



# Nevada Economic Update

August 21, 2015

## Summary

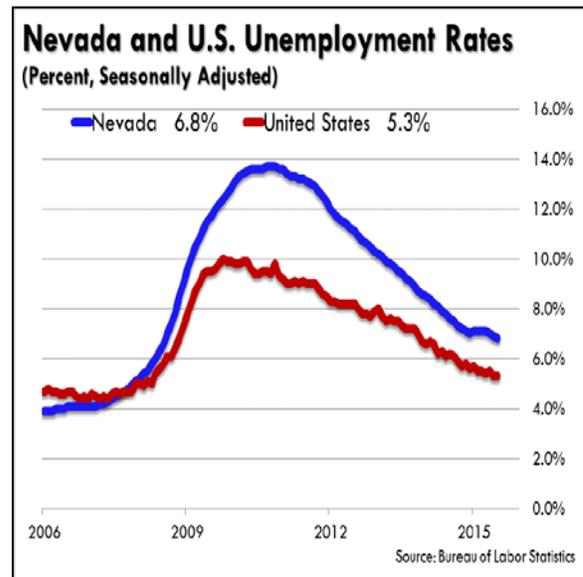
Nonfarm payroll employment in Nevada increased by 3,900 jobs and the unemployment rate fell to 6.8 percent in July according to data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

## Nevada Unemployment Rate

During July, the unemployment rate in Nevada declined by 0.1 percentage point to 6.8 percent. The number of people counted as unemployed fell by 1,281 in July to 96,831, while the labor force grew by 4,024 to 1,426,508. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 48 posted lower unemployment rates for the month than Nevada. A year earlier, the unemployment rate in Nevada stood at 7.6 percent.

The 10 year peak for the unemployment rate in Nevada was 13.7 percent in November 2010. This also represents the series high for the unemployment rate in Nevada. The 10 year low for the unemployment rate in Nevada was 3.9 percent in March 2006. The series low for the unemployment rate in Nevada occurred in January 1999 when the unemployment rate reached 3.7 percent. BLS began publishing the state unemployment rate series in 1976.

The national unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.3 percent in July. July's unemployment rate was 0.9 percentage point lower than a year earlier when the rate stood at 6.2 percent. The ten year high for the national unemployment rate was 10.0 percent in October 2009. The ten year low was 4.4 percent in May 2007.



## Nevada Payroll Employment

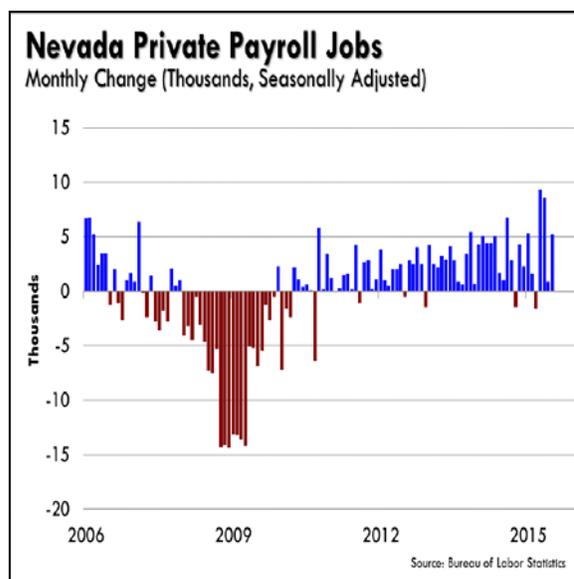
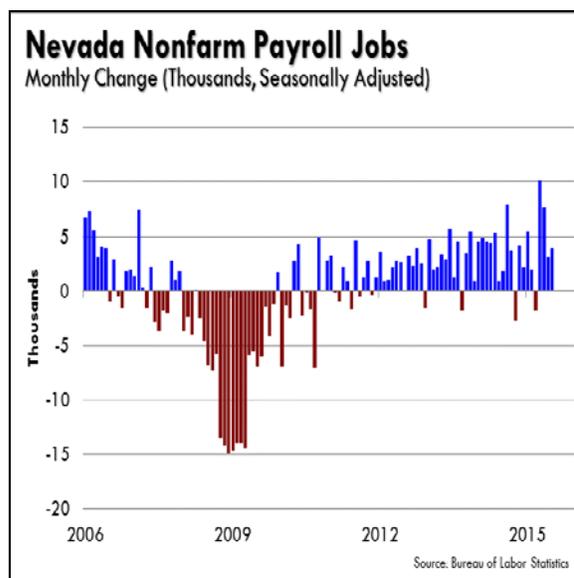
Nevada nonfarm payrolls increased by 3,900 jobs, or 0.31 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during July. In the prior month, nonfarm payrolls increased by 3,100. Over the past 12 months nonfarm payrolls in Nevada increased by 45,500, or 3.74 percent. Nevada nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 10 of the past 12 months.

