

1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION**PRELIMINARY REPORTS**

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CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION OF NEW MEXICO
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(This is one of a series of reports presenting figures on selected characteristics of the population of the smaller States. In this series, reports are numbered alphabetically by States. Additional reports will be issued as figures for other States become available. Preliminary sample data for the larger States, not covered in this series, will be found in Series PC-6)

Gains in the population of New Mexico between 1940 and 1950 were most marked among young children and persons 55 years old and over, according to figures from the 1950 Census of Population released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Although the total population of the State increased by 149,369, or 28.1 percent, the number of children under 5 years of age increased by 30,970, or 48.4 percent. The number of persons 55 to 64 years old increased by 42.1 percent, and the number of persons 65 years old and over increased by 42.0 percent. Smaller increases were shown by the figures for each of the remaining broad age groups. The smallest increase, 13.7 percent, occurred among persons 15 to 24 years old. In 1950 there were more males than females in the population of New Mexico. There were 104.2 males for every 100 females in 1950 as compared with 104.6 in 1940. The white and the nonwhite population increased at about the same rate.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Urban and rural residence.--Under the urban definition established for use in the 1950 Census, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, towns,¹ and villages; (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, around cities of 50,000 or more; and (c) unincorporated

places of 2,500 inhabitants or more outside any urban fringe. The remaining population is classified as rural. According to the definition used in previous censuses, urban population comprised all persons living in incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more and areas (usually minor civil divisions) classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density.

Farm and nonfarm residence.--The rural population is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population. However, the method of determining farm and nonfarm residence in the 1950 Census differs somewhat from that used in earlier censuses. In the 1950 Census, persons on "farms" who were paying cash rent for their house and yard only were classified as nonfarm; furthermore, persons in institutions, summer camps, and tourist courts were classified as nonfarm.

Color.--The group designated as "non-white" consists of Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who are not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are classified as white.

Age.--The age classification is based on the age of the person at his last birthday before the date of the census, that is, the age of the person in completed years. The median age may be defined as that age which divides the population into two equal groups--one-half being older and one-half younger than the median.

¹ Except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, where "towns" are minor civil divisions of counties and are not necessarily densely settled centers like the towns in other States.

(over)

P R E L I M I N A R Y

Table 1.--COLOR BY SEX, FOR NEW MEXICO, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Color and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950	Percent distribution			
	1950	1940	Percent change, 1940 to 1950			The State		Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950
						1950	1940		
Total.....	681,187	531,818	28.1	341,889	339,298	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	630,211	492,312	28.0	330,034	300,177	92.5	92.6	96.5	88.5
Nonwhite.....	50,976	39,506	29.0	11,855	39,121	7.5	7.4	3.5	11.5
Male.....	347,544	271,846	27.8	169,577	177,967	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	321,557	251,517	27.8	163,641	157,916	92.5	92.5	96.5	88.7
Nonwhite.....	25,987	20,329	27.8	5,936	20,051	7.5	7.5	3.5	11.3
Female.....	333,643	259,972	28.3	172,312	161,331	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	308,654	240,795	28.2	166,393	142,261	92.5	92.6	96.6	88.2
Nonwhite.....	24,989	19,177	30.3	5,919	19,070	7.5	7.4	3.4	11.8

Table 2.--AGE BY SEX, FOR NEW MEXICO, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Age and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural nonfarm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950	Percent distribution				
	1950	1940	Per- cent change, 1940 to 1950				The State		Urban, 1950	Rural non- farm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950
							1950	1940			
Total population.....	681,187	531,818	28.1	341,889	207,575	131,723	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percent by residence	100.0	...	...	50.2	30.5	19.3	...	...	...	...	...
Under 5 years.....	94,971	64,001	48.4	46,490	31,167	17,314	13.9	12.0	13.6	15.0	13.1
5 to 14 years.....	142,237	119,591	18.9	63,381	46,163	32,693	20.9	22.5	18.5	22.2	24.8
15 to 24 years.....	114,771	100,931	13.7	55,006	36,954	22,811	16.8	19.0	16.1	17.8	17.3
25 to 34 years.....	107,566	83,067	29.5	60,526	31,805	15,235	15.8	15.6	17.7	15.3	11.6
35 to 44 years.....	86,813	63,787	36.1	47,275	24,533	15,005	12.7	12.0	13.8	11.8	11.4
45 to 54 years.....	60,563	48,146	25.8	31,911	16,322	12,330	8.9	9.1	9.3	7.9	9.4
55 to 64 years.....	41,214	29,011	42.1	20,673	11,019	9,522	6.1	5.5	6.0	5.3	7.2
65 years and over.....	33,052	23,284	42.0	16,627	9,612	6,813	4.9	4.4	4.9	4.6	5.2
Median age.....years..	24.0	23.2	...	26.0	22.2	22.0	...	...	...	...	...
Male.....	347,544	271,846	27.8	169,577	108,633	69,334	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	48,370	32,243	50.0	23,608	15,959	8,803	13.9	11.9	13.9	14.7	12.7
5 to 14 years.....	72,153	60,135	20.0	31,811	23,464	16,878	20.8	22.1	18.8	21.6	24.3
15 to 24 years.....	57,891	49,947	15.9	25,835	20,057	11,999	16.7	18.4	15.2	18.5	17.3
25 to 34 years.....	54,079	41,729	29.6	29,921	16,477	7,681	15.6	15.4	17.6	15.2	11.1
35 to 44 years.....	44,145	32,627	35.3	23,648	12,758	7,739	12.7	12.0	13.9	11.7	11.2
45 to 54 years.....	31,327	26,132	19.9	16,006	8,738	6,583	9.0	9.6	9.4	8.0	9.5
55 to 64 years.....	22,099	16,114	37.1	10,601	6,020	5,478	6.4	5.9	6.3	5.5	7.9
65 years and over.....	17,480	12,919	35.3	8,147	5,160	4,173	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	6.0
Median age.....years..	24.2	23.7	...	26.2	22.4	22.5	...	...	...	...	...
Female.....	333,643	259,972	28.3	172,312	98,942	62,389	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	46,601	31,758	46.7	22,882	15,208	8,511	14.0	12.2	13.3	15.4	13.6
5 to 14 years.....	70,084	59,456	17.9	31,570	22,699	15,815	21.0	22.9	18.3	22.9	25.3
15 to 24 years.....	56,880	50,984	11.6	29,171	16,897	10,812	17.0	19.6	16.9	17.1	17.3
25 to 34 years.....	53,487	41,338	29.4	30,605	15,328	7,554	16.0	15.9	17.8	15.5	12.1
35 to 44 years.....	42,668	31,160	36.9	23,627	11,775	7,266	12.8	12.0	13.7	11.9	11.6
45 to 54 years.....	29,236	22,014	32.8	15,905	7,584	5,747	8.8	8.5	9.2	7.7	9.2
55 to 64 years.....	19,115	12,897	48.2	10,072	4,999	4,044	5.7	5.0	5.8	5.1	6.5
65 years and over.....	15,572	10,365	50.2	8,480	4,452	2,640	4.7	4.0	4.9	4.5	4.2
Median age.....years..	23.8	22.6	...	25.8	21.8	21.4	...	...	...	...	...