispanic population includes anyone of Hispanic origin & they are added into the white category.				
Total Households	2,603	3,094	3,034	3,010
Avg. HH Size	3.01	2.96	3.02	3.03
Household Income				
\$0 - \$9,999	29.7%	22.4%	19.0%	-
\$10,000 - \$14,999	15.4	11.1	9.0	-
\$15,000 - \$24,999	30.8	23.6	18.5	-
\$25,000 - \$34,999	16.0	17.0	18.4	-
\$35,000 - \$49,999	4.4	13.8	16.1	-
\$50,000 - \$74,999	2.6	8.4	13.5	-
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1.1	1.7	3.5	-
\$100,000 - \$149,999	-	0.6	1.6	-
\$150,000 +	-	-	0.4	-
Median Household Income	\$16,586	21,433	27,283	30,743
Med. Family Income	18,712	23,646	30,100	33,917
Per Capita Income	6,192	8,565	10,970	13,111
Average Household Income	-	25,123	33,141	39,757
Median Age Total Population	26.2	29.0	29.5	-
Median Age Adult Population	39.8	40.0	42.0	-
Median Age Female Population	27.2	29.9	31.0	-
Median Age Adult Female Population	41.1	41.8	43.0	-
Median Age Male Population	25.3	27.7	28.5	-
Median Age Adult Male Population	28.5	28.8	40.5	-
Population Density per Square Mile*	-	1,928.4	1,928.6	1,920.6
*Total Lovington Area is 4.8 Square Miles				

LOVINGTON

	1980 Census	1990 Census	1997 Estimate	2002 Projection
Total Population	7,890	9,322	9,323	9,284
Percentage By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	13.3	10.3	10.5	-
6-13	15.1	16.5	15.7	-
14-17	7.1	8.1	7.6	-
18-24	12.5	9.5	9.2	-
25-34	15.1	15.6	14.1	-
34-44	9.7	12.9	14.6	-
45-54	9.7	7.9	9.5	-
55-64	8.8	8.7	8.0	-
65-74	8.8	6.5	6.0	-
75-84	-	3.5	3.9	-
85+ -	-	0.6	1.0	-
Total Female Population	4,008	4,703	-	-
Total Female Percentage	50.8%	50.4%	-	-
Female Population % By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	12.7	10.1	10.4	-
6-13	14.5	16.0	15.3	-
14-17	6.9	7.8	7.4	-
18-24	12.4	9.0	8.7	-
25-34	14.6	14.9	13.1	-
35-44	9.7	12.7	14.3	-
45-54	10.2	8.2	9.9	-
55-64	8.9	9.5	8.5	-
65-74	10.1	6.8	6.5	-
75-84	-	4.1	4.5	-
85+	-	0.8	1.3	-
Total Male Population	3,881	4,619	-	-
Total Male Percentage	49.2%	49.6%	-	-
Male Population % By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	13.8	10.5	10.6	-
6-13	15.8	17.0	16.1	-
14-17	7.3	8.3	7.7	-
18-24	12.5	10.0	9.6	-
25-34	15.6	16.3	15.2	-
35-44	9.6	13.1	15.0	-
45-54	9.2	7.6	9.0	-
55-64	8.6	7.8	7.5	-
65-74	7.4	6.2	5.6	-
75-84	-	2.9	3.2	-
85+	-	0.4	0.6	-

Lea County Education Information (1990 Census)

Population Enrolled in School (Age 3 & Over)

Preprimary School	4.7%
Elementary and High School	80.5%
College	14.7%
Total School Enrollment	2,893

Educational Attainment (Age 25 & Over)

Less than Grade 9	22.5%
Grade 9-12 (No Diploma)	24.0%
High School Graduate or Equivalency	23.9%
Some College (No Degree)	15.9%
Associate Degree	4.2%
Bachelor Degree	6.4%
Graduate or Professional Degree	3.2%

Labor Information (1990 Census)

Employment Status Total Labor Force

Armed Forces	0.4%
Civilian	
Employed	48.7%
Unemployed	4.9%
Not In Labor Force	46.0%

Female Labor Force

Armed Forces	0.0%
Civilian	
Employed	34.6%
Unemployed	5.6%
Not In Labor Force	59.8%

Working Mothers

Child < 6 Only	10.3%
Child 6-17 Only	22.8%
Child < 6 & 6-17	9.8%
Non-working Mothers	57.0%
Total Mothers	1,404

Industry Employment

Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing	3.0%
Mining	18.5%
Construction	9.3%
Manufacturing	
Non-durable Goods	3.7%
Durable Goods	1.4%
Transportation	4.7%
Communications & Public Utilities	4.6%
Wholesale Trade	5.2%
Retail Trade	14.9%
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	4.8%
Services	
Business & Repair	2.3%
Personal	4.0%
Entertainment & Recreation	0.6%
Health	4.9%
Educational	7.9%
Other Professional & Related	3.3%
Public Administration	6.8%

LOVINGTON

Total	3,089
<u>Occupation</u>	
Executive & Managerial	8.0%
Professional Specialty	9.9%
Technical Support	1.4%
Sales	8.9%
Administrative Support	13.5%
Service: Private Household	0.9%
Service: Protective	1.8%
Service: Other	10.4%
Farming, Forestry & Fishing	2.7%
Precision Production, Craft & Repair	21.0%
Machine Operator, Assemblers & Inspectors	5.1%
Transportation & Material Moving	9.4%
Laborers	7.0%
White Collar Total	41.7%
Blue Collar Total	42.5%
Total Employed	3,089

Household Information (1990 Census)

Marital Status

Total Male	3,247
Never Married	24.6%
Married	63.5%
Separated	2.2%
Widowed	2.6%
Divorced	7.2%
Total Female	3,364
Never Married	16.4%
Married	59.5%
Separated	3.1%
Widowed	11.7%
Divorced	9.3%

1990 Households by Type

One Person Households	635
Two Person Households	866
Three Person Households	507
Four or More Person Households	1,086

Family Households

Married Couple	1,927
Male Householder	102
Female Householder	371
Non-family Households	694

Family Households With Children

Married Couple Family	1,156
Male Householder	71
Female Householder	272

Households With:

Children Under 18	1,510
Persons Over 65	768
Householder Over 65	727
1990 Average Family Size	3.45

Housing Information (1990 Census)

LOVINGTON

1990 Median Home Value	\$34,263
1990 Average Home Value	\$40,437
1990 Median Contract Rent	\$195
1990 Average Contract Rent	\$199

Housing Unit Counts

Total Units	3,700
% Occupied	83.6%
% Vacant	16.4%
% Year Round	16.2%
% Seasonal	0.2%
Occupied Units	3,094
% Owner Occupied	74.1%
% Renter Occupied	25.9%

Total Housing Units in Structure

1, Detached	77.2%
1, Attached	1.7%
2,	2.2%
3-9	3.2%
10-49	2.1%
50+	0.0%
Mobile Home or Trailer	11.8%
Other	1.8%

1990 Housing Units by Year Built

Built 1985 to March, 1990	0.7%
Built 1980 to 1984	6.6%
Built 1970 to 1979	21.2%
Built 1970 to 1969	24.4%
Built 1970 to 1959	37.0%
Built 1949 or Earlier	10.1%

Transportation (1990 Census)

Means of Transportation to Work

Car, Truck or Van:	
Drove Alone	68.8%
Carpooled	25.4%
Public Transportation	0.0%
Other Means	4.0%
Worked at Home	1.9%

Travel Time to Work

0-14 Minutes	63.7%
15-29 Minutes	13.1%
30-59 Minutes	13.4%
60-89 Minutes	5.3%
90+ Minutes	4.5%

Number of Vehicles per household

1 Vehicle	1,158
2 Vehicles	1,185
3 Vehicles	324
4 or More Vehicles	160

Demographics

Tatum Profile

	1980 Census	1990 Census	1997 Estimate	2002 Projection
Total Population	575	768	804	807
Ethnic Break Down				
White	85.0%	75.4%	75.8%	-
Black	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%	-
American Indian	0.3%	1.2%	1.1%	-
Asian	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	-
Other	13.4%	22.4%	22.3%	-
Hispanic*	19.0%	29.7%	29.6%	-
*Hispanic population includes anyone of Hispanic origin & they are added into the white category.				
Total Households	197	279	286	286
Avg. HH Size	2.92	2.75	2.81	2.82
Household Income				
\$0 - \$9,999	37.1%	22.5%	15.0%	-
\$10,000 - \$14,999	17.8	10.7	10.5	-
\$15,000 - \$24,999	27.9	20.3	17.1	-
\$25,000 - \$34,999	13.7	21.0	16.4	-
\$35,000 - \$49,999	2.0	17.7	20.3	-
\$50,000 - \$74,999	0.5	4.8	15.7	-
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1.0	1.5	2.5	-
\$100,000 - \$149,999	-	0.7	1.4	-
\$150,000 +	-	0.7	1.0	-
Median Household Income	\$13,571	23,021	29,167	36,500
Med. Family Income	15,000	25,556	32,379	40,519
Per Capita Income	5,370	9,551	11,968	13,678
Average Household Income	-	26,345	37,068	49,141
Median Age Total Population	26.5	33.0	35.0	-
Median Age Adult Population	42.0	46.0	46.0	-
Median Age Female Population	28.4	33.0	35.0	-
Median Age Adult Female Population	41.7	45.7	46.0	-
Median Age Male Population	24.3	32.2	34.5	-
Median Age Adult Male Population	42.1	46.0	45.5	-
Population Density per Square Mile*	-	652.2	682.7	685.3
*Total Tatum Area is 1.2 Square Miles				

	1980 Census	1990 Census	1997 Estimate	2002 Projection
Total Population	575	768	804	807
Percentage By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	11.8	8.1	9.4	-
6-13	15.3	14.3	13.8	-
14-17	8.2	9.5	8.3	-
18-24	12.5	7.8	8.3	-
25-34	11.8	13.7	10.4	-
34-44	11.1	11.3	14.2	-
45-54	9.9	11.7	12.4	-
55-64	9.0	12.5	12.1	-
65-74	10.1	6.9	6.8	-
75-84	-	3.7	3.2	-
85+ -	-	0.5	0.9	-
Total Female Population	287	382	-	-
Total Female Percentage	49.9%	49.7%	-	-
Female Population % By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	9.4	7.1	9.3	-
6-13	16.0	13.6	13.4	-
14-17	7.7	9.9	9.3	-
18-24	11.5	8.6	8.1	-
25-34	13.2	12.6	10.1	-
35-44	12.5	12.3	13.9	-
45-54	8.7	12.3	14.1	-
55-64	10.1	11.8	9.9	-
65-74	10.8	6.5	7.3	-
75-84	-	4.5	3.8	-
85+	-	0.8	0.8	-
Total Male Population	287	386	-	-
Total Male Percentage	50.1%	50.3%	-	-
Male Population % By Age	%	%	%	%
0-5	14.3	9.1	9.6	-
6-13	14.6	15.0	14.2	-
14-17	8.7	9.1	7.3	-
18-24	13.6	7.0	8.6	-
25-34	10.5	14.8	10.8	-
35-44	9.8	10.1	14.5	-
45-54	11.1	11.1	10.8	-
55-64	8.0	13.2	14.2	-
65-74	9.4	7.3	6.4	-
75-84	-	2.8	2.7	-
85+	-	0.3	1.0	-

Lea County Education Information (1990 Census)

Population Enrolled in School (Age 3 & Over)

Preprimary School	5.4%
Elementary and High School	86.3%
College.....	8.3%
Total School Enrollment.....	241

Educational Attainment (Age 25 & Over)

Less than Grade 9	15.8%
Grade 9-12 (No Diploma).....	20.8%
High School Graduate or Equivalency.....	29.9%
Some College (No Degree).....	18.6%
Associate Degree	2.8%
Bachelor Degree	5.2%
Graduate or Professional Degree	6.9%

Labor Information (1990 Census)

Employment Status Total Labor Force

Armed Forces	0.0%
Civilian	
Employed.....	52.5%
Unemployed	4.4%
Not In Labor Force	43.1%

Female Labor Force

Armed Forces	0.0%
Civilian	
Employed.....	40.5%
Unemployed	2.8%
Not In Labor Force	56.8%

Working Mothers

Child < 6 Only	6.2%
Child 6-17 Only.....	39.2%
Child < 6 & 6-17.....	14.4%
Non-working Mothers.....	40.2%
Total Mothers	97

Industry Employment

Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing.....	3.7%
Mining	15.0%
Construction.....	16.3%
Manufacturing	
Non-durable Goods	2.3%
Durable Goods.....	2.0%
Transportation.....	4.0%
Communications & Public Utilities	2.7%
Wholesale Trade.....	5.0%
Retail Trade	13.0%
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	4.0%
Services	
Business & Repair	4.3%
Personal	2.7%
Entertainment & Recreation	0.7%
Health	3.0%
Educational.....	13.0%
Other Professional & Related	2.7%
Public Administration.....	5.7%

Total	300
Occupation	
Executive & Managerial	9.3%
Professional Specialty.....	12.3%
Technical Support.....	0.0%
Sales.....	10.0%
Administrative Support.....	13.0%
Service: Private Household.....	0.0%
Service: Protective.....	2.7%
Service: Other.....	11.3%
Farming, Forestry & Fishing.....	3.7%
Precision Production, Craft & Repair	16.0%
Machine Operator, Assemblers & Inspectors	1.0%
Transportation & Material Moving.....	14.3%
Laborers.....	6.3%
White Collar Total	44.7%
Blue Collar Total	37.7%
Total Employed.....	300

Household Information (1990 Census)

Marital Status

Total Male	282
Never Married.....	21.6%
Married	65.3%
Separated	1.4%
Widowed.....	1.1%
Divorced	10.6%
Total Female	295
Never Married.....	18.6%
Married	63.0%
Separated	1.7%
Widowed.....	9.1%
Divorced	7.5%

1990 Households by Type

One Person Households	61
Two Person Households	97
Three Person Households	43
Four or More Person Households	78

Family Households

Married Couple.....	180
Male Householder.....	9
Female Householder	24
Non-family Households	66

Family Households With Children

Married Couple Family.....	88
Male Householder.....	7
Female Householder	18

Households With:

Children Under 18	114
Persons Over 65.....	61
Householder Over 65.....	59
1990 Average Family Size	3.19

Housing Information (1990 Census)

1990 Median Home Value	\$26,316
1990 Average Home Value	\$30,283
1990 Median Contract Rent	\$181
1990 Average Contract Rent	\$181
<u>Housing Unit Counts</u>	
Total Units	382
% Occupied	73.0%
% Vacant	27.0%
% Year Round	25.6%
% Seasonal.....	1.3%
Occupied Units	279
% Owner Occupied.....	78.5%
% Renter Occupied.....	21.5%
<u>Total Housing Units in Structure</u>	
1, Detached.....	75.7%
1, Attached.....	1.3%
2,	1.6%
3-9	2.6%
10-49.....	0.3%
50+	0.0%
Mobile Home or Trailer.....	18.3%
Other	0.3%
<u>1990 Housing Units by Year Built</u>	
Built 1985 to March, 1990.....	5.8%
Built 1980 to 1984.....	10.6%
Built 1970 to 1979.....	11.5%
Built 1970 to 1969.....	19.5%
Built 1970 to 1959.....	29.6%
Built 1949 or Earlier.....	23.0%

Transportation (1990 Census)

<u>Means of Transportation to Work</u>	
Car, Truck or Van:	
Drove Alone	74.7%
Carpooled	19.5%
Public Transportation	0.0%
Other Means	4.1%
Worked at Home.....	1.7%
<u>Travel Time to Work</u>	
0-14 Minutes.....	66.7%
15-29 Minutes.....	11.1%
30-59 Minutes.....	17.4%
60-89 Minutes.....	4.2%
90+ Minutes.....	0.7%
<u>Number of Vehicles per household</u>	
1 Vehicle.....	100
2 Vehicles	99
3 Vehicles	54
4 or More Vehicles	16

Climate

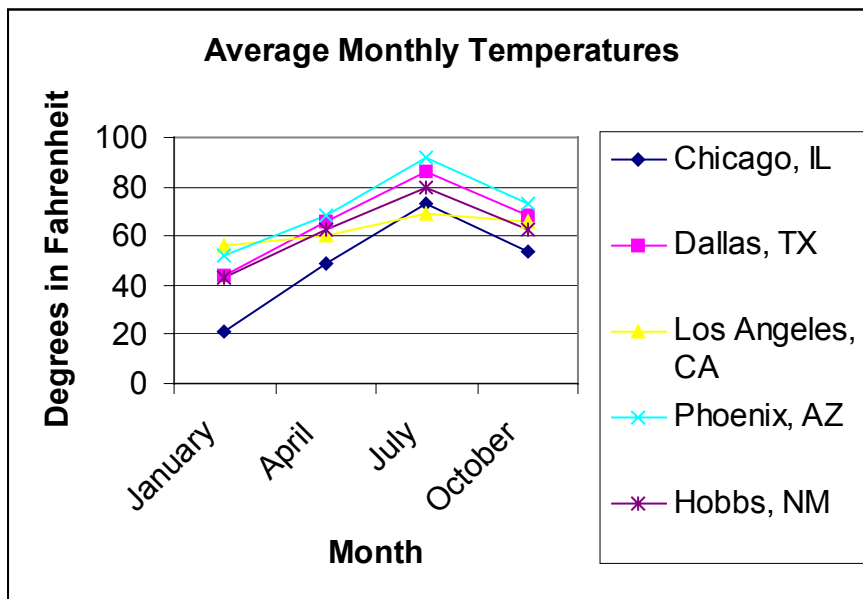
Summer moves into a wet phase that delivers the most important rain of the year. Rather frequent showers and thunderstorms from June through September account for over half of the annual precipitation. Storm clouds that build up from the heat of the day overspread the sky on many afternoons, retarding a further rise in temperature. At the same time, relative humidity shows moderation, ranging from about 70 percent in early morning to 30 percent in the mid-afternoon. Temperatures are quite warm on most summer days with readings of 100 degrees or higher occurring on 10 days in an average year.

