

# 1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION

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### POPULATION OF NEVADA: APRIL 1, 1950

(This is the third of a series of reports presenting final population figures for selected areas in each State. In this series, reports are numbered alphabetically by States. Additional reports will be issued as final figures for other States become available)

The total population of Nevada on April 1, 1950, was 160,083, according to final figures for the State released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. During the past 10 years, the population of the State increased by 49,836, or 45.2 percent, over the 110,247 inhabitants enumerated in 1940. In 1950, Nevada had the smallest population of all the States. However, the present population of Nevada is more than 23 times as large as its population 90 years ago when it was first enumerated in a Federal census.

In 1950, for the first time, Nevada had a larger urban than rural population, with an urban population of 91,625 and a rural population of 68,458. The urban population comprised 57.2 percent of the total number of inhabitants of the State.

Between 1940 and 1950, 9 of Nevada's 17 counties gained population and 8 lost population. Of those which gained, Clark and Mineral Counties more than doubled their population. Of the counties which lost population, all except White Pine County had no urban population. Clark, Washoe, Ormsby, and Humboldt Counties, the only counties in the State with more than half their population living in urban territory, had population increases amounting to 194.2, 54.6, 30.0, and 2.0 percent, respectively. The counties of Nevada ranged in size from Esmeralda with a population of 614 to Washoe with a population of 50,205.

Nevada had a total of 15 incorporated places and 9 unincorporated places of 1,000 or more ranging in size from Wells town with a population of 947 to Reno city with a population of 32,497. The population living in incorporated and unincorporated places amounted to 71.3 percent of the total population of the State. Ten places

in Nevada had 2,500 inhabitants or more and an aggregate population of 91,625; the remaining 14 places were smaller than 2,500 and had a combined population of 22,502. The 15 incorporated places alone contained 94,221 inhabitants, or 58.9 percent of the total population of the State. Of these 15 places, 8 had 2,500 inhabitants or more and a combined population of 84,079. Nevada had two unincorporated places of 2,500 or more and seven of from 1,000 to 2,500. The population in the unincorporated places of 2,500 or more was 7,546, and the combined population of the smaller unincorporated places was 12,360.

To permit a more realistic classification of the population by urban and rural residence, the Bureau of the Census adopted a new urban definition for use in the 1950 Census. According to this definition, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, and villages; (b) the densely settled urban fringe, incorporated or unincorporated, around cities of 50,000 or more; (c) unincorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more outside of any urban fringe; and (d) incorporated towns of 2,500 inhabitants or more except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, where "towns" are simply minor civil divisions of counties. The remaining population is classified as rural.

According to the old definition, the urban population comprised all persons living in incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more and in areas (usually minor civil divisions) classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density.

In order to apply the new urban definition, the Bureau of the Census has defined boundaries for unincorporated places of 1,000 inhabitants

or more. Only those with a population of 2,500 or more have been defined as urban. The Bureau has also delineated arbitrary boundaries for the thickly settled fringe around cities of 50,000 or more.

There were no urban fringe areas in Nevada, and there were no places urban under special

rule according to the old definition. The distribution of the population by urban and rural residence under the new and old definitions differed, therefore, in that the new definition included in the urban population the 7,546 persons living in the 2 unincorporated places of 2,500 or more, who under the old definition would have constituted part of the rural population.

Table 1.--POPULATION OF NEVADA, URBAN AND RURAL: 1860 TO 1950

(For description of new and old urban definitions, see text)

Date	Population			Percent urban
	Total	Urban	Rural	
New urban definition, 1950....	160,083	91,625	68,458	57.2
Old urban definition:				
1950.....	160,083	84,079	76,004	52.5
1940.....	110,247	43,291	66,956	39.3
1930.....	91,058	34,464	56,594	37.8
1920.....	77,407	15,254	62,153	19.7
1910.....	81,875	13,367	68,508	16.3
1900.....	42,335	7,195	35,140	17.0
1890.....	47,355	16,024	31,331	33.8
1880.....	62,266	19,353	42,913	31.1
1870.....	42,491	7,048	35,443	16.6
1860.....	6,857	-	6,857	-

<sup>1</sup> Population of area taken to form Nevada Territory in 1861.

Table 2.--POPULATION OF NEVADA, BY COUNTIES: 1950 AND 1940

(Minus sign (-) denotes decrease)

County	Population		Percent increase, 1940 to 1950	County	Population		Percent increase, 1940 to 1950
	1950	1940			1950	1940	
The State.....	160,083	110,247	45.2	Lincoln.....	3,837	4,130	-7.1
Churchill.....	6,161	5,317	15.9	Lyon.....	3,679	4,076	-9.7
Clark.....	48,289	16,414	194.2	Mineral.....	5,560	2,342	137.4
Douglas.....	2,029	2,056	-1.3	Nye.....	3,101	3,606	-14.0
Elko.....	11,654	10,912	6.8	Ormsby.....	4,172	3,209	30.0
Esmeralda.....	614	1,554	-60.5	Pershing.....	3,103	2,713	14.4
Eureka.....	896	1,361	-34.2	Storey.....	671	1,216	-44.8
Humboldt.....	4,838	4,743	2.0	Washoe.....	50,205	32,476	54.6
Lander.....	1,850	1,745	6.0	White Pine.....	9,424	12,377	-23.9

Table 3.--POPULATION OF ALL INCORPORATED PLACES AND OF UNINCORPORATED PLACES OF 1,000 OR MORE: 1950 AND 1940

("Uninc." designates an unincorporated place. Figures for 1940 are not available for unincorporated places and places incorporated since 1940)

