

NEW MEXICO

Voters in New Mexico this year will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, and Attorney General. All 70 seats in the New Mexico State House of Representatives will be up for election. The gubernatorial race is expected to be competitive, while Democrats anticipate keeping control of the Office of Attorney General and the House.

Governor

Democratic Nominee

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham (D)

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham (D) assumed office as New Mexico's head of state on January 1, 2019. She is running for reelection in what is expected to be a contentious battle. She is running on the accomplishments of her first term. Prior to her election to the Governor's Office, Lujan Grisham served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2013-2019 where she represented most of Albuquerque as well as parts of the surrounding counties. In Congress, she advocated for local Native American tribes, equal pay for women, public schools, and veterans' health care.

In 2019, Lujan Grisham signed a number of bipartisan bills that, among others, included investments in public education and clean energy. She signed New Mexico's Energy Transition Act, a <u>bill</u> which was aimed to transition the state's electricity sector toward a more renewable economy. According to the bill, the state's electricity sector is to be carbon-free by 2045.

Earlier this year she signed a <u>bill</u> that raised minimum teacher salaries by \$10,000. She also <u>signed</u> an executive order directing the New Mexico Public Education Department to reduce administrative paperwork requirements by 25% so that teachers can spend more time with their students.

Lujan Grisham states that New Mexico's economy will continue to be a top priority for her administration, promising to support small businesses and create new jobs. Earlier this year, she touted how she <u>secured</u> over \$60 million to further economic development in the Borderplex.

She plans to continue to <u>promote</u> public safety by addressing the root causes of crime, stating that she will continue to take steps to reduce poverty and invest in behavioral health and addiction services. Lujan Grisham states that it is her priority to make her state more affordable for New Mexicans. Earlier this year she signed into law <u>tax cuts</u> to ease financial burdens for the elderly, families, and businesses.

She also trumpets the <u>repeal</u> of the state's 50-year-old criminal abortion statute in 2021 and her actions to fund the expansion of postpartum coverage under Medicaid from 60 days to 12 months.

Trivia: U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris officiated Lujan Grisham's marriage to Manuel Cordova in May 2022.