



After more than two months of social distancing, nonessential business closures and other public health measures enacted under Nevada's COVID-19 pandemic response, there are signs for optimism in the battle to contain the virus. Daily coronavirus case counts and deaths have been on the decline, while the gradual reopening of the economy has been evident with increased foot traffic and more crowded parking lots at commerce centers around the state. The economy could soon get a bigger boost in June if the state's gaming resorts are given clearance to reopen, as Governor Steve Sisolak has tentatively announced.

These are welcome signs for a statewide economy that has been battered in the fight against COVID-19. In the latest unemployment data for April 2020, Nevada registered a seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 28.2 percent, an unprecedented rate that was the highest in the United States. For recent historical perspective, the state's unemployment rate during the Great Recession and subsequent downturn peaked at 13.7 percent in September 2010. Nevada's experience is not unique, as 42 states registered double-digit unemployment rates and the national rate reached 14.7 percent, the highest since the Great Depression.

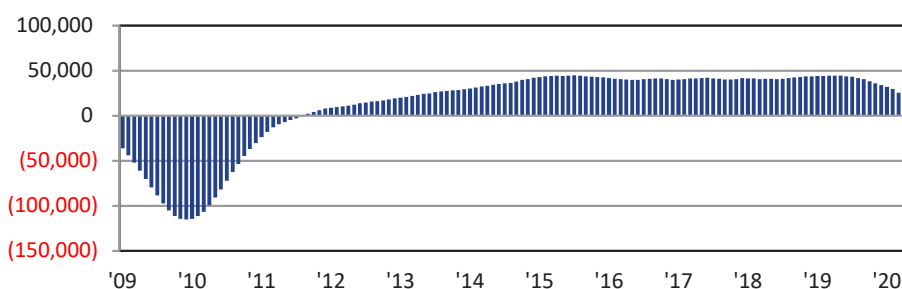
The depth of Nevada's unemployment crisis can also be measured in raw job numbers. Between March and April 2020, the state lost nearly 245,000 jobs, and over the year employment declined by 255,000 jobs. Overall employment declined to 2013 levels, while leisure and hospitality employment has fallen to the lowest levels since 1993. The industries most affected by the employment declines were accommodation and food services (-40.9 percent), administrative support (-28.2 percent) and other services (-24.8 percent).

As staggering as April's unemployment numbers are, they are backward looking and reflect survey data collected in mid-April. Weekly unemployment claims provide a more up-to-date picture of the state's jobless situation. The positive news is that initial unemployment claims have continued their weekly downward trajectory, falling from a high of 92,300 for the week ending March 21 to 17,800 in the latest data for the week ending May 16. Conversely, the number of continued claims for unemployment insurance has climbed to 369,000 as most initial claimants have begun receiving regular weekly benefits. The actual number of unemployed is higher than that figure, as well, as some unemployed workers are not eligible for unemployment benefits and many self-employed workers have only recently been able to file for benefits under a new federal program.

While official unemployment rate data lag by about a month, unemployment insurance claims can provide insight into more current trends. Since mid-March, total initial unemployment claims by new jobless workers have totaled 459,000, which implies a state unemployment rate of about 33

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**NEVADA EMPLOYMENT GROWTH**  
**TRAILING 12-MONTH AVERAGES**



# Economic Briefing

MAY 2020

ISSUE FIVE | VOLUME FOURTEEN

## MONTHLY Employment Indicators

Nevada Employment		Apr-20
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
1,158,800	1,396,800	1,413,800
GROWTH RATE	-17.0% ▼	-18.0% ▼

Nevada Private Average Weekly Hours Worked		Apr-20
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
33.8	34.2	34.7
GROWTH RATE	-1.2% ▼	-2.6% ▼

Nevada Unemployment Rate		Apr-20
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
28.2%	6.9%	4.0%
GROWTH RATE	21.3% ▲	24.2% ▲

## TRAILING 12-MONTH Employment Indicators

Nevada Employment <sup>(1)</sup>		Apr-20
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
1,398,842	1,420,092	1,398,167
GROWTH RATE	-1.5% ▼	0.0% ◀

Nevada Private Average Weekly Hours Worked <sup>(1)</sup>		Apr-20
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
34.4	34.4	34.4
GROWTH RATE	0.0% ◀	0.0% ◀

Nevada Unemployment Rate <sup>(1)</sup>		Apr-20
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
6.1%	4.0%	4.3%
GROWTH RATE	2.1% ▲	1.8% ▲

Notes: (1) Trailing 12-month/4-quarter averages.  
(2) Trailing 12-month/4-quarter totals.

