

Nevada Five Year County Population Projections 2017 to 2021



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Five Year Population Projections for Nevada and its Counties

2017 – 2021

Based on the 2016 Estimate

These projections are intended as a short-term forecast that incorporates the most recent estimates. They were drafted in the first half of January 2017. These projections start from the 2016 Governor's Certified Population Estimates as the base year. The five year projections are intended to incorporate changes from when the 20 year projections were created with updated information since their October release.

The 20 year projections have as their base year the preceding estimate. That is, the October projections for 2016 are based on the July 2015 estimates, so 2016 is a projection in that publication. The 2016 estimate was compared to the 2016 projection as part of preparing the five year projections based on the 2016 estimates. Historic annual growth rates from both the certified estimates and the Census Bureau's estimates were looked at as well. Additionally the Regional Economics Model, Inc. (REMI) model was updated to reflect more recent Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages data. Also included was updated information presented by the Governor's Office of Economic Development regarding Tesla and Faraday Future at Nevada's Economic Forum's December meeting.

Changes since the January Draft of the Five Year Projections

Since the projections were drafted, there have been policy changes being promulgated through Executive Orders and/or proposed legislation that could impact both the current five year projections and possibly the longer term growth of Nevada. This discussion and *Table 1. Annualized Population and Employment Growth Rates for 2016 to 2021 and 2016 to 2035 For Immigration Scenarios* looks at the overall potential impact on Nevada of these changes.

Specifically, the Executive Orders are: Enhancing Public Safety In The Interior Of The United States and Border Security And Immigration Enforcement Improvements (1/25/2017); Public Safety Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States (1/27/2017); and Task Force On Crime Reduction (2/9/2017). Currently the Reforming American Immigration for Strong Employment Act (RAISE Act) has been proposed by Senators Tom Cotton and David Perdue. The immediate impact is subject to discussion¹, however all of this has increased concerns about the likelihood of deportation². Legal immigration has been slowing and there has been some discussion of migrants returning to their country of origin³.

Nationally, the situation regarding international migration is uncertain and could impact Nevada. As of 2015, 19.3% of Nevada's population is foreign born (compared to the US at 13.5%) and 53.2% (compared to the US at 66.9%) are not yet citizens. Census estimates are that 29% of the immigration into Nevada since 2010 has been attributed to international migration. Given that, it may be prudent to look at the potential impact of the Executive Orders and legislation on Nevada's future. The Census reports that 296,854 persons are not yet citizens. The Pew Center (*Estimated unauthorized immigrant population, by state, 2014*; November 3, 2014) estimates Nevada's undocumented population to be 210,000 and the Migration Policy Institute estimates it to be 129,000 persons in 2014 (*Profile of the Unauthorized Population: Nevada*). Wallethub estimates that 25% of Nevada's workforce is made up of the foreign-born population (Glick, Noah: *Report: Immigrants Make Up 25 Percent Of Nevada's Workforce*; KUNR; February 15, 2017) Given these estimates, changes in immigration policy could have an impact on Nevada's economy.

In order to look at the potential impact, the Regional Economic Models, Inc. (REMI) Nevada state model was used. The REMI model looks at the relationship of the demographic and economic factors within the state and how they interact with the nation as a whole. REMI includes the 2014 Census Bureau population projections and incorporates their projection for immigration as well as a high and low alternative immigration projection. The user can also make adjustments at the local level for immigration and employment, depending on a scenario's assumptions. These adjustments can be for broad aggregate categories or more detailed. For example, total

international immigrants would be an aggregate count or the user could adjust immigration by race and ethnicity and age.

Three national models based on different approaches to immigration were run. At the state level, an additional scenario was run to model the specific potential of deportation given the Pew Hispanic Center's estimate of the size of the undocumented population in Nevada. The scenarios are:

- 1.) Low Migration Only – This is the low immigration table in REMI that has migration decreasing over time. In 2014 the difference is 15,625 (874,609 less 858,984) and in 2035 the difference is 250,000 (1,393,626 less 1,143,626). This scenario has a minimal impact nationally, but Nevada's population and employment growth rates drop compared to the January Draft projection results.
- 2.) Reforming American Immigration for Strong Employment Act Passage – This assumes that the current level of legal migration will be cut in half, reducing it to 525,000. This leads to a loss of jobs due to a decrease in labor force. The current modeling work shows a loss in average wages over time. This is because cutting legal migration in half over time lowers the population in the model by 7,090,000, or 2.4 times Nevada's 2016 estimated population. That is, potential demand for goods and services is lost nationally from the economy. Less demand for goods could hold down wages.
- 3.) National increased immigration enforcement – In addition to lower migration and restricting legal migration, this assumes that there will be 8,000,000 persons deported over the four year period from 2017 through 2020. The assumption is made that this is a shock over the four years, but that labor force impact and employment impacts will continue: that is, workers are removed from their jobs and those specific jobs will not necessarily be filled at the national level. National enforcement alone impacts Nevada.

This is being modeled as a limited, one-time shock to the economy. Unlike limiting migration over time, this is more analogous to an economic bust after a boom period. The effects could be felt over time as the economy absorbs both job losses and a potential oversupply in things such as housing.

- 4.) Nevada increased immigration enforcement – The assumption used here that, in addition to the immigrants deported overall from the national forecast, there will be an additional increment of persons deported to reach the level of 200,000 for Nevada. As with the National scenario, jobs were also removed to reflect the loss in the labor force both as an immediate shock and over the long term.

