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## Storey County, Nevada

44 languages

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**Storey County** is a county located in the U.S. state of Nevada. As of the 2020 census, the population was 4,104,<sup>[1]</sup> making it the third-least populous county, but one of the fastest-growing economies in Nevada. In 2018, over 18,000 people were employed in the county.<sup>[2]</sup> Its area is 264 square miles (680 square kilometers), making it the smallest county in Nevada in terms of area. Its county seat is Virginia City.<sup>[3]</sup> Storey County is part of the Reno-Sparks metropolitan area.

### History

Storey County was created in 1861 and named for Captain **Edward Farris Storey**, who was killed in 1860 in the **Pyramid Lake War**. It was the most populous county in Nevada when organized in 1861. **Virginia City** is the county seat. It was originally to be named McClellan County after **General George B. McClellan**, who later ran unsuccessfully against **Abraham Lincoln** for president in the 1864 election. Storey County benefited from the discovery of **Comstock Lode** silver.

**W. Frank Stewart** was a silver-mining operator who served from 1876 to 1880 as a **state senator** for Storey County.<sup>[4]</sup>

The county population collapsed after the Comstock Lode was fully mined and hit a minimum of 568 in the 1960 census. Since then, its population has partially recovered because of its relative proximity to **Reno**.

On September 3, 1999, **Kevin Baugh** declared his backyard to be independent from the US, creating the **Republic of Molossia**.

### Geography

According to the **U.S. Census Bureau**, the county has a total area of 264 square miles (680 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 263 square miles (680 km<sup>2</sup>) are land and 0.7 sq mi (1.8 km<sup>2</sup>) (0.3%) is covered by water.<sup>[5]</sup>

### Major highways

- Interstate 80**
- State Route 341**
- State Route 342**
- State Route 439**

### Adjacent counties and city

- Washoe County** – north
- Lyon County** – southeast
- Carson City** – southwest

### Demographics

#### 2000 census

At the 2000 census, 3,399 people, 1,462 households, and 969 families were living in the county. The population density was 13 people per square mile (5/km<sup>2</sup>). The 1,596 housing units averaged 6 per square mile (2/km<sup>2</sup>). The racial makeup of the county was 93.0% White, 0.3% Black or African American, 1.4% Native American, 1.0% Asian, 0.15% Pacific Islander, 1.7% from other races, and 2.4% from two or more races. About 5.1% of the population was Hispanic or Latino of any race.<sup>[11]</sup> Of the 1,462 households, 21.8% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 54.6% were married couples living together, 7.5% had a female householder with no husband present, and 33.7% were non-families. 25.6% of households were one person and 6.9% were one person aged 65 or older. The average household size was 2.32, and the average family size was 2.74.

In the county, the population was distributed as 19.7% under the age of 18, 4.7% from 18 to 24, 26.8% from 25 to 44, 35.7% from 45 to 64, and 13.1% 65 or older. The median age was 44 years. For every 100 females, there were 107.6 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 103.1 males.

The median income for a household was \$45,490 and for a family was \$57,095. Males had a median income of \$40,123 versus \$26,417 for females. The per capita income for the county was \$23,642; 5.8% of the population and 2.5% of families were below the poverty line. Out of the total people living in poverty, 4.2% were under the age of 18 and 4.8% were 65 or older.

#### 2010 census

At the 2010 census, 4,010 people, 1,742 households, and 1,141 families were living in the county.<sup>[12]</sup> The population density was 15.3 inhabitants per square mile (5.9/km<sup>2</sup>). The 1,990 housing units averaged 7.6 per square mile (2.9/km<sup>2</sup>).<sup>[13]</sup> The racial makeup of the county was 92.1% White, 1.6% Asian, 1.6% American Indian, 1.0% Black or African American, 0.4% Pacific Islander, 1.1% from other races, and 2.2% from two or more races. Those of Hispanic or Latino origin made up 5.7% of the population.<sup>[12]</sup> In terms of ancestry, 20.9% were German, 20.1% were Irish, 11.5% were English, 7.2% were Italian, and 2.6% were American.<sup>[14]</sup>

Of the 1,742 households, 23.1% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 53.6% were married couples living together, 7.6% had a female householder with no husband present, 34.5% were non-families, and 26.0% of households were made up of individuals. The average household size was 2.30 and the average family size was 2.76. The median age was 50.5 years.<sup>[12]</sup>

The median household income was \$61,525 and the median family income was \$65,121. Males had a median income of \$53,936 versus \$34,208 for females. The per capita income for the county was \$31,079. About 0.4% of families and 5.6% of the population were below the **poverty line**, including 2.6% of those under age 18 and 0.0% of those age 65 or over.<sup>[15]</sup>

### Communities

No incorporated communities are in Storey County.

