



## INFORMATION ABOUT

# Washoe County Quality of Life

From skiing, golfing, hiking, biking, camping, climbing, or just plain lounging, the Reno area offers a lot of something for everyone. A quick escape is easy with more than 18 major ski resorts and more than 39 golf courses. The Reno/Sparks/Lake Tahoe area has great outdoor recreation, a variety of residential areas, reasonable commute times, mild climate and temperatures, and quality educational institutions.

### Recreation

Northern Nevada's natural beauty and distinctive four-season climate combine to offer almost every type of recreational activity. The majestic Sierra Nevada mountains form the western boundary of the Truckee Meadows featuring alpine and Nordic skiing at 18 major resorts. Fishing, sailing, swimming, hiking, biking, camping, and horseback riding are all exceptional. Lake Tahoe is the jewel of Northern Nevada and in addition to the unlimited recreational opportunities hosts the Shakespeare Festival and the Lake Tahoe Summer Music Festival.

### Arts and Culture

Reno is rated the #1 cultural city by the National Endowment for the Arts. There are many cultural events available some of which are the Reno Philharmonic, Nevada Opera, Nevada Museum of Art, Nevada Festival Ballet, Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival, Great Reno Balloon Races, National Bowling Stadium, Reno Rodeo, Reno National Championship Air Races. One of the area's most successful events is the Uptown Downtown ArTown event which has grown into one of the largest visual and performing arts festival in the country because of the 200 events that take place during the entire month of July.

### Washoe County Public Safety

	Population	Washoe Crime Rate	Western States Crime Rate*	National Crime Rate
2008	409,085	4.30**	N/A	N/A
2007	409,085	41.76	N/A	N/A
2006	409,085	44.54	39.98	38.35
2005	396,844	46.37	42.94	39.28
2004	383,453	46.65	44.04	40.11

Source: State of Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety. Crime rate based on the occurrence of an index offense per 1,000 residents of the area. \*Western States consist of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. \*\*Yearly total as of January 2008.

### Climate

#### Monthly Temperature (F)

	2005	2006*	2007*	Average
January	28.9	37.8	31.2	<b>32.6</b>
February	38.6	39.2	40.8	<b>39.5</b>
March	46.2	39.1	49.4	<b>44.9</b>
April	49.1	50.7	53.0	<b>50.9</b>
May	58.7	62.4	63.4	<b>61.5</b>
June	64.8	72.7	72.4	<b>70.0</b>
July	80.0	79.7	80.0	<b>79.9</b>
August	75.6	73.6	76.2	<b>75.1</b>
September	62.8	65.6	63.6	<b>64.0</b>
October	55.4	52.8	52.5	<b>53.6</b>
November	45.4	44.3	44.3	<b>44.7</b>
December	39.0	34.8	34.0	<b>35.9</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>54.4</b>

Source: Nevada Climate Summaries and \*National Weather Service Forecast Office, Reno Tahoe International Airport

# Washoe County Quality of Life (con't)

## Transportation

The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) of Washoe County, Nevada serves the citizens of Reno and Sparks along with unincorporated areas of Washoe County. The RTC is the regional public agency responsible for all aspects of surface transportation in the Truckee Meadows.

The RTC was formed in July 1979 as a result of legislation approved by the Nevada Legislature, which consolidated the Regional Street and Highway Commission, the Regional Transit Commission and the Washoe County Area Transportation Study Policy Committee. This consolidation has increased the effectiveness and efficiency in planning and implementation of the surface transportation program in Washoe County. This is accomplished through the RTC's business services: Public Transportation, Streets & Highways, and Planning. For more information visit <http://www.rtcwashoe.com>.

## Housing

### Housing Availability

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2006, there were 174,315 housing units in Washoe County. 156,034 are occupied and 18,281 are vacant. The homeowner vacancy rate is 3.7% and the rental vacancy rate is 7.6%.

