

Quarterly Economic Summary

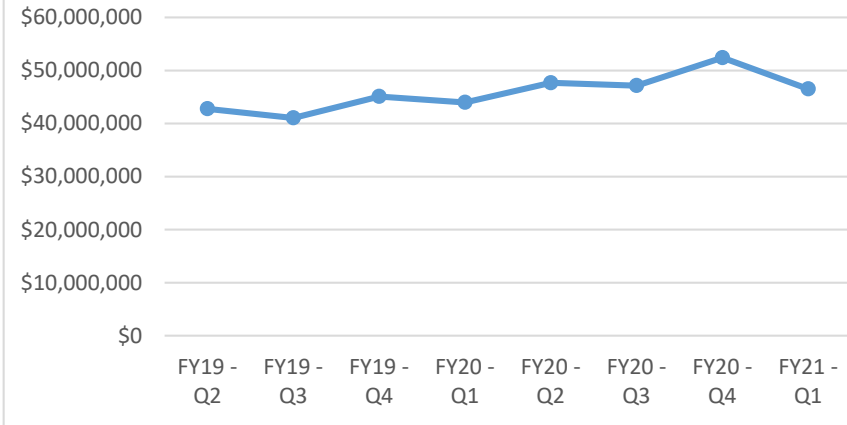
Sierra County



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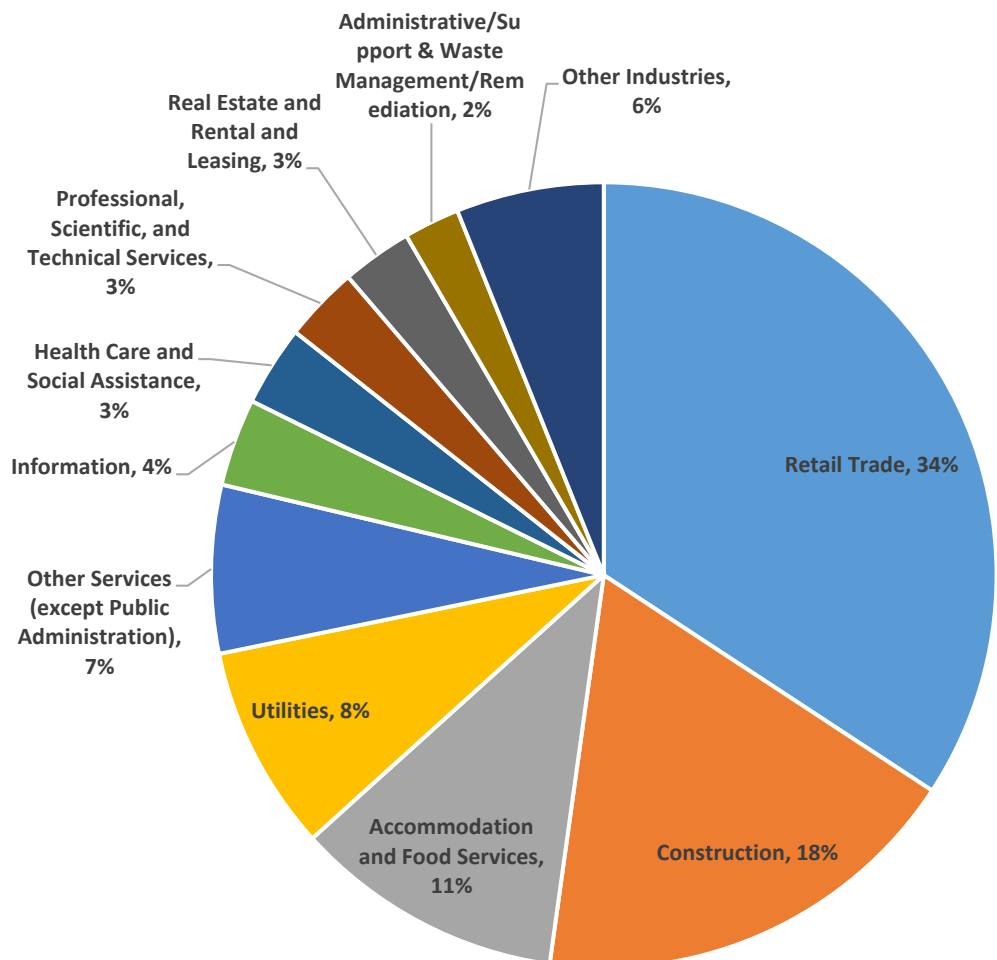
Chart 1. Matched Taxable Gross Receipts Per Quarter



The three months making up FY21 Q1 were the worst three months of the state's economic impact from COVID-19, comparing gross receipts data with the same period a year ago, despite 14 counties experiencing a year-over-year increase. The impacts were significantly worse due to lapsing federal support and no new federal aid package. Importantly, the federal bonus for unemployment benefits of an additional \$600/week expired, reducing consumer spending power.