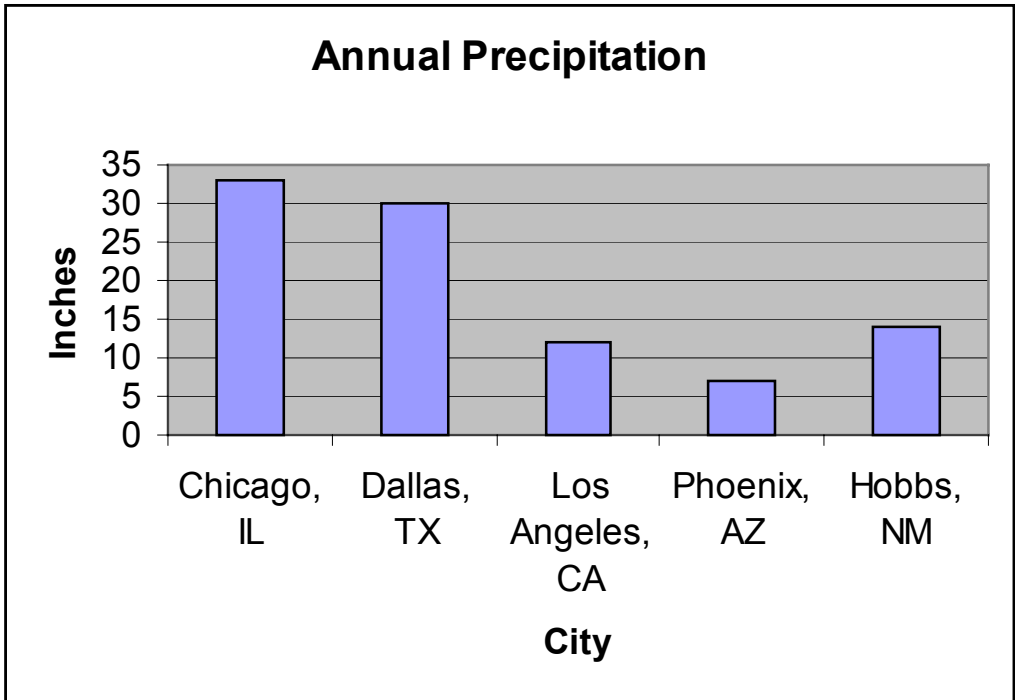
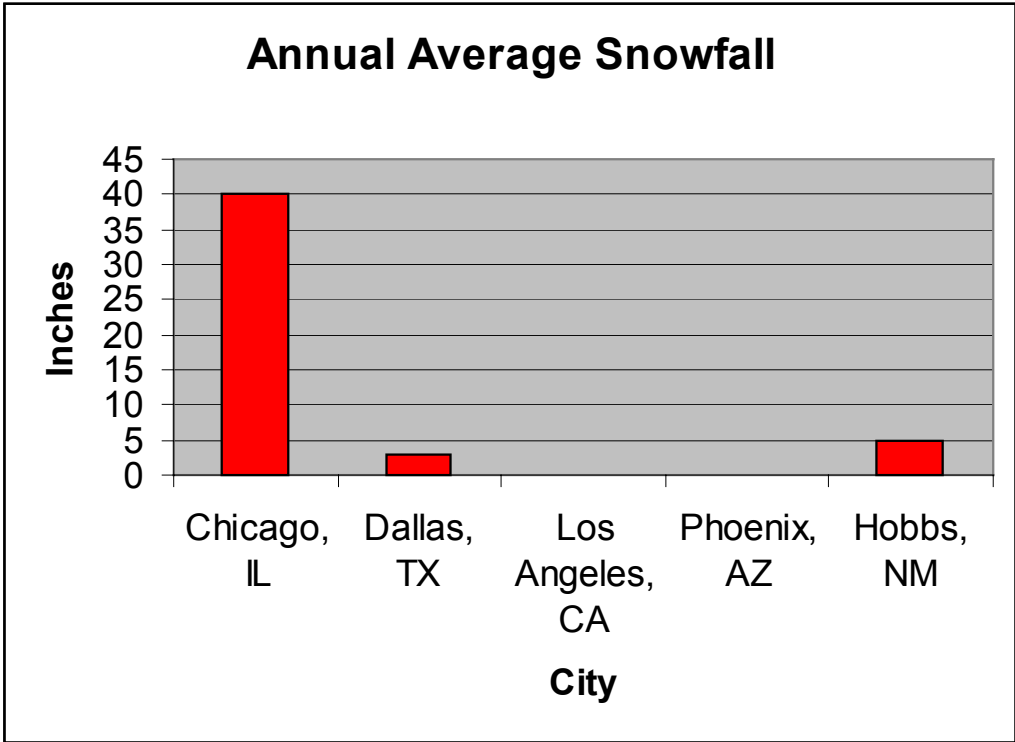
Rainfall tapers off markedly in the fall with decline in storm activity. This leaves usually agreeable conditions because of low wind movement and mostly clear skies. Frosty nights alternate with warm days. Relative humidity reaches rather low levels in autumn, but dryness is not as rigorous as in the spring.

In winter, subfreezing at night is tempered by considerable warming during the day. Zero or lower temperatures occur on only one day in an average winter. Subzero cold spells are of short duration. Winter is the season of least duration.

Spring ushers in the driest season of the year with respect to relative humidity. Wind movement shows a large increase, especially from the plateau areas of the west. Most of the 60 days a year with winds of 25 mph or more occur from February to May. Destructive storms seldom strike the city, but minor damage results from thundersqualls or hailstorms about once a year. Rain is most erratic in spring, ranging from none of consequence in some years to excessive amounts in others. Fahrenheit

Source: National Climatic Data Center





Natural Resources

New Mexico has an abundance of energy, minerals, and natural resources; no other state has a greater variety. New Mexico has been a major producer of oil and natural gas for decades, and the state has substantial reserves of coal, copper, molybdenum, uranium, and potash. There are great potentials for geothermal and solar utilization; New Mexico, with one of the highest levels of received solar energy in the nation, presents great opportunities for development.

Energy Resource Production Ranking New Mexico and other Western States

State	Crude Oil	Total Gas	Coal	Uranium
Arizona	----	---	16	---
Colorado	10	11	15	---
New Mexico	7	4	13	3
Oklahoma	5	2	21	---
Texas	1	1	6	2
Utah	11	17	14	1
Wyoming	6	6	2	3

Lea County Soil

The fertile soil of the Permian Basin consists primarily of sandy loam soil types with a few areas of clay loam soils. The clay components of the sandy loam soil also make it high in natural nutrients like potassium, calcium and magnesium. These soils offer growers the appropriate soil for many different crops.

Sandy loam soil, which covers much of the Permian Basin, is ideal for crops such as potatoes, peanuts, watermelon and other vegetable crops. The sandy components allow the soil to be easily worked when the crop is ready, even with untimely rainfall.

Regional Geology

In the Lea County area, consolidated sediments (bedrock) frequently outcrop or are thinly veneered with sandy pisolitic alluvium and eolian dune sands. Bedrock formations that outcrop range from 200 million-year-old Triassic Age strata rocks to Pleistocene Age sediments.

The Southeast New Mexico area is presently structurally stable. The dominant subsurface structural feature of this region is the Permian Basin. Named for the period in which the Basin formed the 250 million-year-old feature is the source of the Region's prolific oil and gas reserves. The late Cretaceous to early Tertiary marked the beginning of the Laramide Orogeny, which formed the Cordilleran range to the west of the Permian Basin. The Orogeny uplifted the region to essentially its present position, supplying sediments for the Pliocene Ogallala Formation and Gatuna Formation. There has been no tectonic activity in the Basin since that time. Structurally, the Basin has subsided slightly since the Orogeny. This is believed to be a result of dissolution the Permian evaporite layers by groundwater infiltration and possible from oil and gas extraction.

Within the Central Permian Basin Platform area, the top of the Permian deposits are approximately 1,400 feet below ground surface. Overlying the Permian are the sedimentary rocks of the Triassic Age Dockum Group. The upper formation of the Dockum Group is the Chinle Formation. Locally, the Chinle Formation consists of red, purple and greenish micaceous claystone and siltstone with interbedded fine-grained sandstone. The Chinle is regionally extensive with outcrops as far away as the Grand Canyon region in Arizona. Locally overlying the Chinle Formation in the Permian Basin is either the Tertiary Ogallala and Gatuna Formations or Quaternary alluvium. The Tertiary Ogallala Formation underlies all of the High Plains (to the east) and mantles several ridges in Lea County.

Recent deposits are primarily dune sands derived from Permian and Triassic rocks of the Permian Basin. The Mescalero Sands cover approximately 80% of Lea County and are generally described as fine to medium-grained and reddish brown in color.

Lea County is located in the Pecos Valley Section of the Great Plains Province, very near the boundary between the Pecos Valley Section to the west; and the Southern High Plains Section to the east and north. The boundary between the two sections is the Western Caprock Escarpment, locally referred to as Mescalero Ridge. The primary difference between the Pecos Valley and the Southern High Plains physiographic sections is the change in topography. The High Plains is a large flat mesa, which uniformly slopes to the southeast. In contrast, the Pecos Valley section is characterized by its very irregular erosional topographic expression. Mescalero Ridge abruptly terminates the Pecos Valley along its east side. The ridge is a nearly vertical cliff with a relief of approximately 150 feet in western Lea County. In southeastern Lea County, the Ridge is partially covered by wind deposited sand and therefore is less prominent, typically exhibiting 30 to 50 feet of relief.

Education

Eunice

Enrollment:

High School-254
Jr. High School-216
Elementary-384

Special classes: Distance learning courses - New Mexico Junior College, College of the Southwest, Hobbs High School.

Recreation/Clubs: Athletics - Football, Volleyball, Basketball, (Boys and Girls), Baseball, Track (Boys and Girls), Softball, Golf, Debate team, Band, Choir, Art Club.

Hobbs

Enrollment:

High School (1)-1497
Jr. High School (3)-1925
Elementary (12)-5241

Mission Statement: The Hobbs Municipal School District believes that all children can learn the basic skills to be independent, productive citizens.

Recreation/Clubs: FFA (Future Farmers of America); Student Council; Football; Volleyball; Track; Basketball.

Jal

Enrollment:

High School-160
Jr. High School-100
Elementary-285

Special classes: Concurrent High School and NMJC classes, Chapter I, D.A.R.E. Program, Interactive TV classes.

Recreation/Clubs: Sports - Football, volleyball, basketball, baseball, track, golf, and softball.

Activities: Student Council, Math-Science teams, and F.F.A.

Additional: Outstanding facilities; excellent computer programs from kindergarten through grade 12.

Lovington

Enrollment:

High School (1)-617
Jr. High School (1)-496
Middle School (1)-490
Elementary (5)-1550

Mission Statement: The mission of the Lovington School District is to provide educational experiences which will motivate all students to more fully utilize their academic, personal, and physical capabilities.

Recreation/Clubs: FFA (Future Farmers of America); Student Council; Football; Volleyball; Track; Basketball.

Tatum

Enrollment:

High School-140
Jr. High School-60
Elementary-220

Special classes: Concurrent enrollment though New Mexico Junior College Interactive TV education classes; Vocational high school through New Mexico Junior College

Recreation/Clubs: FFA (Future Farmers of America); Student Council; Football; Volleyball; Track; Basketball.

Additional: Small schools with a history of being very stable. Wide range of course offerings with a low dropout rate and good discipline

As specified by the State of New Mexico, high school graduation requirements call for a minimum of 23 units acquired of four years, including units in English, Math, Social Studies, Physical Education, Communication Skills and Electives.

All Lea County Public Schools are accredited by the New Mexico Department of Education . Hobbs Senior High School and Lovington Senior High School are also accredited by the North Central Accrediting Association.

Lea County Post Secondary Schools

New Mexico Junior College

5317 Lovington Highway
Hobbs, New Mexico 88240
(505) 392-4510
Web Site: www.nmjc.cc.nm.us

Enrollment - 2829
Public two-year community college
Confers Certificate and Associate Degrees

Divisions:

- Arts and Sciences
 - Associate in Arts Degrees
 - Associate in Science Degrees
- Business and Technology
 - Associate in Applied Science Degrees or Certificates awarded in Nursing, Practical Nursing, ASEP (General Motors), ASSET (Ford Motors), Automotive Tech, Welding, Cosmetology, Paralegal, Computer Science, Computer Assisted Drafting, Computer Graphics, Secretarial Science, Word Processing, Physical Education, Petroleum Technology, Law Enforcement, Fire Science and Medical Lab Technology.

College of the Southwest

6610 Lovington Highway
Hobbs, New Mexico 88240
(505) 392-6561 or (800) 235-0908
Web Site: www.csw.ed

Enrollment:
Current enrollment at College of the Southwest is 640 students. The student to faculty ratio is 12 to 1 so all students will receive individual classroom attention that is impossible at a large public university. Also, with a campus that currently supports sixty residents (which many refer to as their extended family), student life at College of the Southwest is a friendly, comfortable, and safe experience.

Mission:

Through working together, the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff and friends of College of the Southwest are dedicated to building a preeminent educational enterprise - an enterprise designed to prepare students for responsible lives of service, significance and effectiveness. The CSW educational experience is centered in:

- Christian principles
- Free enterprise education
- Sound academic standards

- Independence of support and governance
- Debt-free operations
- Exceptional service: to one another, to students, and to the community
- The relentless pursuit of excellence in each and every endeavor

Tuition:

For the 1997-98 academic year tuition is \$143 per credit hour. Including room and board, the total yearly cost of attending College of the Southwest with no financial aid is approximately \$7000. More than 95% of CSW students take advantage of the many financial aid sources available. In fact, College of the Southwest was recently named one of America's 100 Best College Buys!

Degrees offered: Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Arts and Sciences and Bachelor of Business Administration, Masters of Education

Selected course majors: Accounting, Bilingual Education, Biology, Elementary Education, English, History, Management, Marketing, Finance, Mathematics, Pre-Medicine and Pre-Law, Psychology, Secondary Education, Special Education, Physical Education, Secondary Education, General Science, and Social Studies.

Additional Post Secondary Education in Commuting Radius

Eastern New Mexico University-Portales, New Mexico

Undergraduate curricula. Areas of special interest include Fine Arts, Agriculture, Business, Engineering, Allied Health, Humanities, Education, Social Sciences and Biological and Physical Sciences.

Texas Tech University-Lubbock, Texas

Undergraduate curricula. Areas of special emphasis include Agriculture, Arts and Sciences, Mass Communications, Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management, Business, Education, Home Economics, Allied Health, Medicine and Law. Reserve Officers Training Corps.

New Mexico State University-Carlsbad, New Mexico

Main campus, Las Cruces, New Mexico. Undergraduate curricula. Areas of emphasis include Agriculture, Business, Banking and Finance, Computer Information Services, Education, Engineering, Nursing Humanities, Biological and Physical Sciences, Corrections and Law Enforcement, Social Sciences and Fine Arts.

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin-Odessa, Texas

A component of The University of Texas System, is a general academic teaching institution. During the 1997-1998 academic year, UTPB will be celebrating its twenty-fifth year of operation. The University was authorized by the 61st Legislature in 1969 as an upper-level campus to offer bachelor's and master's degree programs.

Today, UT Permian Basin has approximately 2,200 students in the programs in Arts & Sciences, Business, and Education. The campus has the latest in teaching technologies in its classrooms, modern research facilities and a new student housing complex which opened in 1996.

Business Support Services

The State of New Mexico is well endowed with business service organizations operating under the auspices of the State University System and various federal installations. An example of these are the five centers of Technical Excellence located at the three graduate level universities. The centers exist to promote interaction and technology transfer between education and private industry. Other examples would include the Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER) which maintains a data bank for economic and business related information, the Business Assistance and Resource Center (BARC) which provides technical assistance, management and marketing services to businessmen, and the New Mexico Department of Economic Development and Tourism (EDT) which provides liaison among industry, government and communities, site location, industry recruiting and international trade programs.

Interactive Television - New Mexico Junior College

The public educational institutions of Lea County and the College of the Southwest have formed a consortium to provide distance educational services between each of the institutions. The most feasible method of providing this service is through a two-way Interactive television system. (ITV) network via the telephone system. This innovative concept would serve the correctional institution by providing a critical educational service to the inmates.

Interactive television serves as an effective and useful function in the educational delivery system. The obvious educational advantage of this two-way interactive system is that learners can participate in specialized classes offered from area schools or agencies without traveling. Inmates could receive a variety of classes including GED, ABE, ESL, and a selection of college courses provided by New Mexico Junior College in areas of business, English, psychology, sociology, and math.

ITV's interactive learning technology facilitates the sharing of available instructional resources by breaking down the traditional barriers of distance, time qualified instructors and geographic isolation.

Virtually every institution - public and private - faces the dilemma of having to do more with less. As the costs of personnel, facilities, and operations for our educational institutions continue to increase, the ITV systems offer cost-effective alternatives to traditional modes of communication and information exchange by minimizing expenses of travel per diem, while maximizing productivity of key faculty and employees.

ITV classes can benefit the correctional institution by providing continuing education for prison personnel as well as contract training for specific needs.

Developmental and vocational education can also be offered through traditional means.

Applications in Distance Learning

- Direct Student Instruction (K - 12, Community Colleges, Higher Ed.) Math, science, foreign language, engineering, economics, computer science.

- Administrative Meetings (K - 12, Community Colleges, Higher Ed, Public and Private Institutions) Board meetings, team teaching groups, faculty/department heads.
- Special Student Services (K - 12, Community Groups) English as a Second Language, Reading and Writing Skills, Basic Communications. Student Enrichment Programs (K - 12, Community Groups)
- Special projects, health and safety information, research activities, motivational programs.
- Employee Training (Public and Private Sectors) State agencies, private corporations, emergency services groups, professional organizations.
- Vocational/Technical Training (K - 12, Post-Secondary Age) Specialized skills training for job rehabilitation, retraining. Continuing Education (Adult and Professional) Workforce training and retraining, certification requirements, career enhancements.
- Healthcare Providers (Nurses, Physicians, Practitioners, Counselors, Administrators) Continuing medical education, “Circuit Riders” courseware, Associate and Bachelor level nursing degrees, patient consultation, crisis intervention, pre-commitment and pre-discharge screenings, remote diagnostics, administrative meetings.
- Community Involvement (Parents, Teachers, Administrators, Local Officials) Parent/Teacher consultations, administrative information, parent groups, community organizations.

Small Business Development Center-New Mexico Junior College

The Small Business Development Center is an organization, which provides services consisting of counseling and resources to the business community of Lea County.

One-on-one counseling services offer the business community the information and guidance needed in order to run a successful business. The counseling sessions are held in confidence and serve the purpose of defining problem areas, setting goals and objectives, identifying options and planning for the future. Counseling is offered at no cost. A small fee is required if the client needs the Business Planning Guide.

Areas of assistance which can be provided include, but not limited to:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| • business start-up/acquisition | • sources of capital |
| • marketing and sales | • government procurement |
| • accounting and record keeping | • financial analysis and cost control |
| • inventory control | • engineering and research development |
| • personnel | • computer systems |
| • international trade | • business liquidations and sales |

Industrial Development Training Program

General Explanation: The New Mexico In-Plant Training Program provides classroom and on-the-job training. The company itself selects eligible workers, from its entire labor pool. This program is directed primarily toward manufacturers although, under some circumstances, it can be used to assist businesses in the service sector.

Maximum training is 1,040 hours with the program paying one-half of the training employee’s wages (In rural areas it can pay up to 90% of the wages.).

Detailed Explanation: The program provides both classroom and on-the-job training. It is not restricted to economically disadvantaged persons. The employer chooses eligible workers from the entire labor pool, and final selection rests solely with the employer. Trainees must

be New Mexico residents. If a project employs more than 1,500 people and the resident labor force within a 50 mile radius of the project location is not sufficient to fill the full-time equivalent positions requirements as determined by the New Mexico Department of Labor, the residency requirements may be waived. In addition, preference for training shall be given to New Mexico residents and no less than 50% of the project's work force shall be residents of New Mexico.

This program places an emphasis on industries that manufacture or assemble a product. Under some circumstances assistance can be provided to non-retail businesses in the service sector. The principal factor in evaluating proposals from service sector businesses is the extent to which the service being provided is exported to other states, or will reduce the need to import a similar service to New Mexico.

Costs that are reimbursable include:

Training costs will be reimbursed to the company based on the project summary written in the contract. The rates must not exceed fifty percent of the trainees' hourly wages multiplied by the hours of the training attended. Businesses outside the city limits of Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Las Cruces and Rio Rancho will be reimbursed at 75% unless the company has fewer than 20 employees; then the company will be reimbursed at 80%. If a company is located in an economically distressed area of New Mexico (Economically distressed areas are determined by the Industrial Training Board and reviewed on an annual basis.), the said company is eligible for 80 percent reimbursement, unless the company has fewer than 20 employees, then the company will be reimbursed at 90%.

- On the job trainees' starting hourly wage, up to 1,040 hours, at 50%. In rural areas reimbursement can be up to 90% of the hourly wage.
- Outside or consultant trainer, at 50% of travel and per diem.
- Trainee travel and per diem, at 50%.
- Educational institutions, trainers' wages and instructional materials, at 100%

Program restrictions:

- Training applicants must be residents of New Mexico for one year or more and be of legal status for employment. (Unless residential requirements are waived.)
- Trainees must be guaranteed full-time year-round employment with the company upon successful completion of the course.
- At the end of the program, the company will arrange for a compliance audit from an independent accounting firm.
- The In-Plant Training Board uses the Dictionary of Occupational Titles and Specific Vocational Programs (DOT-SVP) as a guide in setting training hours.