MONTHLY & QUARTERLY  
Economic Indicator Series

**Nevada Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims**

Apr-20

Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
207,147	208,869	10,080
GROWTH RATE	-0.8% ▼	1955.0% ▲

**Nevada Residential Housing Units Permitted**

Apr-20

Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
1,032	1,712	1,310
GROWTH RATE	-39.7% ▼	-21.2% ▼

**Nevada Taxable Retail Sales**

Feb-20

Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
\$4,786,059,766	\$5,111,298,006	\$4,563,698,099
GROWTH RATE	-6.4% ▼	4.9% ▲

**Nevada Gross Gaming Revenue**

Mar-20

Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
\$618,129,278	\$1,042,625,228	\$1,022,961,241
GROWTH RATE	-40.7% ▼	-39.6% ▼

**Las Vegas/Reno-Tahoe Enplaned and Deplaned Passengers**

Mar-20

Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
2,259,189	4,206,127	4,789,135
GROWTH RATE	-46.3% ▼	-52.8% ▼

**Clark/Washoe County Visitor Volume**

Mar-20

Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
1,821,459	3,891,714	4,334,074
GROWTH RATE	-53.2% ▼	-58.0% ▼

**Nevada New Business Creation**

Q4 '19

Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
1,186	607	736
GROWTH RATE	95.4% ▲	61.1% ▲

**Nevada Housing Price Index**

(Q1 1991 = 100)

Q1 '20

Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
281.6	274.9	270.7
GROWTH RATE	2.5% ▲	4.1% ▲

**Clark County Office Market**

**Vacancy Rate**

Q1 '20

Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
14.4%	14.4%	15.5%
GROWTH RATE	0.0% ◀	-1.1% ▼

**Nevada Hotel/Motel Occupancy**

Q4 '19

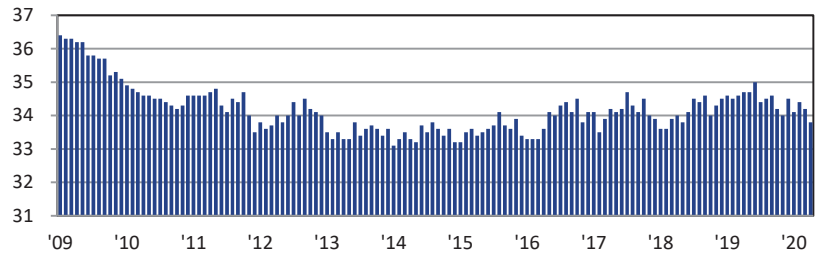
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
81.3%	85.0%	80.2%
GROWTH RATE	-3.7% ▼	1.1% ▲

**State of Nevada Personal Income**

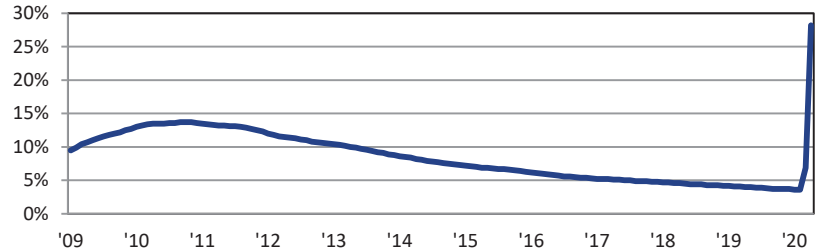
Q4 '19

Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period Prev. Yr.
\$39,767,775,000	\$39,366,550,000	\$38,135,875,000
GROWTH RATE	1.0% ▲	4.3% ▲

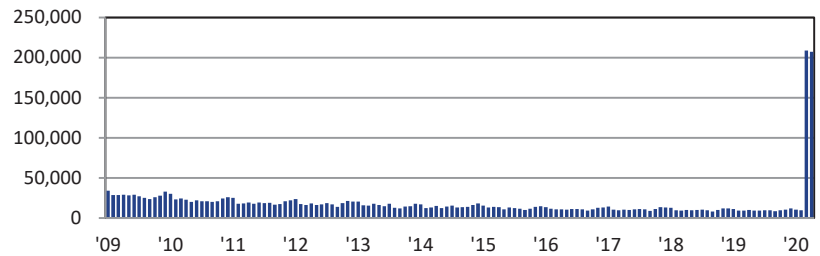
**NEVADA PRIVATE AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED**  
MONTHLY SERIES



