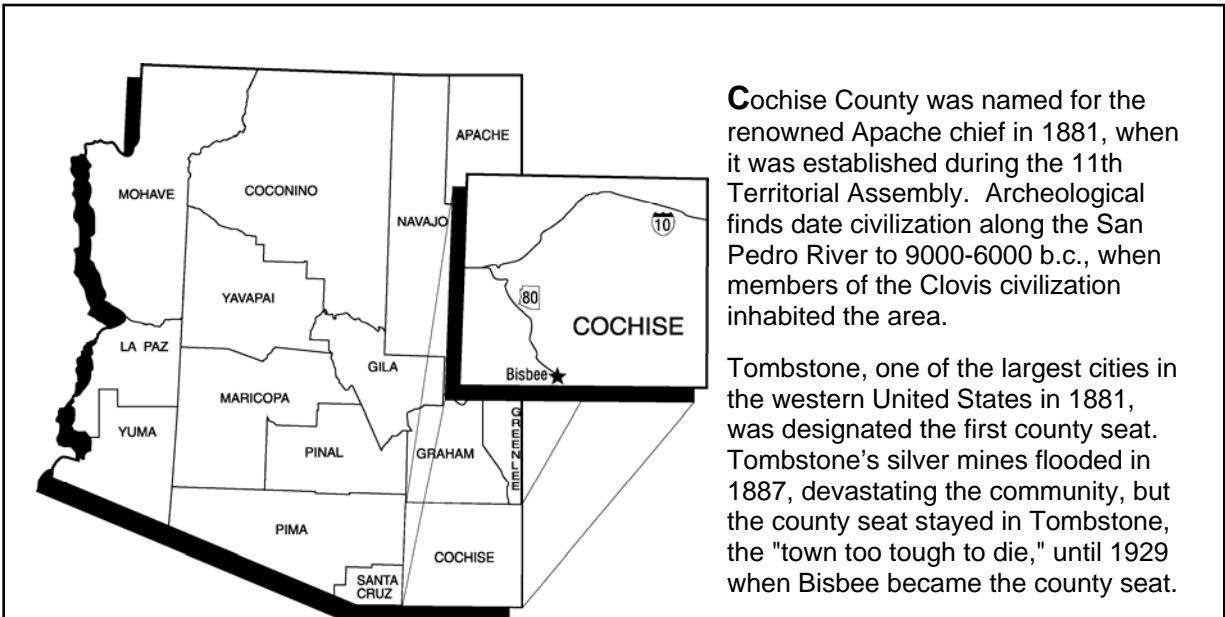


Profile:

Cochise County, Arizona



Cochise County was named for the renowned Apache chief in 1881, when it was established during the 11th Territorial Assembly. Archeological finds date civilization along the San Pedro River to 9000-6000 b.c., when members of the Clovis civilization inhabited the area.

Tombstone, one of the largest cities in the western United States in 1881, was designated the first county seat. Tombstone's silver mines flooded in 1887, devastating the community, but the county seat stayed in Tombstone, the "town too tough to die," until 1929 when Bisbee became the county seat.

Like Tombstone, Bisbee was a mining town – site of the Copper Queen Mine and famous Lavender Pit, discovered in 1877. Mining continued there through much of the 20th century. Today Bisbee is a popular artist community and tourist destination.

Benson, founded in 1880, is on I-10 at the gateway to Kartchner Caverns State Park. Some 30 miles south are the thriving communities of Sierra Vista, by far the largest city in the county, and Huachuca City. Both are economic neighbors of Fort Huachuca, one of the largest civilian employers in southern Arizona. Fort Bowie, Coronado National Memorial and the Chiricahua National Monument are national park facilities.

Cochise County also is an important agricultural area. With 6,219 square miles, Cochise is as big as Rhode Island and Connecticut combined. Once known as the Cattle Capital of the nation, Willcox is the home of the largest weekly cattle auction in Arizona. Specialty crops and livestock, including exotic animals, play an important role in the local economy. Douglas, once dependent upon mining and agriculture, has developed a manufacturing base because of its location on the U.S.-Mexico border. All of Cochise County has been designated as an Enterprise Zone, except the southwest corner of the county.

Cochise is one of only three counties in Arizona without an Indian reservation. Individual and corporate ownership account for 40 percent of the land; the state of Arizona, 35 percent; the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, 22 percent; and other public lands comprise the remaining 4 percent.

