



**THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

**CONTINUING DISCLOSURE**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION FILING**

**FISCAL YEAR 2020**

**NEW MEXICO**

**STATE BOARD OF FINANCE**

**January 2021**

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**THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO CONTINUING DISCLOSURE**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION FILING**

**State Capital Program**

State General Fund balances and proceeds from General Obligation Bonds, Senior Severance Tax Bonds and Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds are important sources of capital financing for the State. The following table summarizes the capital funding administered by the Board and certain other sources for Fiscal Year 2016 through Fiscal Year 2020.

**TABLE 1  
Principal Sources of Capital Project Funding  
Fiscal Year Ended June 30  
(Dollars in millions)**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>Proceeds from General Obligation Bonding Program<sup>(1)</sup></b>					
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.0	\$174.3	\$ 0.0	\$157.9
<b>Subtotal</b>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>174.3</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>157.9</u>
<b>Proceeds from Severance Tax Bonding Program<sup>(1)</sup></b>					
Severance Tax Bonds	293.1	51.0	222.5	0.0	0.0
Severance Tax Funding Notes <sup>(2)</sup>	8.6	38.5	28.9	77.2	307.2
Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds	81.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Supplemental Severance Tax Funding Notes <sup>(2)</sup>	<u>127.3</u>	<u>120.4</u>	<u>139.2</u>	<u>181.9</u>	<u>254.5</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<u>510.0</u>	<u>209.9</u>	<u>390.6</u>	<u>259.1</u>	<u>561.7</u>
<b>Proceeds From Other Sources</b>					
Transportation Bonds	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	0.0	0.0	<u>0.0</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>
<b>Total<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<u>\$510.0</u>	<u>\$209.9</u>	<u>\$564.9</u>	<u>\$259.1</u>	<u>\$719.6</u>

<sup>(1)</sup> Dollar amounts from State Board of Finance funding programs reflect net proceeds available for capital expenditure. Amounts vary annually by legislative action and the timing of bond closings.

<sup>(2)</sup> The Board issues Senior Funding Notes and Supplemental Funding Notes to fund authorized projects. The notes are sold to the State Treasurer and retired within the same fiscal year.

<sup>(3)</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

Sources: New Mexico State Board of Finance and the New Mexico Finance Authority (as issuer of State Transportation Bonds)

In addition to the General Obligation Bonding Program, the Severance Tax Bonding Program and the Supplemental Severance Tax Bonding Program, each issued and administered by the Board, there are a number of other sources of funds for capital projects throughout the State. These other sources of funding include surplus general fund appropriations and proceeds of bonds issued by, among others, the New Mexico Finance Authority, the State Transportation Commission and state educational institutions.

The New Mexico Finance Authority (the "Finance Authority") was created by the State Legislature in 1992 to assist qualified governmental entities in financing capital equipment and infrastructure projects. The Finance Authority is a state instrumentality governed by a board of directors and is not subject to the direct supervision or control of any other board, bureau, department or agency of the State.

## General Obligation Bonds

Sections 7 and 8 of Article IX of the State Constitution limit the power of State officials to incur general obligation indebtedness in the following ways:

1. The State may borrow money not exceeding the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) in the aggregate to meet casual deficits or failure in revenue, or for necessary expenses.
2. Other debt may be contracted by or on behalf of the State only when authorized by law for some specified work or object. Such a law takes effect only after being submitted to the qualified electors of the State and having received a majority of all votes cast thereon at a general election. No debt may be created if the total indebtedness of the State, exclusive of the debts of the territory and several counties thereof assumed by the State, would thereby be made to exceed 1 percent of the assessed valuation of all property subject to taxation in the State, as shown by the last preceding general assessment.
3. The State may contract debts to suppress insurrection and to provide for the public defense.

General obligation bonds for refunding purposes are not subject to approval of the voters.

## Outstanding and Additional Parity General Obligation Bonds

The principal amounts of outstanding General Obligation Bonds, as of December 31, 2020, are shown in Table 2.

**TABLE 2**  
**Outstanding General Obligation Bonds**

<b>Series</b>	<b>Principal Outstanding</b>
Series 2011	2,160,000
Series 2015	79,815,000
Series 2017A	115,465,000
Series 2017B	115,250,000
Series 2019	<u>109,010,000</u>
Total	

*Source: New Mexico State Board of Finance*

Future debt payments, by Fiscal Year, on General Obligation Bonds outstanding, as of January 2, 2021, are shown in Table 3.

**TABLE 3**  
**Future General Obligation Bond Debt Service**

<b>Fiscal Year Ended June 30</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Annual Total</b>
2021	\$ 83,080,000	\$10,531,700	\$93,611,700
2022	68,950,000	16,931,000	85,881,000
2023	75,315,000	13,483,500	88,798,500
2024	57,390,000	9,717,750	67,107,750
2025	62,580,000	6,848,250	69,428,250
2026	25,770,000	3,719,250	29,489,250
2027	29,440,000	2,430,750	31,870,750
2028	9,475,000	958,750	10,433,750
2029	<u>9,700,000</u>	<u>485,000</u>	<u>10,185,000</u>
Total <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>\$421,700,000</u>	<u>\$65,105,950</u>	<u>\$486,805,950</u>

<sup>(1)</sup> Figures may not add due to rounding.

Source: New Mexico State Board of Finance

Voters must approve the issuance of additional General Obligation Bonds, other than for refunding purposes, and the levy of additional ad valorem taxes. Any such additional General Obligation Bonds may be issued on a parity with, or subordinate to, all outstanding General Obligation Bonds.

The following table sets forth the calculation of State general obligation bonding capacity prior to and inclusive of the issuance of the Bonds.

**Calculation of 1% Bonding Limitations**

Net taxable value as of December 31, 2020.....	\$70,648,047,631
General Obligation Bond limitation at 1% of net taxable value .....	\$706,480,476
Total General Obligation Bonds outstanding .....	\$421,700,000
Ratio of total debt to net taxable value .....	0.597

Source: Local Government Division and Fiscal Strategies Group

## Underlying General Obligation Bonds

The following table presents information on county, city, local and public school district debt outstanding as of June 30, 2020. The table does not include debt of special districts or community colleges.

### Certain Underlying General Obligation Debt

Counties .....	\$283,965,000
Cities .....	\$574,412,047
Schools .....	\$2,196,094,000

*Source: New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration, Local Government Division and New Mexico Public Education Department*

## Severance Tax Bonds

The Severance Tax Bonding Act, Sections 7-27-1 to 7-27-27 NMSA 1978, as amended, permits the Board to issue two categories of bonds for which the money in the Severance Tax Bonding Fund (the “Bonding Fund”) is pledged for their retirement. Those bonds are referred to in the Severance Tax Bonding Act as “New Mexico Severance Tax Bonds” and as “New Mexico Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds” but, for clarity, are referred to herein as “Senior Severance Tax Bonds” and “Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds,” respectively. Where appropriate, Senior Severance Tax Bonds and Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds are collectively referred to herein as “Severance Tax Bonds.”

The Board is prohibited by statute from issuing Senior Severance Tax Bonds and short-term Senior Severance Tax Funding Notes (“Senior Funding Notes”) unless the aggregate amount of total Senior Severance Tax Bonds and Senior Funding Notes outstanding, after giving effect to the proposed issuance, can be serviced with not more than 47.6 percent of the annual deposits into the Bonding Fund, as determined by the lesser of the deposits during the preceding Fiscal Year or the deposits during the current Fiscal Year, as estimated by the Board of Finance Division of the Department of Finance and Administration (the “Division”).

The Board is prohibited by statute from issuing Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds with a term that extends beyond the Fiscal Year in which they are issued unless the aggregate amount of Senior Severance Tax Bonds and Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds outstanding, after giving effect to the proposed issuance, can be serviced with not more than 60.1 percent of the annual deposits into the Bonding Fund, as determined by the lesser of the deposits during the preceding Fiscal Year or the deposits during the current Fiscal Year, as estimated by the Division.

In addition, short-term Supplemental Severance Tax Funding Notes (“Supplemental Funding Notes”) may be issued if the debt service on such Supplemental Funding Notes, when added to the debt service previously paid or scheduled to be paid during that Fiscal Year on Senior Severance Tax Bonds, Senior Funding Notes and Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds does not exceed the following percentages of the lesser of the deposits in the Bonding Fund during the preceding Fiscal Year or the deposits into the Bonding Fund during the current Fiscal Year, as estimated by the Division:

- (1) For Fiscal Year 2021, 87.8 percent; and
- (2) For Fiscal Year 2022 and subsequent Fiscal Years, 86.2 percent.

The Senior Severance Tax Bonds and Senior Funding Notes fund a wide variety of capital projects, while Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds and Supplemental Funding Notes are earmarked for capital

projects for public education. The Board has authority to issue Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds for public school projects in amounts certified to the Board from time to time by the Public School Capital Outlay Council of the State. During Fiscal Years 2018 through 2022, certain public school capital expenditures, including instructional materials and school bus transportation, will be funded via the issuance of Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds as certified by the Public Education Department Secretary. The lien of the pledge of such Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds (including Supplemental Funding Notes) is subordinate to any outstanding Senior Severance Tax Bonds.

NMSA 1978 Section 7-27-8 requires that on each December 31 and each June 30 the State Treasurer shall transfer to the Severance Tax Permanent Fund all money in the Bonding Fund except the amount necessary to meet all principal and interest payments on bonds payable from the Bonding Fund on the next two ensuing semiannual payment dates.

Following the 2019 legislative session, Senate Bill 535 was signed into law. The bill stipulated that the Board not issue and sell more than \$181.8 million of Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds in Fiscal Year 2019. The bill also requires the Board, by December 31 of each year for 2019 through 2028 (Fiscal Years 2020 through 2029), to transfer \$23.69 million from the Bonding Fund to the Severance Tax Permanent Fund. The amount of the Severance Tax Permanent Fund transfer would be considered before determining the bonding capacity. The Board may determine that a lesser transfer amount is necessary per NMSA 1978 Section 7-27-8 in order to pay debt service obligations.

### Outstanding and Additional Senior Severance Tax Bonds

The principal amounts of outstanding Senior Severance Tax Bonds, as of January 2, 2021 are shown in Table 4.

**TABLE 4**  
**Outstanding Senior Severance Tax Bonds**

Series	Principal Outstanding
Severance Tax Bonds, Series 2011A-1	\$ 3,635,000
Severance Tax Bonds, Series 2012A	15,540,000
Severance Tax Bonds, Series 2015A	82,565,000
Severance Tax Bonds, Series 2016A	78,750,000
Severance Tax Bonds, Refunding Series 2016B	133,130,000
Taxable Severance Tax Bonds, Series 2016C	1,695,000
Severance Tax Bonds, Series 2016D	26,725,000
Taxable Severance Tax Bonds, Series 2016E	7,085,000
Severance Tax Bonds, Series 2017A	58,395,000
Severance Tax Bonds, Series 2018A	104,245,000
Severance Tax Bonds, Series 2020A	<u>94,735,000</u>
Total	<u>\$606,500,000</u>

*Source: New Mexico State Board of Finance*



Future payments, by Fiscal Year, on outstanding Senior Severance Tax Bonds, as of January 2, 2021, are shown in Table 5.

**TABLE 5**  
**Future Senior Severance Tax Bond Debt Service <sup>(1)</sup>**

<b>Fiscal Year Ended June 30</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Annual Total</b>
2022	\$107,080,000	\$26,348,799	\$133,428,799
2023	102,990,000	21,624,400	124,614,400
2024	98,865,000	16,953,175	115,818,175
2025	84,125,000	12,672,375	96,797,375
2026	69,385,000	8,937,375	78,322,375
2027	53,460,000	5,866,250	59,326,250
2028	40,005,000	3,529,625	43,534,625
2029	26,560,000	1,865,500	28,425,500
2030	11,715,000	908,625	12,623,625
2031	<u>12,315,000</u>	<u>307,875</u>	<u>12,622,875</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$606,500,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$99,013,999</u></b>	<b><u>\$705,513,999</u></b>

<sup>(1)</sup> Figures may not add due to rounding.

Source: New Mexico State Board of Finance

**Outstanding Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds**

The principal amounts of Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds that are outstanding, as of January 2, 2021, are shown in Table 6.

**TABLE 6**  
**Outstanding Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds**

<b>Series</b>	<b>Outstanding Principal Amount</b>
Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds, Series 2015B	<u>\$40,365,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$40,365,000</u></b>

Source: New Mexico State Board of Finance

The future Fiscal Year debt payments on outstanding Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds, as of January 2, 2021, are shown in Table 7.

**TABLE 7**  
**Future Supplemental Severance Tax Bond Debt Service <sup>(1)</sup>**

<b>Fiscal Year Ended June 30</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Annual Total</b>
2022	\$7,285,000	\$1,836,125	\$9,121,125
2023	7,660,000	1,462,500	9,122,500
2024	8,055,000	1,069,625	9,124,625
2025	8,465,000	656,625	9,121,625
2026	<u>8,900,000</u>	<u>222,500</u>	<u>9,122,500</u>
Total	<u>\$40,365,000</u>	<u>\$5,247,375</u>	<u>\$45,612,375</u>

<sup>(1)</sup> Figures may not add due to rounding.

Source: New Mexico State Board of Finance

### **Tax Revenue Anticipation Notes**

The State has issued, and expects to issue from time to time, Tax Revenue Anticipation Notes (“TRAN”). The TRAN are not general obligations of the State. The purpose of the TRAN is to fund a portion of the State’s cash flow needs during the Fiscal Year in which the TRAN are sold. The State Treasurer’s Office has not issued TRAN since Fiscal Year 2011.

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## Severance Tax Bonding Fund and Debt Service Requirements

Severance tax receipts contributed 97.3 percent of total revenue to the Bonding Fund in Fiscal Year 2020, with the remainder attributable to interest earnings and reversions. Severance taxes are almost entirely attributable to natural gas, crude oil and coal sales. Natural gas and crude oil together accounted for 96.5 percent of total Fiscal Year 2020 severance tax receipts as shown in Table 8. This percentage is calculated net of Intergovernmental Tax Credits.

**TABLE 8**  
**Severance Tax Bonding Fund**  
**Receipts, Disbursements and Transfers**  
**Fiscal Year Ended June 30** <sup>(1), (2)</sup>  
**(Dollars in thousands)**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Beginning Balance	\$152,086	\$160,886	\$195,785	\$218,476	\$236,399
Receipts:					
Taxes:					
Oil and Gas Severance Tax	289,063	327,403	447,411	655,934	674,440
Other Minerals Severance Taxes	<u>10,102</u>	<u>8,334</u>	<u>6,926</u>	<u>5,677</u>	<u>5,858</u>
Total Severance Taxes <sup>(3)</sup>	<u>299,165</u>	<u>335,737</u>	<u>454,337</u>	<u>661,611</u>	<u>680,298</u>
Other Income:					
Interest on Investments	9,292	9,716	10,788	21,110	18,011
Other financing sources	<u>1,483</u>	<u>9,432</u>	<u>5,920</u>	<u>4,202</u>	276
Total Other Income	<u>10,775</u>	<u>19,148</u>	<u>16,708</u>	<u>25,313</u>	<u>18,287</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b><u>309,940</u></b>	<b><u>354,884</u></b>	<b><u>471,047</u></b>	<b><u>686,924</u></b>	<b><u>698,858</u></b>
Disbursements:					
Senior Bond Debt Service	142,085	141,063	142,160	145,381	146,969
Senior Short-term Obligations <sup>(5)</sup>	8,615	38,466	28,891	74,837	307,186
Supplemental Bond Debt Service	13,842	19,026	20,474	21,142	21,413
Supplemental Short-term Obligations <sup>(5)</sup>	127,290	120,443	139,224	181,527	254,551
Costs of Issuance and Other Charges	<u>841</u>	<u>987</u>	<u>580</u>	<u>659</u>	<u>376</u>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b><u>292,672</u></b>	<b><u>319,985</u></b>	<b><u>331,330</u></b>	<b><u>423,545</u></b>	<b><u>730,496</u></b>
Transfers:					
To Severance Tax Permanent Fund	<u>8,468</u>	--	<u>117,027</u>	<u>245,455</u>	<u>31,873</u>
<b>Total Transfers</b>	<b><u>8,468</u></b>	<b><u>--</u></b>	<b><u>117,027</u></b>	<b><u>245,455</u></b>	<b><u>31,873</u></b>
Ending Balance, June 30	<b><u>\$160,886</u></b>	<b><u>\$195,785</u></b>	<b><u>\$218,476</u></b>	<b><u>\$236,399</u></b>	<b><u>\$172,616</u></b>

<sup>(1)</sup> All receipts, expenditures and balances exclude amounts in rebate accounts retained for potential arbitrage rebates. Figures may not add due to rounding.

<sup>(2)</sup> Proceeds and expenditures attributable to refunding bonds are excluded from this table because such proceeds and expenditures are reserved for payments on appropriate refunding bonds and are not available for debt service payments on other Severance Tax Bonds.

<sup>(3)</sup> Reflects severance taxes collected and accrued on a cash basis. Effective July 1, 2017, the State of New Mexico began accounting for such receipts on a modified accrual basis. All severance tax collections in this official statement are shown on a cash basis.

<sup>(4)</sup> The Board issues short-term Severance Tax Notes and Supplemental Severance Tax Notes to fund authorized projects. The notes are sold to the State Treasurer and retired within the same Fiscal Year.

Source: New Mexico State Board of Finance based on the Statewide Human Resources, Accounting, and Management Reporting System (the "SHARE System")

Crude oil and natural gas prices were relatively stable through the first half of Fiscal Year 2020, however, in the latter half of Fiscal Year 2020 oil prices collapsed in March 2020 as a result of the supply and demand side shocks from an oil price war and the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the end of Fiscal Year 2020 and into Fiscal Year 2021, oil prices have begun to recover. Unprecedented U.S. fiscal stimulus efforts and OPEC+ actions in calendar year 2020 have stabilized economic outlook and oil price recovery. As of December 2020, expected oil and gas prices were upward from projections prepared in June 2020. Production volumes for oil and gas were adjusted upward for the immediate fiscal years (2021 through 2025). In response to these changes, severance tax bonding capacity has increased from December 2019 to December 2020. The coverage ratio of debt service is not expected to fall below 2x in any future year due to several mitigating factors, including (1) the legal coverage test, which now limits aggregate long-term bond issuance to an amount so that maximum future debt service in any year can be serviced with no more than the lesser of 47.6 percent of bonding fund revenue in the prior or current fiscal year, (2) the historical

practice of the State to limit long-term bond issuance with respect to available capacity under such test and (3) the practice of structuring debt service on a level debt service basis with a maximum maturity of 10 years, such that aggregate debt service declines over time. As a result, most of the impact of higher revenue will be realized in the form of higher amounts available through the State’s issuance of very short-term bonds that effectively utilize the revenues on a cash basis.

Table 9 shows projected coverage ratios for outstanding Severance Tax Bonds as of December 31, 2020. The severance tax revenue outlook is prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration (the “DFA”) using analysis by the Consensus Revenue Estimating Group (“CREG”), which includes economists from both the Legislative and Executive branches of New Mexico government, as well as forecasts by the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the IHS Global Insight and Moody’s Analytics forecasting services and public information about NYMEX futures contracts. The DFA’s December 2020 figures estimated oil prices at \$38.00 per barrel for Fiscal Year 2021, \$43.50 per barrel for Fiscal Year 2022, \$47.00 per barrel for Fiscal Year 2023, \$47.50 per barrel for Fiscal Year 2024, \$48.50 per barrel for Fiscal Year 2025, and above \$50 per barrel from Fiscal Year 2026 through 2031. The DFA’s December 2020 figures estimated natural gas prices at \$2.55 mcf for Fiscal Year 2021, \$2.65 for Fiscal Year 2022, \$2.55 for Fiscal Year 2023, \$2.65 for Fiscal Year 2024, \$2.75 for Fiscal Year 2025, \$2.60 for Fiscal Year 2026, and \$2.70 for Fiscal Year 2027 and beyond. Global oil and gas prices continue to experience significant market volatility. Accordingly, revenue projections are subject to continuing review.

**TABLE 9**  
**State of New Mexico Severance Tax Bonds**  
**Projected Cash Receipts, Debt Service Requirements and Coverage**

<b>Fiscal Year Ending June 30</b>	<b>Projected STBF Revenues</b>	<b>Scheduled Senior Debt Service<sup>(1)(2)</sup></b>	<b>Projected Senior Debt Service Coverage</b>	<b>Scheduled Supplemental Debt Service<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Projected Supplemental Coverage</b>
2021	\$549,924,900	\$136,901,091	4.02x	\$20,591,400	3.49x
2022	601,075,800	133,428,799	4.50x	9,121,125	4.22x
2023	661,616,813	124,614,400	5.31x	9,122,500	4.95x
2024	697,366,875	115,818,175	6.02x	9,124,625	5.58x
2025	739,859,438	96,797,375	7.64x	9,121,625	6.99x
2026	797,805,762	78,322,375	10.19x	9,122,500	9.12x
2027	836,031,572	59,326,250	14.09x	--	--
2028	849,904,867	43,534,625	19.52x	--	--
2029	849,904,867	28,425,500	29.90x	--	--
2030	849,904,867	12,623,625	67.33x	--	--
2031	850,404,867	12,622,875	67.37x	--	--

<sup>(1)</sup> Excludes debt service on refunded bonds, which will be payable from escrowed securities and severance and supplemental severance tax debt obligations sold to the State Treasurer, which are retired within the same Fiscal Year.

<sup>(2)</sup> Scheduled Senior Debt Service and Scheduled Supplemental Debt Service as of December 31, 2020; all other dollar amounts reflect projections as of December 2020.

Sources: New Mexico State Board of Finance and Fiscal Strategies Group

## Investments

Funds on deposit in the Bonding Fund are invested by the State Treasurer at the direction and approval of the Board, pursuant to the State Treasurer’s Investment Policy (“Investment Policy”), adopted on December 17, 2019. For a description of the Investment Policy, see State Treasurer’s Investment

Responsibilities in “Appendix A.” Investments are made in securities, which are at the time legal investments of the State, and no such investment or deposit shall violate any applicable restrictions imposed by the Tax Code (defined herein) and applicable Treasury Department regulations relating to the market price and the existence of an established market.

Except for funds deposited into the Rebate Fund (defined in the Bond Resolution) for any bond series, net interest earned on the amounts on deposit in the Debt Service Account for those bonds shall be retained therein, and net interest earned on amounts on deposit in the Project Fund for those bonds shall be credited to the Debt Service Account for those bonds and applied to the payment of principal and interest on the bonds next becoming due. Any net loss, after applying any earnings in that account or fund to the loss, resulting from any investment shall be charged to the applicable account from which such investment was made.

