

November 12, 2015

Job Gains Continued for Southern Nevada

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CBER's Coincident Index showed month-over-month growth in August 2015, although the other three indices—Business, Tourism and Construction indexes—experienced losses for the month. All two components of the coincident index experienced both monthly and yearly gains. Las Vegas nonfarm employment increased by 0.2 percent for the month, and it was up 2.6 percent relative to last year. Las Vegas household employment rose by 0.2 percent and 3.7 percent compared to last month and last year, respectively. Overall, the Southern Nevada coincident index increased by 0.2 percent on a month-over-month basis and is up year-over-year by 3.1 percent.

Changes in the other CBER's Southern Nevada indexes were as follows:

- CBER's Southern Nevada Leading Index climbed in August 2015 relative to last month and last year.
- CBER's Clark County Business Index decreased for the month but increased compared to a year earlier.
- CBER's Southern Nevada Tourism Index experienced a loss in August 2015 relative to last month, but it is up from last year.
- CBER's Clark County Construction Index declined for the month, but it is much higher than its level from last year.

Please find more detailed information on the pages that follow.

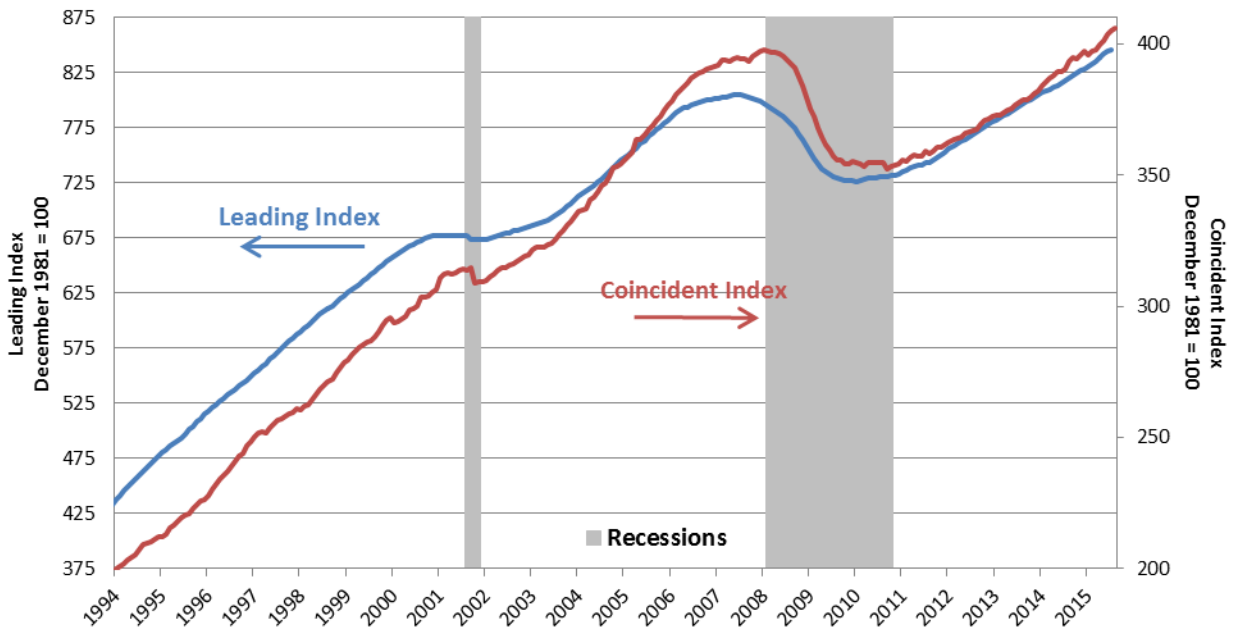
CBER's Coincident and Leading Indexes of Southern Nevada Economic Activity

CBER's Southern Nevada Coincident Index represents the current state of the Southern Nevada economy using two series that measure Las Vegas Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) employment. CBER's Southern Nevada Leading Index uses local, regional, and national variables to predict movement in the coincident index four to six months in advance.