### Existing Home Sales Statistics

Area	Total Active Listings	Total # of MLS Sales	Median # of Days on the Market	Average # of Days on the Market	Median Sales Price	Average Sales Prices
<b>Greater Reno-Sparks</b> <i>(Reno, Sparks, N. Valleys)</i>	<b>4,387</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>\$280,000</b>	<b>\$347,082</b>
Reno	2,512	143	109	133	\$330,000	\$426,289
Sparks	1,059	82	96	116	\$268,750	\$286,871
North Valleys	816	54	89	116	\$230,200	\$228,763

Source: Northern Nevada Regional MLS, October 2007 information, all housing types combined

### Housing Value

Year	Owner-Occupied Units	< \$99,999		\$100,000 - \$199,999		\$200,000 - \$499,999		\$500,000 - \$999,999		\$1,000,000 +	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
2006	95,566	6,120	6.4	8,650	9.1	58,464	61.2	18,450	19.3	3,882	4.1
2005	88,953	7,015	7.9	12,302	13.8	49,616	55.8	17,151	19.3	2,869	3.2
2004	89,846	10,639	11.8	24,299	27.0	44,088	49.1	9,657	10.7	1,163	1.3
2003	76,118	4,344	5.7	34,016	44.7	32,417	42.6	3,852	5.1	1,489	2.0
2002	71,871	1,906	2.7	44,806	62.3	21,239	29.6	2,790	3.9	1,130	1.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

### NAHB-Wells Fargo Housing Opportunity Index (HOI)

Metro Area	Shares of Homes Affordable for Median Income	Median Family Income (000s)	Median Sales Price (000s)	National Affordability Ranking	Regional Affordability Ranking
<b>Reno-Sparks, NV</b>	<b>47.6</b>	<b>69.5</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>22</b>
Albuquerque, NM MSA	59.4	58.0	196	118	12
Boise City-Nampa, ID	47.9	60.9	225	157	21
Denver-Aurora, CO	65.5	71.8	211	95	7
Flagstaff, AZ	35.2	56.7	263	186	39
Great Falls, MT	71.9	51.9	151	74	2
Las Vegas-Paradise, NV	46.2	63.9	245	163	26
Oakland-Fremont-Hayward, CA	32.4	86.1	400	194	45
Portland-Vancouver-Beaverton, OR-WA	39.4	67.5	269	180	35
Salt Lake City, UT	46.5	65.3	256	160	24
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA	32.9	81.4	367	193	44

Source: National Association of Home Builders, first quarter 2008

# Washoe County Quality of Life (con't)

## Housing (con't)

### Housing Comparison

City	2 Bedroom Apartment Rental** <i>cost per month</i>	3 Bedroom Home Price*
<b>Reno-Sparks, NV</b>	<b>\$863</b>	<b>\$381,378</b>
Phoenix, AZ	\$804	\$310,313
Oakland, CA	\$1,540	\$681,400
Denver, CO	\$814	\$347,275
Idaho Falls, ID	\$623	\$254,900
Missoula, MT	\$725	\$302,050
Albuquerque, NM	\$778	\$307,027
Portland, OR	\$864	\$422,157
Salt Lake City, UT	\$788	\$304,356
Seattle, WA	\$1,464	\$445,920
Cheyenne, WY	\$713	\$328,583

Source: ACCRA Cost of Living Index, first quarter 2008

\*2,400 sq. ft. living area new house, 8,000 sq. ft. lot, urban area with all utilities

\*\*Two bedroom, unfurnished, excluding all utilities except water, 1 1/2 or 2 baths, 950 sq. ft.

### Apartment Information

Apartment Type	Vacancy Rate (%)	Mean Rental Rate*
Studio	8.4	\$537.48
1 Bedroom	3.8	\$688.31
2 Bedroom	5.6	\$820.88
3 Bedroom	10.8	\$1,071.86

\*As of June 2007

Source: 2nd Quarter 2007 Annual Apartment Survey provided by the Nevada Housing Division

### Traffic

	Average Commute Time	Number of Vehicles per Household*	Percentage of Work Done at Home
Washoe County	18.8 minutes	0.82	4.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, \*ehome.com

## Medical/Health Resources

### Northern Nevada Medical Center

Northern Nevada and its staff provide a wide array of the most up-to-date general and specialized medical services. Yet they are still small enough to offer all-private rooms with the old-fashioned personal touch so important to patient comfort and healing - in a quiet, secure, suburban setting that eases treatment and recovery.

