

# Cottonwood

## Community Profile

### Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Cottonwood is a retail and services center located about 50 miles south of Flagstaff in the picturesque Verde Valley. In 1874, soldiers from Camp Verde were stationed at an adobe house where Cottonwood stands today. Settlers began moving in, developing a community that took its name from a circle of 16 cottonwood trees near the Verde River. Cottonwood is near the geographic center of Arizona near Interstate 17 on state Highways 89A and 260. From Phoenix, drive north to exit 287, then northwest on state Highway 260. From Flagstaff, drive south through the magnificent Oak Creek Canyon on state Highway 89A.

A Main Street and REDI accredited community

### Basic Information

Founded: 1879  
 Incorporated: 1960  
 Elevation: 3,320  
 Located in Yavapai County  
 Nearby Highways: HWYS I-17; SR 89A; SR 260  
 Enterprise Zone available

Distance to Major Cities:  
 Phoenix: 106 miles  
 Tucson: 217 miles

### Population

	1990	2000	2006
Cottonwood	5,918	9,179	10,925
Yavapai County	107,714	167,517	213,285
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	6,305,210

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security and US Census Bureau

### Principal Economic Activities

Cottonwood serves as the trading center for the Verde Valley, with a wide variety of retail establishments, professional services and manufacturing concerns. Verde Valley Medical Center is one of the finest diagnostic and treatment centers in Northern Arizona. Travel and tourism industry are also important to Cottonwood's economy. Nearby national forests, state parks, national monuments and wilderness areas attract hundreds of thousands of tourists each year.

### County Employment

	2006
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	12,300
Government	11,500
Mining and Construction	9,200
Educational and Health Services	8,900
Leisure and Hospitality	7,900
Professional and Business Services	5,200
Manufacturing	3,800
Financial Activities	2,400
Other Services	2,200
Information	600

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security

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

### Major Private Employers

Griffith Enterprises  
 Phelps & Sons, Inc.  
 Verde Valley Medical Center  
 Wal-Mart

### Major Public Employers

Arizona Public Service  
 City of Cottonwood  
 Cottonwood/Oak Creek School District  
 Mingus Union High School



### Labor Force Data

	1990	2000	2006
Civilian Labor Force	2,268	4,066	5,109
Unemployed	138	173	202
Unemployment Rate	6.1%	4.3%	4.0%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security

### Growth Indicators

	1990	2000	2006
New Bldg. Permits	106	501	433
Taxable Sales (\$)	119.6 million	263.9 million	438.1 million
Net Assessed Value (\$)	34.9 million	58.4 million	105.7 million

Sources: Arizona State Univ., AZ Dept. of Revenue, AZ Tax Research Foundation  
 1990 New building permit data incomplete: One or more months not available

### Scenic Attractions

The Verde River supports one of the state's best riparian habitats. Riverfront Park and Dead Horse Ranch State Park provide access to the Verde River Greenway. The Old Town area, featuring arts and crafts shops, is located on historic Main Street. In the immediate vicinity are many diverse attractions. Tuzigoot National Monument, a 550-year-old Sinaguan Indian ruin, and Montezuma Castle National Monument, an 11th-century cliff dwelling, give insight into the area's pre-Columbian past. The Verde Canyon Railroad offers views into the remote Sycamore Canyon Wilderness. Natural attractions include the red rocks of Sedona and Oak Creek Canyon to the north and Prescott National Forest to the west, where 7,700-foot Mingus Mountain is a world-class mecca for hang gliding enthusiasts.

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## Community Facilities

Cottonwood has a library, civic center, a recreation center, four parks (including one on the riverfront), a bowling alley, indoor theater, swimming pool, multi-complex softball fields, soccer fields, and tennis, skate and basketball courts. There are also two golf courses. The community also offers senior citizen facilities such as skilled health care, supervisory care and retirement centers.

<b>Educational Institutions</b>	<b>Public</b>	<b>Private</b>
Elementary	Y	Y
Middle School	Y	Y
High School	Y	Y
Community College	Y	N

### Financial

Number of banks: 8

### Government

Fire Department: Staffed City/Local Fire Department  
Law Enforcement: City Police Department

### Airports

Cottonwood Airport with 4,250-ft. lighted/paved runway, fuel mechanic services and UNICOM 122.7.

### Medical

Cottonwood has one hospital.

### Hotel & Lodging

Number of Rooms: 300  
Meeting Rooms: 9  
Capacity of Largest Facility: 200

### Industrial Properties:

There are over 160 acres of industrial parks available with electricity, gas and water. For further information, contact the Foundation for Economic Development, (520) 634-7593, 1010 S. Main Street, Cottonwood, AZ 86326.

### Utilities

Electricity	APS (Statewide)	800.428.7324
Natural Gas	Citizens Utility (Cottonwood)	928.634.5555
Sewer	City of Cottonwood	928.634.5526
Sewer	City of Cottonwood Waste Water	928.634.5526
Telephone	Qwest (statewide)	800.244.1111
Water	Clemenceau Water Co. (private)	928.637.8879
Water	Cordes Lakes Water Co. (private)	928.646.5295
Water	Cottonwood Water Works, Inc./Cordes Water	928.634.8886

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

## Taxes

<b>Property Tax Rate</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2006</b>
Elementary/High Schools	6.26	6.19	4.81
City/Fire District	0.00	0.00	0.00
Countywide	5.14	4.18	3.70
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11.40</b>	<b>10.37</b>	<b>8.51</b>

Source: Arizona Tax Research Foundation

Note: Tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation

NOTE: School district participates in the Valley Academy of Career and Technology Education (VACTE).

### Sales Tax

	<b>2006</b>
City/Town	0.00%
County	0.75%
State	5.60%

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

## Weather

	<b>Avg. Low (°F)</b>	<b>Avg. High (°F)</b>	<b>Precip. (in.)</b>
January	28.1	58.1	0.8
February	31.7	63.3	0.8
March	35.6	68.3	0.9
April	41.9	76.3	0.5
May	49.2	84.8	0.4
June	57.8	94.8	0.5
July	65.9	98.5	1.9
August	63.8	95.5	2.2
September	57.4	91.3	1.1
October	46.4	81.2	1.0
November	35.6	68.1	0.7
December	28.7	58.6	1.1
Yearly Avg.	45.2	78.2	11.8

Source: Western Regional Climate Center

Western Regional Climate Center, wrcc@dri.edu. Period of record 1949-1977. Average Total Snowfall 4.2".

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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