

A Land of Enchantment for All New Mexicans

The VIDA Project

Frontier Village Investment and Development

**Nearly all of the State of New Mexico is within unincorporated areas.
This continues historic and current settlement patterns.**

National Census Data:

52% of people in micropolitan areas live in unincorporated areas.

60% people outside CBSAs (Core-Based Statistical Areas) live in unincorporated areas.

- Each state has its own laws governing the establishment and functioning of incorporated places, the number and nature of incorporated places varies by state and region.
- Typically, each incorporated place has a set of elected or appointed officials and legally prescribed powers to levy taxes and raise revenue, and to provide local services such as water, sewer, sanitation, fire and police protection, schools, and recreational facilities. In unincorporated areas, such services are typically provided by either the county or minor civil division government, or sometimes by a nearby incorporated place.

<https://www.census.gov/population/www/documentation/twps0082/twps0082.html>

GOAL: Gather Community Ideas for the Legislature

Create VIDA –A plan for investing in the future of small and isolated villages.

New Mexico

Three rural definitions based on Census Urban Areas

Rural locations are those outside Census Urban Areas with a population...

...greater than or equal to 2,500

Outside Census Urban Areas $\geq 2,500$

...greater than or equal to 10,000

Outside Census Urban Areas $\geq 2,500$

Census Urban Areas: 2,500 - 9,999

...greater than or equal to 50,000

Outside Census Urban Areas $\geq 2,500$

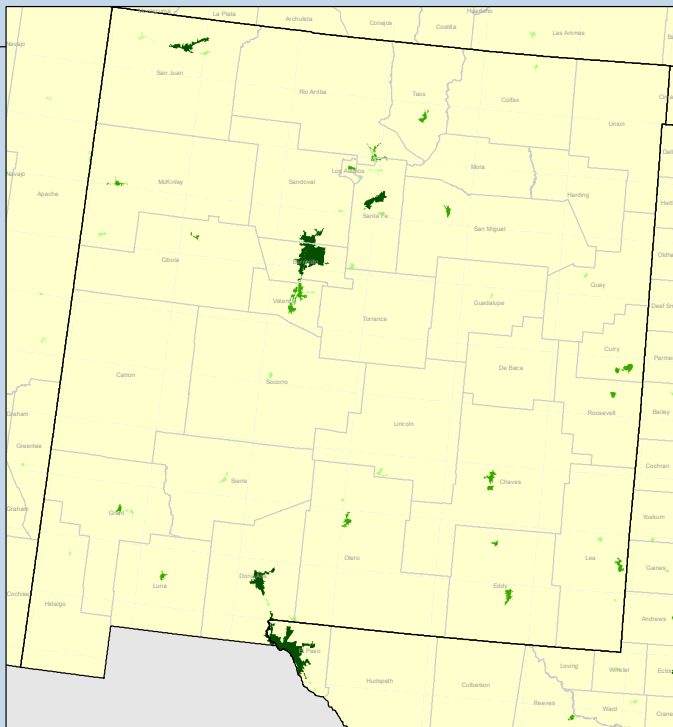
Census Urban Areas: 2,500 - 9,999

Census Urban Areas: 10,000 - 49,999

Urban locations under all three definitions:

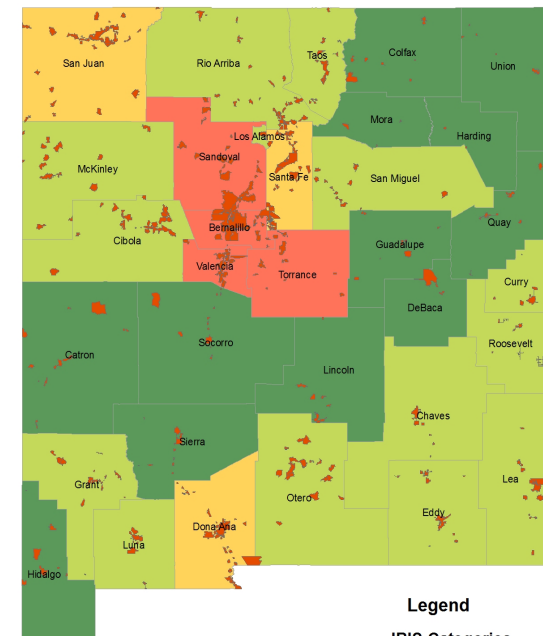
Census Urban Areas: $\geq 50,000$

For more information on definitions, see documentation



SOURCE: Economic Research Service, USDA, 2012.