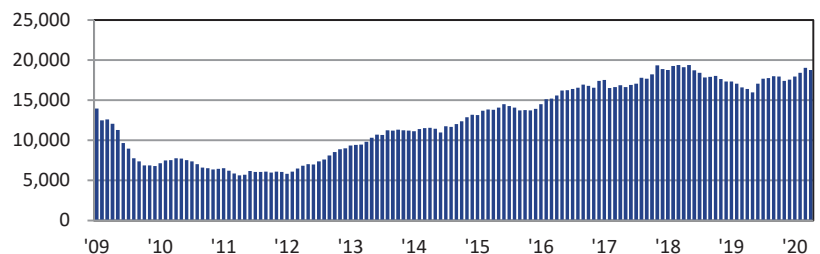
**NEVADA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**  
MONTHLY SERIES



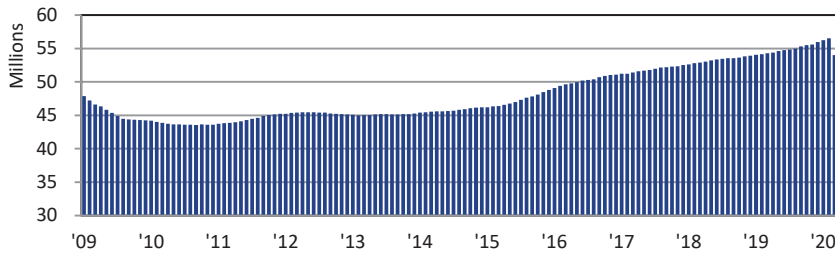
**NEVADA UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS**  
MONTHLY SERIES



