

Otero County, NM

Community Profile

September 2020



COUNTY OF
OTERO
NEW MEXICO

County Commission

Gerald Matherly, District 1

Couy Griffin, District 2

Lori Bies, District 3

Pamela Heltner, County Manager

Otero County

Located in the south-central portion of New Mexico, Otero County is the second largest county in New Mexico (6,626 square miles). Terrain varies from pine-forested mountains in the north and east to the semi-arid plains of the southwest.

Otero County has nearly 67,000 residents with an estimated 9,000+ retired veterans.

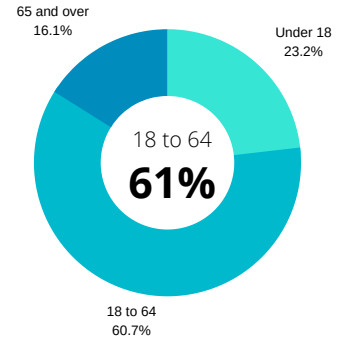
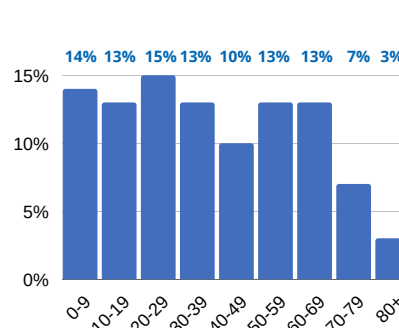
The county is linked to major cities in New Mexico and Texas via the White Sands/Alamogordo Regional Airport, US Highways 54, 70 & 82.



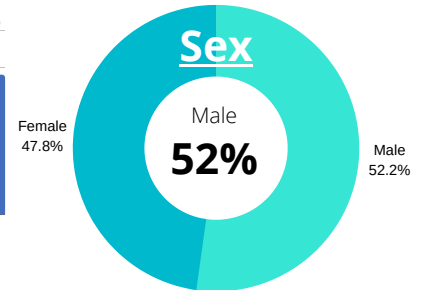
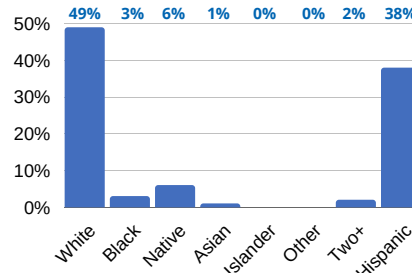
Age

36.2

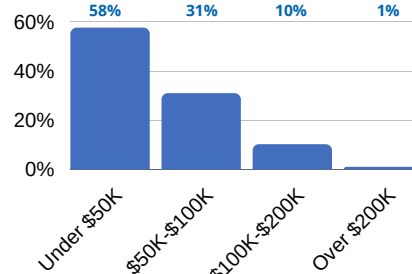
Median Age



Race & Ethnicity



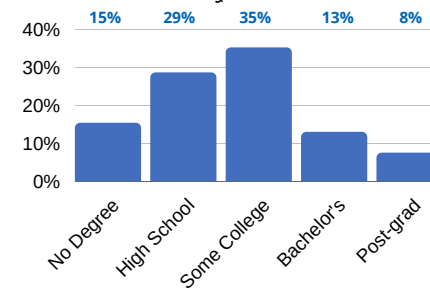
Income



\$42,591
Median Household Income

\$34,636
Per Capita Income

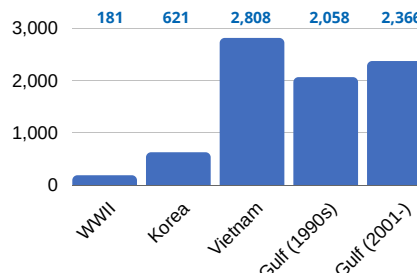
Educational Attainment



84.6%
High School Grad or Higher

20.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher

Veteran Status



9,123 Total Veterans
8,141 Male
982 Female

<https://censusreporter.org/profiles/05000US35035-otero-county-nm/>

Otero County Economic Development Council, Inc.
Laurie Anderson, Interim Executive Director
2400 N Scenic Dr. #113, NMSU-Alamogordo Campus (Protech/TE Building)
(575) 439-3688 / l.anderson@ocedc.com
<https://ocedc.com>