- Clark**
- Gold Hill**
- Lockwood**
- Virginia City** (county seat; a census-designated place)
- Virginia City Highlands**

### Economy

Technology, manufacturing and logistics are the main sectors.<sup>[16]</sup> In 2010, manufacturing jobs were less than 500, increasing to over 11,000 by 2019, many of them making battery storage.<sup>[17]</sup> Logistics jobs increased from 1,300 to 4,000 in the same period.<sup>[18]</sup> In 2014, 5,000 people were working in the county,<sup>[19]</sup> increasing to over 18,000 by 2018, mostly in the **Tahoe Reno Industrial Center**.<sup>[16]</sup> The Tesla **Gigafactory 1** has been constructed there.

Storey County has **legal prostitution**, which provided a significant portion of the tax base. The county is also trying to lure high-technology businesses.<sup>[20]</sup>

In May 2018, U.S. Treasury Secretary **Steven Mnuchin** instructed his staff to accept a tract in the county as an **opportunity zone** under the **Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017**, though it did not qualify as low-income.<sup>[21]</sup> **Michael Milken**, who had attended several events with and given a private flight to Mnuchin leading up to the designation, was already an investor in the tract.<sup>[21]</sup>

### Politics

Storey County leans towards the Republican Party, with it voting for every Republican since 1980, with the exception being in 1992, when it voted for Independent **Ross Perot**.

### See also

- National Register of Historic Places listings in Storey County, Nevada**
- Republic of Molossia** – a micronation in southern Storey County
- List of Nevada brothels – Storey County**

### References

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### External links

- Official website**
- Overview**

<span><span></span></span>	<b>Places adjacent to Storey County, Nevada</b>	<span>[show]</span>
V <span> </span> T <span> </span> E	<b>Municipalities and communities of Storey County, Nevada, United States</b>	<span>[show]</span>
V <span> </span> T <span> </span> E	<b>State of Nevada</b>	<span>[show]</span>

<span><span></span></span>	<b>Authority control</b> <span><span></span></span>	<span>[show]</span>
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Categories: Nevada counties | Storey County, Nevada | 1861 establishments in Nevada Territory | Populated places established in 1861 | Reno, NV Metropolitan Statistical Area

<span><span>Coordinates: <span><span><span><span><span>39°45′N</span> <span>119°53′W</span></span></span><span><span>﻿</span> / <span>﻿</span></span><span><span></span></span></span></span></span></span>	
Storey County	
County	
<span></span> <div>Storey County Courthouse in Virginia City</div>	
<div><div><div><div><span></span><div><div><span><span></span></span></div></div></div><div></div></div></div></div>	
<span></span> <div>Location within the U.S. state of Nevada</div>	
<span></span> <div>Nevada's location within the U.S.</div>	
Coordinates: <span><span><span><span><span>39°27′N</span> <span>119°32′W</span></span></span><span><span>﻿</span> / <span>﻿</span></span><span><span></span></span></span></span>	
Country	<span><span><span></span></span><span> </span></span> United States
State	<span><span><span></span></span><span> </span></span> Nevada
Founded	1861; 162 years ago
Named for	Edward Farris Storey
Seat	Virginia City
Largest community	Virginia City
Area	
<span> </span> • <span> </span> Total	264 <span> </span> sq <span> </span> mi (680 <span> </span> km <sup>2</sup> )
<span> </span> • <span> </span> Land	263 <span> </span> sq <span> </span> mi (680 <span> </span> km <sup>2</sup> )
<span> </span> • <span> </span> Water	0.7 <span> </span> sq <span> </span> mi (2 <span> </span> km <sup>2</sup> ) 0.3%
Population <span>(2020)</span>	
<span> </span> • <span> </span> Total	4,104
<span> </span> • <span> </span> Density	16/sq <span> </span> mi (6.0/km <sup>2</sup> )
Time zone	UTC−8 (Pacific)
<span> </span> • <span> </span> Summer (DST)	UTC−7 (PDT)
Congressional district	2nd
Website	<span>storeycounty.org</span> <span><span><span></span></span></span>