### Renown Health

Renown Health is one of the most comprehensive healthcare networks with leading specialists in every major field of medicine. With our dedicated staff, modern facilities, state-of-the-art technology, commitment to quality care, and role in educating future physicians and nurses, Renown Health has earned a reputation as a healthcare leader. Whether providing specialty care to the tiniest newborns, performing complex cardiothoracic surgery, or offering comprehensive primary care, Renown Health delivers excellence in healthcare with compassion and caring.

### Saint Mary's Healthfirst

Saint Mary's is an integrated health network based in Reno, Nevada and comprised of regional medical center, wholly-owned HMO, PPO, TPA and MCO philanthropic foundation, joint venture outpatient surgery center. Saint Mary's Health Network has been named for the second year in a row to the list of the top 100 healthcare systems in the nation, published in Modern Healthcare Magazine.

### Washoe Tribal Health Clinic\*

The Washoe Tribal Health Clinic in Gardnerville is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. It is a family practice clinic for Native American patients. The two-doctor clinic has visiting specialists, audiologists and a dentist, but offers no urgent care. Appointments are necessary. Its phone number is (775)265-4215.

# Washoe County Quality of Life (con't)

## Medical/Health Resources (con't)

### Nevada Physician Directory

With the help of the Physician Directory, you can make an informed choice of your doctor in the comfort of your own home, without searching through endless information. This site will help you locate, get acquainted with, and choose a new medical service provider in your area. The Physician Directory listings include all types of physicians for all of your medical needs. some listed areas follows, Naturopaths, Osteopath, Oncology, Dermatology, Pathology, Pediatrics, Endocrinology, Psychiatry, Radiology, Oncology, Cancer Specialists, Gynecology, Urology, and more.

### Emergency Services

Washoe County has a variety of emergency services including Police, Fire, and Sheriff Departments, REMSA Ambulances, Care Flight, and Medic Air.

## Education

Washoe County is home to 58 elementary schools, 11 junior high schools, 13 high schools, 2 special needs schools, and approximately 46 private schools. Many schools in Washoe County provide honors and advanced placement, International Baccalaureate Program, and gifted and talented programs. In Washoe County, the average teacher/student ratio is 21:01, the average class size is 26, the 2006-07 dropout rate was 2.7%, and the 2006-07 graduation rate was 75.1%.\*\*

### High School Trends

The percentage of Washoe County School District (WCSD) juniors and seniors enrolled in Advanced Placement courses increased from 15% in 1997-98 to 36% in 2004-05. The percentage of graduates who have taken at least one AP or IB exam has risen at seven high schools since the Data Profile began tracking that information in 2003.

As in previous years, the average ACT and SAT scores for the class of 2005 exceeded average scores for both the state and the nation.

### College Trends

Nearly 70% of WCSD graduates went on to higher education in the fall immediately following graduation. This percentage is higher than the 2004 national average of 67% (the most recent year for which national rates are available). Since 1997 the percentage of WCSD graduates going on to UNR or TMCC in the fall following graduation has risen from 37% to 57%.

### College Success Trends

Twenty-eight percent of the students who graduated from WCSD in 1997 have earned a college degree. Similarly, 28% of WCSD students who graduated in 1998 have earned a college degree.

The Class of 1998 had more graduates receive college Bachelor's degrees in natural sciences and education than did the Class of 1997. Social sciences, arts/humanities and business/economics majors accounted for the largest number of Bachelor's degrees in both years.

### WCSD Graduates of UNR 2001-04

Forty-nine percent of UNR's graduates were WCSD high school graduates.

Fifty-eight percent of WCSD-UNR graduates are employed in Washoe County. Of WCSD graduates of UNR employed in Washoe and other northern Nevada counties, the top employers are education (29%); health occupations (13%); and in business, finance, real estate, or law (10%).