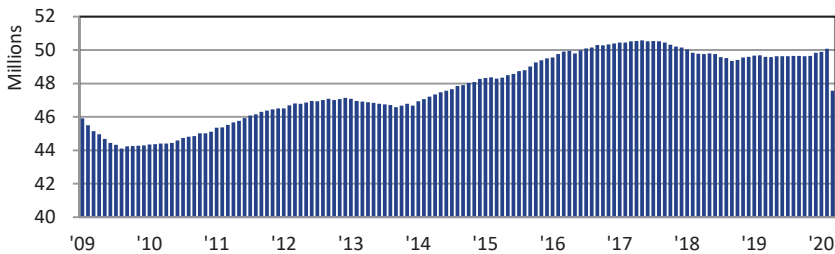
**NEVADA RESIDENTIAL UNITS PERMITTED**  
TRAILING 12-MONTH TOTALS



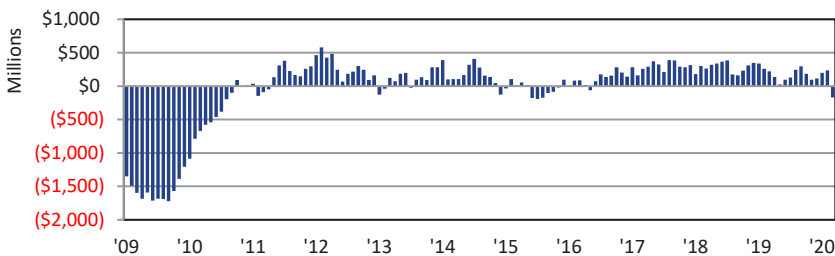
**LAS VEGAS/RENO-TAHOE AIRPORT PASSENGER COUNTS**  
TRAILING 12-MONTH TOTALS



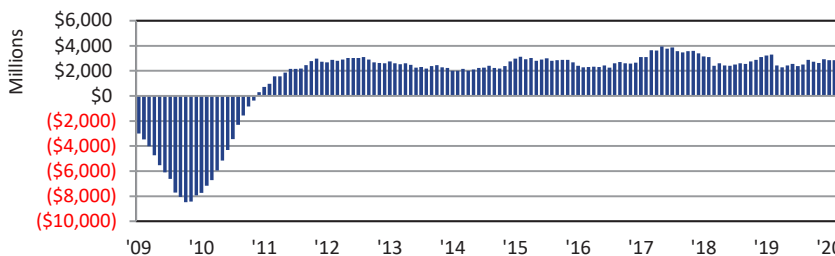
**CLARK/WASHOE COUNTY VISITOR VOLUME**  
TRAILING 12-MONTH TOTALS



**GROWTH IN NEVADA GROSS GAMING REVENUE**  
TRAILING 12-MONTH TOTALS



**GROWTH IN NEVADA TAXABLE RETAIL SALES**  
TRAILING 12-MONTH TOTALS



*TRAILING 12-MONTH*  
Economic Indicator Series

**Nevada Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims <sup>(2)</sup>**

		Apr-20	
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period	Prev. Yr.
515,462	318,395		122,150
GROWTH RATE	61.9% ▲		322.0% ▲

**Nevada Residential Housing Units Permitted <sup>(2)</sup>**

		Apr-20	
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period	Prev. Yr.
18,766	19,044		16,406
GROWTH RATE	-1.5% ▼		14.4% ▲

**Nevada Taxable Retail Sales <sup>(2)</sup>**

		Feb-20	
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period	Prev. Yr.
\$64,272,032,365	\$64,049,670,698		\$61,411,642,685
GROWTH RATE	0.3% ▲		4.7% ▲

**Nevada Gross Gaming Revenue <sup>(2)</sup>**

		Mar-20	
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period	Prev. Yr.
\$11,710,863,788	\$12,115,695,751		\$11,879,194,339
GROWTH RATE	-3.3% ▼		-1.4% ▼

**Las Vegas/Reno-Tahoe Enplaned and Deplaned Passengers <sup>(2)</sup>**

		Mar-20	
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period	Prev. Yr.
53,993,714	56,523,660		54,277,213
GROWTH RATE	-4.5% ▼		-0.5% ▼

**Clark/Washoe County Visitor Volume <sup>(2)</sup>**

		Mar-20	
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period	Prev. Yr.
47,562,951	50,075,566		49,602,636
GROWTH RATE	-5.0% ▼		-4.1% ▼

**Nevada New Business Creation <sup>(2)</sup>**

		Q4 '19	
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period	Prev. Yr.
2,558	2,108		1,907
GROWTH RATE	21.3% ▲		34.1% ▲

**Nevada Housing Price Index <sup>(1)</sup>**

		Q1 '20	
<i>(Q1 1991 = 100)</i>			
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period	Prev. Yr.
276.1	273.4		262.6
GROWTH RATE	1.0% ▲		5.1% ▲

**Clark County Office Market Vacancy Rate <sup>(1)</sup>**

		Q1 '20	
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period	Prev. Yr.
14.8%	15.1%		16.1%
GROWTH RATE	-0.3% ▼		-1.3% ▼

**Nevada Hotel/Motel Occupancy <sup>(1)</sup>**

		Q4 '19	
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period	Prev. Yr.
83.3%	83.0%		83.1%
GROWTH RATE	0.3% ▲		0.2% ▲

**State of Nevada Personal Income <sup>(2)</sup>**

		Q4 '19	
Current Period	Prev. Period	Same Period	Prev. Yr.
\$159,071,100,000	\$157,466,200,000		\$152,543,500,000
GROWTH RATE	1.0% ▲		4.3% ▲

Notes: (1) Trailing 12-month/4-quarter averages. (2) Trailing 12-month/4-quarter totals.

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percent in May 2020. Although this rate may not reflect recent rehires as some businesses have reopened and other dynamics of the labor market, it suggests job losses may be nearing a peak and could improve as more parts of the economy reopen in the coming weeks.

For Nevada’s unemployed workers, unemployment insurance has been a financial lifeline. Through mid-May, the regular state unemployment program has paid out \$616.3 million in weekly benefits to Nevada’s unemployed. The Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation program, one of several programs enacted under the federal CARES Act legislation, adds \$600 per week for unemployment recipients along with the state benefits, which average about \$380. The federal program has paid unemployed Nevadans \$786.3 million to date. Additional federal funding has begun to reach the state with implementation of the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program for self-employed workers, who are not typically eligible for regular state unemployment benefits funded by employer contributions.

