

# RESEARCH NOTES



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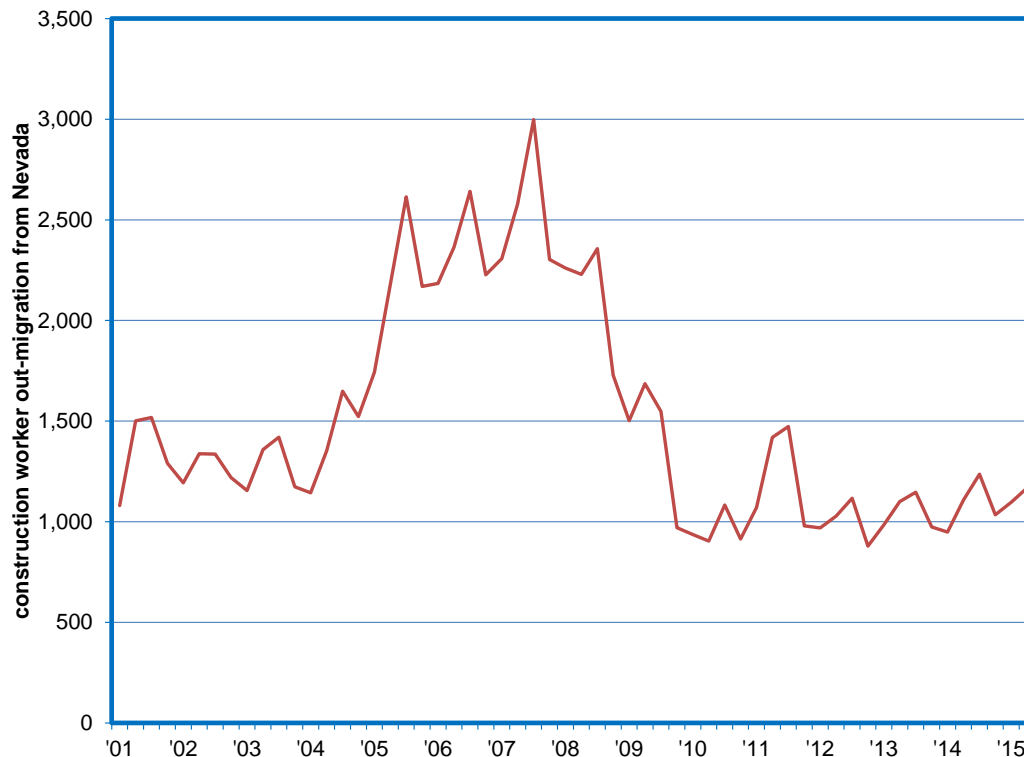
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The Out-Migration of Nevada's Construction Workforce  
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## The Number of Construction Workers Who Left Nevada Spiked During the Recession; Back to Pre-Recessionary Norms Since Then



- The construction sector was hit extremely hard by the recession. Employment in these industries peaked at around 150K prior to the recession. All told, close to 100K jobs were lost as the downturn unfolded. Job growth finally turned positive in mid-2012 after several years of decline. Since then, the construction sector added back 35K jobs.
- 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 pre-recessionary construction workforce exited the State, most likely in response to relatively weak job prospects in the Silver State.
- Prior to the recession, quarterly outflows of Nevada construction workers hovered in a fairly narrow range between 1,000 and 1,500 per quarter. In any dynamic and open economy, there will always be worker migration, regardless of the overall health of the economy.
- The situation changed quickly and significantly during the recession. Over a three-year period beginning in 2005, the out-migration of Nevada construction workers exceeded 2,000/quarter, approaching a high of 3,000. Out-migration began to ease beginning in late-2007, but remained relatively high through much of 2009.
- Since 2010, out-migration has returned to pre-recessionary levels, and perhaps even slightly lower. This is consistent with improvement in job prospects in Nevada's construction sector. Currently, these industries, as a group, are the fastest-growing in the Silver State.