SANTA FE

TRENDS
2012
City of Santa Fe

David Coss, Mayor
Robert Romero, City Manager

City Councilors

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Chris Calvert, District 1
Peter N. Ives, District 2
Rebecca Wurzburger, Mayor Pro Tem District 2

Carmichael Dominguez, District 3
Christopher M. Rivera, District 3
Bill Dimas, District 4
Ron Trujillo, District 4

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Miquela Gonzales, Police Department
Helene Hausman, Finance Department
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Karma Shore, UNM-BBER
Dave Thomas, Tierra Contenta Corporation

Special Thanks

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Joyce Bond - Trends Reviewer

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Marty Sanchez Links de Santa Fe, Public Domain pg 3
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Comments and Questions

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### Summary Stats
(For 2011)

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- City size: 29,608 acres (46.3 square miles)
- City housing growth rate: 0.4% (144 new housing units)
- Urban Area housing growth rate: 0.3% (147 new housing units, including city)
- Regional housing growth rate: 0.3% (176 new housing units including city and Urban Area)
- Tierra Contenta: 17 new housing units (12% of all new residential construction in the city, and 10% of all new residential construction in the region during 2011)
- Median sales price, single-family house
  - (city): $289,000 (MLS listings only)
  - (county): $386,500 (MLS listings only)
  - (U.S.): $164,200
- 2010 Median household income
  - (city): $44,090
  - (N.M.): $42,090
  - (U.S.): $50,046
- City water system demand: 9,368 acre feet, 105 gallons per person daily
  (An estimated 79,627 residents are city water system customers)
- Water system average annual supply: 11,600 acre feet
- Transit ridership: 971,000 passenger trips (9% increase over 2010)
- Santa Fe public high schools 4-year cohort graduation rate: 53%
  (class of 2010)
  Statewide graduation rate: 67%
Introduction
This 15th annual report provides a statistical view of how the city is progressing on various issues. These trends provide a snapshot of important issues in and around Santa Fe, by providing annual data.

There are many issues that can be measured within a city or region. This report focuses on one or two measurements for various topics.

City staff collects readily obtainable information. This streamlines the process of producing and updating the report. However, it is recognized that different types of measurements may be important to add or substitute in future reports.

The “Census Stats” section at the end of the report includes a map of urban area census tracts, and Census 2010 data for each tract.

Numerical Goals for Trends
A few of the trends in this report are supplied with numerical goals or projections, usually stated in the city’s General Plan. Some cities have convened citizen task forces or committees to develop measurable goals or thresholds to provide a target for the city to achieve. Numerical targets can help focus the actions of city government and other community agencies.

A Word About Data
Numbers and statistics can be very useful, but they can also seem bewildering. While charts and graphs cannot explain the essence of a city as experienced by its citizens and visitors, numbers and data do provide insights that are important in setting public policy. Readers can look at the trends of the various topics and develop a better knowledge of how well the city functions and performs.

Santa Fe and Tourism
Santa Fe attracts 1 to 2 million visitors each year. Area hotels, motels and bed and breakfasts offer 5,600 rooms, with 1,800 of the rooms located downtown. These lodging facilities generate over 1 million occupied room nights annually. The combination of day visitors and overnight visitors increases the city’s population significantly, especially during the summer months.

The large amount of tourism relative to Santa Fe’s size may affect some issues, such as water use and housing prices. The city’s outstanding record on water conservation is remarkable when considering all of the city’s visitors and their added water use.
Green Buildings
The City Council adopted a residential green building code that became effective July 1, 2009. The codes address greenhouse gas emissions in building site choice, building materials, and building operations. It also addresses water conservation, indoor environmental quality and homeowner education. The greenhouse gases avoided from the energy used in operating the home can be quantified. For that activity, the building permits applied for in 2010 result in the avoidance of 540 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) annually. Since adoption of the code the avoidance is 664 CO₂e which is the same as permanently removing 237 cars from the road.

Ecological Adaptation
As the climate changes, the local ecology needs to adapt. The speed at which the climate is changing pushes the limits of adaptability for local plant species. A group of local residents have been meeting to develop a list of recommended plant species that would be expected to thrive as the local climate changes.

Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency
Energy efficiency is one of the city’s highest priorities along with renewable energy generation. City staff has conducted energy audits at many of its facilities and will be making energy-efficiency upgrades to those buildings. In addition, the city also created an energy-efficiency and solar equipment loan program for income-qualified residents.