Labor Survey

Survey Method

The Lea County Labor Survey was conducted within Lea County and the surrounding communities. A random sampling was taken from telephone listings of households verified by two sources and included the cities of Caprock, Eunice, Hobbs, Jal, Lovington, Maljamar, Monument, McDonald, Oil Center, and Tatum in New Mexico, and Andrews, Denver City, Kermit, Plains, Seagraves, Seminole, and Wink in Texas.

There were 32,370 households within the survey area. A 6% sample (2048 households) was randomly selected and polled. Approximately 45% (922 persons) responded to the survey.

Based on the number of survey questions and the number of responses to those questions, the survey sample, at a 99% confidence level, achieved a 2.67 standard error of the mean with confidence intervals of +/- 8.29.

Manufacturing Experience

Strategies of local economic development organizations have included a concentrated effort to attract manufacturing industries to the Lea County area.

Even though the Lea County area is not typically considered a major manufacturing area, 9% of those surveyed responded that they did have manufacturing experience. 61 persons responded with specific job field experience, and of those, 75% had worked as operators or assemblers. This statistic is significant to business investors considering training costs to relocate in this area.

Available Workers

The primary objective of the labor survey is to identify the work force which is available to potential business investors in Lea County and the surrounding area. The Lea County Labor Survey defines the general characteristics of the available workers such as age, educational attainment and sex.

The majority (70%) of the available workers fall within the prime age group (25-54). 13% are younger than 25, and 17% are 55 or older.

* 36% of the available labor force has attained a high school education and 43% have reached a post-secondary level of education. Only 6%, however, have received at least a bachelor's degree.

* 60% of the available workers were female; 40% were male.

Occupational information of the available work force has been divided into working and not working/retired, and further categorized as primary, previous, preferred and trained occupations. This breakdown indicates in which job fields the available work force is or was working, which jobs those persons would prefer, and in which job fields they are actually trained (through education and experience).

Statistics show that the largest percentage of those currently working (27%) are construction workers; however, 27% of the same workers would prefer a technical or professional position. Still, the majority of workers are trained in the construction job fields.

The survey revealed that of those who are not working and available, the largest percentage (45%) of workers were previously employed in clerical and service occupations. 29% preferred jobs in the clerical fields; other preferred occupations were evenly distributed

between professional, service and construction fields. The highest percentage of those not working were trained in the construction job fields; the lowest percentage of non-workers were trained in the managerial field. Otherwise, the trained occupations of non-workers were evenly distributed.

Wage requirements of the available work force contribute to the decision-making process of business investors. 21% of those available for work did not specify a wage necessary for employment. Of those who did respond, 42% required from \$4.00-\$6.50, indicating a relatively inexpensive labor force. The wage requirement for employment is inconsistent considering that 47% of those currently working are earning over \$7.00 per hour.

General Labor Force

The labor force is defined by the U.S. Department of Labor as those persons 16 years of age and older who are working or available for employment. Lea County Labor Survey results revealed that there are 2.76 persons per household. 1.24 persons per household are presently working and .17 persons seeking (available for) employment, projecting a labor force of 1.41 persons per household.

According to survey results, 61.93% of the respondents were female and 38.07% were male. The prime age group (25-54) accounted for 53% of the labor force; however, the Lea County area also supports a significant number of older workers (55 and older) at 40.87%. This percentage is high when compared to a national average of 12% projected by the year 2000. On the other hand, the number of youth workers (16-24) at 6.12% is considerably lower than the national projected average of 16%. This percentage is significant when considering the future labor market in the Lea County area.

As the emphasis on education increases, so does the level of educational attainment within the labor force. Out of those surveyed in the Lea County area, 42% had reached a college level education, and 59% of those had received degrees or certificates. 36% had achieved a high school level education. These percentages are consistent with national averages.

One final observation concerning the characteristics of the Lea County area would be to note the number of retired persons at 21%. Although these persons are not a part of the labor pool, they do contribute to the economic growth of the area, and this percentage is significant in relation to the recent economic development efforts of the local communities. Another 2% of the retired population have listed themselves as available for employment and would be included in the labor pool.

Work Status

The U.S. Department of Labor has defined "unemployed" as those individuals who are "actively seeking employment." The Lea County Labor Survey identified those individuals who are "available" for work, reflecting joblessness rather than unemployment. This would include entrants and reentrants into the work force, and those who may not have filed with a local unemployment office. The survey also indicates the portion of the population who are not available for employment because of retirement, illness, and other reasons.

Results of the survey revealed that approximately 56% of the population was currently working. 30% indicated that they were available for work (both working and not working/retired). 32% were not available for work for various reasons, mainly retirement (21%).

The overall unemployment rate (as defined above) was .17 persons per household which calculated to 12% of the labor force. The jobless rate, however, was higher at 30%.

Primary Occupation and Present Wage Characteristics

One of the main objectives of the labor survey is to identify the characteristics of those in the labor force who are currently working or between jobs. Two areas, occupation and current wages are analyzed to indicate the status of the current labor market.

Respondents were asked to state their current occupation (or previous, if unemployed). From these responses, occupations were placed into one of six major occupational categories, as defined by the U.S. Department of Labor in the 1990-1991 Occupational Outlook Handbook.

Upon review of the survey responses, the following characteristics were evident:

- * The professional, clerical and service occupations were predominantly female; construction workers were predominantly male; managerial and sales persons were relatively equal in representation of the sexes.

- * 45% have achieved a post-secondary education level, and another 34% have completed high school.

- * The youth sector (16-24) was most heavily represented in the clerical, construction and service fields. The prime age workers (25-54) were disbursed throughout the categories fairly evenly, with their highest representation in construction occupations. The older workers (55 and older) were also evenly distributed.

Surprisingly, 28% of those surveyed chose not to respond concerning their present hourly wage. Of those who did respond, the highest percentage (25%) of those working are presently earning \$10.00-\$20.00 per hour. Of those persons, 10% were female, 15% were male. 42% of the workers in that salary range worked in the Construction/Operational/Maintenance job fields. The significant percentage of females in this salary range may be attributed to the increased number of females employed as professionals. Managers and professionals represented 41%. Most other workers were evenly distributed from \$4.00-\$10.00, with the highest representation in the clerical and service categories and were predominantly female.

Survey Summary

The following is a summary of the survey results and their percentages projected to the total labor pool:

- * A 6% sampling (2048 households) was randomly drawn from the survey region of 32,370 households.

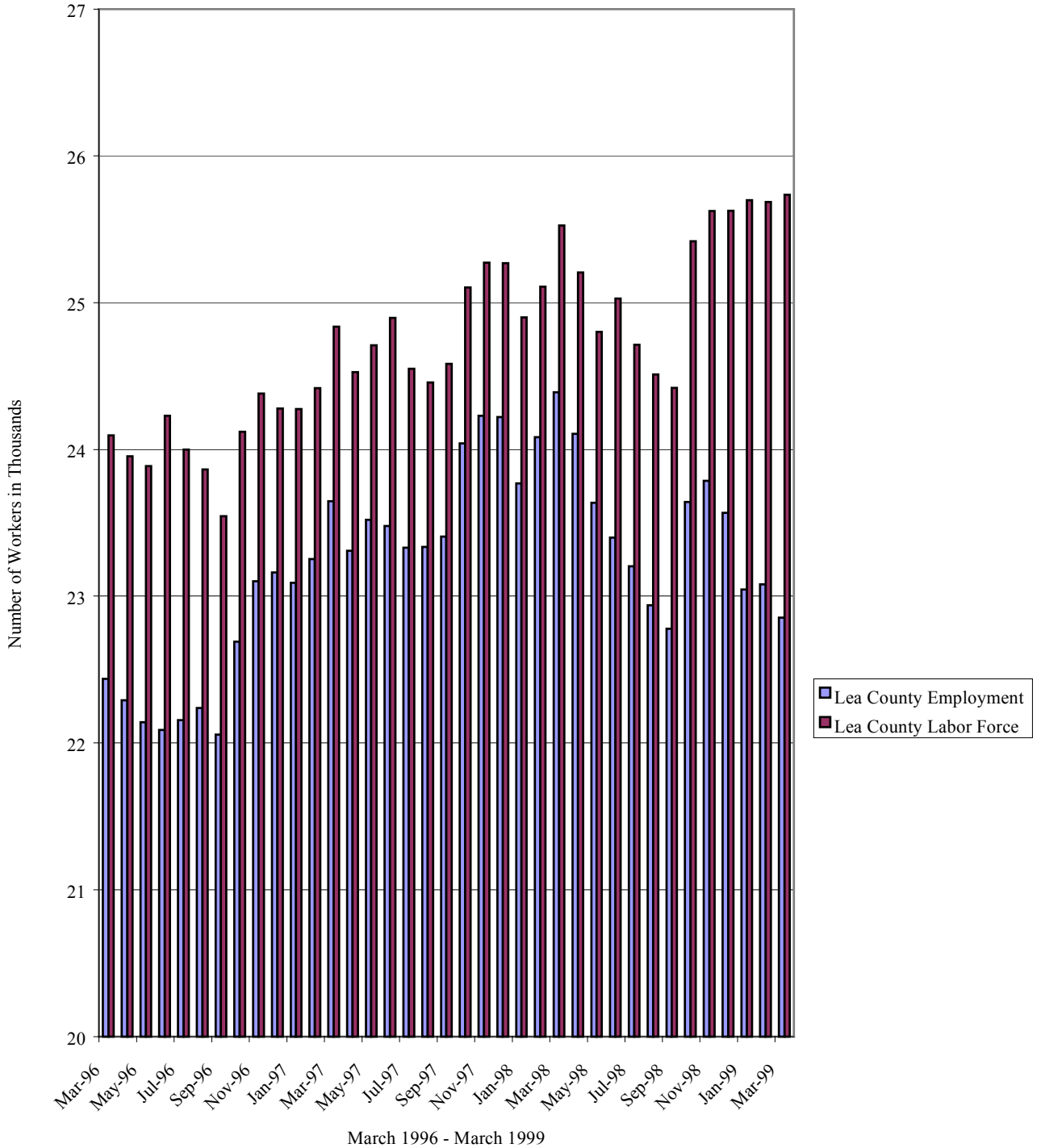
- * 922 persons (45%) responded, representing over 1% of the total population base of 89,341 and 2% of the projected labor pool.

- * Survey results showed an average of 1.24 workers per household and .17 persons seeking employment, resulting in a labor pool of approximately 45,641 persons within the Lea County labor force draw area.

- * 80 persons (9%) responded that they did have manufacturing experience, projecting 4,108 persons within the total labor pool.

- * Based on the number of survey questions and the number of responses to those questions, the survey sample, at a 99% confidence level, achieved a 2.67 standard error of the mean with confidence levels of +/- 8.29.

LEA COUNTY LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT



Prevailing Wage Rates

A complete copy of the New Mexico Occupational Wage Survey is available from the EDC offices. Just call 1-800-443-2236 and request one.

Current Unemployment Statistics

Are available by calling our office at 1-800-443-2236 and requesting the updated information.

Permits

Environmental Permits

Air Quality

Air quality permits issued by the State of New Mexico Environment Department Air Quality Bureau authorize an individual or company to commence construction or modification of a facility that will emit one or more regulated air pollutants. In New Mexico, any new or modified facility that has the uncontrolled potential to emit more than (10) pounds per hour, or twenty-five (25) tons per year, of a regulated pollutant, may be required to obtain an air quality permit. For toxic substances, the threshold emission rate is usually much lower. Sources that have the uncontrolled potential to emit between 10 and 25 tons per year are required to submit a notice of intent under AQCR 703.1.

Regulated pollutants include sulfur dioxide, particulate, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, non-methane hydrocarbons and lead.

In addition to these pollutants, stationary sources in New Mexico that emit certain toxic pollutants are also required to obtain permits. Over 500 toxic air pollutants, and over 40 known suspected carcinogens, are regulated. Every individual or company that applies for an air quality permit in New Mexico must satisfy comprehensive public notice requirements before the permit application can be ruled complete.

For many of these programs, New Mexico's air quality regulatory requirements are identical to federal requirements. The state is required to issue a permit within 120 days of the date a permit application is deemed complete. If a public hearing is granted, the permit must be issued in 180 days. The largest variable is the period of time between the applicant's submission date and the date it is deemed complete. This period can vary from 30 days to 6 months or more, depending on the completeness of the application. Streamlined permitting is available for reciprocating engine and turbine compressor stations, and for sources meeting certain emission rates and siting criteria. Sources which are subject to AQCR 702 or AQCR 703.1 (Notice of Intent and Emissions Inventory Requirements) must receive notice that no permit is required, prior to the commencement of construction or modification.

Contact: Environmental Improvement Division
Health and Environment Department
1190 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503
(505) 827-0020

Ground Water Quality

The state's ground water discharge permit program is intended to prevent ground water contamination from a wide variety of discharges to which no federal regulation apply. The program is standards-based, meaning that water quality degradation up to numerical standards contained in the governing regulations is allowed. In order to obtain a ground water discharge permit, the discharger must submit information regarding the quantity, character and location of the proposed discharge; the depth to which water will be impacted, and the quality of ground water most likely to be effected; the hydro-geologic characteristics of the area; and the measures that the discharger is taking to ensure that ground water quality will be protected. Permits are required if the discharge exceeds 2,000 gallons per day.

The time required to obtain a discharge permit is dependent upon the completeness of the submitted application and the adequacy of ground water protection, but a minimum of 90 days is necessary.

Ground Water Discharge Plan

The Ground Water Bureau prior to initiation of discharge or modification of existing discharge must approve a discharge plan. This applies to all operations discharging effluent of leachate, which may move directly or indirectly into ground water. A discharge plan must be approved prior to initiation of discharge or modification of existing discharge. Compliance is mandatory for firms discharging to water.

Contact: Ground Water Protection and Remediation Bureau
Health and Environment Department
1109 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503
(505) 827-2900

Surface Water Quality

The state has not been delegated primacy for either of the two permit systems mandated by the federal Clean Water Act to protect surface water. The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit is issued and enforced by EPA from the Region VI headquarters in Dallas, Texas.

Solid Waste

The state Solid Waste Management Regulations, designed to provide equivalent protection to the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, became effective May 14, 1989. They impose similar operating permit requirements to those found in surrounding states. Application requirements include detailed site and operating, monitoring and closure/post-closure plans, geologic/hydrologic evaluations; and financial assurance. Once an application is determined to be complete, a public notice is published allowing a 30-day comment period.

Liquid Waste Disposal System Registration Certificate

Applies to installation or modification of a liquid waste disposal system (septic tanks or domestic sewage of less than 2,000 gallons a day). A joint permit is required prior to installation.

Contact: Liquid Waste Unit
Environmental Improvement Division
Health and Environment Department
1190 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503
(505) 827-2788

Hazardous Waste

The state Hazardous Waste Management Program has received base authorization from the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The state program is equivalent to the federal program. It is responsible for all hazardous waste activities including inspections, enforcement and permitting. The state has incorporated the Code of Federal Regulations 40

CFR 260-270 as part of the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Regulations. The time frame for permit issuance ranges from on to two years, depending on the complexity of the facility.

Contact: Hazardous Waste Section
Environmental Improvement Division
Health and Environmental Department
1190 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503
(505) 827-2793

Underground Storage Tank

Comprehensive general regulations governing underground storage tanks became effective in 1988. There is no permitting aspect in this program. Tanks are required to be registered and certified by the Underground Storage Tank Bureau, and there is a yearly fee due for each tank. The EPA approves the State of New Mexico as an implementing agency. The state administers the Corrective Action fund, which is used to reimburse tank owners and operators for their costs of cleanup.

Building Permits

A building permit is required prior to the start of any construction project. The New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department issues state building permits throughout the state, except in certain counties and cities.

Contact: Regulation & Licensing Department
State of New Mexico
725 St. Michael's Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87503
(505) 827-7000

The cost of a building permit for locations not covered by the counties and cities with their own departments are \$3.00 per \$1,000 up to \$15,000 project cost, then \$1.00 per \$1,000 for amounts over \$15,000 project cost, plus 20% of final fee for plan review. Licenses from New Mexico Regulation and Licensing can be staged as portions of plans are completed, allowing expeditious construction.

Contact for Building Permits within the Hobbs City Limits
City of Hobbs – Building Permits
300 N. Turner
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505) 397-9234

The cost of a building permits within the City of Hobbs are \$2.00 per \$1,000 up to \$15,000 project cost, then \$1.00 per \$1,000 for amounts over \$15,000 project cost. The City also offers quick turn around times on the permitting process.

Regulations for Incorporating in New Mexico

Domestic Corporations

Profit and Nonprofit Professional

Fees:

\$1 per 10,000 authorized shares (minimum \$50, maximum \$5,000)

Amendments:

\$1 per 10,000 shares of actual increase of total authorized shares (minimum \$50, maximum \$5,000)

Forms:

Articles of Incorporation signed in duplicate with original signatures by each incorporator and filed with a notarized Affidavit of Acceptance of initial registered agent. (by-laws are not required.)

Non-Profit

Fees:

\$10 for incorporation

\$1 for filing bylaws

Amendments:

\$5 for amendment to incorporate

\$1 for amended bylaws

Forms:

Articles of Incorporation signed in duplicate with original signatures by each incorporator and filed with a notarized Affidavit of Acceptance of initial registered agent. At least three directors are required. Bylaws are required to be filed with the State Corporation Commission.

Foreign Corporations

Profit

Fees:

\$1 per 1000 authorized shares (minimum \$100, maximum \$5,000)

Amendments:

\$25 for amendment changing corporate name or increase of purpose in New Mexico filed with an Application for Amended Certificate of Authority and an original Certificate of Filing certified by state or county of incorporation.

Forms:

Original Application for Certificate of Authority or Amended Certificate. The application or Amended Certificate must be signed in duplicate with original signatures by the president or vice president, and by the secretary or assistant secretary, and must be verified by one of the above corporate officers. A Certificate of Good Standing issued within the last 30 days by the state or country of incorporation. This notarized Affidavit of Acceptance must be filed by a designated registered agent.

Non-Profit

Fees:

\$10 for qualification

\$1 for filing bylaws (optional)

Amendments:

\$5 for amendment involving name change or increase of purpose in New Mexico filed with an Application for Amended Certificate of Authority. Amendment must be certified by state or county of incorporation.

Forms:

Original Application for Certificate of Authority signed in duplicate with original signatures by the president or vice president, and by the secretary or assistant secretary. A Certificate of Good Standing issued within the last 30 days by the state or country of incorporation. Notarized Affidavit of Acceptance must be filed by a designated registered agent.

Contact: New Mexico State Corporation Commission
Incorporation Section
P.O. Drawer 1269
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1269
(505) 827-4513

New Mexico Tax Identification Number

All businesses are required to register with the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department for an account number for the purpose of paying gross receipts taxes, corporate income taxes, compensating taxes, and withholding taxes. There are no fees associated with this registration.

Contact: New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department
P.O. Box 630
Joseph Montoya Building
110 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87509-0630
(505) 827-0946

New Mexico Unemployment Insurance Tax Number

All businesses are required to register with the New Mexico Employment Security Division for an account number for the purpose of paying unemployment insurance taxes.

Local Contact: New Mexico Department of Labor
P.O. Drawer 2608
204 West Park
Hobbs, New Mexico 88240
(505) 393-5188

State Contact: New Mexico Department of Labor
P.O. box 2608
401 Broadway NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103
(505) 841-8576

Business Registration Fee

All types of businesses pay a city/county registration fee with the exception of insurance companies.

Fees: \$25/Annual (maximum)

Contact:

City/County Clerk's office of business locality.

