

Failing State: How New Mexico Ranks

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Metric	Rank	Source	Date	D.C. included?
Overall				
"Best State"	#49	U.S. News	December, 2024	
Quality of life	#30	World Population Review	2024	
Quality of life	#45	WalletHub	January, 2024	
Quality of life	#48	Data Pandas	2024	
Crime				
Most police killings in U.S. - NM & ABQ	#1	Mapping Police Violence	2024	yes
Crime Rate	#1	Data Pandas	2024	
Crime Rate	#2	World Population Review	2024	yes
Most Dangerous State	#1	U.S. News	November, 2024	yes
Burglary	#1	CEPro	September, 2024	
Violent Crime Rate	#3	World Population Review	2024	yes
Non-Violent Crime Rate	#3	World Population Review	2024	yes
Homicides	#5	Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)	2022	yes
Drug Problems				
Worst Drug Use and Addiction	#1	WalletHub	May, 2024	yes
Adults with unmet drug treatment needs	#2	WalletHub	May, 2024	yes
Teen Drug Users	#1	WalletHub	May, 2024	yes
Teens trying marijuana before age 13	#1	WalletHub	May, 2024	yes
Overdose death rate	#8	Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)	2022	yes
Drug Trafficking	#5	United State Sentencing Commission	2016	
Health, Mental Health				
Suicide	#4	Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)	2022	yes
Adults with substance use disorder	#49	Mental Health America	2024	yes
Adults with serious thoughts of suicide	#38	Mental Health America	2024	yes
Youth with substance use disorder	#51	Mental Health America	2024	yes
Youth overall mental health	#45	Mental Health America	2024	yes
Healthcare	#43	America's Health Rankings	2023	yes
Healthcare Access	#41	U.S. News	2024	
Healthcare Quality	#34	U.S. News	2024	
Public Health	#37	U.S. News	2024	
Sexually Transmitted Diseases	#10	Data Pandas	2024	
Congenital syphilis rate	#1	Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)	2022	
Congenital syphilis rate	#2	Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)	2024	
Primary/secondary syphilis rate	#2	Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)	2022	
Primary/secondary syphilis rate	#2	Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)	2024	

Chlamydia rate	#9	Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)	2024	
State health system performance	#31	Commonwealth	June, 2023	yes
COVID-19 Mortality by State	#6	Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)	Year 2022	yes
Children, Youth, Families, Education				
Overall Childhood Well-being	#50	Annie E. Casey Foundation	2022, 2024	
Economic well-being [of children]	#48	Annie E. Casey Foundation	2024	
Health [of children]	#44	Annie E. Casey Foundation	2024	
Family and Community	#49	Annie E. Casey Foundation	2024	
Adverse Child Experiences	#1	New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH)	Oct. 11, 2022	
Youth with at Least One Major Depressive Episode (MDE) in the Past Year	#46	Mental Health America	2024	
Youth with Serious Thoughts of Suicide	#13	Mental Health America	2024	
Youth (Ages 6-17) Flourishing	#4	Mental Health America	2024	
Youth with MDE Who Did Not Receive Mental Health Services	#48	Mental Health America	2024	
Youth with Private Insurance That Did Not Cover Mental or Emotional Problems	#14	Mental Health America	2024	
Students (K+) Identified with Emotional Disturbance for an Individualized Education Program	#28	Mental Health America	2022	
% of Disconnected Youth	#5	WalletHub	2024	
% of Youth without a highschool diploma	#1	WalletHub	2024	
Overweight or Obese Young Adults	#4	WalletHub	2024	
Education	#50	Annie E. Casey Foundation	2024	
Population with Low Literacy	#1	World Population Review	2024	
NM last in math and reading	#51	National Assessment of Educational Progress	2024	yes
4th Graders Below Basic Reading Level	#1	World Population Review	2024	
High school graduation rate	#49	NM State Legislature's Legislative Finance Committee	2024	yes
At Risk Youth	#2	WalletHub	2024	

