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Nevada County (/n1 vædə/ () listen)) is a county located in the U.S. state of California, in the Sierra Nevada. As of the 2020 census, ITS population was 102,241.^[7] The county seat is Nevada City.^[8] Nevada County comprises the Truckee-Grass Valley micropolitan statistical area, which is also included in the Sacramento-Roseville combined statistical area, part of the Mother Lode Country.

History [edit]

Created in 1851, from portions of Yuba County, Nevada County was named after the mining town of Nevada City, a name derived from the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The word nevada is Spanish for "snowy" or "snow-covered."^[9] Charles Marsh was one of the first settlers in what became Nevada City, and ts perhaps the one who named the town. He went on to build extensive water flumes/ditches/canals in the area, and was influential in the building of the first transcontinental railroad and the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad.^[10]

Nevada City was the first to use the word "Nevada" in its name. In 1851, the newly formed Nevada County used the same name as the county seat. The bordering state of Nevada used the same name in 1864. The region came to life in the Gold Rush of 1849. Many historical sites remain to mark the birth of this important region in California's formative years. Among them are the Nevada Theatre in Nevada City, the oldest theater built in California in 1865. It operates to this day and once hosted Mark Twain, among other historical figures. The Old 5 Mile House stagecoach stop, built in 1890, also operates to this day as a provider of hospitality spanning three centuries. This historical site still features "The stagecoach safe" that is on display outside the present-day restaurant and is the source of many legends of stagecoach robbers and notorious highwaymen in the California gold rush era. The gold industry in Nevada County thrived into the post-WWII days.

The county had many firsts and historic technological moments. The first long-distance telephone in the world, built in 1877 by the Ridge Telephone Company, connected French Corral with French Lake, 58 miles (93 km) away.^[11] It was operated by the Milton Mining Company from a building on this site that had been erected about 1853. The Pelton wheel, designed to power gold mines, still drives hydroelectric generators today. Nevada City and Grass Valley were among the first California towns with electric lights. The Olympics, NASA, and virtually every television station around the country uses video/broadcasting equipment designed and manufactured by Grass Valley Group, founded in Grass Valley.

The Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad, built in 1876, was the only railroad in the West that was never robbed, though its primary freight was gold. (Builder-owner John Flint Kidder's reputation made it clear that he would personally hunt down and kill anyone who tried.) The rail line closed in 1942 and was torn up for scrap.

In Grass Valley, the historic Holbrooke Hotel opened in 1851 and housed Mark Twain, Bret Harte, and four U.S. Presidents (Ulysses S. Grant, Grover Cleveland, Benjamin Harrison, and James A. Garfield).

The community of Rough and Ready seceded from the Union for a time and became the Great Republic of Rough and Ready.

Nevada County is home to the Empire Mine State Historic Park, which is the site of one of the oldest, deepest, and richest gold mines in California. The park is in Grass Valley at 10791 East Empire Street. In operation for more than 100 years, the mine extracted 5.8 million ounces of gold before it closed in 1956.

In 1988, the 49er Fire was accidentally started by a homeless and schizophrenic local man near Highway 49. The fire went on to burn well over 100 homes and more than 33,000 acres in Nevada County.^[12]

The 2001 Nevada County shootings occurred on January 10, 2001, in which Scott Harlan Thorpe murdered three people in a shooting spree. Two of the victims were murdered in Nevada City and a third victim was killed in Grass Valley. Thorpe was arrested and declared not guilty by reason of insanity. He currently resides in Napa State Hospital.

Geography [edit]

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 974 square miles (2,520 km²), of 16 square miles (41 km²) (1.6%) are covered by water.^[13] The county is drained by Middle and South Yuba Rivers.^[14]

The western part of the county is defined by the course of several rivers and the irregular boundaries of adjoining counties. When the county was created, the founders wanted to include access to the transcontinental railroad, so a rectangular section was added that includes the railroad town of Truckee.

Nevada County is one of four counties in the United States to border a state with which it shares the same name (the other three counties are Texas County, Oklahoma; Delaware County, Pennsylvania; and Ohio County, West Virginia).

