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Douglas County, Nevada

44 languages

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Coordinates: 38.92°N 119.61°W

"Carson Valley" redirects here. For the community in the eastern U.S., see Carson Valley, Pennsylvania.

Douglas County is a county in the northwestern part of the U.S. state of Nevada. As of the 2020 Census, the population was 49,488.[1] Its county seat is Minden.[2] Douglas County comprises the Gardnerville Ranchos, NV Micropolitan Statistical Area, which is also included in the Reno–Carson City–Fernley, NV Combined Statistical Area.

Douglas County
County

From top, left to right: View of Stateline from near Heavenly Mountain Resort, Nevada Beach Campground in Zephyr Cove, Douglas County Courthouse in Minden, Downtown Gardnerville.

Logo

Location within the U.S. state of Nevada

Nevada's location within the U.S.
Coordinates: 38°50'N 119°37'W

Country	United States
State	Nevada
Founded	1861; 162 years ago
Named for	Stephen A. Douglas
Seat	Minden
Largest city	Gardnerville Ranchos
Area	
• **Total**	738 sq mi (1,910 km²)
• **Land**	710 sq mi (1,800 km²)
• **Water**	28 sq mi (70 km²) 3.8%
Population (2020)	
• **Total**	49,488
• **Density**	67/sq mi (26/km²)
Time zone	UTC−8 (Pacific)
• **Summer (DST)**	UTC−7 (PDT)
Congressional district	2nd
Website	www.douglascountynv.gov

History [edit]

The town of Genoa in Douglas County was the first permanent settlement in Nevada. Genoa was settled in 1851 by Mormon traders selling goods to settlers on their way to California. Named for Stephen A. Douglas,[3] famous for his 1860 Presidential campaign and debates with Abraham Lincoln, Douglas County was one of the first nine counties formed in 1861 by the Nevada territorial legislature.

The county seat is Minden, after having been moved from Genoa in 1915.

Various services run by the county include parks, law enforcement, road maintenance, building inspection, and the Minden–Tahoe Airport.

Fire protection and emergency medical services are provided by the Tahoe-Douglas Fire Protection District at the lake and the East Fork Fire Protection District for the rest of the county.

Geography [edit]

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has an area of 738 square miles (1,910 km²), of which 710 square miles (1,800 km²) is land and 28 square miles (73 km²) (3.8%) is water.[4] It is the second-smallest county in Nevada by area. The highest point is East Peak at 9,593 ft (2,924 m), while the most topographically prominent mountain is Mount Siegel.

Douglas County is in western Nevada in the western United States. Stretching from Carson Valley and running up into the Sierra Nevada, the county is bordered on the west by California, and contains about 13.2% of Lake Tahoe, which is split across the two states. Carson City, the state capital, lies to the north, and Lyon County to the east.

Major highways [edit]

- 50 U.S. Route 50
- 395 U.S. Route 395
- State Route 28
- State Route 88
- State Route 206
- State Route 207
- State Route 208
- State Route 756
- State Route 757
- State Route 759
- State Route 760

Adjacent counties and city [edit]

- Carson City – north
- Lyon County – east
- Mono County, California – southeast
- Alpine County, California – south
- El Dorado County, California – west
- Placer County, California – northwest

National protected area [edit]

- Toiyabe National Forest

Demographics [edit]

2000 census [edit]

As of the census[5] of 2000, there were 41,259 people, 16,401 households, and 11,890 families living in the county. The population density was 58 people per square mile (22/km²). There were 19,006 housing units at an average density of 27 per square mile (10/km²). The racial makeup of the county was 91.9% White, 0.3% Black or African American, 1.7% Native American, 1.3% Asian, 0.2% Pacific Islander, 2.5% from other races, and 2.2% from two or more races. 7.4% of the population were Hispanic or Latino of any race.

There were 16,401 households, out of which 30.7% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 60.5% were married couples living together, 8.0% had a female householder with no husband present, and 27.5% were non-families. 20.7% of all households were made up of individuals, and 6.6% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.50 and the average family size was 2.88.

In the county, the population was spread out, with 24.0% under the age of 18, 5.5% from 18 to 24, 26.4% from 25 to 44, 28.9% from 45 to 64, and 15.2% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 42 years. For every 100 females there were 102.1 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 100.7 males.

The median income for a household in the county was $51,849, and the median income for a family was $57,092. Males had a median income of $40,436 versus $28,762 for females. The per capita income for the county was $27,288. About 5.8% of families and 7.3% of the population were below the poverty line, including 9.7% of those under age 18 and 5.3% of those age 65 or over.