### Achievement (SAT's & ACT's)

For the graduating class of 2004, the district average composite score on the ACT test was 22.0 compared to the national average of 20.8. On the SAT test, our students' average math score was 536 compared to the national average of 518. The Washoe County average verbal score was 530 compared to the national average of 508. About half of the graduating seniors take one or both of the tests.

Source: Washoe County School District

# Washoe County Quality of Life (con't)

## Education (con't)

### Mathematics Criterion Reference Test (CRT) Results 2006-07

#### GRADE 3

Area	Number Enrolled	Not Tested (%)	Emergent/Developing <sub>1</sub> (%)	Approaches Standard <sub>2</sub> (%)	Meets Standard <sub>3</sub> (%)	Exceeds Standard <sub>4</sub> (%)
Washoe County*	5,019	0.3	7.9	35.9	33.1	23.0
Nevada*	33,430	0.3	8.8	35.5	33.7	22.1
National** 4th Grade			Below Basic N/A	At or Above Basic N/A	At or Above Proficient N/A	At Advanced N/A

#### GRADE 5

Area	Number Enrolled	Not Tested (%)	Emergent/Developing <sub>1</sub> (%)	Approaches Standard <sub>2</sub> (%)	Meets Standard <sub>3</sub> (%)	Exceeds Standard <sub>4</sub> (%)
Washoe County*	5,053	0.1	6.1	32.4	49.3	12.2
Nevada*	33,086	0.3	6.7	34.8	46.9	11.6
National** 4th Grade			Below Basic N/A	At or Above Basic N/A	At or Above Proficient N/A	At Advanced N/A

#### GRADE 8

Area	Number Enrolled	Not Tested (%)	Emergent/Developing <sub>1</sub> (%)	Approaches Standard <sub>2</sub> (%)	Meets Standard <sub>3</sub> (%)	Exceeds Standard <sub>4</sub> (%)
Washoe County*	4,951	0.8	12.3	26.6	49.1	12.0
Nevada*	33,483	1.3	19.0	28.2	43.1	9.7
National**			Below Basic N/A	At or Above Basic N/A	At or Above Proficient N/A	At Advanced N/A

### Reading Criterion Reference Test (CRT) Results 2006-07

#### GRADE 3

Area	Number Enrolled	Not Tested (%)	Emergent/Developing <sub>1</sub> (%)	Approaches Standard <sub>2</sub> (%)	Meets Standard <sub>3</sub> (%)	Exceeds Standard <sub>4</sub> (%)
Washoe County*	5,019	0.3	6.8	32.6	41.9	18.7
Nevada*	33,430	0.3	7.0	33.7	43.1	16.2
National** 4th Grade			Below Basic N/A	At or Above Basic N/A	At or Above Proficient N/A	At Advanced N/A

#### GRADE 5

Area	Number Enrolled	Not Tested (%)	Emergent/Developing <sub>1</sub> (%)	Approaches Standard <sub>2</sub> (%)	Meets Standard <sub>3</sub> (%)	Exceeds Standard <sub>4</sub> (%)
Washoe County*	5,053	0.1	8.1	36.3	47.4	8.2
Nevada*	33,086	0.3	9.5	39.0	44.7	6.8
National** 4th Grade			Below Basic N/A	At or Above Basic N/A	At or Above Proficient N/A	At Advanced N/A

#### GRADE 8

Area	Number Enrolled	Not Tested (%)	Emergent/Developing <sub>1</sub> (%)	Approaches Standard <sub>2</sub> (%)	Meets Standard <sub>3</sub> (%)	Exceeds Standard <sub>4</sub> (%)
Washoe County*	4,951	1.0	4.5	32.2	47.9	15.4
Nevada*	33,483	1.4	7.3	35.9	44.3	12.5
National**			Below Basic N/A	At or Above Basic N/A	At or Above Proficient N/A	At Advanced N/A

