

Trinity County

With a population of 13,020, Trinity County is located in the lower regions of the Cascade Mountain Range, halfway between Redding in Shasta County and the Northern Redwood Coast. Trinity County consists of approximately 3,200 square miles of alpine splendor. Roughly the size of Vermont, it would cover an area the size of Texas if it were flattened!

Prior to the statehood of California, Trinity County was established in February, 1850. Originally, the county encompassed an area which is now divided into Humboldt, Del Norte and Trinity Counties. The county is comprised of hundreds of miles of Forest Service roads, trails, and old logging tracts which would provide excellent outdoor opportunities for hiking, mountain bike and motor touring.

Predominant features of the county's region include the Trinity River, Trinity Lake and the Trinity Alps. Some of the most breathtaking scenery and natural lakes can be found in the Trinity Alps Wilderness (named for its resemblance of the Swiss Alps). This 500,000-acre wilderness area includes 9,000 foot peaks, sawtooth ridges, alpine meadows, deep glacial canyons and more than 50 mountain lakes and streams making the Trinity Alps the second largest wilderness area in California and one of the largest in the United States.

In the northeastern region of the county is Trinity Lake, the third largest reservoir in California with 16,000 surface acres and 147 miles of shoreline which encircles the lake. Trinity Lake offers an abundance of still water enjoyment, including jet and water skiing, canoeing, kayaking, rafting, fishing and swimming.

Trinity County has been home to many different ethnic groups, including various Native American tribes. As evidence that the land coincided with their myths and beliefs, drawings on sides of rocks and caves can still be seen which were used for their worshipping rituals and sacred sites.

Long before the gold rush of 1849 and prior to its discovery at Sutter's Mill, it is said that gold was discovered in Trinity County. It was this gold rush which brought thousands of miners to the area thereby initiating the establishment of such towns as Weaverville and Lewiston. Located along Highway 299, Weaverville, with a population of 3,554 in the year 2000, serves as the seat for Trinity County. Offering a variety of services, Weaverville is the economic center of the county.

At one point in Weaverville's history, there were just as many Chinese in the region seeking the riches of gold as there were Euro-Americans. Thousands of Chinese settled in the area and quickly established their claims. With them they brought their lifestyles and soon started their own businesses. In 1852, the Chinese established a Taoist temple of worship which burned down in 1873 and

INCOME

- Total personal income increased 6% in the year 2001, bring the aerge annual increase to 3.5% since 1991
- The per capita annual income in the year 2000 was \$19,995
- Poverty rate increased from 18.5% in 1989 to 19% in 1999 (compared to California at 12.5% in 1989 to 14%in 1999)

HOUSING

- With the total number of housing units in the year 2000 being 7,980, per capita housing is 61%
- Between 1991 and 2002, total housing units increased 0.5%, compared to the average annual increase of 4.4%
- Fair market rent has increased at an average 8.5% annually since 2000

LOW INCOME

- 12% of the 60+ year old population is at 125% or below poverty level. This is comprised of:

94.8%	Non-Minority
0	African American
1.1%	American Indian/Alaskan Native
0	Asian
0	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
0	Other
0	Multi-race
4.1%	Hispanic/Latino
- The number of TANF (Temporary Aid to Needy Families) and CalWORKS (California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids) recipients and the number of households receiving food stamps have been decreasing steadily, reaching low points in 2002
- MediCal expenditures are at their highest, nearing 10 million in 2002
- The highest number of MediCal eligible recipients are Non-minority making up 90% of the population served by the program

CLIMATE

- Average Maximum Temperature – high 90's
- Average Low Temperature – low 40's
- Average annual precipitation – ranges from 38" to 62"
- Average annual snowfall – ranges from 8" to 22"