Research Notes



UI Recipiency Rate Alessandro Capello, Economist Note: 2018:152 December 19, 2018

Share of Unemployed Receiving Regular Unemployment Benefits Remains Below Historical Levels



- Nevada's unemployment insurance (UI) recipiency rate, which measures the share of the unemployed receiving regular UI benefits, has averaged 28.6% over the past twelve months, well below levels seen prior to the recession.
- Over the last few years, we have seen nearly all of Nevada's economic measures improve, but the UI recipiency rate has stubbornly remained below thirty percent for much of that time. This begs the question, why aren't we seeing this measure return to levels seen in the past?
- Lower UI recipiency rates are a trend being seen nationally. This is at least partially explained by a number of states reducing benefit durations and toughening UI eligibility requirements. However, Nevada has done neither of these, making it difficult to understand why recipiency rates have remained so low.
- While there is no clear cause for the lower recipiency rates, some possible contributing factors include a rise in denial rates for nonmonetary nonseparation issuesⁱ, claimants failing to meet minimum eligibility requirements, and the implementation and growth of the Reemployment and Eligibility Assessment program. Further research on the topic is warranted.

¹ Nonmonetary nonseparation issues include able, available, actively seeking; disqualifying/deductible income; refusing suitable work; reporting requirement call-ins; refusal profiling referrals.