Ecology [edit]

The county has substantial areas of forest, grassland, savanna, riparian area, and other ecosystems. Forests include both coniferous- and oak-dominated woodland types. Also, numerous understory forbs and wildflowers occur, including the yellow mariposa lily (Calochortus luteus).^[15]

Adjacent counties [edit]

- Sierra County north
- Washoe County, Nevada east
- Placer County south
- Yuba County west

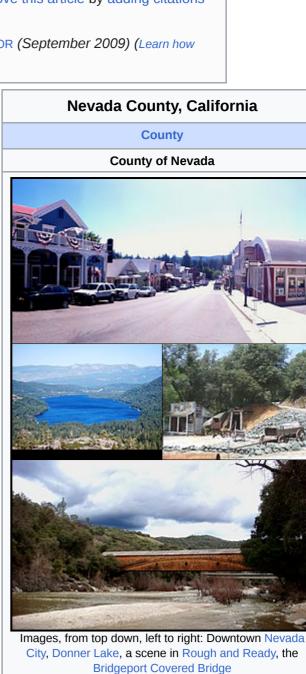
National protected areas [edit]

- Tahoe National Forest (part)
- Toiyabe National Forest (part)

Demographics [edit]

2020 census [edit]

	Nevada County, (N	California - H = Non-Hi	• •	hic Profile		a training		
	Race / Ethnicity	Pop 2010 ^[20]	Pop 2020 ^[21]	% 2010	% 2020	Martis C	reek Lake and Dam at the 日	
	White alone (NH)	85,477	82,810	86.55%	80.99%		end of Nevada County near At full pool, the lake extends	
	Black or African American alone (NH)	341	416	0.35%	0.41%		er County in the distance to	
2. Traple and	Native American or Alaska Native alone (NH)	793	695	0.80%	0.68%			
A CONTRACTOR OF	Asian alone (NH)	1,124	1,371	1.14%	1.34%	and the second	and south and	
Gold nugget of about 6 troy ounces, 다 from the Yuba River placers of Nevada	Pacific Islander alone (NH)	96	119	0.10%	0.12%			
County - size: 8.3 x 2.8 x 2.3 cm	Some other race alone (NH)	122	617	0.12%	0.60%		reek Lake and Dam in	
	Mixed/multiracial (NH)	2,372	5,797	2.40%	5.67%		reek Lake and Dam in 日 County: This picture was taken	
	Hispanic or Latino (any race)	8,439	10,416	8.54%	10.19%	over Placer County, looking north into Nevada County.		
	Total	98,764	102,241	100.00%	100.00%		Historical population	







Interactive map of Nevada County



Country	United States			
State	California			
Region	Sierra Nevada			
Metropolitan area	Greater Sacramento			
Incorporated	April 25, 1851 ^[2]			
Named for	Nevada City, which is named			
	after the Spanish word for			
	"snow-covered"			
County seat	Nevada City			
Largest town	Truckee			
Government				
• Туре	Council–CEO			
• Chair ^[3]	Susan Hoek			
 Vice Chair^[4] 	Ed Scofield			
• Board of	Supervisors [show]			
Supervisors ^[5]				
County executive	Alison Lehman			
officer				
Area				
• Total	974 sq mi (2,520 km ²)			
• Land	958 sq mi (2,480 km ²)			
• Water	16 sq mi (40 km ²)			
Highest elevation ^[6]	9,152 ft (2,790 m)			
Population (2020)				
• Total	102,241			
Density	100/sq mi (41/km ²)			
Time zone	UTC-8 (Pacific Time Zone)			
Summer (DST)	UTC-7 (Pacific Daylight Time)			
Area code	530			

FIPS code 06-057 **GNIS** feature ID 1682927 🛃 Website www.mynevadacounty.com





Note: the US Census treats Hispanic/Latino as an ethnic category. This table excludes Latinos from the racial categories and assigns them to a separate category. Hispanics/Latinos can be of any race.