### **Severance Tax Collections and Reporting**

Operators, purchasers and working interest owners are required to submit monthly reports to the Taxation and Revenue Department (the “TRD”) showing the total value, volume and kind of products sold from every production unit each month. Taxes must be paid at the same time and are due 55 days after the month of production. Each production report must be accompanied by a company identification number, which facilitates automated processing of return information. Production and associated tax liability are reported by “production unit” and a designation for a well or group of wells that is assigned by the TRD based on the master operation, property name identification and pool. A suffix is added to the production unit number to designate the specific land type and taxing authority, including county, school district and municipality. Fluctuations of oil and gas prices from COVID-19 and other economic factors will impact the collection of severance taxes by TRD. The State producers have experienced negative prices for both oil and natural gas in the last year and a half. Most recently in April 2020, West Texas Intermediate oil prices saw negative prices as the world oil market suffered from both supply- and demand-side shocks from the Saudi-Arabia and Russia oil price war and the COVID-19 containment measures implemented in March. A return must still be filed to indicate the amount of oil and natural gas severed with zero tax liability then associated where prices were negative. See “SEVERANCE TAX REVENUE—2020 Economic Conditions Impacting Severance Tax” herein.

Complete reporting forms must be mailed or delivered, or their information electronically transmitted, on or before the 25th day of the second month after the calendar month for which the report is required. Taxpayers whose total tax liability for the month (including the oil and gas emergency school tax, the oil and gas conservation tax and the oil and gas ad valorem tax, as well as the oil and gas severance tax) exceeds \$25,000 must provide payment by automated clearinghouse or by wire transfer on or before the due date. Taxpayers who fail to report or pay in a timely fashion are assessed interest at the rate established for individuals under Internal Revenue Code Section 6621 computed on a daily basis beginning the day after the due date and continuing until the date the tax is reported or paid. A penalty is assessed, at a rate of 2 percent per month, up to a maximum of 20 percent of the tax due, when a taxpayer fails to pay any tax or file any report by the due date because of negligence or disregard of rules and regulations.

The State maintains an automated tax database system, which previously had been under the ONGARD (Oil and Natural Gas Administration and Revenue Database) system and now resides in the GenTax system. TRD integrated the collective oil and gas severance taxes (including the natural gas processors tax) into the GenTax system in March 2018. With the inclusion of oil and gas taxes, GenTax now manages 29 tax programs with consistent business processes. Tax returns are pre-screened to ensure quality and completeness before acceptance by TRD, which expedites distributions to correct beneficiaries. Oil and gas taxpayers have increased electronic management of their account activity through the Taxpayer Access Point (“TAP”), which allows for immediate posting of returns and amendments and report access of

how payments are allocated. Some ONGARD functions remain at the State Land Office in the processing of royalty payments due to the State.

Severance taxes received by the TRD are deposited into the Extraction Tax Suspense Fund. Using the GenTax system, the TRD reconciles monthly information reports with the payments received to identify the appropriate amounts to distribute to each tax beneficiary. Oil and gas severance tax amounts that have been reconciled and as to which TRD has determined no substantive risk of protest or litigation is present are then transferred monthly to the Bonding Fund.

**TABLE 10**  
**New Mexico Oil, Natural Gas and CO<sub>2</sub> Subject to Taxation <sup>(1)</sup>**

	<b>Fiscal Years Ended June 30 <sup>(2)</sup></b>				
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Oil</b>					
Sales Volume (million barrels)	147.20	155.90	205.20	301.20	367.80
Value (millions)	\$5,588	\$6,987	\$11,305	\$15,513	\$16,196
Average Price (per barrel)	\$37.95	\$44.80	\$55.09	\$51.50	\$44.03
<b>Natural Gas <sup>(3)</sup></b>					
Sales Volume (bcf)	1,183	1,239	1,368	1,635	1,830
Value (millions)	\$2,870	\$3,978	\$4,652	\$4,852	\$3,484
Average Price (per mcf)	\$2.43	\$3.21	\$3.40	\$2.97	\$1.90
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>					
Sales Volume (bcf)	95.40	95.20	87.0	85.90	73.40
Value (millions)	\$86.20	\$89.20	\$88.8	\$89.90	\$68.20
Average Price (per mcf)	\$0.90	\$0.94	\$1.02	\$1.05	\$0.93
<b>Helium</b>					
Sales Volume (mmcf)	0	0	0	26.60	16
Value (millions)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0.37	\$3.1
Average Price (per mmcf)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13.95	\$196.25

<sup>(1)</sup> In Fiscal Year 2019, the state saw helium production resume.

<sup>(2)</sup> Historical numbers are updated to reflect amended returns. Prices and volumes are gross, prior to deductions.

<sup>(3)</sup> In a previous publication, the Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019 natural gas sales volume and average price were estimates based on Fiscal Year 2018 and 2019 tax revenue. This year's publication used actual data as reported to the Taxation and Revenue Department

Source: *New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, Tax Analysis, Research and Statistics Office (GenTax, sales month basis as of December 2020)*

## **Severance Taxes on Oil, Natural Gas and Carbon Dioxide**

The State collects taxes on the severance and sale of oil, natural gas and carbon dioxide (“CO<sub>2</sub>”). Table 11 summarizes the history of statutory tax rates imposed on natural gas, oil and CO<sub>2</sub>. Tax rates are set by statute, Section 7-29-4 NMSA 1978, and are levied on the volume and/or value of product sold. With the exceptions noted below, tax rates have been imposed on an ad valorem basis, with deductions allowed for

royalties paid to governments and also for certain expenses of transporting and processing products downstream of the production facility.

**TABLE 11**  
**History of Severance Tax Rates on Oil, Natural Gas and Carbon Dioxide**

<b>Year of Statutory Change</b>	<b>Natural Gas</b>	<b>Oil</b>	<b>Carbon Dioxide</b>
1959	2.500%	2.500%	--
1974	3.750%	3.750%	--
1977	\$0.050/mcf + surtax	\$0.450/bbl + surtax	--
1980	\$0.087/mcf + surtax	3.750%	--
1987	3.750%	3.750%	3.750%

*Source: New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration*

### Oil and Natural Gas Incentives

The following table summarizes incentive tax rates applied to various categories of oil and natural gas production in New Mexico as of Fiscal Year 2020. Although the State offers reduced severance tax rates for several categories of production, prices are expected to be above the statutory price threshold through the forecast period, so none of these incentives are assumed to apply. Should prices decline in the future, some of these incentives may become applicable again.

**TABLE 12**  
**Oil and Natural Gas Tax Incentive Programs**

<b>Incentive Category</b>	<b>Incentive Tax Rate</b>	<b>Threshold Price Below Which Incentive Rate Applies</b>	<b>Qualified Production As a Percent of Fiscal Year 2020 Total</b>
Production Restoration Project	0.00% <sup>(2)</sup>	\$24.00 per barrel <sup>(3)</sup>	0.0% Oil 0.0% Natural Gas
Well workover wells	2.45%	\$24.00 per barrel <sup>(3)</sup>	0.0% Oil 0.0% Natural Gas
Stripper wells	1.88%	\$1.15 per mcf-Gas <sup>(4)</sup>	0.0% Natural Gas
	2.81%	\$15.00 per barrel-Oil <sup>(4)</sup>	0.0% Oil
		\$1.35 per mcf-Gas <sup>(4)</sup> \$18.00 per barrel-Oil <sup>(3)</sup>	0.0% Natural Gas 0.0% Oil <sup>(1)</sup>
Enhanced oil recovery	1.88%	\$28.00 per barrel <sup>(2)</sup>	0.0% Oil

<sup>(1)</sup> No oil or natural gas volumes are expected to qualify for these incentives during the period because average taxable value exceeds the threshold levels.

<sup>(2)</sup> The incentive rate applies for 10 years after the restoration project is completed. Each year's production is tested against the threshold price.

<sup>(3)</sup> Twelve-month average price for West Texas Intermediate crude oil as reported on Oil Postings for last day of each month.

<sup>(4)</sup> Average annual taxable value of natural gas or oil sold in New Mexico during the preceding calendar year.

*Source: Sections 7-29A and 7-29B NMSA 1978*

## Severance Tax on Indian Land

The State can tax non-Indian oil and natural gas production on tribal land, according to United States Supreme Court precedent in *Cotton Petroleum Company v. State of New Mexico*, 490 U.S. 163, 104 L. Ed. 2d 209, 109 S. Ct. 1968 (1989). The State's authority to impose severance taxes on non-Indian oil and natural gas production on tribal land was upheld by the United States District Court in New Mexico in *Jicarilla Apache Tribe v. New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department*, No. USDC 87-922. In 2009, the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico held that the State may not impose severance taxes on non-tribal operators extracting oil and natural gas on the tribal land of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. *Ute Mountain Ute Tribe v. Homans*, 775 F. Supp. 2d 1259 (D.N.M. 2009) (Parker, J.). The Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the district court opinion and held that the State severance taxes are not preempted by federal law because, among other things, the State had asserted sufficient justification for imposing the taxes. *Ute Mountain Ute Tribe v. Rodriguez*, 660 F.3d 1177 (10th Cir. 2011). The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe petitioned for an en banc review, which the court denied on September 12, 2011. The United States Supreme Court denied the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe's petition for a writ of certiorari on February 21, 2012. *Ute Mountain Ute Tribe v. Padilla*, 132 S.Ct. 1557 (2012).

Aggregate data reporting accessible on the TRD's TAP website based on oil and gas tax return data indicates that natural gas production and crude oil production on Indian land was approximately 1.9 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively, of total statewide production in Fiscal Year 2020. The TRD estimates that oil and natural gas production on Indian land generated \$5.1 million in severance tax revenues to the State in the production months corresponding to Fiscal Year 2020. On December 30, 2014, the Navajo Nation completed the purchase of the Navajo Mine. As a result, there has not been any coal production from the mine reported to the TRD since such purchase. No potash, copper or CO<sub>2</sub> is produced on Indian land.

Section 7-29C-1 NMSA 1978, enacted by the 1995 Legislature, authorized a credit against State production and property taxes for similar taxes imposed by tribal governments. The credit applies to crude oil and natural gas from new wells drilled on or after July 1, 1995 on land within Indian reservation boundaries on March 1, 1995. The amount of the credit is 75 percent of the lesser of State taxes or tribal taxes imposed. If the applicable tribal taxes were raised after March 1, 1995, then the amount of the State's credit is lowered. The TRD website reports that total credits claimed under this provision were about \$1.0 million in Fiscal Year 2019. About \$405,000 of these credits were applied against oil and natural gas severance tax liability. The Bonding Fund revenue projection assumes that this amount will grow slowly in the future.

The 2001 Legislature enacted Sections 7-29C-2, 7-9-88.2 and 9-11-12.2 NMSA 1978, which provided a similar 75 percent intergovernmental tax credit against severance tax and severance surtax on coal mined on the Navajo Nation

## Carbon Dioxide

The Bravo Dome CO<sub>2</sub> field encompasses 1.2 million acres in Harding, Union and Quay Counties in the northeastern area of the State. It contains estimated resources of 16.3 trillion cubic feet ("tcf"), of which 7.0 tcf to 10.6 tcf are considered economically recoverable. Although the State has long produced limited quantities of liquid and solid CO<sub>2</sub> for use in the food and the engineering industries, the main commercial value of CO<sub>2</sub> deposits is derived from the use of the product in its gaseous form in enhanced oil recovery projects in the Permian Basin of Texas and New Mexico. Future sales ultimately will depend on the CO<sub>2</sub> requirements of such projects and on the State's proportion of the market, which is shared with Colorado's Sheep Mountain and Little Sheep Mountain, McElmo Dome and Doe Creek Fields. Sales of CO<sub>2</sub> were approximately 73.4 bcf in Fiscal Year 2020, decreasing from 85.9 bcf in Fiscal Year 2019. The weighted average wellhead price of CO<sub>2</sub> sales for Fiscal Year 2020 was \$0.93 per mcf reported at the production



facility, a decrease of \$0.12 from \$1.05 per mcf during Fiscal Year 2019. Severance taxes on CO<sub>2</sub> are levied at the rate of 3.75 percent of taxable sales value. Weighted average deductions were 42 percent in Fiscal Year 2020.

### **History of Severance Tax and Severance Tax Surtax on Coal Production**

Severance taxes have been levied on coal production in New Mexico since 1937. The severance tax is set at a fixed rate of \$0.57 per ton of surface coal and \$0.55 per ton of underground coal. By statute, the surtax is calculated each year based on the Producer Price Index for coal and either increases or remains constant from the previous year. In Fiscal Year 2015, the surface-mined surtax rate was \$1.28 per short ton and the underground-mined surtax rates was \$1.23. These rates have remained unchanged in Fiscal Years 2016 through 2020. In the last six years, all coal mined underground has always met exemptions from the surtax. In the last five years, all surface mined coal has also met exemptions. These exemptions are the result of renegotiations of long term mine-mouth contracts, which, under statute requirements, have resulted in all current coal production being exempt from the surtax.

Table 13 sets forth data on coal production, prices, revenues and average tax rates for the past five fiscal years. The recent decline in sales volume is attributable to the closure at the end of 2017 of two of the four coal-fired units at the San Juan Generating Station. The sale of the Navajo Mine to the tax-exempt Navajo Nation in Fiscal Year 2014 contributed to declines in 2015 as compared to 2014. The decrease of the Intergovernmental Tax Credit for coal to \$0 in Fiscal Year 2015 and Fiscal Year 2016 also coincides with the purchase of the Navajo Mine by the Navajo Nation.

As reflected in the table, gross average prices have ranged from a low of \$28.54 per ton in Fiscal Year 2017 to a high of \$35.41 per ton in Fiscal Year 2018. Output in short tons over the past five years has dropped from 12.1 million in Fiscal Year 2016 to 7.9 million in Fiscal Year 2020. Total coal sales are expected to continue to decline gradually due to increased competition from other electricity sources, environmental concerns and closure of coal-fueled power plants. Sales and tax revenue reflect the drop in production and exemptions from the surtax. In Fiscal Year 2016, all severed coal was exempt from the severance surtax, thus contributing to the 18.4 percent decline in 2016 tax revenue. In Fiscal Year 2018 tax revenues were \$5.3 million, approximately 17 percent lower than Fiscal Year 2017 as a result of a 17 percent drop in production despite higher average coal prices. Fiscal Year 2020 tax revenues were \$4.4 million, 4 percent lower than Fiscal Year 2019 following a 4 percent drop in coal production.

The table below sets forth data on coal production, pricing and average tax rates for the past five fiscal years.

**TABLE 13**  
**Coal Production, Prices, Revenues, and Taxes**  
**Fiscal Years 2016 to 2020<sup>(1)</sup>**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>Production:</b>					
Total Sales Volume (tons)	12,124,191	11,454,740	9,503,353	8,196,188	7,855,213
Surface Mined Surtax Exempt	6,501,537	5,256,770	5,241,877	5,433,828	5,121,916
Surface Mined Non-Exempt	--	--	--	--	--
Underground Mined Surtax Exempt	5,622,653	6,197,970	4,261,476	2,762,360	2,733,297
<b>Prices:</b>					
Weighted Average Price per Ton for All Coal	\$33.83	\$28.54	\$35.41	\$35.58	\$34.60
<b>Sales Revenue:</b>					
Total Sales Revenue	\$410,140,009	\$326,892,275	\$336,486,800	\$291,592,581	\$271,793,572
<b>Taxes Collected and Intergovernmental Tax Credits (ITC):</b>					
Gross Severance Tax and Severance Surtax Due	\$6,798,336	\$6,405,242	\$5,331,682	\$4,616,581	\$4,422,809
Intergovernmental Tax Credit (ITC)	--	--	--	--	--
Net Severance Tax and Severance Surtax Liability (Net of ITC)	\$6,798,336	\$6,405,242	\$5,331,682	\$4,616,581	\$4,422,809
<b>Effective Taxes (Net of ITC):</b>					
Effective Tax Rate	1.66%	1.96%	1.58%	1.58%	1.63%
Effective Tax per Ton for all Coal (Net of ITC)	\$0.56	\$0.56	\$0.56	\$0.56	\$0.56

<sup>(1)</sup> Totals may not sum due to rounding. Historical numbers have been updated to reflect amended returns.

Source: *New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, Tax Analysis, Research and Statistics Office (the "GenTax System")*.

### Severance Taxes on Other Minerals

Many other minerals and natural resources are taxed in the State upon their severance from the earth or, in some cases, their sale or shipment. Existing tax rates are listed in Table 14. In many cases, flat percentage deductions are allowed to account for certain production costs. The result is that the gross value is a percentage of the "full value." The "full value," in turn, is sometimes based upon published prices rather than actual revenues. Generally, for products with a price at the point of production, value is that price less deductions allowed for actual costs for hoisting, loading and crushing of up to 50 percent of price. For products that must be processed before sale, deductions are allowed for cost of processing and freight charges to the point of sale. Several exceptions apply, as detailed below.

For potash, the gross value is 40 percent of the posted field or market price, less those actual expenses of hoisting, crushing and loading necessary to place the severed product in marketable form and at a marketable price, but allowable deductions may not exceed 50 percent. The gross value for each type of potash and potash product requiring processing or beneficiation (other than sizing) is 33.33 percent of the proceeds realized from the sale of muriate of potash and sulphate of potash magnesia, as standard grades, and 33.33 percent of the value of such products consumed in the production of other potash products, less 50 percent of such reported value as a deduction for expenses of hoisting, loading, crushing, processing and beneficiation.

Gross values for copper, lead, zinc, gold and silver are 66.66 percent of specified Comex, London Metal Exchange cash price, London Metal Exchange Final and London spot, U.S. Equivalent, respectively, as published in Metals Week. The gross value for gold is the sales value established from published price date of the quantity of gold recoverable from the concentrate or other product that is sold or is shipped, transmitted or transported out of New Mexico without sale. The gross value for silver is 80 percent of the sales value established from published price date of the quantity of silver recoverable from the concentrate or other product that is sold or is shipped, transmitted or transported out of New Mexico without sale. For molybdenum, gross value is the value of molybdenum contained in concentrates shipped or sold from a mine site, but in no event shall it be less than market value. For copper, lead, zinc, gold, silver and molybdenum, deductions of 50 percent of the sales value are allowed for the expenses of hoisting, loading, crushing, processing and beneficiation, regardless of actual expenses incurred.

For sand and gravel, in the absence of substantial evidence of a different posted field or market price, it is presumed that the gross value is \$1.75 per ton. In the absence of evidence of lower deductible expenses, the maximum 50 percent deduction will be allowed. In determining taxable value, rent and royalty payments to the federal government or the State government are deductible from gross value.

**TABLE 14**  
**Severance Tax Rates on Other Minerals**

<b>Mineral Resources</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2020<sup>(1)</sup> Collections</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2019<sup>(1)</sup> Collections</b>	<b>Tax Rate</b>	<b>Gross Value as Percent of Full Value</b>
Potash	\$703,809	\$650,776	2.500%	not fixed
Copper	426,743	527,841	0.500	16.67%
Timber, Pumice, Gypsum, Clay, Fluorspar, Other	58,202	56,276	0.125	not fixed
Molybdenum <sup>(1)</sup>	--	--	0.125	50.00
Lead, Zinc	--	--	0.125	16.67
Gold	22,078	14,448	0.200	50.00
Silver	3,359	2,057	0.200	30.00
Uranium	Not detailed	Not detailed	3.500	50.00 <sup>(2)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> In June 2014, Chevron Mining closed its Questa molybdenum mine in Taos County, reducing total molybdenum collections to zero in Fiscal Year 2015 and subsequent years.

<sup>(2)</sup> Taxable Value as a Percentage of Full Value.

Source: New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, Tax Analysis, Research and Statistics Office (the "GenTax System").

Severance tax revenue from copper, which is limited because of the statutorily defined narrow tax base, was \$426,743 in Fiscal Year 2020, down from \$527,841 in Fiscal Year 2019. The average price of copper was \$2.64 per pound in Fiscal Year 2020. This average price captures a drop in worldwide copper prices in March. As economies halted to confront the COVID-19 pandemic, global demand for copper decreased with the subsequent drop in prices. After minimal growth in prices in April and May, June saw a large increase in copper prices as economies have reopened. Freeport-McMoRan, which operates the only two copper mines in New Mexico, the Tyrone mine and Chino mine, has lowered output from the larger Chino mine since April. With the drop in copper prices and a COVID-19 outbreak among a sector of the employees, employees have been furloughed since April.

## GENERAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

The State, admitted as the forty-seventh state on January 6, 1912, is the fifth largest state, containing approximately 121,593 square miles. The estimated 2019 population of the State is 2,096,829 according to the United States Census Bureau. The State has a semiarid subtropical climate with light precipitation. Its climate is characterized by sunshine and bright skies in both winter and summer. Every part of the State receives no less than 70 percent sunshine year-round. Humidity ranges from 30 to 60 percent. Thunderstorms

in July and August bring most of the moisture. December to March snowfalls vary from 2 inches (lower Rio Grande Valley) to 300 inches (north central mountains).

## GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

The Executive Branch of State government consists of a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer, Attorney General, and Commissioner of Public Lands. These officials are elected to four-year terms beginning January 1 after their election. An elected Executive Branch officer may succeed himself or herself in office once. The primary functions of the Executive Branch are currently carried out by the offices of each elected Executive Branch officeholder, in addition to approximately 22 cabinet departments, each headed by a cabinet secretary appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate, and approximately 9 cabinet-level agencies. Elections for all statewide offices were held on November 6, 2018.

The State Board of Finance has seven voting members consisting of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the State Treasurer, and four members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. No more than two appointed members may be from the same political party. The DFA Secretary serves as the Executive Officer of the Board and is a non-voting Board member. The Board, in addition to other powers and duties provided by law, has general supervisory authority over the fiscal affairs of the State and over the safekeeping and depositing of all money and securities belonging to, or in the custody of, the State. The Governor serves as the President of the Board.

The DFA is the principal financial organization of State government and performs through its divisions the duties and functions relating to State and local government financing and general administration. The executive and administrative head of the DFA is the Secretary, who is appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Board of Finance Division of the DFA provides operational, analytical and administrative support to the Board. The Director of the Board is appointed by the DFA Secretary with the approval of the Board.

The Legislature consists of 112 members and is divided into a Senate and a House of Representatives. Senators are elected for four-year terms and members of the House are elected for two-year terms. The Legislature convenes in regular session annually on the third Tuesday in January. Regular sessions are constitutionally limited in length to 30 calendar days in even-numbered years and 60 calendar days in odd-numbered years. In 2020 a 30-day regular session convened on January 21, and in 2021 there will be a 60-day regular session. Special sessions of the Legislature may be convened by the Governor. In June 2020, the Governor convened the first special session of 2020, running from June 18 through June 22, for the legislature to address critical budget and other legislation related to the impacts of COVID-19.

The 2020 second special session held on November 24, 2020, appropriated \$319 million from the general fund allocation of federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”) funds to support New Mexicans impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health orders. The major components of the \$319 million appropriation are as follows:

- \$194 million to the Workforce Solutions Department (“WSD”) for a one-time, \$1,200 benefit to New Mexicans who are currently on an unemployment benefit program, who have recently exhausted unemployment benefits since September 12, 2020, or who will enroll in a program within seven days of the effective date of the bill.
- \$100 million for the New Mexico Finance Authority (“NMFA”) to provide grants to businesses with less than 100 employees, provided that each grant is less than \$50,000, grants are awarded with geographic dispersion, and priority is given to hospitality and leisure businesses and businesses that have experienced severe economic impact from public health orders.