Place	County	Population		Place	County	Population	
		1950	1940			1950	1940
Rabbit (uninc.).....	Mineral.....	2,464	-	Lovelock.....	Pershing.....	1,604	1,294
Boulder (uninc.).....	Clark.....	3,903	-	McGill (uninc.).....	White Pine.....	2,297	-
Caliente.....	Lincoln.....	970	-	North Las Vegas.....	Clark.....	3,875	-
Carlin.....	Elko.....	1,203	832	Pioche (uninc.).....	Lincoln.....	1,392	-
Carson City.....	Ormsby.....	3,082	2,478	Reno.....	Washoe.....	32,497	21,317
Cassazza Moana (uninc.).....	Washoe.....	1,812	-	Ruth (uninc.).....	White Pine.....	1,244	-
Elko.....	Elko.....	5,393	4,094	Sparks.....	Washoe.....	8,203	5,318
Ely.....	White Pine.....	3,558	4,140	Tonopah (uninc.).....	Nye.....	1,375	-
Fallon.....	Churchill.....	2,400	1,911	Victory Village-Carver Park (uninc.).....	Clark.....	1,776	-
Hawthorne.....	Mineral.....	1,861	-	Wells.....	Elko.....	947	830
Henderson (uninc.).....	Clark.....	3,643	-	Winnemucca.....	Humboldt.....	2,847	2,485
Las Vegas.....	Clark.....	24,624	8,422	Yerington.....	Lyon.....	1,157	964

Table 4.--POPULATION OF COUNTIES, BY MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS: 1950

(1950 figures are not necessarily comparable with figures for 1940 or earlier dates shown in 1940 Census Reports because of boundary changes in some areas. Boundary changes will be described in table 6 of the forthcoming First Series Bulletin for Nevada)

County and minor civil division	Population, 1950	County and minor civil division	Population, 1950	County and minor civil division	Population, 1950
CHURCHILL COUNTY.....	6,161	EUREKA COUNTY.....	896	NYE COUNTY.....	3,101
Hazen twp.....	220	Beowawe twp.....	214	Beatty twp.....	487
New River twp.....	5,526	Eureka twp.....	553	Gabbs twp.....	278
Stillwater twp.....	415	Palisade twp.....	129	Manhattan twp.....	94
CLARK COUNTY.....	48,289	HUMBOLDT COUNTY.....	4,838	Round Mountain twp.....	307
Twp. 1, Nelson.....	3,994	Gold Run twp.....	584	Tonopah twp.....	1,935
Twp. 2, Searchlight.....	233	Jackson Creek twp.....	125	ORMSBY COUNTY.....	4,172
Twp. 3, Crescent.....	16	McDermitt twp.....	556	Carson twp.....	4,172
Twp. 4, Goodsprings.....	356	Paradise twp.....	292	PERSHING COUNTY.....	3,103
Twp. 5, Las Vegas.....	34,983	Summit Lake twp.....	184	Humboldt twp.....	801
Twp. 6, Moapa.....	283	Union twp.....	3,097	Lake twp.....	2,302
Twp. 7, Logandale.....	377	LANDER COUNTY.....	1,850	STOREY COUNTY.....	671
Twp. 8, Overton.....	751	Argenta twp.....	1,431	Gold Hill twp.....	68
Twp. 9, St. Thomas.....	18	Austin twp.....	419	Virginia City twp.....	603
Twp. 10, Bunkerville.....	236	LINCOLN COUNTY.....	3,837	WASHOE COUNTY.....	50,205
Twp. 11, Mesquite.....	476	Alamo twp.....	386	Bald Mountain twp.....	29
Twp. 12, Henderson.....	5,715	Caliente twp.....	1,212	Ducklake twp.....	5
Twp. 13, Davis Dam.....	851	Panaca twp.....	467	Gerlach twp.....	535
DOUGLAS COUNTY.....	2,029	Pioche twp.....	1,772	Reno twp.....	39,055
East Fork twp.....	1,891	LYON COUNTY.....	3,679	Sparks twp.....	9,540
Tahoe twp.....	138	Dayton and Silver City twp....	382	Verdi twp.....	410
ELKO COUNTY.....	11,654	Fernley twp.....	567	Wadsworth twp.....	631
Township 1.....	254	Mason Valley twp.....	2,099	WHITE PINE COUNTY.....	9,424
Township 2.....	430	Smith Valley twp.....	631	Twp. 1, Ely.....	8,460
Township 3.....	726	MINERAL COUNTY.....	5,560	Twp. 2, Hamilton.....	36
Township 4.....	357	Broken Hills twp.....	23	Twp. 3, Preston.....	80
Township 5.....	7,524	Hawthorne twp.....	4,721	Twp. 4, Lund.....	222
Township 6.....	2,363	Luning twp.....	38	Twp. 5, Cherry Creek.....	166
ESMERALDA COUNTY.....	614	Mina twp.....	274	Twp. 6, Muncy.....	169
Dist. 1, Goldfield.....	336	Mount Montgomery twp.....	27	Twp. 7, Osceola.....	221
Dist. 2, Silverpeak.....	59	Rawhide twp.....	46	Twp. 8, Newark.....	70
Dist. 3, Fishlake.....	106	Schurz twp.....	431		
Dist. 4, Lida.....	54				
Dist. 5, Goldpoint.....	23				
Dist. 6, Millers.....	36				