

# YUMA

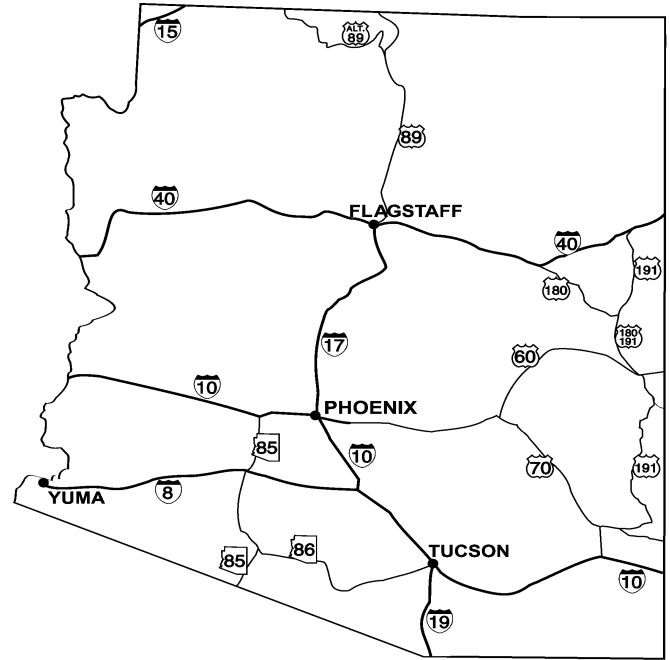
# Community Profile

## Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Yuma is in the southwest corner of Arizona, just below the Colorado and Gila Rivers convergence. Since prehistoric times, Yuma has been the best site for crossing the Colorado River. Yuma was named for the Yuman Indians, so called because of their habit of setting fires along the river (humo meaning smoke in Spanish). Fort Yuma was built during the gold rush to bring peace to the area and insure a safe route into California. Established in 1854 as Colorado City, the town became Arizona City and finally Yuma. Incorporated under the name Arizona City in 1871, it was reincorporated as Yuma and now serves as the Yuma County seat. Yuma remains a key crossroad for air and land transportation.

FOUNDED: 1854  
 COUNTY: Yuma County  
 DISTANCE TO PHOENIX: 185 miles  
 HIGHWAYS: I-8; US 95  
 ENTERPRISE ZONE AVAILABLE/MAIN STREET COMMUNITY

INCORPORATED: Yes - 1914  
 ELEVATION: 138 feet  
 DISTANCE TO TUCSON: 237 miles



## POPULATION

	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2003</u>
Yuma	54,923	77,515	83,330
Yuma County	106,895	160,026	175,045
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	5,629,870

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security and U.S. Census Bureau.

## PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

Agriculture is a major economic factor, and at the current rate of growth, Yuma-area agribusiness will be a billion-dollar industry by the century's beginning. Tourism and the military also contribute substantially to the economy. New and existing light industry increases Yuma's economic diversity. The Mexican free-port of San Luis Rio Colorado is located 23 miles southwest. For industries interested in offshore manufacturing, or twin-plant operations, San Luis has all facilities necessary.

<u>County Employment</u>	<u>2003</u>
Construction	3,625
Educational & Health Svcs	5,500
Financial Activities	1,300
Government	12,575
Information	1,025
Leisure & Hospitality	4,325
Manufacturing	2,550
Professional & Business Svcs	3,750
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	8,800

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security

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

## Major Private Employers

Dole Fresh Vegetables	Gowan Company
Salyer American Fresh	Shaw Industries
Yuma Regional Medical Center	

## Major Public Employers

City of Yuma	Marine Corps. Air Station
U.S. Army, Yuma Proving Grounds	Yuma County
Yuma Elementary School	

## LABOR FORCE DATA

	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2003</u>
Civilian Labor Force	30,488	36,657	39,642
Unemployed	4,623	7,184	6,479
Unemployment Rate	15.2%	19.6%	16.3%

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security.