Residential Energy Use in Santa Fe
The graph below provides the average electric and natural gas use on an annual basis for residential use within city limits. Over the last nine years electricity usage appears to be trending upwards. In contrast, natural gas usage appears to be linked to the number of heating days.
City Growth and Annexation

By the end of 2011 the city contained 29,608 acres of land (46.3 square miles) within its corporate limits. According to Census 2010, the city has an overall population density of 1,478 persons per square mile. Albuquerque has a population density of 2,908 and Las Cruces 1,276 persons per square mile.

The city has annexed over 5,000 acres during the past five years, though many of those acres represent the city’s municipal airport annexed in 2006, and I-25 in 2009, creating a new southern boundary of the city.

Commercial Development

The city staff tracks new commercial (non-residential) development by permit. Since 2000, the city has added 3.1 million square feet of building floor area, including churches, community buildings, stores, offices, etc. The 10-year annual average is approximately 250,000 square feet of new non-residential building construction. Annual averages include approximately 77,000 square feet of new office space (31%), 133,000 square feet of new retail-related development (53%), and 25,000 square feet of new industrial/warehouse development (10%). Schools and churches comprise the remainder.

During 2011, the city approved 317,175 square feet of new commercial development, which included nearly 150,000 square feet in the new Wal-Mart on South Cerrillos Road.

Approximately 5-6 acres are developed for every 100,000 square feet of commercial floor area constructed. As a result, 150-180 acres of land have been commercially developed in the city since 2000, or an average absorption rate-equivalent to 13-16 acres, annually.
Urban Area Growth

The urban area, as shown on Page 5, includes the city and immediately surrounding land generally bounded by I-25 to the south and NM 599 to the west/northwest. The urban area includes 43,500 acres or nearly 68 square miles in all. Annual growth of new residences (housing units) in the urban area consists of new residential permits granted within the city, and new residential permits granted in the unincorporated parts of the urban area.

During 2011, 147 new housing units were permitted in the urban area (144-city, 3-county). This represents a growth rate of 0.3% in the urban area housing supply. This was a decrease in new residential construction from 2010. The national economic downturn continues to impact the local construction industry.

In September 2002, the city began a water offset program. Applicants with building permit requests that will increase water demand on the city’s water system (new homes, apartments, office buildings, etc.) must replace older toilets with new low-flow toilets in existing homes and businesses that are also connected to the water system. The goal is that new construction will not increase net demand on the water system.

Regional Growth

According to 2010 Census from 2000-2010, 11,582 new housing units have been built throughout the central region, including the urban area (See map on page 5). Since 2000, 6,826 new units (59%) have been added to the urban area and 4,756 new units (41%) were added beyond the urban area inside the central region.

In 2011, there were only 176 new housing units permitted within the central region, including the city and urban area. This represents a 0.3% housing growth rate in the region and just 16% of new housing starts constructed in 2006. During 2011, 29 housing units were approved for construction in that part of the region outside the urban area. This includes five new homes permitted in Rancho Viejo, five new homes in the Eldorado area, and six new homes in West/Northwest Santa Fe, including the Las Campanas area. La Pradera received permits for four new homes.
**Santa Fe Trends**

**Housing**

City government is actively involved in the local housing market. The city’s affordable housing program has encouraged the construction of low-cost homes and rehabilitation of substandard units. This effort was spurred by decades of rapidly increasing home prices in Santa Fe that impacted a significant population of low-and middle-income residents.

**Affordable Housing**

The chart below illustrates the number of new housing units constructed as affordable housing in the city annually. The figures include new single-family owner-occupied homes and new multi-family rental units.

During 2011, there were 176 affordable homes sold in Santa Fe County to qualifying low-to moderate-income families and individuals. (113 of those were sold within the city). More than half (100 of 176) of those were new houses, not previously owned.

**Tierra Contenta**

Tierra Contenta is a city-initiated master planned community of 1,400 acres, approved for a total of 5,800 housing units. Tracking the annual growth of Tierra Contenta is important as it may continue to absorb much of the city’s growth during the next 10 to 20 years.

The chart below shows how many total housing units (owner-occupied and rental) have been constructed in Tierra Contenta since the first homes were built in 1995. Tierra Contenta’s growth is compared to the city’s total growth in new units.

Since its beginning in 1995, 2,485 new housing units have been built or permitted for construction in Tierra Contenta. This represents 30% of the 8,244 new housing units built in the city since then. In 2011, a total of 17 new units (all single family) were permitted for construction in Tierra Contenta, or 12% of the city’s 144 new housing units.

The city’s definition of affordable housing means the monthly cost of a rental unit should not exceed 25% of the monthly income, for a family earning 80% of the area’s median household income. The payments for a home should not exceed 30% of that household’s gross income.