The following table shows the January 2017 model annualized growth rates for population and employment for the 2016 to 2021 five year period and the 19 year period ending in 2035. It also shows the annualized growth rates for the scenarios that have been outlined. As best as can be projected at this time, lower international migration will lower Nevada’s potential growth. Changes to immigration law could decrease Nevada’s growth potential as well. Additional changes in enforcement practices at the national and state levels could lead to a loss in jobs as well as population both for the nation and, more specifically, Nevada.

Table 1. Annualized Population and Employment Growth Rates for 2016 to 2021 and 2016 to 2035 For Immigration Scenarios								
Scenario	Nevada				US			
	Population		Employment		Population		Employment	
	5 Year	19 Year	5 Year	19 Year	5 Year	19 Year	5 Year	19 Year
January 2017 Model	1.3%	0.8%	1.0%	0.3%	0.7%	0.8%	0.5%	0.2%
Lower Migration Only	1.0%	0.6%	0.7%	0.2%	0.7%	0.6%	0.5%	0.3%
Reforming American Immigration for Strong Employment Act Passage	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%	0.1%	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	0.2%
National increased immigration enforcement	-0.5%	0.0%	-1.0%	-0.1%	-0.7%	0.1%	-1.0%	-0.2%
Nevada specific increased immigration enforcement	-1.0%	-0.1%	-1.1%	-0.3%				

Footnotes:

¹ Bennett, Brian: Not just 'bad hombres': Trump is targeting up to 8 million people for deportation; Los Angeles Times; February 4, 2017 also Yen, Hope and Julie Pace: Draft DHS guidelines sharpen focus on those here illegally; The Washington Post, February 20, 2017.

² Kulish, Nicholas and Caitlin Dickerson And Liz Robbinsfeb: Reports of Raids Have Immigrants Bracing for Enforcement Surge; The New York Times; February 10, 2017.

³ Kitroeff, Natalie: How this garlic farm went from a labor shortage to over 150 people on its applicant waitlist; Los Angeles Times; February 9, 2017.

**Five Year Population Projections for Nevada and its Counties 2017 to 2021 Based on the 2016 Estimate,
Office of the State Demographer for Nevada**

Carson City			
Year	Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
2016	55,182		
2017	55,283	101	0.2%
2018	55,384	101	0.2%
2019	55,485	101	0.2%
2020	55,586	101	0.2%
2021	55,688	102	0.2%

Churchill		
Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
25,266		
25,462	196	0.8%
25,660	198	0.8%
25,859	199	0.8%
26,059	201	0.8%
26,262	202	0.8%

Clark		
Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
2,166,181		
2,198,682	32,501	1.5%
2,229,609	30,927	1.4%
2,263,074	33,466	1.5%
2,294,810	31,735	1.4%
2,322,205	27,395	1.2%

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Douglas			
Year	Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
2016	48,235		
2017	48,452	217	0.4%
2018	48,663	211	0.4%
2019	48,858	196	0.4%
2020	49,046	187	0.4%
2021	49,229	183	0.4%

Elko		
Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
53,997		
54,305	308	0.6%
54,614	309	0.6%
54,925	311	0.6%
55,238	313	0.6%
55,553	315	0.6%

Esmeralda		
Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
964		
972	8	0.8%
980	8	0.8%
988	8	0.8%
997	8	0.8%
1,005	8	0.8%

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Eureka			
Year	Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
2016	1,959		
2017	1,980	22	1.1%
2018	1,988	8	0.4%
2019	1,988	0	0.0%
2020	1,987	-1	0.0%
2021	1,984	-3	-0.1%

Humboldt		
Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
16,853		
16,692	-160	-1.0%
16,547	-145	-0.9%
16,382	-165	-1.0%
16,217	-164	-1.0%
16,058	-159	-1.0%

Lander		
Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
6,257		
6,240	-17	-0.3%
6,223	-17	-0.3%
6,207	-17	-0.3%
6,190	-17	-0.3%
6,174	-16	-0.3%

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Lincoln			
Year	Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
2016	5,057		
2017	5,007	-49	-1.0%
2018	4,958	-49	-1.0%
2019	4,910	-48	-1.0%
2020	4,862	-48	-1.0%
2021	4,814	-48	-1.0%

Lyon		
Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
53,644		
53,844	200	0.4%
54,026	182	0.3%
54,186	160	0.3%
54,331	145	0.3%
54,469	137	0.3%

Mineral		
Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
4,578		
4,548	-30	-0.7%
4,519	-29	-0.6%
4,490	-29	-0.6%
4,461	-29	-0.6%
4,433	-28	-0.6%

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Nye			
Year	Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
2016	45,737		
2017	45,531	-206	-0.5%
2018	45,326	-205	-0.5%
2019	45,122	-204	-0.5%
2020	44,919	-203	-0.5%
2021	44,717	-202	-0.5%

Pershing		
Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
6,693		
6,711	19	0.3%
6,730	19	0.3%
6,749	19	0.3%
6,768	19	0.3%
6,786	19	0.3%

Storey		
Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
4,043		
4,073	29	0.7%
4,102	30	0.7%
4,132	30	0.7%
4,162	30	0.7%
4,192	30	0.7%

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Washoe			
Year	Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
2016	448,316		
2017	444,478	-3,839	-0.9%
2018	451,986	7,508	1.7%
2019	459,566	7,580	1.7%
2020	467,331	7,765	1.7%
2021	475,218	7,886	1.7%

White Pine		
Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
10,413		
10,377	-37	-0.4%
10,341	-36	-0.4%
10,304	-36	-0.4%
10,268	-36	-0.4%
10,232	-36	-0.4%

State Total		
Total Population	Change Previous Year	Percentage Change
2,953,373		
2,982,636	29,263	1.0%
3,021,655	39,019	1.3%
3,063,225	41,570	1.4%
3,103,233	40,008	1.3%
3,139,018	35,786	1.2%