# Washoe County Quality of Life (con't)

## Education (con't)

### Science Criterion Reference Test (CRT) Results 2006-07

#### GRADE 5

Area	Number Enrolled	Not Tested (%)	Emergent/Developing <sub>1</sub> (%)	Approaches Standard <sub>2</sub> (%)	Meets Standard <sub>3</sub> (%)	Exceeds Standard <sub>4</sub> (%)
Washoe County*	5,053	0.2	9.2	36.8	34.1	19.9
Nevada*	33,086	0.5	10.8	39.2	33.4	16.6
National** 4th Grade			<i>Below Basic</i> N/A	<i>At or Above Basic</i> N/A	<i>At or Above Proficient</i> N/A	<i>At Advanced</i> N/A

#### GRADE 8

Area	Number Enrolled	Not Tested (%)	Emergent/Developing <sub>1</sub> (%)	Approaches Standard <sub>2</sub> (%)	Meets Standard <sub>3</sub> (%)	Exceeds Standard <sub>4</sub> (%)
Washoe County*	4,951	2.0	7.7	29.3	55.8	7.2
Nevada*	33,483	2.0	11.8	31.8	50.7	5.6
National**			<i>Below Basic</i> N/A	<i>At or Above Basic</i> N/A	<i>At or Above Proficient</i> N/A	<i>At Advanced</i> N/A

Source: \*Nevada Annual Reports of Accountability, \*\*National Center for Education Statistics Achievement (Standard)

1. Emergent/Developing - Student occasionally/does not apply skills/strategies and requires extensive remediation.
  2. Approaches Standard - Student inconsistently/incompletely applies skills/strategies and requires targeted remediation.
  3. Meets Standard - Student consistently applies skills/strategies without need for remediation.
  4. Exceeds Standard - Student comprehensively/consistently applies and generalizes skills/strategies in a variety of situations.
- Charter school data are not included in district totals.

### University of Nevada, Reno (UNR)

*U.S. News & World Report* ranked UNR as one of America's best colleges and the Carnegie Foundation ranks UNR in the highest research category with institutions like Stanford, Harvard, Cal-Berkley, and UCLA. UNR provides a variety of programs including 70 bachelor's degrees, 70 master's programs, and 30 doctoral specialties. The colleges include: Engineering, Business Administration, Logistics and School of Medicine. UNR's Business Logistics Program is considered by the countries largest firms to be one of the top 10 in the United States. They also have a fully accredited MBA program. Supported research funding has more than tripled in the past 10 years to \$87 million, which translates to a yearly economic impact in Nevada of nearly \$200 million. Researchers at the University of Nevada School of Medicine, with a \$9 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, are finding innovative ways to fight cardiac arrhythmias, or irregular heartbeats.

### Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC)

TMCC serves over 11,000 students with programs leading to associate degrees and certificates in more than 40 academic and occupational areas. Offering academic and university transfer, occupational training, career enhancement workshops and classes just for fun, TMCC is the fastest growing college in northern Nevada.

### Career College of Northern Nevada

Career College of Northern Nevada provides high quality education to students with varying levels of academic abilities. The college is committed to providing its students with the skills and technical knowledge needed for initial employment in entry level positions of business and industry. Recognizing that many graduates will want to advance to management and executive positions, the college offers its students not only the specific skills needed for immediate employment but also the opportunity to develop self-confidence, leadership abilities and a sense of responsibility. The students maximize their potential to obtain a good job, stable life, and respect.

# Washoe County Quality of Life (con't)

## Education (con't)

### Morrison University

Morrison University is an independent educational institution, dedicated to providing higher education opportunities leading to diplomas and associate degrees as well as Bachelor of Science degrees. Diploma and Associate degree programs are designed to meet the needs of students in developing marketable skills which enable them to establish careers in business, professional, and technical fields. The Bachelor of Science degree allows students to continue their education in business and management in order to fulfill their academic and professional aspirations and potential. The University recognizes that education is a lifelong endeavor, which enriches the quality of life as well as individual professional achievement.