Despite the \$5.9M decline from Q4 FY20 to Q1 FY21 in matched taxable gross receipts (MTGR), Sierra County has seen nearly stable growth over the last eight quarters, shown in Chart 1. The decline from Q4 FY20 to Q1 FY21 was primarily due to a 50% reduction in MTGR from the construction industry, which lost nearly \$8M from the previous quarter. Notwithstanding the 50% reduction, the construction industry still makes up 18% of the total MTGR collected by

Chart 2. FY21 - Q1 Industry Size by Matched Taxable Gross Receipts



Matched Taxable Gross Receipts (MTGR) is the best tax data available to show underlying economic activity. It matches a tax payment with reported receipts for each taxpayer, by industry.

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Table 1. Matched Taxable Gross Receipts by Industry

Industries	FY20 - Q1	FY21 - Q1	Growth	Year over year Change
Accommodation and Food Services	\$ 5,849,045	\$ 4,952,015	\$ (897,030)	-15%
Administrative/Support & Waste Management/Remediation	\$ 621,565	\$ 1,027,552	\$ 405,988	65%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	\$ 293,179	\$ 247,115	\$ (46,063)	-16%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	\$ 184,625	\$ 316,097	\$ 131,472	71%
Construction	\$ 7,639,716	\$ 8,006,627	\$ 366,911	5%
Educational Services	\$ 44,387	\$ 43,497	\$ (890)	-2%
Finance and Insurance	\$ 121,847	\$ 141,699	\$ 19,851	16%
Health Care and Social Assistance	\$ 1,445,645	\$ 1,476,117	\$ 30,471	2%
Information	\$ 2,341,509	\$ 1,606,677	\$ (734,831)	-31%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A
Manufacturing	\$ 418,991	\$ 986,185	\$ 567,194	135%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	\$ -	\$ 20,453	\$ 20,453	N/A
Other Services (except Public Administration)	\$ 3,881,193	\$ 3,085,676	\$ (795,517)	-20%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	\$ 1,095,362	\$ 1,381,430	\$ 286,068	26%
Public Administration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	N/A
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	\$ 848,332	\$ 1,290,467	\$ 442,136	52%
Retail Trade	\$ 12,978,467	\$ 15,267,068	\$ 2,288,601	18%
Transportation and Warehousing	\$ 26,156	\$ 37,571	\$ 11,414	44%
Unclassified Establishments	\$ 348,094	\$ 174,804	\$ (173,289)	-50%
Utilities	\$ 3,233,757	\$ 3,778,803	\$ 545,046	17%
Wholesale Trade	\$ 998,273	\$ 743,763	\$ (254,510)	-25%
All Industries	\$ 43,975,196	\$ 46,512,183	\$ 2,536,987	6%

Sierra County during the first quarter of FY21. Table 1 shows a \$2.5M year over year increase from Q1 FY20 to the same time period in FY21. The main contributor to this increase was the retail trade industry, which experienced an increase in MTGR of nearly \$2.3M, or 18%, when comparing the two time periods.

Gross receipts tax (GRT) revenue collections have remained fairly stable over the last eight quarters, shown in Chart 4. From Q4 FY20 to Q1 FY21, quarterly collections declined by roughly \$70K, or 11%.

HB6, passed in 2019, made widespread tax changes within New Mexico. One notable change is the conversion to destination-based sourcing that will begin after a two-year delay. During the 2020 Special Session, that legislation was amended, increasing a temporary distribution to municipalities and counties. Now municipalities will receive a distribution that is a portion of \$2.5 million while counties will receive a distribution that is a portion of \$1.5 million. The amounts distributed will be proportional to the size of that community's population versus that of the entire group. These amounts are subject to change if the federal government provides municipalities and counties future grants to offset revenue declines attributable to COVID-19.

Chart 3. Annual Total GRT Revenue Collections

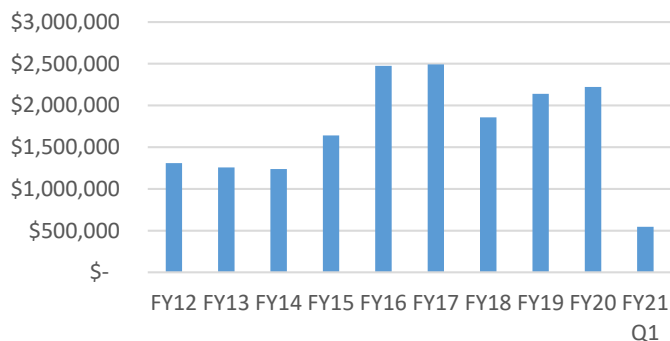
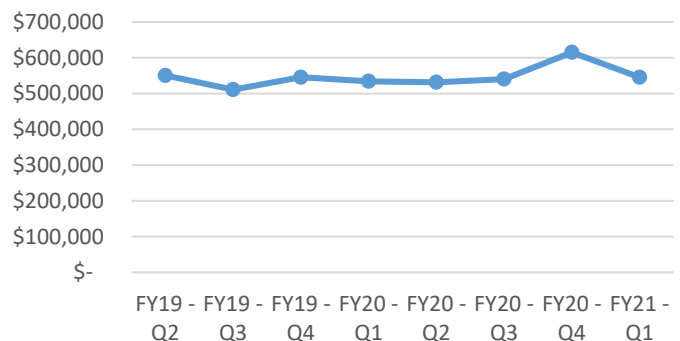


