New Mexico Population At-a-Glance

2015 Population Estimates - Counties

July 5, 2016

5140 San Francisco Road NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109
(505) 821-5454 • Fax (505) 821-5474 • www.rpinc.com

New Mexico Counties
2015 Population Estimates
At-a-Glance

In March 2016, the United States Census Bureau released its latest population estimates for counties in New Mexico. The estimates show the population as of July 1, 2015. We examined changes from 2010 to 2015, as well as compared the growth from 2000 to 2010 to the estimated growth from 2010 to 2015.

A number of observations can be made.

- Of the three fastest growing counties from 2010 to 2015, two, Eddy and Lea, are in eastern New Mexico, with Lea County experiencing the largest growth, up 10.0%. In comparison, from 2000 to 2010, Sandoval County was the fastest growing county in the state, growing by 46%. It has grown by only 6.0% from 2010 to 2015 (4th fastest). The growth estimates for Eddy and Lea counties do not incorporate any potential declines in population due to oil and gas job losses from the 2015 estimate date through the middle of 2016.

- From 2000 to 2010, 14 counties saw their population shrink. So far, from 2010 to 2015, 21 counties are estimated to have lost population.

- Hidalgo County had the largest population decrease from 2000 to 2010 at -17.5%, and has the second largest population decrease from 2010 to 2015 (-9.6%). Over the past 15 years, Hidalgo County has lost more than a quarter of its population.

- The three counties with the highest growth rate from 2000 to 2010 contained New Mexico's three largest cities. From 2010 to 2015, none of the three largest cities was found among the top three growing counties.

- Among the eight counties that grew by more than 10% from 2000 to 2010, three are showing an estimated loss in population during the subsequent five years (Roosevelt, San Juan and Valencia counties).

- Among the 10 fastest growing counties from 2010 to 2015, two are in the Albuquerque Metro area (Bernalillo and Sandoval counties), one is in the North Central region (Santa Fe County), one is in the Northwest region (McKinley), one is in the Southwest region (Doña Ana County), and the remaining five are in the East region of New Mexico (Harding, Lea, Curry, Otero and Eddy counties).

- New Mexico now has five counties with a population greater than 100,000. In 2000, there were four.

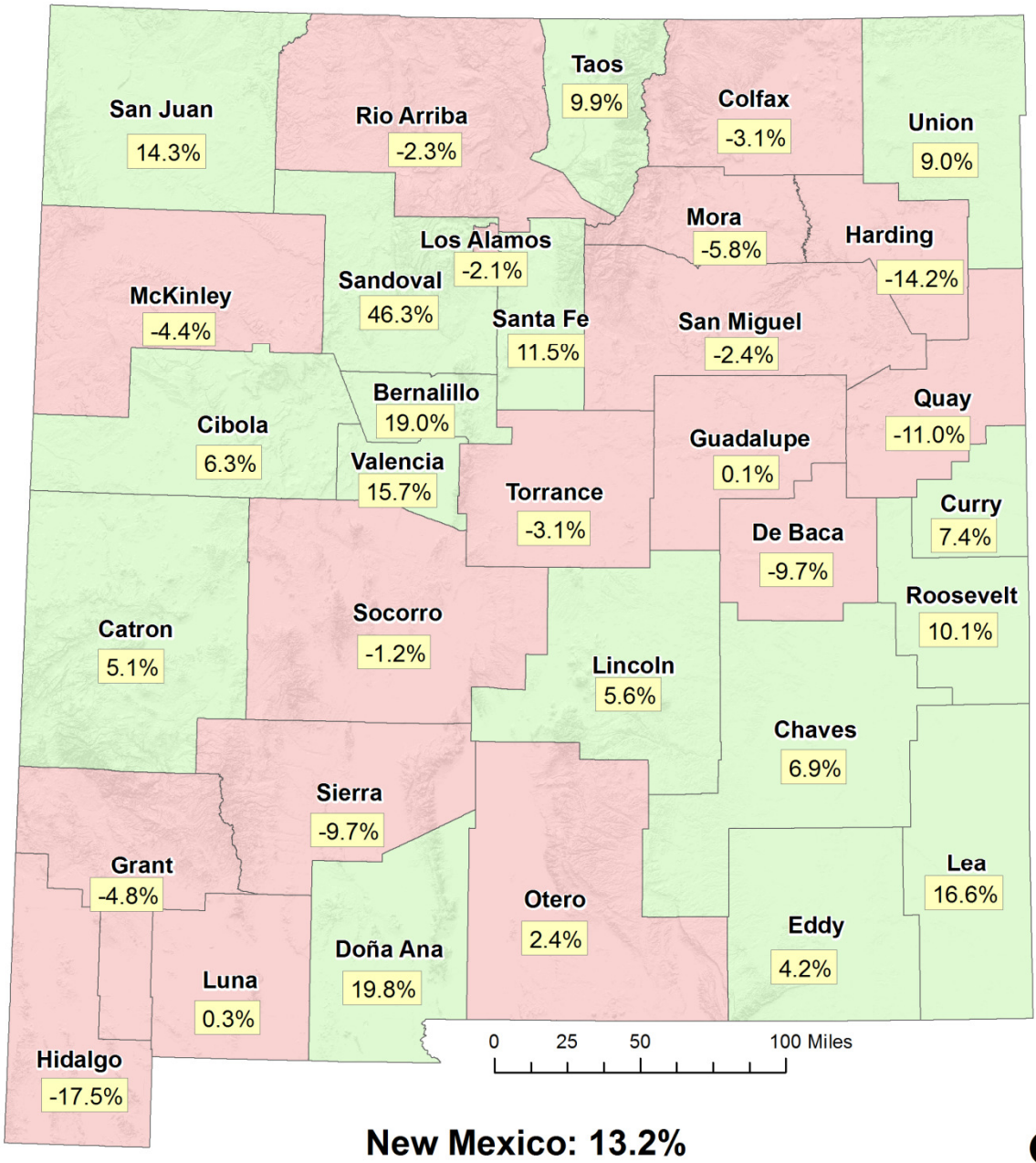
The full table and maps are on the following pages.

