NEVADA BUSINESS CONDITIONS



March 2024

The advanced estimate of U.S. real gross domestic product (GDP) for 2023Q4 increased at an annual rate of 3.3 percent. While real GDP experienced robust growth driven by strong consumer spending and increased business investment activity, the deceleration observed in the fourth quarter from the 4.9 percent third quarter was mainly due to slowdowns in federal government spending and consumer spending. Despite consumer spending maintaining its robust nature, it did slowdown when compared to the previous quarter.

Seasonally adjusted U.S. nonfarm employment increased by 353,000 jobs in January, reflecting gains in retail trade, healthcare, and professional and business services. Employment figures for November and December underwent a positive revision, increasing by 126,000 jobs. The January unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.7 percent. The Fed is expected to hold the federal funds rate unchanged in the short run and possibly consider delaying cuts this year, as the economy continues to exhibit strength.

Nevada exhibited positive economic signals. Seasonally adjusted statewide employment increased by 2,100 jobs in December. The unemployment rate in November stayed unchanged at 5.4 percent, still the highest unemployment rate among states. Taxable sales in November climbed by 7.0 percent year-over-year. Gaming revenue jumped by 9.0 percent in December compared to last year. Clark County also displayed generally favorable economic signals. Seasonally adjusted employment in the Las Vegas metro area added 800 jobs in December. The unemployment rate remained the highest among large metro areas after edging down to 5.5 percent in December. November taxable sales rose by 5.5 percent, respectively, year-over-year. Gaming revenue in December increased by 9.8 percent from last year despite only a 1.8 percent increase in visitor volume. December Harry Reid air passengers surged by 10.2 percent from last year. November residential permits continued a solid year-overyear gain of 187.0 percent.

Washoe County showed mixed economic signals. The Reno-Sparks seasonally adjusted employment lost 800 jobs in December. The unemployment rate, nevertheless, decreased slightly to 4.3 percent. November's taxable sales rose sharply by 9.4 percent year-over-year. November air passengers increased by 9.1 percent, while December's visitor volume declined by 0.4 percent from last year. Gaming revenue fell by 2.9 percent year-over-year. December's residential permits decreased after having rebounded in November, this time by 4.3 percent yearover-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.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS For the State of Nevada

	Date	Units	Data			Growth		Comments
Nevada			Latest	Previous	Year Ago	Recent	Year Ago	
Employment	2023M12	000s, SA	1583.6	1581.5	1525.9	0.1%	3.8%	Up Over Year Ago
Unemployment Rate*	2023M12	%, SA	5.4	5.4	5.5	0.0%	-0.1%	Flat Month-Over-Month
Taxable Sales	2023M11	\$billion, NSA	7.552	7.397	7.059	2.1%	7.0%	Up Strongly
Gaming Revenue	2023M12	\$million, NSA	1,432.63	1,374.34	1,313.80	4.2%	9.0%	Up Strongly
Air Passengers	2023M12	million persons, NSA	5.186	5.197	4.706	-0.2%	10.2%	Up Over Year Ago
Gasoline Sales	2023M10	million gallons, NSA	103.59	101.66	102.70	1.9%	0.9%	Up Over Year Ago
Clark County			Latest	Previous	Year Ago	Recent	Year Ago	
Employment	2023M12	000s, SA	1154.1	1153.3	1108.2	0.1%	4.1%	Up Over Year Ago
Unemployment Rate*	2023M12	%, Smoothed SA	5.5	5.6	5.9	-0.1%	-0.4%	Reduced
Taxable Sales	2023M11	\$billion, NSA	5.511	5.450	5.226	1.1%	5.5%	Up Over Year Ago
Gaming Revenue	2023M12	\$million, NSA	1,269.78	1,214.94	1,156.96	4.5%	9.8%	Up Strongly
Residential Permits	2023M12	units permitted	1283	936	447	37.1%	187.0%	Up Strongly
Commercial Permits	2023M01	permits, NSA	35	29	43	20.7%	-18.6%	Up Month-Over-Month
Air Passengers	2023M12	million persons, NSA	4.818	4.840	4.371	-0.4%	10.2%	Up Over Year Ago
Gasoline Sales	2023M10	million gallons, NSA	70.34	68.23	69.40	3.1%	1.4%	Up Over Year Ago
Visitor Volume	2023M12	million persons, NSA	3.536	3.456	3.474	2.3%	1.8%	Up Over Year Ago
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Washoe County	00000010	000.04	Latest	Previous	Year Ago	Recent	Year Ago	
Employment**	2023M12	000s, SA	273.0	273.8	267.3	-0.3%	2.1%	Up Over Year Ago
Unemployment Rate*	2023M12	%, Smoothed SA	4.3	4.3	3.8	0.0%	0.5%	Up Over Year Ago
Taxable Sales**	2023M11	\$billion, NSA	1.186	1.082	1.084	9.5%	9.4%	Up Strongly
Gaming Revenue	2023M12	\$million, NSA	80.35	80.91	82.73	-0.7%	-2.9%	Down Month-Over-Month
Residential Permits	2023M12	units permitted	337	413	352	-18.4%	-4.3%	Down
Commercial Permits	2019M01	permits, NSA	40	21	42	90.5%	-4.8%	Up Month-Over-Month
Air Passengers	2023M12	million persons, NSA	0.357	0.341	0.327	4.7%	9.1%	Up Strongly
Gasoline Sales**	2023M10	million gallons, NSA	15.21	15.58	15.24	-2.3%	-0.2%	Down From Year Ago
Visitor Volume	2023M12	million persons, NSA	0.275	0.262	0.276	5.0%	-0.4%	Down From Year Ago
United States			Latest	Previous	Year Ago	Recent	Year Ago	
Employment	2024M01	million, SA	157.700	157.347	154.773	0.2%	1.9%	Up Over Year Ago
Unemployment Rate*	2024M01	%, SA	3.7	3.7	3.4	0.0%	0.3%	Up Over Year Ago
Consumer Price Index	2023M12	82-84=100, SA	308.9	307.9	299.0	0.3%	3.3%	Up Over Year Ago
Core CPI	2023M12	82-84=100, SA	313.2	312.3	301.5	0.3%	3.9%	Up Over Year Ago
Employment Cost Index	2023Q4	05.12=100, SA	164.3	162.8	157.6	0.9%	4.3%	Up Over Year Ago
Productivity Index	2023Q4	2012=100, SA	111.9	111.0	108.9	0.8%	2.7%	Up Over Year Ago
Retail Sales	2023M12	\$billion, SA	709.9	706.0	672.3	0.6%	5.6%	Up Over Year Ago
Auto and Truck Sales	2023M12	million, SA	15.00	16.12	15.11	-6.9%	-0.7%	Down
Housing Starts	2023M12	million, SA	1.460	1.525	1.357	-4.3%	7.6%	Up Over Year Ago
Real GDP***	2023Q4	2012\$billion, SA	22672.9	22490.7	21990.0	3.3%	3.1%	Up
Dollar Exchange Rate	2023M12	06.01=100, NSA	120.577	120.159	119.813	0.3%	0.6%	Up
Trade Balance	2023M11	\$billion, SA	-63.207	-64.483	-63.818	-2.0%	-1.0%	Year-Over-Year Deficit Decrease
S and P 500	2024M01	monthly close, NSA	4845.65	4769.83	4076.60	1.6%	18.9%	Up Strongly
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Real Short-term Rate*	2023M12	%, NSA	2.14	0.77	-0.05	1.4%	2.2%	Up Over 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; Harry Reid 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.HGNBVN