

# RESEARCH NOTES



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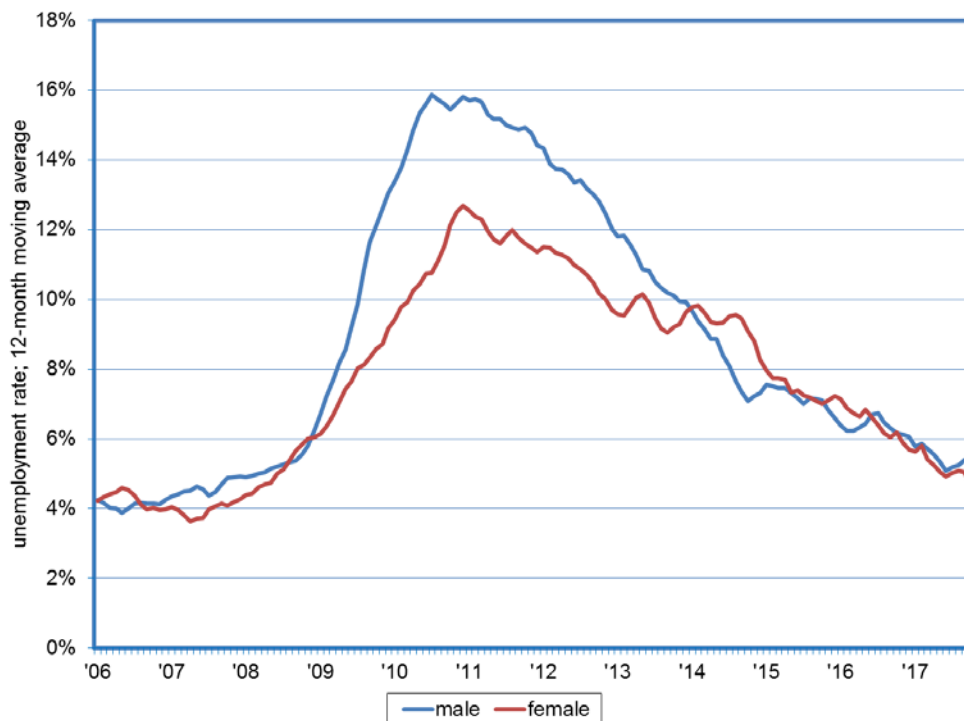
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Unemployment Rate by Gender  
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## Gap Between Male/Female Unemployment Rate Surged During the Recession; Eliminated as the Recovery has Unfolded; Construction has Played a Key Role



- Information from the monthly Current Population Survey (CPS), sponsored by the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, allows for the analysis of the unemployment rate by gender.
- Before the recession, both male and female unemployment rates hovered around four percent in Nevada. However, beginning in late-2007, both rates started to increase.
- During the recession, the male unemployment rate peaked at 15.9 percent (expressed as a 12-month moving average), while the female unemployment rate reached its peak at 12.7 percent. The differing results by gender are certainly a reflection of the pronounced impacts of the recession on the construction sector in the Silver State, a male-dominated industry. (Men account for nearly 80 percent of construction employment.)
- Both rates started to decrease as the recovery unfolded. Currently, the male unemployment rate stands at 5.5 percent, and the female rate comes in at 4.6 percent. Based upon trends over the past few years, the gap between men and women has essentially been eliminated, despite some random volatility. Again, we can look to the construction industry for an explanation. Job growth in this industry has been very solid of late, helping to push down the jobless rate for men at a relatively strong pace.