### University of Phoenix, Nevada Campus

The University of Phoenix is a private, for-profit higher education institution whose mission is to provide high quality education to working adult students. The University of Phoenix, Nevada Campus offers degree and certificate programs in Administration, Business, Counseling, Education, Human Services, Management, Nursing/Healthcare, and Technology. Courses are scheduled to meet the needs of working students.

### Truckee Meadows Community College High School

This school is a collaborative effort of the Washoe County School District and Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) and is located at the TMCC campus. The high school and college atmosphere gives students the opportunity to achieve academically and accept responsibility in a safe and comfortable environment. Students are required to take up to three high school classes and may take up to three college courses.

### Glenn Hare Occupational Center

This center provides alternative classes to high school students including electronics, computer aided design, business systems, advanced child development, printing and graphics, precision machining, horticulture and landscaping, building trades, fashion merchandising and culinary arts.

### Regional Technical Institute

The Regional Technical Institute (RTI) is the premier high school in the Washoe County School District (WCSD) for advanced Career and Technical Education programs. Eighteen advanced programs are housed at one of the four RTI locations. Students attend part of the day at their regular high school campus and part of the date at RTI. Programs at RTI are open to all WCSD students who are interested in receiving hands-on training and realistic experiences in the careers of tomorrow. RTI will prepare them for their future - whether they plan to further their education or pursue a career.

### Lake Tahoe Community College

Located in South Lake Tahoe, Calif., offers the first two years of a four-year degree, 38 different associate's degrees and 20 certificates. LTCC is one of 109 community colleges in the state of California. Students at LTCC enjoy small class sizes averaging 15 students per class and quality one-on-one instruction. The college offers a good neighbor policy for Nevada residents and tuition is only \$28 a unit.

## Cultural Organizations and Recreation

### Reno Philharmonic

The Reno Philharmonic's mission is to provide entertainment and educational experience of the highest artistic quality possible to as wide and diverse an audience as possible.

### Reno Chamber Orchestra

Provides various classical performances throughout the year at the Nightingale Concert Hall, located on the University of Nevada, Reno campus.

### Fleischmann Planetarium

Located at the University of Nevada, Reno, the Planetarium offers public starshows, school starshows by appointment, and public sky-viewing with our 12-inch telescope.

# Washoe County Quality of Life (con't)

## Cultural Organizations and Recreation (con't)

### Nevada Opera

Nevada Opera is a non-profit organization which makes it their mission to impact the community with a variety of cultural programs and events. Their performances are designed to thrill you with nothing but the best musical fireworks.

### William F. Harrah Foundation National Automobile Museum

It's like driving a century in just two hours. The National Automobile Museum (The Harrah Collection) lets you travel through time like few other places can. Just two blocks from the streets of downtown Reno, you'll walk down streets of the past. Its cars, sights, sounds, and places are yours to explore. Beyond the streets, you'll discover a century of automobiles: more than 220 antique, vintage, classic, special interest and one-of-a-kind wonders. You'll be dazzled by the cars of the stars. And the road doesn't end there. Find new discoveries in the Changing Exhibits Gallery and Masterpiece Circle. Chat with mechanics in the Automotive Shop. Shop in the unique Museum Store. Visit today and discover the cars you remember, in a way you'll never forget.

### Nevada Museum of Art

The Nevada Museum of Art provides a forum for the presentation of creative ideas. We aspire to serve as a cultural resource for every member of the community. Through innovative programming and scholarship, the Museum provides the opportunity for people of all ages to encounter, engage, and enjoy a diversity of art experiences.

### Artouring

Artouring invites you on a lively and fun adventure to cultural opportunities in Northern Nevada, including insider tours of artists studios otherwise unavailable to the public and exclusive docent tours of current world class exhibitions on display at the Nevada Museum of Art. The tour also includes a cooking demonstration and gourmet lunch at the Nothing To It! Culinary Center, La Vecchia, or The Cheeseboard & Wine Cellar.

### Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum

Located in Sparks, this museum houses early Sparks historical memorabilia.