Lea County Clerk
100 Main Street
Lovington, New Mexico 88260
(505) 396-8521

Hobbs City Clerk
300 North Turner
Hobbs, New Mexico 88240
(505) 397-9207

Eunice City Hall
1106 Avenue J
Eunice, New Mexico 88231
(505) 394-2576

Jal City Clerk
523 Main Street
Jal, New Mexico 88252
(505) 395-2501

Lovington Clerk's Office
100 Main Street
Lovington, New Mexico 88260
(505) 396-8521

Tatum Municipal Offices
20 West Broadway
Tatum, New Mexico 88267
(505) 398-4633

New Mexico Worker's Compensation

All New Mexico employers with three or more workers are subject to the Worker's Compensation Act and must file an insurance policy, surety bond, or other evidence of financial solvency with the Worker's Compensation Administration. Premiums are based on payroll levels and the type of occupation insured. If a business cannot secure evidence of coverage, the state will provide insurance through the state's assigned risk coverage pool.

Fees: \$1.25 filing fee

Each covered employer is assessed an annual fee by the Taxation and Revenue Department of \$6 per employee (\$3 paid by the employer and \$3 paid by the employee) for administrative support of the Worker's Compensation Administration.

Local contact: Worker's Compensation Division
100 West Central, Suite A
Lovington, New Mexico 88260
(505) 396-3437

State Contact: New Mexico Department of Labor
Worker's Compensation Division
P.O. Box 27198
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125
(505) 841-6000 or (505) 255-7965

Taxation

Property Taxes

Property taxes in New Mexico are low by any standard. New Mexico's property tax is perennially ranked among the three lowest states in the nation. Since it would require an amendment of the State of New Mexico's Constitution (which entails a vote by the electorate), it is unlikely that property taxes will be looked to for generation of additional revenues in the future.

Unless otherwise expressly exempt, all tangible, personal or real property located in New Mexico is subject to valuation for property taxation purposes, and is subject to ad valorem taxation. The general rule is that tangible personal property used or maintained by a person for purposes of that person's trade or business is subject to property taxation.

New Mexico's property tax is perennially ranked among the three lowest states in the nation

There are four basic governmental entities, which are authorized to impose property taxes: the state, counties, municipalities and school districts. The Constitution limits the amount that can be charged for operating purposes by these last three entities to \$2 per \$100 of taxable valuation.

The assessment ratio is uniform, statewide, at a rate of 33 1/3% of the value (except oil and gas). The tax applied is a composite of state, county, municipal, school district and other special district levies. Taxes are collected by and paid to the county treasurer. Annual taxes are due in two installments, the first half on November 5 and the latter half on April 5.

A 1991 law entitled the Development Incentive Act (Section 8, 3-64-1 to 3-64-5 NMSA 1978), allows most counties and municipalities to adopt a resolution exempting the commercial personal property of a new business facility located in the county or municipality. The exemption may be as much as 50% of the assessed value for a period of up to five years. The Act includes expansions, if investment in the expansion exceeds \$1 million and employs at least ten additional workers.

Because non-manufacturing equipment is also tangible personal property, it is subject to taxation in the same way as manufacturing equipment. Both municipalities and counties can issue pollution control equipment bonds to acquire pollution control equipment, and lease it to commercial enterprises. This is a process similar to that used for property acquired and leased under industrial revenue bonds. Pollution control equipment acquired in such a manner is exempt from taxation because it is owned by a governmental entity.

New Mexico communities can abate all property taxes on a plant location or expansion for a maximum of 30 years

New Mexico communities can abate all property taxes on a plant location or expansion for a maximum of 30 years, (usually 20 years in most communities). This is not a tax freeze but a true abatement on building, land and equipment, controlled by the community. At the end of the abatement period, the company will still have the 49th lowest property tax in the nation.

1999 Property Tax Levies -Lea County, New Mexico
Dollars and Cents per 1,000 Net Taxable Value
Taxable Valuation - \$1,021,371,698

State

Debt Service1.482

County

Operational Residential.....6.138

Operational Non-Residential.....7.971

Municipal

	Eunice	Hobbs	Jal	Lovington	Tatum
Operational Residential	1.291	4.525	6.060	4.466	3.117
Operational Non-Residential	2.225	4.506	7.586	5.603	4.219

School District Levies

	Eunice	Hobbs	Jal	Lovington	Tatum
Operational Residential	0.031	0.287	0.393	0.276	0.254
Operational Non-Residential	0.453	0.447	0.500	0.443	0.500
Capital Improvement HB33	2.000	4.000	--	1.227	--
Capital Improvement	1.813	--	--	2.000	--
Capital Improvement: Residential	2.000	1.972	1.384	--	2.000
Capital Improvement: Non-Residential	1.813	1.841	1.500	--	2.000
Debt Service	--	--	--	2.773	5.868

1998 Property Tax Levies

	Eunice	Hobbs	Jal	Lovington	Tatum
State	1.482	1.482	1.482	1.482	1.482
County Residential	6.133	6.133	6.133	6.133	6.133
County Non-Residential	7.971	7.971	7.971	7.971	7.971
School Residential	4.301	6.259	1.777	6.276	8.122
School Non-Residential	4.079	6.288	2.000	6.433	8.368
City Residential	1.291	4.525	6.060	4.466	3.117
City Non-Residential	2.225	5.506	7.586	5.603	4.219
Junior College Residential	3.917	3.917	---	3.917	3.917
Junior College Non-Residential	4.594	4.594	---	4.594	4.594
Hospital Residential	---	---	2.590	4.000	4.000
Hospital Non-Residential	---	---	2.975	4.000	4.000
RESIDENTIAL INSIDE	17.124	22.316	18.042	26.274	26.771
RESIDENTIAL OUTSIDE	15.883	17.791	11.982	21.808	23.654
NON-RESIDENTIAL INSIDE	20.351	24.841	22.014	30.093	30.634
NON-RESIDENTIAL OUTSIDE	18.126	20.335	14.428	24.490	26.415

Livestock

Cattle Indemnity	10.000	Equine	10.000
Sheep Sanitary	18.000	Bison	4.000
Dairy Cattle.....	5.000		

Sales/Use Tax

While New Mexico does not impose a sales tax, the gross receipts tax (GRT) imposed by the Gross Receipts and Compensating Tax Act is a tax on the vendor. It is, however, common practice for the vendor to pass the GRT on to the buyer as an added cost of doing business. The GRT is imposed on selling property, leasing property and performing services in New Mexico. It is also imposed on research and development services performed out of state but initially used in this state. The state GRT is 5%. Local cities and counties may also impose additional taxes on gross receipts, up to 1.9375%.

A 5% compensating tax is imposed on the use, consumption or storage of tangible property in the state, and on certain services.

Neither GRT nor compensating tax is owed on property eligible for industrial revenue bond financing. Certain investments in manufacturing equipment may qualify for a 5% credit against GRT, compensating tax or income withholding. The investments must be associated with increased employment. The New Mexico Gross Receipts Tax (5%) may be credited or refunded under the Investment Credit Act for manufacturers.

Lea County Gross Receipts Tax Rates

Eunice	6.1875%	Lovington Industrial Park	5.2500%
Hobbs.....	6.0000%	Tatum	5.9375%
Jal.....	6.1875%	Remainder of County	5.2500%
Lovington.....	6.1250%		

Franchise Tax

Each corporation engaged in business in New Mexico and included in a corporate income tax return must pay a franchise tax of \$50 per year.

Personal Income Tax

According to a 1989 study conducted by the United States Department of Commerce, New Mexico was among 15 states with lower-than-national-average individual income tax collections (as a percentage of state personal income)

For Married Individuals Filing Jointly and Surviving Spouses

Over	But Not Over	Tax Shall Be	Of Excess Over
0	\$ 8,000	2.4% of net income	0
\$ 8,000	\$16,000	\$192 plus 3.8%	\$ 8,000
\$16,000	\$24,000	\$496 plus 4.8%	\$16,000
\$24,000	\$36,000	\$880 plus 5.9%	\$24,000
\$36,000	\$48,000	\$1,588 plus 6.9%	\$36,000
\$48,000	\$64,000	\$2,416 plus 7.7%	\$48,000
\$64,000		\$3,648 plus 8.5%	\$64,000

Over	But Not Over	Tax Shall Be	Of Excess Over
0	\$ 5,200	1.8% of net income	0
\$ 5,200	\$10,400	\$93.60 plus 3.0%	\$ 5,200
\$10,400	\$15,600	\$249.60 plus 4.5%	\$10,400
\$15,600	\$23,400	\$483.60 plus 5.8%	\$15,600
\$23,400	\$31,200	\$936.00 plus 6.9%	\$23,400
\$31,200	\$41,600	\$1,474.20 plus 7.7%	\$31,200
\$41,600		\$2,275.00 plus 8.5%	\$41,600

A tax is imposed on the "net income" of every resident individual and on the net income of nonresident individuals having income from business, property or employment in New Mexico. In general, net income is federal adjusted gross income plus interest earned from investments in bonds issued by other states and political subdivisions of other states, less the following allowable deductions:

- A personal exemption the same as the federal income tax.
- Standard deductions for married/filing jointly and surviving spouse, for head of household, for single individual and for married/filing separate - the same as the federal income tax.
- Excess itemized deductions equal to federal itemized deductions, less the New Mexico standard deduction amount.
- Up to \$8,000 of income for each taxpayer aged 65 or over, or blind, with adjusted gross income of \$28,500 or less for single individuals or \$51,000 or less for married couples.
- Interest on U.S. government obligations.
- Income of a Native American or spouse earned from its own reservation or pueblo sources.
- Net operating losses which may be carried forward for five years.

For estates and trusts, "net income" is federal taxable income less amounts the state is prohibited from taxing because of state or federal laws or constitutional provisions. A credit against New Mexico's personal income tax is available for those taxpayers having certain types of income from sources in other states which is taxed by both New Mexico and the other states. This credit is determined by allocating and apportioning income taxed by both New Mexico and the other states resulting in a % age to be applied to the income tax amount determining the amount of tax due New Mexico.

Miscellaneous Tax Information

Constitutional Basis - Article VIII, Section 1 of the Constitution provides that taxes levied upon tangible property shall be in proportion to the value thereof, and taxes shall be equal and uniform upon subjects of taxation of the same class.

Tax System - New Mexico imposes a general property tax and taxes on incomes, occupations and privileges. An annual franchise tax on domestic and foreign corporations is imposed. An outline of the New Mexico tax system follows:

1-000 Corporate organization qualification fees.

Domestic corporations--\$1 for each 1,000 shares of total authorized shares; minimum, \$100; maximum, \$5,000. Foreign Corp's--\$1 for each 1,000 shares of total

authorized shares; minimum, \$200; maximum, \$5,000. Temporary surcharge equal to \$200,000 or 18% of income tax due for taxable years beginning in 1993 on unitary Corp's that do not file consolidated or combined returns and that have a net income over \$1 million.

5-000 Franchise tax; corp. annual report filing fee.

Franchise tax--\$50 per year.

Corp. Biannual report--\$25.

10-000, 15-000 Income tax.

Individuals--rates range from 1.8% of taxable income not over \$5,200 to 8.5% of taxable income over \$41,600 for single individuals; from 2.4% of taxable income not over \$8,000 to 8.5% of taxable income over \$64,000 for surviving spouses and married individuals filing jointly; from 1.8% on the first \$5,200 of taxable income and 8.5% on taxable income over \$52,000 for heads of households; and from 2.4% of taxable income not over \$4,000 to 8.5% of taxable income over \$32,000 for married persons filing separately. Qualified taxpayers may pay alternative tax of 0.75% of gross receipts from New Mexico sales.

Nonresidents--same rates on income derived from business, employment and property in NM.

Corp's--4.8% of first \$500,000 of net income, 6.4% of second \$500,000, 7.6% of net income over \$1 million. Qualified taxpayers may pay alternative tax of 0.75% of gross receipts from NM sales.

General withholding is required.

20-000 General Property Tax.

General property--Aggregate of state and local rates fixed to meet beget. Property is assessed at 33 1/3% of market value.

Mining property--assessment of mining property is based on production or market value depending on the mineral produced.

Oil and gas production equipment tax.

Based on the taxable value of equipment at each production unit which is 27% of the value of the products of each such unit.

35-000 Alcoholic beverages tax.

Excise--beer, .41 per gallon; spirituous liquors, \$1.60 per liter; wine, .45 per liter; wine produced by small winegrower, .10 per liter on first 80,000 liters and .25 per liter over 80,000 but less than 220,000; fortified wine, \$1.50 per liter; beer produced by microbrewers, .25 per gallon.

40-000 Gasoline tax; special fuel tax.

.22 per gallon of gasoline and .18 per gallon of special fuel received or used. Operators of vehicles using liquefied petroleum gas and whose weight does not exceed 26,000 lbs. may elect to pay an annual fee as follows: 0 to 8,000 lbs., \$75; 8,001 to 16,000 lbs., \$150; 16,001 to 26,000 lbs., \$375.

45-000 Severance tax.

Severance tax--gross value less rental and royalty payments; uranium, entire sales price reduced by 50%; potash, 33 1/3% of sales proceeds. Tax rates are: timber and nonmetallic minerals, 0.125%; potash, 2.5%; copper, 0.5%; gold and silver, 0.2%; lead, zinc,

molybdenum, thorium and rare earth, 0.125%; surface coal, .57 per ton plus a .60 per ton surtax; underground coal, .55 per ton plus a .58 per ton surtax; uranium, 3.5%.

Oil and gas severance tax.

...natural gas, the greater of 3.75% of the value of products. Natural gas from a new production natural gas well, 3.75% of the value of products. Oil, liquid hydrocarbon, and carbon dioxide, 3.75% of taxable value. Oil and liquid hydrocarbons from qualified enhanced recovery project, 1.875% of taxable value.

Oil and gas conservation tax.

.. 0.19% of taxable value of oil, natural gas, liquid hydrocarbons, coal, uranium, geothermal energy, and carbon dioxide.

Resources excise tax.

.. potash, 0.5%; molybdenum, 0.125%; all other taxable resources, 0.75%.
.. (Processor's tax)--timber, 0.375%; potash and molybdenum, 0.375%; copper, 0.75%; all other taxable resources, 0.75%.

Oil and gas (ad valorem) production tax.

... assessed value of products severed and sold from each production unit.

Oil and gas privilege (emergency school) tax.

... --3.15% taxable value of oil and other liquid hydrocarbons removed from natural gas at or near the wellhead or of carbon dioxide; 4% of the taxable value of natural gas.

Natural gas processor's tax.

...-0.45% of taxable value.

50-000 Leased vehicle gross receipts tax.

5% of gross receipts from leasing small passenger vehicles plus a \$2 per day per vehicle surcharge.

55-000 Cigarette and tobacco products tax.

1.05 per cigarette (.21 per pack of 20).
25% of the product value of tobacco products.

60-000 Gross receipts and compensating tax.

Gross receipts--5% of gross receipts from sales of tangible personal property and services.

Compensating tax--5% of value at time of acquisition, conversion or introduction into state.

80-000 Electric, gas, water, steam companies tax.

...--0.5% of gross intrastate receipts.

Pipe line companies tax.

... gas, from \$500 up, depending on horse power; oil, from \$513 up, depending on mileage.

Car line companies tax.

... 3.5% of gross earnings from the use or operation of cars within the state.

Interstate telecommunications tax.

... 4.25% of interstate communications gross receipts.

911 emergency surcharge and network and database surcharge.

Local exchange access lines-- .25 for 911 emergency surcharge and .26 for network and database surcharge.

88-000 Insurance companies tax.

3% of gross premiums collected in the state, less return premiums, dividends and amounts received for reinsurance.

Foreign companies subject to retaliatory taxes.

89-000 Estate tax.

An estate tax is assessed in an amount equal to the state death tax credit allowable under the federal estate tax laws.

Finance Programs

Business and Industrial Loan Guarantees (B & I Loans)

The B & I Loan Guarantee Program is for business and industrial development projects in rural communities. USDA Rural Development contracts with lenders to guarantee 70 to 90 percent of the principal and interest made to loan applicants in rural areas. Guarantees are available for loans up to \$10 million. Loans guaranteed may be used for projects such as business and industrial acquisition and improvement, purchase and development of land, buildings, equipment, machinery and supplies, working capital and other start-up costs.

- *Contact: USDA Rural Development, 6200 Jefferson NE, Room 225, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 761-4920*

Community Development Revolving Loan Fund

The revolving loan fund enables political subdivisions of New Mexico to construct or implement projects necessary to encourage the location or expansion of industry. The interest rate is one half of U.S. Treasury issues of a comparable term. Maturity is negotiable, not to exceed 10 years. Maximum award is \$250,000. Eligible uses include real estate and fixed asset financing and infrastructure improvements.

- *Contact: New Mexico Economic Development Department, 1100 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505, (505) 827-0382*

Community Facilities Loans

The Community Facilities Loan Program provides loans and loan guarantees to fund construction, enlargement, or improvement of community facilities providing essential services to residents of rural communities up to 20,000 population. There is no maximum for awards. Funds can be used to construct, enlarge, or extend rural community facilities including fire stations, libraries, hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, schools, industrial parks, streets, roads, bridges, water/wastewater and solid waste disposal systems and other major equipment used to provide essential service to rural residents.

- *Contact: USDA Rural Development, 6200 Jefferson NE, Room 225, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 761-4920*

Economic Development Planning Grants

Grants from \$50,000 to \$200,000 are available through the U.S. Economic Development Administration to strengthen the economic development planning capabilities of states, cities and other planning entities. Grant awards may be used to analyze local economies, define development goals, determine project opportunities, define policies and procedures and their planning tasks. Matching funds are required.

- *Contact: Southeastern New Mexico Economic Development District, State Planning District Number 6, 110 E. 4th, Fisk Building, Suite 105, Roswell, NM 88201, (505) 624-6131*

Industrial “In-Plant” Training Program

The In-Plant Training program provides both pre-employment and on-the-job training to new and expanded businesses, placing an emphasis on industries, which manufacture or assemble a product. On-the-job participant wages are reimbursed at rates from 50 to 75 percent for a 6-month period or up to 1,040 hours. Other costs such as trainers’ wages, trainers’ lodging and travel costs, instructional materials and training facility costs are reimbursed at varying levels.

- *Contact: New Mexico Economic Development Department, 1100 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505, (505) 827-0382*

Industrial Revenue Bonds

Cities and counties may issue Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRBs) to enable manufacturing companies to purchase land, buildings, equipment and machinery. An IRB is a loan by a lender/bond purchaser to a company where the loan proceeds and loan repayments flow through a governmental issuer. New Mexico communities can choose to abate all property taxes on land, buildings and equipment for plant location or expansion for up to 30 years. The tax benefits result from the form of the loan and the involvement of the

issuer. A company enters into an agreement with the issuer providing that the company will lease the facility from the issuer and, at the end of the lease term, purchase the facility from the issuer for a nominal amount. The issuer agrees to purchase, construct or equip the facility. The proceeds for the issuer's bonds are used to pay the expenses of the facility. Bonds are paid off with the rent paid by the company to the issuer.

- *Contact: New Mexico Economic Development Department, 1100 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505, (505) 827-0382*

Intermediary Relending Program

The Intermediary Relending Program finances business facilities and community development in rural areas by making loans to intermediaries that relend the funds to ultimate recipients for eligible projects. Intermediaries may use funds to finance projects including business acquisition or repair, purchase and development of land and buildings, equipment, supplies, working capital and feasibility studies. The maximum loan made to an intermediary organization is \$4 million and to the ultimate recipient \$150,000.

- *Contact: USDA Rural Development, 6200 Jefferson NE, Room 225, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 761-4920*

Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA)

The JTPA provides classroom and on-the-job training to economically disadvantaged individuals, older workers and dislocated workers. Participant wages are reimbursed at 50 percent for up to 1,040 hours and certain supportive services for training participants are reimbursed at 100 percent. Under certain conditions, the employer is also eligible for tax relief.

- *Contact: New Mexico Department of Labor, P.O. Box 1928, Albuquerque, NM 87103, (505) 841-9300.*

New Mexico Business Bonds

The New Mexico Severance Tax Permanent Fund invests in bonds, notes, debentures or other evidence of indebtedness, rated not less than BAA or Bbb. The interest rate is equivalent to the yield on U.S. Treasury issues of a comparable term plus 50 to 100 basis points. The maximum amount is \$20 million. Maturity is negotiable, though not to exceed 20 years.

