



Lassen County

Lassen County, with a population of 29,904 in 2022 (RCRC) (not including incarcerated members listed below), Lassen County, located 280 miles northeast of San Francisco, is said to be one of the undiscovered jewels in Northern California. Extending from Lassen Volcanic National Park east to the Nevada border and north to Modoc County, Lassen County, incorporated in 1864, is primarily a mountainous region. Comprised of 4,720 square miles, approximately the size of Connecticut, Lassen County is an outdoor recreation paradise with 91,700 acres of land covered by inland water. Though distinctively rural, Lassen County's terrain encompasses forested plateaus, green mountains, snow-capped peaks and open agricultural valleys.

Much of Lassen County is encompassed by a large volcanic plateau. A portion of Lassen Volcanic National Park lies in the southwest region of the county. This volcanic plateau provides a variety of activities for the outdoor enthusiast. Cool mountain streams, wandering brooks, including the clear blue Eagle Lake, are sprinkled throughout the county offering exceptional fishing opportunities with rainbow and German brown trout, bass and catfish. An abundance of hunting opportunities is also available for the avid hunter.

Home to approximately 16,537 people as of the year 2014, the city of Susanville has been established as the county seat. The city is located at the north end of the Honey Lake Valley, beautifully set amidst some of the most spectacular volcanic surroundings found in California. Susanville is the commercial center for this region which offers a wide variety of businesses, health facilities, restaurants and more.

Approximately eight miles outside the city of Susanville are the California Center of Corrections and the High Desert State Prison. These facilities provide high to medium high security for approximately 7,500 inmates.

Westwood is located just west of Susanville in what is known as timber country. In the 1800's this town was one of the largest company lumber towns in the west. Eagle Lake, the second largest natural lake in California, offers a variety of outdoor activities including fishing and camping. Big Valley, located in the northern region of Lassen County is one of the regions richest game and waterfowl areas.

With its abundance of natural resources, Lassen County is supported by the resource based lumber production activities and recreational tourism. Government is the largest employer (approximately 60 percent of the total non-agricultural employment), while agriculturally, alfalfa hay is the most valuable crop in the area (approximately 25 percent of the total crop value for the county).

DEMOGRAPHICS

- As of 2022, total population was 29,904 (RCRC), of which 17.5% (census.gov) were aged 60+ and 6.18% (census.gov) were aged 75+ (RCRC)
- The population density is roughly 6.8 (RCRC) people per square mile

TARGETED POPULATIONS

- Seniors Aged 75+ 6.18% (census.gov)
- Poverty 15.8% (census.gov)

AGRICULTURE - Top Crops

- Hay - Alfalfa, Grain, Other
- Cattle - Steers, Heifers, Cows
- Nursery Plants, Strawberries

LABOR FORCE

- Total population unemployment rate in 2022 was 6.2% (RCRC), compared to 4.1% statewide (RCRC)
- The labor force in 2016 was 10,520 (RCRC).

INCOME

- In 2022, the county median household income was \$59,515 (census.gov)
- The per capita income was \$23,646(census.gov)
- Poverty rate in 2022 was 18.8% (census.gov)

HOUSING

- With total housing units in the year 2022 at 12,239 (census.gov), there was an average of 2.23 (census.gov) individuals per housing unit.

CLIMATE

- Average Maximum Temperature – 90 degrees
- Average Low Temperature – 40 degrees
- Average annual precipitation – ranges from 10” to 15”

- Average annual snowfall – ranges from 22” to 50”

References:

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/lassencountycalifornia/PST045222>

https://www.rcrcnet.org/sites/default/files/useruploads/Documents/Advocacy/Economic_Development/County_Profiles/2018%20Lassen%20Economic%20&%20Demographic%20Profile.pdf