

NEVADA COUNTIES MATTER



Nevada's Counties:

Transport

Counties in Nevada maintain more than **65 percent** of the state's roads. They also operate or help fund many of the state's transit and paratransit systems and help administer **19** of Nevada's 49 airports.

In Clark County, the majority of traffic travels on local roads, and in rural counties like Elko County, the majority of road miles are maintained by the county.

Provide Public Safety

Nevada's counties keep communities safe by providing law enforcement that patrols and polices the streets and operating county courts and detention facilities. County judges, district attorneys, public defenders, court clerks, jail directors, 911 operators and coroners are all important parts of Nevada's emergency management and criminal justice systems. Counties also spend over **\$213 million** on fire protection, providing fire protection services to both urban and rural areas.

In Mineral County, 80.7 percent of land is PILT entitlement land, and with total tax revenues of just \$11 million in 2014, the county provides all county services including those on public lands.

Provide Services on Public Lands

As the state with the largest percentage of public land in the country, Nevada's counties provide crucial services on BLM and U.S. Forest Service lands including creating local land use plans in accordance with FLPMA, maintaining roads and providing law enforcement and emergency medical response.

Own, Maintain and Operate Water, Sewer and Wastewater Systems

Counties provide basic public infrastructure, managing sewer, water, wastewater and flood control systems. Many counties own and operate water systems, wastewater/sewer systems and flood control districts, and counties invest over **\$164.7 million** in sewage and solid waste management.

Keep Nevadans Healthy

Counties play a significant role in community health and healthcare. Counties operate hospitals and health facilities that provide clinical services, cancer and cardiac care and emergency and trauma care.

Nevada's counties also provide matching funds to leverage federal Medicaid dollars that serve low income and disabled Nevadans, and they collectively invest more than **\$882.1 million** in community health and hospitals.

Clark County's University Medical Center is one of the state's largest providers of hospital services to Medicaid patients.

Employ

Nevada's counties are an important job provider, employing over **28,000 people**.

Washoe County invests over \$50 million in senior and child protective services.

Provide Community Services

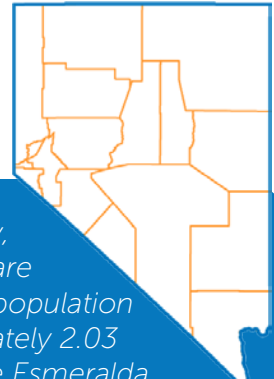
Counties provide vital services to all Nevadans, from issuing birth certificates and marriage licenses to operating 911 call centers and providing services to seniors. **Eighty-three percent** of Nevada's publicly owned nursing homes are county supported.

Counties also build and maintain parks, swimming pools, libraries, community centers and cultural centers, and invest over **\$365.8 million** in building and maintaining parks and recreational facilities. These county services ensure healthy, safe and vibrant communities for Nevada's residents and businesses.

Fund and Conduct Elections

Counties are responsible for running elections, including presidential races and state and local contests. Counties in Nevada fund and oversee over **550** polling places and coordinate over **4,400** poll workers.

Nevada's 17 counties range in population from **832** residents to **2,027,868** residents. The largest county is over **18,000** square miles, and the smallest is **157** square miles. While many residents live in urban areas, where hospitality and business services lead Nevada's economy, rural counties contribute to the state's economy through mining, manufacturing and ranching and agriculture.



Clark County, at 8,061 square miles, has a population of approximately 2.03 million, while Esmeralda County, at 3,589 square miles, is home to fewer than 1,000 people.



The *Nevada Association of Counties*, or NACO, represents Nevada's 17 counties. For more information about the Nevada Association of Counties, visit www.NVNACO.org.