- *Contact: New Mexico State Investment Council, 2025 S. Pacheco St., Suite 203, Building A, 2nd floor, Santa Fe, NM 87505, (505) 827-6226.*

New Mexico Community Development Loan Fund

The New Mexico Community Development Loan Fund is a non-profit lending organization, which lends money to organizations, and companies that demonstrate social benefit to their communities. Loans are available for start-up or expansion of New Mexico microbusinesses that benefit low-income populations. Eligible uses of funds include real estate, equipment and working capital. Average loan is \$5,000 to \$30,000, maximum available is \$100,000.

- *Contact: New Mexico Community Development Loan Fund, P.O. Box 4979, Albuquerque, NM 87106, (505) 243-3196.*

New Mexico Finance Authority

The finance authority provides two low-cost financing programs to New Mexico communities – an infrastructure finance program and equipment finance program. The infrastructure finance program provides financing for projects including buildings, water, sewer and waste disposal systems, streets, and airports, municipal utilities and parking facilities. The Finance Authority also finances equipment for business and industry. Financial assistance in most cases are long-term loans at low interest. Amount loaned is determined by community's ability to repay.

- *Contact: New Mexico Finance Authority, 1751 Old Pecos Trail, Suite K, Santa Fe, NM 87505, (505) 984-1454.*

New Mexico Community Development Block Grants (CDGB)

The Community Development Block Grant program makes grant monies available to cities and counties with less than 50,000 population. Grants can be used to finance community infrastructure on publicly held land. Financing matching and job creation requirements exist. The maximum award is \$400,000.

- *Contact: New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration, Bataan Memorial Building, Room 201, Santa Fe, NM 87503, (505) 827-4950.*

New Mexico HUD CDBG Economic Development Set Aside Revolving Loan Fund

This Fund makes loans available to cities and counties with less than 50,000 populations. Loans can be used for acquisition of real property, construction and rehabilitation of existing building, purchase of equipment and working capital. Funding requests are made by municipalities or county units of government on behalf of privately owned business. The maximum loan award is \$400,000. Terms of the loan are based upon financial matching and job creation capabilities.

- *Contact New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration, Bataan Memorial Building, Room 201, Santa Fe, NM 87503, (505) 827-4950*

New Mexico Real Property-Related Business Loans

The New Mexico Severance Tax Permanent Fund invests in participation of up to 80 percent of loans originated by New Mexico financial institutions. Eligible uses of funds include the purchase of land and attached buildings, and refinancing existing debt if the loan is for expansion purposes. The maximum amount is \$2 million. Interest rates are fixed for 5 years. Maturity is no less than 5 years for more than 15 years.

- *Contact New Mexico State Investment Council, 2025 S. Pacheco Street, Suite 203, Building A, 2nd floor, Santa Fe, NM 87505, (505) 827-6226*

Public Works Grants

Public Works Grants from the U.S. Economic Development Administration assist communities in funding development and public works facilities that contribute to the creation or retention of jobs. Grants range from \$100,000 to several million, depending on the project. Funds can be used for industrial park development, rail sidings and spurs, vocational skills centers and other public works facilities that stimulate economic development.

- *Contact: Southeastern New Mexico Economic Development District, State Planning District Number 6, 110 E. 4th, Fisk Building, Suite 105, Roswell, NM 88201, (505) 624-6131*

Rural Business Enterprise Grants

The Rural Business Enterprise Grant program provides grants to public and private non-profit entities that will use funds to support the development of small and emerging private businesses in rural areas. The minimum available grant is \$5,000, there is no maximum amount. Eligible projects included the acquisition and development of land, the construction or repair of buildings, machinery, equipment, roads, utility extensions, working capital and transportation projects.

- *Contact: USDA Rural Development, 6200 Jefferson NE, Room 255, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 761-4950.*

Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants

This program provides grants and zero interest loans to Rural Electrification Administration borrowers (electric and telephone companies) for public-private projects for rural economic development and job creation. A wide variety of projects can be financed through the grant or loan program including business expansion and start-up, incubator projects, community development, revolving loan funds and project feasibility studies. The maximum grant award is \$400,000. The maximum loan award varies annually but averages \$400,000.

- *Contact: USDA Rural Development, 6200 Jefferson NE, Room 255, Albuquerque, NM 87109 (505) 761-4950.*

Rural Solid Waste Management Technical Assistance Grants

Grants under this program are awarded to non-profit organizations to provide technical assistance and training to help rural communities implement solid waste management and improvement projects. Grants are targeted at assisting rural areas with reducing or eliminating water pollution and improving the planning and management of solid waste sites. Grant maximum awards vary yearly.

- *Contact: USDA Rural Development, 6200 Jefferson NE, Room 255, Albuquerque, NM 87109 (505) 761-4950.*

Rural Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants

This USDA program provides loans, loan guarantees and grants for water service, and solid and liquid waste disposal facilities for rural communities. Funds may be used to support construction, repair, improvements, expansion, or other modifications of rural water, sanitary sewage, solid waste disposal and storm wastewater disposal systems.

- *Contact: USDA Rural Development, 6200 Jefferson NE, Room 255, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 761-4950.*

Small Business Administration 504 Loan Program

This program provides long-term, low down payment financing for small and medium expanding businesses. Eligible uses of funds include real estate and fixed assets. Under the 504 program, the SBA provides 40 percent of the funding and subordinates to a lender providing 50 percent of total project costs. The company is required to invest 10 percent of total project costs in the form of equity. The maximum amount funded by the SBA is \$1,000,000. Job creation requirements apply.

- *Contact: Enchantment Land Certified Development Company, 625 Silver SW, Suite 320, Albuquerque, NM 87102, (505) 843-9232.*

Small Business Administration 7(A) Loan Program

This finance program offers guarantees of loans made by financial institutions to start-up and expanding businesses. Under the 7(A) program, the SBA can guarantee from 85 to 90 percent of the full amount of the loan. The maximum guaranteed amount is \$1,000,000. Eligible uses of funds include real estate, fixed assets and working capital.

- *Contact: Enchantment Land Certified Development Company, 625 Silver SW, Suite 320, Albuquerque, NM 87102 (505) 843-9232.*

Incentives

Investment Tax Credit

General Explanation: A credit equal to 5% can be applied to the purchase of equipment used in a manufacturing operation. The company must employ one new full-time equivalent (FTE) employee for each \$100,000 of qualified equipment. This credit is limited to \$100,000 per year.

Detailed Explanation: An investment tax credit, equal to the percent of the compensating tax rate provided for in the Gross Receipts and Compensating Tax Act (currently 5%), can be applied to the purchase price of qualified equipment used in a manufacturing operating in New Mexico. The equipment must be owned by the taxpayer or owned by the United States or the state or a political sub-division thereof and leased or subleased to the taxpayer. The latter phrase was added in order to qualify manufacturing equipment purchased by local government using IRBs and leased to the taxpayer. What constitutes tangible personal property is subject to the Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD) rulings and may include flooring material, non-structural building components and building mechanical systems. There is an employment requirement in order to qualify for this credit. The requirement is one new FTE employee for each \$100,000 of qualified equipment. There will also be a \$2 million limit per year on the amount of qualified equipment for which the credit can be claimed. This will limit the investment tax credit to \$100,000 per year.

The investment tax credit is taken as a credit against the taxpayer's compensating tax, gross receipts tax, or employee withholding tax due to the State of New Mexico. The restriction of the credit to the tax obligations due to the State of New Mexico holds the municipalities and counties harmless from this credit in the State's distributions of gross receipts tax to local government.

The objective of the investment tax credit is to level the playing field for manufacturers in New Mexico. It was conceived of as a way to rebate the compensating tax pay by New Mexico manufacturers on their capital equipment purchases. Note, however, that a 1990 amendment broadened the investment tax credit to IRB financed manufacturing equipment, which is already exempt from the gross receipts/compensating tax under Section 7-9-54 NMSA 1978. Thus, the investment tax credit on IRB-financed manufacturing equipment is not just the rebate of a tax already paid.

New Mexico Industrial Development Training Program

General Explanation: The New Mexico In-Plant Training Program provides classroom and on-the-job training. The company itself selects eligible workers, from its entire labor pool. This program is directed primarily toward manufacturers although, under some circumstances, it can be used to assist businesses in the service sector.

Maximum training is 1,040 hours with the program paying one-half of the training employees wages (In rural areas it pays 75% of the wages.).

Detailed Explanation: The program provides both classroom and on-the-job training. It is not restricted to economically disadvantaged persons. The employer chooses eligible workers from the entire labor pool, and final selection rests solely with the employer. Trainees must be New Mexico residents. If a project employs more than 1,500 people and the resident labor force within a 50 mile radius of the project location is not sufficient to fill the full-time equivalent positions requirements as determined by the New Mexico Department of Labor, the residency requirements may be waived. In addition, preference for training shall be given to New Mexico residents and no less than 50% of the project's work force shall be residents of New Mexico.

This program places an emphasis on industries that manufacture or assemble a product. Under some circumstances assistance can be provided to non-retail businesses in the service sector. The principal factor in evaluating proposals from service sector businesses is the extent to which the service being provided is exported to other states, or will reduce the need to import a similar service to New Mexico.

Costs that are reimbursable include:

Training costs will be reimbursed to the company based on the project summary written in the contract. The rates must not exceed fifty percent of the trainees' hourly wages multiplied by the hours of the training attended. Businesses outside the city limits of Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Las Cruces and Rio Rancho will be reimbursed at 75% unless the company has fewer than 20 employees; then the company will be reimbursed at 80%. If a company is located in an economically distressed area of New Mexico, the said company is eligible for 80 percent reimbursement, unless the company has fewer than 20 employees, then the company will be reimbursed at 90%.

- On the job trainees' starting hourly wage, up to 1,040 hours, at 50%. In rural areas reimbursement can be up to 75% of the hourly wage.
- Outside or consultant trainer, at 50% of travel and per diem.
- Trainee travel and per diem, at 50%.
- Educational institutions, trainers' wages and instructional materials, at 100%

Program restrictions:

- Training applicants must be residents of New Mexico for one year or more and be of legal status for employment. (Unless residential requirements are waived.)
- Trainees must be guaranteed full-time year-round employment with the company upon successful completion of the course.
- At the end of the program, the company will arrange for a compliance audit from an independent accounting firm.
- The In-Plant Training Board uses the Dictionary of Occupational Titles and Specific Vocational Programs (DOT-SVP) as a guide in setting training hours.

Rural Jobs Tax Credit

A 6.25% credit may be applied against Personal Income Tax liability or Corporate Income Tax liability for jobs created and maintained in qualifying rural areas of New Mexico. The credit is applied against the first \$16,000 of wages paid to a qualifying employee and may be claimed for up to four years. A taxpayer may not claim the credit for amounts in excess of \$4,000 per rural job created in a tier one location (municipality with population of less than 15,000), or \$2,000 per rural job created in a tier two location (any qualifying location not included in tier one). Application of the rural job tax credit to employee wages is dependent on prior qualification by that employee in the Industrial Development Training Program.

Industrial Revenue Bonds

There are two types of industrial revenue bonds in New Mexico, tax exempt IRBs and taxable IRBs. Both are exempt from property taxes. However, the tax exempt IRBs are also exempt from the payment of federal and state income tax on the interest on the bonds. This feature provides a lower interest rate. There is a federal cap on the annual issuance of tax exempt IRBs by states. In New Mexico, the cap is \$150 million, and of this amount, only 25% (\$37.5 million) has been allocated to industrial projects. The balance is allocated to low-income housing and educational projects. In New Mexico, tax exempt IRBs must also be approved by the State Board of Finance. There is no similar cap on taxable IRBs. The vast majority of IRBs issued to date in New Mexico have been taxable.

IRBs are not the general obligation of the municipality or county, and the bonds are payable solely out of revenue derived from the projects. An eligible IRB project includes real and personal property deemed necessary for: (1) manufacturing, processing or assembling any agricultural or manufactured products, (2) storing, warehousing, distributing or selling agricultural, mining or industrial products (but not for retail or the distribution of a public utility), (3) supplying services to the general public or to governmental agencies, (4) water distribution or irrigation systems designed to provide water to any vineyard or winery, (5) hospitals and non-profit health care corporations including nursing homes, and (6) non-profit and/or private institutions of higher education.

Industrial Revenue Bond – Property Tax Exemption

At a city or county government's option, property acquired under the (Municipal) Industrial Revenue Bond (IRB) Act (Section 3-32-1 NMSA 1978), the County Industrial Revenue Bond Act (Section 4-59-1

NMSA 1978), and/or the Pollution Control Revenue Bond Act (Section 3-59-1 NMSA 1978) may be exempt from some or all property taxes as long as there is an outstanding bonded indebtedness under the terms of the bond with a maximum term of 30 years. Property finances with IRBs in New Mexico is titled in the name of the local government. It is this feature which provides the tax exemption, since local governments do not pay property tax on their own property.

The property tax exemption may apply to all property taxes paid to state and local governments, which varies by county and by city depending upon the mill levies. At the local government's option, some property taxes may be excluded from this exemption. The term of the property tax exemption is also negotiable. Local governments also have the option to negotiate other conditions, such as payments in lieu of taxes, water conservation, and environmental liability protections, before approving an IRB. Property financed by IRBs can be held under a lease from a county or municipality, or the property can be sold and remain free of property tax as long as the county or municipality has a mortgage lien on the property.

IRBs can be approved only by the county or the city government in which the property will be located. However, the property tax exemption may apply to all governmental organizations which share in the property tax, e.g. school district, community college, county and the State of New Mexico.

Industrial Revenue Bond – Gross Receipts Tax Deduction

Equipment that goes into a plant financed with industrial revenue bonds is exempt from the gross receipts or compensating tax of 5%.

Enterprise Zones

The New Mexico Enterprise Zone (EZ) Program is designed to stimulate job creation and revitalize economically distressed areas. The EZ Program can assist communities in their development efforts through an incentive program which can include the following:

- Tax credits to property owners for the rehabilitation of qualified business facilities.
- Tax increment method of financing for local enterprise zone projects.
- Preferential consideration from the state housing program.
- Local property tax abatement for up to ten years on qualified property. (Property must be owned by the local government entity.)
- Fast tracking of infrastructure projects.

In addition to the state enterprise zones, there are two federally designated Enterprise Communities in New Mexico.

Enterprise Zone – Tax Increment Financing

By majority vote from the entities that utilize the property, tax receipts will forego the incremental difference in the property taxes in the enterprise zone for up to five years.

The incremental change between the base property value and the new value is set-aside in a local enterprise zone fund.

All entities receive property tax receipts up to the base valuation on the property taxes collected in the enterprise zone.

The local government administering an enterprise zone may elect by resolution to use the tax increment procedures set forth in Section 11 5-9-11 NMSA 1978 of the Enterprise Zone Act for financing enterprise zone projects. Such procedures may be used in addition or in conjunction with other methods provided by law for financing such projects.

The tax increment method of financing enterprise zone projects is the dedication for further use in the enterprise zone projects of that increase in property tax revenue directly resulting from the increased net taxable value of a parcel of project property attributable to its rehabilitation, redevelopment or other improvement because of its inclusion within an enterprise zone project.

Local Economic Development Assistance

In 1994 New Mexicans approved a constitutional amendment which permits local governments to offer incentives of land, buildings and infrastructure to existing and new businesses. Assistance is limited to manufacturing, warehousing, distribution and telemarketing operations. A local government may invest up to 5% of its general fund budget in one year. The value of any land or building contributed to any project shall not be subject to this limit. To be approved, a project must have already been approved by ordinance from the granting local government and must ensure the creation of new jobs.

800 and WATS Line Tax Exemption

A deduction for gross receipts from WATS/800 numbers and certain private communication services is available.

Personal Property Tax Exemption

A 1991 law entitled the Development Incentive Act (Section 3-64-1 to 5 NMSA 1978) allows most counties and municipalities to adopt a resolution exempting the commercial personal property of a new business facility located in the county or municipality.

This may be as much as 50% of the assessed value, for a period of up to five years. The Act includes company expansions, if investment in the expansion exceeds \$1 million, and employs at least ten more workers.

Personal property being transported for interstate commerce or consigned to a warehouse or factor in New Mexico from outside the state or for purposes of storage, manufacturing, processing or fabricating and which is in transit to a final destination outside the state is exempt from taxation. This is the “Freeport Law”, which is protected by the state constitution. Also exempt from property taxes are the following: business inventories held for resale, licensed vehicles and personal household effects.

Double Weighted Sales Apportioning Corporate Income Tax

Use of a four-factor formula in computing New Mexico State income tax on corporations can save money for corporations that do the majority of their sales outside the state.

Before January 1995, income to New Mexico for Multi-State Corporations apportioned corporate income to NM based upon a three-factor formula using the sales, payroll and property located in NM as a percentage of total corporate sales, payroll and property. Each factor got an equal, one-third weight in the distribution formula. Now, at the corporation’s option, the formula provides a double weight for sales. Thus, sales have a one-half weight, while payroll and property have one-quarter weight each. This provides a reduction in state corporate income taxes for corporations that are export orientated. These corporations have a small percentage of total corporate sales in New Mexico, and this small percentage of sales now gets double weighting in the apportionment of corporate-wide income to New Mexico.

Tax Credit

New Mexico allows the following two tax credits against corporate income tax liability:

- Child daycare credit of up to 30% of eligible costs of providing or paying for certain childcare services for employees’ children. Unused amounts may be carried forward three consecutive years.
- Cultural property preservation credit of up to \$25,000 or 50% of costs of restoring or rehabilitating property listed on the New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties. Unused amounts may be carried forward four consecutive years.

Research and Development Tax Reduction

Research and development services produced by a business with a New Mexico office but sold for initial use to an out-of-state buyer, and delivered out-of-state is not charged gross receipts tax.

Utilities

Communications

Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative

*1500 N. Love Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505) 370-5010
1-800-851-5010
www.leaco.net*

Leaco provides many types of telecommunications solutions for Lea County. These include the following:

- Telephone – Sales, Service, Networking, Voice Mail Systems, PBX & Key Business Systems
- Cellular – Six second increment billing, free long distance to a variety of area codes
- Internet – Unlimited access, expert technical staff, web page development & design, high speed ADSL connections available.
- PCS – Super Cordless-Personal Communication System
- Wireless TV – Wireless Cable Service, quality family programming
- Pagers – Sales & Service, New Mexico & West Texas Coverage Area, local & 800 numbers, alpha numeric & numeric pagers.

GTE Southwest, Inc.

*P.O. Box 130
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505) 393-4700
1-800-483-5400
www.gte.com*

Phone service to Lea County, New Mexico is currently being provided by GTE. The service provided is a fully computerized, digital switching system. These switching systems are non-blocking relative to the call volume they can accommodate, and have the capacity to offer a full array of custom calling features. The system is extremely flexible in its ability to adapt to a wide range of customer-calling requirements and are expandable to handle almost any line/trunk demands.

Long distance trunking utilized fully networks and can accommodate any high-speed data requirements. Long distance routes not only utilize digital radio, but are also served via fiber networks, These facilities also provide fully equal access capabilities to private inter-exchange carriers.

Electricity

Southwestern Public Service Company

***525 E. Bender Street
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505) 391-3251
www.ncenergies.com***

Southwestern Public Service Company is an operating company of New Century Energies (NCE). NCE is one of the nation's largest geographic electricity and natural gas companies, serving approximately four million people in the states of Colorado, Texas, New Mexico, Wyoming, Kansas and Oklahoma. The new investor-owned company trades under the NCE symbol on the New York Stock Exchange.

