

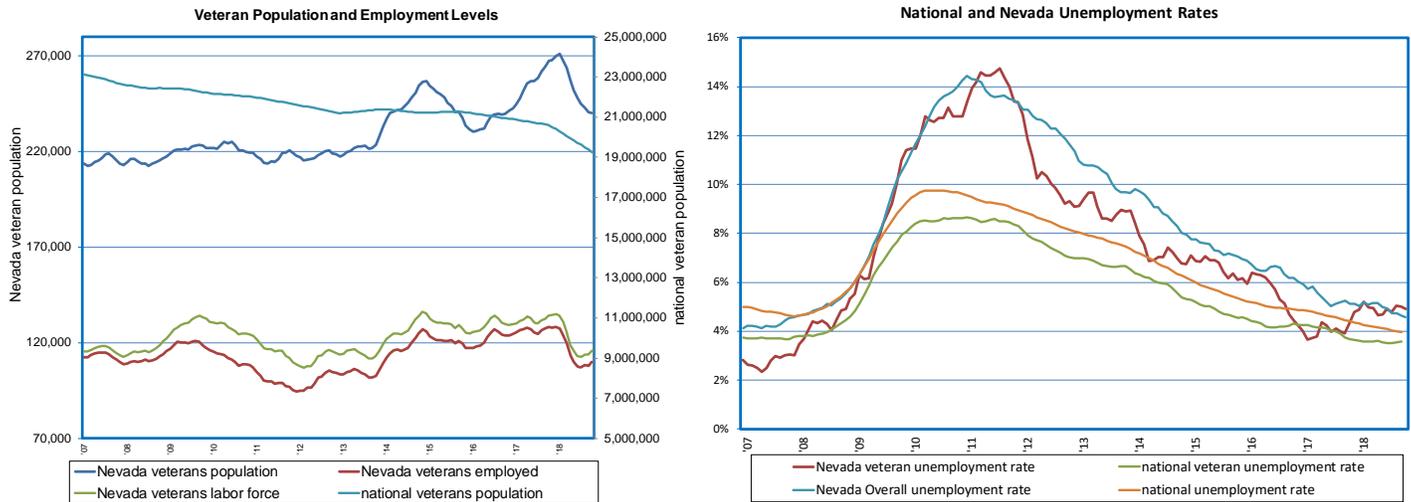
# Research Notes



The Veteran Population and Labor Force  
Michael La Rue, Economist

Note: 2018:150  
December 19, 2018

## The Veteran Population in Nevada Has Grown Since 2007; While the National Veteran Population Has Decreased.



- Data from the monthly Current Population Survey (CPS), sponsored by the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) enables the analysis of the labor force for the veteran population in Nevada. CPS estimates are available since 2006. According to the BLS, Veterans are men and women who previously served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, and who were civilians at the time they were surveyed. A 12-month moving average was used to calculate the figures above. This reduces some of the volatility in the data, and gives more stable estimates.
- The chart Veteran Population and Employment Levels shows the trends of the veteran population and labor force in Nevada, and the veteran population in the United States. The population of veterans in Nevada remained relatively flat until 2014, and since has seen an increase in the population, but a great deal of volatility. This volatility could be partly explained by changes made in the methods of estimating the population. New methods were established in 2014 and 2016 that included updates to projected separations and mortality rates. In contrast to Nevada, the national veteran population has been steadily declining from 2007 to present.
- In October 2018 the veteran population in Nevada was approximately 240,400 individuals increasing from 213,800 in January of 2007.
- There was a decline in the labor force and employment levels of veterans in Nevada from the end of 2009 to early 2012, and another decline in recent months beginning January 2018. Despite these declines over the total period from January 2007 to October 2018 the Nevada veteran labor force & number of employed veterans was relatively flat.
- The number of employed veterans reached a low of about 95,000 in December 2011, and the labor force reaching a low of 107,000 in February of 2012.
- The Nevada veteran unemployment rate usually follows a similar trend as the state unemployment rate. During the time examined veteran unemployment rate in Nevada reached a peak of 14.7% in July of 2011.

# Research Notes



This was higher than the state unemployment rate of 13.6% the same month, and the national veteran rate that peaked at 8.7% in January 2011.

- The Nevada veteran unemployment rate in October 2018 was 4.9% this is up from the previous year by 0.6% from 4.3%. This is slightly higher than the national veteran unemployment rate, but is similar to the State unemployment rate.
- Both the Nevada unemployment rates tend to be slightly above the national unemployment rates. Also, on a national level and state level the veteran unemployment rate tends to be lower than the total unemployment rates for each.

\*Edited on 1/11/2019