- \$10 million to the Human Services Department (“HSD”), of which \$5 million is to provide assistance to low-income residents up to \$750 per household that did not receive a stimulus payment from the federal government, and the remaining \$5 million of which is to provide emergency food bank services in the state.
- \$15 million of CARES Act funds to the DFA to provide emergency housing assistance and assistance for the homeless.

According to Moody’s Analytics reports federal fiscal stimulus plays a crucial role in the national and state economic recoveries. At the time of the 2020 second special session no additional federal fiscal stimulus measures were enacted. These State relief actions likely offset some of the negative impacts of the healthcare crisis.

Extraordinary sessions may be convened by the Legislature under certain limited circumstances. Legislators do not receive any salary but do receive per diem and mileage allowances while in session or performing official State business.

The judicial branch is composed of a statewide system including Magistrate and District Courts, the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court. The District Courts are the trial courts with general jurisdiction.

## **Pension and Other Retirement Funds and Benefits**

***Legislative History.*** The Legislature enacted the Educational Retirement Act, Section 22-11-1 et seq. NMSA 1978, the Public Employees Retirement Act, Section 10-11-1 et seq. NMSA 1978, and the Retiree Health Care Act, Sections 10-7C-1 through 10-7C-19, NMSA 1978, which created the retirement plans that cover most employees of the State and its political subdivisions. These retirement plans are managed by the Educational Retirement Board (“ERB”), the Public Employees Retirement Association (“PERA”) and the New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority (“NMRHCA”) and are described below. The Legislature establishes all financing provisions of the plans and the provisions are not subject to negotiation. Financing provisions include employee and employer contributions, fund investment provisions and benefit provisions. In 1998, the voters amended the State Constitution, adopting Section 22 of Article XX, which states that upon meeting the minimum service requirements of an applicable retirement plan created by law for employees of the State or any of its political subdivisions or institutions, a member of a plan shall acquire a vested property right with due process protections under the applicable provisions of the New Mexico and United States Constitutions. The amendment also stated that nothing in Section 22 shall be construed to prohibit modifications to retirement plans that enhance or preserve their actuarial soundness.

***Educational Retirement Board—Historic Financial Information.*** The ERB had 163,402 members as of June 30, 2020, including active, retired, inactive vested and inactive non-vested members. The market value of Educational Retirement Fund (the “Fund”) as of June 30, 2020 was \$13.0 billion. The ERB had a net investment loss for Fiscal Year 2020 of 0.97 percent.

In April 2020, following a six-year experience study ending June 30, 2019, the ERB voted to decrease the inflation assumption from 2.50 percent to 2.30 percent. This change resulted in the decrease in the assumed rate of return on the pension fund’s investments from 7.25 percent to 7.00 percent. The assumed rate of return is composed of the 2.30 percent assumed inflation rate plus the 4.70 percent assumed real return. Other changes were made to the ERB’s actuarial assumptions in April 2020, including decreasing the annual assumed cost of living adjustment (“COLA”) from 1.90 percent to 1.80 percent. These assumptions were adopted as of June 30, 2020. The combined effect of changes in actuarial assumptions increases the unfunded accrued actuarial liability (“UAAL”) from \$7.9 billion as of June 30, 2019 to \$8.3 billion as of June 30, 2019.

The change in the assumed rate of return was recommended by the ERB’s outside actuaries and was made after consultations with the ERB’s internal investment staff and its general investment consultant. The ERB will continue to monitor both its investment returns and general market conditions and may again change its assumed rate of return as market conditions and experience warrant.

As of June 30, 2020, the UAAL had an infinite amortization period under closed group projections. This closed group estimate is based on the current members and current elements of the plan design. However, an alternate projection that takes into account future expectations, such as reduced cost of living adjustments, lower cost of benefits for newer members and deferred gains and losses shows an infinite amortization period. This alternate projection is known as the open group projection since it is not just based on current members and current plan design elements.

**TABLE 15**  
**Schedule of Statutorily Mandated ERB Contribution Rates**

Wage Category	Fiscal Year(s)	Date Range	Member Rate	Employer Rate	Total
\$20k or less	2010–2013	07/01/2009–06/30/2013	7.90%	12.40%	20.30%
	2014	07/01/2013–06/30/2014	7.90%	13.15%	21.05%
	2015–2019	07/01/2014–06/30/2019	7.90%	13.90%	21.80%
\$24k or less	2020–Future	07/01/2019–Future	7.90%	14.15%	22.05%
Over \$20k	2010–2011	07/01/2009–06/30/2011	9.40%	10.90%	20.30%
	2012	07/01/2011–06/30/2012	11.15%	9.15%	20.30%
	2013	07/01/2012–06/30/2013	9.40%	10.90%	20.30%
	2014	07/01/2013–06/30/2014	10.10%	13.15%	23.25%
	2015–2019	07/01/2014–06/30/2019	10.70%	13.90%	24.60%
Over \$24k	2020–Future	07/01/2019–Future	10.70%	14.15%	24.85%

*Source: New Mexico Statutes Annotated 1978, Section 22-11-21, as amended*

In 2019 the Legislature passed and the Governor signed legislation amending Section 22-11-21 NMSA 1978 to increase the employer contribution rate to 14.15 percent and to increase to \$24,000 the threshold for higher employee contributions. These changes became effective July 1, 2019.

Certain employees of New Mexico universities and colleges are eligible to elect to participate in the Alternative Retirement Plan (“ARP”), a defined contribution retirement plan available to certain faculty and professional employees. Employees who do not elect to participate in the ARP remain members of the regular defined benefit retirement plan. Each ARP participant contributes to the ARP the same amount that he or she would be required to contribute to the defined benefit plan if he or she were a member of that plan. Colleges and universities, as the employers of ARP participants, contribute the same amount that the employer would be required to contribute to the defined benefit plan if the participant were a member of that plan. However, effective July 1, 2019, 3.25 percent of the employer statutorily-mandated contribution for ARP participants is provided to the defined benefit plan. Effective July 1, 2019, the employer contribution rate is statutorily set at 14.15 percent, which means that colleges and universities contribute 10.90 percent of participating employees’ gross salary to the ARP vendor on behalf of the participant and 3.25 percent of the employees’ gross salary to the defined benefit plan to offset the effect of having these employees not participate in the defined benefit plan. The colleges and universities are responsible for submitting the balance of the employers’ contribution and the employees’ contribution directly to the ARP vendors on behalf of the participants.

***ERB Funded Ratio; Impact of Actuarial Assumptions and Changes to the Discount Rate.*** The ERB implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (“GASB”) Statement No. 67 requirements with its June 30, 2013 financial statements. GASB Statement No. 67 (“GASB 67”) requires ERB to report net pension liability (“NPL”), which is measured as total pension liability less the amount of the plan’s fiduciary net position. GASB 67 replaced GASB 25, which had required ERB to report the annual required contribution of the employer (“ARC”) and the percentage of the ARC contributed. ERB meets 100 percent of its statutorily required employer contributions annually. The following table lists the ARC, NPL and the ERB funded ratio, for Fiscal Years 2016 through 2020. The funded condition of the plan is measured by the funded ratio, which is the ratio of the actuarial value of assets to the actuarial accrued liability. The funded ratio decreased from 2019 to 2020. The decrease was primarily due to the investment losses on the smoothed or actuarial value of the assets and demographic losses, primarily related to salary increase experience. The NPL of \$20,265,889,826, measured as the total pension liability, less the plan’s fiduciary net position as of June 30, 2020, was calculated based on an expected rate of return on plan investments of 7.00 percent. The current NPL increased by 167.5 percent compared to the Fiscal Year 2019 NPL of \$7,577,302,491. The change for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 includes the change in the single discount rate from 7.25 percent as of June 30, 2019 to the blended rate of 3.89 percent as of June 30, 2020. The 2019 single discount rate was based on the expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.25 percent. Based on the assumptions and projection of cash flows, the pension plan’s fiduciary net position at June 30, 2020, future contributions were insufficient to finance all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. As a result, the long-term expected rate of return of 7.00 percent was used to measure total pension liability as of June 30, 2020 until assets are depleted, then the plan must use the long-term municipal bond rate, which was 2.45 percent, resulting in a blended discount rate of 3.89 percent.

**TABLE 16**  
**ERB Funded Ratio**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Net Pension Liability (GASB 67)</b>	<b>Funded Ratio (GASB 67)</b>	<b>Funded Ratio (Actuarial Valuation)</b>
2016	\$ 7,196,433,561	61.58%	64.2%
2017	11,113,468,372	52.95	62.9
2018	11,891,330,976	52.17	63.5
2019	7,577,302,491	64.13	62.9
2020	20,265,889,826	39.11	60.4

*Source: Educational Retirement Board.*

The ERB also implemented GASB 68 early with its June 30, 2014, financial statements. GASB 68 requires the plan’s participating employers to recognize their pro rata share of NPL on their balance sheets.

ERB pensions are adjusted annually by a COLA beginning on the later of either July 1 of the year in which a member reaches age 65 (for members beginning ERB membership before July 1, 2013) or age 67 (for members beginning ERB membership on or after July 1, 2013) or July 1 following the year a member retires. Senate Bill 115 (Chapter 61, Laws 2013) reduced the amount of the COLA until ERB is 100 percent funded. The amount of the adjustment is determined by the change in the Consumer Price Index (“CPI”), the retiree’s pension amount and the retiree’s service credit. Pensions cannot be decreased if there is a decrease in the CPI.

In December 2013, the Supreme Court of New Mexico, in *Bartlett v. Cameron*, 2014-NMSC-002, rejected the claims of certain retired teachers, professors and other public education employees challenging the state constitutionality of Senate Bill 115 to the extent that it reduces the future amounts that all education retirees might receive as an annual COLA. The court held that Article XX Section 22 of the State Constitution did not grant the retirees a right to an annual COLA based on the formula in effect on the date of their

retirement. The court held that any future COLA to a retirement benefit is merely a year-to-year expectation that, until paid, does not create a property right under the State Constitution. Once paid, the COLA by statute becomes part of the retirement benefit and a property right subject to those constitutional protections.

***The Public Employees Retirement Association—Historic Financial Information.*** PERA had 48,159 active members as of June 30, 2020. As of June 30, 2020, the total market value of the PERA Fund was \$14.43 billion. The Fiscal Year 2020 PERA total fund investment return was (1.52) percent. (Information as of June 30, 2019 is the most recent available.)

PERA performs annual actuarial valuations of the retirement funds it administers. In 2019, PERA actuaries, Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC, conducted an experience study for the four-year period ending June 30, 2018, testing actuarial assumptions currently used in its valuations. The PERA Board accepted the actuary's recommended economic assumptions that the assets, benefit values, reserves and computed contribution rates reflect utilization of an inflation rate of 2.5 percent per annum and, based on the clear trend in lowering return expectations, decreased the real return assumption to 4.75 percent, reflecting an investment rate of return of 7.25 percent. The Board also adopted real wage inflation and payroll growth assumptions of 3.0 percent, each compounded annually, as well as revised retirement assumptions and adoption of the RPH-2014 Blue Collar mortality table.

The assumed investment return is one of the most significant assumptions in the annual actuarial valuation process as it is used to discount the expected benefit payments for all active, inactive and retired members. Minor changes in this assumption can have a major impact on valuation results. The change in the assumed rate of return recommended by the PERA's outside actuaries was made after consultations with the PERA's internal investment staff and its general investment consultant. The decrease in the real return assumption from 5.00 percent to 4.75 percent will be used as the discount rate used to measure the total pension liability. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that future contributions will be made in accordance with statutory rates. On this basis, the pension plan's fiduciary net position together with the expected future contributions are sufficient to provide all projected future benefit payments of current plan members as determined in accordance with GASB 67.

PERA member and employer contribution rates are established by State statute. In 2020, the Legislature amended the PERA Act, NMSA 1978 10-11-1 et seq. to increase the employer contribution rate by 2.0 percent beginning July 1, 2020 in 0.5 percent increments over the next four fiscal years, and to increase member contribution rates by 2.0 percent beginning July 1, 2020, in 0.5 percent increments over the next four fiscal years. There will be a two-year delay before any increased contributions for municipal or county employees and their employers. Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC completed an actuarial valuation of the PERA Fund, Judicial Retirement Fund, Magistrate Fund, Legislative Division and Volunteer Firefighter Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.



Actuarial information for each fund as of June 30, 2020 is shown in the table below.

**TABLE 17**  
**Summary of State Retirement Funds Managed by PERA as of June 30, 2020**  
**(Dollars in thousands)**

	<u>PERA<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Judicial</u>	<u>Magistrate</u>	<u>VFF</u>	<u>Legislative</u>
Membership	108,217	336	191	9,9971	338
<u>Actuarial Information</u>					
Accrued Liability <sup>(2)</sup>	\$22,388,871	\$170,756	\$58,591	\$ 50,340	\$ 32,146
Actuarial Value of Assets <sup>(3)</sup>	\$15,737,839	\$ 91,269	\$31,274	\$ 73,916	\$ 44,466
Unfunded (Overfunded) Accrued Liability	\$ 6,651,032	\$ 79,586	\$27,316	\$(23,576)	\$(12,320)
Present Value of Statutory Obligations	\$25,338,367	\$195,065	\$64,692	\$ 61,948	\$ 36,855

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes both the State and municipal divisions.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes the accrued liability of both the retired and active members.

<sup>(3)</sup> The valuation of assets is based on an actuarial value of assets whereby gains and losses relative to a 7.25 annual rate of return are smoothed over a four-year period.

Source: Public Employees Retirement Association.

As of June 30, 2020, PERA has an amortization or funding period of 106 years, based on the employer and member contribution rates in effect as of July 1, 2020. Member and employer rates are established pursuant to Section 10-11-1 through 10-11-142 NMSA 1978. The funded ratio (ratio of the actuarial value of assets to accrued actuarial liability) was 70.3 percent as of June 30, 2020, and the UAAL of the PERA Fund decreased \$11.6 million to approximately \$6.6 billion. The State's portion of the UAAL of the PERA Fund is 59.9 percent, or \$3.9 billion. Prior to 2020 pension reform, the funded ratio was 69.9 percent, the UAAL of the PERA Fund was calculated to be approximately \$6.67 billion and the amortization or funding period was infinite. Based on the recent experience study for the four-year period ending June 30, 2017, the economic and demographic assumptions were updated for the valuation. The changes in assumptions resulted in an increase of \$564.0 million to the PERA fund liabilities and a decrease of 1.95 percent to the funded ratio. The total actuarial loss due to investment experience of the total PERA fund was \$198.9 million and the loss on non-investment experience, which consists primarily of demographics (membership, mortality, retirement) totaled \$202.5 million. On a market value basis, PERA's funded ratio is approximately 70.3 percent as of June 30, 2020. Current 30-year projections indicate the PERA Fund will be 88.6 percent funded in 2044, assuming all economic and demographic assumptions are met.

In 2020, PERA implemented GASB 67 for the fifth year. PERA will also produce an audited Schedule of Employer Allocations and Pension Amounts in early 2020 to assist its employer participants in implementing GASB 68. GASB 68 requires participating local governments to recognize their pro rata share of net pension liability ("NPL") and other pension elements on the face of their financial statements. The total NPL as of June 30, 2020, for the PERA Fund allocated to its nearly 205 cost sharing employers that participate in the Fund is approximately \$7.5 billion.

In 2020, PERA completed the Schedule of Employer Allocations required by GASB 68 and provided local governments with the allocation percentage necessary to derive an employer's proportionate share of the collective NPL as of June 30, 2019. PERA continues to provide outreach and assistance to local governments to ensure local governments continue to receive pertinent allocation information required by GASB 67 and 68.

The following table lists the funded ratios for each individual PERA fund for Fiscal Years 2016 through 2020.

**TABLE 18**  
**Funded Ratio of State Retirement Funds Managed by PERA**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>PERA</u>	<u>Judicial</u>	<u>Magistrate</u>	<u>VFF</u>	<u>Legislative</u>
2016	75.3%	61.6%	61.7%	143.4%	144.8%
2017	74.9	61.7	61.3	146.6	151.4
2018	71.6	56.3	55.6	141.5	137.7
2019	69.9	55.1	54.3	142.5	136.9
2020	70.3	53.5	53.4	146.8	138.3

*Source: Public Employees Retirement Association.*

Legislative changes enacted during the 2009 through 2016 legislative sessions also amended various provisions of the Public Employees Retirement Act to improve the long-term stability of the fund. House Bill 573 (Chapter 288, Laws 2009) included training requirements for members of the PERA Board. House Bill 854 (Chapter 125, Laws 2009) modified employer and employee contributions to the State’s retirement funds for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011, shifting 1.5 percent of the annual contribution rate from employers to employees, for those employees with a full-time equivalent salary greater than \$20,000. House Bill 628 (Chapter 178, Laws 2011) extended the existing 1.5 percent shift made in House Bill 854 through Fiscal Year 2013 and shifted an additional 1.75 percent of the annual contribution rate from employers to employees for Fiscal Year 2012. The additional 1.75 percent of the annual contribution rate shifted back from the employees to the employers for Fiscal Year 2013. The 1.5 percent contribution shift from the employers to the employees remained in place through Fiscal Year 2013. House Bill 628 also required an actuarial study by PERA prior to September 20, 2013 to analyze whether contribution rate changes have had an adverse actuarial effect on the retirement systems.

Senate Bill 27 (Chapter 225, Laws 2013) significantly amended the Public Employees’ Retirement Act by creating a new tier of reduced benefits for new hires. The law reduced the cost of living adjustments for all current and future retirees; delays the application of cost of living adjustments for certain future retirees; suspends the cost of living adjustments for certain return-to-work retirees; provided for an increase in the statutory employee contribution rate of 1.5 percent (subject to certain requirements) for employees earning \$20,000 or more in annual salary; provided for an increase in the statutory employer contribution of 0.4 percent beginning in Fiscal Year 2015; increased age and service requirements; lengthened the base average salary calculation amount from three to five years for Tier 2 employees; increased the vesting period for employees from five to eight years for most Tier 2 members; and lowered the annual service credit by 0.5 for most members.

Legislative changes enacted during the 2014 legislative session amended sections of the law relating to the judicial and magistrate retirement funds and followed many of the changes implemented in the 2013 legislative session for the public employees’ and educational retirement funds.

House Bill 33 (Chapter 35, Laws 2014) amended the Judicial Retirement Act. Among other things, the law suspended for two years and makes adjustments to cost of living increases, adjusted employee and employer contributions, required mandatory participation in the fund and implemented changes to the benefits structure.

House Bill 216 (Chapter 39, Laws 2014) amended the Magistrate Retirement Act. Among other things, the law suspended for two years and makes adjustments to cost of living increases, adjusted employee and employer contributions, required mandatory participation and implemented changes to the benefit structure. Senate Bill 160 (Chapter 43, Laws 2014) also made changes to the Magistrate Retirement Act. This law duplicated the changes made in House Bill 216.

During the 2016 second special session, the State's distribution to the legislative retirement fund decreased from \$200,000 a month to \$75,000 a month, thus reducing the annual contribution from \$2.4 million to \$900,000.

During the State of New Mexico (53rd Legislature) special session in 2017, House Bill 2 was passed that suspended the State's distribution to the legislative retirement fund for two consecutive years (Fiscal Year 2018 and Fiscal Year 2019). Beginning July 1, 2019, the monthly distribution of \$75,000 to fund the legislative retirement coverage plan resumed, for a total annual contribution of \$900,000.

During the State of New Mexico (54th Legislature) regular session in 2019, House Bill 501/a was passed that increased employer contribution rates by 0.25 percent for PERA affiliated employers, with the exception of the overfunded state police and adult correctional officer plan. The contribution rate increase was effective July 1, 2019.

Executive Order 2019-05, issued in February of 2019, created the PERA Solvency Task Force to prepare and make recommendations to the Office of the Governor to preserve the defined benefit system offered by PERA. The recommendations were presented during the 2020 legislative session in the form of new solvency legislation.

During the State of New Mexico (55th Legislature) Regular Session in 2020, Senate Bill 72/a was passed, increasing employee and employer contributions and adjusting the COLA for retirees. Effective July 1, 2020, employee contributions increased by 2 percent, and will increase in 0.5 percent increments over four fiscal years. The first 0.5 percent increment will increase employee contributions under State General Plan 3 to 9.42 percent. The employer contribution rate will increase by 0.5 percent each fiscal year as well. There will be a two-year delay before any increased contributions for municipal or county employees and their employers. Effective July 1, 2022, municipal and county employee and employer contributions will increase by 2 percent, in 0.5 percent increments, over four fiscal years (2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026).

For retirees, those who are 75 years of age on or before June 30, 2020, will receive a 2.5 percent COLA, an increase from the current 2 percent COLA. Disability retirees and retirees with pensions lower than \$25,000 after 25 years of service also will receive a 2.5 percent COLA. All other retirees who are COLA-eligible will receive a 2 percent, non-compounding, additional payment for three calendar years (2020, 2021, and 2022). This payment will be paid in addition to the regular July pension payment. PERA received a \$55 million General Fund appropriation to cover the cost of the additional payments (2 percent non-compounding) to eligible retirees in Fiscal Years 2021, 2022, and 2023.

The changes implemented by Senate Bill 72/a will assist PERA in preserving the defined benefit offered to its members and increasing PERA's actuarial soundness moving forward.

***New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority—Historic Financial Information.*** NMRHCA was enacted for the purpose of providing comprehensive group health insurance coverage for persons who have retired from certain public service positions in the State and their eligible dependents. NMRHCA offers both pre-Medicare and Medicare plans, as well as non-subsidized dental, vision and life insurance plans to eligible participants. As of June 30, 2019, there were 52,179 participants, 10,916 vested terminated members and 91,082 active members contributing to the program from 302 participating public entities. (Information as of June 30, 2019 is the most recent available.)

NMRHCA, the agency that administers the Retiree Health Care Act, has a revenue base composed of active employee payroll deductions, participating employer contributions, monthly premium contributions of enrolled participants, investment income, subsidies associated with administering a Medicare Part D program, prescription drug rebates and amounts distributed annually from the Taxation Administration

Suspense Fund (“TAA Fund”). Employer and employee contribution rates are established in statute as is the amount distributed from the TAA Fund. Respective employer and employee contribution rates are 2 percent and 1 percent of the participating employee’s salary and 2.5 percent and 1.25 percent for employees participating under an enhanced retirement plan (i.e., police officers, firefighters and correctional officers).

As of June 30, 2020, NMRHCA reported a projected solvency period beyond 2051, or more than 30 years (period of positive fund balance). This calculation compares growth in projected revenues and expenditures from all sources and includes multiple components, including medical and prescription drug costs, administrative fees, employee and employer contributions and retiree premiums. The projected solvency date and continued improvements to its timeframe are largely the result of the prudent fiscal management exercised by NMRHCA’s Board of Directors. These actions include a series of targeted benefit reductions, increased cost-sharing for plan participants, aggressive procurement practices and value-based purchasing strategies.

In 2020, NMRHCA implemented GASB 74 for the third year. This valuation is based on the benefits administered by the Board, characteristics of plan participants, assets as of June 30, 2020, economic assumptions and other actuarial assumptions. In a change from the requirements contained in GASB 43, monies that are not fully being funded on an actuarial basis are required to go through a crossover test in determining the applicable discount rate on the plans assets.

