



High Unemployment in Nevada

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Required report details

NRS 232.920 requires a quarterly report by the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation which disaggregates the rate of unemployment by demographic groups for each county within the State utilizing currently available information. This report is provided to the Governor's Workforce Development Board, as well as other applicable agencies providing workforce development services.

NRS 232.935 mandates the Governor's Workforce Investment Board require all applicable agencies which provide workforce services to coordinate efforts and resources in order to reduce the rate of unemployment for specific demographic groups when certain thresholds are met:

1. When the unemployment rate is at least double (200 percent) the rate of unemployment for the county as a whole.
2. When the unemployment rate is at least four percentage points higher than the rate of unemployment for the county as a whole.
3. When the unemployment rate has been higher than the rate of unemployment for the county as a whole for at least three consecutive years.

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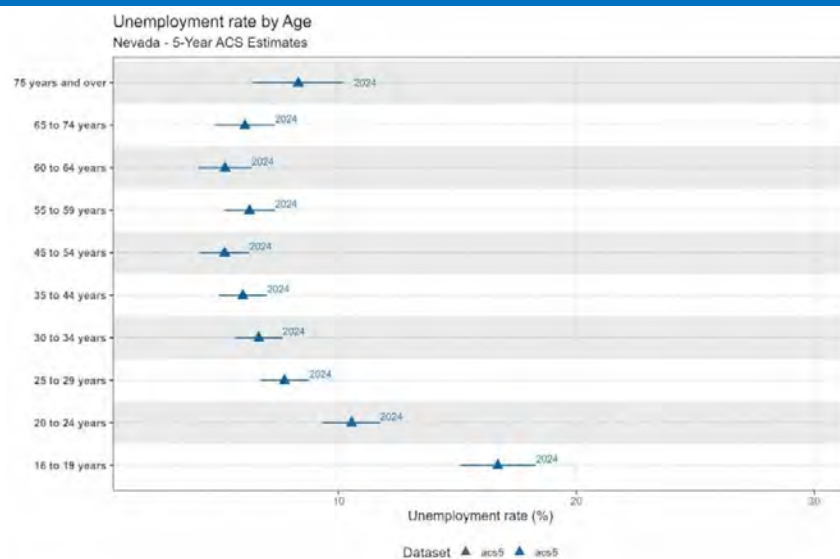
Report availability, data sources, and timeline

- The current report is available at the R&A website here:
https://nevadaworkforce.com/docs/Other-Publications/Demographics-Report/Current_Release.pdf
- This report uses data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey.
<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs.html>
- A key limitation in the data is that ACS data is only annual, and for areas with a population of less than 65,000 data is only available on a 5-year average basis.
- A policy change at the Commerce Department has delayed the release of the most recent ACS data, with no timeline available for 2025 data.
<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2026/phi-acs-media-advisory.html>

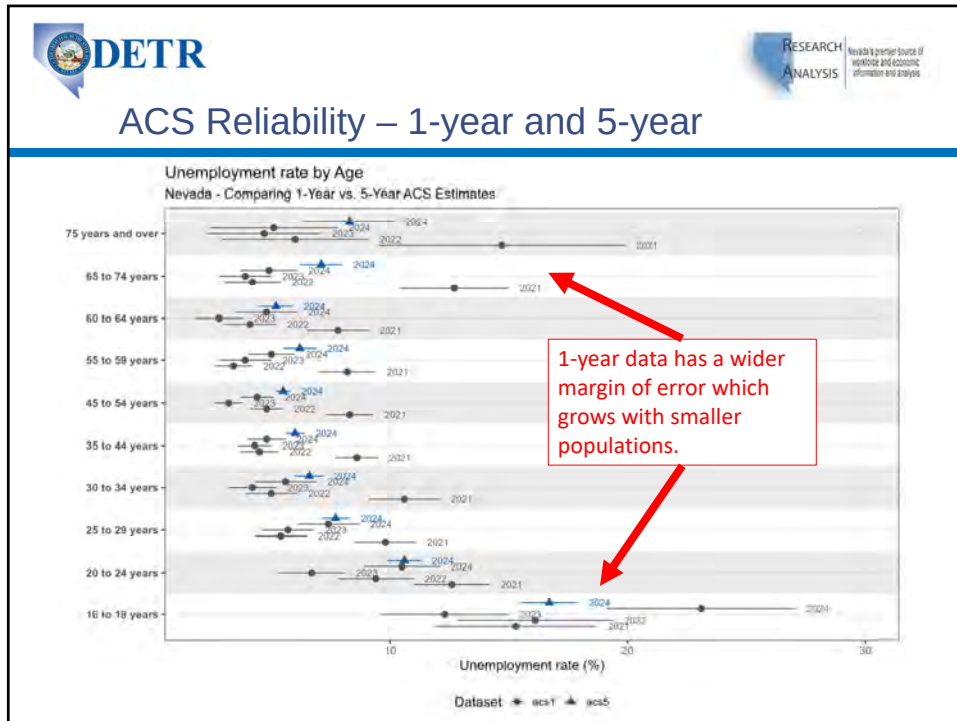
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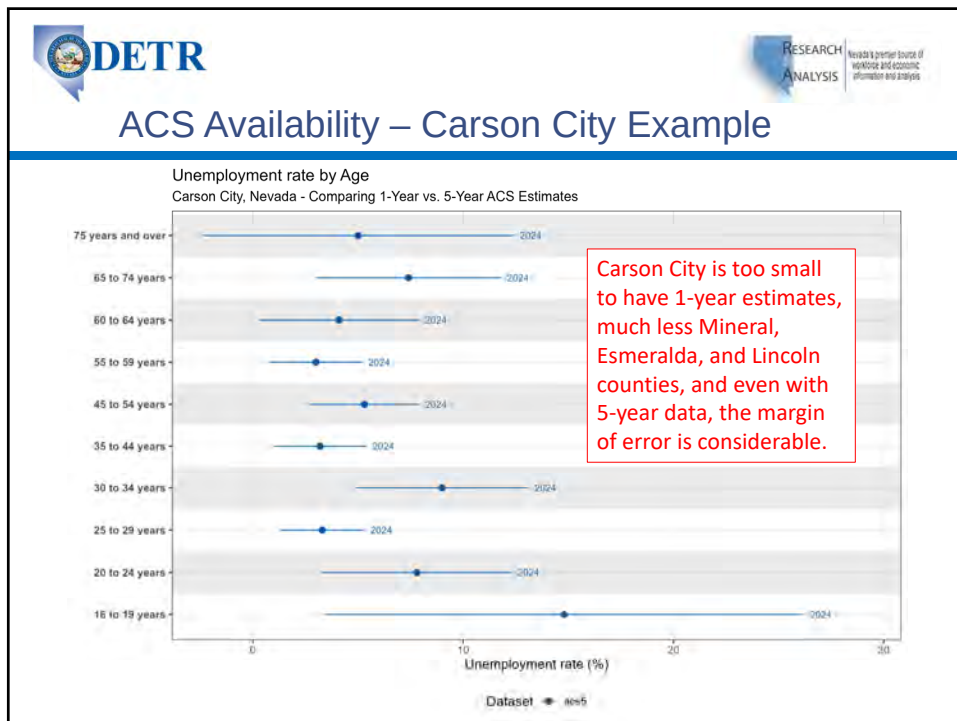
ACS Reliability – 1-year and 5-year



