

COTTONWOOD

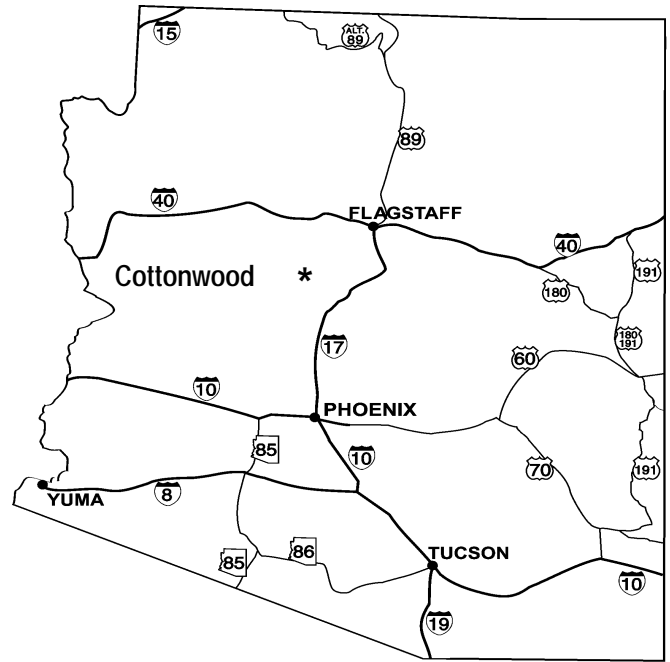
Community Profile

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.

FOUNDED: 1879
 COUNTY: Yavapai County
 DISTANCE TO PHOENIX: 106 miles
 HIGHWAYS: I-17; SR 89A; SR 260
 MAIN STREET COMMUNITY

INCORPORATED: Yes - 1960
 ELEVATION: 3,320 feet
 DISTANCE TO TUCSON: 217 miles



POPULATION

	1990	2000	2004
Cottonwood	5,918	9,179	10,665
Yavapai County	107,714	167,517	196,720
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	5,832,150

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security and U.S. 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	2004
Educational & Health Svcs	8,100
Financial Activities	1,900
Government	10,600
Information	700
Leisure & Hospitality	7,400
Manufacturing	3,300
Mining & Construction	7,200
Other Services	1,900
Professional & Business Svcs	4,100
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	10,800

Sources: 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	2004
Civilian Labor Force	2,411	3,560	4,246
Unemployed	103	131	159
Unemployment Rate	4.3%	3.7%	3.7%

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security.

Growth Indicators	1990	2000	2004
New Bldg. Permit	106*	501	470*
Taxable Sales (\$)	119,624,600	263,882,000	319,224,955
Net Assessed Valuation (\$)	34,902,388	58,405,798	83,257,333

Sources: Arizona State University; AZ Dept. of Revenue; AZ Tax Research Foundation
 *Incomplete Data: 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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TAXES

Property Tax Rate	1990	2000	2004
Elem/High School	6.26	6.19	4.15
City/Fire District	0.00	0.00	0.00
Countywide	5.14	4.18	4.42
Total	\$11.40	\$10.37	\$8.57

Sources: 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 Rate

City	2.20%
County	0.75%
State	5.60%

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

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.

Educational Institutions

	Public	Private
Community College	Y	N
Elementary	Y	Y
High School	Y	Y
Middle School	Y	Y

Financial

Number of Banks: 8

Governmental Agencies

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 and Lodging Facilities

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)	800.253-9405
Natural Gas	Citizens Utility (Cottonwood)	928.634.5555
Sewer	City of Cottonwood	928.634.8033
	City of Cottonwood Waste Water	928.634.5526
Telephone	Qwest (statewide)	800.244.1111
Water	Clemenceau Water Co. (private)	928.637.8879
	Cordes Lakes Water Co. (private)	928.646.5295
	Cottonwood Water Works, Inc./Cordes	928.634.8886

Cable Providers: Yes

Cable Internet Service Provider: Yes

Digital Switching Station: Yes

Fiber Optics: Yes

Internet Service Provider: Yes

Weather

Month	Average Temperature (°F)		Average Total Precipitation (Inches)
	Daily Minimum	Daily Maximum	
January	28.1	58.1	0.77
February	31.7	63.3	0.78
March	35.6	68.3	0.85
April	41.9	76.3	0.54
May	49.2	84.8	0.38
June	57.8	94.8	0.50
July	65.9	98.5	1.89
August	63.8	95.5	2.22
September	57.4	91.3	1.08
October	46.4	81.2	1.04
November	35.6	68.1	0.73
December	28.7	58.6	1.05
Yearly Avg	45.2	78.2	11.84

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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 Cottonwood, AZ 86326
 928.634.7593 Fax: 928.634.7594
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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Our Job is JOBS!

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