

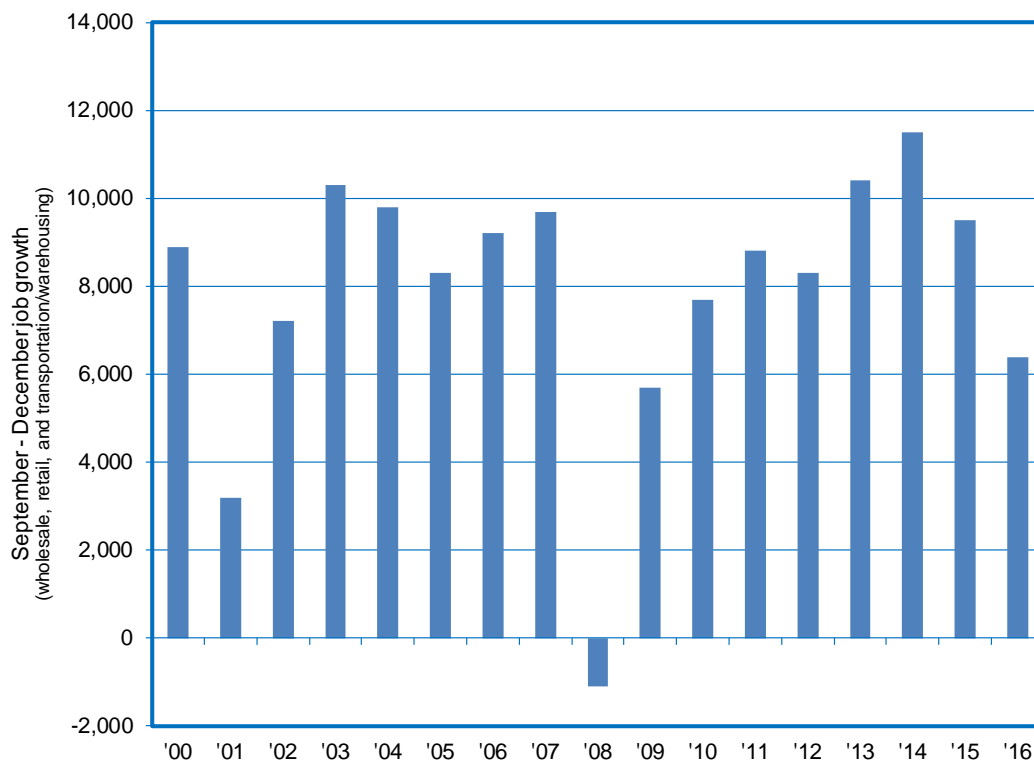
Research Notes



Holiday Hiring
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Holiday-Related Hiring May be Easing in Nevada Due to Structural Change in the Retail Sector



- In light of the unfolding holiday-related increase in both brick-and-mortar and online shopping activity, this *Research Note* examines recent trends in seasonal hiring in trade and transportation industries in Nevada.
- In the years immediately preceding the recession, September through December increases in holiday-related seasonal jobs approached 10,000 in Nevada.
- As the recession unfolded, the usual seasonal gains disappeared and job growth over the holiday period briefly turned negative. As the recovery began, however, seasonal hiring picked back up, reaching a high of 11,500 in 2014.
- Seasonal hiring eased somewhat from recent trends last year, accounting for only 6,400 additional jobs. That year, wholesale trade and transportation/warehousing saw typical gains, while retail trade only added about half as many jobs as in recent years. This may reflect on-going structural changes in the retail sector evident nationwide, associated with the expansion of online shopping activity.
- All things considered, our expectations are for several thousand new hires associated with the holiday shopping season. The big question is to what extent the structural changes noted previously will continue to impact seasonal retail hiring.