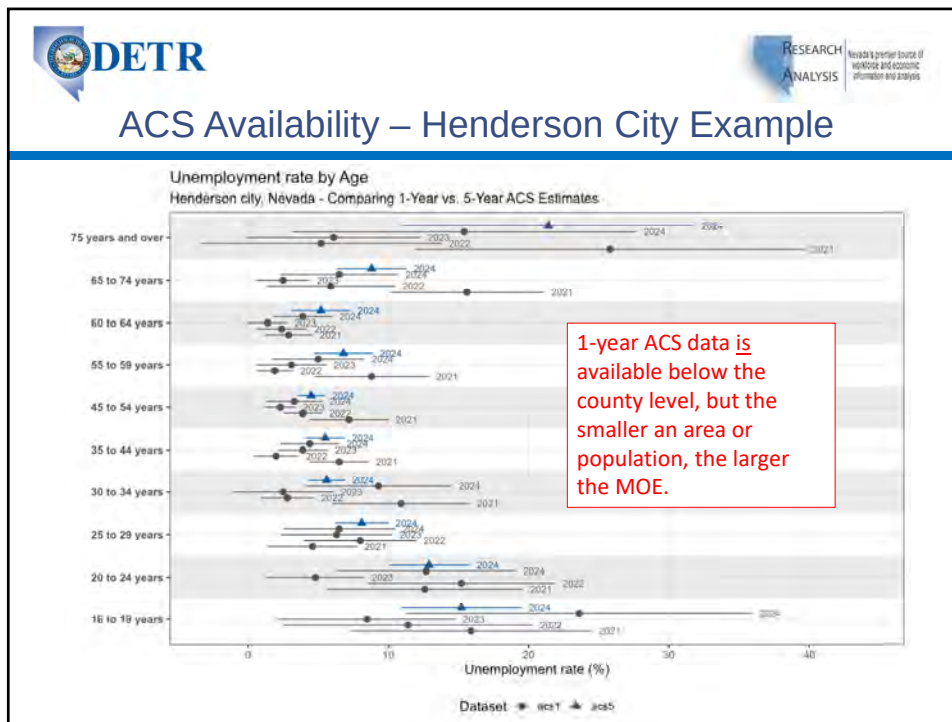
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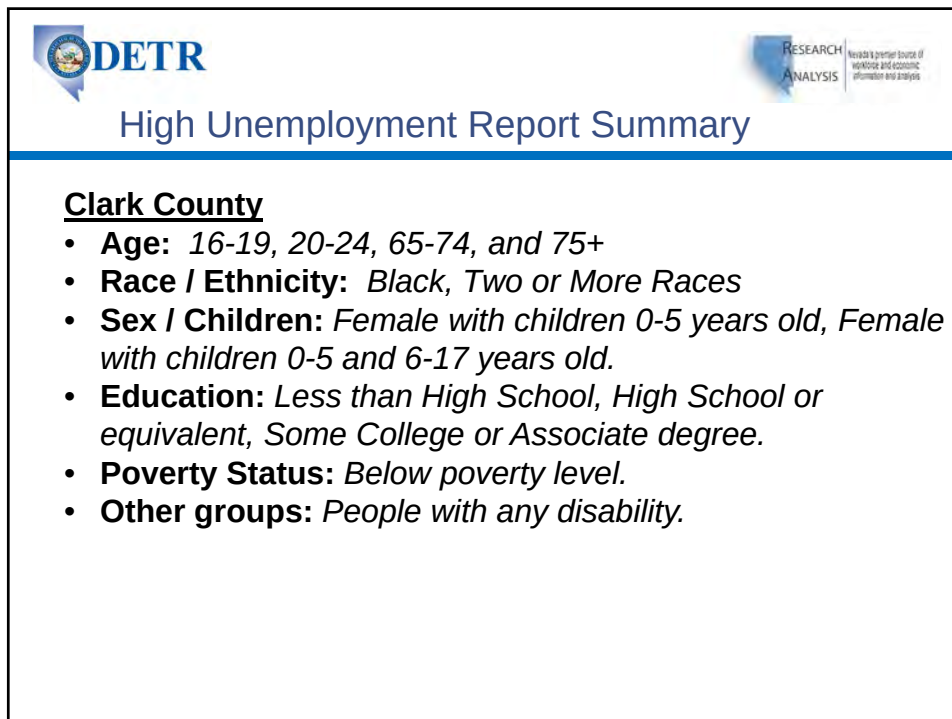
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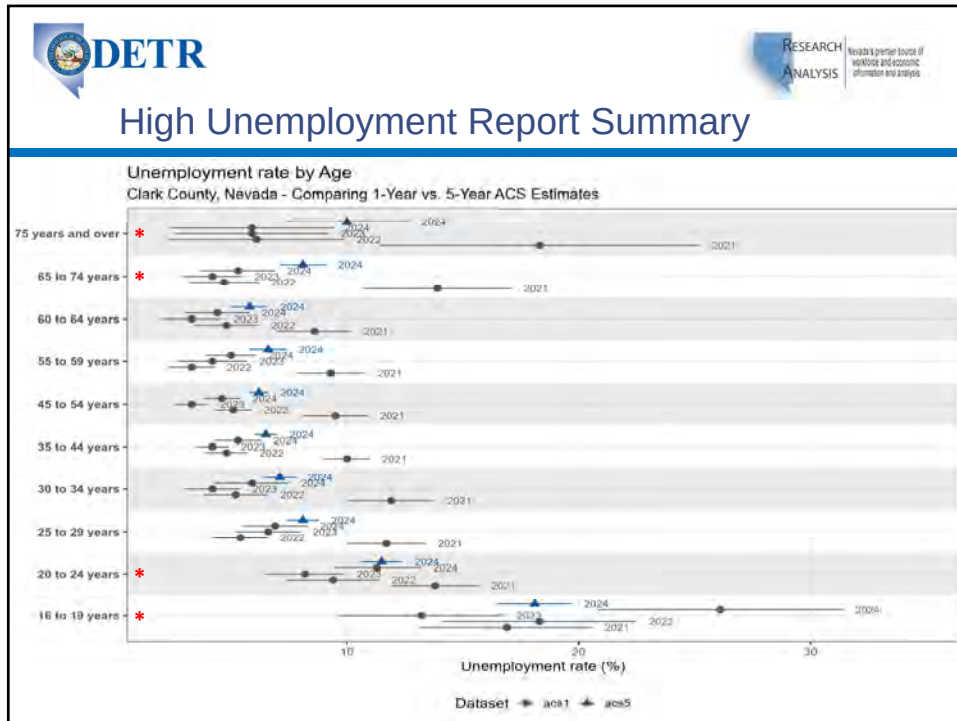
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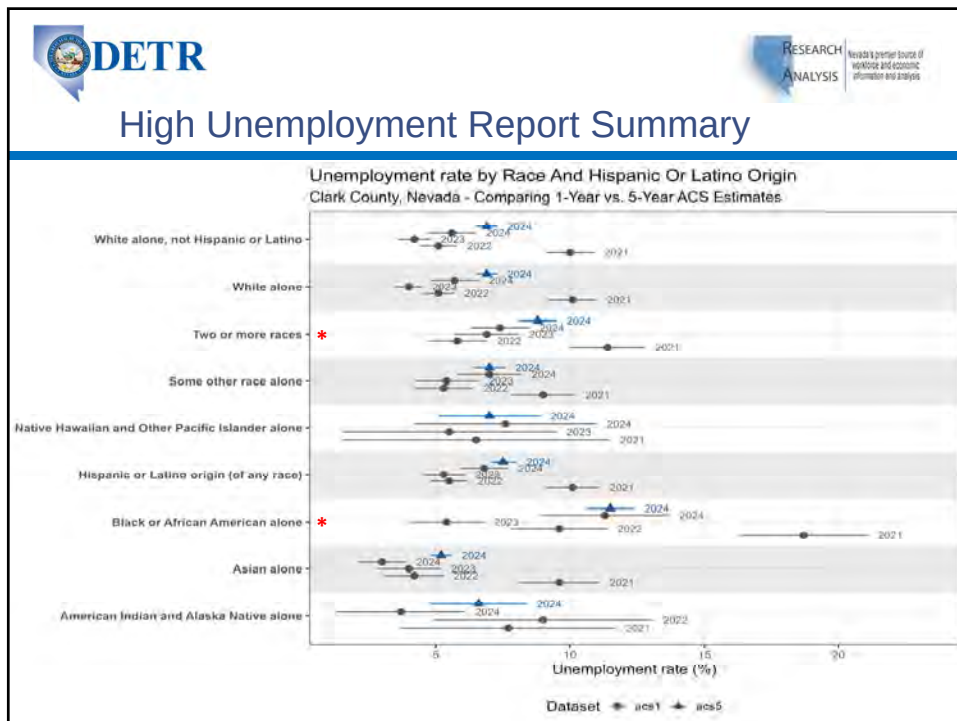
