

DIRECTOR
Terry Johnson



GOVERNOR
Jim Gibbons

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release
April 20, 2007

Contact: Mae Flennoy
Public Information Officer
Phone: 702.486.7991
Cell: 702.249.6324

Unemployment Rate Remains at 4.3 Percent

Nevada's unemployment rate remained at 4.3 percent for the month of March, keeping its place under the national rate of 4.4 percent for the month, according to figures released by the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR).

Nevada's unemployment rate was at 4.3 percent for February as well, coming down from 4.5 percent experienced in January.

"The rate is holding steady and we'll continue to watch the trends to see if any patterns develop," said Terry Johnson, DETR director. "The housing slowdown has certainly contributed to the unemployment rate being somewhat higher than what we've seen in the recent past. It is also important to note that these recent results come on the heels of the 2004-2006 period when the State's economy grew at a remarkable pace. As we suggested then, it was unrealistic to believe that those trends could continue indefinitely, without interruption. However, the unemployment rate remains below most other states and job growth is still double the national average, which is a very positive sign for Nevada."

Due to a number of factors, including the slowdown in housing, DETR has changed its job growth forecast for 2007. DETR is now predicting 3.7 percent job growth, down from the 5 percent it had previously forecasted. This is well below the surge experienced in the past three years, with employment growth recorded at 5.9 percent in 2004, 6.1 percent in 2005 and 4.8 percent in 2006.

Additionally, job growth for the month of March was down from March 2006. For the month, 9,300 jobs were added statewide, while last year 13,200 jobs were added. In February, Nevada added 13,100 jobs.



DETR is comprised of the Employment Security Division, Equal Rights Commission, Rehabilitation Division, the Information Development and Processing Division and the Research and Analysis Bureau.

DETR works in partnership with the Nevada JobConnect System to connect businesses and workers.