Since 2000, 1,650 affordable housing units have been built; 929 of these units are single family, mostly owner occupied. These figures represent 29% and 16%, respectively, of all new housing units built in the city since 2000. During 2011, 52 units (all single family) were added to the city’s affordable housing stock.
The association cautions that the MLS medians may over-estimate actual median prices in Santa Fe, because they do not reflect sales of new affordable homes, or other homes that may not be part of MLS.

When median housing price statistics are compared with median household income figures, a Housing Affordability Index (HAI) is created. This index simply divides an area’s median household income by the median housing price for the same year and arrives at a ratio. Higher ratios indicate greater affordability of single-family homes. (There is no ratio for 2011, as median household income figures for Santa Fe had not been released by the Census Bureau at press time.)
Water

Water is an important issue to Santa Feans. The Santa Fe’s high desert location and periodic droughts make water a key component of growth management planning efforts.

During 2011, customers of the city water utility held overall water demand to 9,368 acre feet. When considering that the city water system serves an estimated 79,627 residents, the average water demand* was at 105 gallons per capita daily in 2011. Las Campanas used 458 acre feet of water in 2011. County utility customers used 611 acre feet.

The figures in the chart demonstrate the elasticity, or variability, of water use. Strong conservation efforts at home, work, and school, as well as pricing, can have a dramatic effect on the amount of water we use in our daily lives.

Santa Fe’s water supply comes from four sources: reservoirs that collect and store mountain run-off from the upper Santa Fe River watershed, the city well field, the Buckman well field and the Rio Grande (Buckman Direct Diversion).

During 2011, the city’s water supply came from the following sources:

- Rio Grande Direct Diversion (Buckman) – 5,040 acre feet (48%)
- Buckman Wells – 1,725 acre feet (17%)
- City Wells – 1,632 acre feet (16%)
- Reservoirs – 1,971 acre feet (19%)

Buckman Direct Diversion Plant

The Buckman Direct Diversion facility began operating as of January, 2011 when the first diversion of Santa Fe’s San Juan Project Water was drawn from the Rio Grande. The Direct Diversion provided nearly half of Santa Fe’s water supply during 2011.

*Defined as the total amount of water used divided by the total population or number of dwelling units connected to the water system, divided by 365 days.
Waste

The need to recycle and re-use both wastewater and solid waste is important in moving toward a more sustainable community in Santa Fe. The ability of the city to work toward recycling and re-use now will help provide more options for the future of the entire region.

Wastewater System

Along with water supply, an adequate wastewater system is necessary for a growing Santa Fe. New wastewater lines must be extended and old lines replaced. An important indicator of the city’s ability to absorb future growth is comparing the wastewater treatment plant’s daily capacity with the average daily amounts of wastewater that are actually generated.

In 2011, the city treated an average of 8.1 million gallons of wastewater daily, including an average daily peak of 10.7 million gallons. The city has the capability to treat an average of 13 million gallons of wastewater per day, and instantaneous peaks of 12-13 million gallons at the wastewater treatment plant located north of the airport. Some of the reasons for the increased amounts of wastewater in recent years include:

- De-watering of bio-solids
- Wastewater solids from developments outside the city (i.e. Rancho Viejo)

Solid Waste/Recycling

During 2011, the City of Santa Fe’s recycling program diverted approximately 5,200 tons, (8%) of material from being dumped into the regional landfill. Recycling is an important part of the community’s efforts at creating a sustainable future.

In 2011, city-generated trash emptied into the landfill was just 66,006 tons, a 12% decrease from 2010, primarily due to reductions in construction debris being taken to the landfill.
Transportation

Road congestion, the connection of existing roads, and the construction of new roads are some of the most controversial issues in Santa Fe. The General Plan proposes a number of new roads to be built in the future. A primary objective of the Plan is to “reduce automobile dependence and dominance.”

Road improvements in 2011 included the continued re-construction of the Cerrillos Road between Cielo Court and Camino Carlos Rey. Another road improvement project includes the placing of medians along Airport Road between Country Club Road and Lopez Lane.

Traffic Volumes

Santa Fe’s major roadways are listed below with traffic volumes provided by year. In some instances traffic volumes are measured at different roadway locations. This may explain decreases in traffic volumes from one year to the next year. But the highest count along given roadways is used each year.

Source: New Mexico Department of Transportation.
*Prior to opening of Siler Bridge across the river in Nov. 2009.

