

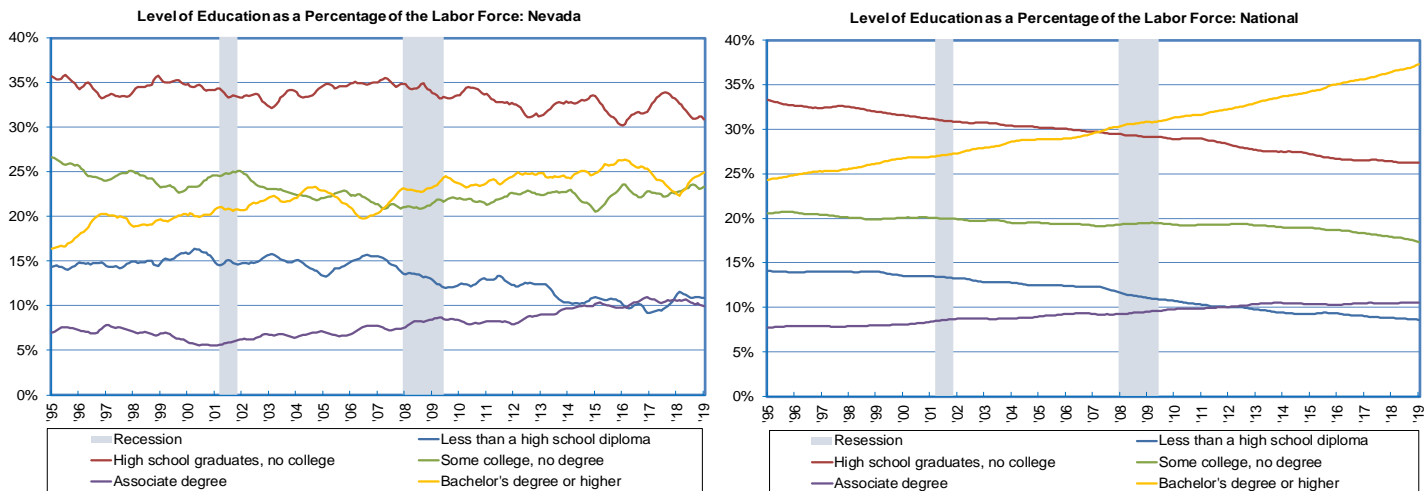
Research Notes



Education in the Nevada Labor Force
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Higher Education is Becoming More Prevalent in the Labor Force



- Using data from the monthly Current Population Survey (CPS), sponsored by the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) we conduct an analysis of the level of education in the Nevada labor force in comparison to the education level of the national labor force. CPS estimates are available since 1994, and are examined through January 2019 using a twelve-month moving average.
- As a percentage of the labor force the number of individuals that do not have a high school diploma has been decreasing. This decrease began for Nevada in September 2006 going from approximately 15.7 percent to 10.9 percent in January 2019, and was relatively flat prior to that. The nation has been trending downward from 14.1 percent in January 1995 to 8.6 percent in January 2019 with the rate of decrease accelerating in 2007.
- High school graduates with no college have been decreasing as a share of the labor force in both Nevada and the nation. Nationally the share has decreased from approximately 33.3 percent in January 1995 to approximately 26.2 percent in January 2019. In Nevada the percentage of the labor force has gone from 35.7 percent to 30.9 percent over the same time.
- Individuals with some college and no degree trended downward as a percentage of the labor force in Nevada from 1995 to early 2007. Since then the percentage has been trending slowly upward through January 2019. Nationally, this group has been trending downward over the total time examined.
- Individuals with associates degrees have been increasing as a percentage of the labor force both nationally and in Nevada. In Nevada this population increased from seven percent in January 1995 to ten percent in January 2019. In the nation Associates degrees followed a similar trend going from 7.8 percent to 10.5 percent of the labor force over the same time.
- The percentage of bachelor's degrees or higher has been growing as a share of the labor force in both Nevada and the nation. Nevada has seen an increase from an estimated 16.4 percent in January 1995 to approximately 25 percent in January 2019. Nationally, this has become the largest cohort increasing from 24.3 percent to 37.3 percent of the labor force over the same time.
- Overall, the labor force in Nevada and in the nation, are attaining more higher education.

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