The recession is over nationally, but Arizona remains in a recession and its recovery will probably lag the rest of the country.

So reports the latest issue of Arizona’s Economy from the University of Arizona’s Eller College of Management.

Economist Marshall Vest says evidence shows that the U.S. economy probably bottomed out in May or June.

Signs include better housing numbers, recovering economies of major trading partners, increases in industrial production, large declines in inventories, high production schedules by auto makers, rising productivity, widening profit margins and recovery in capital-expenditure plans.

In Arizona, job losses have begun to slow, retail sales are still falling but at a slower rate, and restaurant and bar sales showed a 1.5 percent decrease in June.

Inventories of houses for sale are falling, and prices are beginning to stabilize.

Vest's latest forecast is that hiring will stabilize by the middle of next year.