Traffic Volumes

(Average Weekday Traffic/24-Hours)

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<td>40,973</td>
<td>41,572</td>
<td>45,430</td>
<td>46,604</td>
<td>46,632</td>
<td>47,488</td>
<td>45,784</td>
<td>45,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zia Rd. &amp; Siringo Rd.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>US285</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12,876</td>
<td>12,536</td>
<td>12,690</td>
<td>12,648</td>
<td>11,722</td>
<td>11,506</td>
<td>11,426</td>
<td>11,156</td>
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<tr>
<td>N. of Avenida Vista Grande</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. Alameda</td>
<td>10,813</td>
<td>10,803</td>
<td>10,615</td>
<td>10,402</td>
<td>10,007</td>
<td>10,259</td>
<td>10,512</td>
<td>10,564</td>
<td>11,095</td>
<td>11,404</td>
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<td>Solana Dr. &amp; St. Francis Dr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zia Rd.</td>
<td>14,082</td>
<td>14,280</td>
<td>13,882</td>
<td>13,971</td>
<td>14,032</td>
<td>13,828</td>
<td>13,498</td>
<td>13,027</td>
<td>12,436</td>
<td>12,709</td>
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<tr>
<td>Galisteo &amp; Vo-Tech Rd.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transit
The city’s bus system, Santa Fe Trails, began service in January 1993. “Passenger Trips” provides the most useful indication of how much the system is being used. A “Passenger Trip” is defined as one person riding one direction only (not roundtrip), including all transfers needed to reach a destination.

During 2011, the number of passenger trips on Santa Fe Trails jumped by 9% over 2010 from 893,000 to 971,000, the highest ridership in the system’s 19 years of operation. Route 2 along Cerrillos Road accounts for 50% of the total ridership. Santa Fe Trails operates 20 full-size compressed natural gas (CNG) buses during peak hours, with a total fleet size of 30 buses.

Rail Runner Service
The Rail Runner Commuter Train completed its third year of service to Santa Fe in December 2011. During 2011, the Rail Runner carried 380,736 passengers to or from the “City Different”. This accounted for about 31% of the 1,242,174 passengers the entire system carried between Belen, Albuquerque and Santa Fe. Rail Runner system-wide ridership increased in 2011 by 6.6% from 2010. Ridership to Santa Fe slipped by less than 1% in 2011.

Urban Hike/Bike Trails
Since 2004, the city has added 12 miles of paved, off-road Hike/Bike Trails and another 12 miles of designated bike routes have been established along Siringo Road, Old Pecos Trail, Don Gaspar Avenue, Galisteo Street, and Yucca Street. In addition, another five miles of bike routes along Rodeo Road and Airport Road have been striped to easily accommodate bicyclists.

During 2011, over three miles of trails were added to the city’s system. Nearly two miles were added to the Acequia Trail and nearly one-half mile was added to the Santa Fe River Trail. The city also built the Museum Hill Trail (1/2 mile) and the St. Francis Drive Trail (1 mile).
Air Quality

The New Mexico Environment Department monitors Santa Fe’s air pollutants in two locations. Particulate matter is monitored at the Santa Fe Airport and at the Harold Runnels State Office Building at St. Francis Drive and Alta Vista Street. Based on federal requirements, the state environment department monitors ozone (O3) and particulate matter (PM2.5) levels in Santa Fe, due to EPA’s emphasis on measuring pollutants considered most injurious to human health.

In 2011 the design value derived from the PM2.5 measurements was 15 UG/m³, well below the EPA maximum threshold of 35 UG/m³. The design value for ozone during 2011 was 0.062 parts per million (ppm). This is below the maximum federal standard of 0.075 for ozone.

Ozone is now recognized as one of the biggest threats to human health. It can penetrate deeply into human lungs and burn very delicate tissue, increasing chances for respiratory infection and long-term lung damage.

Particulate matter is often associated with air pollution created by some industries, prevalent in the eastern parts of the nation. Throughout much of the west, particulate matter is little more than windblown dust and dirt. However, these natural particles can aggravate respiratory problems.

Greenhouse Gases

Greenhouse gas emissions represent another air quality issue for Santa Feans. Carbon dioxide and methane are the most prevalent gases representing a threat to our environment. In unusually high concentrations, these gases trap abnormal amounts of heat in the atmosphere – a process that affects the climate of the entire world, often referred to as “global warming.” Although these gases are naturally occurring, many events such as the burning of rain forests in South America may be speeding up global warming. U.S. cities and worldwide industries are also contributors to this problem, primarily through carbon dioxide emissions from internal combustion engines.
Parks and Recreation

Park development in a growing city like Santa Fe is an important part of the overall quality of life, particularly for families with children. Parks have long been considered an integral part of city life. As Santa Fe grows, it will be important to follow and measure the progress the city makes in the development of new neighborhood and community parks.