<u>Growth Indicators</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2003</u>
New Bldg. Permit	810	N/R	1,436*
Taxable Sales (\$)	590,444,800	1,123,457,706	1,323,558,647
Net Assessed Valuation (\$)	187,552,327	256,612,102	322,623,524

Sources: Arizona State University; AZ Dept. of Revenue; AZ Tax Research Foundation  
 N/R: No report; \*Incomplete Data: One or more months not available

## SCENIC ATTRACTIONS

The Yuma State Territorial Prison, with cells carved from rock, once housed Arizona's most dangerous outlaws, but today is a popular tourist attraction operated by the Arizona State Parks Department. Other attractions in the area include Fort Yuma (built in 1851), the 16th-century St. Thomas Mission; the Quechan Indian Museum; Laguna, Imperial and Morelos Dams; and, across the Colorado River, the California sand dunes. In nearby San Luis and Algodones, Mexico, port-of-entry communities, night spots and shopping are popular activities. Lakes along the Colorado River offer fishing, water skiing and swimming opportunities. The Arizona State Parks Board and the City of Yuma operate the new Yuma Crossing State Park, featuring living history on the Colorado before 1900.

## TAXES

Property Tax Rate	1990	2000	2003
Elem/High School	6.49	7.15	6.44
City/Fire District	1.80	1.99	1.87
Countywide	6.03	5.78	5.70
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14.32</b>	<b>\$14.92</b>	<b>\$14.01</b>

Sources: Arizona Tax Research Foundation  
 Note: Tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation.

## Sales Tax Rate

City	1.70%
County	1.50%
State	5.60%

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

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The city of Yuma offers a broad range of community facilities including three museums, an adult center, a library, an art gallery, 15 parks, two bowling alleys, a Boys and Girls Club, nine indoor theaters, one private and six public golf courses, three swimming pools (one Olympic-size), 11 lighted tennis courts, Riverfront Park and a major league ball park.

### Educational Institutions

	Public	Private
Elementary	Y	N
High School	Y	N
Middle School	Y	N
Post Graduate	Y	N
University 4 year	Y	N
Vocational/Technical College	Y	Y

### Financial

Number of Banks: 13

### Governmental Agencies

Fire Department: Staffed City/Local Fire Department

Law Enforcement: City Police Department

**Airports** Yuma International Airport, two airlines with more than 26 daily flights to/from Yuma and Phoenix, AZ and Los Angeles, CA

### Medical

Yuma has one extensive hospital.

### Hotel and Lodging Facilities

Number of Rooms: 2,156

Meeting Rooms: 13

Capacity of Largest Facility: 1,500

## Industrial Properties

There are numerous industrial parks available with space for light or heavy industry, office, warehouse, commercial and storage. Various size parcels are available with monthly or annual leases. Contact the Yuma Economic Development Corporation for current information.

## Utilities

Electricity	APS (Statewide)	800.253-9407
Natural Gas	Southwest Gas Corp. (Statewide)	800.766.9722
Telephone	Qwest (statewide)	800.244.1111
Water & Sewer	Municipal (Yuma)	928.782.4009

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	44.2	68.8	0.39
February	47.0	74.3	0.22
March	51.0	79.2	0.23
April	57.0	86.8	0.11
May	63.8	94.0	0.05
June	72.1	103.4	0.01
July	80.4	107.0	0.22
August	79.9	105.8	0.51
September	73.8	101.6	0.27
October	62.4	91.0	0.29
November	51.0	77.7	0.19
December	44.4	68.7	0.43
Yearly Avg	60.6	88.2	2.91

Western Regional Climate Center, wrcc@dri.edu. Period of record 1948-2003. Average Total Snowfall 0.0". Data from Yuma WSO AP, AZ.

This profile was prepared by the Arizona Department of Commerce Communications Division in cooperation with local sources.

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