

Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Pima is on the Gila River in north-central Graham County. Mormon settlers seeking a canal site in the Gila Valley laid out a town site, naming it Smithville for Mormon leader Jesse Smith. The town was later renamed Pima after the Indian tribe. The Gila River was one of the main waterways followed by fur trappers and mountain men in the 1820s and 1830s. The lands aside the river became the Gila Trail along which General Stephen W. Kearny brought his "Army of the West" in 1846. From Tucson, the route to Pima is east on Interstate 10 to U.S. 191, turning north to Safford, then northwest on U.S. 70. From Phoenix, Pima is reached via U.S. 60 to Globe, then U.S. 70.

A REDI accredited community

Basic Information

Founded: 1879
 Incorporated: 1916
 Elevation: 2,846
 Located in Graham County
 Nearby Highways: HWYS I-10; US 70; US 191
 Enterprise Zone available

Distance to Major Cities:
 Phoenix: 153 miles
 Tucson: 151 miles

Population

	1990	2000	2007
Pima	1,725	1,989	2,233
Graham County	26,554	33,489	37,338
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	6,500,194

Sources: Arizona Department of Commerce and US Census Bureau

Principal Economic Activities

Agriculture is the predominant economic activity in Graham County. Pima historically has been an agricultural center, with irrigation water coming from the Gila River. As a farm trade center, Pima serves surrounding agricultural areas. It is also becoming a popular retirement community. Increases in tourism and winter visitors have boosted wholesale and retail trade. County, state and federal offices and the community college in Thatcher also provide employment.

County Employment

	2007
Other Private Service-Providing	2,925
Government	2,800
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	1,600
Goods Producing	1,100

Source: Arizona Department of Commerce

Figures are organized under the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).



Labor Force Data

	1990	2000	2007
Civilian Labor Force	625	922	1,070
Unemployed	53	40	36
Unemployment Rate	8.5%	4.3%	3.4%

Source: Arizona Department of Commerce

Growth Indicators

	1990	2000	2007
New Bldg. Permits	44	0	22
Taxable Sales (\$)	4.9 million	7.4 million	12.1 million
Net Assessed Value (\$)	2.7 million	4.1 million	5.1 million

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

2000 New building permit data issued no report; 2007 data incomplete: One or more months not available

Scenic Attractions

Pima is about 15 miles north of the Coronado National Forest, which provides numerous recreational facilities. Two of the most popular areas are the Pinaleno Mtns. and 10,720-foot Mt. Graham. The 36-mile long Swift Trail goes to Mt. Graham's summit and features many picnic and camping sites. Forty-nine miles away is the ranger station at Columbine and Riggs Lake, which has facilities for fishing, boating and other water-oriented activities. U.S. 70 connects Pima to recreation areas at San Carlos Lake and Coolidge Dam, as well as Cluff Ranch, the frontier fortifications of Fort Thomas and Geronimo, and the historic cattle-shipment point of Calva. Other attractions include Hot Wells Dunes, Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area, Black Hills Back Country Byway and Discovery Park.

Community Facilities

The Town of Pima has a museum, a library, two city parks (41 acres), a swimming pool, a roping arena, several handball, tennis and racquetball courts, and four softball/baseball fields.

<u>Educational Institutions</u>	<u>Public</u>	<u>Private</u>
Elementary	Y	N
High School	Y	N

Financial

Banking services are available in nearby Safford, 7 miles southeast

Government

Fire Department: Volunteer
Law Enforcement: City Police Department

Airports

Safford Airport, 7 miles southeast, has two lighted/paved 4,800-ft. runways, UNICOM radio, rental car and charter plane services are available.

Medical

Safford, less than 10 miles east, has complete facilities available.

Hotel & Lodging

Number of Rooms: 1
Meeting Rooms: n/a
Capacity of Largest Facility: n/a

Industrial Properties:

For more information contact the Pima Chamber of Commerce, Pima Town Hall or the Graham County Chamber of Commerce.

Utilities

Electricity	Graham County Elec. Coop.	928.485.2451
Natural Gas	Graham County Elec. Coop.	928.485.2451
Propane	Griffen Propane	928.428.0071
Propane	Matlock Gas Co.	928.428.0641
Sewer	Town of Pima	928.485.2611
Telephone	Qwest (statewide)	800.244.1111
Water	Graham County Elec. Coop.	928.485.2451

Cable Providers: Y	Cable Internet Service Provider: Y
Digital Switching Station: Y	Fiber Optics: Y
Internet Service Provider: Y	

Taxes

<u>Property Tax Rate</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2007</u>
Elementary/High Schools	3.29	4.40	3.22
City/Fire District	0.27	0.21	0.18
Countywide	4.79	4.32	3.87
Totals	8.35	8.93	7.27

Source: Arizona Tax Research Association

Note: Tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation

NOTE: School district participates in Gila Institute for Technology (GIFT).

Sales Tax

	<u>2007</u>
City/Town	2.00%
County	0.50%
State	5.60%

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

Weather

	<u>Avg. Low (°F)</u>	<u>Avg. High (°F)</u>	<u>Precip. (in.)</u>
	46.3	80.0	9.0
January	28.7	60.0	0.7
February	31.9	64.8	0.6
March	37.0	70.6	0.6
April	43.2	79.7	0.3
May	51.1	88.8	0.2
June	60.2	98.0	0.3
July	67.7	98.2	1.6
August	65.9	95.7	1.6
September	58.9	92.1	1.0
October	47.1	82.4	0.9
November	35.4	69.2	0.5
December	28.8	60.2	0.8

Source: Western Regional Climate Center

Western Regional Climate Center, wrcc@dri.edu. Period of record 1948-2005.

Average Total Snowfall 1.0". Nearest weather data available from Safford Agricultural Center, AZ.

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

For further information contact:

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