

Pine/Strawberry

Community Profile

Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Pine and Strawberry are rapidly growing vacation and retirement centers in the north central part of the state. Pine is at an elevation of 5,448 feet and is named for the surrounding pine timber country. The community's post office was founded in 1884. Strawberry, at an elevation of 6,047 feet, was named for the wild strawberries that grow in the area. The communities are about 110 miles northeast of Phoenix and are unincorporated. The area has four seasons, but none are severe; although snow falls in the winter, it usually melts quickly.

Basic Information

Founded: 1884
 Distance to Major Cities:
 Incorporated: No
 Phoenix: 100 miles
 Elevation: 5,400
 Tucson: 200 miles
 Located in Gila County
 Nearby Highways: HWYS SR 87, SR 260

Population

	1990	2000	2007
Pine/Strawberry	1,811	2,959	N/A
Gila County	40,216	51,335	56,885
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	6,500,194

Sources: Arizona Department of Commerce and US Census Bureau
 *Local sources estimate population at 5,000 during summer months. 1990 figures have been revised based on current calculations by Central Arizona Association of Governments. N/A: Population estimates for this community are not available.

Principal Economic Activities

As vacation and retirement centers, the commercial sectors of both communities rely heavily on weekend tourists and second-home residents. With the growth in the area, light industry manufacturing development is being encouraged. Some residents travel to Payson for employment; however, most nontourist-related income comes from construction and service-related businesses.

County Employment

	2007
Government	4,925
Other Private Service-Providing	4,675
Goods Producing	2,575
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	2,375

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	0	1,291	1,348
Unemployed	0	34	30
Unemployment Rate	0.0%	2.6%	2.2%

Source: Arizona Department of Commerce
 Labor Force data for 1990 is unavailable

Growth Indicators

	1990	2000	2007
Net Assessed Value (\$)	21 million	38.3 million	63.5 million

Source: Arizona Tax Research Assoc.

Scenic Attractions

The pine-clad country around Pine and Strawberry and the Blue Ridge Reservoir, Bear Canyon Lake and Knoll Lake offer many recreational opportunities and facilities. Campgrounds in the 7,000-foot Mogollon Rim area are plentiful. Scenic drives include Control Road which winds along the Mogollon Rim base, and Mogollon Rim Road, part of the historical General Crook Military Road. Nearby is Tonto Natural Bridge, the world's largest travertine bridge. Community activities include a walking tour of historic buildings in Pine and Strawberry, a Strawberry Festival, a chili cook-off, a fireworks display, an Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social, a community picnic, and arts and craft festivals. Pine hosts the Pine Country Fair and Strawberry boasts Arizona's oldest schoolhouse (a state historical site).

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Community Facilities

There are many community facilities in both nearby Payson and Pine. Payson has one indoor theater, a zoo, an 18-hole golf course, rodeo grounds, three tennis courts, a library and one park. Pine offers a library, a museum, a park, a roping arena and a community center.

Educational Institutions	Public	Private
Elementary	Y	N
Middle School	Y	N

Financial

Government

Fire Department: Staffed City/Local Fire Department
Law Enforcement: Sheriff's Office

Medical

Medical clinic & three nursing homes. Complete medical care available in Payson (15 miles south).

Hotel & Lodging

Number of Rooms: 8
Meeting Rooms: 1
Capacity of Largest Facility: 100

Industrial Properties:

For more information contact the Pine/Strawberry Chamber of Commerce.

Utilities

Electricity	APS (Statewide)	800.253-9405
Propane	Aztec Butane Co.	928.474.3334
Propane	Broken Bow Gas Company	928.474.2294
Sewer	Septic tanks	
Telephone	Qwest (statewide)	800.244.1111
Water	Utility Mgmt. & Oper. Servs.	928.474.2100

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

Taxes

Property Tax Rate	1990	2000	2007
Elementary/High Schools	5.73	5.03	3.72
City/Fire District	1.64	2.27	2.67
Countywide	4.91	5.37	5.01
Totals	12.28	12.67	11.40

Source: Arizona Tax Research Association
Note: Tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation

Sales Tax

	2007
City/Town	0.00%
County	1.00%
State	5.60%

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

Weather

	Avg. Low (°F)	Avg. High (°F)	Precip. (in.)
	39.0	72.5	21.5
January	24.6	53.8	2.2
February	26.6	57.4	2.0
March	29.8	61.9	2.3
April	35.0	70.2	1.1
May	41.7	79.2	0.5
June	49.6	89.3	0.4
July	58.3	92.4	2.7
August	57.4	89.6	3.1
September	50.4	85.0	1.9
October	40.3	74.9	1.7
November	30.0	62.3	1.6
December	24.5	54.5	1.9

Source: Western Regional Climate Center
Western Regional Climate Center, wrcc@dri.edu. Period of record 1940-2005.
Average Total Snowfall 24.1". Data from Payson, 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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