PARK DEVELOPMENT
(Neighborhood & Community Parks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>&quot;Marc&quot; Brandt</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Las Acequias (5.1), Peralta (2.0)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Franklin Miles (Additional 8.0)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Wood Gormley* (2.5), Rancho Siringo (.5), Calle Alvarado (4.8), Frenchy's (14.1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Sweeney* (2.5), Cesar Chavez* (2.5), Pueblos del Sol (9.0)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Los Milagros (1.2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Ball fields developed at the Municipal Recreation Complex (MRC); Genoveva Chavez Community Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Espinacitas (.25), Rugby Fields at MRC (5.0)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>MRC Trails (9.0 miles), MRC/Agua Fria (2.0 miles from San Felipe to MRC Rugby Fields)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Pueblos del Sol (5.3), Entrada Park (.2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Maclovia (.2), Plaza Entrada (.6), Martin Luther King (1.3), Las Estancias (.5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Railyard Park (12.5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Power Plant Park (3.4), Valentine Park (.6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Sunny Slope Meadows Community Garden Park (.65)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Salvador Perez Pool Patio Park (.25)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Parque del Rio (4.0), Via Caballero (4.8), Nava Ade (5.3), Genoveva Chavez Community Center (3.0)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Soccer Field Developed at Elementary School

During 2011, neighborhood parks were developed in Via Caballero and Nava Ade, while parks were also developed along the river trail and at the Genoveva Chavez Community Center.

Since 1998, Santa Fe has maintained a range of 4.2 to 4.4 acres of developed neighborhood and community parkland per 1,000 city residents. As of 2011, the “developed parkland per 1,000 residents” ratio jumped to 4.8 acres, due to the increase in park development.

Santa Fe contains approximately 329 acres of developed neighborhood and community parkland, but needs a total of 343 acres of developed parks, or 14 additional acres, to meet a goal of five acres per 1,000 residents.
Public Schools
The Santa Fe Public School District’s success is important to the community’s quality of life. Statistics provided include the district’s high school graduation rate and district enrollment figures.

High School Graduation Rate
The graduation rate reflects the importance of education in the community and may be a factor in issues ranging from crime rates to economic development and corporate job location. The Santa Fe Public School District calculates annual graduation rates for grades 9-12.

The state Public Education Department is now measuring “cohort graduation rate”, which tracks an entering freshman class and determines the percent that graduates at the end of the four-year high school program. The 2010 class four-year graduation rate for the Santa Fe Public Schools was 53%, while the statewide rate was 67%. Females in the Santa Fe Public Schools 2010 class graduated in four years at a rate of 58%, while males graduated at a rate of 49%. Statewide, the figures for females and males were 72% and 63%, respectively.

School District Enrollment
Overall, the district experienced a net decrease of 95 students in the 2011-2012 school year.

The district’s student population has ranged from 13,373 to 14,116 students during the past ten years, or less than 1% average annual growth. While growth of the student population district-wide is modest, the district has experienced much higher growth in certain parts of the district, most notably in the Airport Road area. Cesar Chavez and R.M. Sweeney Elementary Schools, both in the Airport Road area, contain over 500 students each. Cesar Chavez Elementary remains the district’s most populous elementary school with 597 students in 2011-2012.

Capital High School has an enrollment of 1,126, while Santa Fe High had an enrollment of 1,459. Ortiz Middle School is the largest of the district’s three middle schools with 783 students.
Public School Enrollment

PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT
TOTAL ENROLLMENT*

*Figures include students in special education programs and charter schools.

Source: New Mexico Public Education Department;
Santa Fe Public Schools
Arts and Culture

Santa Fe and the Arts

According to a survey by The National Endowments for the Arts, there are now almost two million Americans who describe their primary occupation as artist. Somewhat surprisingly, artists represent a larger workforce group in this country than the legal profession, medical doctors or agricultural workers. Artists play a very important role in New Mexico’s cultural vitality and economic prosperity.

Top metropolitan areas ranked by percentage of artists in the labor force.
1. San Francisco, CA
2. Santa Fe, NM

Santa Fe ranks #1 nationally in the number of “writers/authors” and “fine artists, art directors and animators” per capita.

Santa Fe Museums

The city boasts five state museums (Palace of the Governors, Museum of Art, International Folk Art, State History and Indian Arts and Culture) as well as the famed Georgia O’Keeffe Museum. Together these museums attract over 300,000 visitors each year. The State History Museum, located behind the Palace of the Governors, opened in 2009.

City of Santa Fe Community Gallery

The City of Santa Fe Arts Commission’s Community Gallery, located on the Santa Fe Community Convention Center first floor, offers inspiring exhibitions for the public, educational and professional development for local artists/artisans and exciting activities for the community. Gallery programming provides a range of services, exhibitions and activities that engage the public as well as support the efforts of local artists/artisans.