New Mexico Counties
2015 Population Estimates

Ranked By Percent Population Change, 2010 to 2015					
County (Largest City)	**2000 Population**	**2010 Population**	**2015 Population Estimate**	**% Population Change 2000 - 2010**	**% Population Change 2010 - 2015**
Lea County (Hobbs)	55,511	64,727	71,180	16.6%	10.0%
McKinley County (Gallup)	74,798	71,492	76,708	-4.4%	7.3%
Eddy County (Carlsbad)	51,658	53,829	57,578	4.2%	7.0%
Sandoval County (Rio Rancho)	89,908	131,561	139,394	46.3%	6.0%
Curry County (Clovis)	45,044	48,376	50,398	7.4%	4.2%
Santa Fe County (Santa Fe)	129,292	144,170	148,686	11.5%	3.1%
Doña Ana County (Las Cruces)	174,682	209,233	214,295	19.8%	2.4%
Bernalillo County (Albuquerque)	556,678	662,564	676,685	19.0%	2.1%
Otero County (Alamogordo)	62,298	63,797	64,362	2.4%	0.9%
Harding County (Roy)	810	695	698	-14.2%	0.4%
Cibola County (Grants)	25,595	27,213	27,329	6.3%	0.4%
Chaves County (Roswell)	61,382	65,645	65,764	6.9%	0.2%
Taos County (Taos)	29,979	32,937	32,907	9.9%	-0.1%
Los Alamos County (Los Alamos)	18,343	17,950	17,785	-2.1%	-0.9%
Valencia County (Los Lunas)	66,152	76,569	75,737	15.7%	-1.1%
Rio Arriba County (Española)	41,190	40,246	39,465	-2.3%	-1.9%
Luna County (Deming)	25,016	25,095	24,518	0.3%	-2.3%
Grant County (Silver City)	31,002	29,514	28,609	-4.8%	-3.1%
Socorro County (Socorro)	18,078	17,866	17,256	-1.2%	-3.4%
Roosevelt County (Portales)	18,018	19,846	19,120	10.1%	-3.7%
San Miguel County (Las Vegas)	30,126	29,393	27,967	-2.4%	-4.9%
Lincoln County (Ruidoso)	19,411	20,497	19,420	5.6%	-5.3%
Torrance County (Moriarty)	16,911	16,383	15,485	-3.1%	-5.5%
Mora County (Wagon Mound)	5,180	4,881	4,596	-5.8%	-5.8%
Sierra County (T or C)	13,270	11,988	11,282	-9.7%	-5.9%
Quay County (Tucumcari)	10,155	9,041	8,455	-11.0%	-6.5%
Guadalupe County (Santa Rosa)	4,680	4,687	4,371	0.1%	-6.7%
Catron County (Reserve)	3,543	3,725	3,456	5.1%	-7.2%
Union County (Clayton)	4,174	4,549	4,201	9.0%	-7.7%
San Juan County (Farmington)	113,801	130,044	118,737	14.3%	-8.7%
De Baca County (Fort Sumner)	2,240	2,022	1,828	-9.7%	-9.6%
Hidalgo County (Lordsburg)	5,932	4,894	4,423	-17.5%	-9.6%
Colfax County (Raton)	14,189	13,750	12,414	-3.1%	-9.7%
New Mexico	**1,819,046**	**2,059,179**	**2,085,109**	**13.2%**	**1.3%**

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census. Estimates as of July 1, 2015.