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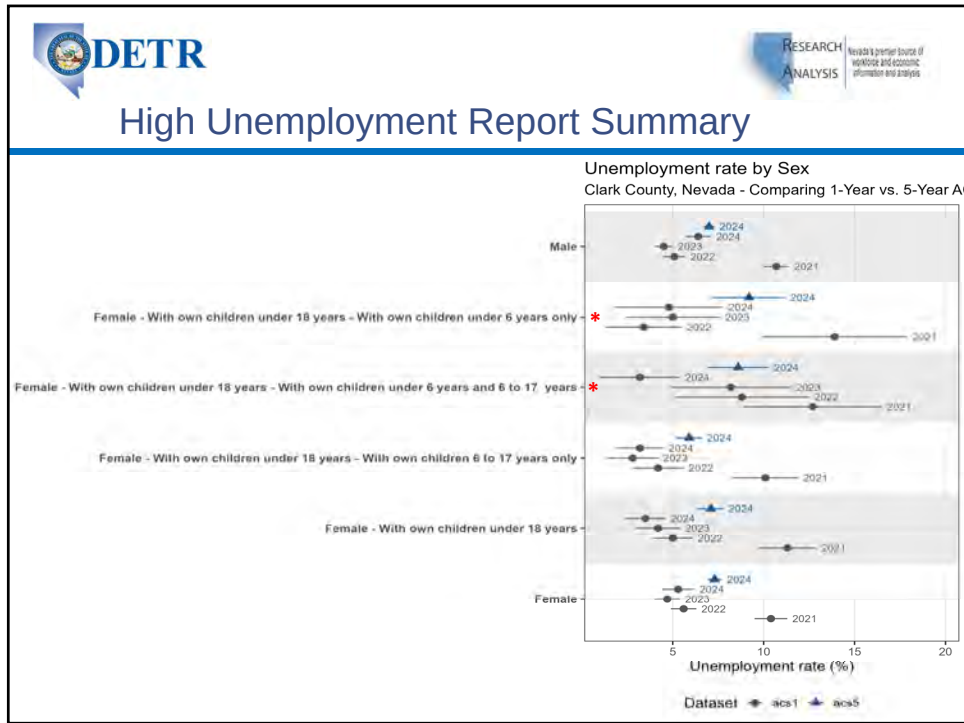
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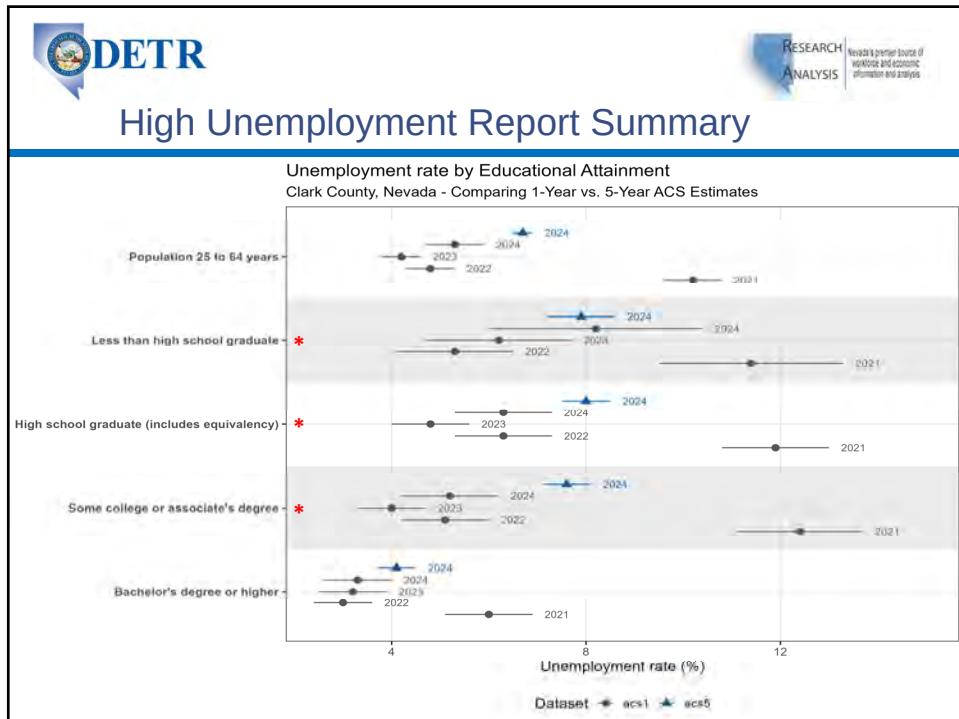
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High Unemployment Report Summary

