

Joseph City

Community Profile

Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Joseph City is in Navajo County on Interstate 40 about 80 miles east of Flagstaff. As early as 1854, Mormons had tried to establish communities in the Little Colorado River territory, but they were driven out by the Navajos. Between 1858 and the early 1870s, Mormon pioneers made several reconnaissance missions to locate river crossings, water holes and suitable trails. In 1876, Mormon settlers again came from Utah to colonize the area. St. Joseph, Arizona, was founded along with three other communities. In 1923, since St. Joseph, Missouri, was also on the Santa Fe Railway line, St. Joseph, Arizona, was changed to Joseph City. Today the community is the oldest Mormon settlement in Arizona.

Basic Information

Founded: 1876
 Elevation: 5,280
 Located in Navajo County
 Nearby Highways: HWYS I-40, Old Route 66
 Enterprise Zone available

Distance to Major Cities:
 Phoenix: 221 miles
 Tucson: 335 miles

Population

	1990	2000	2008
Joseph City	N/A	N/A	N/A
Navajo County	77,674	97,470	114,780
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	6,629,455

Sources: Arizona Department of Commerce and US Census Bureau
 Note: Local sources last estimated population at 1,350. U.S. Census Bureau and Dept. of Econ. Sec. do not report on population figures for this area.

Principal Economic Activities

Joseph City's location on I-40 has contributed to the development of a sizable retail trade and service sector in the local economy. Commercial activity in Navajo County has been increasing significantly around I-40 in recent years. The four power plants of Arizona Public Service, with a kilowatt capacity totaling 946,000, are also significant to the Joseph City economy. The Cholla power plant is in Joseph City the largest APS-owned generating station in Arizona.

County Employment

	2008
Government	10,800
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5,725
Educational and Health Services	3,425
Leisure and Hospitality	2,975
Mining and Construction	2,525
Professional and Business Services	1,225
Information	800
Manufacturing	725
Other Services	625
Financial Activities	600

Source: Arizona Department of Commerce
 Figures are organized under the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).

Private Employers

APS Power Plant
 Diamond S. Trucking
 Family Healing Center
 Geronimo Trading Post

Public Employers

Joseph City Post Office
 Joseph City School Dist



Labor Force Data

	1990	2000	2008
Civilian Labor Force	N/R	N/R	N/R
Unemployed	N/R	N/R	N/R
Unemployment Rate	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: Arizona Department of Commerce
 NOTE: Labor Force data unavailable for this area. N/R: Not report.

Growth Indicators

	1990	2000	2008
Net Assessed Value (\$)	2.4 million	3.4 million	5.3 million

Sources: Arizona State Univ., AZ Dept. of Revenue, AZ Tax Research Assoc.

Scenic Attractions

The Petrified Forest and Painted Desert are east of Joseph City. The Painted Desert Inn, built in 1924 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is located at Kachina Point. In 1985, the fossil remains of one of the earliest-known dinosaurs was found in the Petrified Forest. Cholla Lake has been developed into a recreational area. To the south is Mogollon Rim country with its tall pines and mountain lakes. Ancient Hopi Indian villages and prehistoric ruins and cliff dwellings of the Navajo Reservation reveal the history of the tribes and the early West. On the reservation are Monument Valley, Canyon de Chelly, Little Colorado River Gorge, Grand Falls, Rainbow Bridge, Betatakin and Window Rock. A few miles south is the Rock Art Canyon Ranch, home of Anasazi petroglyphs.

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Community Facilities

Joseph City offers a broad range of community facilities including an auditorium, a library, several lighted basketball and tennis courts, a recreation center, one Olympic-size indoor swimming pool, lighted football and baseball fields, racquetball courts, basketball courts, a track and five gyms available at the schools.

Educational Institutions	Public	Private
Elementary	Y	N
High School	Y	N

Financial

Government

Fire Department: Volunteer

Law Enforcement: Dept. of Public Safety & County Sheriff

Medical

A full service Family Healing Center, staffed by a pediatrician/physician's assistant.

Hotel & Lodging

Number of Rooms: n/a

Meeting Rooms: 1

Capacity of Largest Facility: 1,000

Industrial Properties:

For more information contact the Joseph City Chamber of Commerce.

Utilities

Cable	Cable One	888-216-7515
Electricity	APS (Statewide)	800.253-9405
Natural Gas	Citizens Utilities (Joseph City)	928.524.3412
Telephone	Qwest (statewide)	800.244.1111
Water/Sewer/Lt.	Joseph City Utilities	928.288.3455

Cable Providers: Y

Digital Switching Station: Y

Internet Service Provider: Y

Cable Internet Service Provider: N

Fiber Optics: N

Taxes

Property Tax Rate	1990	2000	2008
Elementary/High Schools	0.99	3.26	2.85
City/Fire District	1.19	1.86	1.89
Countywide	2.32	2.90	2.56
Totals	4.50	8.02	7.30

Source: Arizona Tax Research Association

Note: Tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation

NOTE: School district participates in the Northern Arizona Vocational Institute of Technology (NAVIT).

Sales Tax

	2008
City/Town	0.00%
County	0.50%
State	5.60%

Sources: League of Arizona Cities & Towns, Arizona Dept. of Revenue

Weather

	Avg. Low (°F)	Avg. High (°F)	Precip. (in.)
	37.7	71.9	0.7
January	18.7	48.1	0.6
February	23.6	55.2	0.5
March	28.6	62.8	0.6
April	35.3	71.4	0.4
May	42.5	80.7	0.3
June	51.0	90.7	0.3
July	59.7	93.9	1.4
August	58.7	91.3	1.5
September	50.7	85.3	1.0
October	37.9	74.0	0.7
November	26.1	60.3	0.6
December	19.7	48.6	0.6

Source: Western Regional Climate Center

Western Regional Climate Center, wrcc@dri.edu. Period of record 1893-2005. Average Total Snowfall 8.3". Nearest data available from Holbrook, AZ.

This profile was prepared by the Arizona Department of Commerce Communications Division in cooperation with local sources.

For further information contact:

Navajo Economic Development
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 Holbrook, AZ 86025
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