New Mexico Rural and Urban Categories IBIS Definitions



Legend

IBIS Categories

- Large Metro
- Small Metro
- Large Town Rural
- Small Town Rural

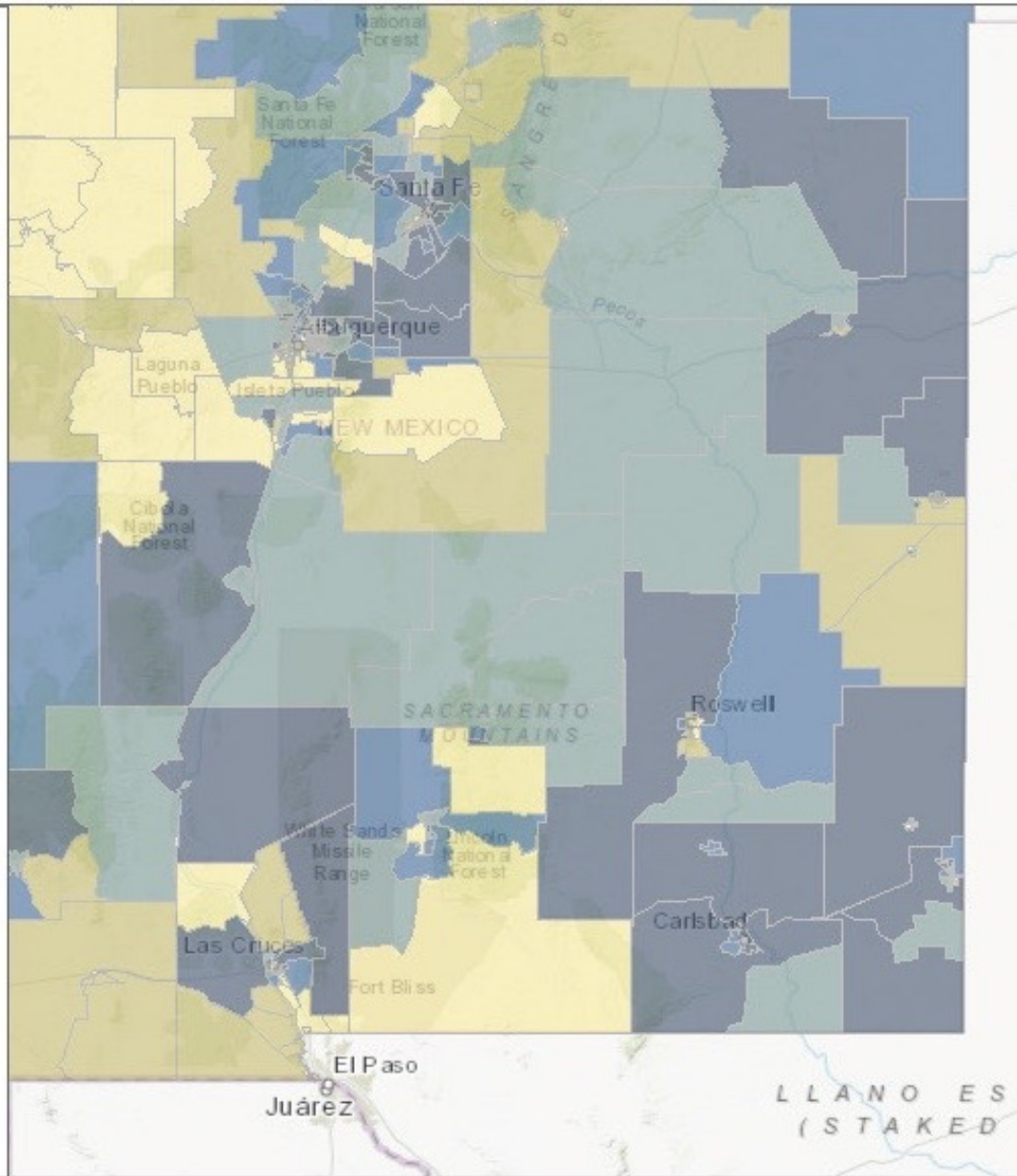
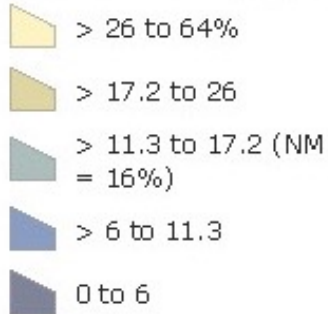


