

Updated June 20, 2016.

## Las Vegas Fun Facts

80,000 flowers are used in the current display at [Bellagio Gardens and Conservatory](#)

[Las Vegas](#) is not actually in Las Vegas, It's actually in Paradise Nevada

The first Jerry Lewis/Muscular Dystrophy Telethon ever was held there on Sept. 6, 1971.

The Oldest Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas is the [Golden Gate Hotel in Downtown Las Vegas](#). Opened in 1906- Originally called Sal Sagev (pronounced Sal-Sagy)

Year first casino was licensed 1931

Current number of licensed gambling places in Las Vegas 1701

Approximate number of Las Vegas city residents 603,000

Approximate number of Clark County residents 2,200,000

Number of slot machines in the city 197,144

Annual visitors to Las Vegas, in millions 36.7

Percentage of visitors from Southern California 25

Percentage of visitors who say they come to Vegas mainly to gamble 5

Percent of visitors who end up gambling during their stay 87

Hours per day average visitor spends gambling 3.9

Annual state gaming revenue, in billions of dollars 9

Percent of Nevada's general fund fed by gaming-tax revenue 43

Average gambling budget per trip, in dollars 559

Number of people moving to Las Vegas annually 60,000

Average monthly apartment rent, in dollars 631.22

Average price for an acre of land in the Valley, in thousands of dollars 161

Price for a prime acre of land on the Strip, in millions of dollars 11

Number of hotel rooms 124,270

Average number of pillowcases washed daily at MGM Grand 15,000

Average nightly room rate, in dollars 66

Average length of stay, in nights 3.7

Number of conventions hosted annually 3749

Average number of Vegas weddings per day 315

Number of local golf courses 37

Amount in miles of lighted neon tubing on the Strip and Downtown 15,000

Percentage of county's population over 24 years old with college degree 13.8

Percentage of residents who claim to be religious 82.2

Percentage of population registered to vote 42.2

Percent of Nevada land owned by the federal government 87

Paved roads in Nevada, in miles 5429

Dirt or gravel roads in Nevada, in miles 33,010

Nevada's population growth since 1990, in percentage 83.3

Nevada's prison-population growth since 1990, in percentage 100.4

State's nationwide rank in gold production 1

Cost of Nevada marriage license, in dollars 35

Average cost of filing for divorce in Nevada, in dollars 450

The Riviera Hotel stood for 60 years before it was imploded in 2016

Vehicle traffic on Fremont Street in Downtown, *Las Vegas* was officially closed on September 7, 1994

In 1941, the El Rancho Vegas was the first resort to open on The Las Vegas Strip (across from what is now The Sahara). Completely destroyed by fire on the morning of June 17, 1960

A 1910 law made it illegal to gamble in *Las Vegas*. In 1931, a gambling bill was approved that made gambling legal again. When it opened on April 30, 1996 the [Stratosphere Hotel](#) at 1,149 feet and 106-story high became the tallest structure west of Mississippi River at the time. Today, the Stratosphere is the tallest observation tower in the United States and the second tallest free-standing structure west of the Mississippi.

The Statue of Liberty at [New York-New York Las Vegas](#) weighs 150 tons. It's New York City counterpart weighs 225 tons. The distance from which the Luxor Sky Beam is visible from an airplane on a clear night is 250 miles.

[McCarran International Airport](#) is the seventh busiest airport in the United States.

With it's millions of lights, Las Vegas is one of the brightest cities on earth.

Nevada became a state on October 31, 1864

With an area covering 110,540 square miles, Nevada is the seventh largest state in the nation.

Boulder City is one of only two towns in Nevada where gambling is illegal, the other city being Panaca. Originally, this town was created to house the workers on Hoover Dam.

Elvis Presley performed in 837 consecutive sold out shows at the Las Vegas Hilton Casino.

The Riviera was the first high-rise hotel on the Las Vegas Strip, it was nine stories tall

The world's largest jackpot was won in Las Vegas by a woman at the Excalibur Casino. The jackpot totaled \$39.7 million and it occurred on March 2003.