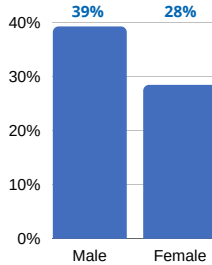
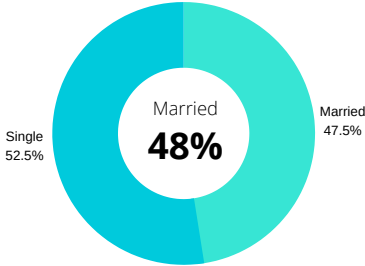
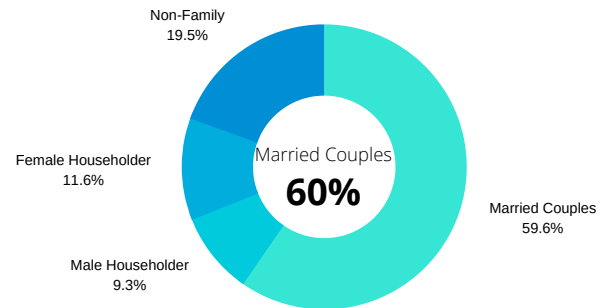
Families

23,747

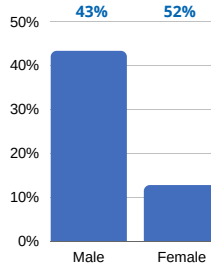
Number of Households

2.6

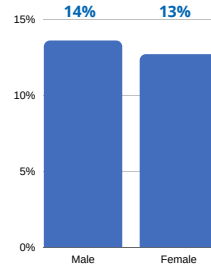
Persons per Household



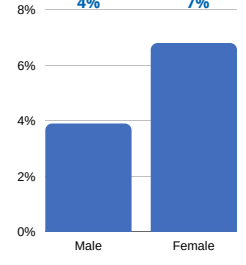
Never Married



Now Married



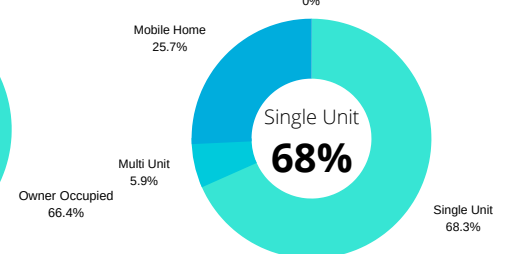
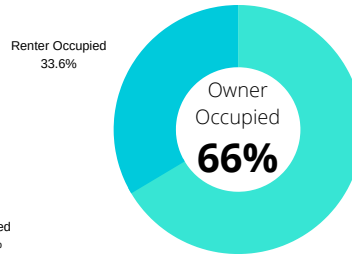
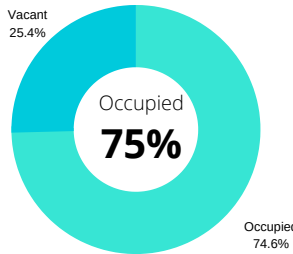
Divorced



Widowed

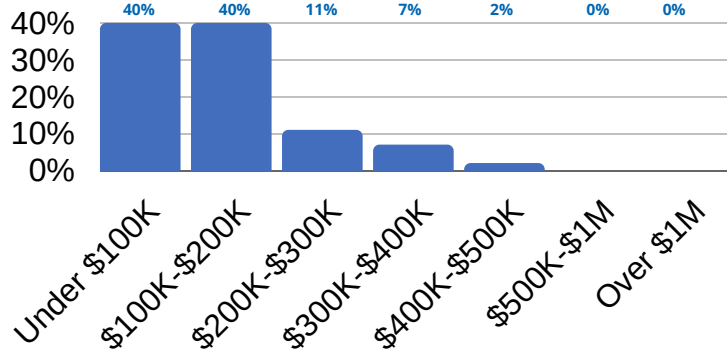
Boat, RV, Van, etc.
0%

31,843
Number of Housing Units



\$113,100

Median Value of Owner-Occupied Housing Units



Otero County Employment

Labor Force	24,262
Employed	21,149
Unemployed	3,113
Unemployment	12.8% (COVID-19)

July 2020

Col. Ryan P. Keeney, Commander, 49th Wing

Holloman AFB

Holloman AFB was originally established in 1942 as Alamogordo Air Field six miles west of Alamogordo, NM. Initial construction began at the airfield on February 6, 1942. The base was renamed in 1948 after Col. George Holloman, a native Rich Square, NC who was a pioneer in early rocket and pilot-less aircraft research.

Holloman AFB supports about 21,000 Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, retirees, DoD civilians and their family members.

Present Aircraft flown at HAFB: T-38 Talon, F-16 Fighting Falcon, QF-16 Drone & MQ-9 Reaper

Brigadier General David C. Trybula, Commander

White Sands Missile Range

White Sands Missile Range, a US Army installation near Alamogordo, is the largest overland testing range in the United States. The Range is utilized by Holloman AFB, Ft. Bliss (El Paso, TX), and worldwide defense contractors. As the birthplace of the US rocket program in the 1940s, today White Sands Missile Range is the testing site for reusable rocket programs and numerous Department of Defense Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) programs.