For the Great Recession, the coincident index peaked in January 2008 and reached its lowest point in September 2010. The leading index peaked in July 2007—six months before the coincident index and reached its lowest point in February 2010—seven months before the coincident index started recovery. A full description of the methodology used to construct the indexes can be found at:

<http://cber.unlv.edu/reports/SoNVEconomicIndexes.pdf>

CBER Southern Nevada Economic Indicators



Leading Index

Series	Date	Latest Period	Change Previous Period	Change Year Ago
Arizona Index	Aug-15	906.5	0.03%	2.8%
California Index	Aug-15	720.2	0.4%	4.3%
S&P 500 Index	Aug-15	2057.5	-1.5%	3.9%
McCarran Total Passengers	Aug-15	3,841,789	-0.2%	7.3%
Overall Index Change		846.2	0.1%	3.2%

Sources: Philadelphia Federal Reserve, McCarran International Airport, St. Louis Federal Reserve (FRED)

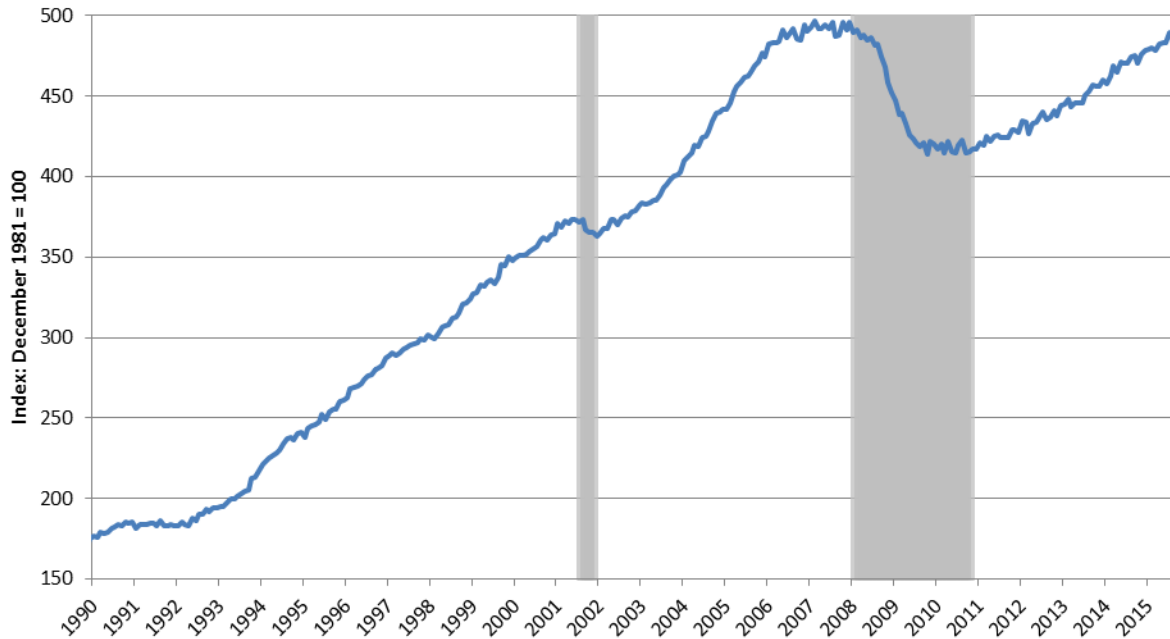
Coincident Index

Series	Date	Latest Period	Change Previous Period	Change Year Ago
Las Vegas MSA Nonfarm Employment	Aug-15	913,066	0.2%	2.6%
Las Vegas MSA Household Employment	Aug-15	980,713	0.2%	3.7%
Overall Index Change		405.7	0.2%	3.1%

Sources: Current Employment Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Two components of CBER's Southern Nevada Leading Index—the Arizona and California Indexes—increased in August 2015 relative to last month and last year. Although the other two components—the S&P 500 Index and the number of total passengers going through McCarran Airport—fell by 1.5 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively, for the month, they increased robustly by 3.9 percent and 7.3 percent, respectively, on a year-over-year basis. For CBER's Southern Nevada Coincident Index, both Las Vegas MSA nonfarm employment and Las Vegas MSA household employment rose in August 2015 relative to last month and last year.