Construction worker Hard Hat's were first invented specifically for workers on the Hoover Dam in 1933

Hoover Dam, the largest single public works project in the history of the United States, contains 3.25 million cubic yards of concrete, which is enough to pave a two-lane highway from San Francisco to New York

The state's Highway 50, known as the Loneliest Highway in America, received its name from "Life" magazine in 1986.

There are few road stops in the 287 mile stretch between Ely and Fernley.

Elvis Presley performed 837 consecutive sold out shows at the Las Vegas Hilton.

The MGM Grand is also home to 18, 000 doors – more than any other hotel in Las Vegas.

The famous 'Welcome to Las Vegas' sign was created by Betty Willis in May 1959.

The gigantic neon cowboy on Fremont Street known as Vegas Vic, was also erected in 1959. At the time of its installation, it was the largest mechanical neon sign in the world.

Annual number of toilet paper rolls used at Bally's Hotel and Casino = 1 million

### In Las Vegas:

There are over 15,000 miles of neon tubing

There are 82 McDonald's restaurants

There are more than 130,000 hotel rooms

Hotels have an average annual occupancy rate of 90%

### Fun Facts:

The famous "Welcome to Las Vegas" sign was originally designed by Betty Willis in 1959.

The longest-running show is Folies Bergere, started at the Tropicana in 1959 and is still running.

The Golden Gate opened in 1906, in what is now downtown Las Vegas, making it the first hotel and casino to open in the city.

El Rancho was the first hotel resort built on the Strip. It had 63 rooms.

Slot machines were initially created as a diversion for women companions of male gamblers who were busy at the tables.

Slot machines typically earn 60% or more of a casino's earnings.

The Stratosphere tower is 1,149 feet high and is the tallest free-standing observation structure in the nation.

The four hotels at the corner of Las Vegas Blvd. and Tropicana (MGM Grand, Tropicana, New York-New York and Excalibur) have more hotel rooms than all of San Francisco.

The MGM Grand is the nation's largest hotel with over 5,000 rooms.

Of the ten largest hotels in the world, nine of them are in Las Vegas.

Las Vegas is the 5th most popular vacation destination in the world.

The Las Vegas airport, McCarran, is the 8th busiest in the world.

30.5 million people, on average, visit Las Vegas every year.

\* 80% are return visitors who average two trips per year

\* 44% arrive by air

\* 43% arrive by car

\* 89% gamble with an average budget of \$500

- In 1931, Nevada became the first state to legalize casinos statewide.

- The Hotel El Rancho Vegas opened in 1941 as the first full-scale casino resort on the Las Vegas Strip. Legendary gangster Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel founded the original Flamingo Hotel in 1946. Siegel was murdered the following year.
- Las Vegas average 320 days of sun and just 4.19 inches of rainfall annually.
- The high-tech Fremont Street Experience in downtown Las Vegas features 2.1-million lights and 550,000 watts of concert sound.
- The Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park contains remnants of Las Vegas' first settlement, which was founded by the Mormons in 1855.
- In 1925, Fremont Street became the first paved street in Las Vegas.
- First opened in 1959, the Las Vegas Convention Center has evolved over the years into a state-of-the-art, 3.2 million square foot facility.
- Reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes purchased the Desert Inn in 1967 and later bought the New Frontier, Landmark, Sands, Silver Slipper and Castaways.
- Adventuredome at the Circus-Circus is billed as "the world's largest indoor amusement park!"
- "Mr. Las Vegas," Wayne Newton, has performed in Las Vegas well over 30,000 times.
- Billed as "Las Vegas' most historic hotel/casino," the historic Golden Gate Hotel & Casino first opened its doors in 1906!
- A National Historic Landmark, the Hoover Dam, which was completed in 1936, weighs more than 6,600,000 tons and is 726.4 feet tall.
- Las Vegas is home to the world's largest Harley-Davidson store.
- Opened in 1940, Wee Kirk O' the Heather is the oldest continually operating wedding chapel in Las Vegas.