Worst state to raise a family	#1	WalletHub	2024	
Worst state to raise a family	#2	World Population Review	2024	
Education and Childcare	#50	World Population Review	2024	
Best State to Raise a Family	#49	Consumer Affairs, Journal of Consumer Research	2025 projected	yes
Safest State to raise a family	#51	Consumer Affairs, Journal of Consumer Research	2025 projected	yes
Most Underprivileged Children	#4	WalletHub	2024	
Children in Single-Parent Families	#4	WalletHub	2024	
% of Children in Households with Below-Poverty Income	#3	WalletHub	2024	
Marriage and relationships				
Best States for Singles	#42	WalletHub	January, 2024	
Share of Single Adults	#1	WalletHub	January, 2024	
Romance & Fun	#50	WalletHub	January, 2024	
Online-Dating Opportunities	#49	WalletHub	January, 2024	
Marriage Rate	#51	Census Bureau	2022	yes
Divorce Rate	#7	Census Bureau	2022	yes
Divorce Rate	#5	Wise Voter	2023	
Albuquerque divorce rate - national city rank	#1	U.S. Census Bureau / reported by KOBTV	2024	
Women's issues				
Women's Health and Reproductive Care Outcomes				
Women's Health and Reproductive Care Outcomes				
Worst State to be a Woman	#12	Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security	2020	
Reproductive Care and Women's Health	#51	Commonwealth Fund	2023	
Women's Health and Reproductive Care Outcomes	#42	Commonwealth Fund	July, 2024	
Health Care Quality and Prevention for Women	#46	Commonwealth Fund	July, 2024	
Health Coverage, Access, and Affordability for Women	#34	Commonwealth Fund	2024	
Health of Women and Children	#40	America's Health Rankings	2024	
Senior issues				

Increases in the Drug Death Rate Between 2017- 2019 and 2020-2022 for Seniors	#48	America's Health Rankings Senior Report (one of the highest increases nationwide)	2024	yes
65+ drug deaths	#45	America's Health Rankings Senior Report (one of the worst rankings nationwide)	2024	
Risk of social isolation for ages 65+	#48	America's Health Rankings Senior Report (one of the worst rankings nationwide)	2024	no
Poverty - Age 65+	#46	America's Health Rankings	2022	
Retirement	#31	WalletHub	2024	
Economics and Poverty				
Highest Poverty Rate	#1	NM State Legislature's Legislative Finance Committee	2022	
Poorest State	#3	Data Pandas	2024	
Poorest State	#6	World Population Review	2024	
Child Poverty Rate	#3	U.S. Census Bureau, reported by USA Facts	2023	
States With The Highest Rent Increases	#10	Zillow, RubyHome, reported by yahoo.com	2023	
Median Annual Household Income	#48	WalletHub	January, 2024	
Economy	#45	U.S. News (highest to lowest)		
Business Environment	#44	U.S. News (highest to lowest)		
Employment	#45	U.S. News (highest to lowest)		
[Economic] Growth	#40	U.S. News (highest to lowest)		
Business Growth Rate	#44	IBIS World	2024	
Non-residential Construction	#48	IBIS World	2024	
Residential Construction	#32	IBIS World	2024	
Building Permits	#49	IBIS World	2024	
Economic Outlook	#38	Rich States, Poor States	2024	
Economic Performance	#38	Rich States, Poor States	2024	
Roads and Drivers				
Most Distracted Drivers in U.S.	#1	WhistleOut	2024	yes
Riskiest Drivers in U.S.	#1	KRQE, Albuquerque	2024	
Worst Drivers in U.S.	#1	Forbes	2025	
Worst Drivers in U.S.	#2	Consumer Affairs, Journal of Consumer Research	2024	
Roads	#50	Jon Foy & Associates		
Fatalities Per 100 Million Miles Driven (VMT)	#3	Jon Foy & Associates		
Rural Rough (Poor and Very Poor) Road Percentage	#3	Jon Foy & Associates		
Miscellaneous				
Internet coverage, speed and availability	#39	BroadbandNow		
Most Dangerous Workplaces	#14	Suzuki Law Offices & Bureau of Labor Statistics		
Air Quality	#43	Data Pandas	2024	
Tap Water Quality	#39	Data Pandas	2024	