SOURCE: Personal Communication, Varela Consulting Group, Albuquerque, NM November 2017. NOTE: Indicator Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS)

POVERTY, INCOME, & UNEMPLOYMENT, Census Tracts, 2013

Percent Families in Poverty, CENSUS TRACT, 2015

Percent Families in Poverty



US House Ways and Means Committee Hearing *Changing Geography of US Poverty, February 2017*

PROBLEM STATEMENT: “jurisdictions often overlap in complicated ways—municipalities span more than one county, or school districts intersect with multiple municipalities or parts of both incorporated and unincorporated areas.

Such a complicated tapestry of jurisdictions, many of which are relatively small, means individual jurisdiction often struggle to mount effective responses to growing need.

At the same time, rather than marshaling resources at the scale needed to address shared challenges, communities often find themselves compelled to compete against each other for limited resources.”

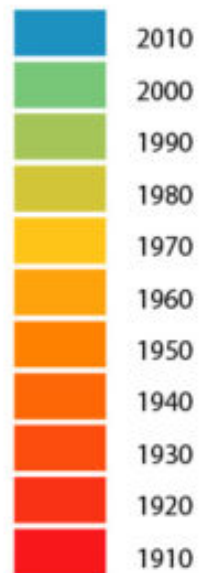
SOLUTION: “today’s geography of poverty calls for more crosscutting and responsive approaches that work at a more effective scale to address poverty in the context of place.”

Testimony before the House Ways and Means Committee,
Subcommittee on Human Resources, February 15, 2017

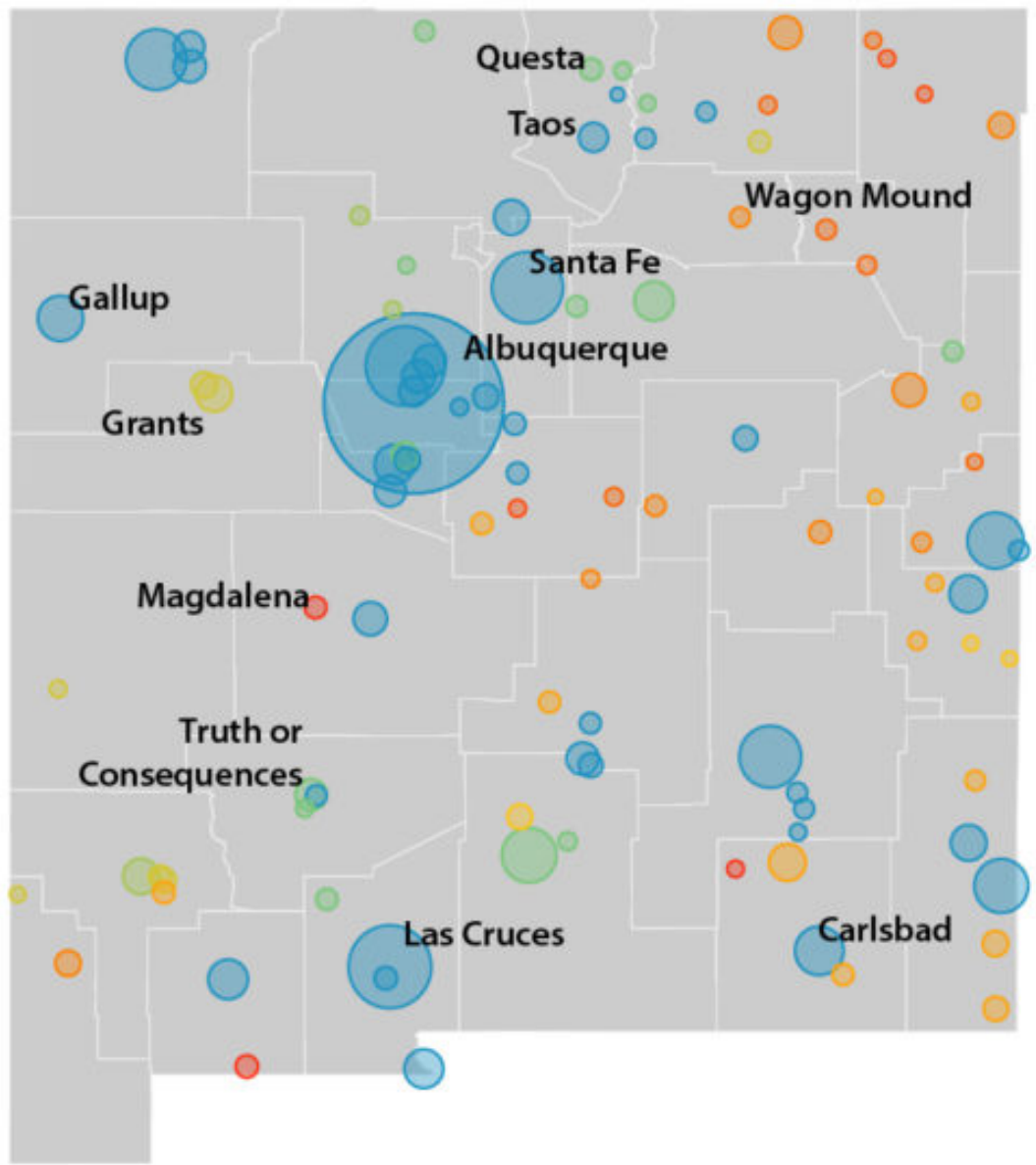
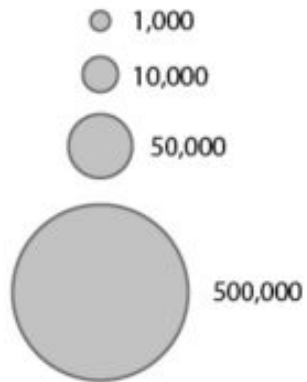
<https://www.brookings.edu/testimonies/the-changing-geography-of-us-poverty/>