Performing Arts Theatres in Santa Fe

The Santa Fe Playhouse

Famed writer, Mary Austin, incorporated the Playhouse in 1922 as the Santa Fe Little Theatre. Celebrating and preserving the richness and texture of the Anglo, Native American and Spanish cultures is what Mary Austin envisioned. The playhouse has stayed true to this vision for 89 seasons earning it the distinction of being the oldest, continuously running theatre west of the Mississippi. Today, the Playhouse offers never-produced playwrights the chance to see their work on stage and first-time performers the opportunity to be on stage with seasoned actors.

This country’s artists represent a powerful labor force whose economic contributions total approximately $70 billion annually. According to The National Endowment for the Arts survey, half of the U.S. adult population attended at least one of seven arts activities in the previous 12 months – jazz, classical music, opera, musical plays, non-musical plays, ballet or art. This translates into nearly 100 million different people attending one or more of these events each year.

New Mexico is one of the states that leads the way in the arts and sunbelt cities dominate the list of metropolitan areas with the highest per capita concentration of artists. Nine of the top 15 cities with the highest concentrations of artists are now in the Sunbelt: San Francisco, Santa Fe, Los Angeles, Boulder, Santa Cruz, Santa Barbara, Nashville, Orlando and San Luis Obispo.
Higher Education

Santa Fe is fortunate to have some outstanding institutions of higher education. Both private and public education colleges are located here.

Santa Fe Community College

Established in 1983, Santa Fe Community College has grown rapidly, both in enrollment and campus expansion. Today, the college serves more than 8,000 students in any given semester in its credit, noncredit and adult basic education programs. The campus is situated on 366 acres off Richards Avenue, south of Interstate 25.

St. John’s College

St. John’s College is a private, co-educational, four-year liberal arts college. The college is known for its “great books” curriculum. St. John’s is a single college located on two campuses; one in Annapolis, Maryland, and the other in Santa Fe. Each campus is small with fewer than 500 students. A gift of land at the foot of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains by John and Faith Meem determined the Santa Fe college’s site.

Santa Fe University of Art and Design

In 1859, four Lasallian Order Brothers, a teaching order of the Catholic Church, left France for Santa Fe and started a preparatory school. In 1950, it became the College of Santa Fe and graduated its first college class of 23. On August 30, 2010, the name of the college was changed to Santa Fe University of Art and Design. The university has a strong liberal arts curriculum and is distinguished by its programs in the creative arts.

The Lensic Performing Arts Theatre

The Lensic was built in 1931 by Nathan Salmon and his son-in-law, E. John Greer. The Boller Brothers of Kansas City were the architects. For decades, the Lensic flourished with appearances by performers like Rita Hayworth, Roy Rogers and Judy Garland. In 2001, a $9 million renovation was completed. The Lensic continues to host great speakers and live performances.

The Greer Garson Theatre

Greer Garson Theatre Center, named for film actress Greer Garson was a supporter of new theatre work and a generous benefactor. Through the presentation of new plays and re-imagined classics, this theatre company invites audiences to explore provocative themes that embrace the human condition and readings of new work within the Santa Fe community.

The following is a list of more outstanding performing arts theatres in Santa Fe:
Armory for the Arts
Ensemble Theatre Festival
Railyard Performance Center
Santa Fe Performing Arts Co
Santa Fe Stages
Southwest Children’s Theatre
Theatre Grottesco
Theatre Residency Project
Theatrework
Wise Fool New Mexico

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Theatre Grottesco
Theatre Residency Project
Theatrework
Wise Fool New Mexico
Economy

Employment and job statistics are reported for each county annually by the New Mexico Department of Labor. These statistics include total employment as well as unemployment rates.

On March 1, 2012 the minimum wage in the City of Santa Fe increased to $10.29 per hour. This minimum wage is paid by all employers located within the city limits. This applies to all businesses and nonprofit organizations required to have a business license or business registration issued by the city.

Employed Persons-Santa Fe County

The chart below shows total employment levels for Santa Fe County residents by year. Employment of Santa Fe County residents increased in 2011.

Unemployment

One measure of the economic health and vitality of a region is the unemployment rate — or those people actively searching but unable to find a job. Santa Fe County’s average unemployment rate for 2011 was 5.9%, down from 7.0% in 2010. The nation’s average unemployment rate for 2011 was 9.0%, the same as 2010, though it had dropped to 8.5% by December 2011. New Mexico’s unemployment rate was at 6.6% in December 2011, down from 8.6% a year earlier. While 73,600 county residents are employed, approximately 4,000 people were unemployed and looking for work.

Gross Receipts

Economic activity within the City of Santa Fe generated an estimated $2.6 billion in taxable gross receipts in 2011, a 4% increase from 2010, and the highest figure since 2008.

