

Prescott is 90 miles north of Phoenix in central Arizona amid the largest stand of Ponderosa Pine in the world. Since Prescott's founding as the first official Territorial Capital of Arizona and the establishment of nearby Fort Whipple, government has been a dominant sector in the city's economy. Prescott is the headquarters of the Prescott National Forest and is the Yavapai County seat. The city is named in honor of William Hickling Prescott, a noted historian.

## Principal Economic Activities

Prescott is the center for trade in the region, with abundant retail establishments, professional services, and manufacturing plants. Yavapai Regional Medical Center and Veterans Administration Hospital are excellent diagnostic emergency and treatment centers. Travel and tourism, cultural institutions, performing art centers, sporting events, and government offices are important to Prescott's economy.

## Scenic Attractions

Prescott is rich in historic and scenic attractions. Sharlot Hall Museum and the Smoki Museum contain pioneer and Indian artifacts. Nearby recreational opportunities include: Thumb Butte, Prescott's outstanding landmark; scenic drives, such as the Senator Highway, and the Prescott National Forest, which contains more than 1.2 million acres of land. Several lakes are within the vicinity including Goldwater, Lynx, Willow Creek, and Watson. Prescott National Forest, area lakes, and established trail and park systems provide numerous outdoor activities for residents and visitors. Visitors also discover the City boasts numerous events throughout the year including the Whiskey Off-Road and Whiskey Row Marathon starting in late April. The Phippen Western Art Show comes on Memorial Day weekend. The Bluegrass Festival and All-Indian Pow Wow arrive in June. Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo coincides with the Celebration on the Fourth of July. The County Fair and the Faire on the Square kick off in September; and the Christmas Parade and Courthouse Lighting in the December holiday season. Additionally, the City hosts the Summer Concert Series on the Courthouse Square throughout the week starting in June through early September.

## Community Facilities

Prescott offers a broad range of community facilities. There are five libraries, three museums, four art galleries, four performing arts theaters, 1,218 acres of land in 15 parks, two municipal lakes for fishing and boating, and Heritage Park Zoo. For the sports enthusiast, there are four 18-hole golf courses, 16 lighted tennis courts, racquetball courts, soccer fields, a skateboard park and roller skating rink, a bowling alley, 15 lighted baseball/softball diamonds, four football fields, and more than 450 miles of groomed trails for walking, running, hiking, and biking.



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**Founded:** 1864      **Incorporated:** 1883  
**Elevation:** 5,410 ft.      **Location:** Yavapai County

**Distance to major cities:**

**Phoenix:** 102 miles      **San Diego:** 373 miles  
**Tucson:** 213 miles      **Los Angeles:** 379 miles  
**Las Vegas:** 252 miles

**POPULATION**

	2000	2010	2014 (est.)
Prescott	26,625	33,938	40,520
Yavapai County	108,500	167,517	215,357
State of Arizona	3,680,800	5,130,632	6,667,241

Office of Economic Opportunity

**PROPERTY TAX**

	2000	2010	2014
Elementary / High School	5.97	4.27	3.52
City / Fire District	1.45	0.85	2.94
Yavapai County	5.14	4.18	5.01
Totals (Yavapai County)	12.56	9.30	11.47

Arizona Dept. of Revenue &amp; Arizona Tax Research Foundation

**SALES TAX / TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX**

Prescott	2.00%
Yavapai County	0.75%
State	5.60%

Arizona Dept. of Revenue &amp; Arizona Tax Research Foundation

**LABOR FORCE**

	2000	2010	2014
Civilian Labor Force	11,464	14,573	16,770
Unemployed	602	524	1,159
Unemployment Rate	5.3%	3.6%	6.9%

Office of Economic Opportunity

**WORKFORCE EDUCATION ATTAINMENT**

	Count	Share
Less than high school	2,587	8.3%
High school or equivalent, no college	5,990	19.2%
Some college or Associate degree	11,521	37.0%
Bachelor's degree or advanced degree	11,023	35.4%

American Community Survey

**INDUSTRY (RANKED BY EMPLOYMENT)**

	Count	Share
Education, health care & social assistance	4,952	34.3%
Arts, entertainment, food & recreation services	1,801	12.5%
Retail trade	1,640	11.4%
Professional, scientific, & administrative services	1,276	8.8%
Other services, except public administration	889	6.2%
Public administration	764	5.3%
Finance, insurance & real estate	744	5.2%
Construction	720	5.0%
Manufacturing	691	4.8%
Transportation, warehousing, & utilities	434	3.0%
Information	255	1.8%
Wholesale trade	157	1.1%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, & mining	116	0.8%

American Community Survey

This profile was prepared by the Arizona Commerce Authority in cooperation with local sources. For further information, please contact:

**City of Prescott**

Jeff Burt  
 201 S. Cortez  
 Prescott, AZ 86303  
 Phone: 928-777-1227  
 Email: [jeff.burt@prescott-az.gov](mailto:jeff.burt@prescott-az.gov)  
 Website: [www.prescott-az.gov](http://www.prescott-az.gov)

**Greater Prescott Regional  
Economic Partnership**

Richard Heath  
 Phone: 928-775-4883  
 Email: [rheath@grepaz.com](mailto:rheath@grepaz.com)  
 Website: [www.grepaz.com](http://www.grepaz.com)

**Prescott Chamber of Commerce**

117 W. Goodwin St.  
 Prescott, AZ 86303  
 Phone: 928-445-2000  
 Email: [chamber@prescott.org](mailto:chamber@prescott.org)  
 Website: [www.prescott.org](http://www.prescott.org)

**Local First Arizona**

407 E. Roosevelt St.  
 Phoenix, AZ 85004  
 Phone: 602-956-0909  
 Email: [info@localfirstaz.com](mailto:info@localfirstaz.com)  
 Website: [www.localfirstaz.com](http://www.localfirstaz.com)

**Arizona Commerce Authority**

Statewide Economic Development Group  
 333 N. Central Ave., Suite 1900  
 Phoenix, AZ 85004  
 Phone: 602-845-1200  
 Email: [info@azcommerce.com](mailto:info@azcommerce.com)  
 Website: [www.azcommerce.com](http://www.azcommerce.com)

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