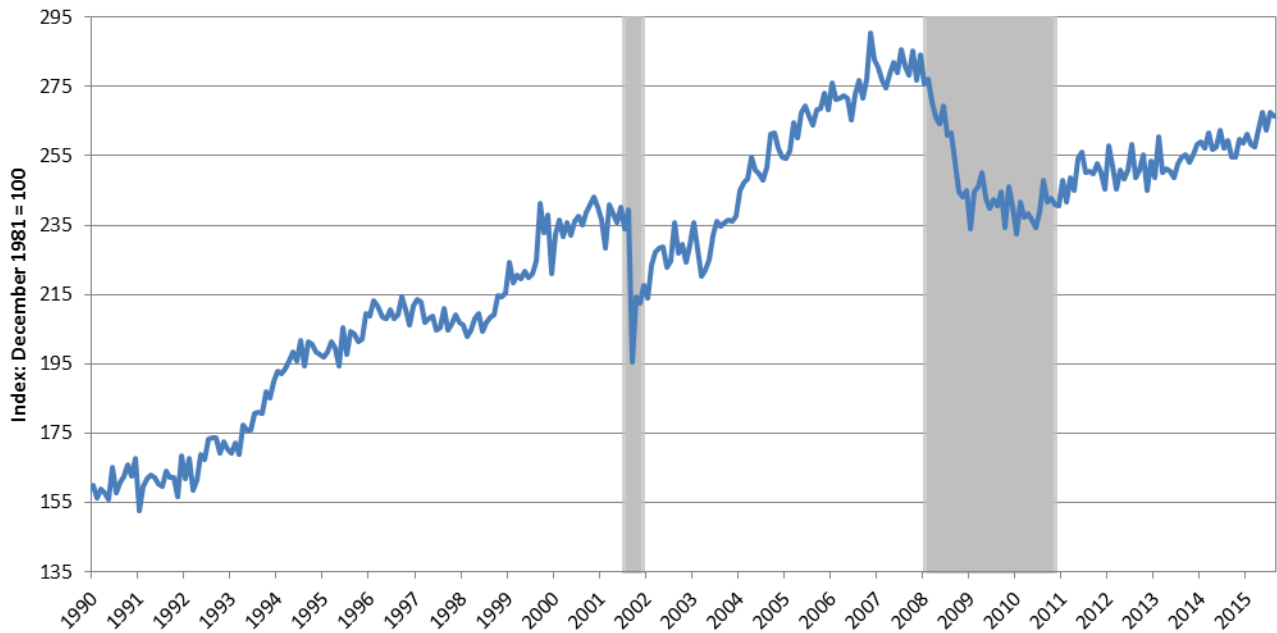
CBER Clark County Business Activity Index



Date	Index	Change Previous Period	Change Year Ago
Aug-14	474.4	0.9%	4.7%
Sep-14	475.1	0.1%	4.0%
Oct-14	470.5	-1.0%	3.2%
Nov-14	475.7	1.1%	4.3%
Dec-14	478.3	0.5%	3.9%
Jan-15	478.8	0.1%	4.6%
Feb-15	480.0	0.2%	3.8%
Mar-15	478.7	-0.3%	2.2%
Apr-15	482.4	0.8%	3.8%
May-15	482.8	0.1%	2.5%
Jun-15	482.9	0.03%	2.7%
Jul-15	489.2	1.3%	4.0%
Aug-15	485.0	-0.8%	2.2%

CBER's Clark County Business Activity Index decreased by 0.8 percent in August 2015 on a month-over-month basis but increased by 2.2 percent on a year-over-year basis. Among the three components of the business index, Las Vegas nonfarm employment was the only component that experienced a gain. As seen in the coincident index, Las Vegas nonfarm employment rose by 0.2 percent from the previous month, while seasonally adjusted Clark County taxable sales and seasonally adjusted gaming revenues fell by 5.8 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively.