The final economic impacts of COVID-19 are yet to be determined; however, the benefits provided by the federal government will help bridge the financial hardships for many. The deciding factors in the efficacy of these programs are numerous and include factors such as how quickly and safely the local economy reopens. With the state’s progress to date in controlling the spread of the COVID-19 virus, signs are pointing to a careful reopening of businesses and a step toward rebuilding the economy once again.

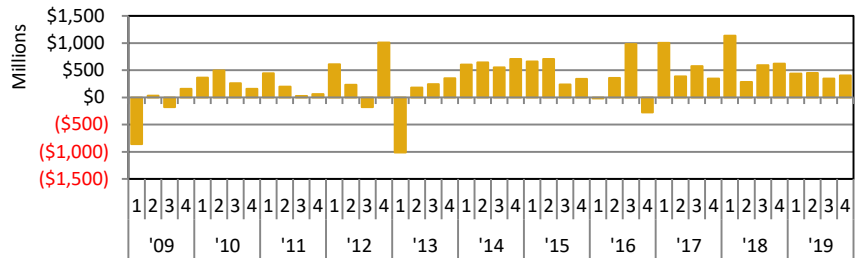
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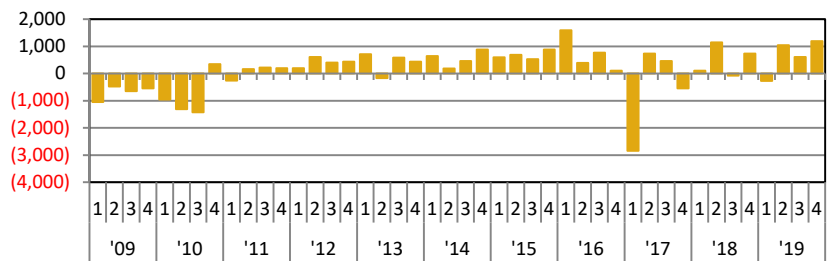
appliedanalysis.com

**Methodology:** Applied Analysis (“AA”) was retained by Nevada State Bank to summarize and analyze a series of key economic indicators on a recurring basis. Relevant data were obtained from AA’s internal databases as well as national, regional and local data providers, including, without limitation, state and local governments. While we have no reason to doubt the accuracy of any of the data reported, we have not performed an audit or assurance procedures on these data, and as such, we cannot attest to their completeness. Generally speaking, data reported are for Nevada, Clark County, Washoe County, or the metropolitan areas therein. Please note that these geographies may differ slightly between data providers.

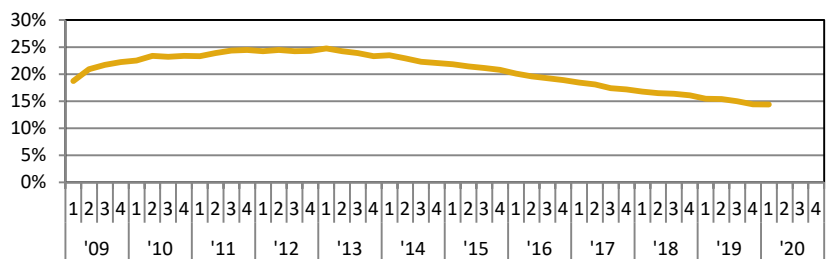
**NEVADA PERSONAL INCOME GROWTH**  
QUARTER-OVER-QUARTER



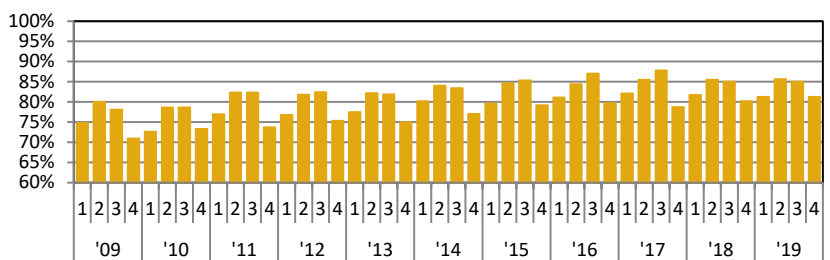
**NEVADA NEW BUSINESS CREATION**  
QUARTER-OVER-QUARTER



**LAS VEGAS OFFICE MARKET VACANCY RATE**  
QUARTERLY SERIES



**NEVADA HOTEL/MOTEL OCCUPANCY**  
QUARTERLY SERIES



**NEVADA STATE BANK**  
THE DOOR TO YOUR FUTURE