The discount rate used in the valuation for financial disclosure purposes as of June 30, 2020 is a blend of the assumed investment return (7.25 percent) and the rate for a 20-year, tax-exempt general obligation municipal bond with an average rating of AA/Aa or higher (2.21 percent as of June 30, 2020). Because NMRHCA does not fully prefund benefits, plan assets are expected to be sufficient to make benefit payments through the 2041/2042 year. Projected benefit payments are discounted by the plan investment return assumption of 7.25 percent until June 30, 2041. Benefit payments after June 30, 2041 are then discounted by the municipal bond rate of 2.21 percent; 2.86 percent is the blended discount rate reflecting benefits discounted by the plan investment return assumption rate and the municipal bond rate.

The results as of the June 30, 2020 valuation indicate the Total OPEB Liability (“TOL”) equals \$5 billion, offset by the plan’s fiduciary net position of \$829.6 million, resulting in a Net OPEB Liability (“NOL”) of \$4.1 billion. Projected benefit payments are discounted by the plan investment return assumption of 7.25 percent until June 30, 2041. Benefit payments after June 30, 2041 are then discounted by the municipal bond rate of 2.21 percent; 2.86 percent is the blended discount rate reflecting benefits discounted by the plan investment return assumption rate and the municipal bond rate.

NMRHCA continues to evaluate opportunities to further strengthen the financial well-being of the program. In November 2017, the Board of Directors passed a five-year strategic plan to ensure the long-term financial stability of the program through a series of targeted benefit reductions and increases to contribution levels from participating employees and their employers. In addition to increased retiree cost sharing through plan design changes, the solvency plan including a minimum age and increased years-of-service requirements, resulting in proportionately higher premiums for retirees who retired younger (minimum age of 55) or did not work or pay into the system as long (less than 25 years), beginning July 31, 2021. These changes do not apply to members who retire from an enhanced retirement plan i.e., police and corrections officers, firefighters and judges. Combined, these actions are expected to further improve the financial condition of the trust fund by increasing revenues and reducing future liabilities.

Previous reporting requirements associated with GASB43 mandated NMRHCA to report its Annual Required Contribution (“ARC”) and the percentage of the ARC contributed. Beginning June 30, 2017, under GASB 74, the equivalent of the ARC is the Actuarially Determined Contribution (“ADC”). The following table lists the ARC and percentage of the ARC contributed for Fiscal Years 2016 through 2020. Prior to

Fiscal Year 2018, the annual required contribution was calculated by the normal cost combined with the amortization of the unfunded liability, using a 5 percent discount rate. The reporting requirements under GASB 74 allow for a separately defined method of funding basis (transitioned to the funding policy on a percentage of payroll basis) and a change in the discount rate methodology, resulting in a reduction in discount rate used to amortize the long-term liabilities (2.86 percent).

The following table lists the ARC and percentage of the ARC contributed for Fiscal Years 2016 through 2020 (the most recent available).

**TABLE 19**  
**New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority**  
**Annual Required Contributions**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Annual Required Contribution</b>	<b>Percentage Contributed</b>	<b>Actual Amounts Contributed</b>
2016	\$303,631,394	52.65%	\$159,862,801
2017	317,546,941	50.19	159,379,195
2018	156,266,741 <sup>(1)</sup>	98.77 <sup>(1)</sup>	154,358,714
2019	160,077,200 <sup>(1)</sup>	99.35 <sup>(1)</sup>	159,030,773
2020	161,578,422 <sup>(1)</sup>	107.79 <sup>(1)</sup>	174,162,723

<sup>(1)</sup> The 2018, 2019 and 2020 “required” contribution decrease is primarily due to a change in the method for determining actuarially determined contributions as a percentage of pay versus function of normal cost and liability.

*Source: New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 74 Actuarial Valuation and Review of Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) as of June 30, 2020*

### **Economic and Demographic Characteristics**

New Mexico is the 36th largest state by population and the fifth largest in land area. The population of the State as of the time of the 2010 United States Census was 2,059,179. From 2000 to 2010, the State’s population grew 13.2 percent, while the national population grew 9.7 percent.

There are four Metropolitan Statistical Areas (“MSAs”) in the State. The Albuquerque MSA is comprised of Bernalillo, Sandoval, Tarrant and Valencia Counties; the Las Cruces MSA is comprised of Doña Ana County; the Santa Fe MSA is comprised of Santa Fe County; and the Farmington MSA is comprised of San Juan County. The following table sets forth information on population growth in New Mexico and nationally.

**TABLE 20**  
**Population New Mexico and the United States**  
**2010-2019**

<b>Year<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Population<sup>(2)</sup></b>		<b>Annual Percentage Change</b>	
	<b>New Mexico</b>	<b>United States</b>	<b>New Mexico</b>	<b>United States</b>
2010	2,059,179	308,745,538	--	--
2011	2,080,450	311,556,874	1.0%	0.9%
2012	2,087,309	313,830,990	0.3	0.7
2013	2,092,273	315,993,715	0.2	0.7
2014	2,089,568	318,301,008	(0.1)	0.7
2015	2,089,291	320,635,163	(0.0)	0.7
2016	2,091,630	322,941,311	0.1	0.7
2017	2,091,784	324,985,539	(0.0)	0.6
2018	2,092,741	326,687,501	0.1	0.5
2019	2,096,829	328,239,523	0.2	0.5

<sup>(1)</sup> All estimates are subject to change.

<sup>(2)</sup> As of July 1 (except for 2010 data which is as of April 1). Except for 2010 data, population figures are stated as intercensal estimates.

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, 2009 released September 2011; 2010-2018 released December 2019 (the most recent information available as of January 8, 2021)*

Major industries in the State include oil and natural gas production, tourism and retail, healthcare, government and mining. Major federally funded scientific research facilities in Los Alamos, Albuquerque and White Sands are a notable part of the State's economy. In 2019 (the most recent information available), the largest employment sector in the State was government (comprising approximately 18.9 percent of the State's non-farm workforce), followed, in order, by health care and social assistance; retail trade; accommodation and food services; and professional, scientific and technical services. For the twelve-month period ended December 31, 2019, total average employment in the State increased by 1.8 percent as compared to the same twelve-month period ending December 31, 2018. The following table sets forth information on employment by industry over the period of 2009 through 2019, the most recent figures available.

**TABLE 21**  
**Total New Mexico Full-time and Part-time Employment by North American Industry Classification System 2010-2019**

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Growth 2018-2019</u>	<u>Growth 2010-2019</u>
<b>Total employment</b>	1,059,977	1,064,267	1,067,211	1,075,465	1,083,772	1,092,255	1,092,500	1,095,372	1,110,785	1,130,618	1.8%	6.7%
Wage and salary employment	836,523	836,180	839,254	846,495	852,638	860,270	861,137	862,577	876,083	889,967	1.6	6.4
Proprietors employment	223,454	228,087	227,957	228,970	231,134	231,985	231,363	232,795	234,702	240,651	2.5	7.7
Farm proprietors employment	19,083	20,715	21,328	21,547	21,557	21,542	21,476	21,410	21,121	21,206	0.4	11.1
Nonfarm proprietors employment	204,371	207,372	206,629	207,423	209,577	210,443	209,887	211,385	213,581	219,445	2.7	7.4
Farm employment	25,631	27,322	28,262	29,208	28,346	29,003	29,826	28,930	28,556	28,135	-1.5	9.8
Nonfarm employment	1,034,346	1,036,945	1,038,949	1,046,257	1,055,426	1,063,252	1,062,674	1,066,442	1,082,229	1,102,483	1.9	6.6
Private employment	816,910	823,130	827,038	835,402	845,767	854,472	854,245	860,376	876,059	894,535	2.1	9.5
Forestry, fishing and related activities <sup>(2)</sup>	5,183	5,221	5,133	5,235	5,674	5,557	5,828	6,004	6,013	6,122	1.8	18.1
Mining <sup>(3)</sup>	27,064	28,340	34,212	36,857	38,214	36,662	31,814	31,208	31,920	32,532	1.9	20.2
Utilities	4,612	4,540	4,570	4,652	4,591	4,683	4,899	4,623	4,573	4,412	-3.5	-4.3
Construction <sup>(4)</sup>	61,130	59,142	57,947	59,142	59,584	59,707	60,008	62,068	64,919	68,119	4.9	11.4
Manufacturing	34,574	35,740	35,749	35,463	34,027	34,157	33,186	32,562	33,358	34,649	3.9	0.2
Durable goods manufacturing <sup>(5)</sup>	23,075	23,696	23,201	22,549	21,238	21,189	20,017	19,250	19,450	19,881	2.2	-13.8
Nondurable goods manufacturing <sup>(6)</sup>	11,499	12,044	12,548	12,914	12,789	12,968	13,169	13,312	13,908	14,768	6.2	28.4
Wholesale trade	26,905	26,490	26,475	26,688	28,854	28,503	25,372	24,989	24,886	25,341	1.8	-5.8
Retail trade <sup>(7)</sup>	110,350	111,426	111,840	112,726	113,924	114,887	113,636	111,466	110,694	109,129	-1.4	-1.1
Transportation and warehousing <sup>(8)</sup>	23,437	24,330	25,379	25,502	25,905	27,244	26,673	28,058	30,847	32,079	4.0	36.9
Information <sup>(9)</sup>	17,130	16,501	16,473	16,059	15,725	15,587	16,001	15,491	15,096	14,340	-5.0	-16.3
Finance and insurance <sup>(10)</sup>	34,860	35,798	35,347	35,010	34,781	34,462	35,685	35,674	36,929	38,162	3.3	9.5
Real estate and rental and leasing <sup>(11)</sup>	39,357	39,637	38,191	38,414	39,111	39,656	39,859	40,499	41,445	43,035	3.8	9.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	78,395	77,519	76,128	75,919	76,116	77,542	77,751	79,918	81,683	85,125	4.2	8.6
Management of companies and enterprises	5,377	5,485	5,435	5,502	5,632	5,876	6,336	6,144	6,631	6,809	2.7	26.6
Administrative and waste services <sup>(12)</sup>	54,283	54,698	53,429	54,597	54,370	52,994	53,890	56,394	57,322	59,333	3.5	9.3
Educational services	16,812	16,277	16,152	16,426	16,709	16,960	17,017	16,808	16,586	16,876	1.7	0.4
Health care and social assistance <sup>(13)</sup>	119,461	121,582	123,225	123,737	124,796	129,721	134,263	134,790	135,924	137,269	1.0	14.9
Arts, entertainment and recreation <sup>(14)</sup>	23,104	23,132	23,714	23,734	24,227	24,245	24,150	25,154	25,482	27,207	6.8	17.8
Accommodation and food services <sup>(15)</sup>	81,144	82,292	83,194	85,494	88,297	90,193	92,523	93,512	94,736	95,956	1.3	18.3
Other services, except public administration <sup>(16)</sup>	53,732	54,980	54,445	54,245	55,230	55,836	55,354	55,014	57,015	58,040	1.8	8.0
Government and government enterprises <sup>(17)</sup>	217,436	213,815	211,911	210,855	209,659	208,780	208,429	206,066	206,170	207,948	0.9	-4.4

<sup>(1)</sup> Most recent data available.

<sup>(2)</sup> The “Forestry, fishing and related activities” category includes: forestry and logging; fishing, hunting and trapping; and support activities for agriculture and forestry.

<sup>(3)</sup> The “Mining” category includes: oil and gas extraction; mining (except oil and gas); and support activities for mining.

<sup>(4)</sup> The “Construction” category includes: construction of buildings; heavy and civil engineering construction; and specialty trade contractors.

<sup>(5)</sup> The “Durable goods manufacturing” category includes: wood product manufacturing; nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing; primary metal manufacturing; fabricated metal product manufacturing; machinery manufacturing; computer and electronic product manufacturing; electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing; motor vehicles, bodies and trailers, and parts manufacturing; other transportation equipment manufacturing; furniture and related product manufacturing; and miscellaneous manufacturing.

<sup>(6)</sup> The “Nondurable goods manufacturing” category includes: food manufacturing; beverage and tobacco product manufacturing; textile mills; textile product mills; apparel manufacturing; leather and allied product manufacturing; paper manufacturing; printing and related support activities; petroleum and coal products manufacturing; chemical manufacturing; and plastics and rubber products manufacturing.

<sup>(7)</sup> The “Retail trade” category includes: motor vehicle and parts dealers; furniture and home furnishings stores; electronics and appliance stores; building material and garden equipment and supplies dealers; food and beverage stores; health and personal care stores; gasoline stations; clothing and clothing accessories stores; sporting goods, hobby, musical instrument, and book stores; general merchandise stores; miscellaneous store retailers; and nonstore retailers.

<sup>(8)</sup> The “Transportation and warehousing” category includes: air transportation; rail transportation; water transportation; truck transportation; transit and ground passenger transportation; pipeline transportation; scenic and sightseeing transportation; support activities for transportation; couriers and messengers; and warehousing and storage.

<sup>(9)</sup> The “Information” category includes: publishing industries (except Internet); motion picture and sound recording industries; broadcasting (except Internet); Internet publishing and broadcasting; telecommunications; data processing, hosting, and related services; and other information services.

<sup>(10)</sup> The “Finance and insurance” category includes: monetary authorities-central bank; credit intermediation and related activities; securities, commodity contracts, and other financial investments and related activities; insurance carriers and related activities; and funds, trusts and other financial vehicles.

<sup>(11)</sup> The “Real estate and rental and leasing” category includes: real estate; rental and leasing services; and lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets (except copyrighted works).

<sup>(12)</sup> The “Administrative and waste services” category includes: administrative and support services; and waste management and remediation services.

<sup>(13)</sup> The “Health care and social assistance” category includes: ambulatory health care services; hospitals; nursing and residential care facilities; and social assistance.

<sup>(14)</sup> The “Arts, entertainment and recreation” category includes: performing arts, spectator sports, and related industries; museums, historical sites, and similar institutions; and amusement, gambling and recreation industries.

<sup>(15)</sup> The “Accommodation and food services” category includes: accommodation; and food services and drinking places.

<sup>(16)</sup> The “Other services, except public administration” category includes: repair and maintenance; personal and laundry services; religious, grantmaking, civic, professional, and similar organizations; and private households.

<sup>(17)</sup> The “Government and government enterprises” category includes: federal, civilian; military; and state and local governments.

*Source: Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Last Revised: September 24, 2020 (the most recent information available as of January 8, 2021)*



The following tables set forth selected additional economic and demographic data with respect to the State and the United States.

**TABLE 22**  
**Employment and Labor Force**  
**New Mexico and the United States**  
**2011–2020**  
**(numbers in thousands)(1)**

Year	Civilian Labor Force		Number of Employed		Unemployment Rate		
	New Mexico	United States	New Mexico	United States	New Mexico	United States	N.M. as % of U.S. Rate
2011	930	153,995	860	140,902	7.6%	8.5%	89.4%
2012	929	155,628	864	143,330	7.0	7.9	88.6
2013	924	155,182	860	144,778	6.9	6.7	103.0
2014	935	156,332	870	147,615	6.4	5.6	114.3
2015	935	158,035	874	150,128	6.5	5.0	130.0
2016	936	159,678	876	152,157	6.4	4.7	136.2
2017	934	160,543	884	153,911	5.3	4.1	129.3
2018	945	163,124	899	156,745	4.9	3.9	125.6
2019	960	164,579	914	158,735	4.8	3.6	133.3
2020 <sup>(2)</sup>	926	160,718	851	149,669	8.1	6.9	117.4

<sup>(1)</sup> Figures rounded to nearest thousand.

<sup>(2)</sup> Through October 2020 as of January 2021.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Last Revised: United States as of January 8, 2021

**TABLE 23**  
**Personal Income**  
**New Mexico and the United States**  
**2010–2019**

Year	Personal Income (Dollars in Millions)		Annual Percentage Change	
	New Mexico	United States	New Mexico	United States
2010	\$69,250	\$12,541,995	--	--
2011	72,820	13,315,478	5.2%	6.2%
2012	74,578	13,998,383	2.4	5.1
2013	73,438	14,175,503	(1.5)	1.3
2014	77,748	14,982,715	5.9	5.7
2015	80,062	15,717,140	3.0	4.9
2016	81,627	16,151,881	2.0	2.8
2017	83,142	16,937,582	1.9	4.9
2018	87,205	17,839,255	4.9	5.3
2019	90,847	18,542,262	4.2	3.9

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Data. Last Revised: September 24, 2020 (the most recent information available as of January 8, 2021)

**TABLE 24**  
**Per Capita Personal Income**  
**New Mexico and the United States**  
**2010–2019**

Year	<u>Per Capita Income (Dollars)</u>		N.M. as a % of U.S.	<u>Annual Percentage Change</u>	
	New Mexico	United States		N.M.	U.S.
2010	\$33,542	\$40,547	82.7%	--	--
2011	35,002	42,739	81.9	4.4%	5.4%
2012	35,729	44,605	80.1	2.1	4.4
2013	35,100	44,860	78.2	(1.8)	0.6
2014	37,207	47,071	79.0	6.0	4.9
2015	38,320	49,019	78.2	3.0	4.1
2016	39,025	50,015	78.0	1.8	2.0
2017	39,747	52,118	76.3	1.9	4.2
2018	41,670	54,606	76.3	4.8	4.8
2019	43,326	56,490	76.7	4.0	3.5

*Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Data. Last Revised: September 24, 2020 (the most recent information available as of January 8, 2021)*

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**TABLE 25**  
**2010–2019**  
**Wages and Salaries by Industry Sector**

NAICS Earnings by Place of Work <sup>(1)</sup> Applicable to 2010-2019	New Mexico (Dollars in Thousands) <sup>(2)</sup>		United States (Dollars in Millions) <sup>(2)</sup>		Cumulative Annual Percent Change 2010 - 2019		Distribution of 2019 Wages & Salaries	
	2019	2010	2019	2010	N.M.	U.S.	N.M.	U.S.
	Farm Wage and Salary	\$ 193,664	\$ 218,182	\$23,892	\$20,292	11.2%	17.7%	0.5%
Non-farm Wage and Salary	42,609,558	33,290,384	9,276,919	6,343,076	28.0	46.3	99.5	99.7
Private Wage and Salary	31,830,013	23,841,685	7,846,705	5,168,950	33.5	51.8	74.4	84.4
Forestry, Fishing, and other related activities	113,235	62,234	22,093	13,648	82.0	61.9	0.3	0.2
Mining	2,202,509	1,385,352	73,262	58,993	59.0	24.2	5.1	0.8
Utilities	371,888	319,007	63,706	48,920	16.6	30.2	0.9	0.7
Construction	2,711,124	1,873,287	500,358	284,934	44.7	75.6	6.3	5.4
Manufacturing	1,639,035	1,549,484	910,258	673,332	5.8	35.2	3.8	9.8
Wholesale Trade	1,296,562	1,107,776	481,578	354,692	17.0	35.8	3.0	5.2
Retail Trade	2,790,385	2,356,481	540,792	398,767	18.4	35.6	6.5	5.8
Transportation and Warehousing	1,236,981	797,953	329,219	195,476	55.0	68.4	2.9	3.5
Information	667,997	616,493	345,362	204,181	8.4	69.1	1.6	3.7
Finance and Insurance	1,651,647	1,168,194	726,935	485,459	41.4	49.7	3.9	7.8
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	473,210	337,892	146,981	87,987	40.0	67.0	1.1	1.6
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	5,077,717	3,821,481	977,154	590,958	32.9	65.4	11.9	10.5
Management of Companies and Enterprises	442,856	307,488	309,430	186,217	44.0	66.2	1.0	3.3
Administrative and Waste Services	1,816,844	1,365,752	410,991	255,154	33.0	61.1	4.2	4.4
Educational Services	368,913	323,699	168,037	118,723	14.0	41.5	0.9	1.8
Health Care and Social Assistance	5,411,466	3,987,789	1,075,090	729,882	35.7	47.3	12.6	11.6
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	307,645	185,095	107,860	68,125	66.2	58.3	0.7	1.2
Accommodations and Food Services	1,969,919	1,293,626	366,754	214,337	52.3	71.1	4.6	3.9
Other Services, Except Public Administration	1,280,080	982,602	290,845	199,165	30.3	46.0	3.0	3.1
Government and Government Enterprises	<u>10,779,545</u>	<u>9,448,699</u>	<u>1,430,214</u>	<u>1,174,126</u>	14.1	21.8	25.2	15.4
Total	<u>\$42,803,222</u>	<u>\$33,508,566</u>	<u>\$9,300,811</u>	<u>\$6,363,368</u>				

<sup>(1)</sup> The estimates of wage and salary disbursements for 2010 are based on the 2007 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), while the 2019 estimates are based on the 2017 NAICS.

<sup>(2)</sup> All dollar estimates are in current dollars (not adjusted for inflation).

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Last Revised: September 24, 2020 (the most recent information available as of January 8, 2021)

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

### State Auditing and Accounting Systems

The financial affairs of every agency in the State are examined and audited annually by the State Auditor, personnel of the State Auditor’s office designated by the State Auditor, or by the independent auditors approved by the State Auditor, as required by Section 12-6-3 NMSA 1978. The audits are conducted in accordance with generally accepted governmental auditing standards. The audit reports include financial statements that are presented in accordance with generally accepted governmental accounting principles. For Fiscal Year 2019, 97 percent of the reports, covering nearly 100 percent of the transactional value, received an unmodified opinion.

The State’s comprehensive cash reconciliation model, which compares aggregated agency claims on the State General Fund Investment Pool to the associated resources held by the State Treasurer’s Office, is a well-established process and has been audited multiple times by independent auditors during the audits of the General Fund, the DFA and the State of New Mexico’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (“CAFR”). The reviews have deemed the process to be sound and the DFA fully compliant with the

requirements of the monthly process. As of June 30, 2020, resources held in the pool were equivalent to the corresponding business unit claims on those resources.

The CAFR was initially audited in Fiscal Year 2013 (prior CAFRs were only reviewed by an independent auditor). A review of financial statements provides a lower standard of assurance than an audit of financial statements. The Fiscal Year 2019 audited CAFR, which has ten opinion units, had only one of those units qualified, indicating significant progress. Delays in the issuance of the State CAFR have historically been a continuing negative credit factor for the State. It should be noted, however that all State agencies undergo an independent audit and that for Fiscal Year 2019, all audits of significant agencies were unqualified. Since 2013, the State has made steady progress in reducing the amount of time it takes to issue the CAFR, which is dependent on the audit opinions of the State agencies, following fiscal year end. As of 2019, the CAFR was published 9 months following fiscal year end, which was the shortest length of time since 2013. In the coming years, the State will continue to work toward improving the quality and timeliness of the CAFR by leveraging increased resources, communication, and outreach and training both at an agency and statewide level.

### **State Budgetary and Appropriation Process**

All State agencies are required by Section 6-3-19 NMSA 1978 to submit completed budget forms to the DFA Budget Division by September 1 of each year. Guidelines and forms are provided to State agencies in advance of the September 1 deadline. Budget hearings to examine the merits of budget requests are scheduled through the fall and are usually completed by mid-December. The DFA Budget Division presents comprehensive budget recommendations to the Governor, as required by NMSA (1978-1999) Section 6-3-15(B).