Chart 4. Quarterly GRT Revenue Collections



Quarterly Economic Summary Sierra County



Chart 5. Quarterly Average Total Employment & Weekly Wage

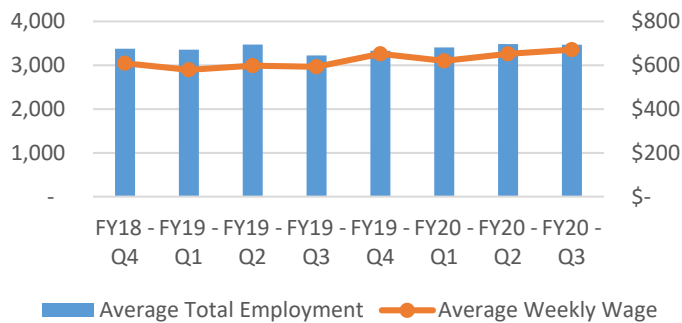


Chart 6. Quarterly Initial Unemployment Claims

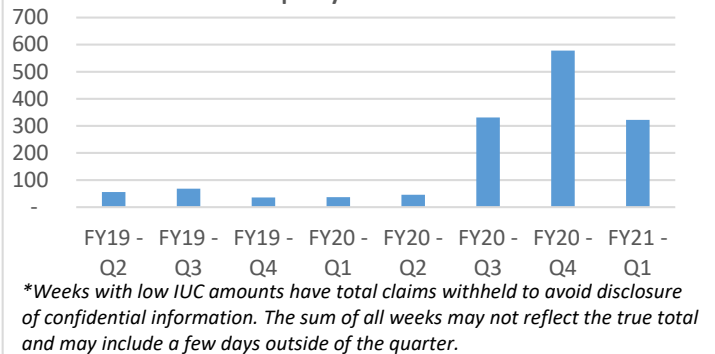
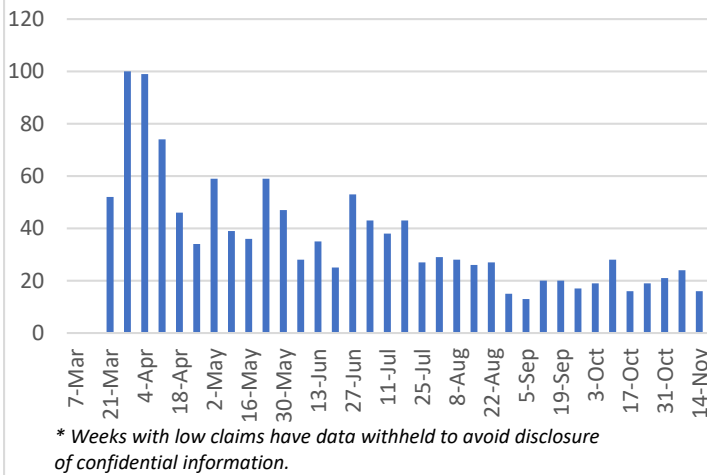


Chart. 7 Initial UI Claims - Weekly



A significant unexplained increase in initial unemployment claims can be an early indicator of an economic downturn. Explained increases commonly include seasonal job fluctuations, federal government shutdowns resulting in employee furloughs, or the closing of a major regional facility. This unprecedented uptick in initial unemployment claims is tied directly to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent furloughs and layoffs by affected businesses. As we continue into early and mid-2021, it is likely the number of initial unemployment claims will vary based on the effects of the pandemic but gradually wane; however, it is impossible to predict how quickly the employment numbers will return to pre-COVID-19 levels.

Chart 7 – Includes weekly initial claims for regular unemployment insurance (UI) but excludes pandemic unemployment assistance (PUA) and pandemic emergency unemployment assistance (PEUA) claims. Weeks shown as zero were redacted for confidentiality.

Chart 8 – Includes claimants receiving payment and pending certifications for standard UI, PUA, PEUA, extended benefits, and trade readjustment allowances. As of 11/2/2020, claimants who were initially considered eligible but have either never filed a certification or have not certified within 14 days have been removed from data, resulting in lower numbers.

Chart 8. Ongoing UI Claimants - Weekly