New Century Energies includes the operating companies of Public Service Company of Colorado, Southwestern Public Service Company, Cheyenne Light Fuel and Power Company and WestGas Interstate, Inc. Other key subsidiaries include e'prime, Natural Fuels, Quixx, Utility Engineering and New Century International, which owns a 50 percent interest in Yorkshire Electricity Group, plc. In August 1995, Public Service Company of Colorado merged with Amarillo-based Southwestern Public Service Company and Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power, to form New Century Energies. The new holding company has operating revenues of approximately \$3.1 billion and serves more than 1.5 million electric customers and 995,000 natural gas customers. NCE employs approximately 6,300 employees, with corporate headquarters in Denver, Colorado.

Areas Served: Cities of Eunice, Hobbs & Jal

Residential Service

APPLICABLE: To residential customers for electric service used for domestic purposes in private residences and separately metered individual apartments when all service is supplied at one point of delivery, and measured through one kilowatt hour meter, where facilities of adequate capacity and suitable voltage are adjacent to the premises to be served. Single phase motors not to exceed 10 horsepower, individual capacity, may be served under this rate.

RATE: Service availability charge: \$4.75 per month.
5.665 cents per kWh for all kWh used per month.

Electric Living Services

(1) Water heating - When customer has in regular use a permanently installed, non-supplemented, 240 volt, 30 gallons or greater, storage type water heater of not greater than 5.5 kilowatts, individual rated capacity, the first 500 kWh will be billed at the regular rate, the next 500 kWh at 3.535 cents per kWh, and all additional kWh at the regular rate.

(2) All-Electric Space Heating - When customer has in regular use permanently installed space heating equipment of an aggregate rated capacity of 3 kilowatts or more, excluding bathroom heaters, billing during the winter months will be the first 500 kWh at the regular rate, and all additional kWh at 2.955 cents per kWh.

When customer has water heating in combination with all-electric space heating, the first 500 kWh will be billed at the regular rate, the next 500 kWh at 3.535 cents per kWh, and all additional kWh at 2.955 cents per kWh.

(3) Add-On Heat Pump - When customer has in regular use a permanently installed heat pump used as the primary heat source for the entire residence in conjunction with a gas or oil fired furnace for extreme cold weather backup, billing during the winter months will be the first 600 kWh at the regular rate and all additional kWh at 2.955 cents per kWh. When customer has water heating in combination with the add-on heat pump, the first 600 kWh will be billed at the regular rate, the next 500 kWh at 3.535 cents per kWh and all additional kWh at 2.955 cents per kWh.

WINTER MONTHS: The billing months of November through May.

FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT: The charge per kWh of the above rate shall be increased or decreased by the amount that the Company's average cost of fuel and purchased power per kWh delivered exceeds or is less than \$0.1975 per kWh, as specified by General Order of the New Mexico Public Service Commission.

TAX ADJUSTMENT: Billings under this schedule may be increased by an amount equal to the sum of the taxes payable under the Gross Receipts and Compensating Tax Act and of all other taxes, fees, or charges payable by the utility and levied or assessed by any governmental authority on the public utility service rendered, or on the right or privilege of rendering the service, or on any object or event incidental to the rendition of the service.

AVERAGE BILLING PLAN: Upon request, any customer may be billed monthly, based upon his average bill, plus a portion of any unbilled balance. All electric home customers will be billed hereunder, unless regular billing is requested.

General Service

APPLICABLE: To all commercial and industrial electric service supplied at one point of delivery, and measured through one kilowatt hour meter, where facilities of adequate capacity and suitable voltage are adjacent to the premises to be served. Water heating and space heating service will be furnished in conjunction with the Company's standard Heating Rider.

Not applicable to temporary, breakdown, standby, supplementary, resale or shared service, or to service for which a specified rate schedule is provided.

RATE: Service availability charge: \$10.00 per month
8.285 cents per kWh for the first 1,000 kWh used per month *
4.255 cents per kWh for the next 6,000 kWh used per month
3.075 cents per kWh for the next 6,000 kWh used per month
2.595 cents per kWh for all additional kWh used per month

- Add to the 8.285 cents block 150 kWh for each kW of demand in excess of 10 kW.

DEMAND: The Company will furnish at its expense the necessary metering equipment to measure the customer's kW demand for the 30-minute period of greatest use during the month.

FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT: The charge per kWh of the above rate shall be increased or decrease by the amount that the Company's average cost of fuel and purchased power per kWh delivered exceeds or is less than \$0.1975 per kWh, as specified by NMPUC Rule 550.

TAX ADJUSTMENT: Billings under this schedule may be increased by an amount equal to the sum of the taxes payable under the Gross Receipts and Compensating Tax Act and of all other taxes, fees, or charges payable by the utility and levied or assessed by any governmental authority on the public utility service rendered, or on the right or privilege of rendering the service, or on any object or event incidental to the rendition of the service.

MONTHLY MINIMUM: \$10.00 per month for demands of 10 kW or less, plus \$3.40 per kW for next 15 kW, above 10 kW, plus \$2.30 per kW for all additional kW. No demand shall be taken as less than 50% of highest billing demand established in 12 months ending with current month.

Large General Service

APPLICABLE: Under contract to all commercial and industrial electric service supplied at one point of delivery, and measured through one kilowatt-hour meter, where facilities of adequate capacity and suitable voltage are adjacent to the premises to be served.

- Not applicable to temporary, breakdown, standby, supplementary, resale or shared service.

RATE: Demand Charge: \$1654.00 for the first 200 kW, or less, of demand per month.
\$7.76 per kW for all additional kW of demand per month.

Energy Charge: 2.505 cents per kWh for the first 230 kWh used per month per kW of demand, or the first 120,000 kWh used per month, whichever is greater.
2.205 cents per kWh for the next 230 kWh used per month per kW of demand.

DETERMINATION OF DEMAND: The kW determined from the Company's meter for the 30-minute period of customer's greatest kW use during the month, but not less than 60% of the highest demand established in the preceding eleven months.

POWER FACTOR ADJUSTMENT: Bills computed under the above rate will be increased \$0.25 for each kvar by which the reactive demand exceeds, numerically, 0.53 times the measured kW demand, and will be reduced \$0.25 for each kvar by which the reactive demand is less than, numerically, 0.40 times the measured kW demand.

PRIMARY SERVICE DISCOUNT: A discount of 1.5% of demand, energy and power factor adjustment will be allowed when service is supplied at a line voltage of 12 kv, or greater, and no transformation is made by the Company at the customer's location.

FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT: The charge per kWh of the above rate shall be increased or decreased by the amount that the Company's average cost of fuel and purchased power per kWh delivered exceeds or is less than \$.01975 per kWh, as specified by NMPUC Rule 550.

TAX ADJUSTMENT: Billings under this schedule may be increased by an amount equal to the sum of the taxes payable under the Gross Receipts and Compensating Tax Act and of all other taxes, fees, or charges payable by the utility and levied or assessed by any governmental authority on the public utility service rendered, or on the right or privilege of rendering the service, or on any object or event incidental to the rendition of the service.

CONTRACT PERIOD: One year or longer.

The average U.S. Industrial rate is nearly 51% higher than the SPS rate. A comparison of industrial electrical rates ranks SPS the 181st lowest out of the 206 top national companies. The national average industrial rate is 5.39 cents per kilowatt-hour; the SPS average industrial rate is only 3.57 cents per kilowatt-hour.

SPS rates for commercial customers are lower than the average of any of the nine U.S. Census regions. A comparison of commercial electrical rates ranks SPS the 149th lowest out of the 212 top national companies. Then national average commercial rate is 8.25 cents per kilowatt hour; the SPS rate is more than 20% lower at 6.56 cents.

Average rate per kWh: Residential.....6.19 cents
Commercial.....5.59 cents
Industrial.....3.68 cents

Average annual consumption per residential customer: 8,770 kWh

Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc

***18 W. Washington
Lovington, NM 88260
(505) 369-3339
1-800-510-5232
www.lcecnet.com***

One of the top electric cooperatives in the nation, Lea County Electric Cooperative is located on the plains of Southeast New Mexico and West Texas. Lea County Electric was founded in 1949 and serves over 13,000 consumers. They offer some of the most competitive rates in the country. Cost estimates are available upon request.

Lea County Areas Served: Cities of Lovington and Tatum

Residential Service

Availability and Applicability

Available to all individual residential consumers and churches served by the cooperative. All service shall be single-phase.

NET RATE PER MONTH OR PART THEREOF PER DWELLING UNIT

First	50 KWH	@	\$4.85 Minimum
Next	150 KWH		.06657 Per KWH
Next	800 KWH		.05757 Per KWH
Over	1000 KWH		.04757 Per KWH

The foregoing rates are subject to the minimum charge, fuel cost and tax adjustment, and other provisions as hereinafter set forth.

Commercial

AVAILABILITY: Available and applicable system-wide for single and/or three-phase service for all nonresidential use not specified in cooperative's residential schedule. All service shall be in accordance with the provisions set forth herein and shall be subject to cooperative's rules on file with the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission.

DEMAND CHARGE: First 25 kW of Billing Demand No charge
Additional kW of Billing Demand \$1.60 per kW

ENERGY CHARGE:	First 50 kWh or less @	\$4.00 minimum
	Next 650 kWh	\$.066 per kWh
	Next 800 kWh	\$.057 per kWh
	Next 1,500 kWh	\$.052 per kWh
	Next 3,000 kWh	\$.048 per kWh
	Additional kWh	\$.045 per kWh

All billing under the above rates are subject to the minimum charge, fuel cost and tax adjustment, and other provisions set forth herein.

DETERMINATION OF BILLING DEMAND

The KW billing demand shall be the highest measured 15 minute integrated or equivalent thermal KW demand determined to the nearest KW by means of suitable metering equipment, but not less than the minimum billing demand specified in consumer's service application or contract with cooperative. Cooperative reserves the right to determine the KW demand by means of periodic metered tests.

MONTHLY MINIMUM CHARGE PER SERVICE

The minimum charge shall be determined in accordance with the type of service furnished as follows:

A. For single-phase service only: Where capacity metering equipment is not installed under Rate 10, the basic minimum charge shall be \$4.00. Said basic minimum charge is subject to an increase of 75 cents for each KVA of installed or allocated transformer capacity in excess of five KVA.

B. For three-phase service only: The minimum charge shall be 75 cents for each KVA of installed or allocated transformer capacity, but not less than \$10.00 nor less than the minimum charge specified by contract. Except previously specified, seasonal or other disconnection of three-phase service shall not affect or eliminate the applicable three-phase minimum charge.

Natural Gas

Zia Natural Gas Company

**510 South Bender
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505) 393-5105**

Zia Natural Gas Company, serving Hobbs and Jal with clean, economic energy since 1928, provides natural gas to over 21,000 customers in New Mexico.

In keeping with the company's commitment to bring the convenience and affordability of natural gas to communities that do not have the natural gas advantage, Zia installed distribution lines to the "stateline" as well as other areas where gas service was previously unavailable.

Zia proudly supports the communities it serves through civic donations and college scholarships. Regular service and office hours are maintained by 22 employees in Lea County

The New Mexico Public Regulatory commission regulates the company's rates.

Public Service Company of New Mexico

**PNM Gas Service
P.O. Box 1324
Lovington, NM 88260
(505) 396-6661
www.pnm.com**

The Public Service Company of New Mexico serves the Lea County Cities of Eunice, Lovington and Tatum. PNM is an integrated energy company that provides electric and natural gas service to more than 1.3 million people in the State of New Mexico, markets power to wholesale customers throughout the U.S., and offers a comprehensive range of energy and water management services to municipalities, government agencies and other institutional clients.

Residential Rates:

Base Charge per month	\$9.00-14.00
Cost of Service Rate per MCF	\$1.377-1.051
Cost of Gas Rate per MCF	\$2.512

Commercial Rates (less than 20,000 therms):

Base Charge per month	\$13.50
Cost of Service Rate per MCF	\$1.051
Cost of Gas Rate per MCF	\$2.5120

Industrial Rates(less than 200,000 mcf):

Base Charge per month	\$60.00
Cost of Service Rate per MCF	\$.874
Cost of Gas Rate per MCF	\$2.5120

Large industrial customers above 200,000 mcf per year are negotiated per Rate 58 filed with the Public Regulation Commission.

Water

City of Eunice

The water system for Eunice is supplied by the City from eight separate wells located at various locations throughout Lea County.

Rates Available upon Request

City of Hobbs

The Ogallala Aquifer is the source of the City of Hobbs water and our distribution system consists of 26 wells representing a total average pumpage of 246,178,667 gallons per month. The water, upon reaching the surface, is chlorinated at the reservoir collection site before being discharged into the distribution system.

The City of Hobbs water distribution system is make up of approximately 200 miles of water line and the maintenance and upkeep of those lines is a full time job. On the average, 200 feet of water line is replaced and/or installed on a monthly basis. An ongoing maintenance program is in place and city crews are continually working toward a goal of 100 percent efficiency.

The City employs a full time certified Bacteriologist who performs approximately 663 water tests per month on the water supplied through the distribution system. These tests are performed in order to meet stringent State and Federal guidelines that provide for safe drinking water. The City's Bacteriologist is also available to perform testing on private water well samples for a small fee.

The City's sewer system consists of approximately 190 miles of line. Approximately 479 sewer stoppages, representing 222,600 feet of sewer line, were cleaned and/or replaced during fiscal year 1993-1994.

All water discharged into the City's sewer system eventually makes its way back to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This plant, built in 1980, processes approximately 4 million gallons of wastewater per day and is capable of handling up to 6 million gallons of wastewater per day at peak times. Operation of the plant is overseen by a Level IV Certified Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator.

Hobbs Water Components

Acidity	11.80 mg/L	Alkalinity	181.00 mg/L
Bicarbonate	181.00 mg/L	Calcium	122.00 mg/L
Carbonate	0.00 mg/L	Chloride	99.70 mg/L
Chlorine, Total	0.01 mg/L	Copper	0.08 mg/L
Dissolved Oxygen	6.21 mg/L	Fluoride	0.92 mg/L
Hardness, Total	295.00 mg/L	Magnesium	82.00 mg/L
Nitrate	3.40 mg/L	Sodium	53.00 mg/L
Sulfate	113.00 mg/L	TDS	476.00 mg/L
Phosphorus	0.2090 mg/L	Iron, Total	0.1398 mg/L
Manganese	0.1476 mg/L	Turbidity	1.58 FTU
Temperature	22.00 C	Color	0.00 Units
Conductivity	901.00 ms	pH	7.09

Rates Available upon Request.

City of Lovington

Presently the City of Lovington employs thirteen individuals in the distribution and collection of utilities.

The Ogallala Aquifer is the source of the City's water and the distribution system consists of fourteen wells representing a total average pumpage of 70,000,000 gallons per month. The water upon reaching the surface is chlorinated at the reservoir site before being discharged into the distribution system. All required tests are preformed in order to meet stringent state and federal guidelines to provide for safe drinking water.

Rates Available upon Request

City of Tatum

The water system for the Town of Tatum was installed in 1953 with a 100,000-gallon overhead tank. New water mains replacing older mains were installed in 1972. In 1992 the town opened a new water field Northwest of Tatum with three new wells capable of pumping one thousand and fifty gallons per minute pumping from underground water tables. The wells are approximately eighty-five feet deep. We have a protected well head of forty acres around wells. Three more wells can be drilled in this area.

Current water rates for the Town of Tatum are as follows:

RESIDENTIAL:	0 - 3,000 gallons.....	\$5.00
	Each 1,000 gallons thereafter	\$1.20
DUPLEX:	0 - 5,000 gallons.....	\$7.00
	Each 1,000 gallons thereafter.....	\$1.35

City of Jal

Jal water is supplied by the City from five water wells located southwest of Jal.

Rates Available upon Request

Transportation

Highway

Lea County is located on four lane U.S. Highway 62-180. Under the National Highway System, U.S. Highway 62-180 is designated as a primary feeder to the interstate system. Interstate access within 90 miles includes Interstate 10, Interstate 20, and Interstate 27.

Air Service

Lea County Airport, Hobbs, New Mexico.
FAA Certified. Control tower (6 a.m. - 10 p.m. daily).
Maximum runway length 7400 feet.

Lovington Airport, Lovington, New Mexico.
Private facility maintained by Lea County. Charter service available.
Two runways; 6000 feet and 4400 feet.

Tatum Airport, Tatum, New Mexico.
Private facility maintained by Lea County.
Two runways; 2990 feet and 2920 feet.

Eunice Airport, Eunice, New Mexico
Private facility maintained by Lea County.

Jal Airport, Jal, New Mexico.
Private facility maintained by Lea County.
Two runways; 4500 feet and 3500 feet.

Passenger and Commercial Air Service

The Lea County Airport is located in Hobbs and is currently served by Mesa Airlines, a certified air carrier. They offer three flights daily, five days per week, and two flights on the weekend to and from Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The Midland/Odessa International Airport is approximately 100 miles from Hobbs. It is served by Southwest, American Eagle, and Continental.

The Lubbock International Airport is 120 miles from Hobbs and is served by Southwest, Delta, American Eagle, American, and Continental Express.

Rail Service

Lea County is served by the Texas-New Mexico Railroad, an operating division of Austin and Northwestern Railroad Company. Service to Lea County is provided on Mondays and Thursdays.

The Texas-New Mexico Railroad interchanges rail traffic at Monahans, Texas, with the Union Pacific Railroad that provides service to the east. Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad along with Southern Pacific Railroad interchange with westbound Union Pacific Railroad in El Paso, Texas, providing service access to the Western United States. Rail interchange to Mexico is also available through the Union Pacific at ports along the border.

The location of the nearest switching yard with piggyback service is either Lubbock or Amarillo, Texas with some through El Paso. General transit time by rail from the Hobbs Industrial Air Park site to Los Angeles, California is six days.

Texas-New Mexico Railroad's local on site management provides flexible service schedules to meet customer's needs and priorities.

Bus Service

TNM&O Coaches: Bus station is open from 7 a.m. - noon and 12:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Open 7 a.m. - 11 a.m. on Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. on Saturday. Freight service is also provided.

Four buses going east and three going west daily from Hobbs. Stops made in Jal, Eunice and Lovington.

Trucking

The following is a listing of common carriers with terminals in Lea County:

Company: Merchant Fast Motor Lines
Contact: N/A
Address: West Sanger
Hobbs, NM 88240
Service: LTL General Commodities

Company: Sun Freightway
Contact: Ronnie Walker
Address: 808 West Taylor
Hobbs, NM 88240
Service: LTL General Commodities

The following is a listing of common carriers that also service the Hobbs area:

Company: Roadway Express
Contact: Linda Broom
Address: 601 E. College
Roswell, NM 88201
Service: LTL General Commodities

Company: Yellow Freight System, Inc.
Contact: N/A
Address: 110 E. 9th Str.
Roswell, NM 88201
Service: LTL General Commodities

The following is a listing of contract carriers providing bulk services in the area:

Company: General Petroleum, Inc.
Address: 1213 W. County Road
Hobbs, NM 88240

Company: Petro Thermo Corporation
Address: Broadmoor Petro Plaza West
Hobbs, NM 88240

Company: TAD Trucking
Address: 814 W. Marland
Hobbs, NM 88240

Company: XL Transportation
Address: 113 N. 3rd
Jal, NM 88230

Parcel Services

Federal Express
United Parcel Service
Airborne Express

Seaports (Within 500 miles of Lea County)

* Houston, TX * Corpus Christi, TX

Distance between Major Cities and Hobbs, NM

Atlanta, GA	1193
Billings, MT	1209
Boise, ID.....	1488
Boston, MA	2191
Chicago, IL.....	1288
Cleveland, OH.....	1554
Dallas, TX	412
Denver, CO.....	652
Des Moines, IA.....	1038
El Paso, TX	237
Houston, TX.....	642
Kansas City, MO	841
Las Vegas, NV	923
Little Rock, AR.....	737
Los Angeles, CA	1041
Mexico City.....	1000
Nashville, TN	1084
New Orleans, LA.....	930
New York, NY	1974
Oklahoma City, OK.....	495
Omaha, NE	1013
Phoenix, AZ	667
Portland, OR.....	1917
St. Louis, MO.....	990
Salt Lake City, UT.....	971
San Antonio, TX	480
San Diego, CA.....	965
San Francisco, CA.....	1423
Seattle, WA	1991
Washington, DC.....	1754

Emergency Services

Law Enforcement and Fire Departments

Eunice

The City of Eunice has a team of 6 police officers. The Fire Department consists of 23 volunteer fire fighters and has a class rating of 8.