The Governor is required by Section 6-3-21 NMSA 1978 to submit a budget for the upcoming fiscal year to the Legislature in early January. The Governor's budget includes the executive recommendations for public education; higher education; State agencies; and historical information on prior expenditures, revenues and revenue projections, among other information. The State budget is contained in a General Appropriation Act, which also may contain proposals for supplemental and deficiency appropriations for the current fiscal year.

Upon passage by the Legislature, the Governor may sign the General Appropriation Act, veto it, veto line items or veto parts of it. After the Governor has signed the General Appropriation Act, the DFA Budget Division approves the agency budgets and monitors the expenditure of the funds beginning on July 1, the first day of the fiscal year.

### **State Treasurer's Office Investment Responsibilities**

Pursuant to Sections 6-10-10(I) through 6-10-10(O) NMSA 1978, the State Treasurer, with the advice and consent of the State Board of Finance, may invest money not immediately needed for government operations. These investment responsibilities are conducted in accordance with the State Treasurer's Investment Policy (the "Investment Policy"), which is adopted by the State Treasurer and approved by the State Board of Finance. The Investment Policy states that in keeping with the office's fiduciary responsibility, all investment decisions made by the State Treasurer will adhere to the following three fundamental principles: safety, liquidity and return. The Investment Policy applies to all financial assets of the State invested by the Treasurer in the exercise of the Treasurer's statutory authority or invested as directed by other agencies that have specific investment authority and for which the Treasurer acts as the investing authority. The State Treasurer is the investing authority for the State's General Fund Investment Pool, the Local Government Investment Pool, Bond Proceeds Investment Pools, the Severance Tax Bonding Fund and bond debt service funds.

According to the Investment Policy, the State Treasurer's Investment Committee is appointed by the State Treasurer and the Board. The Investment Committee is an advisory committee that reviews investment reporting and any other matters of the State Treasurer's choosing. The Investment Committee shall consist of five (5) voting members: the State Treasurer or designee; a member of the Treasurer's staff upon appointment by the Treasurer or designee; the director of the State Board of Finance or designee; and two members who are participants in the private investment community or have expert knowledge or professional experience in the subject of public finance or public money investing, of which one member will be appointed by the State Treasurer and approved by the State Board of Finance and one member will be appointed by the State Board of Finance and approved by the State Treasurer. The member of the Treasurer's staff shall be selected in a manner consistent with maintaining a separation of responsibilities between the State Treasurer's Office investment managers and the members of the Investment Committee.

In addition to the Investment Committee oversight and recommendations, the State Treasurer contracts with an independent investment advisor to provide guidance and advice on investments, market conditions and benchmarks. The investment advisor provides quarterly performance reports on all of the State Treasurer's portfolios and information relating to the economic outlook and market trends.

### **General Fund**

The State derives the majority of its recurring General Fund revenue from four major sources: general and selective sales taxes; income taxes; taxes and royalties on natural resource production; and investment earnings both on its two permanent funds and on cash balances. Effective July 1, 1981, the Legislature repealed the property tax levy for general State operating purposes and has not reinstated it since that time. However, the New Mexico Constitution authorizes a levy of up to four mills for general State operating purposes and additional levies for the support of State educational, penal and other institutions.

The following table lists audited revenues, expenditures and ending fund balances for Fiscal Years 2016 through 2020 and result projections for Fiscal Year 2021.

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**TABLE 26**  
**General Fund Financial Summary Fiscal Year 2016 – Fiscal Year 2021**  
**(Dollars in thousands)**

	Actual 2016	Actual 2017	Actual 2018	Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Projected* 2021
<b>A. APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT</b>						
<b>Recurring Receipts:</b>						
General and Selective Sales Taxes	\$2,553,767	\$2,586,817	\$2,978,242	\$3,291,012	\$3,568,300	\$3,056,900
Income Taxes	1,445,711	1,450,831	1,625,560	1,694,822	1,755,100	1,589,100
Severance Taxes <sup>(12)</sup>	279,751	341,586	493,081	424,200	440,100	460,000
License Fees	54,815	53,339	61,033	59,890	30,781	52,700
Investment Income	770,258	738,654 <sup>(9)</sup>	802,833	946,200	946,200	984,900
Rents and Royalties	437,822	507,182	676,077	1,357,683	938,651	707,600
Miscellaneous Receipts	48,063	36,514	33,187	71,477	81,847	47,500
Tribal Revenue Sharing	64,413	62,717	68,092	78,429	51,677	53,800
Reversions/Adjustments	54,184	366,228	78,357	120,000	81,100	50,000
<b>Total Recurring Receipts</b>	<b>\$5,708,783</b>	<b>\$6,143,868</b>	<b>\$6,816,462</b>	<b>\$8,009,500</b>	<b>\$7,859,800</b>	<b>\$7,002,500</b>
<b>Total Nonrecurring and Adjustments<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>74</b>	<b>366,228<sup>(10)</sup></b>	<b>64,812</b>	<b>(99,200)</b>	<b>322,400</b>	<b>17,000</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$5,708,858</b>	<b>\$6,143,868</b>	<b>\$6,881,274</b>	<b>\$7,910,300</b>	<b>\$8,182,200</b>	<b>\$7,019,500</b>
<b>Recurring Appropriations:</b>						
Legislative	\$ 26,035	\$ 28,826	\$ 24,844	\$ 30,086	\$ 20,275	\$ 21,158
Judicial	273,949	271,439	278,048	295,336	318,833	321,254
General Control	135,273	127,675	146,231	217,783	147,536	150,083
Commerce and Industry	53,391	58,549	65,802	52,702	62,622	64,750
Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources	71,144	72,776	84,422	81,605	75,639	77,477
Health, Hospitals and Human Services	1,655,433	1,655,387	1,659,510	1,707,439	1,871,387	1,899,035
Public Safety	415,656	433,893	441,366	446,078	468,659	476,405
Other Education	112,902	112,447	133,555	102,147	102,147	--
Higher Education	843,428	787,740	785,233	803,436	867,043	840,678
Public School Support	2,623,316	2,600,677	2,585,824	2,699,006	3,171,732	3,170,640
Recurring Appropriations	6,210,527	6,149,410	6,204,835	6,330,644	7,092,100	7,209,500
Other Recurring Appropriations	--	(18,282) <sup>(11)</sup>	--	--	--	--
<b>Total Recurring Appropriations</b>	<b>\$6,210,527</b>	<b>\$6,118,027</b>	<b>\$6,204,835</b>	<b>\$6,339,800</b>	<b>\$7,092,100</b>	<b>\$7,209,500</b>
<b>Nonrecurring Appropriations<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>98,308</b>	<b>13,100</b>	<b>122,083</b>	<b>1,175,200</b>	<b>571,900</b>	<b>742,100</b>
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$6,308,835</b>	<b>\$6,131,127</b>	<b>\$6,326,918</b>	<b>\$7,515,200</b>	<b>\$7,664,000</b>	<b>\$7,951,600</b>
Transfers from/(to) Other Accounts <sup>(3)</sup>	-	5,500	-	-	\$ (	)
<b>TRANSFER FROM/(TO) RESERVE ACCOUNTS</b>	<b>\$ 594,477</b>	<b>\$(331,526)</b>	<b>\$ 554,356</b>	<b>\$(394,500)</b>	<b>518.3)</b>	<b>\$ 182.20</b>
<b>B. OPERATING RESERVE</b>						
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$ 319,790</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	<b>\$ 322,500</b>	<b>\$ 485,900</b>	<b>\$ 486,300</b>	<b>\$ 507,184</b>
Revenues/Repayments/Reversions	--	(1,300)	(300)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)
Appropriations:						
Contingencies	--	--	--	--	--	--
Restricted Funds	36,000	--	--	--	--	--
Other Appropriations and Adjustments	(390)	--	--	(14,100)	(48,600)	(5,700)
<b>Total Appropriations<sup>(4)</sup></b>	<b>35,610</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>(14,100)</b>	<b>(48,600)</b>	<b>(5,700)</b>
Transfers:						
From/(To) General Fund Appropriations Account	(485,425)	321,800	163,700	394,500	518,300	(182,200)
From/(To) Appropriation Contingency Fund	(20,000)	--	--	--	--	--
From/(To) Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund	147,469	--	--	(380,100)	(448,800)	--
From/(To) Other State Funds	4,555	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Total Transfers</b>	<b>(353,401)</b>	<b>321,800</b>	<b>163,700</b>	<b>14,400</b>	<b>69,500</b>	<b>(182,200)</b>
<b>Ending Balance<sup>(5)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	<b>\$ 322,500</b>	<b>\$ 485,900</b>	<b>\$ 486,300</b>	<b>\$ 507,518</b>	<b>\$ 319,300</b>

<b>C. STATE SUPPORT RESERVE</b>						
Beginning Balance	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 19,100	\$ 29,100
Ending Balance <sup>(5)</sup>	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 19,100	\$ 29,100	\$ 39,000
<b>D. APPROPRIATION CONTINGENCY FUND</b>						
Beginning Balance, Excluding Education Reform	\$ 28,440	\$ 34,372	\$ 25,961	\$ 12,300	\$ 11,700	\$ 12,300
Receipts:						
Reversions	2,182	4,564	4,800	14,700	8,300	8,000
Transfers From General Fund/Appropriation Contingency Fund	20,000	--	--	--	--	--
Expenditures/Appropriations: <sup>(6)</sup>						
Disasters	(16,250)	(12,975)	(18,500)	(15,300)	(15,300)	(16,000)
Other	-	-	-	--	--	--
Ending Balance, Excluding Education Reform	\$ 34,372	\$ 25,961	\$ 12,300	\$ 11,700	\$ 6,700	\$ (1,300)
<b>Education Reform:</b>						
Beginning Balance, Education Reform	--	--	--	--	--	--
Expenditures	--	--	--	--	--	--
Ending Balance, Education Reform	--	--	--	--	--	--
Ending Balance, Appropriation Contingency Fund	\$ 34,372	\$ 25,961	\$ 12,300	\$ 11,700	\$ 6,700	\$ (1,300)
<b>E. TAX STABILIZATION RESERVE</b>						
Beginning Balance	\$ 147,469	--	--	\$ 526,759	\$1,088,300	\$1,727,300
Transfers In			526,759	561,500	639,300	79,000
Transfers Out	(147,469)	--	--	--	--	9,900
Ending Balance <sup>(7)</sup>	\$--	\$--	\$ 526,759	\$1,088,300	\$1,727,300	\$1,796,400
<b>F. TOBACCO SETTLEMENT PERMANENT FUND RESERVE <sup>(8)</sup></b>						
Beginning Balance	\$ 16,362	\$ 110,357	\$ 146,819	\$ 158,676	\$ 228,600	\$ 241,300
Transfers In	39,552	54,272	33,689	74,200	33,900	32,900
Transfers Out	(149,135)	(37,000)	(33,834)	(17,000)	(17,000)	(32,900)
Gains/(Losses)	3,579	19,190	12,002	12,700	(4,200)	10,100
Ending Balance	\$ 110,357	\$ 146,819	\$ 158,676	\$228,600	\$241,300	\$ 251,400
<b>G. TOTAL RESERVE BALANCES</b>						
Beginning Balance	\$ 713,060	\$ 147,729	\$ 496,298	\$1,184,595	\$1,834,000	\$2,513,600
Ending Balance*	\$ 147,729	\$ 496,298	\$1,184,595	\$1,834,000	\$2,513,600	\$2,404,800
Reserves as a Percentage of Current-Year Recurring Appropriations	2.4%	8.3%	19.1%	28.9%	35.4%	33.4%

**Notes to General Fund Financial Summary:**

\*The General Fund Financial Summary reflects the December 2020 consensus revenue estimate. Based on year-to-date FY2020 revenue accruals, FY2020 revenues exceeded FY2019 by roughly 15%. A portion of the revenue strength is expected to be recurring, carrying over to FY2020.

**(1) Appropriation Account, Nonrecurring Revenue:**

**FY17 includes the following from Laws 2016:** \$8.0 million in disencumbered balances from prior year General Fund appropriations (Laws 2016, Ch. 12), \$3.9 million reversion of unspent balances of prior year taxable bond proceeds (Laws 2016, Ch. 12), \$56.2 million in deauthorized and reverted General Fund capital outlay funding (Laws 2016, 2nd Special Session, Ch. 5), and a revenue reduction of \$672,000 from the State Lands Maintenance Fund (Laws 2016, Ch. 11).

**FY17 includes the following from Laws 2017:** \$46.1 million reduction in Public School state equalization guarantee distributions as credit for excess FY2016 operational fund cash balances (Laws 2017, Ch. 3), \$78.3 million from adopting an insurance premiums revenue recognition process compliant with generally accepted accounting principles and aligning cash receipts to cash disbursements, and an \$8.0 million reduction in special appropriations to the Public Education Department (Laws 2017, Ch. 2).

**FY18 includes the following from Laws 2017:** \$10.7 million from adopting an insurance premiums revenue recognition process compliant with generally accepted accounting principles and aligning cash receipts to cash disbursements, \$0.8 million from the elimination of a distribution of cigarette tax revenue to the New Mexico Finance Authority, \$0.9 million from increases to penalties for Occupational Safety and Health Act violations and the imposition of penalty and interest on tax liability assigned to successors

**(2) Appropriation Account, Nonrecurring Appropriations:**

**FY 15 includes the following appropriations from Laws 2014:** \$16.6 million from Section 5 of the General Appropriation Act of 2014 (Laws 2014, Ch. 63).

**FY15 includes the following appropriations from Laws 2015:** \$93.7 million from Sections 5 and 6 of the General Appropriation Act of 2015 (Laws 2015, Ch. 101) and \$4.3 million from the 2015 1st Special Session (Laws 2015, Ch. 1, Sec. 3).

**FY16 includes the following appropriations from Laws 2015:** \$1.4 million from Section 5 of the General Appropriation Act of 2015 (Laws 2015, Ch. 101) and \$30 million for capital outlay projects (Laws 2015, 1st Special Session, Ch. 3).

**FY16 includes the following appropriations from Laws 2016:** \$66.9 million from Sections 5 and 6 of the General Appropriation Act of 2016 (Laws 2016, Ch. 11).

**FY17 includes the following appropriations from Laws 2016:** \$0.4 million from Section 5 of the General Appropriation Act of 2016 (Laws 2016, Ch. 11), \$1.0 million to the SBOF to be disbursed to agencies experiencing hardship as a result of special session budget cuts (Laws 2016, 2nd Special Session, Ch. 6), and \$1.5 million for child abuse prevention (Laws 2016, 2nd Special Session, Ch. 3).

**FY17 includes the following appropriations from Laws 2017:** \$6.4 million from Sections 5 and 6 of the General Appropriation Act of 2017 (Laws 2017, Ch. 135), \$1.7 million in supplemental appropriations to the courts (Laws 2017, Ch. 5), \$2.1 million in supplemental general appropriations (Laws 2017, 1st Special Session, Ch. 2).

**FY19 includes the following appropriations from Laws 2019:** \$185.5 million from Sections 5 and 6 of the General Appropriation Act of 2019 (Laws 2018, Ch. 73).

**(3) Appropriation Account, Transfers from/(to) Other Accounts:**

**FY16 includes** \$5.5 million transfer from the state government unemployment compensation reserve fund.

**FY17 includes** \$44.0 million transfer from other state funds (Laws 2016, Ch. 12), \$10 million transfer from the New Mexico Finance Authority (Laws 2016, Ch. 12), \$9.1 million transfer of unspent balances of prior year taxable bond proceeds (Laws 2016, Ch. 12), \$19.2 million to restore General Fund capital expenditures to be funded through severance tax bond proceeds (Laws 2016, 2nd Special Session, Ch. 5), \$28.3 million from the suspension of a distribution of severance tax bond revenue to the severance tax permanent fund (Laws 2016, 2nd Special Session, Ch. 5), \$61.2 million transfer from other state funds (Laws 2016, 2nd Special Session, Ch. 4), \$15.5 million transfer from the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (Laws 2016, 2nd Special Session, Ch. 4), \$16.1 million transfer from the Public Education Department (Laws 2016, 2nd Special Session, Ch. 4), \$47.2 million transfer from other state funds (Laws 2017, Ch. 5), an \$81.4 million swap of supplemental severance tax funding notes to restore prior year general fund capital expenditures (Laws 2017, 1st Special Session, Ch. 1), and \$730,000 transfer from other state funds (Laws 2017, 1st Special Session, Ch. 1).

**FY18 includes** \$8 million transfer from other state funds (Laws 2017, 1st Special Session, Ch. 1).

**(4) General Fund Operating Reserve:**

**FY15 includes** \$0.5 million for State Board of Finance Emergency Fund appropriation and repayment/reversion, \$15 million transfer to the appropriation contingency fund, and release of the \$100 million contingent liability established in the Fiscal Year 2012 and Fiscal Year 2014 General Fund financial statements.

**FY16 includes** \$0.4 million for State Board of Finance Emergency Fund appropriation and repayment/reversion, \$20 million transfer to the appropriation contingency fund, \$147.5 million transfer from the tax stabilization reserve, \$4.6 million transfer from other state funds (HB311, Laws 2016), and release of the \$36 million restricted fund balance for Special Education Maintenance of Effort funding (HB311, Laws 2016).

**FY17 includes** \$2.0 million for the State Board of Finance Emergency Fund appropriation.

**FY18 includes** \$2.0 million for the State Board of Finance Emergency Fund appropriation.

**FY19 includes** \$2.0 million for the State Board of Finance Emergency Fund appropriation.

**FY20 includes** \$2.0 million for the State Board of Finance Emergency Fund appropriation.

**(5) Year-ending Balances in the Operating Reserve:**

If the ending balance in the General Fund Operating Reserve exceeds 8% of the previous year's recurring appropriations, the excess over 8% is transferred to the Tax Stabilization Reserve.

**(6) Appropriation Contingency Fund Appropriations:**

**FY15 includes the following appropriations/transfers from Laws 2014:** \$15 million transfer from the operating reserve (Laws 2014, Ch. 63, Sec. 12), \$12.6 million for disaster allotments, and \$3.1 million for education reform (Laws 2015, Ch. 101, Sec. 5).

**FY16 includes the following appropriations/transfers from Laws 2015:** \$20 million transfer from the operating reserve (Laws 2015, Ch. 101, Sec. 11), and \$16.3 million for disaster allotments.

**FY17 includes the following appropriations/transfers from Laws 2016:** \$0.3 million for the relocation of the Bernalillo County child wellness center (Laws 2016, Ch. 11, Sec. 5).

**(7) Year-ending Balances in the Tax Stabilization Reserve:**

Prior to July 1, 2018, if the ending balance in the Tax Stabilization Reserve exceeds 6% of the previous year's recurring appropriations, the excess over 6% is transferred to the Taxpayer's Dividend Fund.

**(8) Tobacco Settlement Permanent Fund Reserve (established by Laws 2003, Chapter 312).**

**FY15** – 50% of Tobacco Settlement Permanent Fund revenues, or \$19.3 million, were transferred to the Tobacco Settlement Program Fund for Medicaid pursuant to Section 6-4-9C NMSA 1978.

**FY16** – 100% of Tobacco Settlement Permanent Fund revenues, or \$39.6 million, were transferred to the Tobacco Settlement Program Fund for Medicaid pursuant to Section 6-4-9C NMSA 1978.

\$0.5 million was appropriated from the Tobacco Settlement Permanent Fund for Medicaid (Laws 2015, Ch. 101, Sec. 11). \$109.1 million was transferred to the Appropriation Account (Laws 2016, 2nd Special Session, Ch. 4).

**FY17** – \$37 million of Tobacco Settlement Permanent Fund revenues were transferred to the Tobacco Settlement Program Fund for Medicaid pursuant to Section 6-4-9C NMSA 1978 and Laws 2016, Ch. 12 and Laws 2017, Ch. 135. The settlement distribution was increased by \$17 million over the estimate due to the State's prevailing in a motion filed to vacate the Partial Arbitration Award issued by the 2003 NPM Adjustment Dispute arbitration panel.

**FY19** – \$38 million of Tobacco Settlement Permanent Fund revenues were transferred to the Tobacco Settlement Program Fund for Medicaid pursuant to Section 6-4-9C NMSA 1978 and Laws 2016, Ch. 12 Laws 2017, Ch. 135., and Laws 2018.

**(9) FY17** Investment Income in the recurring revenue includes transfers from the Land Grant Permanent Fund and the Severance Tax Permanent Fund. Also included is the reported loss that is the result of recent changes in unrealized gains and losses (mark-to-market adjustments) related to the investments held in the State General Fund Investment Pool.

**(10) FY17** Nonrecurring revenue and adjustments included the standard reversions and the nonrecurring reversions from agencies as a result of one time sweeps.

**(11) FY17** Other recurring appropriations include audit adjustments due to revenue shortfall.

**(12)** Beginning in FY19, Oil and Gas School Tax revenue in excess of the five-year average goes to the tax stabilization reserve fund.

FY19 total gross oil and gas school tax revenue was \$555.4 million, however the excess of the five-year average was distributed to the tax stabilization reserve fund. This amount was \$182.8 million. Total several taxes net of this transfer were \$424.2 million.

FY20 total gross oil and gas school tax revenue was \$555.7 million, however the excess of the five-year average was distributed to the tax stabilization reserve fund. This amount was \$166.1 million. Total several taxes net of this transfer were \$440.1 million.

*Source: DFA Economic Unit and Financial Control Division*



## Review of Results and Projections in the General Fund

**Fiscal Year 2017.** Fiscal Year 2017 recurring revenues were \$5.9 billion, representing an increase of 3.0 percent over Fiscal Year 2016. Oil and natural gas related revenue increased from Fiscal Year 2016 levels by 18.3 percent. New Mexico oil prices averaged \$45.00 per barrel in Fiscal Year 2017, while New Mexico natural gas prices averaged \$3.26 per mcf. Oil volumes increased by 4.3 percent in Fiscal Year 2017 and natural gas volumes increased by 5.2 percent. Non-oil and gas related revenue increased by 0.9 percent, reflecting an increase of 1.9 percent in gross receipts tax revenue, 4.0 percent in personal income tax, and 9.4 percent in insurance premiums tax. Corporate income tax revenues declined by 40.8 percent over the previous fiscal year.

During the 2016 special legislative session, several bills were enacted to address Fiscal Year 2017 solvency including authorization to transfer the balance in the Tobacco Settlement Reserve Fund to the appropriation account to cover Fiscal Year 2016 and Fiscal Year 2017 expenditures, \$92.8 million in funding sweeps to the General Fund, a \$12.5 million appropriation of supplemental severance tax note proceeds for public school capital outlay needs to replace General Fund appropriations, reduced Legislative Retirement Fund distributions, an increased distribution of insurance premiums tax revenue to General Fund, and reduction in General Fund distributions to the Retiree Health Care Fund.

