

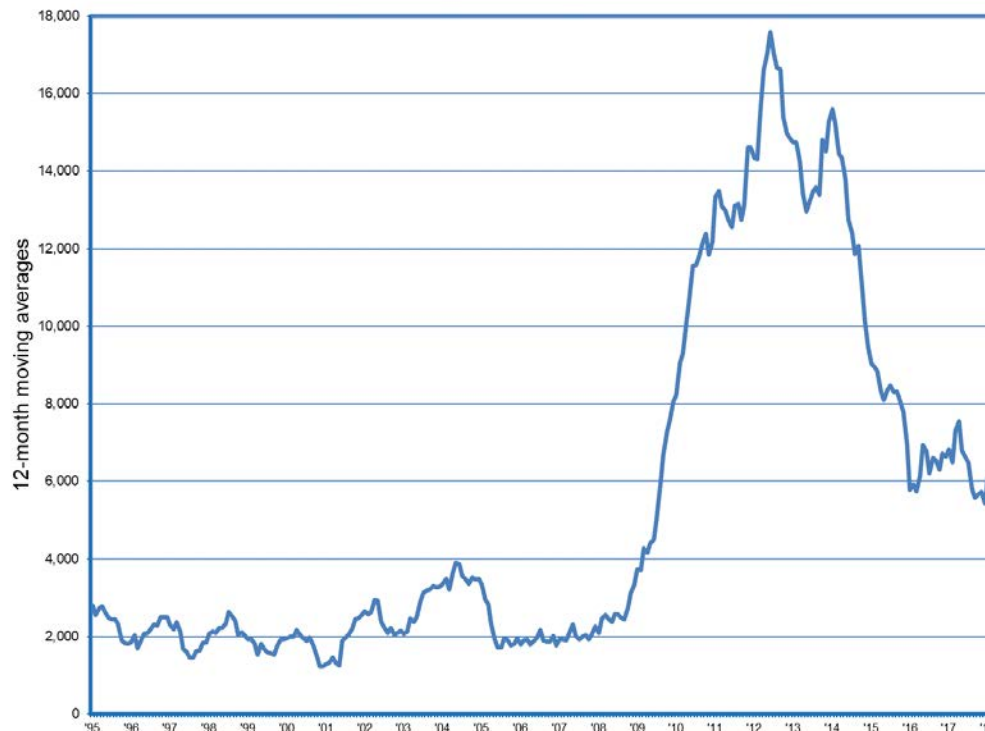
Research Notes



Alternative Measures - Discouraged Workers
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Discouraged Workers Trending Down; Still Above Pre-Recession Levels



- Information from the monthly Current Population Survey (CPS), sponsored by the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, allows for the analysis of discouraged workers in Nevada. The alternative measure of labor underutilization U-3 captures those individuals without a job, but are actively looking for work. “Discouraged” workers, which are added in the U-4 measure, are those that are not currently looking for work because they believe there are no jobs available or there are none for which they would qualify. Hence, they are not considered in the U-3 estimates.
- CPS estimates suggest that at its lowest point, discouraged workers in Nevada averaged 1,800 in late-2000. By mid-2012, the number of discouraged workers hit a peak, totaling nearly 18,000 Nevadans, as the Silver State was affected by the recession. Since that time, the State has seen a decline in the number of discouraged workers, as job prospects have improved. Over the year ending **March 2018**, discouraged workers have averaged **5,500**. This represents a decline of **12,500** from the peak. However, this is still above pre-recession levels.
- The number of discouraged workers has declined **24.8** percent, down **1,800** persons, from the same period last year. For the year ending in 2018:IQ, U-4 stood at 5.5 percent. This is slightly up from 5.4 percent during previous year.