RESEARCH NOTES Research & Analysis Bureau Research & Properties of the part of the part

Unemployment Rate by Race Dionny McDonnell, Economist

Note: 2017:128 October 19, 2017

Unemployment Rate in Nevada Varies by Race; Rates Trending Down for All Groups Since End of the Recession



- 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 in the Silver State by race.
- The unemployment rate in Nevada varies across race. Prior to the recession, the unemployment rate for Blacks was higher at 7.4 percent (expressed as a 12-month moving average), compared to that for Whites at four percent. The rate for people of Hispanic origin was 4.1 percent.
- During the recession the unemployment rate for Blacks peaked at 22.6 percent, while the rate for Whites reached its peak at 13.9 percent. The rate for Hispanics peaked at 18.7 percent.
- As the recovery unfolded the unemployment rates decreased for all racial groups. In September 2017, Blacks have an unemployment rate of 10.5 percent, while the rate for Whites is 4.7 percent. The rate for Hispanics stands at 5.1 percent. The overall unemployment rate is 5.2 percent.
- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, labor market differences across racial groups are
 associated with many factors, not all of which are measurable. These factors include variations
 across the groups in educational attainment, the occupations and industries in which they work,
 and the geographic areas in which the groups are concentrated (including urban or rural settings).

¹ It should be noted that utilizing information solely from the CPS results in a slightly different total unemployment rate than what is officially reported. The State's official rate incorporates information regarding job trends and unemployment insurance claims activity into the calculation, in addition to CPS results.