Senate Bill 8 of the special session provided for certain short-term taxable severance tax note and supplemental severance tax note proceeds totaling \$19.2 million to be swept to the General Fund to restore past capital allotments, and the exchange of \$56.2 million of General Fund appropriations for capital outlay projects with severance tax bond funding. Senate Bill 8 also allowed the one-time transfer of excess severance tax revenue to the general fund rather than the severance tax permanent fund. This transfer, known as the “super sweep,” totaled \$28,279,400. Senate Bill 9 reduced State agency budgets, excepting certain health- and safety-related appropriations, by 5.5 percent, with judicial and legislative cuts of 3.0 percent, all of which reduced recurring appropriations by \$170.9 million in Fiscal Year 2017. Senate Bill 9 also provided for redistributing public school State Equalization Guarantee distributions to special education services if funding is insufficient to meet federal maintenance of effort requirements.

Revenue measures passed during the 2016 special session included narrowing the eligibility criteria for the health care practitioner gross receipts tax deduction and the High Wage Jobs Tax Credit, with an estimated benefit to recurring revenues of \$10.2 million. Following the 2016 special legislative session, Fiscal Year 2017 ending reserves were projected to be minus \$61.6 million or negative 1.2 percent of recurring appropriations. During the 2017 regular legislative session, additional action was taken to address Fiscal Year 2017 solvency and increase reserve levels, including generating \$78.3 million in nonrecurring revenue by aligning the insurance revenue streams with current GAAP standards, \$47.2 million of nonrecurring revenue through various state fund sweeps and transfers, \$46.1 million to the general fund by reducing the Fiscal Year 2017 State Equalization Guarantee distributions for school districts and charter schools as a credit against Fiscal Year 2016 year-end operational cash balances. Exempting any Fiscal Year 2017 emergency supplemental distributions, each school district’s and charter school’s credit share was proportional to their Fiscal Year 2016 program cost (or formula funding).

Ongoing funding shortfalls projected in Fiscal Year 2018 and the need to shore up Fiscal Year 2017 reserves led to the call for another special session in May 2017. Solvency measures passed during the 2017 special session include authority to issue \$84.1 million of short-term taxable Supplemental Severance Tax Notes to restore past General Fund capital allotments. After action in both the regular and special 2017 legislative sessions, Fiscal Year 2017 reserves grew to \$505 million, or 8.3 percent of recurring appropriations.

A combination of economic factors including rising enrollments, a decrease in the federal matching rate for the new adult group (a.k.a. Medicaid expansion), rising drug costs, and insufficient legislative appropriations caused the State to experience a funding shortfall in the Medicaid program in Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017. In response to the shortfall, the State implemented a number of cost-reduction measures, including reduced reimbursement rates for health care providers and reduced administrative spending for Medicaid managed care organizations (“MCOs”). The State is also proposing new mandatory payments for some patients. Slightly lower enrollment rates, a delay in the imposition of certain federal fees on insurance companies, including MCOs, and the possibility of additional federal funding for services provided to Native Americans reduced the General Fund shortfall for Fiscal Year 2017. The State also reached a settlement with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for old claims for federal funding, resulting in the return of \$16.8 million to the State.

**Fiscal Year 2018.** In Fiscal Year 2018, recurring revenues were \$6.8 billion, representing an increase of 15.8 percent over the Fiscal Year 2017 levels. Oil and natural gas related revenue increased by 37.7 percent over Fiscal Year 2017 levels. New Mexico oil prices averaged \$55.05 per barrel, while New Mexico natural gas prices averaged \$3.47 per mcf. Oil volumes increased by 31 percent in Fiscal Year 2018, and natural gas volumes increased by 10 percent. Non-oil and natural gas related revenue increased by 1.8 percent, reflecting increases of 18.3 percent in gross receipts tax, 10 percent personal income tax and a decrease of 21.3 percent in insurance premiums tax.

In the 2017 special session, action was taken to increase Fiscal Year 2018 nonrecurring revenue, including the transfer to the General Fund of \$8 million of governmental gross receipts tax revenue that would otherwise pass to the New Mexico Finance Authority and the temporary suspension of an annual \$900,000 distribution to the legislative retirement fund in Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019 conditional on a determination by the Public Employees Retirement Association that the funded ratio remains at or above 100 percent.

Legislation passed during the 2017 special session included the establishment of a natural resource Tax Stabilization Reserve to minimize the volatility of oil and gas revenue and provide additional rainy-day funds to protect against sharp declines in revenue. The legislation requires any revenues generated from the Oil and Gas School Tax that are in excess of the 5-year average for that revenue source to be deposited into the Tax Stabilization Reserve, which is part of the General Fund reserves. Appropriations from the Tax Stabilization Reserve require a super majority and a declaration from the governor that the appropriation is necessary for public peace, health or safety. The Fiscal Year 2019 distribution was 182.8 million. An estimated distribution in Fiscal Year 2020 is expected in the amount of \$114.7 million.

In August of 2017, after issuance of the State of New Mexico Capital Projects General Obligation Bonds, Refunding Series 2017B (the “Series 2017B Bonds”), the State discovered that its State of New Mexico Capital Projects General Obligation Bonds, Series 2015, dated March 25, 2015 (the “Series 2015 Bonds”), which were intended to be refunded with a portion of the proceeds of the Series 2017B Bonds, were not subject to redemption prior to maturity. The State of New Mexico Capital Projects General Obligation Bonds, Series 2013, dated April 23, 2013 (the “Series 2013 Bonds”) were refunded with a portion of the proceeds of the Series 2017B Bonds, were paid in full on September 1, 2017 and are no longer outstanding. On August 25, 2017, the Board passed a resolution directing that a portion of the Series 2017B Bond proceeds, which were initially invested in U.S. Government defeasance securities for the intended legal defeasance of the Series 2015 Bonds, be liquidated and the proceeds thereof be reinvested in municipal securities to be held in escrow to achieve a full or partial economic refunding (but not legal defeasance) of the Series 2015 Bonds. Such proceeds have since been reinvested by the State in municipal securities. Accordingly, none of the Series 2015 Bonds have been legally defeased.

**Fiscal Year 2019.** In Fiscal Year 2019, recurring revenues were \$8.0 billion, representing an increase of 17.5 percent over the Fiscal Year 2018. Oil and natural gas related revenues increased by 45.7 percent over Fiscal Year 2018. In Fiscal Year 2019 New Mexico oil prices averaged \$51.80 per barrel, while New Mexico natural gas prices averaged \$3.08 per mcf. Oil volumes increased by 45.8 percent in Fiscal Year 2019, and natural gas volumes increased by 15.7 percent. Non-oil and natural gas related revenue increased by 11.7 percent, reflecting increases of 12.3 percent in gross receipts tax, 10.1 percent in personal income tax, and 20.5 percent in insurance premiums tax.

**Fiscal Year 2020.** The 2020 first special session was held in June to address the State's fiscal outlook. The following actions were taken to address the recurring budget for Fiscal Year 2021: targeted decreases of 1 to 4 percent in the State budget, elimination of 4 percent salary increases for State employees, and usage of \$750 million of federal CRF monies for those agencies providing COVID-19 pandemic response. The 2020 first special session adjusted the general fund recurring budget downward by \$414 million to \$7.2 billion and the nonrecurring budget downward by \$183.7 million to \$138.4 million.

The September 2020 forecast outlook is a direct result of both the oil price volatility experienced in early 2020 from the Saudi Arabia and Russia oil price war and the continuing COVID-19 healthcare crisis. While this forecast weighs all available information, the nature of the current situation is unprecedented. The actual outcomes for the State's finances will depend on a variety of factors: the epidemiological path of the virus, the strategies for reopening the New Mexico and U.S. economies, the time it takes consumer confidence to rebound, the effect of business closures on the long-term viability of the State's businesses, the degree to which temporary layoffs become permanent, and the impact of global oil supply and demand on oil prices and the associated effect on the State's oil production.

In Fiscal Year 2020, according to the DFA's September revenue estimate, a more recent complete dataset for Fiscal Year 2020 has been compiled. Oil and natural gas prices and volumes are actual figures for Fiscal Year 2020. The revenue estimates for Fiscal Year 2020 are based on 11 months of actual data, with the remaining month being determined with preliminary data and estimates for certain revenues.

Fiscal Year 2020 recurring revenues are estimated to be \$7.8 billion, representing a decline of 1.9 percent over the Fiscal Year 2019 levels. Oil- and natural gas-related revenues are projected to decrease by 22.2 percent compared to Fiscal Year 2019 levels. However, after taking into account an unprecedented federal land lease payment of \$497 million, oil and natural gas revenues are expected to increase by 9.9 percent. In Fiscal Year 2020 New Mexico oil prices averaged \$44.01 per barrel, while New Mexico's natural gas prices averaged \$1.90 per mcf. Oil volumes increased by 22.2 percent in Fiscal Year 2020, and natural gas volumes increased by 12 percent. Gross receipts tax revenue is expected to increase by 11 percent over the prior fiscal year. This represents a higher growth rate than the June forecast. Non-oil- and natural gas-related revenue is forecast to increase by 3 percent. This updated forecast for Fiscal Year 2020 represents an upward revision of \$534.3 million from prior estimates.

**Fiscal Year 2021.** Fiscal Year 2021 is still feeling the impacts of both the oil price volatility experienced in early 2020 from the Saudi Arabia and Russia oil price war and the continuing COVID-19 healthcare crisis. While the oil markets have experienced some recovery, the overall economic impact of the continuing COVID-19 healthcare crisis continues to impact economic activity and State revenues in Fiscal Year 2021. According to the latest CREG December 2020 forecast, Fiscal Year 2021 recurring revenues are estimated to be \$7 billion, representing a decline of 10.9 percent over the Fiscal Year 2020 levels. Oil- and natural gas-related revenues are projected to decrease by 12.1 percent compared to Fiscal Year 2020 levels. In Fiscal Year 2021 New Mexico oil prices are projected to average \$38 per barrel, while natural gas prices are projected to average \$2.55 per mcf. The December 2020 forecast, on a year-over-year basis, expects oil volumes to decrease by 7.6 percent, and natural gas volumes to decrease by 3.8 percent in Fiscal Year 2021. Net gross receipts tax revenue is expected to decrease by 16.2 percent over the prior

fiscal year. Personal income tax revenue is also expected to decrease by 7.2 percent when compared to the prior year. The December 2020 forecast expects much of the economic and revenue decline to be in Fiscal Year 2021, with recovery beginning in Fiscal Year 2022. According to Moody's Analytics, as vaccine rollouts increase and the general population is inoculated and state and local government restrictions ease, economic activity will increase towards the middle to the second half of the calendar year 2021.

## **Education Funding Litigation**

The State's process to fund public education on a uniform and adequate basis has been challenged in various courts, including the First and Eleventh Judicial District Courts.

In 2014, two different plaintiff groups filed lawsuits in the First Judicial District Court for the State of New Mexico in Santa Fe County, each of which challenged the sufficiency of school funding and the school funding formula, specifically as applied and related to the needs of at-risk students. The two lawsuits were consolidated (*Martinez, et al. v. the State of New Mexico* consolidated with *Yazzie, et al. v. the State of New Mexico*, No. D-101-CV-2014-00793) and proceeded to a bench trial in the summer of 2017. On February 14, 2019, the Court entered a Final Judgment and Order. The Court concluded that the State violated the Education Clause, the Equal Protection Clause, and the Due Process Clause of the New Mexico Constitution. The Court required the State to take necessary steps to ensure schools have resources, including funding and accountability measures, to give at-risk students an opportunity to obtain a sufficient education.

In 1998, the Zuni Public School District filed a lawsuit in the Eleventh Judicial District Court for the State of New Mexico in McKinley County (*Zuni Public School District, et al., v. the State of New Mexico, et al.*, No. D-1113-CV-9800014) seeking a declaratory judgment that the State's method of funding of capital improvements for public schools violated the State Constitution's requirement to provide for a uniform and adequate system of funding capital improvements, specifically as applied and related to the needs of the students of Gallup-McKinley. On December 29, 2020, the trial court filed a Decision and Order ruling in favor of the Plaintiffs.

As these educational funding litigation cases go through potential appeals, post-trial discovery and any remedial measures, the outcomes of such litigation may impact the State's education funding processes and could impact the State's budget, but the extent of such impact is currently unknown.

## **Impacts of COVID-19 Pandemic**

**Employment.** The spread of the COVID-19 virus is currently altering the behavior of businesses and people in a manner that is having significant negative effects on global, national, state and local economies. The contagious nature of the COVID-19 virus resulted in the Governor issuing a public health order on March 19, 2020 to implement social distancing measures, close non-essential businesses, and limit and reduce business capacity. One significant impact of the COVID-19 virus can be seen in the State's employment data. From February to April of 2020, the State lost more than 104,000 jobs. From April to August, the State gained back more than 29,100 jobs. In other words, from April to August the State regained 27.9 percent of the jobs lost from February to April.

The State unemployment rate decreased from 12.7 percent to 11.3 percent from July 2020 to August 2020. The State's year-over-year employment declined across most sectors in August 2020. The most severe employment losses were experienced by the leisure and hospitality sector and the mining sector, which lost 29,700 jobs, or 28.9 percent, and 8,000 jobs, or 30.3 percent, respectively, when compared to August 2019.

The national unemployment rate decreased from 10.2 percent in July to 8.4 percent in August 2020. Employment recovery in New Mexico to pre-COVID-19 levels is expected to take several years under Moody's Analytics baseline and alternative scenario forecasts, with New Mexico's unemployment rate expected to not fall below 7.0 percent until the latter half of calendar year 2022.

**Tax Collections.** Collections of various taxes in the State have, in certain cases, shown some impact from COVID-19. Matched gross receipts tax ("MGRT") collections declined 6.7 percent in April 2020 versus April 2019, declined 1.8 percent when comparing May 2020 and May 2019, and declined 0.3 percent when comparing June 2020 and June 2019.

On a monthly basis the brunt of the MGRT decline was experienced in April of 2020, while the months of May and June improved slightly. Overall, on a year-over-year basis MGRT declined in the second quarter of calendar year 2020 compared to the second quarter of calendar year 2019 by 2.9 percent.

Personal income tax revenues year-to-date through May were \$1.39 billion, which represents a decrease of 2.8 percent from the prior fiscal-year-to-date revenues (\$1.44 billion). Personal income tax revenues in May 2020 were \$162.1 million, lower than the same month in the prior year, which had revenues of \$191.7 million. While this forecast weighs all available information, the nature of the current situation is unprecedented. The actual outcomes for the State's finances will depend on a variety of factors: the epidemiological path of the virus, the strategies for reopening the New Mexico and U.S. economies, the time it takes consumer confidence to rebound, the effect of business closures on the long-term viability of the State's businesses, and the degree to which temporary layoffs become permanent. For a discussion of the collection of severance taxes, see "SEVERANCE TAX REVENUE—2020 Economic Conditions Impacting Severance Tax" herein.

**Government Operations.** The COVID-19 epidemic has also impacted governmental operations of the State, including implementation of remote work, teleconferencing and other preventive measures designed to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus. On March 19, 2020, the Governor issued the first of many executive orders ("EOs") related to the COVID-19 virus. The initial EO implemented social distancing measures, closed non-essential businesses, and limited and reduced business capacity. A subsequent EO implemented school closures. Additional EOs established funding for a variety of agencies, including the Department of Military Affairs (National Guard), Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Department of Health, the Public Education Department, the Children, Youth, and Families Department, and the Aging and Long-Term Services Department. In total, the EOs provided \$35.5 million in funding to effectively respond, manage, and address COVID-19 and its impacts.

The State has developed public health gating criteria that are part of New Mexico's phased plan for a safe and gradual reopening of the economy and society. Gating criteria are thresholds New Mexico must satisfy before beginning to relax social distancing restrictions and closures. The criteria are assessed regularly, and if the levels meet predetermined, evidence-based targets, the State will assess the ability to move to the next phase. Additionally, as the State learns more about COVID-19, it may add new measures over time to help close gaps in knowledge and better ensure New Mexico is meeting reopening goals. Currently, the gating criteria consists of eight measures, each with an assigned target. In evaluating reopening, officials will consider the State's ability to achieve a decreasing transmission rate, adequate testing, expansive contact tracing and isolation, and sufficient hospital capacity. Gating criteria, in conjunction with the COVID Safe Practices Guide for Individuals and Employers (developed by the New Mexico Economic Recovery Council), are designed to promote safety of community members, employees, and customers.

The New Mexico Legislature held a first special session in June 2020 to address the State's fiscal outlook in light of the oil price volatility experienced in early 2020 from the Saudi Arabia and Russia oil

price war and the continuing COVID-19 healthcare crisis. In the 2020 first special session, the following actions were taken to address the recurring budget for Fiscal Year 2021: targeted decreases of 1 to 4 percent in the State budget, elimination of 4 percent salary increases for state employees, usage of \$750 million of Coronavirus Relief Fund (“CRF”) for those agencies providing COVID-19 pandemic response, and authority to use excess cash in the Severance Tax Bonding Fund to fund capital, instead of transferring such cash to the Severance Tax Permanent Fund. The 2020 first special session adjusted the general fund recurring budget downward by \$414 million to \$7.2 billion and nonrecurring budget downward by \$183.7 million to \$138.4 million.

The State economy was bolstered in the second quarter of 2020 by the fiscal stimulus provided in the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”). Measures included loans to businesses under the paycheck protection program, unemployment benefits for self-employed and independent contractors, one-time \$1,200 stimulus checks to individuals, and an extra \$600 per week in unemployment benefits. Additionally, the State received \$1.2 billion in CRF monies to assist in managing the healthcare crisis. CRF must be allocated between state, local, and tribal governments. The Governor approved \$150 million of CRF for small businesses (\$50 million distributed) and local governments (\$100 million distributed) and \$28 million for tribal governments in July 2020. Funds were provided as grants at the beginning of September 2020. These funds can cover costs that are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency for the period beginning on March 1, 2020, through December 30, 2020.

There were more than 40 grants in addition to the CRF included in the federal stimulus legislation. Many of these grants were allocated directly to State government agencies. Here are some of the most significant grants. The Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (“GEER”) appropriated \$22.26 million to be distributed for services to students throughout the State. This funding is distributed between the Public Education Department, Higher Education Department and the new Early Childhood Education and Care Department. The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (“ESSR”) awarded \$108.6 million to the Public Education Department to be distributed to local education agencies (“LEAs”), including charter schools that are LEAs. The Higher Education Emergency Relief Funding (“HEERF”) provided \$76.8 million to State institutions of higher education based on a formula stipulated in the original legislation. Supplemental funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (“CCDBG”) of \$29.4 million was allocated for supporting childcare programs for low-income working families and is administered by the State’s Children, Youth and Families Department. \$77.3 million was allocated for Centers for Disease Control testing. Unemployment Insurance Administration funding of \$2.6 million via the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act is designated for expanded services to workers who may not ordinarily be eligible for benefits. An Election Security Grant through the Help America Vote Act (“HAVA”) made \$3.9 million available to the State to prevent, prepare for and respond to the virus for the 2020 federal election cycle. Supplemental funding of \$5.4 million was provided for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (“LIHEAP”) with continued administration by the State’s Human Services Department.

The New Mexico Legislature held a second special session in November 2020. The 2020 second special session appropriated \$319 million from the general fund allocation of federal CARES Act relief funds to support New Mexicans impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health orders. The \$319 million appropriation provided assistance to New Mexicans in the form of one-time \$1,200 checks to individuals who are unemployed but exhausted the unemployment benefits and grants to businesses with less than 100 employees. For additional detail refer to the GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION section of this document, above.

## **Oil and Gas Market Volatility and the General Fund**

Crude oil and natural gas prices were relatively stable through the first half of Fiscal Year 2020, however, in the latter half of Fiscal Year, 2020 oil prices collapsed in March 2020 as a result of the supply and demand-side shocks from an oil price war and the COVID-19 pandemic. The collapse in oil prices in March was due to the loss of demand from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the supply shock caused by the recent Saudi Arabia and Russia price war. Oil prices collapsed in mid-March. On April 20, 2020 as the May futures contract expired, for the first time in history, oil prices collapsed to a negative \$37.63 per bbl. The negative oil price collapse reflected weak oil demand and oversupply of oil on the market at the time. Traders sold off the May contracts at any price or shifted positions to June or farther down the calendar year regardless of any fees or penalties incurred. Once the May contract was done and the June contract became the up-front-month contract, oil prices bounced back into positive territory. Active rigs quickly declined from a high 117 in March to 54 rigs in June according to Baker-Hughes data. New Mexico production peaked in March 2020 at 35 million barrels and declined in April and May to 30 million barrels and 25 million barrels, respectively. As oil prices recovered through the summer, oil production resumed growth in June 2020. Given the shocks to the oil industry, oil production did not decline as much as expected at the end of Fiscal Year 2020. In Fiscal Year 2020 New Mexico produced 368 million barrels of oil, representing a 22.7 percent increase over the prior fiscal year. Since July 2020, oil growth has continued at a slower pace despite lower average oil prices. The impact on oil growth is expected in Fiscal Year 2021.

According to CREG, over the course of a Fiscal Year, a \$1.00 change in the price of oil generally results in a \$22 million direct change in the State's General Fund revenue, and a \$0.10 change in the price of natural gas results in a \$16 million direct change in the State's General Fund revenue. The State entered Fiscal Year 2020 with reserves equal to 28.9 percent but was able to end the Fiscal Year with reserves at 35.4 percent. The annual distributions to the State General Fund from the two permanent funds have been increasing significantly in recent years, which helps to offset some of the volatility of revenue from current oil and gas production.

## **General Fund Taxes and Revenues**

Programs and operations of the State are predominantly funded through a system of 28 major taxes, and a substantial number of minor taxes, administered by the TRD. Previously the Office of the Superintendent of Insurance collected taxes on insurance premiums; now the TRD collects those taxes. The Regulation and Licensing Department collects professional licensing fees and a number of charges for regulating activities and professions in the state. In addition, interest income and earnings from the Land Grant Permanent Fund, the Severance Tax Permanent Fund and cash balances invested by the State Treasurer's Office provide important sources of revenue for State purposes. The most important tax and revenue sources, as measured by magnitude of revenue generation, and the application of the monies to certain funds and purposes, are described below.

### ***Gross Receipts and Compensating Taxes***

The gross receipts tax is levied on the total amount of money or the value of other consideration received from selling tangible and certain intangible personal property in the State, from leasing property employed in the State, from performing services in the State and from research and development services performed outside the State on products initially used in the State. The tax is remitted by the seller but generally passed on to the purchaser. The compensating tax is imposed generally on property used in the State but purchased elsewhere. Gross receipts and compensating taxes are due on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the month in which the transaction occurs.

The general presumption is that all receipts of a person engaging in business are subject to the gross receipts tax, even though there are over 100 specified exemptions and deductions from gross receipts taxation. Exemptions from the gross receipts tax include, but are not limited to, certain receipts of governmental agencies and certain nonprofit organizations; receipts from the sale of certain vehicles; occasional sales of property or services; wages; certain agricultural products; and dividends, interest and receipts from natural gas, oil or mineral interests sales or leases. Deductions from the gross receipts tax include, but are not limited to, receipts from various types of sales or leases of tangible personal property or service; receipts from certain sales of property to governmental agencies or to certain nonprofit organizations; receipts from certain processing of some agricultural products; receipts from certain publication sales; certain receipts from interstate commerce transactions; and as set forth below, certain food and medical services as of January 1, 2005.