Historical population				
Census	Pop.	<u>%±</u>		
1860	16,446	_		
1870	19,134	16.3%		
1880	20,823	8.8%		
1890	17,369	-16.6%		
1900	17,789	2.4%		
1910	14,955	-15.9%		
1920	10,850	-27.4%		
1930	10,596	-2.3%		
1940	19,283	82.0%		
1950	19,888	3.1%		
1960	20,911	5.1%		
1970	26,346	26.0%		
1980	51,645	96.0%		
1990	78,510	52.0%		
2000	92,033	17.2%		
2010	98,764	7.3%		
2020	102,241	3.5%		
1790–19	ecennial Cer 60 ^[17] 1900- 0 ^[19] 2010 ^{[2}	-1990 ^[18]		

	U.S. Decennial Census ^[16] 1790–1960 ^[17] 1900–1990 ^[18] 1990–2000 ^[19] 2010 ^[20] 2020 ^[21]
Places by population and race	[show]
Places by population and income	[show]

2010 Census [edit]

The 2010 United States Census reported that Nevada County had a population of 98,764. The racial makeup of Nevada County was 90,233 (91.4%) White, 389 (0.4%) African American, 1,044 (1.1%) Native American, 1,187 (1.2%) Asian, 110 (0.1%) Pacific Islander, 2,678 (2.7%) from other races, and 3,123 (3.2%) from two or more races. Hispanics or Latinos of any race were 8,439 persons (8.5%).^[30]

Population reported at 2010 United States Census [show]

2000 [edit]

2011 [edit]

Population, race, and income [show]

Places by population, race, and income [edit]

As of the census^[31] of 2000, 92,033 people, 36,894 households, and 25,936 families resided in the county. The population density was 96/sq mi (37/km²). The 44,282 housing units had an average density of 46 per square mile (18/km²). The racial makeup of the county was 93.4% White, 0.3% African American, 0.9% Native American, 0.8% Asian, 2.0% from other races, and 2.6% from two or more races. About 5.7% of the population were Hispanics or Latinos of any race. Regarding ancestry, 16.4% were German, 16.3% English, 11.1% Irish, 6.8% Italian, and 6.6% American, according to Census 2000; 94.0% spoke English and 4.2% Spanish as their first language.

Of the 36,894 households, 28.7% had children under 18 living with them, 57.6% were married couples living together, 8.8% had a female householder with no husband present, and 29.7% were not families. About 22.8% of all households were made up of individuals, and 9.8% had someone living alone who was 65 or older. The average household size was 2.47, and the average family size was 2.88.

In the county, the age distribution was 23.1% under 18, 6.1% from 18 to 24, 24.1% from 25 to 44, 29.3% from 45 to 64, and 17.4% who were 65 or older. The median age was 43 years. For every 100 females, there were 98.3 males. For every 100 females 18 and over, there were 94.7 males.

The median income for a household in the county was \$45,864, and for a family was \$52,697. Males had a median income of \$40,742 versus \$27,173 for females. The per capita income for the county was \$24,007. About 5.5% of families and 8.1% of the population were below the poverty line, including 9.5% of those under age 18 and 4.9% of those age 65 or over.

Politics [edit]

Voter registration [edit]

Population and registered voters [show]

Cities by population and voter registration [edit]

Cities by population and voter registration [show]

Overview [edit]

According to the California Secretary of State, as of February 10, 2019, Nevada County has 78,736 registered voters. Of those, 24,677 (36%) are registered Democrats, 22,252 (32.3%) are registered Republicans, 9,426 (13.76%) are registered to another party, and 7,845 (11.5%) have declined to state a political party.^[33] In both 2000 and 2004, George W. Bush won a majority of the votes in the county. In 2008, Barack Obama carried the county with a 51.5%-46.2% margin. 2008 marked the first time Nevada County went for a Democrat since Lyndon Johnson in 1964. In 2012, Obama lost by a narrow margin to Mitt Romney, turning the county red once again, only for Hillary Clinton to win it back in 2016 over Donald Trump. Joe Biden won the county in 2020 with the largest share of votes for a presidential candidate in recent elections, continuing its Democratic shift.