Washoe County

- **Age:** 16-19, 20-24, 25-29, 55-59.
- **Race / Ethnicity:** Black, Hispanic, American Indian and Alaska Native, Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian, and Two or More Races.
- **Sex / Children:** Female with children 0-5 and 6-17 years old
- **Education:** Less than High School, Some College or Associate degree, and High School or equivalent.
- **Poverty Status:** Below poverty level.
- **Other groups:** People with any disability.

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High Unemployment Report Summary

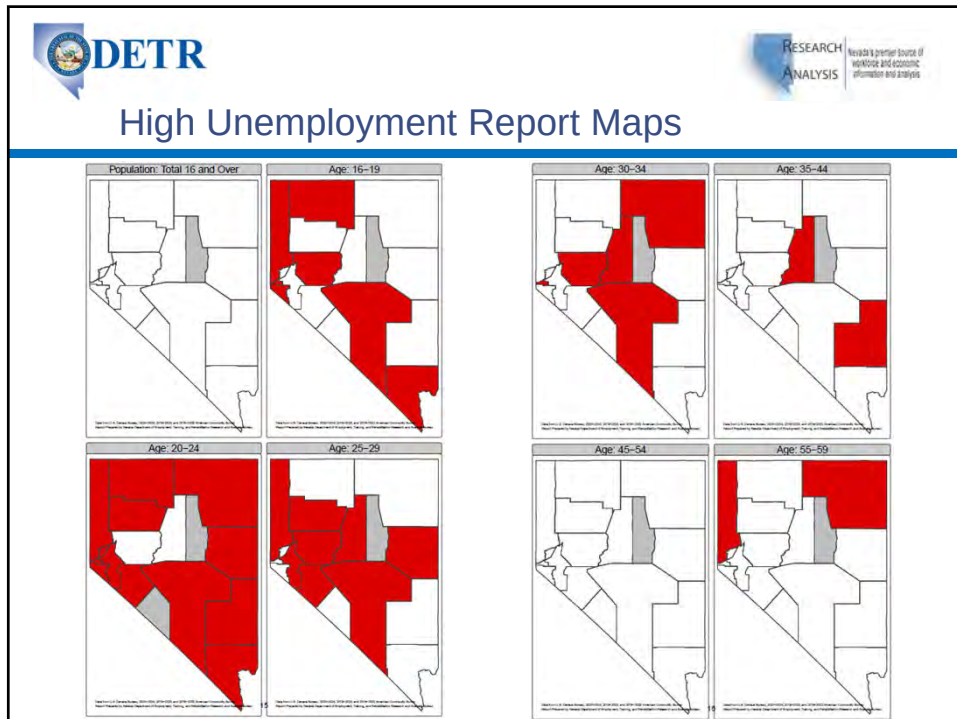
Carson City

- **Age:** 16-19, 20-24, 30-34, 65-74
- **Race / Ethnicity:** Black, American Indian and Alaska Native, Two or More Races
- **Sex / Children:** Male
- **Education:** Less than High School
- **Poverty Status:** Below poverty level.
- **Other groups:** People with any disability.

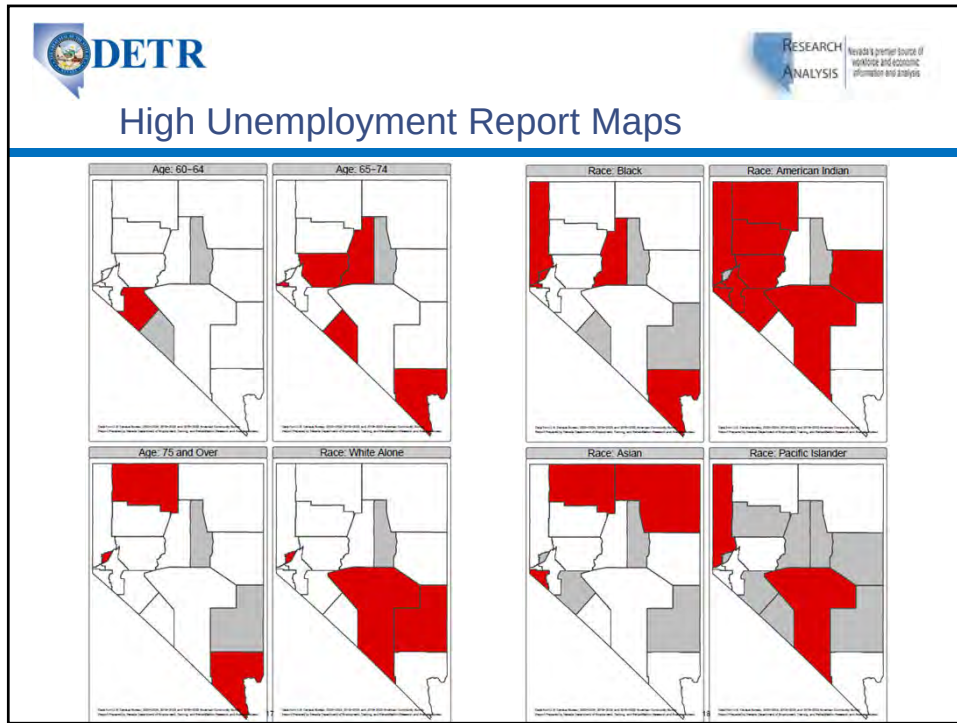
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High Unemployment Report Summary																			
Most Current Data As Of: 2024 Data for all counties is a five-year average, unless otherwise indicated																			
		Carson City	Churchill County	Clark County - 5 Year	Douglas County	Elko County	Esmeralda County	Franklin County	Humboldt County	Lincoln County	Lucas County	Lyon County	Mineral County	Mojo County	Pershing County	Storey County	Washoe County - 5 Year	White Pine County	
Unemployed People in Areas With High Unemployment Only	Age	County Total: Ages 16+																	
		County Total: Ages 20-64																	
		County Total: Ages 25-64																	
		16-19	164	230	7,429	72				40				73				1,772	
		20-24	213		32,181	309	166		132		17	324	58	179	21	56	1,783	34	
		25-29		157						25		115	57	147	48			1,214	54
		30-34	305	101			232			78				224					
		35-44																	
		45-54																	
		55-59					174											1,226	
	60-64												24						
	65-74	124	94	4,823			2		17										
	75+			1,100				8								10			
	Race / Ethnicity (Age 16 or Older)	White, Not Hispanic or Latino												1,317	43	122		433	320
		Black	50		16,238				13		31						3		
		Hispanic																	
		American Indian & Alaska Native	138	38		44			28		43	31	27	29		374		20	
		Asian				23	83		25										
		Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian																253	
		Some Other Race					150		100			280							
		Two or More Races	334	124	17,817		2											2,350	
		Male	905							193				132					
		Female								280				88	825	48			1,098
Gender & Children (Age 20-64)	Female, With Children 0-17		127						90		14	437		35	16				
	Female, With Children 0-5		53	2,994								75		10	35	20			
	Female, With Children 0-5 & 6-17			2,616	69			48	24		98						308		
	Female, With Children 6-17									14	263								
	Less than HS	213		8,908	38	195		84	109		260	24	134	16			1,602	48	
Education (Age 20-64)	HS or equiv			23,183	124	623			77		995		46				2,513	47	
	Some college or Associate deg	233	29	29,472						14			600				5,342		
	Bachelor's degree or higher														28				
Poverty Status (Age 20-64)	Below poverty level	330	78	21,245	44	318		75	129	31	422	62	356	13	9		2,828	35	
	At or above poverty level																		
Other (20-64)	People with any disability	223	82	9,534		449		53	31		324	44	381				1,722	58	