The gross receipts and compensating taxes are together the single largest source of State General Fund revenue. The gross receipts tax is also a significant source of revenue for cities and counties. The gross receipts tax includes the 5.125 percent statewide gross receipts tax levy, plus city and county local-option gross receipts taxes. The statewide gross receipts tax rate was increased from 5 percent to 5.125 percent effective July 1, 2010 as a result of action taken during the 2010 special session. Receipts from the statewide gross receipts tax levy, less certain disbursements, are deposited in the State General Fund. The disbursements include 1.225 percent of the taxable gross receipts reported in each incorporated municipality to that municipality. The County Equalization Distribution is made annually from state gross receipts tax revenues; it has averaged \$23 million over the past five years. After all other distributions, the General Fund share of gross receipts tax collections was 62 percent in Fiscal Year 2020 and is expected to be about 63 percent for subsequent years.

Receipts from the compensating tax, less distributions, are transferred to the state General Fund. Compensating tax distributions include 15 percent to the small cities assistance fund and 10 percent to the small counties assistance fund, and a distribution to municipalities based on the level of their taxable gross receipts. In Fiscal Year 2012, legislation increased the distribution to small cities from 10 percent to 15 percent, increased the minimum distribution to small cities from \$35,000 to \$90,000 and amended the statute to allow for larger distributions to small counties. The distribution changes went into effect in Fiscal Year 2014.

In 2005, the Legislature made a number of changes to the state gross receipts tax laws in Sections 7-1-6.16, 7-1-6.46, 7-1-6.47, 7-9-92 and 7-9-93 NMSA 1978. The credit of 0.5 percent granted to municipalities against the statewide rate was eliminated. The tax on food for off-premise consumption and certain medical services also was eliminated. After the 2005 legislative changes, retailers are required to report receipts from sales of groceries to claim the deduction. The deduction does not apply to receipts of restaurants or sales of prepared foods. The legislation also created a gross receipts tax deduction for some receipts of licensed health care providers (broadly defined) from Medicare Part C and managed health care plans, and health care insurers. This medical deduction was modestly expanded in the 2007 legislative session. The 2005 legislation also provided for payments from the State to reimburse local governments for all lost gross receipts tax revenues due to these deductions. Legislation in 2007 froze the rate, but not the size, of these payments for counties with a population over 48,000 and municipalities with a population greater than 10,000 or greater than average per capita taxable gross receipts. In the 2013 legislative session, a bill was enacted that, among other things, will eliminate these payments to certain large local governments over a 15-year period that began in Fiscal Year 2016.

In Fiscal Year 2020, total distributions to the General Fund from gross receipts and compensating taxes increased by 9.8 percent over the previous fiscal year to \$3 billion, comprising 38.2 percent of recurring General Fund revenue.



During the 2019 legislative session, House Bill 6 implemented changes to the GRT. These changes include Hospital Tax Reform and Remote Sellers (effective July 1, 2019), Marketplace Facilitators (effective July 1, 2019 and July 1, 2021), and Tobacco Products (effective July 1, 2019).

Prior to Hospital Tax Reform, there was a discrepancy between for-profit hospitals being taxed and nonprofit and governmental hospitals, which were not being taxed. These hospitals were virtually untaxed at the state level despite more than \$5 billion in annual gross receipts. The uneven tax playing field for hospitals interferes with the market, creating economic inefficiencies with strong incentives for hospitals to adopt preferential corporate structures. House Bill 6 mostly corrects this decades-old inequity, subjecting 40 percent of gross receipts of for-profit, nonprofit, and governmental hospitals to the state portion of the GRT and the governmental gross receipts tax (“GGRT”), leaving a 60 percent deduction (currently in the statute as a 50 percent deduction for for-profit hospitals). Taxing nonprofit and governmental facilities along with for-profits at nearly identical rates is a key step to applying the tax in a more equitable manner. However, in order to achieve these nearly identical rates, the bill removes the for-profit hospitals from local taxation. In current statute, local GRT increments apply to for-profit hospitals after the 50 percent deduction is applied, and municipalities also receive the related 1.225 percent distribution from the State.

This reform measure brings nonprofit hospitals into the state GRT base and governmental hospitals into the GGRT base. It repeals the for-profit hospital tax credit of Section 7-9-96.1 NMSA 1978, helping to better level the playing field for hospitals at the state tax level.

#### **Hospital Tax Reform – State Taxation**

	<b>Prior Law</b>			<b>Current Law (Effective July 1, 2019)</b>		
	<b>For-Profit</b>	<b>Nonprofit</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>For-Profit</b>	<b>Nonprofit</b>	<b>Government</b>
State Tax Rate	5.125% GRT	n/a	n/a	5.125% GRT	5.125% GRT	5.0% GRT
Credits	3.75% to 5%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Deductions	50% GRT	n/a	n/a	60% GRT	60% GRT	60% GRT

The Remote Sellers and Marketplace Facilitators component of House Bill 6 taxes remote (internet) sales immediately and then applies local GRT increments and moves to destination-based sourcing (sourcing at the location of the buyer rather than the seller) with a two-year delay (effective July 1, 2019, and July 1, 2021, respectively).

The transition to destination-based sourcing is a significant change to the structure of the GRT and will require much preparation by the TRD and taxpayers. House Bill 6 distributes \$24 million annually from the General Fund to local governments in Fiscal Year 2020 to Fiscal Year 2021 until the local increments are applied to remote sales. Once destination-based sourcing takes effect, all sales will have an in-state location, so current GRT transactions coded as out of state will be shifted into counties and municipalities (if inside municipal boundaries).

House Bill 6 increases taxes on cigarettes, taxes e-cigarettes and vaping products such as e-liquids, and reduces taxes on cigars (effective July 1, 2019). The bill changes the cigarette tax to \$0.10 per cigarette, reduces the tax on cigars to \$0.50 per cigar (instead of the current 45 percent of wholesale value), and brings e-cigarettes and vaping products into the tobacco products tax base. The tax rate on e-cigarettes and vaping products is 12.5 percent of the product value.

Lastly, House Bill 6 brings the state compensating tax rates for services and tangible property into alignment and applies local government GRT increments to the compensating tax to equalize the rates (effective July 1, 2021).

## *Personal Income Tax*

The personal income tax is imposed on the net income of every individual resident and upon the net income from business, property or employment of individual nonresidents. Collections, net of refunds, are deposited in the General Fund. State taxable income is generally equal to federal adjusted gross income less deductions and amounts not taxable by State or federal laws. The State allows deductions for income earned by Indians on reservations, graduated deductions for income earned by taxpayers 65 years or older and deductions for low- and middle-income taxpayers.

New Mexico's personal income tax structure changed significantly beginning in 2003. The Legislature enacted significant personal income tax reductions that reduced the top marginal personal income tax rate from 8.2 percent in 2002 to 4.9 percent by 2008, codified in Section 7-2-7 NMSA 1978. This law combined the Head of Household filers' tax rate with the Married, Joint and Surviving Spouse filers' tax rate, beginning in 2006. Single parents are now taxed at the same rate as married couples. Statutory changes enacted in 2005 also provided low and middle-income tax exemptions, a personal income tax exemption for medical expenses, incentives to encourage business formation in rural areas and incentives to encourage renewable energy production in the State.

In Fiscal Year 2020, total distributions to the General Fund from personal income tax increased by 1.2 percent over the previous Fiscal Year to \$1.7 billion and generated 21.5 percent of total recurring General Fund revenue.

During the 2019 legislative session, the personal income tax structure was amended with new rates and brackets to take effect on January 21, 2021. Personal income tax rate and bracket changes include bringing the top rate to 5.9 percent from the current 4.9 percent. The top rate is imposed on single filers and estates with taxable incomes over \$210,000, on married filing jointly and head-of-household filers with taxable incomes over \$315,000, and on married individuals filing separately with taxable incomes over \$157,500. These changes were contingent on Fiscal Year 2020 recurring General Fund revenues exceeding Fiscal Year 2019 revenues by less than 5 percent. On December 18, 2020, the DFA certified that Fiscal Year 2020 recurring General Fund revenue was 1.9 percent lower than Fiscal Year 2019 thus initiating the new tax rates under Section 7-2-7 NMSA 1978.

Additionally, personal income tax changes include amending the Working Families Tax Credit, the Capital Gain Deduction and creating a new Dependents Deduction. The Working Families Tax Credit was increased from 10 percent to 17 percent of the federal earned income tax credit (effective for tax years starting on or after January 1, 2019). The Capital Gain Deduction on a percentage basis was reduced from 50 percent to 40 percent of the taxpayer's net capital gain income for the taxable year. The Dependents Deduction creates a personal income tax deduction of \$4,000 for every dependent beyond the first claimed by a taxpayer (effective for tax years starting on or after January 1, 2019). The 2019 legislative personal income tax changes will be codified under the Income Tax Act, Chapter 7, Article 2 NMSA 1978.

Current State tax rates are set forth below:

<b>If the taxable income is:</b>	<b>Married Filing Separate:</b>	<b>If the taxable income is:</b>	<b>Surviving Spouse, Married Filing Joint and Head of Household:</b>
Not over \$4,000	1.7% of taxable income	Not over \$8,000	1.7% of taxable income
\$4,001 to \$8,000	\$68.00 plus 3.2% of excess over \$4,000	\$8,001 to \$16,000	\$136.00 plus 3.2% of excess over \$8,000
\$8,001 to \$12,000	\$196.00 plus 4.7% of excess over \$8,000	\$16,001 to \$24,000	\$392.00 plus 4.7% of excess over \$16,000
Over \$12,000	\$384.00 plus 4.9% of excess over \$12,000	Over \$24,000	\$768.00 plus 4.9% of excess over \$24,000
<b>If the taxable income is:</b>	<b>Single Including Trust and Estates:</b>		
Not over \$5,500	1.7% of taxable income		
\$5,501 to \$11,000	\$93.50 plus 3.2% of excess over \$5,500		
\$11,001 to \$16,000	\$269.50 plus 4.7% of excess over \$11,000		
Over \$16,000	\$504.50 plus 4.9% of excess over \$16,000		

### ***Corporate Income Tax***

The corporate income tax is imposed on the net income of a corporation doing business in the State or deriving any income from property or employment in the State by Section 7-2A-3 NMSA 1978. Collections, net of refunds, are transferred to the General Fund. Corporations are required to file a return on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the third month following the end of each taxable year at which time corporate income taxes are also due. A corporation is required to make estimated tax payments if the tax, net of credits, is \$5,000 or more. Insurance companies do not pay corporate income tax; rather, they pay a tax on insurance premiums. Nonprofit organizations and retirement trust funds do not pay corporate income tax.

Tax rates are established under a graduated table found in Section 7-2A-5 NMSA 1978. For tax year 2019, tax rates were 4.8 percent on the first \$500,000 or less of taxable income and 5.9 percent on income in excess of \$500,000. For the 2020 Fiscal Year, General Fund distributions from corporate income taxes totaled \$63 million after refunds and \$76 million of film credits. This is an increase of 177 percent from the prior fiscal year, due to lower film credits after the additional payment of \$100 million against unpaid film credit obligations in Fiscal Year 2019. Net corporate income tax distributions are equivalent to 0.8 percent of recurring General Fund revenue for Fiscal Year 2020.

In recent years, a number of credits administered through the corporate income tax system have been enacted. These include: the film production credit, enacted as Section 7-2F-1 NMSA 1978; the real property tax credit, enacted as Section 7-2-18.10 NMSA 1978; the rural jobs tax credit, enacted as Section 7-2E-1.1 NMSA 1978; the biodiesel production and sale credit, enacted as Section 7-2-18.21 NMSA 1978; the sustainable building tax credit, enacted as Section 7-2-18.19 NMSA 1978; and the renewable energy production tax credit, enacted as Section 7-2A-19 NMSA 1978. The 2011 Legislature placed a cap of \$50 million per year on the film production tax credit and added a deferred payment process for larger productions. The film credit cap has been reached each year since the \$50 million cap was imposed.

In the 2013 legislative session, House Bill 641 (Chapter 160) was enacted, which reduced the State corporate income tax rate over several years to a maximum marginal rate of 5.9 percent for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2018. The legislation also allows manufacturers in the State to use sales as a single factor in calculating income tax liability. The legislation also requires certain corporate taxpayers to adhere to mandatory combined reporting of unitary corporations for tax purposes. During the 2014 legislative session, Senate Bill 106 (Chapter 53) was enacted extending the net operating loss carryforward to 20 years from 5 years in prior law.

During the 2019 legislative session, Senate Bill 2 was enacted to amend the Film Production Tax Credit Act to pay off the film credit backlog up to set amounts (up to an additional \$195 million by the end

of Fiscal Year 2020 plus up to an additional \$30 million contingent on Fiscal Year 2019 revenues exceeding the forecast), change the annual \$50 million “rolling” cash cap to a \$110 million cash cap, implement a \$100 million “hard” cap for liabilities in excess of the cash cap, and carve out credit payments made to production companies (referred to as “New Mexico film partners”) who purchase or sign a 10-year lease for a qualified production facility from both the cash cap and the liability cap. Legislation prior to January 2019 is detailed in the paragraphs above. In Fiscal Years 2019 and early 2020, \$129 million of the one-time additional allocations was used to remove the remaining unpaid liability. Under this modified film credit program, the CREG expects the total yearly refunds to grow to the \$110 million cash cap, plus \$45 million for film partners within a few years depending on the recovery from the COVID-19 induced recession and state operating guidelines.

Additionally, Senate Bill 2 added a requirement that the Economic Development Department (EDD) shall certify a film production company’s budget in a pre-production meeting. To implement the \$100 million hard liability cap, if the total expected claims authorized for payment (minus those to film partners) for any fiscal year would exceed \$100 million beyond the \$110 million yearly cash cap in any fiscal year, EDD is prohibited from certifying the production company’s budget. The bill eliminates the tiered system of payouts for mid-size and large productions over two to three years. It also adds another 5 percent increase to the credit value for expenditures made on location more than 60 miles outside of Bernalillo and Santa Fe counties. This credit increase is “stackable” with either of the two existing possible 5 percent increases for filming in a qualified production facility or filming a television pilot or series (those two increases are currently mutually exclusive and remain so in the bill). This results in a maximum possible credit rebate value of 35 percent of qualified expenditures. Additionally, if, in fiscal years 2020 through 2022 the aggregate amount of claims authorized for payment is less than \$110 million, excluding claims by a New Mexico film partner, then the difference in that fiscal year or \$20 million, whichever is less, will be added to the aggregate amount of claims that may be authorized for payment in the immediately following fiscal year.

The bill clarifies certain definitions that were open to interpretation and has more clearly included television series in the definition of film. It repeals the non-resident crew exception limits for below-the-line crew (off-camera positions providing technical assistance during physical production) and replaces that provision with a 15 percent credit for nonresidents, provided it does not exceed 15 percent of a production’s New Mexico below-the-line budget. This provision can increase to 20 percent of the New Mexico below-the-line budget if sufficient and qualified below-the-line New Mexico residents are not available. A significant number of structural changes to qualifications and reporting requirements for the industry have been revised.

The effective date of virtually all provisions of Senate Bill 2 is July 1, 2019, but the provisions of the bill apply to film production companies that commence principal photography on or after July 1, 2019. Existing statutes that are left in place for film production companies that commenced principal photography prior to July 1, 2019, that would conflict with these new provisions are clarified to not apply to these new productions. Additionally, the provision, which provides an extra \$100 million film credit payment in Fiscal Year 2019, took effect in mid-June, 2019.

Lastly, House Bill 6, also adopted during the 2019 legislative session, requires combined reporting beginning January 1, 2020 for corporate entities that file as a unitary group unless they elect to report and pay tax as a water’s edge or consolidated group. More than half the states that impose a corporate income tax require combined reporting, and the Multistate Tax Commission recently testified before an interim committee that this is one of the most important steps New Mexico can take to update and reform its tax code. One of the principal purposes for enacting combined reporting is to protect state revenues against income-shifting. There are generally two ways to prevent income-shifting: (1) required combined reporting, which eliminates the intercompany transactions that permit the shift; or (2) “add back” statutes, which

require separate entity filers to “add back” to their income certain intercompany payments. The change to combined reporting is likely to have a long-term positive impact.

### ***Mineral Production Taxes***

Mineral production taxes (Resources Excise Tax, Natural Gas Processors Tax, Oil and Gas Conservation Tax and Oil and Gas Emergency School Tax) are levied on producers and others on the value of severed minerals and material resources from within the State and these taxes are disbursed to the General Fund. The Oil and Gas Emergency School Tax is imposed for the privilege of engaging in the business of severing oil, natural gas, liquid hydrocarbons and CO<sub>2</sub> from the soil of the State. The Oil and Gas Emergency School Tax is imposed at a rate of 3.15 percent of taxable value of oil and 4 percent of taxable value for natural gas. Taxable value reflects gross sales value less deductions for royalties paid to government entities and for certain processing and transportation expenses. The same definition of taxable value is used for calculation of oil and gas severance tax liability.

In Fiscal Year 2020, aggregate revenue from the Oil and Gas Emergency School Tax receipts totaled \$555.7 million. Of the total, \$389.6 million was distributed to the General Fund and \$166.1 million was distributed to the Tax Stabilization Reserve. Fiscal Year 2020 Oil and Gas Emergency School Tax total receipts were relatively flat at 0.1 percent compared to the prior fiscal year. The Oil and Gas Emergency School Tax distribution to the General Fund of \$389.6 million represents an increase of 4.6 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year. Other General Fund taxes on natural resource production totaled \$51 million. For Fiscal Year 2020, these mineral production taxes contributed 5.6 percent of recurring General Fund revenue.

### ***Local Law Developments Regarding Oil and Gas.***

Several local governments in the State have proposed or adopted laws that could have the effect of limiting natural resource extraction in those jurisdictions. No local government in which a significant extraction of natural resources occurs has enacted laws limiting natural resource extraction.

In 2008, Santa Fe County amended its land development code to address oil and gas exploration, drilling, production, transportation, abandonment and remediation. The provisions of this code, while restrictive, do not ban exploration activities and to date have not been challenged by lawsuit. In April 2013, Mora County, a county in the north central section of the State enacted a self-styled Community Water Rights and Local Self Government Ordinance, which, among other things, states: “It shall be unlawful for any corporation to engage in the extraction of oil, natural gas, or other hydrocarbons within Mora County.” Several lawsuits were filed challenging the validity of this ordinance. In January 2015, a federal district court declared the Mora County ordinance invalid based on several grounds including violation of the Supremacy Clause and the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and preemption by New Mexico oil and gas regulatory statutes. *SWEPI, LP v. Mora County*, 81 F. Supp. 3d 1075 (D.N.M. Jan. 19, 2015). In March 2015, the Mora County Commission voted to repeal the ordinance. Legislation heavily regulating oil and gas development was adopted in November 2014 in San Miguel County, also in the north central section of the State. Legislation banning hydraulic fracturing was adopted by the city council of Las Vegas, a municipality in San Miguel County, but was not signed and is not enforced by its mayor. Historically, there has been little or no oil and gas production in Santa Fe, Mora or San Miguel counties.

To date, the proposal and enactment of local laws has not had a material effect on the amount of severance tax revenues collected by the State. While future actions by local governments relating to natural resource extraction are not predictable, litigation challenging any restrictive local enactments would be a likely consequence of such actions.

### ***Royalties, Rents and Bonuses***

*Federal Lands.* Under terms of the 1920 Federal Mineral Leasing Act, the State receives 50 percent of all income generated from leasing federal lands located in the State for mineral production. Principal sources of income are royalty payments on oil and natural gas production. Additional income is derived from bonus payments for oil and natural gas leases and royalty payments on production of coal, potash and other minerals. The U.S. Office of Natural Resources Revenue, part of the former Minerals Management Service, collects federal mineral lease income and deducts 2 percent from the State's share for administrative costs. The State receives payments on a monthly basis and makes deposits to the General Fund. In Fiscal Year 2020, total distributions to the General Fund from federal mineral leases totaled \$817.1 million. This equals 10.4 percent of recurring General Fund receipts for the fiscal year.

Federal Fiscal Year 2009 appropriations bills implemented a 2 percent administrative fee cut from the federal royalty payments to states. This 2 percent fee was extended each federal Fiscal Year since 2009 and extended for 10 years in the 2013 Bipartisan Budget Act. Approximately \$8.0 million was deducted in Fiscal Year 2016, \$8.9 million was deducted in Fiscal Year 2017, \$11.6 million was deducted in Fiscal Year 2018, \$22.9 million was deducted in Fiscal Year 2019 and \$16.3 million was deducted in Fiscal Year 2020.

*State Trust Lands.* The Commissioner of Public Lands and the State Land Office manage lands acquired by the State under the federal Fergusson Act and the Enabling Act for New Mexico enacted prior to statehood, as well as under the State Constitution. All income from State trust lands is dedicated to specific institutions; each section of State trust land has a specific named beneficiary institution. As with federal lands, the oil and natural gas industry is the principal source of revenue from State trust lands. Bonus income is also collected in the form of cash payments as a result of competitive bidding for State leases. Rentals and bonus income are distributed to the respective beneficiary institutions. The largest beneficiary group is the State's public school system. Mineral production from State trust lands also generates royalty income, which is deposited in the State Land Grant Permanent Fund ("LGPF"). Royalties are imposed on most mineral production values at the rate of 12.5 percent, although there is a provision for rates of up to 20 percent for new leases on developed acreage. LGPF beneficiaries and "State lands" beneficiaries are the same institutions and public schools. In Fiscal Year 2020, distributions to the General Fund from the State Land Office totaled \$69.9 million, which equated to 0.9 percent of recurring General Fund receipts for the Fiscal Year.

### ***Severance Tax Permanent Fund and the Land Grant Permanent Fund***

The Severance Tax Permanent Fund ("STPF") was established in the State Treasury in 1973 to receive the residual revenues from the Bonding Fund and serve as an endowment for the State. In 1976, the electorate approved a constitutional amendment giving the STPF constitutional status. In 1982, the electorate approved a second constitutional amendment that removed the discretionary power of the Legislature to appropriate funds from the corpus of the STPF, thereby creating a permanent endowment fund. Distributions from investments of the STPF, however, may be appropriated by the Legislature in the same manner as other general revenues are appropriated. Severance tax receipts have been the primary source of funding for the STPF. The State Investment Council ("SIC") invests the corpus and non-appropriated income of the STPF. The market value of the STPF as of June 30, 2020 was approximately \$5.28 billion, an asset decrease of approximately -5.9 percent from the prior fiscal year closing value. Investment performance for the one-year period ending June 30, 2020 was -.60 percent net of fees, and -1.75 percent below the fund's interim policy index. Funds on deposit in the STPF are not pledged to and may not be used to pay any bonds. As noted above, during the 2016 special legislative session, Senate Bill 8 allowed the one-time transfer of excess severance tax revenue to the General Fund rather than the STPF. This transfer, known as the super sweep, totaled \$28,279,400.