When New Mexico towns were at their largest

Decade of peak census count



Peak population, incorporated towns and cities



Eric Dietrich / SJN

Data: US Census Bureau, as compiled by the UNM Bureau of Business & Economic Research

NM is not alone in planning how to best help the smallest and most disadvantaged communities.

- University of California Extension has determined that “It is especially difficult to deal with these problems in unincorporated communities. Of whatever size, unincorporated places lack the political power and locally concentrated government capacity that even small cities have to varying degrees. In calling on their counties for expanded services, they sometimes compete with other unincorporated places for county government attention and resources. <http://www.sanlorenzoexpress.com/unincorp.htm>

- As a way to target resources, a GIS mapping tool for identifying Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUCs) is used in California. <http://www.policylink.org/focus-areas/california-policy-advocacy/california-unincorporated>

Income Disparity and Child Poverty Rankings of Selected States

	A	C	D
1	Income Disparity Rank	% Child Poverty	Rank
2	43 New Mexico	29.9	51
3	44 California	19.6	32
4	45 New Jersey	14.3	16
5	46 Rhode Island	16.3	22
6	47 Connecticut	12.6	8
7	48 Massachusetts	13.3	11
8	49 Louisiana	28.4	49
9	50 New York	20.4	35
10			
11	3 New Hampshire	7.4	1st
12	19 Hawai'i	9.7	2nd
13	4 Wyoming	10.3	3rd

LEADER+

The EU Rural Policy Program

+ acquisition of skills aiming at the preparation of rural communities to conceive and implement local rural development strategies.

+ implementation of integrated territorial rural development strategies, of a pilot nature, which are prepared by local action groups (LAGs).

NOTE: Less-Favoured Areas (LFA' s) receive special consideration and extra funding.

Asset Based Development in Finland

- Small projects with **projected employment of five or fewer** are **encouraged and financed**.
Examples are varied and projects reflect local investment in local needs, values and opportunities.
- Project examples range from home nursing for the elderly to local road maintenance - and other functions contributing to increased quality of life for people in very small communities.

Geographic Democracy Means Moving All of New Mexico Forward



Ojo Sarco New Mexico
Albuquerque Journal, Eddie Moore, Photographer