Nevada County is split between California's 1st and 4th congressional districts, which are represented by Doug LaMalfa (R–Richvale) and Mike	United States presidential election results for Nevada County, California ^{[34][35]} [hide]						
Thompson (D–St. Helena), respectively. ^[36]		Repu	ıblican	Democratic		Third party	
In the state legislature, Nevada County is in the 1st Assembly District,	Year 🗢	No. 🗢	% \$	No. 🗢	% \$	No. 🗢	% \$
represented by Republican Megan Dahle and in the State Senate, the county is in the 1st Senate District, represented by Republican Brian Dahle	2020	26,779	41.07%	36,359	55.76%	2,064	3.17%
On November 4, 2008, Nevada County voted for Proposition 8, which	2016	23,365	42.53%	26,053	47.43%	5,517	10.04%
amended the California Constitution to ban same-sex marriages by three	2012	24,986	48.35%	24,663	47.73%	2,027	3.92%
votes, the narrowest margin of any county in the state. ^[37]	2008	25,663	46.12%	28,617	51.43%	1,367	2.46%
	2004	28,790	53.39%	24,220	44.92%	910	1.69%
Crime [edit]	2000	25,998	54.76%	17,670	37.22%	3,811	8.03%
The following table includes the number of incidents reported and the rate	1996	21,784	50.40%	15,369	35.56%	6,066	14.04%
per 1,000 persons for each type of offense.	1992	17,343	39.24%	15,433	34.92%	11,425	25.85%
Population and crime rates (2009) [show]	1988	21,383	57.76%	14,980	40.46%	660	1.78%
	1984	19,809	62.36%	11,198	35.25%	761	2.40%
Cities by population and crime rates [edit]	1980	15,207	57.91%	7,605	28.96%	3,449	13.13%
Cities by population and crime rates [edit]	1976	8,170	48.40%	7,926	46.95%	785	4.65%
	1972	8,004	54.68%	5,693	38.89%	941	6.43%
	1968	6,061	51.39%	4,607	39.06%	1,126	9.55%
	1964	4,899	43.29%	6,397	56.52%	22	0.19%
	1960	5,419	53.44%	4,633	45.69%	89	0.88%
	1956	5,475	59.69%	3,667	39.98%	31	0.34%
	1952	6,819	64.04%	3,735	35.08%	94	0.88%
	1948	3,917	47.05%	3,914	47.01%	495	5.95%
	1944	2,648	44.42%	3,266	54.79%	47	0.79%
	1940	2,863	32.69%	5,782	66.01%	114	1.30%
	1936	1,913	26.83%	5,128	71.91%	90	1.26%
	1932	1,842	32.92%	3,544	63.33%	210	3.75%
	1928	2,173	52.00%	1,959	46.88%	47	1.12%
	1024	1 5 1 0	40.000/	207	0 570/	1 760	40.200/

1,513

42.23%

1920	2,055	64.97%	747	23.62%	361	11.41%
1916	1,586	35.22%	2,548	56.58%	369	8.19%
1912	23	0.57%	1,851	46.11%	2,140	53.31%
1908	1,825	50.86%	1,368	38.13%	395	11.01%
1904	2,249	58.72%	1,167	30.47%	414	10.81%
1900	2,449	55.91%	1,758	40.14%	173	3.95%
1896	1,985	44.76%	2,360	53.21%	90	2.03%
1892	1,757	42.84%	1,634	39.84%	710	17.31%
1888	2,167	51.69%	1,923	45.87%	102	2.43%
1884	2,368	56.13%	1,791	42.45%	60	1.42%
1880	2,241	52.21%	2,029	47.27%	22	0.51%

307

8.57%

1,763

49.20%

[show]

Cities by	population	and	crime	rates

Transportation [edit]

Major highways [edit]

- 🐻 Interstate 80
- 👩 State Route 20
- Angle State Route 49
- By State Route 89
- 🙀 State Route 174

Public transportation [edit]

- Gold Country Stage, operated by Nevada County, runs fixed route bus service in Grass Valley, Nevada City, Penn Valley, Alta Sierra and Lake of the Pines. A connection is available between Grass Valley and Auburn (Placer County).
- Tahoe Area Rapid Transit, operated by Placer County, has a route connecting Truckee with Lake Tahoe and the state of Nevada. Truckee also has its own local bus service.
- Greyhound buses and Amtrak's California Zephyr stop in Truckee and Colfax.
- YubaBus C offers Charter and Shuttle Bus service in and around Western Nevada County.
- Gold Country Lift is the paratransit bus company providing door to door service for seniors and persons with disabilities in Grass Valley, Nevada City, and Penn Valley.

Airports [edit]

Nevada County Air Park is a general-aviation airport located just east of Grass Valley.

Truckee Tahoe Airport is a general-aviation airport in Truckee, partially in Nevada County and partially in Placer County.