The Land Grant Permanent Fund (“LGPF”) is designed solely to benefit the public educational system of the State and other specified institutions. The origins of the LGPF are found in the federal Fergusson Act of 1898, which granted two sections of land in every township for the benefit of the public schools in the territories of New Mexico. Also under this Act, specific acreage was granted to individual education, medical and penal institutions in the territory. The initial grant totaled in excess of 5.5 million acres. In 1910, the Enabling Act granted additional lands to various beneficiaries in New Mexico, including the public schools, which received the largest share. This brought the total lands placed in trust for the common school system and other beneficiaries to over 13 million acres. Over the years, some land has been sold (and the proceeds used to increase the corpus of the LGPF), so the current total is 9.0 million surface acres and 13.4 million subsurface acres.

Pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 19-1-1 (1912), the State Land Office is charged with the custody and disposition of the land granted to the State. The Commissioner of Public Lands sells or leases these properties in accordance with the provisions of the appropriate statutes. The SIC invests the corpus and income of the LGPF. As of June 30, 2020, the market value of the LGPF was approximately \$18.98 billion, an asset increase of approximately 1.7 percent over the prior fiscal year. Investment performance for the year ended June 30, 2020 was 0.24 percent net of fees and 0.84 percent below the LGPF’s policy index, which is below its annual target rate of return of 7.0 percent. The corpus of the LGPF is constitutionally protected from appropriation and LGPF assets are not pledged to and may not be used to pay debt. The LGPF is also protected by the Federal Enabling Act of 1910.

In November 1996, the State electorate approved a constitutional amendment regarding distributions from both of the State’s permanent funds. Distributions are now calculated on a total return basis rather than an income distribution method. In addition, distributions to beneficiaries are now based on a formula under which a statutorily specified percentage of the previous average five-year market value of the fund is distributed.

In September 2003, the State electorate approved a constitutional amendment increasing the rate of annual distribution from the LGPF from the previous 4.7 percent, to a new base distribution of 5.0 percent of the LGPF’s five-year average market value, beginning in Fiscal Year 2005. Certain additional distributions were made to implement and maintain educational reforms as provided by law. An additional 0.8 percent was distributed in Fiscal Years 2005 through 2012, and an additional 0.5 percent was distributed in Fiscal Years 2013 through 2016. In Fiscal Year 2017 distributions returned to the base rate of 5.0 percent and have subsequently remained at the constitutionally established rate of 5.0 percent.

In May 2009 an investigation by the New York Attorney General into placement fees paid in relation to investments made by New York pension funds, led to an indictment of an investment advisor to that fund as well as New Mexico SIC and ERB. The investment advisor later pled guilty to a fraud charge relating to investments made by the New York retirement fund. In connection with that plea, the investment advisor stated that from 2004 to 2009 his business had acted as an advisor to the SIC and the ERB and that, contrary to his fiduciary responsibilities to the SIC and ERB, he ensured recommendations of certain proposed investments pushed on him by politically connected individuals or their associates who stood to benefit financially or politically from the investments, and that the investments were not necessarily in the best interests of the State. No criminal charges were filed by state or federal investigators in New Mexico. In May 2011, the SIC filed recovery lawsuits against more than a dozen placement agents, the former State Investment Officer and other individuals alleging they improperly benefited from pay-to-play and kickback schemes involving SIC investments. Settlements of more than \$51 million have been recovered or placed in escrow pending final approval by the courts, for ultimate return to the permanent funds. In Fiscal Year 2019, the SIC settled its outstanding civil litigation with the remaining defendants, and is in the process of finalizing the recoveries with the various courts and trustees involved across New Mexico and other jurisdictions.

In response to these and other events and the negative returns suffered by the State's various investment funds during the market turmoil associated with the downturn in the nation's economy in 2008 and 2009, the Board and the Legislative Council Service ("LCS") co-sponsored an Independent Fiduciary and Operational Review of State Investment Policies, Procedures and Practices prepared by EnnisKnupp (the "Review"). The scope of the work of this Review included, among other things, review and recommendations for appropriate governance and organizational structure and investment best practices for the SIC, PERA and ERB. The findings and recommendations of the Review were reported to the Board at a meeting on January 13, 2010. In order to address certain recommendations of the Review, during the 2010 legislative session the Legislature, among other things, modified the composition of the SIC, clarified the authority of the SIC and the State Investment Officer, provided for the appointment of the State Investment Officer by the SIC and changed the method of appointment of public members of the SIC. Removal of individual investment authorization powers by the Investment Officer alone and addition of Council Investment, Audit and Governance Committees have greatly improved Council practices and governance procedures. To date, the Investment Council has adopted or accomplished 78 of the 82 recommendations made by EnnisKnupp in their 2010 Operational Review, with the remainder either being deemed unworkable or still being contemplated for partial adoption in the future.

### ***Investment Income***

Investment earnings credited to the General Fund are from three primary sources: the LGPF, the STPF and cash balances invested by the State Treasurer. A percentage of market value from the LGPF is distributed among the beneficiary institutions and public schools. The allocation received by the public schools, which was approximately 85.6 percent in Fiscal Year 2020, is deposited in the General Fund. For the 2020 Fiscal Year, \$673.5 million of LGPF distributions were transferred to the General Fund for public school purposes. Also in Fiscal Year 2020, the State distributed \$225.3 million of income from the STPF, all of which was deposited in the General Fund. In the 2020 Fiscal Year, the Treasurer's cash balances produced approximately \$91.4 million in net distribution to the General Fund after adjustments to reflect mark-to-market and payment to the self-earnings account. Total investment income credited to the General Fund was \$1.162 billion. This is 14.8 percent of recurring General Fund receipts.

### **Ratings**

The State's General Obligation Bonds, Severance Tax Bonds (the "Senior Bonds") and Supplemental Severance Tax Bonds (the "Supplemental Bonds") are rated by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") and S&P Global Ratings ("S&P"). Moody's rates the State General Obligation Bonds Aa2, the Senior Bonds Aa2 and the Supplemental Bonds Aa3, each with a stable outlook. S&P rates the General Obligation Bonds AA, with a negative outlook, the Senior Bonds AA- and the Supplemental Bonds A+, each with a stable outlook.

Such ratings reflect only the views of the respective organizations. An explanation of the significance of each rating may be obtained from the rating agency furnishing such rating. There is no assurance that such ratings will continue for any given period of time or that they will not be revised downward or withdrawn entirely by such rating agencies if, in the judgment of such rating agencies, circumstances so warrant. Any downward revision or withdrawal of either rating can be expected to have an adverse effect on the market price of the bonds.

## **PROPERTY VALUATION AND TAXATION**

### **Property Tax System**

With certain limited exceptions, real and personal property owned by individuals or corporations is subject to ad valorem taxation (i.e., taxation as a fraction of value rather than on a per unit basis) in the State.



County assessors are responsible for appraising most of New Mexico's residential and non-residential property. The Appraisal Bureau in the Property Tax Division (the "PTD") of the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department (the "TRD") provides technical assistance to county assessors, helps them implement the Property Tax Code (Articles 35 through 38 of Chapter 7 NMSA 1978) and funds and chairs the County Valuation Protest Boards (7-38-25 NMSA 1978).

The State Assessed Property Bureau in PTD of the TRD, commonly known as the Central Assessment Bureau, is responsible for assessing certain types of property that are not assessed by the counties because assessing the property is exceptionally technical or because the assets or property extend across county boundaries. Assessments undertaken by the Central Assessment Bureau are performed on the following businesses pursuant to 7-36-2 NMSA 1978:

- Railroads;
- Communication systems;
- Pipelines;
- Public utilities;
- Airlines;
- Electric generating plants;
- Construction machinery and equipment, and other personal property of persons engaged in construction that is used in more than one county; and
- Mineral property, excepting oil and natural gas related property.

Property valuations are established as of January 1 of each year (except for certain livestock). Centrally assessed property is verified and certified to local assessors who combine the values with all locally assessed property values. The totals are reported to the Central Assessment Bureau, and the DFA and certified for budgetary use.

For state and locally assessed properties (except Copper Ad Valorem at 7-39-9 NMSA 1978) county treasurers are required to mail tax bills for the current tax year no later than November 1. The 2019 Legislature added a new section to the Administration and Enforcement of Property Taxes Act that delays the mailing of property tax bills in counties for which a property tax levy is on the 2019 or 2021 ballots until no later than November 24. Section 7-38-36.2 NMSA. Twelve of the thirty-three counties requested and received extensions from PTD to mail the first installment of property tax bills and the due date of the first installment into December of 2019.

Property taxes are due in two equal installments on November 10 and April 10, unless there was a proposed property tax levy on the ballot in 2019 or will be in 2021, in which case, the first installment is due December 6. Taxes become delinquent on December 10 (or January 6 in the event of a proposed tax levy) and May 10 following the two respective due dates. Actual dates vary per each county's request. Civil penalties and interest are imposed on delinquent taxes. County treasurers are responsible for collecting property taxes and distributing them to governmental entities that receive them. Major property tax recipients include counties, municipalities, and school districts.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the New Mexico Legislature held the 2021 first special session that began June 18, 2020. During the session, the Legislature passed, and the Governor signed into law, House Bill 6 that affects a property owner's property tax obligations. The statute provides relief to property owners who were unable to timely pay their second half 2019 property taxes. The statute provides, in relevant part, as follows:

No interest shall accrue and no penalty shall be assessed to a property owner for unpaid property taxes that became due April 10, 2020 ...; provided that:

- (1) the unpaid property taxes did not become delinquent because of an intent to defraud by the property owner;
- (2) payment for the unpaid property taxes is made in full on or before May 10, 2021; and
- (3) the subject property does not have property taxes that became delinquent ... prior to May 10, 2020.

All requirements must be met for a property owner to avoid the imposition of interest and penalty on the second half 2019 payment: (i) the payment must not have been made before June 29, 2020, the effective date of the statute; (ii) the failure to pay was not because of an intent to defraud by the property owner; (iii) the second half 2019 payment is made before May 10, 2021; and (iv) property taxes were current having been paid through first half 2019 tax bill.

In property tax year 2020, 4.6 percent of property tax collections statewide (including oil and gas production and equipment tax) were distributed to the State for payment of principal and interest on general obligation bonds.

State law provides a mechanism by which, in the event of a dispute with respect to property taxes owed, a taxpayer may make payment under protest. Such monies may not be spent by property tax recipients until the taxpayer's claim has been decided. At that time, the monies are distributed either to the county or the taxpayer, depending on the outcome of the taxpayer's claim. As a result, counties may experience delays in receiving tax revenues or may be required to refund monies already received.

Except for property that is subject to the special methods of valuation statutes administered by the Central Assessment Bureau, the assessed value of property is maintained at current and correct values in accordance with the Property Tax Code with the residential value limits in Section 7-36-21.2 NMSA 1978. Assessed value is determined by the sales of comparable property subject to certain limitations. Income or cost valuation methods also are used when appropriate. Residential properties are eligible for a \$2,000 head of family exemption. A \$4,000 veteran exemption may be applied against residential and certain nonresidential property. Veterans that are 100 percent disabled are exempt from property taxes. Honorably discharged members of the armed services are eligible for the veteran exemptions. Taxable value is one-third of assessed value, as required by Section 1 of Article VIII of the New Mexico Constitution. Net taxable value, against which mill rates are imposed, consists of taxable value less exemptions. Maximum property tax rates for operations for various types of local governments are imposed by the Constitution of the State and by governing statutes. See "Property Tax Limitations," below. Different tax rates typically apply to residential and non-residential properties in the same tax jurisdiction due to the state's "yield control" statute (Section 7-37-7.1 NMSA 1978).

Oil and natural gas properties and related production equipment are subject to property taxation in the State. The oil and natural gas ad valorem production tax is levied and collected by the Oil and Gas Bureau of the TRD on the basis of assessed value deemed the equivalent of 50 percent of the actual price of oil and natural gas received at the production unit multiplied by the volume of oil and natural gas produced, less certain trucking expense deductions and royalties paid to the federal government, the State, or Indian tribes. The oil and natural gas production "equipment ad valorem tax" is levied based on assessed value deemed equivalent to 9 percent of the previous calendar year sales value of the product from each production unit. The tax year for oil and natural gas production begins on September 1 based on tax rates that are set on August 31. The oil and natural gas "ad valorem production tax" is due by the 25th day of the second month following the month of production. Taxes are collected monthly. The oil and natural gas production "equipment ad valorem tax" is due on November 30 based upon assessments issued on or before October 15. The TRD distributes its collections to the county treasurers who further distribute the tax revenues to property tax recipients.

## **Property Tax Valuation Limitations**

In November 1998, the New Mexico electorate approved an amendment to Section 1 of Article VIII of the State Constitution to authorize the Legislature to limit increases on residential property valuation for property taxes. The limitation may be applied to classes of residential property taxpayers based on owner-occupancy, age or income. The limitations may be authorized statewide or at the option of a local jurisdiction and may include conditions. Any valuation limitations authorized as a local jurisdiction option shall provide for applying statewide or multi-jurisdictional property tax rates to the value of the property as if the valuations increase limitation did not apply.

Section 7-36-21.3 NMSA 1978 provides that valuations for single-family dwellings occupied by certain low-income owners 65 years of age or older, or disabled are frozen. The income threshold is \$35,000 for the 2020 tax year and will be indexed for inflation each year. Another law, Section 7-36-21.2 NMSA 1978, provides that residential property shall be valued at its current and correct value in accordance with the provisions of the Property Tax Code, provided that for the year 2001 and subsequent tax years, the value of a property in any tax year shall not exceed 103 percent of the value in the previous year. Implementation of this section required a median assessment ratio of 85 percent. Sales assessment ratios are computed annually by the TRD and measure a county's assessment valuations against current sale data. The 3 percent increase is only applied to counties that are current and correct. The annual limitations do not apply to new improvements or to any property that has had a change in ownership, use or zoning during the year.

Since 2004 the Property Tax Code has required the disclosure only to the County Assessor of sale prices and other items of value upon the sale of residential real property. This amendment has allowed assessors to value residential properties at current and correct and monitor assessment levels.

Since 2008 county assessors are required to consider in determining the market value of residential housing any decrease in value that would be realized by an owner in the sale of the property because of the effects of any affordable housing subsidy, covenant or encumbrance under a federal, state or local housing program that restricts the future use or resale value of the property or otherwise prohibits the owner from fully benefiting from any enhanced value of the property. This amendment has not had a material impact on the assessed value of residential properties.

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The following table sets forth the aggregate statewide net taxable valuations for the last 10 years.

**TABLE 27**  
**Final Net Taxable Valuations**  
**(Dollars in thousands)**

Property Tax Year	Residential	Non-Residential	Oil and Gas	Copper	Net Taxable Value
2011	30,265,867	16,594,029	5,868,724	117,476	52,846,098
2012	30,794,394	16,639,038	6,938,090	119,440	54,490,962
2013	31,320,905	16,824,354	6,431,256	149,491	54,726,006
2014	31,678,950	17,161,038	7,710,780	184,736	56,735,505
2015	32,396,576	17,720,157	8,463,290	211,459	58,791,482
2016	33,533,677	18,181,319	4,982,793	224,778	56,922,567
2017	34,767,934	18,104,473	4,359,518	219,831	57,451,756
2018	35,934,821	18,266,388	6,338,179	219,831	57,451,756
2019	37,417,925	19,224,494	10,099,051	177,768	66,919,238
2020	38,832,638	20,154,146	11,507,375	153,889	70,648,047

*Source: New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration, Local Government Division*

### Property Tax Mill Levy Limitations

Section 2 of Article VIII of the New Mexico Constitution states:

*Taxes levied upon real or personal property for state revenue shall not exceed four mills annually on each dollar of the assessed valuation thereof except for the support of the educational, penal and charitable institutions of the state, payment of the state debt and interest thereon; and the total annual tax levy upon such property for all state purposes exclusive of necessary levies for the state debt shall not exceed ten mills; provided, however, that taxes levied upon real or personal tangible property for all purposes, except special levies on specific classes of property and except necessary levies for public debt shall not exceed twenty mills annually on each dollar of the assessed valuation thereof, but laws may be passed authorizing additional taxes to be levied outside of such limitation when approved by at least a majority of the qualified electors of the taxing district who paid a property tax therein during the preceding year voting on such proposition.*

Currently the State imposes no levy of property taxes except for the payment of State debt.

Statutes establish maximum property tax rates for operating purposes for cities, counties and school districts. The DFA is permitted by statute to set a rate at less than the maximum rate in any tax year. These maximum property tax rates for operating purposes are set forth below.

**TABLE 28**  
**Maximum Operating Mill Levy Rates**

Counties .....	11.85
Cities .....	7.65
Schools .....	<u>0.50</u>
Maximum combined statutory rate.....	<u>20.00</u>

*Source: Section 7-37-7(B) NMSA 1978*

Apart from the allowable operating tax rates above, New Mexico governments may levy additional property taxes as authorized by statute and voter approval for:

- Debt service;
- County hospitals and health care services;
- School district capital improvements;
- Branch and community colleges;
- Vocational schools;
- Flood control districts and authorities;
- Judgments;
- Water and sanitation districts;
- Conservancy districts;
- Public improvement districts;
- Tax increment development districts; and
- Other special districts.

In addition, the Legislature has established certain limits on the increase in property tax revenue that may be realized for county and city operating purposes. The “yield control” formula is activated by property valuation increases resulting from county assessor reappraisal programs. The yield control law limits the increase in operating revenue from existing properties in absence of new rate impositions in any one year over the prior year to the lesser of 5 percent or the percentage increase in the annual price index published by the United States Department of Commerce for State and Local Government Purchases of Goods and Services, plus increases in tax revenues resulting from new construction, improvements to properties and increased taxable value due to annexation.

**Production and Property Taxes on Oil and Natural Gas**

The valuation of oil and natural gas production and the assessment of the ad valorem production tax are based on the actual value of production on a monthly basis from September 1 to August 31. Oil and natural gas are valued for the calendar year preceding the property tax year, as established in Section 7-32-15 NMSA 1978. For rate setting, the Local Government Division of the DFA may adjust the State levy for changes in oil and natural gas values.

Current effective production tax rates expressed on ad valorem and unit bases are shown below. The rates were based on data from Fiscal Year 2020 and reflect an average sales price of \$44.01 per barrel for oil and \$1.90 per thousand cubic feet (mcf) for natural gas. The gross rates presented in the table below show

taxes paid as a percentage of gross sales value before subtracting allowable deductions and tax credits. The gross tax per unit is also based on gross sales value. The net tax per unit, however, is also based on taxable value before subtracting allowable deductions and tax credits.

**TABLE 29**  
**Effective Tax Rates Applicable for Fiscal Year 2020<sup>(1)</sup>**

Type of Tax	Crude Oil		Natural Gas	
	Ad Valorem	Per Barrel	Ad Valorem	Per mcf
<b>Price</b>				
Oil and Gas School Tax	2.76%	\$1.22	2.28%	\$0.04
Oil and Gas Severance Tax	3.29	1.45	2.13	0.04
Oil and Gas Conservation Tax (General Fund only)	0.17	0.07	0.11	0.00
Natural Gas Processors Tax	n/a	n/a	0.31	0.01
Oil and Gas Production ad valorem Tax	1.11	0.49	0.71	0.01
Oil and Gas Production Equipment ad valorem Tax	<u>0.24</u>	<u>0.11</u>	<u>0.18</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<u>7.57%</u>	<u>\$3.33</u>	<u>5.72%</u>	<u>\$0.11</u>
<b>Subtotal: State Tax Only (excludes <i>ad valorem</i> taxes and Natural Gas Processors Tax)<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<u>6.22%</u>	<u>\$2.74</u>	<u>4.52%</u>	<u>\$0.09</u>

<sup>(1)</sup> Excludes deductions and tax credits.

<sup>(2)</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

<sup>(3)</sup> Natural Gas Processors Tax is applied only to natural gas processed at natural gas processing plants in New Mexico.

Source: New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department

### Production, Sales and Property Taxes on Coal

State production and property taxes on coal totaled approximately \$9.7 million in Fiscal Year 2020, flat from Fiscal Year 2019. Coal production decreased from approximately 8.2 million tons in Fiscal Year 2019 to 7.9 million tons in Fiscal Year 2020. The average effective tax per ton increased from approximately \$1.15 in Fiscal Year 2019 to approximately \$1.22 for Fiscal Year 2020. With total sales revenue of approximately \$272 million in Fiscal Year 2020, the average effective tax was 3.58 percent of total sales

revenue. This does not include the gross receipts tax. The average burden of production, property and gross receipts taxes on a ton of coal produced and sold during Fiscal Year 2020 is shown in the following table.

**TABLE 30**  
**Tax Burden on Coal for Fiscal Year 2020 <sup>(1)</sup>**

Type of Tax	Tax per Ton	Effective Tax Rate	Taxes Collected
Severance Tax and Surtax (Net of ITC)	\$0.56	1.58%	\$ 4,422,809
Resource Excise Tax	0.25	0.73	1,990,234
Conservation Tax	<u>0.05</u>	<u>0.19</u>	<u>504,193</u>
<b>Total Production Taxes</b>	<u>0.86</u>	<u>2.50</u>	<u>6,917,236</u>
Property Tax <sup>(2)</sup>	0.36	1.04	2,814,228
Gross Receipts Tax	<u>1.32</u>	<u>3.81</u>	<u>10,353,744</u>
<b>Total Non-Production Taxes</b>	<u>1.68</u>	<u>4.85</u>	<u>13,167,972</u>
<b>Total Production and Non-Production Taxes</b>	<u>\$2.54</u>	<u>7.35%</u>	<u>\$ 20,085,208</u>
Price per Ton			\$34.60
Total Production (Short Tons)			<u>7,855,213</u>
Total Value			<u>\$271,793,572</u>

<sup>(1)</sup> The figures reported in this table come from TRD's GenTax System. These figures differ from actual distributions made by the TRD's Financial Services Bureau, as the distributions include penalties, interest, and other modifications such as previously unallocated or unidentified receipts. Total production is based on volumes reported on severance tax returns, which differ from the volumes reported on resource excise tax returns.

<sup>(2)</sup> Property tax year began September 1, 2019, with calendar year assessments completed by May 1 per statute.

Source: New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, Tax Analysis, Research and Statistics Office (the GenTax System, Financial Services Bureau and Property Tax Division's Central Assessment Unit)

Statutory rates for the resources excise tax and the conservation tax are effectively reduced by a deduction for Federal, State and Indian royalties. The effective severance tax rate on coal reflects the mix of old and new contract sales and of underground and surface mines. Property tax pertains to both equipment and production values. Fundamental differences in tax bases preclude a true comparison between property taxes and other taxes shown above. However, property taxes are included in this analysis to prevent understating the tax burden.

In addition to production taxes, gross receipts tax is imposed on coal produced and sold within the State. During 2018, the most recent year for which data is available (Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration), 67.3 percent of all coal produced in the State was supplied to electric power plants in New Mexico. In Fiscal Year 2020, 56.4 percent of all coal produced in New Mexico was subject to gross receipts tax. The combined state and local tax rate for Fiscal Year 2020 was 6.97 percent of taxable gross receipts.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional financial information from government agencies of the State may be obtained online from the State's Sunshine Portal. The information contained in the Sunshine Portal database may change over time. The Board assumes no responsibility or liability for the contents of the Sunshine Portal. The Board also maintains a website containing general information about the State and its bond programs.