

Gilbert

Community Profile

Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Gilbert, in the southeast corner of Maricopa County, is within a half-hour drive from downtown Phoenix. Incorporated in 1920, the town, at an elevation of 1,273 feet, is named for William M. Gilbert, an early Valley homesteader. Gilbert is the fastest growing community in the nation. Between 1980 and 1991, Gilbert experienced a 410 percent population increase. The rapid growth is largely due to the quality of life Gilbert residents enjoy. A superior school system, quality housing in a variety of price ranges, recreational amenities and employment opportunities are some of the reasons that Gilbert has attracted new residents and businesses.

Basic Information

Founded: 1891
 Incorporated: 1920
 Elevation: 1,240
 Located in Maricopa County
 Nearby Highways: HWYS US 70, US 60, I-10

Distance to Major Cities:
 Phoenix: 15 miles
 Tucson: 104 miles

Population

	1990	2000	2008
Gilbert	29,122	109,697	214,820
Maricopa County	2,122,101	3,072,149	3,987,942
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	6,629,455

Sources: Arizona Department of Commerce and US Census Bureau
 Revised 1990 Census population figure (original: 29,188).

Principal Economic Activities

Gilbert has a progressive government with a pro-business attitude and an emphasis on quality development. Its structure accommodates demand for municipal infrastructure and services from new and expanding businesses, offers research to assist clients with site location decisions and facilitates the development approval process. Commercial and industrial development has increased significantly; in three years, Gilbert has added over 2 million square feet of industrial and commercial space.

County Employment

	2008
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	372,500
Professional and Business Services	313,800
Government	220,800
Educational and Health Services	210,800
Leisure and Hospitality	183,100
Financial Activities	147,600
Mining and Construction	141,400
Manufacturing	131,100
Other Services	69,000
Information	29,900

Source: Arizona Department of Commerce
 Figures are organized under the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).

Private Employers

Casa Blanca Clinic
 Dilliard's Department Stores
 Earnhardt's Gilbert Dodge
 Fry's Food and Drug
 InteSys Technologies

Public Employers

Gilbert Unified School District
 Town of Gilbert



Labor Force Data

	1990	2000	2008
Civilian Labor Force	16,173	62,567	116,659
Unemployed	511	1,161	3,173
Unemployment Rate	3.2%	1.9%	2.7%

Source: Arizona Department of Commerce

Growth Indicators

	1990	2000	2008
New Bldg. Permits	906	5,820	1,429
Taxable Sales (\$)	332.6 million	1.6 billion	3.8 billion
Net Assessed Value (\$)	161.4 million	593.7 million	2.8 billion

Sources: Arizona State Univ., AZ Dept. of Revenue, AZ Tax Research Assoc.

Scenic Attractions

Gilbert is central to many of Arizona's scenic attractions. Northeast lies the fabled Superstition Mtns., location of the legendary Lost Dutchman's Gold Mine. Also northeast, Tonto Natl. Forest contains scenery ranging from rugged desert to cool pines. Also unique is the Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch, 110 acres of riparian landscape which includes many amenities to observe, study & interact with nature. Ruins of long-disappeared Indian civilizations are also common in the Valley area. Gilbert's proximity to the Phoenix metropolitan area yields many recreational opportunities including professional sports and cultural activities. The IPRA-sanctioned "Gilbert Days" Rodeo, held annually at the end of November, is accompanied by a parade & celebration in the Gilbert Heritage District.

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Community Facilities

The town of Gilbert offers a broad range of community facilities including 14 parks, a new skate park, recreation center, several baseball and softball fields, two swimming pool complexes, five golf courses and numerous tennis and raquetball courts.

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

Financial

Number of banks: 6

Government

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

Airports

Nearby Chandler Municipal (4 miles south) and Falcon Field in Mesa.

Medical

Six hospitals in the Gilbert area.

Hotel & Lodging

Number of Rooms: 140
Meeting Rooms: 4
Capacity of Largest Facility: 200

Industrial Properties:

There are many industrial parks with all utilities available, ready access to rail, local arterials and the Superstition Freeway. For more information, contact the Town of Gilbert, Economic Development Department (480) 503-6865.

Utilities

Electricity	APS (Statewide)	800.253-9405
Electricity	Salt River Project	602.236.8888
Natural Gas	Southwest Gas Corp. (statewide)	800.766.9722
Water & Sewer	Municipal (Gilbert)	480.503.6000

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

Taxes

Property Tax Rate	1990	2000	2008
Elementary/High Schools	7.73	8.97	5.15
City/Fire District	1.25	1.25	1.15
Countywide	3.51	3.35	2.33
Totals	12.49	13.57	8.63

Source: Arizona Tax Research Association

Note: Tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation

NOTE: School district participates in East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT).

Sales Tax

	2008
City/Town	1.50%
County	0.70%
State	5.60%

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

Weather

	Avg. Low (°F)	Avg. High (°F)	Precip. (in.)
	55.5	84.9	0.8
January	38.6	65.1	1.0
February	41.5	69.6	1.0
March	45.1	75.1	1.0
April	51.3	84.2	0.3
May	59.9	93.4	0.1
June	68.9	102.1	0.1
July	76.1	104.0	0.8
August	74.3	101.6	1.3
September	68.7	97.7	0.8
October	57.2	87.4	0.7
November	45.2	74.0	0.7
December	38.7	65.2	1.1

Source: Western Regional Climate Center

Western Regional Climate Center, wrcc@dri.edu. Period of record 1948-2005. Average Total Snowfall 0.0". Nearest data available from Chandler Heights, AZ.

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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