

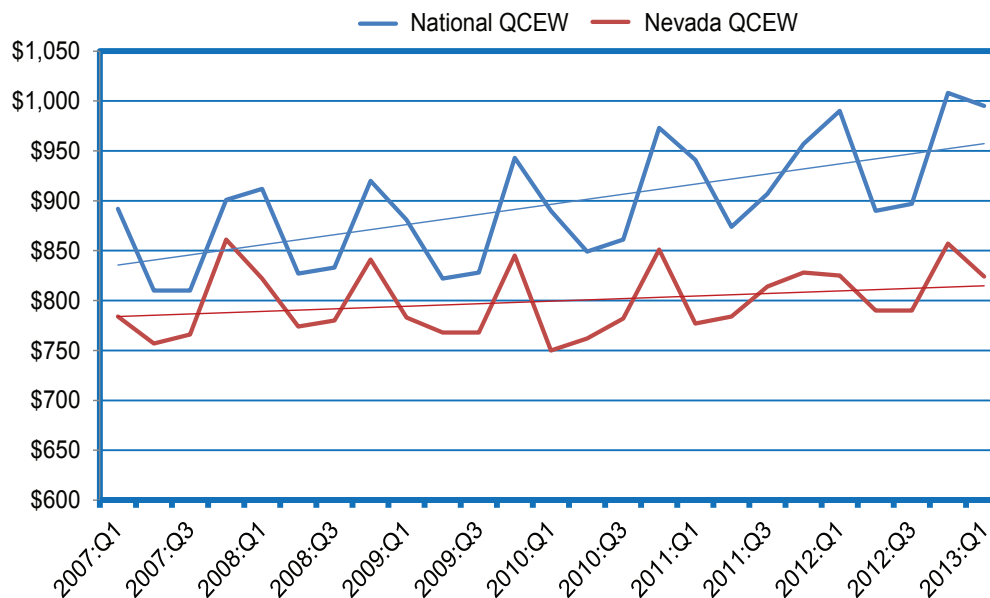


QCEW Average Weekly Wage

October 30, 2013

Tessa Rognier, Economist

QCEW Average Weekly Wage: National vs. Nevada



- The quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) is a count of employment and wages and is considered the benchmark to which all other sample based employment estimates are compared.
- QCEW utilizes unemployment insurance tax system data to create a snapshot of the “universe” of all business establishments covered under the unemployment insurance program.
- Comparing average weekly wages between the nation and Nevada wage growth in Nevada lags behind that of the nation.
- Nevada’s wages grew at around a five percent pace since 2007, while the nation as a whole grew at about 12 percent.
- The gap in wages between the nation and Nevada has been increasing since early 2008. In 2007, Nevada’s weekly wages were 93 percent of that of the nation.
- In 2012, the nation’s weekly wage was \$946. For Nevada, the average weekly wage was \$816, 86 percent of that of the nation for 2012.
- First quarter 2013 data is showing the same trend. With weekly wages at an average of \$824, the ratio of wages in Nevada compared to the nation sits just below 83 percent.
- One theory on the lack of wage growth over this time period could be attributed to Nevada’s high unemployment rate, due to the oversupply of workers demanding jobs in comparison to available openings.