

Williams

Community Profile

Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Williams is in the valleys & meadows at the base of Bill Williams Mountain, in the beautiful Kaibab National Forest of north-central Arizona. Known as the Gateway to the Grand Canyon®, it offers the shortest route from Interstate 40 to the splendor of the Canyon. The Grand Canyon Railway offers turn-of-the-20th-century steam engine or vintage 1950s diesel locomotive train rides between Williams & the Grand Canyon. Williams, the city & the mountain, were named for William S. "Bill" Williams, a famous master trapper & scout on the Santa Fe Trail. Williams maintains its attractive small-town atmosphere, while large-town conveniences & entertainment are only 30 min. away in Flagstaff via I-40.

A Main Street and REDI accredited community

Basic Information

Founded: 1881
 Incorporated: 1901
 Elevation: 6,940
 Located in Coconino County
 Nearby Highways: HWYS I-40; SR 64
 Enterprise Zone available

Distance to Major Cities:
 Phoenix: 170 miles
 Tucson: 281 miles

Population

	1990	2000	2008
Williams	2,532	2,842	3,165
Coconino County	96,591	116,320	135,613
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	6,629,455

Sources: Arizona Department of Commerce and US Census Bureau

Principal Economic Activities

Williams' location 59 miles south of the Grand Canyon makes tourist-oriented retail and service firms a major economic segment. Its proximity to ski runs and cross-country skiing, coupled with the more than 5 million tourists at the Grand Canyon annually, create an average traffic flow of more than 15,000 vehicles a day. The Forest Service, cattle and sheep ranching, dry farming, small industries, and rock quarrying also contribute to the economy. The city is encouraging future diversification.

County Employment

	2008
Government	19,900
Leisure and Hospitality	13,200
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	10,300
Educational and Health Services	7,200
Manufacturing	3,900
Mining and Construction	3,200
Professional and Business Services	3,100
Other Services	1,900
Financial Activities	1,600
Information	400

Source: Arizona Department of Commerce

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



Labor Force Data

	1990	2000	2008
Civilian Labor Force	1,192	1,540	1,808
Unemployed	44	65	87
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	4.2%	4.8%

Source: Arizona Department of Commerce

Growth Indicators

	1990	2000	2008
New Bldg. Permits	128	68	N/R
Taxable Sales (\$)	28.3 million	87.5 million	141.7 million
Net Assessed Value (\$)	10.2 million	22.3 million	56.2 million

Sources: Arizona State Univ., AZ Dept. of Revenue, AZ Tax Research Assoc.
 2000 New building permit data incomplete: One or more months not available.
 N/R: Not report.

Scenic Attractions

In addition to the Grand Canyon, attractions in the area include 9,264-ft. Bill Williams Mountain, White Horse Lake & Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Area. Williams is the last town on Route 66 to be bypassed by Interstate 40 & is a popular stop for Mother Road enthusiasts. The Williams/Kaibab National Forest Visitor center is located in the historic Santa Fe Freight Depot. Air & ground scenic tours are available in Williams. The surrounding Kaibab National Forest offers seasonal hunting. For fishing enthusiasts, six well-stocked lakes surround Williams. Camping is available with 200 Natl. Forest campsites & 300 private sites in the region. The Elk Ridge Ski & Outdoor Recreation Area provides downhill skiing & sledding & snow play areas during the winter; cross-country ski trails are nearby.

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Community Facilities

Williams offers a broad range of community facilities including a community building, a library, 18-hole golf course, a country club, five parks, 30 horse stables, four lighted tennis courts and a community concerts program. Additional athletic facilities include a track, football and baseball fields, one Little League field, one rodeo arena, one softball field, and two practice fields. For ski enthusiasts, there is a ski run with 1,500-foot Pullman tow, and a 450-foot vertical Pomona lift; cross-country ski areas, tobogganing and inner tube runs, and places to just play in the snow. Williams also hosts annual events such as the Bill Williams Rendezvous Days on Memorial Day weekend. Mountain Village holiday held Thanksgiving through New Year's.

Educational Institutions	Public	Private
Elementary	Y	N
Middle School	Y	N
High School	Y	Y

Financial

Number of banks: 2

Government

Fire Department: Volunteer
Law Enforcement: City Police Department

Airports

H.A. Clark Memorial Airport has a lighted/paved 6,000-foot runway.

Medical

Williams Healthcare Center

Hotel & Lodging

Number of Rooms: 1,512
Meeting Rooms: 8
Capacity of Largest Facility: 350

Industrial Properties:

Several areas owned by private individuals and the City of Williams may be available for industrial subdivision. There is access to I-40, railroad, and a municipal airport. Contact Williams-Grand Canyon Chamber of Commerce, 200 W. Railroad Avenue, Williams, AZ 86046, (928) 635-1418 or City of Williams (928) 635-4451.

Utilities

Electricity	APS (Williams)	928-635-2667
Natural Gas	Natural Gas	928-774-4592
Solid Waste	City of Williams	928.635.4451
Telephone	Qwest (statewide)	800.244.1111
Water & Sewer	City of Williams	928.635.4451

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

Taxes

Property Tax Rate	1990	2000	2008
Elementary/High Schools	3.80	5.31	3.73
City/Fire District	3.81	1.41	1.16
Countywide	1.66	1.71	1.23
Totals	9.27	8.43	6.12

Source: Arizona Tax Research Association

Note: Tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation

NOTE: School district participates in the Coconino Association for Vocations, Industry, and Technology (CAVIAT).

Sales Tax

	2008
City/Town	3.00%
County	1.13%
State	5.60%

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

Weather

	Avg. Low (°F)	Avg. High (°F)	Precip. (in.)
	34.8	63.8	1.8
January	19.6	45.1	2.1
February	21.9	47.5	2.2
March	25.5	52.3	2.1
April	31.4	61.0	1.3
May	38.6	70.1	0.7
June	46.4	80.4	0.5
July	53.1	83.6	2.9
August	52.1	80.9	3.2
September	46.1	75.8	1.7
October	35.7	66.3	1.5
November	26.3	55.1	1.4
December	20.7	47.0	2.1

Source: Western Regional Climate Center

Western Regional Climate Center, wrcc@dri.edu. Period of record 1897-2005. Average Total Snowfall 69.3".

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

For further information contact:

Williams-Grand Canyon Chamber of Commerce
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Williams, AZ 86046
Phone: 928.635.0273, Fax: 928.635.1417
Email: info@williamschamber.com
Website: www.williamschamber.com

Williams & Forest Service Visitor Center
200 W. Railroad Ave.
Williams, AZ 86046
Phone: 928.635.4707, Fax: 928.635.1417
Email: info@williamschamber.co
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