

New Mexico

Land of Enchantment

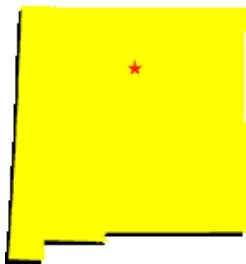


Flag:

[The yellow field](#) and red symbol colors are the colors of Spain. First brought to New Mexico by Spanish explorers in 1540. On New Mexico's flag we see a red sun with rays stretching out from it. There are four groups of rays with four rays in each group. This is an ancient sun symbol of a Native American people called the Zia. The Zia believed that the giver of all good gave them gifts in groups of four. These gifts are:

- The four directions - north, east, south and west.
- The four seasons - spring, summer, fall and winter.
- The day - sunrise, noon, evening and night.
- Life itself - childhood, youth, middle years and old age.

All of these are bound by a circle of life and love, without a beginning or end.



New Mexico

New Mexico has been known as the **Sunshine State**, a name recorded from around 1926, as well as the **Cactus State**, and the **Spanish State**. Enthusiastic supporters have variously regaled New Mexico with **Land of Cactus**, **Land of the Delight Makers**, **Land of Opportunity**, **Land of Heart's Desires** and **Land of Enchantment**, but it is the last of these which has stuck and which appears on licence plates.

Economy:

Agriculture: Cattle, dairy products, hay, nursery stock, chilies.

Industry: Electric equipment, petroleum and coal products, food processing, printing and publishing, stone, glass, and clay products, tourism.