

Fountain Hills

Community Profile

Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Fountain Hills is a planned, family-oriented community established in 1970 by McCulloch Properties (now MCO, Inc.). Before 1970, the area was part of one of the largest land and cattle holdings in Arizona. It was purchased by Robert McCulloch in the late 1960s and designed by Charles Wood, Jr. (designer of Disneyland in southern California). Fountain Hills' centerpiece is the world's tallest man-made, continuously running fountain, which attracts thousands of visitors each year. Fountain Hills is surrounded by the McDowell Mountains to the west, Fort McDowell Indian Reservation to the east, Salt River Indian Reservation to the south and McDowell Mountain Regional Park to the north.

Basic Information

Founded: 1970	Distance to Major Cities:
Incorporated: 1989	Phoenix: 18 miles
Elevation: 1,700	Tucson: 133 miles
Located in Maricopa County	
Nearby Highways: HWYS SR 87	

Population

	1990	2000	2006
Fountain Hills	10,030	20,235	24,990
Maricopa County	2,122,101	3,072,149	3,792,675
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	6,305,210

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security and US Census Bureau

Principal Economic Activities

Among the community's largest employers are Fountain Hills School District, Safeway, MCO Properties Inc., Bashas', SunRidge Canyon Golf Course, Town of Fountain Hills, Golf International, Eagle Mountain Golf Course and the Gaming Center at Fort McDowell Reservation. There are also more than 1,000 small businesses from fast food to retail to specialty shops to home-based businesses. Services account for 65 percent of business licenses issued and construction/real estate for 35 percent.

County Employment

	2006
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	373,800
Professional and Business Services	321,200
Government	212,400
Educational and Health Services	187,000
Mining and Construction	184,600
Leisure and Hospitality	174,900
Financial Activities	151,100
Manufacturing	132,900
Other Services	68,500
Information	32,100

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



Labor Force Data

	1990	2000	2006
Civilian Labor Force	5,473	10,869	12,981
Unemployed	135	174	224
Unemployment Rate	2.5%	1.6%	1.7%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security

Growth Indicators

	1990	2000	2006
New Bldg. Permits	81	1,124	903
Taxable Sales (\$)	0	336 million	417.9 million
Net Assessed Value (\$)	84 million	212.4 million	397.4 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;
NOTE: In 1990, the Town of Fountain Hills did not participate in the Arizona Department of Revenue Municipal Privilege Tax Collection Program.

Scenic Attractions

Fountain Hills is surrounded by open spaces. To the east and north are the Salt River and Saguaro Lake (12 miles) and Canyon Lake (80 miles). Bartlett Lake and Horseshoe Lake on the Verde River, are both within 50 miles. All of these provide picnic facilities and water recreation including swimming, water skiing and boating. All of the attractions of the metropolitan areas are available to residents of Fountain Hills including cultural programs, college and professional sports, and horse and dog racing.

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Community Facilities

Fountain Hills offers a broad range of community facilities including a community center, library, fountain park, children's playground, several tennis and basketball courts, baseball fields, and a 25-acre park. In addition to the original Fountain Hills Golf Course, two new 18-hole facilities, SunRidge Canyon and Eagle Mountain, have opened. In February, Fountain Hills is the site of the annual Fountain Hills Great Fair. The Chamber of Commerce also sponsors the Fountain Festival of Arts and Crafts in mid-November, and hosts the only Thanksgiving Day Parade in the State of Arizona. Other events include an annual Fourth of July Celebration and the annual lighting of luminaria along major streets during the Christmas season.

Educational Institutions

	Public	Private
Elementary	Y	N
Middle School	Y	N
High School	Y	N
Vocational/Technical College	N	Y

Financial

Number of banks: 5

Government

Fire Department: Fountain Hills Rural/Metro Fire Department
Law Enforcement: Sheriff's Office

Airports

Nearby Mesa Falcon Field, 10 miles south, Scottsdale Airpark 13 miles southwest & Phoenix Sky Harbor Internatl., 30 miles southwest.

Medical

Mayo/Fountain Hills Primary Care (fully staffed local clinic) & Scottsdale Healthcare Family Clinic.

Hotel & Lodging

Number of Rooms: 85
Meeting Rooms: 7
Capacity of Largest Facility: 200

Industrial Properties:

Firerock Industrial Park: 145 acres, planned development, fully developed lots include streets, sewers, water and telephone, natural setting. Not a typical industrial park - designed with open space, natural desert topography. For additional information, contact Mayor's Council for Business Growth, P.O. Box 17598, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269; (480) 837-1654.

Utilities

Electricity	Salt River Project	602.236.8888
L.P. Gas	Fountain Hills L-P Gas	480.837.9522
Sewer	Fountain Hills Sanitary District	480.837.9444
Telephone	Qwest (statewide)	800.244.1111
Trash Pick-up	Red Mountain Rubbish	480.837.9066
Trash Pick-up	Waste Management	480.837.9373
Water	Chapparral City Water Company	480.437.9522

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

Taxes

Property Tax Rate	1990	2000	2006
Elementary/High Schools	5.88	6.29	4.69
City/Fire District	1.12	0.33	0.30
Countywide	3.51	3.35	2.74
Totals	10.51	9.97	7.73

Source: Arizona Tax Research Foundation

Note: Tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation

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

Fountain Hills Fire Dist. dissolved in 2002.

Sales Tax

	2006
City/Town	0.00%
County	0.70%
State	5.60%

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

Weather

	Avg. Low (°F)	Avg. High (°F)	Precip. (in.)
January	37.0	67.0	0.8
February	39.4	72.0	0.9
March	43.7	75.5	1.2
April	48.8	83.7	0.3
May	58.0	93.5	0.2
June	66.3	103.1	0.1
July	75.5	105.5	1.1
August	74.7	103.9	1.0
September	66.6	98.6	1.1
October	53.4	86.3	0.9
November	42.3	74.3	0.8
December	36.1	66.9	1.0
Yearly Avg.	53.5	85.9	9.3

Source: Western Regional Climate Center

Western Regional Climate Center, wrcc@dri.edu. Period of record 1968-1985.

Average Total Snowfall 0.0". Nearest data available from Scottsdale, 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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Prepared on 7/13/2007