

RESEARCH NOTES



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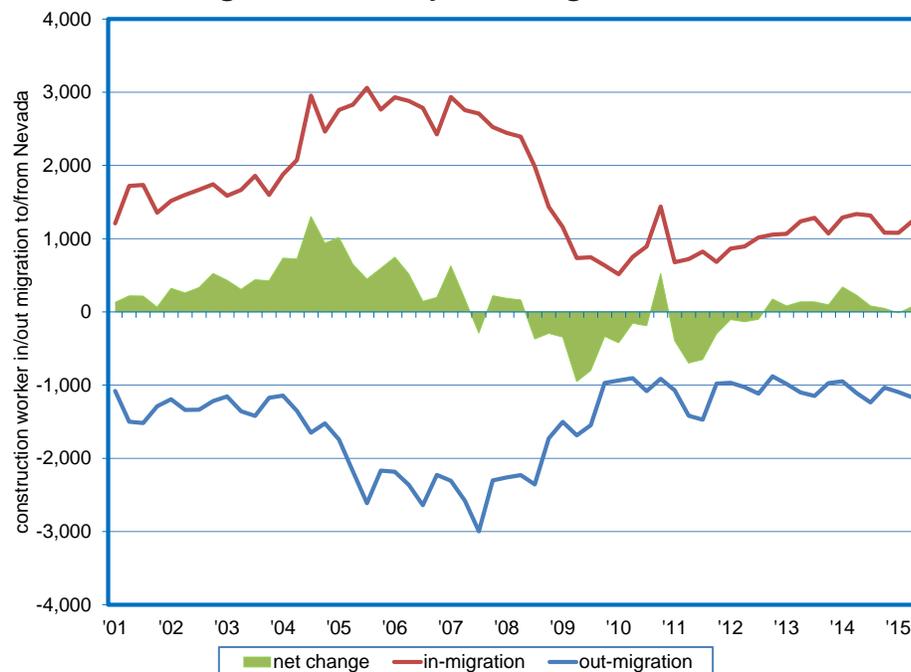
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The In-Migration of Nevada's Construction Workforce
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Construction Workers Moving Into Nevada Once Again After Declining Noticeably During the Recession



- Utilizing Job-to-Job Flow information from the Census Bureau's Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LED) tool, we are able to assess the extent to which Nevada's construction workforce has been impacted by the in-migration of workers from out-of-State over the course of the business cycle.
- Previously, we examined the extent to which Nevada's construction workers left the State during the recession. We found that out-migration did, indeed, increase as the downturn took hold, but has declined noticeably as the recovery has unfolded.
- Prior to the recession, quarterly inflows of Nevada construction workers were on the rise, peaking at about 3,000 per quarter, roughly double the levels from earlier in the decade. This suggests that the booming construction sector attracted workers to the Silver State.
- During the recession, in-migration dropped significantly. The number of construction workers moving into Nevada fell below 1,000 per quarter, approaching a low of 500.
- Construction worker in-migration started trending up slightly in 2010. By mid-2012, the in-migration of construction workers exceeded 1,000 per quarter. More recent trends suggest that construction worker inflows are hovering just below 1,300. These trends suggest that, as the construction sector has emerged from the recession, an increasing number of workers from outside the Silver State are coming here in search of job opportunities.
- Looked at another way, an analysis of "net" migration also sheds light on the response of the construction workforce to the business cycle. Prior to the recession, the inflows of workers consistently exceeded outflows. During the downturn, the opposite was true...more construction workers left the Silver State than moved here. As the recovery has unfolded, net migration has, once again, turned positive.