## Demolished or closed Strip casinos and hotels<sup>[edit]</sup>

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- [Aladdin Hotel & Casino](#): Opened in 1963 as the Tally Ho, became the King's Crown in 1965, the Aladdin in 1966, and was demolished in 1998, and reopened in 2000. In 2007, the Aladdin was renamed [Planet Hollywood](#).
- Big Red's Casino: Opened in 1981 and closed in 1982. Property developed for CBS Sports World Casino in 1997. Changed name to Sports World Casino after [CBS](#) threatened to sue.<sup>[44]</sup> Closed in 2001, now a shopping center.
- [Barbary Coast Hotel and Casino](#): Closed in 2007, now [The Cromwell](#).
- [Boardwalk Hotel and Casino](#): Closed on January 6, 2006, demolished May 9, 2006 to make way for [CityCenter](#).
- [Castaways Hotel and Casino](#): Opened in 1957 as the San Souci Hotel and became the Castaways in 1963 and was demolished in 1987. Now [The Mirage](#).
- [Desert Inn](#): Closed on August 28, 2000, demolished in 2004, now [Wynn Las Vegas](#) and [Encore Las Vegas](#); Desert Inn golf course was retained and improved.
- [Dunes Hotel and Casino](#): Closed on January 26, 1993, demolished in 1993, now [Bellagio](#). The Dunes golf course is now occupied by parts of [Monte Carlo](#), [New York-New York](#), [CityCenter](#), [Cosmopolitan](#), and [T-Mobile Arena](#).
- [El Rancho \(formerly Thunderbird/Silverbird\)](#): Closed in 1992 and demolished in 2000. Now the unfinished [Fontainebleau](#).
- [El Rancho Vegas](#): Burned down in 1960. The [Hilton Grand Vacation Club](#) timeshare now exists on the south edge of the site where the resort once stood; the remainder is now the [Las Vegas Festival Grounds](#).

- [Hacienda](#): Closed in 1996, demolished in 1996, now [Mandalay Bay](#). Until 2015, a separate [Hacienda](#) operated outside of [Boulder City](#), formerly the [Gold Strike Inn](#).
- [Holiday Casino](#): Opened in 1973 and closed in 1992. Now [Harrah's Las Vegas](#).
- [Holy Cow Casino and Brewery](#): First micro brewery in [Las Vegas](#). Closed in 2002, property currently vacant.
- [Imperial Palace Hotel and Casino](#): Opened in 1959 as the [Flamingo Capri](#) and became the Imperial Palace in 1979 and The Quad in 2012. Now [The Linq](#).
- Jackpot Casino: Closed in 1977, now part of [Bonanza Gift Shop](#)
- [Klondike Hotel & Casino](#): Closed in 2006, demolished in 2008.
- Little Caesars Casino: Opened in 1970 and closed in 1994. [Paris Las Vegas](#) now occupies the area.<sup>[45]</sup>
- [MGM Grand Hotel and Casino](#): Closed in 1986 and now [Bally's Las Vegas](#).
- Money Tree Casino: Closed in 1979, now [Bonanza Gift Shop](#).
- [Marina Hotel and Casino](#): Closed, adapted into MGM Grand, now the West Wing of the [MGM Grand](#).
- [New Frontier](#): Closed July 16, 2007, demolished November 13, 2007. Currently being redeveloped as [Alon Las Vegas](#).
- [Nob Hill Casino](#): Opened in 1979 and closed in 1990. Now [Best Western + Casino Royale](#)
- [Riviera Hotel and Casino](#): Opened in 1955; Closed in May 2015 to make way for the [Las Vegas Global Business District](#).
- [Sahara Hotel and Casino](#): Closed on May 16, 2011. Reopened August 23, 2014 as [SLS Las Vegas](#).
- [Sands Hotel and Casino](#): Closed on June 30, 1996, demolished in 1996, now [The Venetian](#).
- [Silver City Casino](#): Closed in 1999, now the Silver City Plaza Shopping Center.
- [Silver Slipper](#) Casino: Opened in 1950 and closed and demolished in 1988. It became the parking lot for the [New Frontier](#) until its closure and demolition in 2007.
- [Stardust Resort & Casino](#): Closed on November 1, 2006, demolished on March 13, 2007. Currently being redeveloped as [Resorts World Las Vegas](#).
- [Vegas World](#): Opened in 1979 and closed in 1995. Now the [Stratosphere Las Vegas](#)
- [Westward Ho Hotel and Casino](#): Closed in 2005, demolished in 2006. Currently being redeveloped as [Resorts World Las Vegas](#).