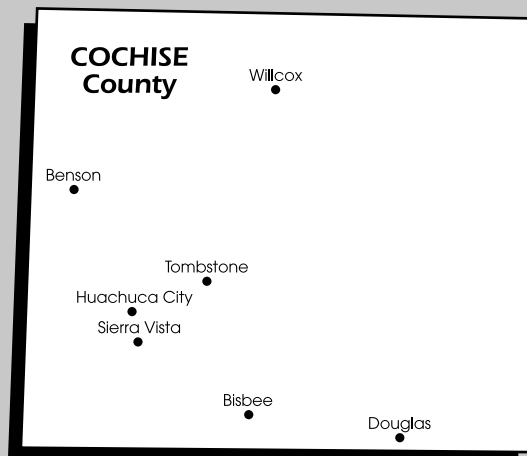


Cochise County At-A-Glance

County Seat:	Bisbee
2008 Population:	139,434
2008 Labor Force:	58,425
Unemployment Rate:	5.1%
Major Industries:*	Public Administration, Educational Services, Retail Trade, Accommodation and Food Services

Sources: Population Estimates July 2008, Strategic Investment and Research, Department of Commerce; December 2008 Special Unemployment Report, OES Report, Arizona Department of Commerce, Strategic Investment and Research.

Incorporated Cities



Population

	1990	2000	2008
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	6,629,455
Cochise County	97,624	117,755	139,434

<i>Major Cities/Communities</i>			
Benson	3,824	4,711	5,030
Bisbee	6,288	6,090	6,389
Douglas	12,822	14,312	18,207
Huachuca City	1,782	1,751	1,952
Sierra Vista	32,983	37,775	45,908
Tombstone	1,220	1,504	1,709
Willcox	3,122	3,733	3,904

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Arizona Department of Commerce, Strategic Investment and Research.

Age Distribution

	<i>% of total</i>
0-14	21.7%
15-24	13.9%
25-44	26.0%
45-64	23.7%
65+	14.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, April 1, 2000 Census

Population Composition*

<i>Race</i>	<i>% of total</i>
White	76.7%
Black	4.5%
Native American	1.1%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.6%
Other	15.8%
Total	100.0%
Hispanic Heritage*	30.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, April 1, 2000 Census
Persons of Hispanic heritage may be of any race



2008 Civilian Labor Force

	<i>Labor Force</i>	<i>Unemployment Rate</i>
Arizona	3,132,667	5.5%
Cochise County	58,425	5.1%

<i>Major Cities/Communities</i>		
Benson	2,517	9.4%
Bisbee	3,497	5.9%
Douglas	6,464	8.2%
Huachuca City	980	7.8%
Sierra Vista	19,046	3.2%
Tombstone	909	3.5%
Willcox	1,997	8.1%

2008 Employment by Sector

Mining and Construction	2,075
Educational & Health Services	4,150
Financial Activities	900
Government	12,375
Leisure & Hospitality	4,050
Manufacturing	850
Information	525
Professional & Business Services	4,775
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	6,650
Other Services	775

2008 Total All Occupations

<i>Employment</i>	37,140
<i>Hourly Compensation</i>	
Median Wage	14.44
Average Wage	\$18.05
Entry Wage *	\$8.44
Experienced **	\$22.85

2008 Employment by Occupation - Average Wages

	Employment	Avg. Wages
Office & Administrative Support	6,290	\$13.58
Construction & Extraction	2,240	\$15.85
Food Preparation & Serving Related	3,490	\$8.53
Education, Training & Library	2,790	\$17.63
Sales & Related	3,560	\$12.60
Transportation & Material Moving	1,830	\$13.62
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	1,790	\$27.30
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	1,380	\$18.62
Protective Service	2,730	\$20.55
Management	1,560	\$38.76
Building & Maintenance	1,440	\$10.08
Production	770	\$14.57
Personal Care & Service	550	\$9.93

Source: Prepared by the Arizona Department of Commerce, Strategic Investment and Research in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, July 2009
 * 10th percentile ** 75th percentile

Major Employers

Employer	Employment Type
Fort Huachuca	Government
Sierra Vista School District	Education
Cochise County, Bisbee	Government
Sierra Vista Regional Health Center	Health Services
Arizona Department of Corrections, Douglas	Government
Aegis, Sierra Vista	Customer Support Center
Douglas Unified School District	Education
Homeland Security: Douglas Border Patrol Station	Government
City of Sierra Vista	Government
Wal-Mart - Douglas/Sierra Vista	Trade
Sierra Southwest Cooperative Services, Inc., Benson	Utility
New Tech, Ft. Huachuca	Aerospace
F.C. Business Systems	
Lawley Automotive	
Southeastern AZ Behavioral Health Services	Health Service
Cochise College - Douglas/Sierra Vista	Colleges/Universities
City of Douglas	Government
New Mexico Technology Group, LLC	
KE&G Construction	Construction
Northrup Grumman, Sierra Vista	Aerospace
ILEX, Sierra Vista Defense	Contractors
Signal Solutions	
Ft. Huachuca Accommodation School District	Education
Arizona Family Care Associates	Health Service
Copper Queen Community Hospital	Health Service

Source: Cochise College Center for Economic Research, 2005 - 2006



Electric Service

Major Suppliers:	
APS (Bisbee/Douglas/Tombstone)	(800) 253-9405
Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Co-op. (Benson)	(520) 586-2238
Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Co-op. (Huachuca City/Sierra Vista)	(520) 458-4691
Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Co-op. (Willcox)	(520) 458-4691

Natural Gas Service

Major Suppliers:
 Southwest Gas Corp. (Bisbee/Douglas/Huachuca City/Sierra Vista/Tombstone/Willcox) (800) 766-9722

Water and Sewer

For information, see specific community profile and contact the community or the local chamber of commerce directly.

