

Duncan is located beside the beautiful Gila River in historic Greenlee County and five miles from the New Mexico border. The U.S. Highway 70, or the Old West Highway, is the major route through Duncan. Duncan connects with Clifton, the county seat, and Morenci, a major copper-producing town, via State Route 75. Founded in 1883 alongside the Union Pacific Railroad, Duncan is named after James Duncan Smith, a director of the Scottish-based Arizona Copper Company. Duncan is now a small town ideally suited for families and retirees. The Arizona Copper Company became Phelps Dodge and was acquired by Freeport McMoRan Copper and Gold in 2007.

Principal Economic Activities

Duncan is in the heart of Greenlee County's principal agricultural area, the verdant and fertile Duncan Valley. Some 10,000 acres are under irrigation and produce about 5,000 bales of cotton annually. Other crops are grains, potatoes, melons and chilies. Cattle continues to play an important role in the economy, both on dairy farms and cattle ranches. The commercial sector consists of small retail and service establishments that include Hilda's Market, a pizzeria (Humble Pie), Duncan Farm and Garden Center, Simpson Hotel and a grocery store. Mining is also significant to the economy.

Scenic Attractions

The Old West Highway provides a historic and scenic drive through the nearby towns of Safford, Clifton and Morenci. The Lazy B Ranch is home to the largest fire-agate field in the nation. The Lazy B Ranch was the childhood home of Sandra Day O'Connor, the first woman appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Surrounding hills are covered with geodes and other rocks to satisfy the most avid rockhound. Duncan offers several hiking trails and bird watching areas. Native American writings and other artifacts can be found in many of the box canyons and cliffs in the area. Also nearby is Swift Trail, which goes through the Pinaleno Mountains, capped by Mt. Graham at an elevation of 10,700 feet. The scenic Coronado Trail in the Apache National Forest is nearby, as well as Morenci's open pit mines and Clifton's historic Chase Creek. Hunting and fishing are popular pastimes.

Community Facilities

Duncan has a library, parks, municipal swimming pool, senior center, golf course, numerous tennis courts and a visitor center/country chic store. School facilities include volleyball, basketball, baseball and softball fields and tennis courts. Duncan offers stables and roping arenas. Events include Spring Rampage (a rodeo and roping event), bicycling competitions and the Greenlee County Fair. Duncan is home to the Duncan Pride Society Museum and the famous Hal Empie paintings.



Community Profile for
Duncan, Arizona

BASIC INFORMATION

Founded:	1883
Incorporated:	1938
Elevation:	3,535 ft.
Location:	Greenlee

Distance to major cities:

Phoenix:	204 miles
Tucson:	166 miles
Las Vegas:	498 miles
San Diego:	573 miles
Los Angeles:	577 miles

POPULATION

	2000	2010	2023 (est.)
Duncan	812	695	692

Office of Economic Opportunity

SALES TAX / TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX

Duncan	2.00%
Greenlee	0.50%
State	5.60%

Arizona Dept. of Revenue & Arizona Tax Research Foundation

LABOR FORCE

	2000	2010	2022
Civilian Labor Force	307	257	257
Unemployed	15	42	4
Unemployment Rate	4.9%	16.3%	1.6%

Office of Economic Opportunity

WORKFORCE EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

	Count	Share
Less than high school	83	17.7%
High school or equivalent, no college	160	34.2%
Some college or Associate degree	112	23.9%
Bachelor's degree or advanced degree	113	24.1%

American Community Survey

INDUSTRY (RANKED BY EMPLOYMENT)

	Count	Share
Education, health care & social assistance	98	40.2%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, & mining	41	16.8%
Construction	29	11.9%
Arts, entertainment, food & recreation services	17	7.0%
Public administration	14	5.7%
Finance, insurance & real estate	13	5.3%
Transportation, warehousing, & utilities	13	5.3%
Professional, scientific, & administrative services	10	4.1%
Retail trade	9	3.7%

American Community Survey

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

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