### Carson City

Nevada's capital city, located 30 miles south of Reno, is not only the center of state government but also one of the state's most historic communities. Wander the Kit Carson Trail, a self-guided tour of historic 19th century homes and buildings, or explore one of the city's museums. Tour the State Capitol, built in 1870, then dine at one of the city's many fine restaurants.

### Donner Lake

Located 34 miles west of Reno/Sparks, this beautiful mountain lake is ideal for picnics, camping, fishing, sailing, and water skiing.

### Lake Tahoe

Lake Tahoe is one of the world's clearest, deepest mountain lakes and a year-round playground for thrill seekers. In winter, enjoy world-class alpine and cross-country skiing at any of nearly two dozen ski resorts. In the warmer months, hit the lake's legendary waters via ski, personal water craft, kayak, sailboat or motorboat.

### Tahoe Rim Trail

As of fall 2001, Lake Tahoe has one more attraction to offer visitors and residents: easy access to beautiful panoramic views, old-growth trees, majestic granite peaks, crystalline lakes, lush meadows and wildflowers that bring a spectrum of color to the region.

### National Bowling Stadium

Built in 1995 and located in downtown Reno, this facility has been called the "Taj Mahal of Tenpins," by the Los Angeles Times and "Pin Palace" by USA Today. Features include 80 championship lanes, a video wall, an IMAX large-format theater, and the world's longest screen scoring display.

# Washoe County Quality of Life (con't)

## Cultural Organizations and Recreation (con't)

### Pyramid Lake

This starkly beautiful, 27 mile long desert lake is located 34 miles north of Reno/Sparks. Pyramid's jagged rocks and tufa formations envelop chameleon-like waters that change with the seasons. The last remnant of a prehistoric sea, Pyramid Lake is today regarded as one of the best trophy lakes in the world for the great Lahontan cutthroat trout.

### Sparks Marina Park

Located in Sparks north of Interstate 80, this is an 80-acre lake with fishing, swimming, boating, and beaches.

### Virginia City

Located 30 miles southeast of Reno/Sparks, Virginia City is the famed site of the Comstock Lode, the world's most spectacular gold and silver discovery. Visitors can tour the mansions of 19th century millionaires, go underground into actual gold and silver mines, and enjoy a variety of events including the annual international camel races.

### Wild Island

Located in Sparks, this water-fun resort features water slides, a wave pool, and a children's pool. It also includes a 36-hole miniature golf course, go-cart raceway cars, and a game center.

### Golf

The Washoe County area is one of the state's most popular golf vacation destinations, boasting more than 50 championship golf courses within 90 minutes of Reno - in Carson City, Genoa, Dayton Valley, Sparks, Reno, and Lake Tahoe.

### Annual Events

Visit [gonnahappen.com](http://gonnahappen.com) to view local events.

### Financial Institutions

- 1st National Bank of Nevada
- Bank of America
- Bank of the West
- Colonial Bank
- Comstock Bank
- Nevada State Bank
- US Bank
- Wells Fargo

## Washoe County Quality of Life (con't)

### Churches/Religious Organizations

Denomination	Total Number of Churches
African Methodist Episcopal	1
Anglican	1
Assemblies of God	11
Baha'i	1
Baptist	38
Bible	1
Buddhist	1
Calvary Chapel	1
Catholic	16
Charismatic	6
Christian	9
Christian Science	2
Church of Christ/God	13
Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	19
Community	3
Congregational	1
Ecumenical	1
Episcopal	5
Evangelical Free	2
Foursquare	1
Friends	1
Full Gospel	1
Independent Bible	1
Interdenominational	1
International Community of Christ	1
Jehovah's Witnesses	5
Lutheran	14
Moslem Mosque	1
Nazarene	5
New Age	1
Non-Denominational	32
Orthodox Eastern	2
Pentecostal	5
Presbyterian	7
Religious Science	2
Seventh Day Adventists	3
Sikh	1
Spiritualist	1
Unitarian Universalist	1
United Church of Christ	1
United Methodist	6
Unity	3
Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community	1
Universal Life	1
Vineyard Christian Fellowship	1
Word of Faith	1

Source: AreaGuide.net