Hobbs

The Hobbs Police Department has a sixteen member Tactical Response Team. The members of the team are highly trained in their specific team function. The City has 75 police officers, 1 sheriff and 30 deputy sheriffs. The team is also equipped with the latest state of the art equipment and firearms.

The training and equipment is provided to the team so that they may be prepared to deal with incidents that are inherently dangerous and difficult to handle by the individual police officer. These situations might be anything from a hostage situation to a high risk search warrant.

The Hobbs Police Department Tactical Response Team is available to other law enforcement agencies upon request. The Team has assisted other agencies in Lea County and the Department of Immigration and Naturalization.

Hobbs has 3 fire stations and 72 employees that are cross-trained as EMT's and firefighters. The Fire Department teams specialize in high angle rescue, hazardous material and airport fires. Their equipment consists of 5 attack pumpers, 5 ambulances, 2 rescue units and 1 aerial platform. Hobbs Fire Department has a class rating of 4.

Jal

The City of Jal has a team of 6 police officers. The Jal Fire Department consists of 19 volunteer fire fighters and has a class rating of 8.

Lovington

The City of Lovington has a team of 24 police officers, 1 sheriff and 36 deputies.

Lovington has both fire and ambulance equipment and employs 16 full-time firemen and 14 part-time firemen. The City's fire equipment consists of 4 grassrig trucks, 2 tankers and 4 attack pumpers. The Lovington Fire Department has a class rating of 5.

Tatum

The City of Tatum has a team of 3 policemen/policewomen, 1 deputy sheriff and 1 State policeman. The Tatum Fire Department has 15 volunteer fire fighters and has a class rating of 7.

Medical

Eunice

The City of Eunice has one health clinic, Prime Care. The clinic offers complete medical care.

Hobbs

Lea Regional Hospital

Lea Regional is a modern, 250-bed acute care facility offering the critical resources of state-of-the-art medical equipment and highly skilled professionals. The hospital's medical staff is composed of dedicated physicians whose experience encompasses a wide range of specialty and sub-specialty areas. Lea Regional is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations which consists of the American College of Physicians, American College of Physicians, American College of Surgeons, American Medical Association, American Dental Association, and the American Hospital Association.

Surgery

Lea Regional's surgical suite consists of five operating rooms designed and equipped to provide the capability for procedures that range from general surgery to thoracic, vascular, orthopedic, neurosurgery, and laparoscopic procedures. The cystoscopy room is employed for urological procedures. Facilities also include highly sterile laminar flow operating room, used for total joint replacement and other types of bone surgery which demand a totally bacteria-free environment. Lea Regional's recovery room is staffed by registered nurses under the medical direction of an Anesthesiologist.

Intensive Care

Lea Regional is staffed and equipped to provide intensive care for any medical or post-surgical patient in critical condition. The hospital's seven bed unit offers this concentrated level of 24-hour care for both short-term and long-term patients. The hospital's ICU nurses have specialized backgrounds and all are trained and certified in advanced cardiac life-support. A computerized electronic system maintains constant surveillance of the patient's condition and performs a variety of critical functions including continuous cardiac monitoring.

Outpatient Services

In recent years, Lea Regional's outpatient surgery services have become increasingly popular. Many surgical procedures can be performed at Lea Regional without an overnight stay. At the hospital's outpatient surgery unit, patients are pre-admitted and arrive on the day of surgery. After surgery, they are joined by family in a very comfortable, private recovery room and are generally discharged within a few hours. Also available on an outpatient basis are laboratory services, x-ray, and physical therapy.

Laboratory Services

The hospital's Laboratory, which is under the direction of a board certified Pathologist is a modern, full-service lab serving Lea County. In addition to a full complement of advanced equipment, a number of Lea Regional's technologists are certified by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. Additionally, the Laboratory meets the extremely strict requirements of the American Association of Blood Banks. The facility is manned 24 hours a day and provides services on either an in-hospital or outpatient basis.

Health Sciences Library

The Health Science Library has a core curriculum of current journals both in hard copy and on microfiche and textbooks. The library belongs to the New Mexico Consortium of Biomedical and Hospital Libraries which allows us access to many texts/journal and other audio-visual materials not available in-house. The library has the ability to conduct computerized searching of medical information for the staff and physicians. This service provides our hospital staff up-to-date information on patient care.

Education

Lea Regional Hospital is accredited provider of Continuing Medical Education Credits and provides an average of one program per month to the Medical Staff. Education is also provided to patients through our closed circuit education program. Patients can request information on a variety of subjects and view this information on Channel 2 on any television in the hospital. If you would like additional information on our closed circuit education program, please talk to your nurse.

Medical Imaging

The Medical Imaging Department (historically called the "x-ray" or "radiology" department) at Lea Regional Hospital not only provides "x-ray" or "radiographs" but all the multi-modality diagnostic services needed to provide the community and Lea County complete and accurate diagnostic medical services.

The department has three "fluoroscopic" and general procedure rooms, one "orthopedic" or trauma room for emergency services, and one "tomographic" unit.

The Medical Imaging Department also provides other specialty services needed by the physicians and patients of this area. These specialty services include the Nuclear Medicine lab which uses "whole-body" imaging equipment, the Ultrasound lab for ultrasonic examinations of the abdomen, heart, vascular, and pelvis, the C-T lab for computerized tomography, and a two-day a week mobile "MR" (Magnetic Resonance) service.

Another area which has received constant attention from newspaper and television media is the "mammography" lab. This area is now being regulated by the American College of Radiology and is supported by the American Cancer Society. Lea Regional Hospital provides dedicated mammography equipment for its patients and meets the necessary guidelines. The department has recently obtained certification.

Orthopedic/Neurosurgical Unit

Lea Regional Hospital's Ortho/Neuro Unit is devoted to the care of patients experiencing musculoskeletal and neurosurgical disorders. Included in this area of care are those patients having had total joint replacements, trauma that involves the extremities, fractures, back injuries, back surgery, and head trauma.

Blood Analysis

A full range of critical blood testing techniques are employed at Lea Regional. Analysis of blood serum provides highly accurate chemical profiles in as many as 21 separate tests. The laboratory also performs therapeutic drug monitoring, using blood samples for dosage determinations and to offer adequate safeguards when potentially toxic drugs are required. Complete blood count tests are conducted when looking for infections or anemia. The laboratory also performs coagulation testing for patients entering surgery or for those being administered blood thinner therapy. Through the testing facilities of the United Blood Services, Lea Regional is able to assure patients that the hospital blood supplies are free from all types of contamination.

Microbiology and Histology

The microbiology section of Lea Regional's laboratory prepares, cultivates and analyzes cultures in the search for invasive organisms. Computerized printouts are so definitive that, in addition to identifying the organism, they can also specify the appropriate medication. The histology laboratory is available for the immediate examination of surgical specimens for cancerous growth or other tissue abnormalities and conducts PAP tests for cervical cancer.

Pharmacy

Lea Regional Hospital's fully computerized, inpatient pharmacy is staffed by licensed pharmacists who are responsible for dispensing all intravenous and unit-dose oral medications, including chemotherapy. The hospital's carefully administered unit-dose medication policy is an assurance that patients receive only their prescribed medication in the precisely specifies amounts and that the medication remains sterile until the time of administration to the patient. The Pharmacists continuously monitor patient medication therapy to prevent medication and food interactions.

Obstetrics

Lea Regional's involvement with expectant mother often begins during pregnancy with outpatient testing that monitors the progress of both mother and child. Included are OCT (Oxytocin Challenge Test) and non-stress tests as well as ultrasound diagnostic testing which provides visual imaging of the unborn baby. Upon admittance, the hospital offers labor rooms with Corometric fetal monitors that keep a close watch on mother and child throughout labor. Lea Regional is fully equipped to handle all types of deliveries, and, once out of recovery, the mother completes her stay in the pleasant atmosphere of the hospital's maternity wing.

Newborn Nursery

With an annual average of more than 800 deliveries, Lea Regional maintains nursery facilities to accommodate both normal and special-problem arrivals, including premature births. In addition to the newborn nursery with space for approximately 16 bassinets, the hospital provides isolettes for babies requiring special care. Lea Regional maintains a neonatal special care unit under the supervision of a neonatologist, a physician whose specialty is the care of premature babies.

Pediatrics

For young children, a trip to the hospital means entry into a new and often strange environment. Recognizing the child's need for pleasant surroundings, Lea Regional provides a special pediatrics section for youngsters through the age of 17. The area has been designed and colorfully decorated to combine efficiency of care with a loving concern for the child's comfort.

Emergency Department

Lea Regional Hospital Emergency Department is equipped and fully staffed to respond to all types of medical emergencies on a 24-hour basis. A licensed physician is on-duty in the Emergency Department at all times and will attend to you promptly in the absence of your personal physician.

Cardiopulmonary Department

For cardiac and respiratory patients, the hospital offers both diagnostics and treatment through its Cardiopulmonary Department. Functions include arterial blood gases testing which determines breathing efficiency and provides data for corrective respiratory therapy. Also administered are pulmonary function tests, EKG (electrocardiogram) tests and holter monitoring. The department is also responsible for oxygen administration and respiratory ventilators in the intensive care area.

Physical Therapy

Optimum recovery from disease, surgery, or accident frequently depends on professionally supervised physical therapy. Lea Regional's Physical Therapy Department, staffed by specially trained therapists, operates under the direction of a physician specializing in physical and rehabilitative medicine. Physical therapy, also offered on an outpatient basis, includes joint therapy, pain control, burn therapy, and stroke rehabilitation.

Senior Adult Services

Senior Adult Services specializes in emotionally related problems of the elderly. The ranks of the elderly population are increasing! The relationship between physical and mental health becomes more obvious as one ages. Presently, the large majority of the elderly who have emotional problems are not being identified, evaluated or treated. Symptoms of confusion, disorientation, depression, paranoid behaviors and other mental-emotional problems in older people have been blamed on "just getting old." Without treatment, these problems may decrease the quality and length of life. Lea Regional Hospital's Senior Adult Services Unit provides unique inpatient treatment team to

evaluate and treat elderly patients with brain disorders, emotional disorders, medical problems with complicating emotional factors, as well as psychiatric disorders.

Physical Rehabilitation Unit

The primary mission of Lea Regional Physical Rehabilitation Unit is to focus on achieving basic skills that may allow independent living and working. When patients are referred to the Physical Rehabilitation Unit, they are considered by the physicians to be medically stable, have the potential to improve, and be able to start the rehabilitation program. Rehabilitation will address physical or medical problems, difficulties with activities of daily living, and specialized problems with feeding, communications, and self-care.

To help individuals regain their independence, they are encouraged to do as much for themselves as possible. This level of care offers a highly structured environment. The patients will be assisted in their individual efforts by professional staff members in a therapeutic setting.

Successful rehabilitation requires a healthy reintegration of the individual and family into their home and community. The transition from hospital to home requires the support of the Medical Director, nursing, physical, occupational, and speech therapists, social worker, psychologist, family members, family physician, and other rehabilitation team members.

Endoscopy

The Endoscopy Department offers a variety of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures using state of the art technique and instrumentation. Many disease processes associated with the gastrointestinal system can be successfully diagnosed and treated with the use of fiberoptic and computerized video equipment. These services are provided to our community by a caring staff of specially trained nursing personnel under the supervision of a board certified Gastroenterologist.

Adult Mental Health

Lea Regional Hospital's approach to mental health care involves a team of professionals who provide a structured environment and therapeutic program. The patient becomes a part of a team which includes a psychiatrist, medical physician, psychologist, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, mental health counselor, recreational therapist, social worker, and mental health technicians/aides. All treatment goals, strategies, problems, and progress are discussed and assessed by the professional team members on a regular basis and shared with the patient.

Lovington

Nor-Lea General Hospital

Nor-Lea General Hospital in Lovington, New Mexico is a joint commissioner accredited health care service. An affiliate of Southwest Community Health Services, Nor-Lea offers emergency room care, urgent care hours, acute care, in patient/out patient, laboratory/x-ray, and physical therapy services.

Prime Care

Prime Care offers a variety of medical services to the community of Lovington.

Jal

Jal Clinic

Medical services are provided to the City of Jal by the Jal Clinic. The clinic is staffed on a regularly scheduled basis by a doctor and nurses.

Senior Citizens

Lea County cares about their senior citizens and has excellent retirement homes and assisted-living apartments for mature adults. Nursing homes such as the Good Samaritan Village and La Siesta both offer skilled nursing care, physical therapy, planned activities, and a home like environment.

The Good Samaritan Retirement Village in Hobbs and Lovington also provides independent living apartments for Senior citizens. The apartments have affordable rates, 24 hour emergency call, housekeeping and laundry facilities, beauty/barber shop, complete security, and meals.

The Kensington in Hobbs is a unique assisted living community for mature adults. The facility offers three meals per day, transportation, complete social program, 24 hour staff service, emergency call, adult day care and much more.

Hospice Special Care Services

Today's Hospice movement has taken its name from the way-stations of medieval times, where pilgrims, travelers, the sick and the dying were given sensitive, tender care - - treated as special guests.

Hospice concentrates their efforts on terminally ill people and their families, helping them cope with the prospect of death. They take the view that death is as much a part of life as birth. And with proper care, the last period of someone's life can be a time of peace and growth.

They give special attention to the treatment of physical symptoms, the relief of pain, and the psychological and emotional distress of both patients and their families realizing that above all else, our patients are individuals with unique circumstances and spiritual concerns which have to be addressed and respected.

The Hospice Care Team is made up of volunteers and professionals who support the Hospice concept and have a strong sensitivity to the feelings and needs of others. Among them are licensed physicians, nurses, social workers, members of tea clergy and representatives of other professions as they are needed. Volunteers play an important role, since Hospice represents the entire community coming together to enhance life of terminally ill people. Many volunteers are needed in this effort, for visiting, office work, and special one-time tasks.

Quality of Life

Eunice

These include Stephens Lake, Marshall Park, and the Eunice Municipal Golf Course. Other recreational activities near the area are Carlsbad Caverns, Guadalupe National Park, Red Bluff Lake, and Brantley Lake.

Hobbs

Ocotillo Park Golf Course is an 18 hole facility with a driving range, fully equipped Pro Shop and Snack bar. Beautifully maintained by the City of Hobbs it is one of the finest courses in the Permian Basin. Ocotillo annually co-hosts one of the largest Pro-Am Tournaments in the State of New Mexico and is the home of the nationally ranked New Mexico Junior College Golf team and State Champion Hobbs High School golf team.

PGA members offers a variety of lesson programs to fit the needs of every golfer. Video lessons are available for more advanced students who will benefit from the state of the art equipment and innovative teaching techniques.

The City of Hobbs developed a bike route in 1984 to provide the safest recreational route to any bicyclist who chooses to use it.

Swimming is still considered one of the best sports for getting into shape. The three City pools see a great deal of usage by adult swimmers, although most don't visit the facilities just to "splash" around. The one indoor swimming pool in Hobbs hosts two year round programs which are geared with adults in mind. A special time is set aside for lap swimming and swimnastics (water aerobics) each week night. This designated time frame allows for utilization of the pool with no disturbances. Patrons pay a nominal fee for each of these services.

And, for those who do choose to "play" in the water, pools are open to the public throughout the year in the evenings and on the weekends and for extended daily hours during summer months. Daily admission fees are charged to all patrons. They may also purchase monthly or annual passes.

The New Mexico Junior College offers a variety of classes for both young and old alike. The college also provides facilities for public use for the citizens of Hobbs. They include an indoor golfing range, a fitness room, nautilus weightroom, 3 racquetball courts, basketball courts, volleyball, sauna's, outdoor track, tennis courts, complete dressing and shower facilities and library.

It is the goal of the City of Hobbs to provide recreational services and facilities to the citizens of Hobbs at little or no charge and to meet the individual needs of each citizen whether they by leisure or physical fitness.

The John J. Fletcher, Jr. Multi-purpose Center is available to the public for recreation uses such as basketball or volleyball, for meeting space and for special events

sponsored by non-profit, private, and profit-making organizations, including fund-raisers, dances, family reunions and conferences. The center houses a fully operational kitchen, four meeting rooms and a carpeted main gym area.

The Hobbs Public Library has numerous books recorded on audio cassette, large print books. The library does not charge Senior Citizens fines and they offer on-going armchair tours several times a year.

For the hunting enthusiasts, excellent trophy mule deer and antelope can be attained within five miles from any Lea County Community.

- Carlsbad Caverns is the most majestic cave ever discovered and is one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Located in Carlsbad, New Mexico, just seventy miles north of Hobbs, the Caverns attract tourists from all over the world.

Attractions

- Confederate Air Force Museum - New Mexico Wing of the Confederate Air Force.
- Lea County Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center.
- Linam Ranch Museum.
- Thelma Webber Southwest Heritage Room.
- Soaring Society of America.
- Harry McAdams State Park.
- Lea County Cultural Center.

Senior Citizens Activities

The City of Hobbs along with numerous other civic-minded organizations host a variety of activities for the adult population to take part in.

Of the 165,661 Senior Citizens in New Mexico, 6,597 reside in Lea County, with 3,000 alone in Hobbs, according to the 1980 census. Approximately 1,500 individuals are members of the Hobbs Senior Citizen's Center, which is probably the single largest entity for the older population in Lea County.

The Hobbs Senior Center provides the following services:

- 1.) Information and referral involves a comprehensive information service dealing with the particular needs of the Senior Citizen.

- 2.) Mailbox Alert involves a program between the Senior Center, Post Office, and Police Department. They have designed a mailbox alert program that will enable the elderly to alert their letter carrier to their need for emergency assistance.

- 3.) Health programs include diabetes screening, flu shots, glaucoma screening, hearing test, cholesterol screening, and blood pressure testing.

4.) Activities: Knitting, crocheting, exercise, dominos, dance practice, quilting, bingo, tournaments, Friday night dances, out-of-town trips, Senior Citizens Olympics, bridge, horseshoes, ping pong, pool, and various other games.

5.) Specialty classes: Ceramics, oil painting, lapidary, square dancing, round dancing, drawing, tennis, bridge, and clogging.

6.) The Center provides transportation for Senior Citizens 60 years and older. The Center workers provide pick-ups for area Senior Citizens' activities, doctor appointments and grocery shopping.

The Will Rogers Community Center may be reserved for use by educational, civic, cultural, and governmental groups when no admission fee is charged. Exceptions may be meetings sponsored by the City or approved non-profit educational groups or institutions for short-term workshops, institutes, discussion groups and forums involving nominal fees.

Jal

The City of Jal has five local parks, Jal Lake and a golf course. Fishing, golf, softball, water sports, hiking and camping are all activities available in the region. Other recreation facilities in the immediate area are Carlsbad Caverns, Guadalupe Mountains National Park, Red Bluff Lake, and Brantley Lake.

Lovington

Lovington has one golf course, ten tennis courts and an eighty acre park which includes a 20 acre lake. The park offers fishing, tennis, volleyball, basketball, softball, and a large assortment of playground equipment for the kids.

Tatum

The City of Tatum has a park, a community building and a community library. In addition, they are within driving distance for the following activities: soaring, golfing, rodeos, hiking, camping, snow skiing and boating.

Contacts

LEA COUNTY

The county is made up of the cities of Hobbs, Lovington, Eunice, Jal, and Tatum.