New Mexico Counties
Percent Population Change: 2000 to 2010



New Mexico: 13.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

RESEARCH & POLLING INC

WWW.RPINC.COM

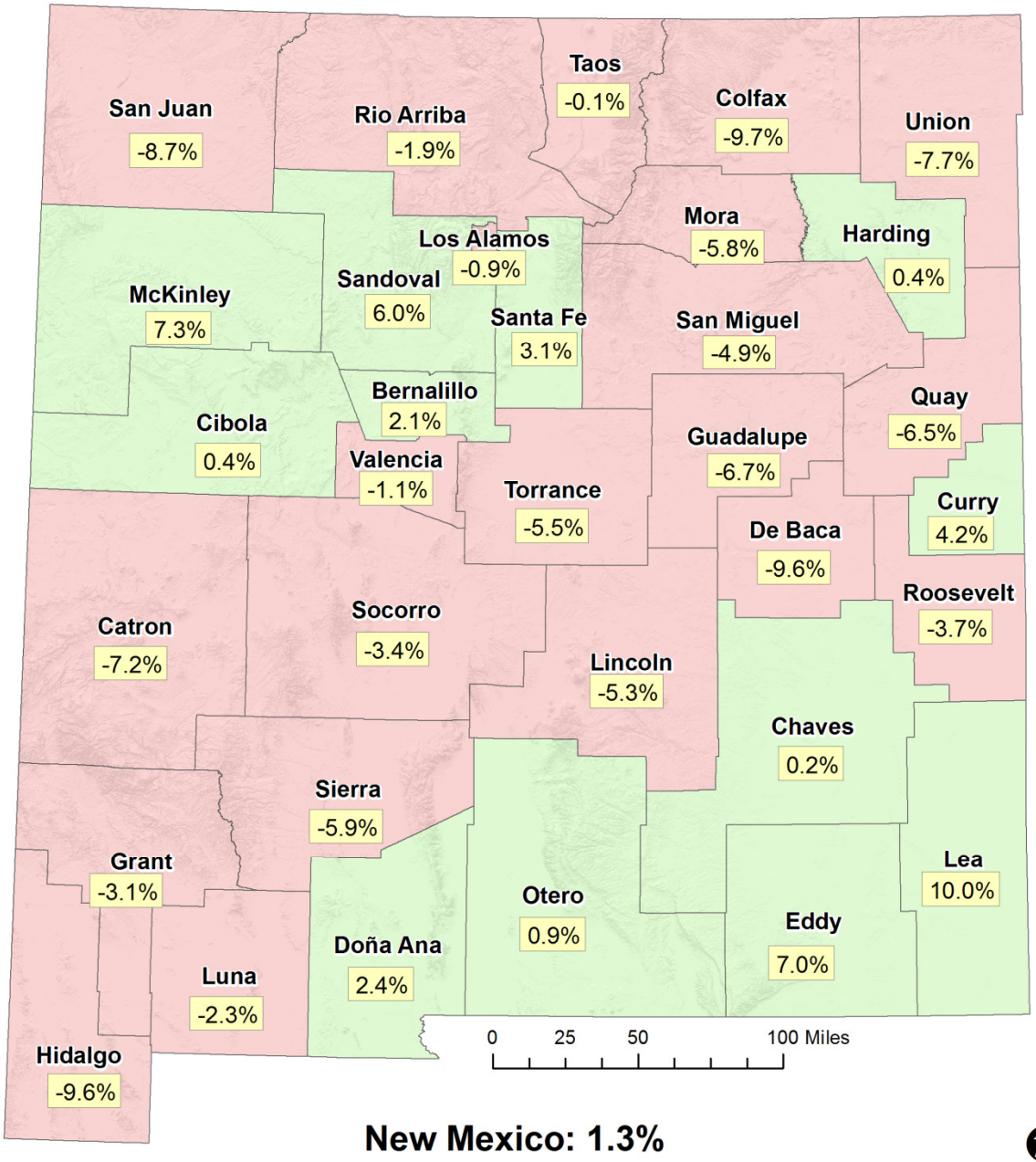
Counties

Lost Population

Gained Population

July 1, 2016

New Mexico Counties
Percent Population Change: 2010 to 2015



New Mexico: 1.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

RESEARCH & POLLING INC.

WWW.RPINC.COM

Counties

Lost Population

Gained Population

July 1, 2016