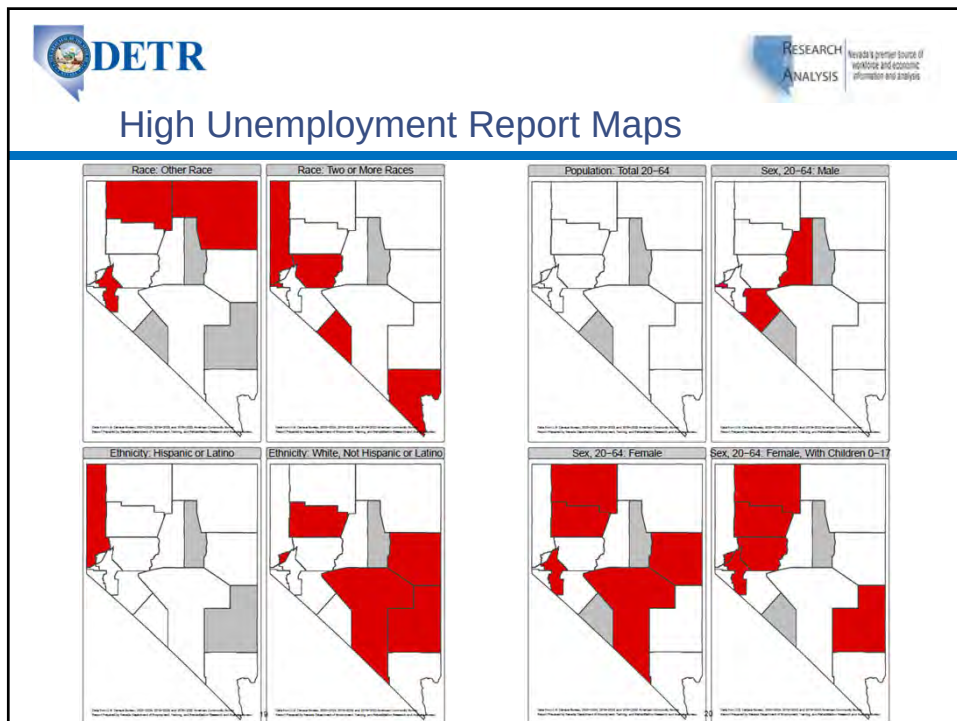
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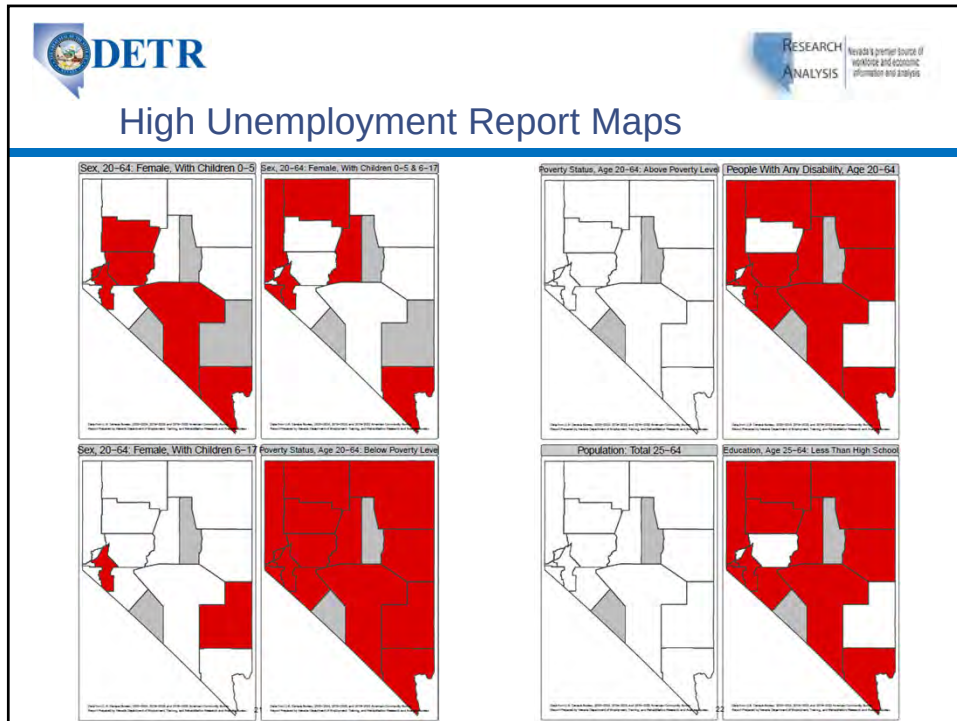
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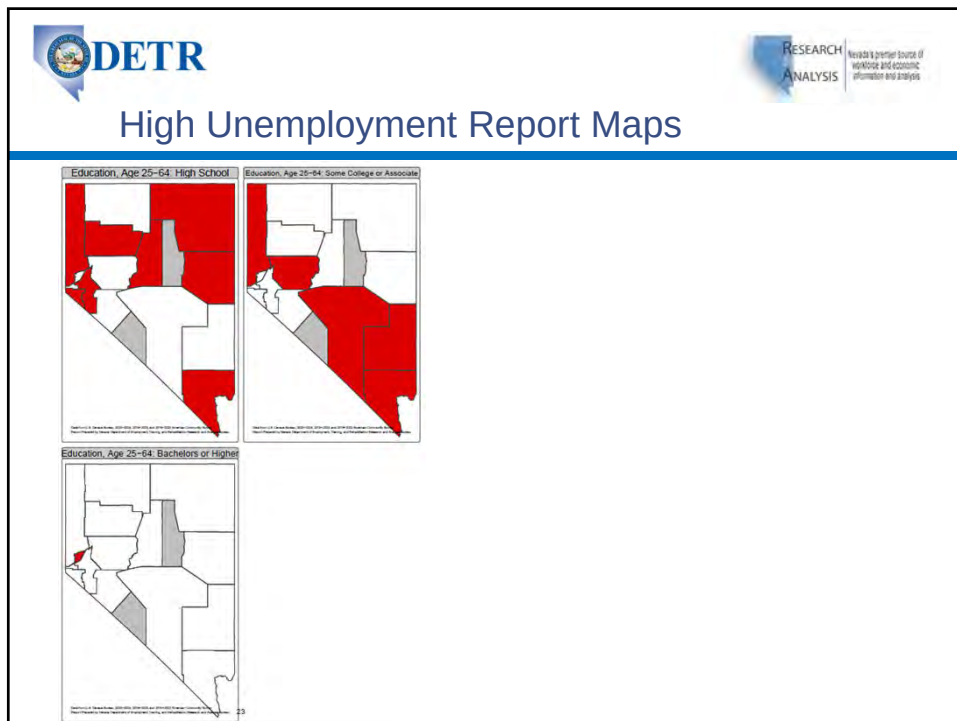
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