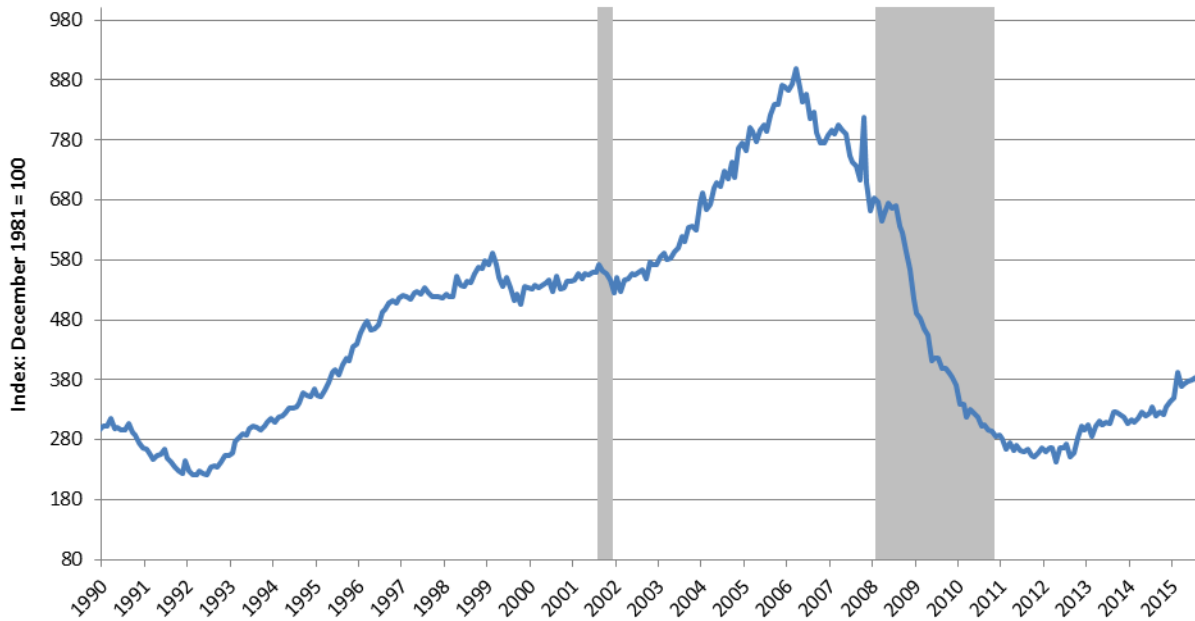
CBER Clark County Tourism Index



Date	Index	Change Previous Period	Change Year Ago
Aug-14	259.3	0.8%	1.8%
Sep-14	254.6	-1.8%	-0.3%
Oct-14	254.5	0.0%	0.5%
Nov-14	259.8	2.1%	1.7%
Dec-14	258.7	-0.4%	0.1%
Jan-15	261.1	0.9%	0.8%
Feb-15	258.1	-1.2%	0.3%
Mar-15	257.4	-0.3%	-1.6%
Apr-15	262.7	2.1%	2.3%
May-15	267.7	1.9%	3.9%
Jun-15	262.5	-1.9%	0.1%
Jul-15	267.6	2.0%	4.0%
Aug-15	266.6	-0.4%	2.8%

The activity in the tourism sector, as measured by CBER's Clark County Tourism Index, decreased by 0.4 percent in August 2015 on a month-over-month basis and rose by 2.8 percent on a year-over-year basis. All three components of the tourism index experienced losses from last month. The Las Vegas hotel/motel occupancy rates and the number of total passengers enplaned/deplaned at McCarran Airport fell by 0.4 and 0.2 percent, respectively, from the previous month. Seasonally adjusted gaming revenue also decreased by 0.7 percent for the month.

CBER Clark County Construction Index



Date	Index	Change Previous Period	Change Year Ago
Aug-14	320.0	-4.1%	-1.8%
Sep-14	326.8	2.1%	0.5%
Oct-14	321.2	-1.7%	0.05%
Nov-14	333.8	3.9%	5.0%
Dec-14	343.6	2.9%	11.9%
Jan-15	350.5	2.0%	11.7%
Feb-15	392.5	12.0%	27.0%
Mar-15	368.4	-6.1%	17.0%
Apr-15	372.6	1.1%	14.5%
May-15	378.0	1.5%	18.5%
Jun-15	378.7	0.2%	16.8%
Jul-15	384.6	1.6%	15.2%
Aug-15	373.4	-2.9%	16.7%

CBER's Clark County Construction Index fell by 2.9 percent in August 2015 on a month-over-month basis but gained 16.7 percent on a year-over-year basis. Residential building permits decreased by 12.4 percent in August 2015. Commercial permits increased by 13.0 percent for the month, however, commercial permits still remain low and continue to experience significant volatility. Las Vegas construction employment decreased by 3.2 percent from last month.

The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas or the Nevada System of Higher Education.