City of Eunice
1106 Avenue J
Eunice, NM 88231
(505)394-2576

City of Lovington
214 South Love Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505) 396-2884

City of Hobbs
300 North Turner
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)397-9200

City of Tatum
20 West Broadway
Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-4633

City of Jal
523 Main Street
Jal, NM 88252
(505)395-2222

County Government

Structure: Commission/Manager
Administrator: County Manager
Contact: Lea County Courthouse
100 North Main Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505) 396-8521

Key Government Contacts

County Manager
County Clerk
County Assessor

County Treasurer
Planning and Mapping
Road Department

Contact: Lea County Courthouse
100 North Main Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-8521

Utilities

Electricity

Supplied by Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Southwestern Public Service Company.

Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc. Southwestern Public Service Company

18 West Washington
Lovington, NM 88260
(505) 396-3631

221 East Dunham
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505) 391-3200

Natural Gas

Lea County is served by the Public Service Company of New Mexico and Zia Natural Gas.

Public Service Company of NM
P.O. Box 1324
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)394-6661

Zia Natural Gas
510 South Bender
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505) 393-5105

Communications

Phone Service

Local phone service for Lea County is presently provided by GTE Southwest, Inc., NTS Communications and Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative. Lea County also has enhanced 911 calling capabilities.

GTE Southwest, Inc.
Manager
320 North Shipp
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)393-8411

Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
General Manager
1500 North Love
Lovington, NM 88260
(505) 396-6209

Cellular Service

Cellular service is available in Lea County through a variety of private carriers.

Economic Development

EDC of Lea County
PO Box 1376
2702-B North Grimes
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)397-2039 * 800-443-2236

Small Business Development Center
NMJC
5317 Lovington Hwy.
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505) 392-4510

Economic Characteristics

The economy of the county is principally associated with various areas of the oil and gas industry including production, processing and distribution. Accordingly, support industries are prevalent including machining and tooling; chemical production, specialty construction, metal fabrication, transportation, etc.

In addition, this area is experiencing strong growth in the agri-business sector. This is in part due to the cutting edge production technology being utilized by the entrepreneurial farmers in the region. (Note: Area produce includes the following: vegetables, peanuts, cotton, chiles, etc.) Also the area is experiencing growth in milk production and processing as the area gains prominence in the dairy industry. The county is also showing strength in the manufacturing, environmental and transportation sectors.

Medical Information

Hospitals

The two hospitals in Lea County are Lea Regional Hospital and Nor-Lea General Hospital.

Lea Regional Hospital
5419 Lovington Highway
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)392-6581

Nor-Lea General Hospital
1600 North Main
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-6611

Clinics

Covenant Care
2410 North Fowler
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505) 392-5571

The Jal Clinic
101 East Panther Street
Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-3400

Tatum Medical Clinic
204 North Main
Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-2111

Prime Care Medical Clinic
2404 Avenue O
Eunice, NM 88231
(505)394-2587

Emergency Services

County Law Enforcement

Lea County Sheriff's Department
1923 North Dal Paso
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)393-2515

Lea County Sheriff's Department
215 East Central
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-3611

New Mexico State Police
400 West Gomez Boulevard
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)392-5588

Fire Department

Each municipality in the county has a fire department as well as three volunteer fire departments located at various locations in the county.

Knowles Fire Department
Pinson Drive
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)392-7469

Monument Fire Department
State Highway 302
Monument, NM 88265

Maljamar Fire Department
Highway 8
Maljamar, NM

Eunice

City Government

Structure: Mayor/Council
Administrator: Mayor
Contact: Municipal Offices
City of Eunice
1106 Avenue J
Eunice, NM 88231
(505)394-2576

Utilities

Water, Sewer, Waste Disposal

- Water is supplied by the City of Eunice from eight separate wells located at various locations throughout Lea County.
- The sewer is a city owned and operated lagoon type waste water treatment plant.
- Solid Waste Disposal is contracted out to Waste Management, Inc. Waste containers are provided in a variety of sizes, from 1.5 cubic yards to 8 cubic yards: pick-up once or twice a week. Any variation in size and pick-up schedule possible. Prices vary by size and frequency.

Contact: Municipal Offices
City of Eunice
1106 Avenue J
Eunice, NM 88231
(505)394-2576

Electricity

Supplied by Southwestern Public Service.
Contact: Southwestern Public Service Company
1512 Avenue J
Eunice, NM 88231
(505) 394-2579

Natural Gas

Eunice is served by the Public Service Company of New Mexico.

Contact: Public Service Company of New Mexico
1235 W. Avenue D
Lovington, NM 88260
(505) 394-2616

Communications

Phone Service

Local phone service for the City of Eunice is provided by GTE Southwest, Inc.

Contact: GTE Southwest, Inc.
Manager
1110 14th
Eunice, NM 88231
(505) 394-2813

Building Regulations

A building permit is required prior to the start of any construction project. The City of Hobbs Building Inspector is the contact for the permit in this community.

Contact: City of Hobbs
Building Inspector
300 North Turner
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)397-9234

Education

The School System in the City of Eunice consists of one elementary, one junior high and one high school that serves grades Kindergarten through Twelve. The school is small, yet it boasts some of the most modern facilities in the state including computer equipment and a natatorium.

Contact: Eunice Public Schools
Superintendent
1720 Avenue K
Eunice, NM 88231
(505) 394-2524

Hobbs

City Government

Structure: Commissioner/Management
Administrator: City Manager
Contact: Municipal Offices
City of Hobbs
300 North Turner
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)397-9200

Utilities

Water, Sewer, Waste Disposal

- Water is supplied by the City of Hobbs from 26 deep wells tapping into Ogalla Aquifer.

- The sewer is a City-owned Waste Water Treatment Plant and is an activated sludge type plant.

Contact: Municipal Offices
City of Hobbs
Utilities Division
300 North Turner
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)397-9216

- Solid waste disposal is contracted out to Waste Management, Inc. Waste containers are provided in a variety of sizes, from 1.5 cubic yards to 8 cubic yards: pick up twice a week. Any variation in size and pick-up schedule possible. Prices vary by size and frequency.

Contact: Waste Management-Southeast New Mexico
2608 Lovington Highway
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)392-6571

Electricity

Supplied by Southwestern Public Service Company.

Contact: Southwestern Public Service Company
221 East Dunham
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)391-3200

Natural Gas

Hobbs is served by Zia Natural Gas Company

Contact: Zia Natural Gas Company
510 South Bender

Hobbs, NM 88240
(505) 393-5105

Communications

Local phone service is supplied by GTE Southwest, Inc.

Contact: GTE Southwest, Inc.
Manager
320 North Shipp
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)393-8411

Cellular Service

Cellular Service is available in the City of Hobbs through a variety of private companies

Building Regulations

A building permit is required prior to the start of any construction project. The City of Hobbs Building Inspector is the contact for this permit in the community.

Contact: City of Hobbs
Building Inspector
300 North Turner
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)397-9234

Education

The school system in the City of Hobbs consists of one special education facility, twelve elementary schools, three junior highs and one high school that serves grades ten through twelve. In addition, there is two private schools, one community/vocational college and one four year college.

Hobbs Schools Administration Office
1515 East Sanger
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)393-9183

Living Waters Christian School
601 East Snyder
Hobbs, NM 88240
393-5693

New Mexico Junior College
5317 Lovington Highway
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)392-4510

New Life Christian Academy
707 West Church
Hobbs, NM 88240
392-1542

College of the Southwest

6610 Lovington Highway
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)392-6561

Industrial/Commercial Properties

Economic Development Corp. of Lea County Executive Director PO Box 1376 2702-B North Grimes Hobbs, NM 88241 (505)397-2039 * (800)443-2236	City of Hobbs City Manager 300 North Turner Hobbs, NM 88240 (505)397-9200
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Association of Realtors
1001 North Turner
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)393-6156

Economic Characteristics of the Community

As retailing center of the county, Hobbs houses a wide variety of goods and services. The area's oil and gas production processing and distribution contributes heavily to the economy with many major and independent energy firms located in the city including Texaco, GPM Gas Corporation, Chevron, etc. A variety of services related to this industry are prevalent in the area. These include chemical production, machine and tooling, metal fabrication, construction and manufacturing services.

Agri-business activities are showing growth with area production of peanuts, cotton, chilies and vegetables along with dairies and cheese plants. Related services are developing accordingly.

Manufacturing is also noted with the location of electronics, composite materials, and fabrication operations.

Housing

Contact: Association of Realtors
1001 North Turner
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)393-6156

Visitor Information

Hotels

Local accommodations in the City of Hobbs consist of eight motels totaling 347 rooms.

Recreation

Hobbs has a variety of local recreation facilities. Six municipal parks (four with cooking facilities and shelters), one state park with RV facilities, one municipal golf course and one member-only Country Club. There are also several recreational activities such as tennis, racquetball, team sports, swimming, bowling, senior citizen programs, two movie theaters, Community Playhouse, concerts, athletic events, auto racing, soaring meets, and many others. Nearby attractions: Ruidoso Downs Horse Racing, Ski Apache Ski Area, Lincoln National Forest, Bottomless Lakes State Park, Historic Lincoln Town, Carlsbad Caverns, White Sands, Malpais Lava Flows, Mexico and much more.

Contact: Hobbs Chamber of Commerce
400 North Marland
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)397-3202

Medical Information

There is one hospital located in Hobbs. In addition, there are thirty-one physicians, four chiropractors and ten dentists.

Hospital

Lea Regional Hospital
5419 Lovington Highway
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)392-6581

Clinic

Covenant Care
2410 North Fowler
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)392-5571

Emergency Services

Law Enforcement - 75 Police Officers

Hobbs Police Department
316 North Dalmont
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)397-9265

New Mexico State Police
400 West Gomez Boulevard
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)393-5588

Lea County Sheriff's Department
1923 North Dal Paso
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)393-2515

Fire Department - 73 Full-Time Fire Personnel

The Hobbs Fire Department has a class rating of 4.

Hobbs Fire Department

301 East White
Hobbs, NM 88240
(505)397-9308

Jal

City Government

Contact: Municipal Offices
City of Jal
523 Main Street
Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-2222

Utilities

Water, Sewer, Waste Disposal

- Water is supplied by the City of Jal from five water wells located southwest of Jal.
- The sewer is a City- owned lagoon type waste water treatment plant.
- Solid waste disposal is contracted out the Waste Management, Inc. Waste containers provided in a variety of sizes, from 1.5 cubic yards to 8 cubic yards: pick-up once or twice a week. Any variation in size and pick-up schedule possible.

Contact: Municipal Offices
City of Jal
523 Main Street
Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-2222

Electricity

Supplied by Southwestern Public Service Company. Power generation fueled by coal and natural gas. Gross generation capability: 4,051,000 kilowatts; System peak load: 3,118,000 kilowatts; System Load Factor: 64%.

Contact: Southwestern Public Service Co.
105 S. 4th St.
Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-2141

Natural Gas

Supplied by Zia Gas Company

Contact: Zia Gas Company
P.O. Box 1303
Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-2141

Communications

Phone Service

Local phone service for the City of Jal is provided by GTE Southwest, Inc.

Contact: GTE Southwest, Inc.
523 Main St.
Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-2895

Economic Development Services

Contact: Municipal Offices	
City of Jal	Jal Chamber of Commerce
523 Main St	309 Main St
Jal, NM 88252	Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-2222	(505) 395-2620

Building Regulations

A building permit is required prior to the start of any construction project. The Regulation and Licensing Department issues state building permits throughout the state.

Contact: New Mexico Department of Regulation and
Licensing Construction Industries Division
PO Box 25101
Plaza San Miguel
725 St. Michael Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87504
(505)827-7043

Education System

The school system in the City of Jal consists of one elementary and one combined junior high/high school that serves grades Kindergarten through Twelve. Although the school is small, they boast of up-to-date computer equipment and students who can compete in today's changing world.

Contact: Jal Public Schools
200 E. Panther
Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-2101

Economic Characteristics of the Community

Natural gas production, processing and distribution continues to be one of the primary economic characteristics of the community. Companies in the area include El Paso Natural Gas, Sid Richards and Christie Energy. Related services to this industry

including construction, transportation and manufacturing services are prevalent. The cattle industry is the key agricultural commodity.

Housing

Contact: Leavell Insurance and Real Estate, Inc.
122 Main St.
Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-2700

Visitor Information

Recreation Information

Jal has a variety of local recreation facilities. These include five local parks, Jal Lake and a golf course. Fishing, golf, softball, water sports, hiking and camping are all activities available in the region. Other recreation facilities in the immediate area are Carlsbad Caverns, Guadalupe Mountains National Park, Red Bluff Lake, Brantley Lake and Big Bend National Park.

Contact: Jal Chamber of Commerce
101 E. Idaho
Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-2620

Emergency Services

Police Department

Contact: Jal Police Department
400 S. Highway 18
Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-2501

Fire Department

The fire department consists of 19 volunteer fire fighters and has a class rating of 8.

Contact: Jal Fire Department
400 S. 4th St.
Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-2221

Medical Information

There is not a hospital located in the City of Jal. However, there is a city clinic, one physician, one chiropractor and one dentist. Additionally, Prime Care is located in Eunice, which is approximately 20 miles north of Jal, and there is a regional hospital located in Kermit, Texas which is approximately 20 miles west of Jal.

Contact: The Jal Clinic
101 E. Panther

Jal, NM 88252
(505) 395-3400

Lovington

City Government

Contact: City of Lovington
City Manager
PO Box 1268
Lovington, NM 88260
(505) 396-2884

Utilities

Water, Sewer, Waste Disposal

- Water is supplied by the City of Lovington from sixteen separate wells that tap into the Ogallala Aquifer.
- Sewer is city- owned Air/Aerobic with a trickling filter-type wastewater treatment plant.
- Solid Waste Disposal is contracted out to Waste Management, Inc.

Contact: Municipal Offices
City of Lovington
214 South Love Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505) 396-2884

Electricity

Electricity is supplied by Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Contact: Lea County Electric Cooperative
18 West Washington
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-3631

Natural Gas

Lovington is served by the Public Service Gas Company of New Mexico.

Contact: Public Service Gas Company of New Mexico
1235 W. Avenue D
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)394-6661

Communications

Phone Service

Local Phone service for the City of Lovington is presently provided by GTE Southwest, Inc.

Contact: GTE Southwest, Inc.
Manager
211 North Second Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-6637

Economic Development

Contact: Lovington Economic Development Council
1535 North Main
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-5311

Building Regulations

A building permit is required prior to the start of any construction project. The Regulation and Licensing Department issues state building permits throughout the state.

Contact: New Mexico Department of Regulation and
Licensing Construction Industries Division
PO Box 25101
Plaza San Miguel
725 St. Michael Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87504
(505)827-7043

Education

The school system in the City of Lovington consists of five elementary schools, two junior highs and one high school that serves grades ten through twelve.

Contact: Lovington Public Schools
Superintendent
310 North 5th Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-2891

Industrial/Commercial Properties

Contacts: Lovington Chamber of Commerce
1535 North Main Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-5311

Lovington Board of Realtors
321 South Main Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505) 396-6280

Economic Characteristics of the Community

Oil and gas production is a significant contributor to the area's economy. Navajo Refining is currently located in the Lovington region. In addition, the community has a wide variety of services related to the oil and gas industry including transportation, machine and tooling, metal fabrication, construction and manufacturing services.

Agri-business activities encompass warehouse and distribution for the area's peanut and cotton industry and support services for the newly established dairy industry.

In addition, the governmental services are prevalent as county seat of the County of Lea.

Housing

Contact: Lovington Board of Realtors
321 South Main Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-6280

Visitor Information

Hotels

Local accommodations in the City of Lovington consist of five hotels.

Recreation

Lovington has a variety of local recreation facilities. One golf course, ten tennis courts and an eighty acre park which includes a 20 acre lake. The park offers fishing, tennis, volleyball, basketball, softball, and a large assortment of playground equipment for the kids. Activities within a 20 minute drive: soaring, two golf courses, racquetball, and camping. There is a 1-mile walking trail. Lovington has two swimming pools. One is public and the other is at the Country Club. Lea County Museum, Lovington Public Library, Billy McKibben Senior Citizen Center. The Lovington Activity Center provides a wide range of activities for children and adults. Troy Harris City Center houses the Chamber of Commerce and a newly constructed community room. Nearby attractions: Ruidoso Downs Horse Racing, Ski Apache Ski Area, Lincoln National Forest, Bottomless Lakes State Park, Historic Lincoln Town, Carlsbad Caverns, White Sands, Malpais Lava Flows, Mexico and much more.

Contact: Lovington Chamber of Commerce
1535 North Main Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-5311

Medical Information

There is one hospital located in Lovington. Lovington has five doctors and three dentists.

Contact: Nor-Lea General Hospital
1600 North Main
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-6611

Emergency Services

Police Department - 24 Police Officers

Contacts: Lovington Police Department
213 South Love Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-2811

Lea County Sheriff's Department
215 East Central
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-3611

Fire Department - 15 Full-Time Firemen & 6 Part-Time Firemen

The Lovington fire department has a class rating of 5.

Contact: Lovington Fire Department
213 South Love Street
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-2359

Tatum

City Government

Contact: Municipal Offices
City of Tatum
20 W. Broadway
Tatum, NM 88267
505)398-4633

Utilities

Water, Sewer, Waste Disposal

- Water is supplied by the City of Tatum currently using two water wells. There is an adequate underground water supply for industrial development.
- The Sewer is a wetlands type treatment plant.
- The City of Tatum currently handles solid waste disposal.

Contact: Municipal Offices
City of Tatum
20 W. Broadway
Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-4633

Electricity

Supplied by the Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Contact: Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
102 South Main
Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-2233

Natural Gas

Tatum is served by the Public Service Company of New Mexico.

Contact: Public Service Company of New Mexico
1235 West Avenue D
Lovington, NM 88260
(505)396-6661

Communications

Phone Service

Local phone service for the City of Tatum is presently provided by the Leaco Rural Telephone Corporation.

Contact: Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
General Manager
10 West First Street
Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-2212

Economic Development

Contact: Municipal Offices	Tatum Chamber of Commerce
City of Tatum	President
20 W. Broadway	17 W. Broadway
Tatum, NM 88267	Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-4633	(505)398-5011

Building Regulations

A building permit is required prior to the start of any construction project. The Regulation and Licensing Department issues building permits throughout the state.

Contact: New Mexico Department of Regulation and
Licensing Construction Industries Divisions
PO Box 25101
Plaza San Miguel
725 St. Michael Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87504
(505)827-704

Education

The school system in the City of Tatum consists of one institution that combines both elementary and secondary school grades Kindergarten through Twelve.

Contact: Tatum Public Schools
Superintendent
3rd and Avenue B
Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-4455

Industrial/Commercial Properties

Contact: Municipal Offices
City of Tatum
20 W. Broadway
Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-4633

Economic Characteristics of the Community

Related services to the oil and gas industry including manufactured products are an important element of the area's economy. This is complimented by the area's cattle industry and transportation services associated with the major east-west route Highway 380.

Housing

Contact: Tatum Chamber of Commerce
President
17 W. Broadway
Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-5011

Visitor Information

Recreation

The City of Tatum has a park, a community building and a community library. In addition, they are within driving distance for the following activities: soaring, golfing, rodeos, hiking, camping, snow skiing and boating. Nearby attractions: Soaring Society of America National Headquarters, Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame, Ruidoso Downs

Horse Racing, Ski Apache Ski Area, Lincoln National Forest, Bottomless Lakes State Park, Historic Lincoln Town, Carlsbad Caverns, White Sands, Malpais Lava Flows, Mexico and much more.

Contact: Tatum Chamber of Commerce
President
17 W. Broadway
Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-5011

Medical Information

Clinic

There is not a hospital located in the City of Tatum. However, there is a city clinic with one physician assistant. In addition, there is a hospital located in Lovington which is within a twenty mile drive.

Contact: Tatum Medical Clinic
204 North Main
Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-2111

Emergency Services

Police Department

Contact: Tatum Police Department
10 North Avenue A
Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-4444

Fire Department

The Tatum fire department has 15 volunteer fire fighters and has received a class rating of seven.

Contact: Tatum Fire Department
10 North Avenue A
Tatum, NM 88267
(505)398-5555