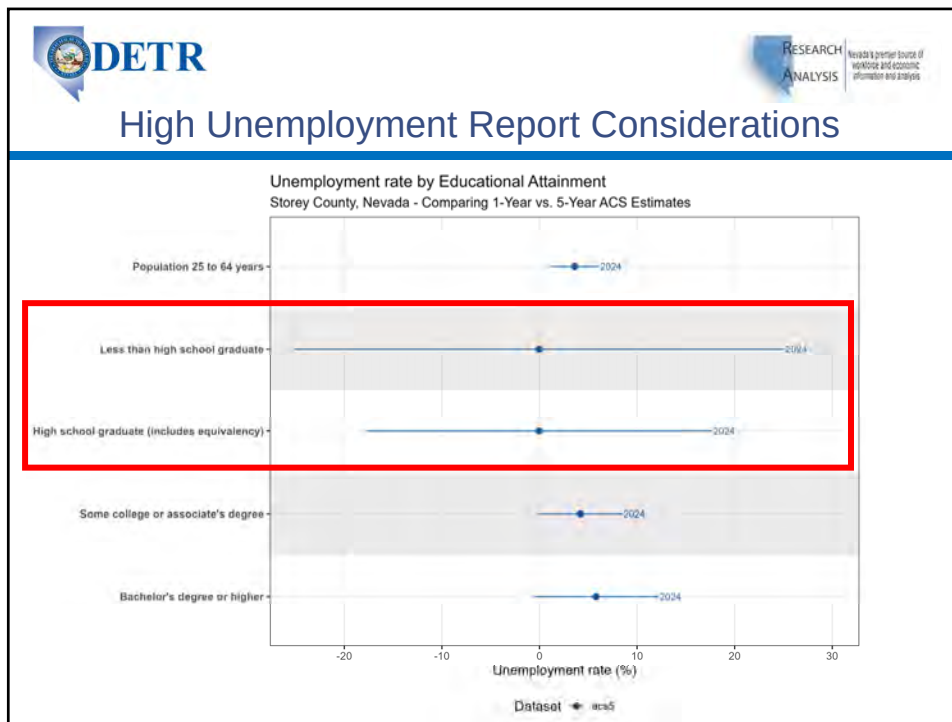
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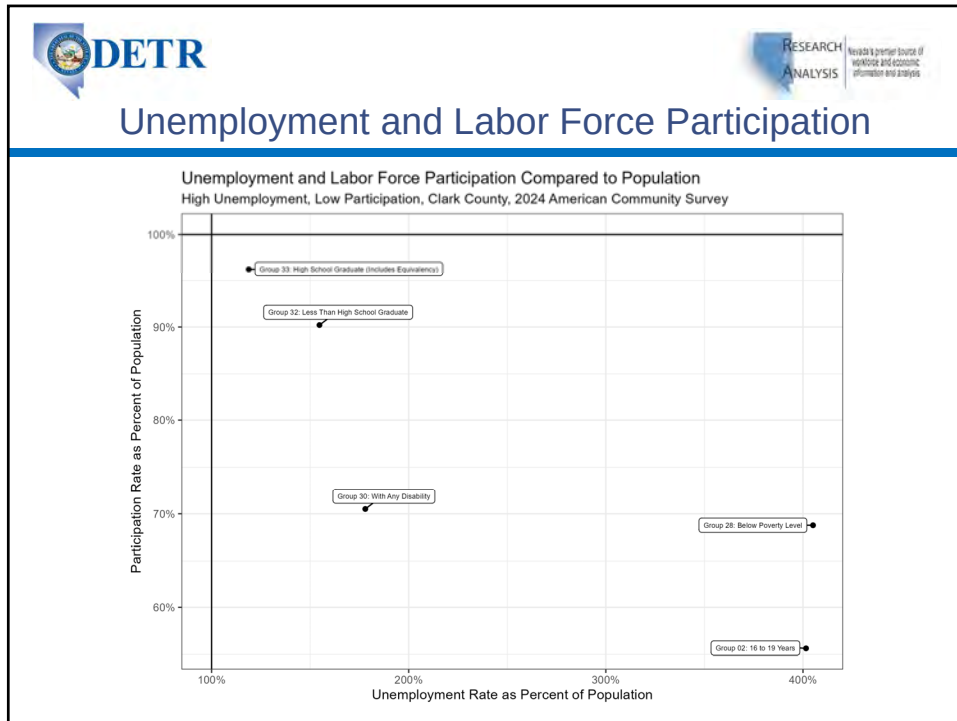
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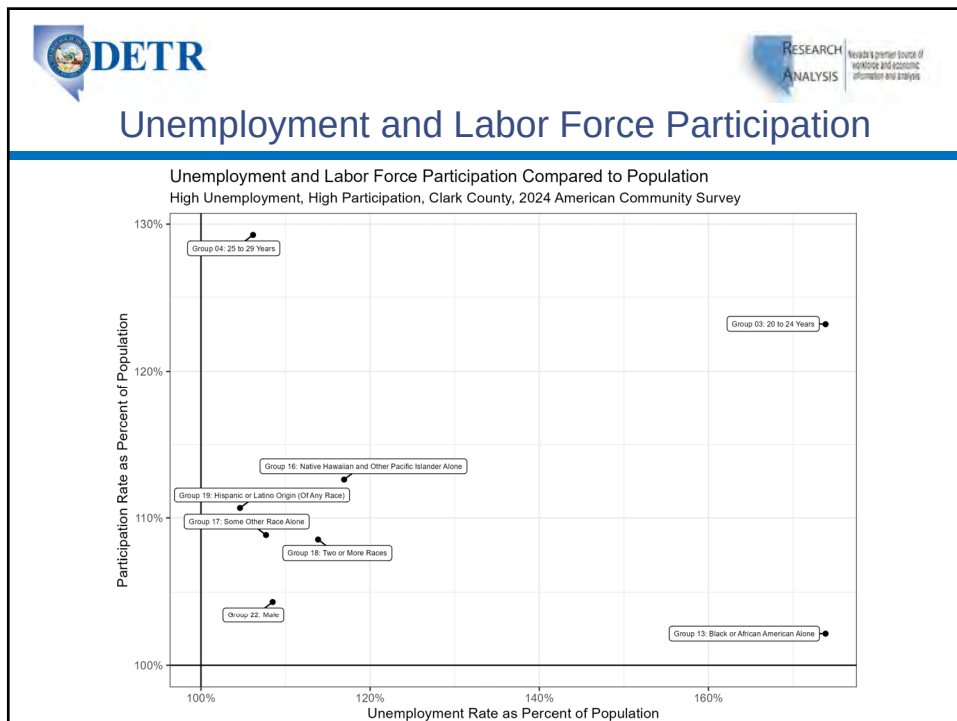
Additional Data And Analysis

