



NEVADA BUSINESS CONDITIONS



LEE BUSINESS SCHOOL
CENTER FOR BUSINESS
AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH

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The first estimate of U.S. real gross domestic product (GDP) for 2023Q3 had an annualized growth rate of 4.9 percent, a significant increase above recent quarters. Consumer spending soared, particularly in services such as housing, utilities, healthcare, financial services, insurance, and food, as well as in goods, notably non-durable items like prescription drugs and recreational goods/vehicles. The rise in private inventory investment was driven by the expanding manufacturing and retail trade.

Seasonally adjusted U.S. nonfarm employment increased by 150,000 jobs in October. The October unemployment rate ticked up to 3.9 percent, a 0.1 percent increase from last month. Average hourly earnings rose by 4.1 percent compared to last year. Retail sales in September experienced a gain of 0.7 percent month-over-month, making it the sixth consecutive month of growth. The Fed will likely hold the federal funds rate steady this fall, but resilient economic conditions could result in another hike this year.

Nevada posted positive economic signals in September. Seasonally adjusted statewide employment added 7,100 jobs, securing Nevada's position as the state with the most substantial year-over-year employment growth in 2023. The unemployment rate remains unchanged at 5.4 percent, making Nevada the state with the highest unemployment rate for the month of August. August's taxable sales increased by 4.4 percent year-over-year. After July's record-high revenue of \$1.4 billion, September's gaming revenue generated \$1.27 billion, a significant rebound after August's \$1.21 billion failed to maintain the record high.

Clark County also displayed favorable economic signals. Seasonally adjusted employment in the Las Vegas metro area experienced a gain of 4,100 additional jobs in September. The unemployment rate remains at 5.8 percent in September, making it the highest among large metro areas. Taxable sales in August experienced a decrease of 3.5 percent year-over-year. August Harry Reid passengers rose by 3.6 percent month-over-month, while visitor volume only increased by 0.5 percent from July. Gross

gaming revenue in September rose by 2.8 percent year-over-year. September maintains its robust year-over-year growth in residential permits, surging by 21.8 percent.

Washoe County continues to show somewhat mixed economic signals. The Reno-Sparks seasonally adjusted employment added 2,300 jobs in August. The unemployment rate remains at 4.4 percent, much higher than last year's 3.8 percent. July's taxable sales rose by 1.3 percent year-over-year. September's air passengers and visitor volume increased substantially by 2.9 and 5.9 percent, respectively, year-over-year. Residential permits in September continue to decline by 47.9 percent from last year.