Communities [edit]

Cities [edit]

Grass Valley

- Nevada City (county seat)
- Town [edit]

• Truckee

Census-designated places [edit]

- Alta Sierra
- Floriston
- Graniteville

territory

• Birchville

Blue Tent

Boca

Boreal

• Cedar Ridge

- Kingvale Lake of the Pines
- Lake Wildwood

Other unincorporated communities [edit]

- Anthony House Nisenan Indian
 - Chicago Park
 - French Corral
 - Lake City
 - Malakoff Diggings
 - Moores Flat

Cherokee Township

- North San Juan Penn Valley
- Rough and Ready
- Soda Springs
- Washington
- Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Indian government
 - Sunset District
 - Sweetland

Peardale

Ready Springs

- You Bet
- Wolf

Ghost town [edit]

Meadow Lake (previously: Excelsior; Summit City)

Population ranking [edit]

The population ranking of the following table is based on the 2010 census of Nevada County.^[41]

† county seat

Rank 🗢	City/Town/etc. \$	Municipal type 🗢	Population (2010 Census) 🗢
1	Truckee	Town	16,180
2	Grass Valley	City	12,860
3	Alta Sierra	CDP	6,911
4	Lake Wildwood	CDP	4,991
5	Lake of the Pines	CDP	3,917
6	† Nevada City	City	3,068
7	Penn Valley	CDP	1,621
8	Rough and Ready	CDP	963
9	North San Juan	CDP	269
10	Washington	CDP	185
11	Kingvale (partially in Placer County)	CDP	143
12	Soda Springs	CDP	81
13	Floriston	CDP	73
14	Graniteville	CDP	11

Notable residents [edit]

Jennie Carter, 19th Century writer and journalist

- Lyman Gilmore, a contemporary of the Wright Brothers who developed early powered aircraft and operated the world's first commercial air field in Grass Valley. There is also evidence he may have flown before the Wright brothers, though this claim is doubted.^[42]
- Alice Maud Hartley, killed Nevada Nevada State Senator Murray D. Foley by gunshot in 1894^[43]
- Founding member of the British rock band Supertramp, Roger Hodgson lives in Nevada County.
- Herbert Hoover, President of the United States. Hoover lived in Nevada City as a young mining engineer after graduating from Stanford University.
- Former Troubled Assets Relief Program head Neel Kashkari lives in the county as part of his "Washington detox."^[44]
- Charles Litton Sr., a resident and entrepreneur of Nevada County who assisted Raytheon in the development of the magnetron tube.
- Mark Meckler, co-founder of the Tea Party Patriots and founder of Citizens for Self-Governance
- Gertrude Penhall (1846–1929), civic leader, clubwoman, early settler
- Folk singer Utah Phillips lived in Nevada County until his death in 2008.
- Former actor and television announcer Edwin W. Reimers resided in Nevada City at the time of his death in 1986. Beat Poet Gary Snyder currently resides in San Juan Ridge in Nevada County.
- Clint Walker, actor.
- National Football League star Ricky Williams lives in the county.
- Chuck Yeager, pilot and first man to break the sound barrier
- John Christopher Stevens, American career diplomat and lawyer who served as the U.S. Ambassador to Libya from May 22, 2012, to September 11, 2012. Stevens was killed when the U.S. Special Mission in Benghazi, Libya, was attacked in 2012 by radical Islamic terrorists. He was born in Grass Valley and is buried in the local cemetery. A memorial to him was created in Grass Valley's downtown area.

settlement area

Norden

• Ophir Hill

North Bloomfield

• North Columbia

 Joanna Newsom, an American multi-instrumentalist, singer-songwriter, and actress. Born and raised in Northern California, Newsom was classically trained on the harp in her youth, and began her musical career as a keyboardist in the San Francisco-based indie band The Pleased.

See also [edit]

- List of school districts in Nevada County, California
- National Register of Historic Places listings in Nevada County, California
- Notes [edit]
 - 1. ^ Other = Some other race + Two or more races
 - 2. ^ Native American = Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander + American Indian or Alaska Native
 - 3. ^ a b Percentage of registered voters with respect to total population. Percentages of party members with respect to registered voters follow.

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External links [edit]

- Official website 🖉 🖉
- visitor guide ∠

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V·T·E	Municipalities and communities of Nevada County, California, United States	[show]
V·T·E	Greater Sacramento	[show]
V·T·E	State of California	[show]
	Authority control 🖍	[show]
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