- Unemployment is not the only measure of labor market engagement.
- Whether someone is unemployed does not tell us why they are unemployed, the barriers they face to employment, or the solutions that would be effective in serving them.
- High-level estimates can describe the landscape but are not likely to be effective at evaluating results.

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Gathering Additional Data

- DETR partners with CBER and UNLV to conduct an annual survey of unemployed people in Nevada to ask more focused questions about reasons for unemployment, expectations about work, and specific barriers to entry.

2025 Report:

<https://cber.unlv.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Job-Seeker-Report-Final.pdf>

- Direct surveys cost money, and use a different survey methodology than the Census Bureau, but give us more direct insight into the experiences and expectations of people in Nevada.
- The 2026 report is being finalized for publication, but the report contents are available to DETR.

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Selected Survey Findings

- Nevada job seekers continue to report the same three barriers to reemployment rather than one dominant obstacle. **Lack of available job opportunities** remains the most frequently reported challenge at 19.4 percent, followed closely by **transportation** at 18.1 percent and **skill set training and certifications** ranks third at 13.3 percent. These were the same major barriers in our last survey in 2024.
- The results continue to point toward labor-market matching issues. Approximately 45.4 percent of all respondents are searching within their previous occupational field, while 40.9 percent appear to be pursuing a different occupational field and 13.8 percent cannot be clearly classified. Even among respondents identifying lack of available jobs as their primary barrier, about 60.4 percent are attempting to return to their previous occupational field.
- Respondents place substantial importance on the conditions attached to those jobs. Rate of pay is selected by 68.9 percent, followed by work-hour flexibility at 49.8 percent, remote-work flexibility at 37.4 percent, and location and transportation at 36.2 percent. These findings suggest that the relevant labor market options for an individual job seeker is narrower than the total number of job vacancies available.

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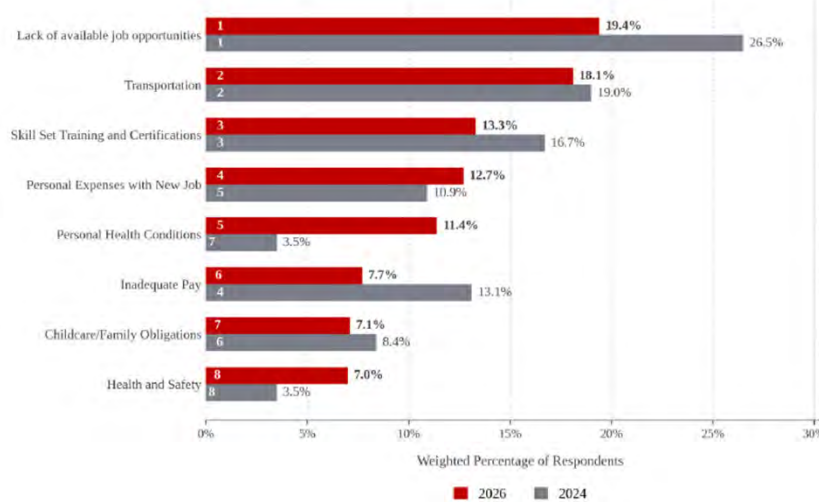
Selected Survey Findings

- Transportation remains one of the most persistent workforce-access barriers in Nevada. It is reported by 18.1 percent of respondents and remains the second-ranked challenge in both 2024 and 2026. Although Clark County contains the largest number of transportation-constrained respondents, the barrier is proportionally most prevalent in Rural Nevada, where 24.2 percent of respondents report transportation as their primary challenge, compared with 18.0 percent in Clark County and 14.3 percent in Washoe County. Rates are also elevated among respondents ages 25–34 (22.4 percent) and 35–44 (23.3 percent).
- Childcare and family obligations affect a smaller share of the overall sample but are highly concentrated among workers with caregiving responsibilities. Overall, 7.1 percent identify childcare or family obligations as their primary barrier. Women report the barrier at 12.7 percent, compared with 3.1 percent of men, and women account for nearly three-fourths of the childcare/family-obligations cohort. The interaction with children is even stronger: approximately 23.3 percent of women with children in the household report the barrier.

