

In brief

Job and income growth slowing

New Mexicans have seen their personal income rise faster than the national average over the past few years, according to a new report released by New Mexico Voices for Children. Job growth has also been strong, but both of those indicators seem to have peaked and are now slowing.

"2007 was a good year economically, but the national recession caught up with us much sooner than it usually does," said Gerry Bradley, research director for New Mexico Voices for Children, in a statement. The advocacy group released its annual "State of Working New Mexico" report through its data analysis program, the Fiscal Policy Project. "Job growth has slowed to between one and one-half of a percentage point," he added.

Still, New Mexico has fared better than some of our neighboring states, the report said. The state's median hourly wage surpassed Texas in 2007, and real median household income rose. Median household incomes fell in Arizona and Utah, when adjusted for inflation.

The report is available online at www.nmvoices.org.