UNLV Center for Business and Economic Research

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

	Date	Units	Data			Growth		Comments
Nevada			Latest	Previous	Year Ago	Recent	Year Ago	
Employment	2023M09	000s, SA	1563.7	1556.6	1512.9	0.5%	3.4%	Up Over Year Ago
Unemployment Rate*	2023M09	%, SA	5.4	5.4	5.5	0.0%	-0.1%	Flat Month-Over-Month
Taxable Sales	2023M08	\$billion, NSA	7.329	7.492	7.017	-2.2%	4.4%	Up Strongly
Gaming Revenue	2023M09	\$million, NSA	1,270.60	1,209.32	1,248.85	5.1%	1.7%	Up Over Year Ago
Air Passengers	2023M09	million persons, NSA	5.197	5.060	5.154	2.7%	0.8%	Increased
Gasoline Sales	2023M08	million gallons, NSA	108.35	107.99	106.97	0.3%	1.3%	Up Over Year Ago
Clark County			Latest	Previous	Year Ago	Recent	Year Ago	
Employment	2023M09	000s, SA	1138.7	1134.6	1102.7	0.4%	3.3%	Up Over Year Ago
Unemployment Rate*	2023M09	%, Smoothed SA	5.8	5.8	5.9	0.0%	-0.1%	Flat Month-Over-Month
Taxable Sales	2023M08	\$billion, NSA	5.309	5.464	5.504	-2.8%	-3.5%	Down From Year Ago
Gaming Revenue	2023M09	\$million, NSA	1,090.37	1,026.04	1,060.63	6.3%	2.8%	Up Over Year Ago
Residential Permits	2023M09	units permitted	1139	794	935	43.5%	21.8%	Up Strongly
Commercial Permits	2023M01	permits, NSA	35	29	43	20.7%	-18.6%	Low and Volatile
Air Passengers	2023M09	million persons, NSA	4.788	4.621	4.757	3.6%	0.7%	Up Over Year Ago
Gasoline Sales	2023M08	million gallons, NSA	72.65	73.69	71.56	-1.4%	1.5%	Up Over Year Ago
Visitor Volume	2023M09	million persons, NSA	3.511	3.493	3.525	0.5%	-0.4%	Decreased
Washoe County			Latest	Previous	Year Ago	Recent	Year Ago	
Employment**	2023M09	000s, SA	273.6	271.3	264.7	0.8%	3.4%	Up Over Year Ago
Unemployment Rate*	2023M09	%, Smoothed SA	4.4	4.4	3.8	0.0%	0.6%	Increased
Taxable Sales**	2023M08	\$billion, NSA	1.091	1.071	1.078	1.9%	1.3%	Up Over Year Ago
Gaming Revenue	2023M09	\$million, NSA	91.68	94.43	97.69	-2.9%	-6.2%	Down From Year Ago
Residential Permits	2023M09	units permitted	328	399	630	-17.8%	-47.9%	Down From Year Ago
Commercial Permits	2019M01	permits, NSA	40	21	42	90.5%	-4.8%	Low and Volatile
Air Passengers	2023M09	million persons, NSA	0.409	0.439	0.397	-6.8%	2.9%	Up Over Year Ago
Gasoline Sales**	2023M08	million gallons, NSA	16.33	15.14	16.29	7.8%	0.2%	Increased
Visitor Volume	2023M09	million persons, NSA	0.382	0.368	0.364	4.0%	5.2%	Up Strongly
United States			Latest	Previous	Year Ago	Recent	Year Ago	
Employment	2023M10	million, SA	156.923	156.773	154.006	0.1%	1.9%	Up Over Year Ago
Unemployment Rate*	2023M10	%, SA	3.9	3.8	3.7	0.1%	0.2%	Increased
Consumer Price Index	2023M09	82-84=100, SA	307.5	306.3	296.5	0.4%	3.7%	Up Over Year Ago
Core CPI	2023M09	82-84=100, SA	310.7	309.7	298.3	0.3%	4.2%	Up Strongly
Employment Cost Index	2023Q3	05.12=100, SA	162.8	161.1	155.8	1.1%	4.5%	Up Strongly
Productivity Index	2023Q3	2012=100, SA	111.0	109.7	108.4	1.2%	2.4%	Up Over Year Ago
Retail Sales	2023M08	\$billion, SA	704.9	699.9	679.4	0.7%	3.8%	Up Over Year Ago
Auto and Truck Sales	2023M08	million, SA	15.50	15.68	14.68	-1.1%	5.6%	Up Strongly
Housing Starts	2023M08	million, SA	1.358	1.269	1.463	7.0%	-7.2%	Down From Year Ago
Real GDP***	2023Q3	2012\$billion, SA	22491.6	22225.4	21851.1	4.9%	2.9%	Robust Growth
Dollar Exchange Rate	2023M09	06.01=100, NSA	123.904	122.125	127.408	1.5%	-2.8%	Down From Year Ago
Trade Balance	2023M09	\$billion, SA	-61.542	-58.657	-71.726	4.9%	-14.2%	Year-Over-Year Deficit Decrease
S and P 500	2023M10	monthly close, NSA	4193.80	4288.05	3871.98	-2.2%	8.3%	Up Strongly
Real Short-term Rate*	2023M09	%, NSA	2.12	1.80	-1.57	0.3%	3.7%	Up Over Year Ago
Treasury Yield Spread*	2023M10	%, NSA	-0.54	-0.94	0.26	0.4%	-0.8%	Down From Year Ago

Note: NSA = Not Seasonally Adjusted, SA = Seasonally Adjusted

*Growth data represent change in the percentage rate

**Reflects the Reno-Sparks MSA which includes Washoe and Storey Counties

***Recent growth is an annualized rate

Sources: Nevada Department of Taxation; Nevada Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation; UNR Bureau of Business and Economic Research; UNLV Center for Business and Economic Research; McCarran International Airport; Reno/Tahoe International Airport; Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority; Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority; U.S. Department of Commerce; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; U.S. Census Bureau; U.S. Federal Reserve System.