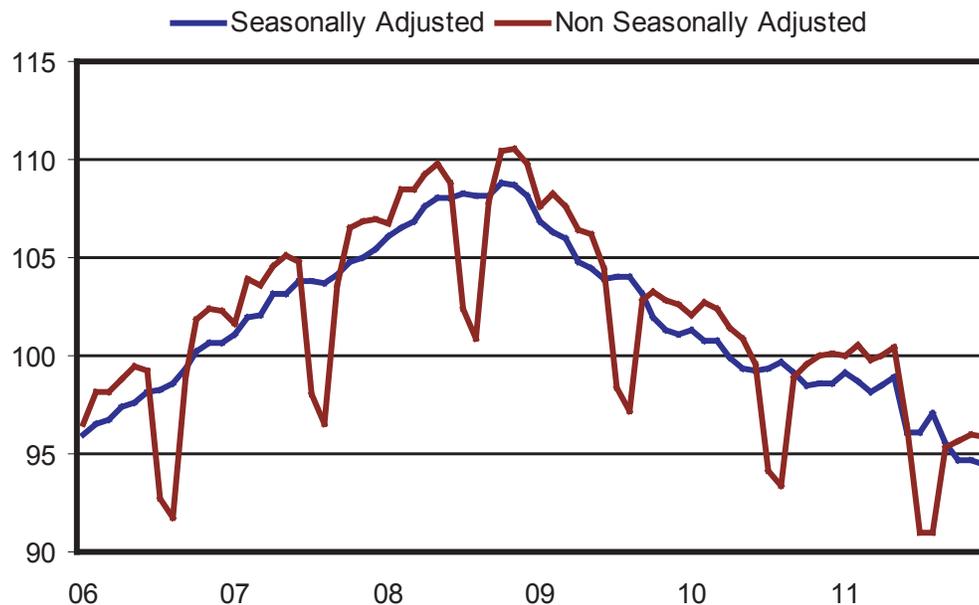




## Seasonal Adjustment

February 6, 2012; Jered McDonald, Economist

### Nevada Local Government Employment



- Seasonal changes in employment occur throughout the year and affect many industries in different ways. Some industries with strong seasonal variation include, construction, retail trade and leisure and hospitality. Seasonal adjustment takes into account normal and predictable fluctuations in labor market activity in an attempt to gauge underlying economic conditions.
- Another good example of an industry with strong seasonality is local government. This industry includes cities, counties and other entities. It also includes public schools, both k-12 and post secondary. Every summer, when schools let out, non-contract positions are temporarily unfilled, resulting in significant month-to-month variation. Over the last six years, local government employment temporarily fell by an average of 7,100 jobs in the summer months. Those jobs return by late fall.
- Local government employment has also suffered during the recession. Seasonally adjusted local government employment grew by 12,800 from January 2006 to October 2008. Since then, local government employment has contracted by 14,300 or 15.1%.