



Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development

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Statewide Population Growth in '11 Continues String of Positive Numbers

(CARSON CITY – Mar. 12, 2012) – Nevada's population grew by an estimated 17,152 people, or 0.6 percent, from July 2010 to July 2011, providing the latest figures in a string of positive numbers for the state's economy, according to numbers released today by State Demographer Jeff Hardcastle, who operates from the College of Business at the University of Nevada, Reno.

The numbers reflect a two-year uptick in population, which translates to a stabilization of the workforce, demonstrating that Nevada is well on its way to economic recovery.

"Just as other economic indicators are showing, we're sort of leveling off," Hardcastle said. "The data don't support that large numbers of people are moving out of the state at this time. And, if some are moving out, we are having enough people move in to the state or having enough children to offset those moving out."

Sales tax revenues as well travel and tourism numbers have steadily climbed over the past two years. The population figures reinforce that Nevada's economy is showing sustained strength.

"The population figures are just the latest in a series of trends that reinforce the message that Nevada is a healthy place to do business," Governor Brian Sandoval said. "Many of our key economic sectors have rebounded from the challenges of recent years and are at the forefront of the expansion of our state's economy."

Governor Sandoval recently called for the net-creation of 50,000 jobs in Nevada by 2015.

"The population figures are one more step on the road to achieving that goal," Governor Sandoval said.

The rural counties generally fared the best, with those in Northwest Nevada, including Carson City, Churchill, Douglas, Lyon and Storey counties, experiencing slight increases in population, ranging from an estimated increase of 0.8 percent in Lyon County to an estimated increase of 3

percent in Storey County. Douglas County and the state capital each experienced an estimated increase of 1.5 percent. Nye County in southern Nevada saw an estimated 1.7 percent increase.

Rural counties in northeast and central Nevada also saw growth, with an average estimated increase of 1.5 percent, much of that due to continued growth in the mining industry since 2003.

Clark County gained 7,900 gaming jobs during the 12-month period and experienced an increase of 13,462 people.

The Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development is dedicated to the diversification of the Nevada economy. More information on the NGOED can be obtained at www.diversifynevada.com.

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