

Local Government Dashboard: Socorro County & City of Socorro

Legislative Finance Committee Hearing

July 15-17

Socorro, New Mexico

Economy & Finance

Socorro County's taxable receipts gross in construction grew by \$8 million, or 112 percent from this time last year. Retail trade is still the largest industry of the county's taxable gross receipts. making 26 percent of total taxable gross receipts, followed by construction at 21 percent.

Socorro County Revenue vs. Expenditures (in thousands)



Revenue Expenditure

Source: OSA Audits

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Source: LFC Analysis

- Socorro County's general fund is primarily made of unassigned funds. Unassigned fund balance represents money that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund. Socorro County has been receiving increases in state operating grants like the DWI grant and law enforcement protection.
- Socorro County residents are paying more in property tax in relation to their property value than the New Mexico average. The main driver of this is special levies, which constituents vote on. Voted special levies include levied property tax towards hospitals, public schools, local colleges, etc.

Economy & Finance

*Following the Office of the State Auditor's FY23 audit, the City of Socorro did not have any major audit findings.

City of Soccoro General Fund Balance (in thousands)



The City of Socorro's general fund is primarily unassigned fund balance. Socorro received an increase of \$475 thousand for the law enforcement protection fund in FY23 compared to FY21, and the city also has seen an increase of revenue from lodger's taxes.



City of Soccoro Revenue vs. Expenditures



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Law Enforcement Agencies

Socorro County Sherriff's Office

- Leadership:
 Shoriff Loo
- Sheriff Lee Armijo
 Certified Officers: 11

Socorro Police Department

- Leadership:
 Chief Angel Garcia
- Certified Officers: 14

Magdalena Marshal's Office

- Leadership:
 - Marshal Michael Zamora
- Certified Officers: 2

Source: Agency Websites and DFA Local Government Division Law Enforcement Protection Fund Distributions by County and Municipality

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Summary Crime Reported (Magdalena, Socorro PD*, Socorro County Sheriff) 700 600 of incidents 500 400 300 Number 200 100 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2012 2013 2014 2021 2022 -Property Crime Violent Crime

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Crime Rate History 4.500 4,000 id resid 3,500 3,000 2,500 2,000 8 1,500 per 1.000 500 crimes 0 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 Violent Crime Rate (NM) Property Crime Rate (NM) Property Crime Rate (US) ——Violent Crime Rate (US) Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation

Crime Trends and Data Reporting

Rates of Violent and Property Crime had been declining in 2019, which was the last year the FBI has full data for the region.

*The Socorro Police Department has not reported to the National Incident-Based Reporting System, and consequently, data is incomplete from 2020-2022

Leadership & Resources

Socorro County Leadership

- County Commissioners: Joe Gonzales Craig Secatero John Aguilar Glen Duggins Antonio R. Martinez
- County Manager:
 Andrew Lotrich
- County Clerk:
 Betty Saavedra



Leadership & Resources

City of Socorro Leadership

- Mayor: Ravi Bhasker
- City Council: Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez Deborah Dean Nick Fleming Damien Ocampo Michael Olguin Jr. Joel D. Partidge Peter D. Romero Anton Salome
- City Administrator : Donald Monette

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