Jobs in Santa Fe County

In 2011, wage & salary jobs in the private sector employed 45,000 in the county, while 16,300 individuals were employed in the public sector. Employment by leading sectors included:

- Government (fed., state, local) – 16,300 (22%)
- Health Care/Social Assistance – 9,300 (13%)
- Retail – 9,000 (12%)
- Accommodations/Food Service – 7,800 (11%)
- Construction – 2,800 (4%)
Fires and Emergencies

City staff tracks “response time” to calls for fires and emergency assistance using a computer-aided dispatch system. This system allows the staff to analyze how quickly they respond to calls for help. Response time is a very important indicator to Fire/EMS departments nationwide. In many cases, help during the first 6-7 minutes is necessary in preventing major property loss and/or death of a critically ill or injured person. In 2011, average response time for emergency calls was 6:10 in Santa Fe.

During 2011, the Santa Fe Fire Department responded to and fought 181 fires. The 10-year average is 200 fires per year. The city experienced 33 total structural fires. Brush and grass fires represent the most common fires in Santa Fe.

Emergency medical responses comprise the vast majority of calls responded to by the Fire Department. During 2011, the Fire Department responded to 11,876 calls (33 per day) for emergency medical assistance. Each day the city responds to an average of one vehicle accident requiring medical attention, which dropped significantly in 2011.

### Fires

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
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<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building Fires</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>49</td>
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<td>62</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vehicle Fires</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brush/Other Fire</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>162</td>
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<td>111</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>78</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>250</td>
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<td>218</td>
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<td>175</td>
<td>147</td>
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### Emergency Medical Service(EMS) Responses

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<th>2004</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total EMS Responses</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>8,096</td>
<td>8,661</td>
<td>7,956</td>
<td>8,133</td>
<td>8,981</td>
<td>9,066</td>
<td>8,637</td>
<td>8,471</td>
<td>11,876*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Accidents w/medical attention</td>
<td>1,172</td>
<td>1,453</td>
<td>1,505</td>
<td>1,164</td>
<td>1,096</td>
<td>946</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>649</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>390</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: Santa Fe Fire Department. * The City began a new system of EMS Response Tracking and may explain much or all of the increase in “Total EMS Responses” from 2010 to 2011.
Crime

Public safety and protection are vital to Santa Fe’s quality of life. There are different ways to measure public safety. Tracking crime statistics in the city is a valuable tool in assessing public health and security.

The charts below provide annual crime statistics reported to city police. During 2011 crimes in all four major categories decreased from 2010. There were four suicides in the city in 2011.

According to the FBI’s Uniform Crime Report (2010), national averages for cities roughly the same size as Santa Fe were: Homicides 4; Robberies 121; Reported Rapes 28; and Burglaries 712.
City Finances

According to the City’s 2011-2012 annual budget, the City of Santa Fe has financial resources of $260.6 million. The city has seen gross receipts tax revenue increase slightly during the past year. The city has dipped into cash reserves to cover the shortfall resulting from increased operational costs.

Santa Fe has one of the lowest residential property tax rates of the ten largest cities in New Mexico. Residential property tax rates are currently $671 per $100,000 of market value. The low tax rate helps offset traditionally high property values in Santa Fe.

The city’s financial resources for the 2011-2012 budget year come from the following:

- **Gross Receipts Tax** $86,300,000 (33%)
- **Lodger’s Tax** $7,800,000 (3%)
- **Franchise Tax** $2,400,000 (1%)
- **Property Tax** $7,800,000 (3%)
- **Other Tax** $1,900,000 (1%)
- **Federal and State Grants** $16,500,000 (6%)
- **Fees (water, sewer, parking, etc.)** $112,200,000 (43%)
- **Fines, Licenses & permits** $4,400,000 (2%)
- **Cash Reserves (used in Budget)** $14,500,000 (5%)
- **Other Sources** $6,800,000 (3%)

**TOTAL** $260,600,000

Bonds and Borrowing

The city borrows money through the sale of bonds. There are two primary types of municipal bonds that cities use to borrow money:

1. **General Obligation Bonds** – These bonds, usually approved by voters, pledge increased property taxes for the repayment of the bonds. By law, Santa Fe could issue general obligation bond debt up to 4% of the total tax-assessed land value in the city. Voters approved a $30 million parks bond that was issued in June 2008.

2. **Revenue Bonds** – These bonds are issued by the city to borrow money secured by gross receipts taxes and other fees and revenues the city collects, such as water and sewer fees. Revenue bonds require City Council approval, but generally not voter approval. The city currently has revenue bond indebtedness (outstanding principal and interest) of $477 million. Some of this bond debt includes:
   - $91 million - gross receipts revenue bonds
   - $189 million - water enterprise bonds
   - $14 million - Municipal Recreation Complex (MRC) bonds
   - $81 million - Santa Fe Community Convention Center

City officials have preferred to use Revenue Bonds because the financial burden to pay for these bonds is shared by residents and visitors through the purchase of goods and services. General Obligation Bonds, on the other hand, rely on property taxes and therefore place the burden on local residents.