Nationally nonfarm payrolls increased by 215,000 jobs in July, or 0.15 percent. Over the 12 month period ending in July 2015, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,915,000 jobs, or 2.09 percent. Nevada posted the second highest percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment among the 50 states and the District of Columbia over the past 12 months.

During July, Nevada private sector payrolls increased by 5,200, or 0.47 percent. Private sector payrolls increased by 900 jobs in the prior month. Over the past 12 months, private sector payrolls in Nevada increased by 44,000, or 4.14 percent. Nevada private sector payroll employment has increased in 10 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private sector payroll jobs increased by 210,000 in July, or 0.18 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,853,000 private sector payroll jobs, an increase of 2.43 percent. Nevada posted the second highest percentage gain in private sector payroll employment among the 50 states and the District of Columbia over the past 12 months.

During July, total government payroll employment in Nevada declined by 1,300, or 0.84 percent. Federal government payroll employment was unchanged. State government payroll employment declined by 200, or 0.52 percent, while local government payroll employment declined by 1,100, or 1.12 percent.



Over the past year, total government payroll employment increased by 1,500, or 0.99 percent. State government payroll employment increased by 300, or 0.79 percent. Local government payroll employment increased by 600, or 0.62 percent.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during July were Leisure & Hospitality (+3,200) and Educational & Health Services (+2,500). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-1,400) and Total Government (-1,300).

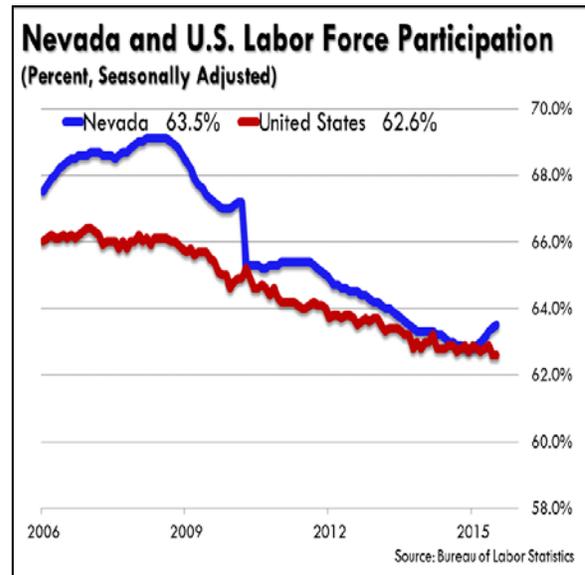
The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Leisure & Hospitality (+20,100) and Educational & Health Services (+7,400). The poorest performing sectors for the year were Mining & Logging (-800) and Financial Activities (+600).

#### Other Nevada Labor Force Statistics

The labor force participation rate in Nevada rose to 63.5 percent in July from 63.4 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 25 have a higher labor force participation rate than Nevada. The labor force participation rate in Nevada is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10 year high for the labor force participation rate in Nevada was 69.1 percent in August 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Nevada occurred in January 1982 when the labor force participation rate hit 74.3 percent. The 10 year low for the labor force participation rate was 62.8 percent in January 2015. This also represents the series low for the labor force participation rate in Nevada.

The national labor force participation rate remained at 62.6 percent in July. That rate is 0.2 percentage point lower than a year earlier. The rate for June and July are the lowest recorded since October 1977.



The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Nevada civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 59.1 percent in July from 59.0 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 32 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Nevada. The employment-to-population ratio in Nevada is 0.9 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10 year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Nevada was 65.9 percent in December 2006. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Nevada occurred in October 1988 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 69.2 percent. The 10 year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 56.3 percent in November 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in December 2010 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 56.3 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio held steady at 59.3 percent in July. At 59.3 percent, the national employment-to-population ratio is below its level of 59.4 percent when the recession ended in June 2009. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 percent in April 2000. The 10 year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

State employment and unemployment data for August is scheduled for release on Friday, September 18. The national employment situation report for August will be released on Friday, September 4.