2010 census [edit]

As of the 2010 United States Census, there were 46,997 people, 19,638 households, and 13,519 families living in the county.[11] The population density was 66.2 inhabitants per square mile (25.6/km²). There were 23,671 housing units at an average density of 33.4 per square mile (12.9/km²).[12] The racial makeup of the county was 89.6% white, 1.9% Native American, 1.5% Asian, 0.4% black or African American, 0.1% Pacific islander, 3.2% from other races, and 3.1% from two or more races. The count of Hispanic or Latino origin made up 10.9% of the population.[13] In terms of ancestry, 25.7% were German, 17.5% were English, 14.9% were Irish, 8.0% were Italian, and 4.1% were American.[13]

Of the 19,638 households, 26.7% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 55.5% were married couples living together, 8.9% had a female householder with no husband present, 31.2% were non-families, and 24.0% of all households were made up of individuals. The average household size was 2.38 and the average family size was 2.80. The median age was 47.4 years.[11]

The median income for a household in the county was $60,721 and the median income for a family was $73,543. Males had a median income of $52,001 versus $39,825 for females. The per capita income for the county was $35,239. About 5.4% of families and 7.9% of the population were below the poverty line, including 10.8% of those under age 18 and 6.1% of those age 65 or over.[14]

Historical population

Census	Pop.	%±
1870	1,215	—
1880	1,581	30.1%
1890	1,551	−1.9%
1900	1,534	−1.1%
1910	1,895	23.5%
1920	1,825	−3.7%
1930	1,840	0.8%
1940	2,056	11.7%
1950	2,029	−1.3%
1960	3,481	71.6%
1970	6,882	97.7%
1980	19,421	182.2%
1990	27,637	42.3%
2000	41,259	49.3%
2010	46,997	13.9%
2020	49,488	5.3%

U.S. Decennial Census[6]
1790–1960[7] 1900–1990[8]
1990–2000[9] 2010–2018[10]

Communities [edit]

Census-designated places [edit]

There are no incorporated towns or cities in Douglas County. The following communities are census-designated places, meaning population and demographic data is available from the U.S. Census Bureau for each one:

- Carter Springs
- Double Spring
- East Valley
- Fish Springs
- Gardnerville
- Gardnerville Ranchos
- Genoa
- Glenbrook
- Indian Hills
- Johnson Lane
- Kingsbury
- Lakeridge
- Logan Creek
- Minden (county seat)
- Round Hill Village
- Ruhenstroth
- Skyland
- Stateline
- Topaz Lake
- Topaz Ranch Estates
- Zephyr Cove

Unincorporated communities [edit]

- Centerville
- Dresslerville
- Holbrook Junction
- Mottsville
- Sheridan

Politics [edit]

Historically Douglas was the most Republican county in Nevada, a state that tended to lean Democratic between the 1890s and 1950s. The last Democrat to carry the county was Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1936 during his 48-state landslide over Alf Landon, and even then, he carried Douglas by 15 percent less than his statewide margin. It was the only Nevada county won by Charles Evans Hughes in 1916, and one of only two to vote for Progressive "Bull Moose" ex-President Theodore Roosevelt in 1912. It was also one of only two Nevada counties that voted for incumbent President Benjamin Harrison over insurgent Populist James B. Weaver in 1892 when the latter carried the state by over 40 percentage points. Even when the county did vote Democratic in 1896 and 1900, it was by much smaller margins than the rest of silver-mining Nevada.[16]

The county remains a Republican stronghold, although it now is not quite as heavily Republican as some other rural counties in the state. Apart from FDR's two victories, only two Democrats since 1920 — Lyndon Johnson in 1964 and Barack Obama in 2008 — have won even 40 percent of the county's vote. Despite the county's strong Republican bent, residents tend to be somewhat moderate on social issues, with a small majority of county residents voting to legalize gay marriage in 2020.

United States presidential election results for Douglas County, Nevada[16] [hide]