Loans and Borrowing

The City also borrows money through institutions such as the New Mexico Finance Authority (NMFA). Currently the City has outstanding loan debt (principal, interest & fees) of $102 million which includes loans for the following projects:

- $55 million – Purchase of the former College of Santa Fe (now Santa Fe University of Art & Design)
- $20 million – Water System Projects
- $24 million – Railyard Parking Garage

City Staffing

The city spends approximately one third of its total appropriated funds on salaries and benefits for all employees. The city currently employs 1,551 individuals, of which 1,441 are full-time. The general fund supports approximately half of the city staff, while enterprise funds (i.e. water, sewer, transit, parking), grants, and other funds directly support the other half. The City of Santa Fe has reduced total staff levels from 1,878 (2007) to 1,551 (2011) during the recession; a reduction of 17%.
Capital Improvements

“Capital Improvements” is a term that refers to construction projects initiated by the city. These improvements often include projects such as park development, new water and sewer lines, road construction and maintenance, as well as the building of new fire and police stations.

City spending for various capital improvement categories during 2011-2012 is represented in the graph below.

During 2011-2012 over $12 million is budgeted for the city water and wastewater system. Meanwhile $16.4 million of parks bond money has been budgeted for various parks and trail projects throughout the city.

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

The city receives annual federal CDBG monies that are spent to benefit low- to moderate-income persons; people who make less than 80% of the average median income based on family size. In addition, funds spent must meet one of the following national objectives: 1) benefit low to moderate-income persons; 2) prevent or eliminate slum and blighted conditions; or 3) meet an urgent community need that threatens the health or welfare of residents. Projects fall under the categories of Area Benefit, Limited Clientele, Housing Activities, or Job Creation/Retention.

The City of Santa Fe uses 100% of the funds for low and moderate-income persons. A majority of the funds go toward down-payment assistance (housing activities), but the city also funds public service activities that serve a limited clientele or neighborhoods. Economic development projects have also been funded in the past.
Census Stats

Population
According to the 2010 census, the City of Santa Fe’s population continues to grow at a slow pace but faster than the 1990s. The growth that many observe when they discuss Santa Fe has occurred outside the city limits. While growth within the city was steady during the last 20 years, growth on the city’s fringe was not. In 1980 that portion of the urban area outside the city contained less than 4,000 people and just 7% of the urban area population. By 2000, there were nearly 17,000 people in that portion of the urban area outside the city, accounting for 21% of the urban area population. As the table indicates, higher growth rates occur outside the urban area.

Housing
The city’s housing supply has nearly doubled since 1980, increasing from 20,154 units to 37,200 units in 2010. Housing growth rates can be very different from population growth rates, as can be seen by comparing the annual rates of increase in the tables below. For example, while the Santa Fe’s population growth rate was less than 1.0% annually between 2000-2010, the city’s housing growth rate during the same period was more than double that pace at 2.2%. Smaller family size and more second homes used by part-time residents account for much of the difference.

The figures for each geographic area in the tables below include the figures from the geographic area directly above it (e.g. Urban Area figures include City figures).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Annual Increase</th>
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<td>Urban Area</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Housing Units</th>
<th>Annual Increase</th>
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*Estimate.
Note: Percentages in parentheses are compounded average annual growth rates rounded to the nearest tenth of percent.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Census Tract</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Children (Under 18)</th>
<th>Median Age</th>
<th>Hispanic Population</th>
<th>Housing Units</th>
<th>Persons per Household</th>
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</table>

**TOTAL** | 66,104 | 79,100 | 84,877 | 16,334 | 17,967 | 17,785 | 41 | 44 | 32,913 | 41,794 | 46,440 | 28,573 | 36,579 | 43,405 | 2.35 | 2.25

* New Census Tract in 2010 Census

Figures in the table embed data from the 1990 Census and Census 2000 into the Census 2010 tract geography for the purpose of comparison.

3,247 – Figures in blue signify an increase from the prior census.

3,247 – Figures in red signify a decrease from the prior census.

(incl. *) – part of the Census Tract and figure above in 1990. (example: Tracts 13.02, 13.03 and 13.04 were part of tract 13.01, or what was then tract 13.)

NOTE: All data from U.S. Census using Summary File 1 (SF-1).

1 “Persons per household” is the population divided by the number of occupied housing units.