Coat of arms of the Republic of Molossia

#### Historical population

Census	Pop.	%±
<b>1870</b>	11,359	—
<b>1880</b>	16,115	41.9%
<b>1890</b>	8,806	−45.4%
<b>1900</b>	3,673	−58.3%
<b>1910</b>	3,045	−17.1%
<b>1920</b>	1,469	−51.8%
<b>1930</b>	667	−54.6%
<b>1940</b>	1,216	82.3%
<b>1950</b>	671	−44.8%
<b>1960</b>	568	−15.4%
<b>1970</b>	695	22.4%
<b>1980</b>	1,503	116.3%
<b>1990</b>	2,526	68.1%
<b>2000</b>	3,399	34.6%
<b>2010</b>	4,010	18.0%
<b>2020</b>	4,104	2.3%
U.S. Decennial Census <sup>[6]</sup>		
1790–1960 <sup>[7]</sup>	1900–1990 <sup>[8]</sup>	
1990–2000 <sup>[9]</sup>	2010–2018 <sup>[4]</sup>	

#### United States presidential election results for Storey County, Nevada<sup>[22]</sup>

	[hide]							
Year	Republican		Democratic		Third party			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
<b>2020</b>	1,908	<b>66.32%</b>	902	31.35%	67	2.33%		
<b>2016</b>	1,616	<b>63.17%</b>	752	29.40%	190	7.43%		
<b>2012</b>	1,321	<b>57.09%</b>	920	39.76%	73	3.15%		
<b>2008</b>	1,247	<b>51.57%</b>	1,102	45.57%	69	2.85%		
<b>2004</b>	1,253	<b>57.80%</b>	871	40.18%	44	2.03%		
<b>2000</b>	1,014	<b>56.40%</b>	666	37.04%	118	6.56%		
<b>1996</b>	705	<b>42.60%</b>	614	37.10%	336	20.30%		
<b>1992</b>	458	30.15%	488	32.13%	573	<b>37.72%</b>		
<b>1988</b>	651	<b>56.36%</b>	432	37.40%	72	6.23%		
<b>1984</b>	570	<b>66.74%</b>	252	29.51%	32	3.75%		
<b>1980</b>	460	<b>58.75%</b>	222	28.35%	101	12.90%		
<b>1976</b>	274	43.08%	310	<b>48.74%</b>	52	8.18%		
<b>1972</b>	508	<b>69.21%</b>	226	30.79%	0	0.00%		
<b>1968</b>	222	<b>50.00%</b>	172	38.74%	50	11.26%		
<b>1964</b>	172	39.72%	261	<b>60.28%</b>	0	0.00%		
<b>1960</b>	203	<b>54.86%</b>	167	45.14%	0	0.00%		
<b>1956</b>	226	<b>60.11%</b>	150	39.89%	0	0.00%		
<b>1952</b>	206	<b>58.03%</b>	149	41.97%	0	0.00%		
<b>1948</b>	187	<b>48.20%</b>	184	47.42%	17	4.38%		
<b>1944</b>	163	48.51%	173	<b>51.49%</b>	0	0.00%		
<b>1940</b>	224	36.96%	382	<b>63.04%</b>	0	0.00%		
<b>1936</b>	139	26.18%	392	<b>73.82%</b>	0	0.00%		
<b>1932</b>	124	33.42%	247	<b>66.58%</b>	0	0.00%		
<b>1928</b>	185	40.57%	271	<b>59.43%</b>	0	0.00%		
<b>1924</b>	283	<b>37.19%</b>	209	27.46%	269	35.35%		
<b>1920</b>	324	<b>52.51%</b>	272	44.08%	21	3.40%		
<b>1916</b>	403	45.80%	463	<b>52.61%</b>	14	1.59%		
<b>1912</b>	166	19.30%	400	<b>46.51%</b>	294	34.19%		
<b>1908</b>	447	<b>48.85%</b>	402	43.93%	66	7.21%		
<b>1904</b>	627	<b>61.47%</b>	322	31.57%	71	6.96%		

*Nevada portal*