Year	Republican		Democratic		Third party		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
2020	21,630	**63.38%**	11,571	33.91%	924	2.71%	
2016	17,415	**62.45%**	8,454	30.32%	2,016	7.23%	
2012	16,276	**62.42%**	9,297	35.65%	502	1.93%	
2008	14,648	**56.55%**	10,672	41.20%	584	2.25%	
2004	15,192	**63.57%**	8,275	34.63%	431	1.80%	
2000	11,193	**62.27%**	5,837	32.47%	944	5.25%	
1996	8,828	**54.83%**	5,109	31.73%	2,163	13.43%	
1992	6,182	**40.82%**	3,928	25.94%	5,035	33.25%	
1988	7,074	**67.02%**	3,107	29.44%	374	3.54%	
1984	6,385	**75.57%**	1,877	22.22%	187	2.21%	
1980	5,254	**71.55%**	1,352	18.41%	737	10.04%	
1976	3,095	**58.60%**	1,934	36.61%	253	4.79%	
1972	2,898	**74.67%**	983	25.33%	0	0.00%	
1968	1,801	**64.37%**	670	23.95%	327	11.69%	
1964	1,127	**52.74%**	1,010	47.26%	0	0.00%	
1960	1,164	**66.46%**	587	33.52%	0	0.00%	
1956	1,063	**80.59%**	256	19.41%	0	0.00%	
1952	948	**84.27%**	177	15.73%	0	0.00%	
1948	719	**69.67%**	298	28.88%	15	1.45%	
1944	556	**66.35%**	282	33.65%	0	0.00%	
1940	592	**64.21%**	330	35.79%	0	0.00%	
1936	346	42.61%	466	**57.39%**	0	0.00%	
1932	331	45.40%	398	**54.60%**	0	0.00%	
1928	456	**71.03%**	186	28.97%	0	0.00%	
1924	343	**59.04%**	95	16.35%	143	24.61%	
1920	503	**76.68%**	147	22.41%	6	0.91%	
1916	337	**48.70%**	301	43.50%	54	7.80%	
1912	80	19.18%	143	34.29%	194	**46.52%**	
1908	229	**54.65%**	173	41.29%	17	4.06%	
1904	262	**68.59%**	112	29.32%	8	2.09%	
1900	212	49.19%	219	**50.81%**	0	0.00%	
1896	175	39.77%	265	**60.23%**	0	0.00%	
1892	196	**49.62%**	36	9.11%	163	41.27%	
1888	269	**64.20%**	144	34.37%	6	1.43%	
1884	215	**56.28%**	167	43.72%	0	0.00%	
1880	247	47.32%	275	**52.68%**	0	0.00%	

Economy [edit]

Major employers [edit]

- Starbucks roasting plant
- Patrimont Motor Werks
- Bently Nevada, part of Baker Hughes
- North Sails
- TeslaWatt

Education [edit]

Douglas County's education is managed by the Douglas County School District. It serves for all of Douglas County, having two main areas: Lake Tahoe & the Carson Valley. Douglas High School also serves most of the high school age students from Alpine County, California

Lake Tahoe [edit]

- George Whittell High School
- Zephyr Cove Elementary School

Carson Valley [edit]

- Douglas High School
- Aspire Academy High School
- Carson Valley Middle School
- Pau-Wa-Lu Middle School
- Gardnerville Elementary School
- Minden Elementary School
- Jacks Valley Elementary School
- Pinion Hills Elementary School
- Gene L. Scarselli Elementary School
- C.C. Meneley Elementary School

Private schools [edit]

- Sierra Lutheran High School
- Faith Christian Academy
- Grace Christian Academy

Media [edit]

- *Carson Valley Times*
- *The Record-Courier*

In popular culture [edit]

- *Smokin Aces*
- *Charley Varrick*
- *The Shootist*
- *Misery*
- *The Motel Life*

See also [edit]

- National Register of Historic Places listings in Douglas County, Nevada

Nevada portal

References [edit]

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2. ^ "County Explorer". National Association of Counties. Retrieved June 7, 2011.
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8. ^ "Census 2000 PHC-T-4. Ranking Tables for Counties: 1990 and 2000" (PDF). United States Census Bureau. Archived (PDF) from the original on October 9, 2022. Retrieved December 20, 2014.
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13. ^ "DP02 Selected Social Characteristics in the United States – 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates". United States Census Bureau. Archived from the original on February 13, 2020. Retrieved January 21, 2016.
14. ^ "DP03 Selected Economic Characteristics – 2006–2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates". United States Census Bureau. Archived from the original on February 13, 2020. Retrieved January 21, 2016.
15. ^ Robinson, Edgar Eugene; *The Presidential Vote, 1896–1932* (second edition); pp. 268–270 Published 1947 by Stanford University Press
16. ^ Leip, David. "Dave Leip's Atlas of U.S. Presidential Elections". uselectionatlas.org. Retrieved April 12, 2018.

External links [edit]

- Official website
- *The Record Courier*: – Local newspaper
- Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Authority
- Douglas County School District
- Carson Valley Area Weather

Places adjacent to Douglas County, Nevada [show]

v · t · e **Municipalities and communities of Douglas County, Nevada, United States** [show]

v · t · e **State of Nevada** [show]

Authority control [show]

Categories: Nevada counties | Douglas County, Nevada | 1861 establishments in Nevada Territory | Populated places established in 1861

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