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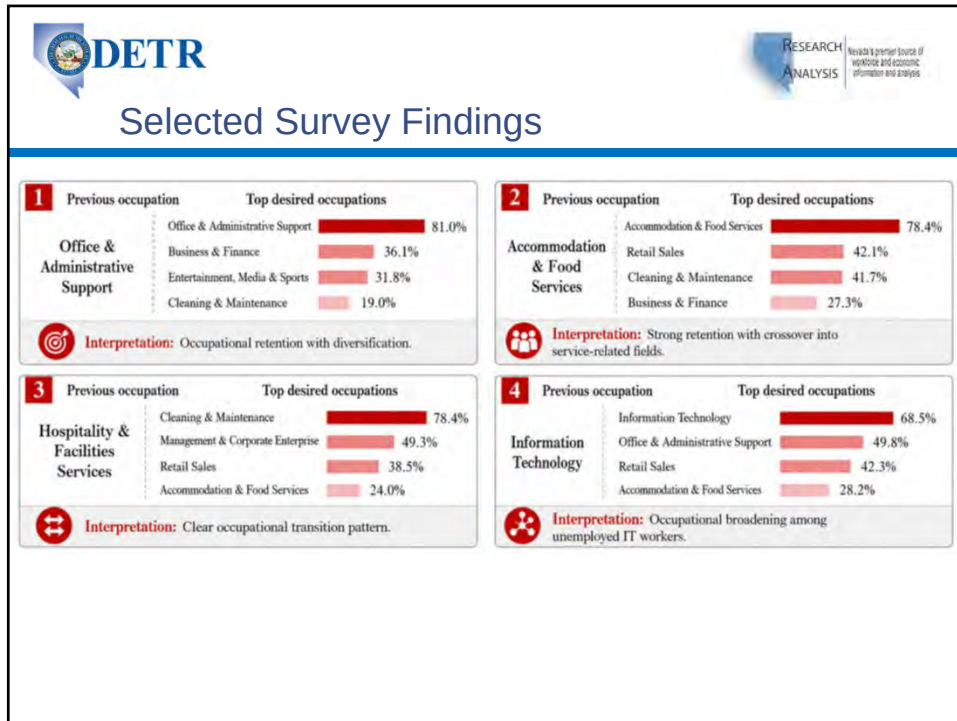


Selected Survey Findings

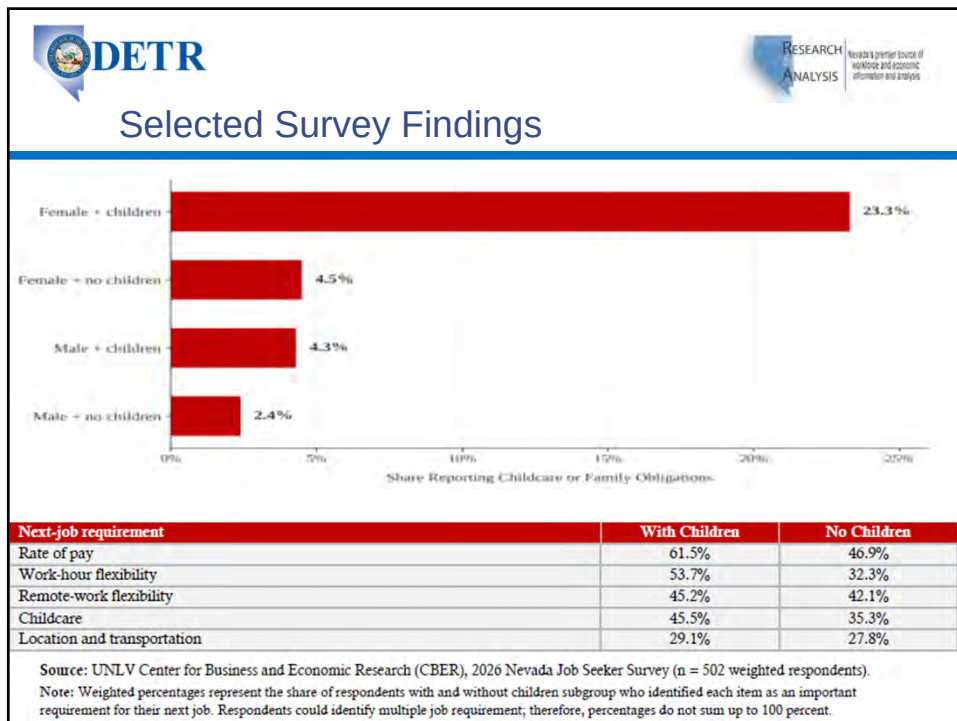


Source: UNLV Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER), 2026 Nevada Job Seeker Survey (n = 502 respondents).

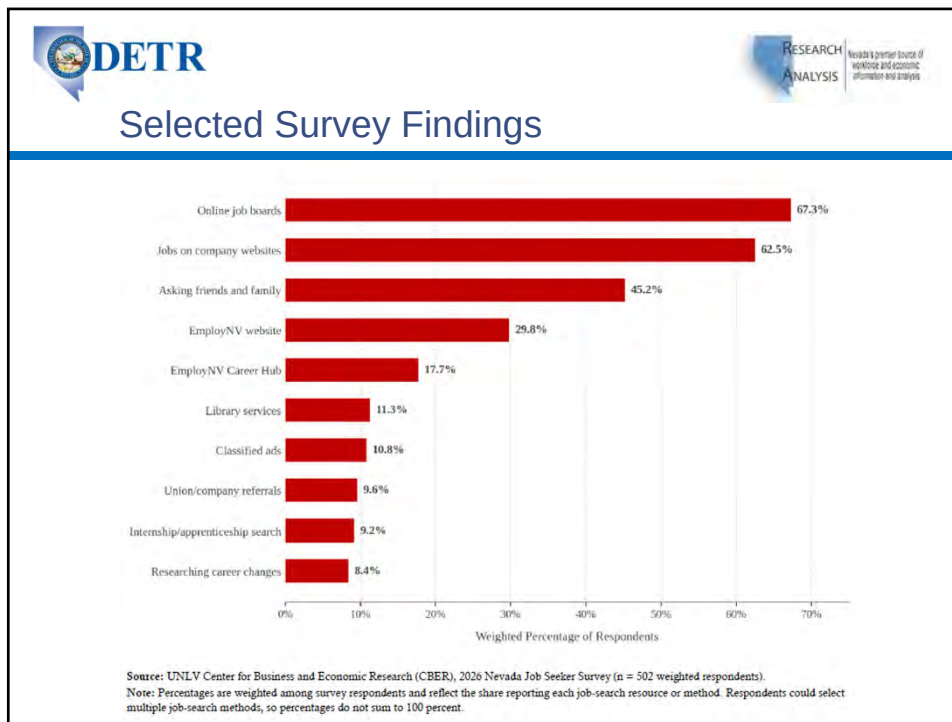
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Economic Statistics vs. Performance Reporting

- The total number of people served in Program Year 2024 through WIOA Adult, Youth, and Dislocated Worker programs was under 5,000.
- Program participation data is available (<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/performance/results>) but is limited to correlations.
- High-quality research into program effectiveness requires a deeper, narrower dive into detailed program data, moving from “a person participated in this program and had higher wages” to “participating in this program caused people to get higher wages.”
- The NPWR research grant this year will be seeking a research project that is more focused on evaluating outcomes.

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