



## Goal 6: Economic Vitality

**Desired Community Condition: There are abundant, competitive career oriented employment opportunities.**



**Indicator: Job Growth Trends Compared with the U.S. and Other Metropolitan Areas in the Southwest**

**Progress Rating: Local Trend: STABLE National Comparison: BETTER**

### Indicator Description

This indicator tracks the annual rate of growth of non-agricultural jobs as measured by the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data is provided for the Albuquerque MSA and comparable MSA regions in the Southwest including: Colorado Springs, CO; El Paso, TX; Tucson, AZ; and the U.S. as a whole from 1995 to 2003. This indicator does not include some types of job growth, like small consulting operations.

### Why is this indicator important?

A vital economy must create jobs at a rate that enables new people entering the job market to find employment. It is especially important for the economy to create enough new jobs to accommodate young people just entering the job market so that we retain that young, vital energy in Albuquerque. Job growth also provides a measure of how well the economy has performed over time compared to other regional economies. It allows us to assess whether Albuquerque is keeping up with others in the region and in the U.S.

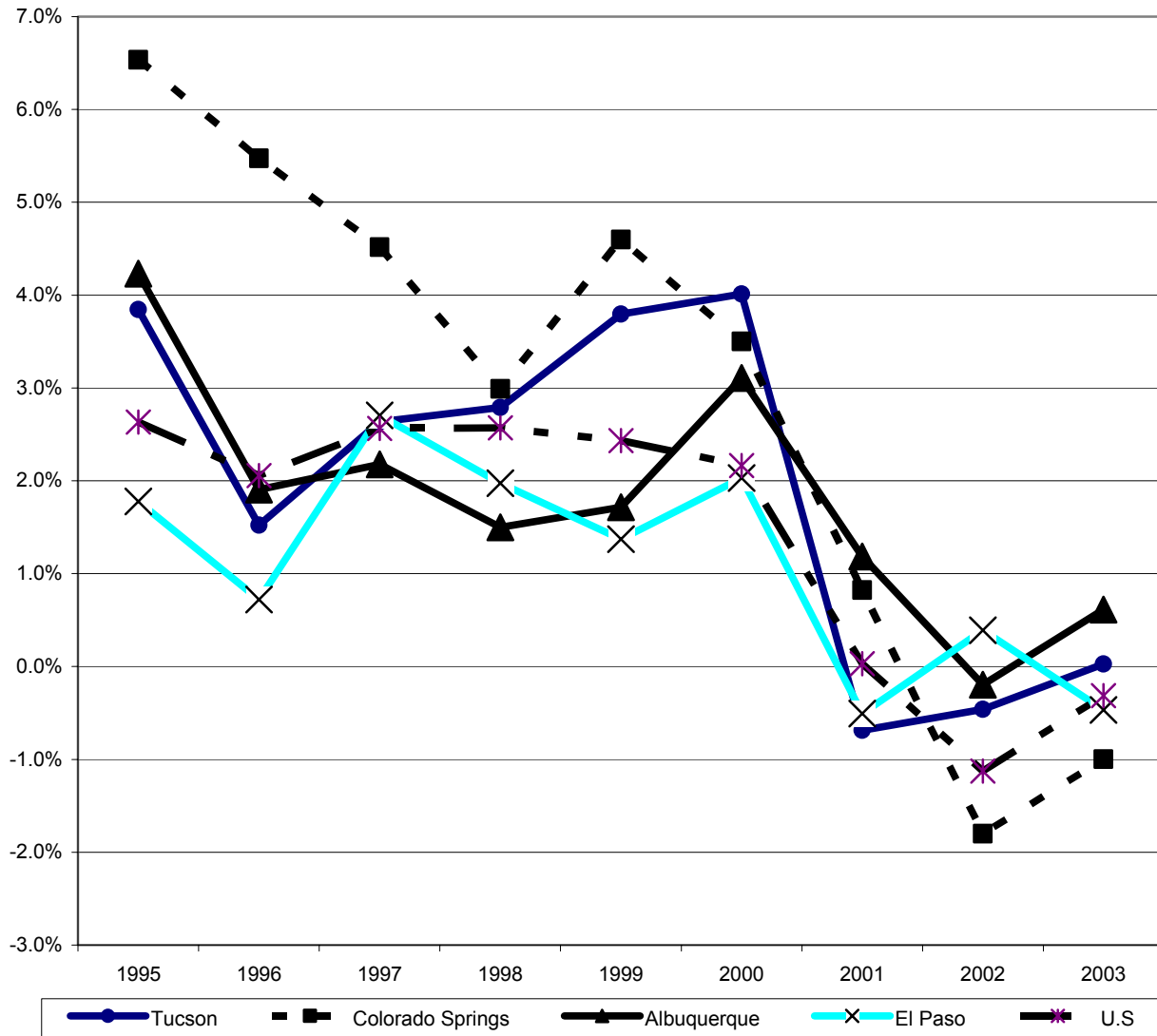
### Data Sources

Current Employment Statistics survey (CES), U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

### What can we tell from the data?

- Jobs in the Albuquerque MSA grew more slowly than in the U.S. and many of the other MSAs during the period of 1997 to 1999, but have since outperformed all other areas shown since 2000.
- The recession in 2001 hit all the economies, but by 2003 Albuquerque was the only one of the group that had positive employment growth.
- While job growth rates have declined over the period, it is important to note that a positive percentage rate indicates an increase in the number of jobs compared with the previous year.

**Job Growth Rates 1995 to 2003**  
 Albuquerque MSA, Southwestern MSAs, and the U.S.



Annual Growth in Employment									
AREA	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Tucson MSA	3.8%	1.5%	2.6%	2.8%	3.8%	4.0%	-0.7%	-0.5%	0.0%
Colorado Springs MSA	6.5%	5.5%	4.5%	3.0%	4.6%	3.5%	0.8%	-1.8%	-1.0%
Albuquerque MSA	4.2%	1.9%	2.2%	1.5%	1.7%	3.1%	1.2%	-0.2%	0.6%
El Paso MSA	1.8%	0.7%	2.7%	2.0%	1.4%	2.0%	-0.5%	0.4%	-0.5%
U.S.	2.6%	2.1%	2.6%	2.6%	2.4%	2.2%	0.0%	-1.1%	-0.3%