

Nogales, Arizona, and its twin city, Nogales, Sonora, Mexico (Ambos Nogales), are on the international border separating the United States and Mexico. The Arizona city serves as both the economic, educational, and cultural capital and the county seat of Santa Cruz County, the smallest and southernmost of Arizona's counties. The city enjoys moderate year-round weather because of its high Sonoran Desert setting at an elevation of 3,865 feet. Nogales was established in 1880 by Jacob and Isaac Isaacson, who built a trading post along the international border. Two years later, Nogales was the site of the first rail connection between Mexico and the United States, and the city was incorporated in 1893.

Principal Economic Activities

Boasting 200 years of entrepreneurship, mercantilism, and international commerce through three ports of entry, Nogales' economy thrives on international trade, manufacturing, tourism, and related services. The Ambos Nogales region is home to one of the largest cooperative manufacturing (maquiladora) clusters in North America, with more than 110 companies located in the region. It is also home to America's largest port of entry for Mexican produce—more than four billion pounds of fruits and vegetables enter through Nogales' Mariposa Port a year. Mexican shoppers cross the border and generate more than 60% of Nogales' sales tax revenue.

Scenic Attractions

The city of Nogales and Santa Cruz County have 200 properties listed in the National Register of Historic Sites, two of which are Tumacacori National Monument, visited by Father Kino in 1691; and Tubac Presidio, established by the Spanish in 1752 on an Indian village site. Other sites include the Old Tubac Schoolhouse, Old Nogales City Hall, Santa Cruz County Courthouse, and Patagonia Railroad Depot. The Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Sanctuary, 19 miles east, attracts worldwide visitors to see its diverse bird life. Nogales' original city hall houses Pimeria Alta Historical Society Museum. Nearby are Parker Canyon, Pena Blanca Lake and Patagonia Lake State Park. Visitors also enjoy area ghost towns, mining camps, and wineries near Sonoita and Elgin.

Community Facilities

Educational institutions in Nogales include the University of Arizona –Santa Cruz, Cochise College, and Nogales Unified School District.

Nogales is home to Carondelet Holy Cross Hospital, a 56-bed facility, and Mariposa Community Health Center which operates three health centers in Nogales and Santa Cruz County. Nogales International Airport serves Nogales and Santa Cruz County with a 7,200 ft. runway that accommodates private passenger service and specialty air cargo operations. The city of Nogales has a wide range of recreational facilities including nine parks, a museum, an art gallery, two recreation centers, two swimming pools, six athletic fields, a library, four tennis courts, and three exciting nearby golf courses.



BASIC INFORMATION

Founded: 1880 **Incorporated:** 1893
Elevation: 3,865 ft. **Location:** Santa Cruz County

Distance to major cities:

Phoenix: 179 miles **San Diego:** 473 miles
Tucson: 67 miles **Los Angeles:** 551 miles
Las Vegas: 472 miles

POPULATION

	1990	2000	2014 (est.)
Nogales	19,595	20,878	21,647
Santa Cruz County	29,900	38,381	49,554
State of Arizona	3,680,800	5,130,632	6,667,241

Arizona Dept. of Administration - azstats.gov

PROPERTY TAX

	1990	2000	2014
Elementary / High School	5.16	7.50	5.88
City / Fire District	0.00	0.00	0.00
Santa Cruz County	4.89	4.58	5.43
Totals (Santa Cruz County)	10.05	12.08	11.31

Arizona Dept. of Revenue & Arizona Tax Research Foundation

SALES TAX / TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX

Nogales	2.00%
Santa Cruz County	1.00%
State	5.60%

Arizona Dept. of Revenue & Arizona Tax Research Foundation

LABOR FORCE

	1990	2000	2014
Civilian Labor Force	8,471	7,404	8,416
Unemployed	1,535	750	1,476
Unemployment Rate	18.1%	10.1%	17.5%

Arizona Dept. of Administration - azstats.gov

WORKFORCE EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

	Count	Share
Less than high school	4,582	38.0%
High school or equivalent, no college	3,562	29.6%
Some college or Associate degree	2,491	20.7%
Bachelor's degree or advanced degree	1,410	11.7%

Census Bureau - Fact Finder

INDUSTRY (RANKED BY EMPLOYMENT)

	Count	Share
Retail trade	1,893	27.7%
Education, health care & social assistance	1,102	16.1%
Arts, entertainment, food & recreation services	765	11.2%
Wholesale trade	747	10.9%
Transportation, warehousing, & utilities	469	6.9%
Professional, scientific, & administrative services	456	6.7%
Public administration	302	4.4%
Manufacturing	295	4.3%
Other services, except public administration	284	4.2%
Construction	237	3.5%
Finance, insurance & real estate	224	3.3%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, & mining	38	0.6%
Information	26	0.4%

Census Bureau - Fact Finder

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

City of Nogales

Aaron White
 777 N. Grand Ave.
 Nogales, AZ 85621
 Phone: 520-285-5605
 Email: awhite@nogalesaz.gov
 Website: www.nogalesaz.gov

Local First Arizona

407 E. Roosevelt St.
 Phoenix, AZ 85004
 Phone: 602-956-0909
 Email: info@localfirstaz.com
 Website: www.localfirstaz.com

**Nogales/Santa Cruz County
Chamber of Commerce**

123 W. Kino Park
 Nogales, AZ 85621
 Phone: 520-287-3685
 Email: info@thenogaleschamber.org
 Website: www.thenogaleschamber.org

Arizona Commerce Authority

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