

Yavapai County, one of the state's oldest counties, was among the original four created when Arizona was still a territory. Although Yavapai County originally encompassed more than 65,000 square miles, it now covers only 8,125 square miles, but is still as large as the state of New Jersey. It was called the "Mother of Counties," from which Apache, Coconino, Gila, Maricopa and Navajo counties were all formed. The provisional seat of the territorial government was established at Fort Whipple in Chino Valley on Jan. 22, 1864. Nine months later it was moved 20 miles away to the little mining community of Prescott. In 1867, the capital was moved to Tucson where it remained for 10 years. Then the capital was shifted back to Prescott, where it remained until 1889, when it was permanently relocated to Phoenix. Prescott is now the county seat of Yavapai County. Yavapai County offers many local attractions ranging from natural to cultural to educational. Scenic pine forests provide year-round recreational opportunities, and museums, monuments and rodeos reflect Arizona's tribal and territorial past. Institutions of higher learning include two colleges and an aeronautical university. The county has experienced tremendous growth in recent years, with the population up by more than 30 percent since 1990. The U.S. Forest Service owns 38 percent of the land in Yavapai County, including portions of Prescott, Tonto and Coconino national forests, while the state of Arizona owns an additional 25 percent. Twenty-five percent of land in the county is owned by individuals or corporations, and 12 percent is the property of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. The Yavapai Indian Reservation and other public lands each occupy less than half of a percent of land in the county.



County Profile for
Yavapai County, Arizona

POPULATION

	2000	2010	2023 (est.)
Yavapai County	167,517	210,899	241,173

Office of Economic Opportunity

SALES TAX / TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX

Yavapai County	0.75%
State	5.60%

Arizona Dept. of Revenue & Arizona Tax Research Foundation

LABOR FORCE

	2000	2010	2022
Civilian Labor Force	75,804	96,533	105,108
Unemployed	3,038	10,309	4,337
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	10.7%	4.1%

Office of Economic Opportunity

WORKFORCE EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

	Count	Share
Less than high school	14,648	8.2%
High school or equivalent, no college	46,987	26.2%
Some college or Associate degree	70,693	39.4%
Bachelor's degree or advanced degree	47,221	26.3%

American Community Survey

INDUSTRY (RANKED BY EMPLOYMENT)

	Count	Share
Education, health care & social assistance	21,090	23.4%
Retail trade	12,714	14.1%
Arts, entertainment, food & recreation services	10,743	11.9%
Professional, scientific, & administrative services	9,252	10.3%
Construction	8,148	9.0%
Other services, except public administration	6,035	6.7%
Finance, insurance & real estate	4,892	5.4%
Manufacturing	4,695	5.2%
Public administration	4,650	5.2%
Transportation, warehousing, & utilities	3,365	3.7%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, & mining	1,925	2.1%
Information	1,348	1.5%
Wholesale trade	1,257	1.4%

American Community Survey

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

ACA has partnered with APS to provide you with Arizona Prospector, a free database to access available real estate opportunities in rural Arizona. [Click here](#) to access available properties in this county.