

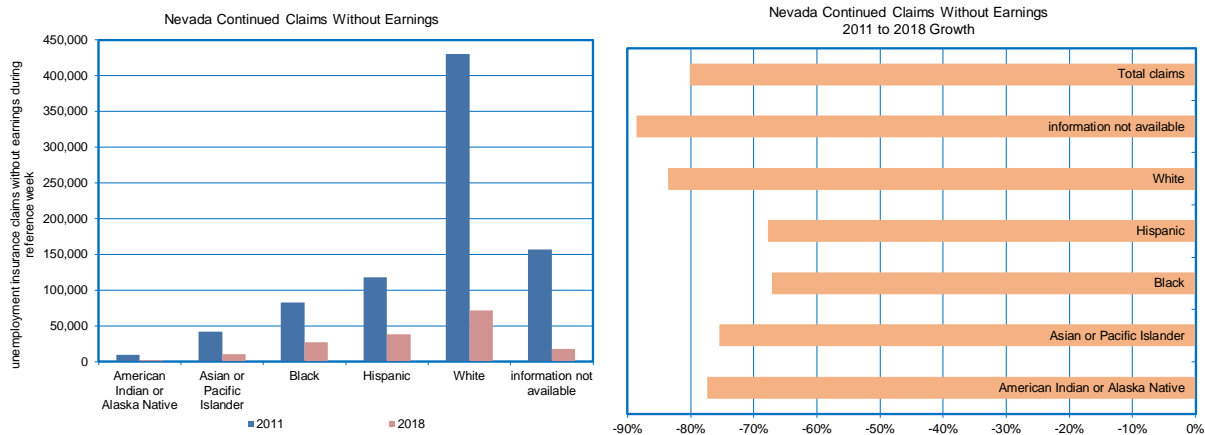
# Research Notes



Continued Claims without Earnings by Race  
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Note: 2019:67  
 June 19, 2019

## Continued Claims Without Earnings Trending Down Across all Race Groups



- The Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program is a federal-state cooperative effort to calculate the monthly estimates of total employment and unemployment in Nevada. This program uses statistical models to calculate LAUS estimates. LAUS uses the definition of unemployment from the Current Population Survey (CPS). In CPS, unemployment is defined as all persons not employed during the CPS reference week (includes the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month<sup>1</sup>) but who were available for work and had made specific efforts to find a job during the last four weeks.
- The model that calculates unemployment estimates includes -among other inputs- the number of unemployment insurance (UI) continued<sup>2</sup> claimants. Following the CPS unemployment definition, these claimants reside in Nevada, they are not working during the reference week or receiving earnings, they are available for work and have search for work during the last four weeks. These UI claims are called continued claims without earnings. The Nevada unemployment insurance (UI) claims system provides extract files each month, then those claims that meet the CPS unemployment definition are extracted and used in the calculation of unemployment estimates. This research note analyzes the distribution of UI continued claims without earnings by race in 2011 compare to 2018. Race or ethnicity information was not available in some UI claims.
- LAUS estimates show that Nevada’s labor force is composed mainly by three race groups: Whites (71% in 2018 and 80% in 2011), follow by Hispanics (29% in 2018 and 23% in 2011) and Blacks (9.5% in 2018 and 7.3% in 2011). Looking at the UI claims/ labor force ratio for each race group, White Nevadans ratio was 6.5% in 2018, this is down from 40.7% in 2011. Nevadans of Hispanic origin that had an UI claim represented 8.5% of the labor force in 2018 this is down from 38.5% in 2011. Blacks UI claims/labor force ratio was 18.7% in 2018, which is down from 84% in 2011.

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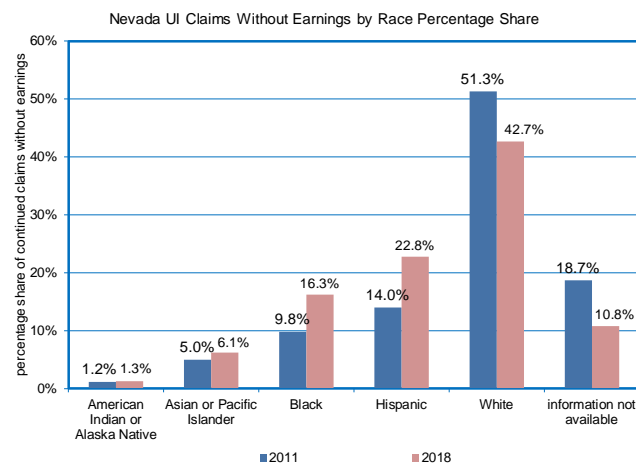
<sup>1</sup> In November and December, the reference week might not include the 12<sup>th</sup> due to the Holidays.

<sup>2</sup> Claimant is a person who makes a claim for unemployment insurance (UI) benefits under any State of Federal unemployment compensation program. Continued Claim (CC) is a claim filed after the initial claim for waiting period credit or payment for one week or more of unemployment.

# Research Notes



- The labor force levels for American Indians or Alaska Natives and Asian Pacific or Islanders is not available in CPS, therefore the ratio UI claims/labor force cannot be calculated<sup>3</sup>.
- The distribution of UI claims without earnings by race in the Silver State is trending down in all race groups. White Nevadans saw the highest decline in UI claims reaching around 71,000 in 2018, which is down from 430,490 claims in 2011. This reflects a decline of 83.5% in the last seven years.
- Nevadans of Hispanic origin had 38,030 claims in 2018, this is down from 117,570 in 2011 or a 67.7% drop in the last seven years. Black Nevadans come in third with 27,100 claims in 2018, this is down from 82,300 in 2011, a 67.1% decline in seven years.
- American Indians or Alaska Natives in Nevada, also show a decline of 77.3% in UI claims in the past seven years, reaching 2,200 claims in 2018, which is down from 9,700 in 2011. Asians or Pacific Islanders in Nevada show a decline of -75.4% in claims during the last seven years. In 2018 this group filed 10,250 UI claims, this is down from 41,690 claims in 2011. The UI claims figures reflect the negative impact of the 2007 economic downturn in Nevada's labor market in 2011, especially for Whites who as mentioned before represent most of the State's labor force.
- In 2011 over half (51.3%) of UI claims were from White Nevadans, follow by Hispanics (14%), Blacks (9.8%), Asian or Pacific Islander (five percent), and American Indian or Alaska Natives (1.2%). As the recovery unfolded UI claims began to trend down in all race groups. White Nevadans claims showed the largest decline in claims. In 2018, the share of Whites claims declined to 42.7%. The percentage share for Hispanics was 22.8%, follow by Blacks (16.3%), Asian or Pacific Islander (6.1%) and American Indian or Alaska Native (1.3%).



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<sup>3</sup> The American Community Survey (ACS) from the U.S. Census Bureau provides information about the labor force for these two race groups.