

Data Centers and the Nevada Economy

With over 70 planned and operational data centers in the Silver State, it is important to understand the economic outcomes and opportunities that they bring. The debate should be centered around tax breaks, job opportunities, and long-term benefits.

What Do Data Centers Actually Bring to Nevada?

01 Construction Jobs

Thousands of jobs in the initial construction phase

02 Skilled Labor

Small pool of high skilled jobs in IT, engineering, and security

03 Tax Revenue

New revenue for local jurisdictions

04 Competitive Edge

For the industries of the future

// 80% of IBEW Local 401's 4,000 electricians in Northern Nevada are working on data center projects

JACOB HAAS, BUSINESS MANAGER AT IBEW LOCAL 401

Nevada Data Centers by the Numbers

70+ Data Centers

built or planned across Clark, Storey, Washoe, Lyon, and Elko counties

~4,550 Employees

in Nevada data centers during 2023

~\$290M in Tax Revenue

for state and local taxes generated by Nevada data centers in 2023

\$461M in tax abatements approved since 2015 — about 75% tied to Storey County



\$3–5M/yr in property taxes paid by each of Storey County's two longest-operating centers, after abatements

Google's Storey County Build = 50 jobs

Construction Jobs  2,500+

Permanent Jobs  ~50

\$600M

Investment

~\$31/hour

Permanent job pay

\$94M

Projected tax revenue over 20 years

Nevada Can Get a Better Deal

01 Shorter Abatements

Decreasing the amount or the time frame for the abatements available to data centers would allow local governments to receive revenue to be used for essential expenditures.

02 Energy Independence

Allowing data center development with microgrids or nuclear energy can expand the state's energy generation portfolio and bring down the costs for electricity ratepayers statewide.

03 Long-Term Vision

Banning data centers risks preventing growth, as other states race to attract the industries of the future. Instead, balanced policies can attract investment, jobs, and turn Nevada into a technological hub of the US.

04 Keep the Benefits Local

Unlike Texas or Virginia, most Nevada land is owned and managed by the BLM. Making sure local jurisdictions share in the data center boom keeps development, jobs, and revenue in Nevada communities instead of sending them to Washington.

The Bottom Line

The real returns of data centers are Nevada's position as a technology hub, the high-skill workforce that future industries will compete for, and major tax revenue that state and local governments can put to work.

Where the incentive terms fall short, the answer is smarter terms and real transparency.

LEARN MORE AT

nevadapolicy.org



SOURCES

1. Eric Neugeboren, "Have data center tax breaks helped Nevada's economy? Here's what we found," The Nevada Independent, March 29th, 2026, <https://thenevadaindependent.com/article/have-data-center-tax-breaks-helped-nevadas-economy-heres-what-we-found>.
2. Gregory Bortolin, "Abatements OK'd for \$600M Google data center investment in Storey, \$514M lithium mining in Humboldt," Carson Now, September 16, 2020, <https://www.carsonnow.org/09/16/2020/abatements-okd-google-storey-lithium-nevada-corp-henderson-bring-11b-investments>.
3. Data Center Coalition, "Economic Contributions of Data Centers in the United States, 2017-2023," February 2025, https://static1.squarespace.com/static/63a4849eab1c756a1d3e97b1/t/67b38f78e9cf125daf756112/1739820925392/Data+Center+Economic+Contribution+Study+2025_Final.pdf.
4. LCB Research Division, "Data Centers – Background Information," March 2026, <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/InterimCommittee/REL/Document/32531>
5. Nevada Revised Statutes 360.754, <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/nrs-360.html#NRS360Sec754>
6. Eric Neugeboren, "Storey County is a hub for Nevada data centers. It wants to rein in state tax breaks," The Nevada Independent, September 2, 2026, <https://thenevadaindependent.com/article/storey-county-is-a-hub-for-nevada-data-centers-it-wants-to-rein-in-state-tax-breaks>.