Telephone

Major Suppliers:
 Qwest Communications (800) 244-1111
 Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (Willcox) (520) 384-2231



Major Hospitals:
 Benson Hospital, Benson (520) 586-2261
 Copper Queen Community Hospital, Bisbee (520) 432-5383
 Northern Cochise Community Hospital, Willcox (520) 384-3541
 Sierra Vista Regional Health Center, Sierra Vista (520) 458-4641
 Southeast Arizona Medical Center, Douglas (520) 364-7931



Cochise College, Douglas, Sierra Vista (520) 364-7943
 University of Arizona, Sierra Vista, Douglas (520) 458-8278



Highways

Interstate 10, U.S. 191, state Highway 80, state Highway 82, state Highway 90, state Highway 92, state Highway 181, state Highway 186

Bus Lines

Autobuses Crucero, Greyhound Bus Lines, Kit Shuttle, Angel Transportation

Rail Service

AMTRAK (800) 872-7245
 Union Pacific Railroad (888) 870-8777
 Transload Spur for San Pedro Southwestern Railroad (520) 586-2266

Trucking Service

Roadway Express Inc., C.F. Motor Freight, Maddux and Sons, Inc., Echo Trucking Co., Dunagan's Trucking, Harrington Trucking Co., Inc.

Air Service

Major Airports

Airport Name: Benson Municipal Airport (520) 586-3262
 Functional Class: Business Service
 Elevation: 4,151'
 Ownership: Public
 Use: Public
 Nav-Aids: T-VOR
 Runway: 10/28 Length: 4,000' Width: 75'
 Surface: Asphalt

Airport Name: Bisbee-Douglas International Airport (520) 364-2771
 Functional Class: Business Service
 Elevation: 4,151'
 Ownership: Public
 Use: Public
 Nav-Aids: T-VOR
 Runway: 17/35 Length: 7,292' Width: 150'
 Surface: Asphalt
 Runway: 11/29 Length: 3,200' Width: 120'
 Surface: Dirt

Airport Name: Bisbee Airport (520) 432-6030
 Functional Class: Community Service
 Elevation: 4,780'
 Ownership: Public
 Use: Public
 Nav-Aids: None
 Runway: 17/35 Length: 5,900' Width: 60'
 Surface: Asphalt
 Runway: 02/20 Length: 2,900' Width: 160'

Airport Name: Cochise College (800) 966-7943
 Location: Douglas
 Functional Class: Community Service
 Elevation: 4,120'
 Ownership: Public
 Use: Public, Education
 Nav-Aids: None
 Runway: 05/23 Length: 4,803' Width: 75'
 Surface: Asphalt

Airport Name: Cochise County (520) 384-2908
 Location: Willcox
 Functional Class: Community Service
 Elevation: 4,181'
 Ownership: Public
 Use: Public
 Nav-Aids: None
 Runway: 03/21 Length: 6,110' Width: 77'
 Surface: Asphalt

Airport Name: Douglas Municipal (520) 364-3501
 Functional Class: Community Service
 Elevation: 4,181'
 Ownership: Public
 Use: Public
 Nav-Aids: DUG-VOR 125 Radio 10NM
 Runway: 03/21 Length: 5,760' Width: 60'
 Surface: Asphalt
 Runway: 18/36 Length: 4,146' Width: 98'
 Surface: Dirt

Airport Name: Sierra Vista Municipal (520) 459-8575
 Functional Class: Commercial Service
 Elevation: 4,664'
 Ownership: Public
 Use: Public
 Nav-Aids: VOR/NDB
 Runway: 11/29 Length: 5,365' Width: 100'
 Surface: Asphalt, concrete
 Runway: 08/26 Length: 12,000' Width: 150'
 Surface: Asphalt, concrete
 Runway: 02/20 Length: 4,300' Width: 75'

Source: Arizona Department of Transportation, Arizona Airports Land Use Compatibility Study

Distance to Major Cities





Benson

Several sites with all utilities, railroad and freeway access are available, including an 80-acre industrial park. For more information, contact the Benson-San Pedro Valley Chamber of Commerce at 520.586.2842.

Bisbee

Several properties with all utilities are available, including the Bisbee Airport Industrial Park. There are also several commercial properties suitable for light industry. One industrial park, located in Naco, Sonora, Mexico, operates on the "twin plant" concept which allows U.S. companies to operate in Mexico. For more information, contact the City of Bisbee at (520) 432-6000.

Douglas

Three industrial parks (Cochise Industrial Park with 75 acres, Douglas IDA Park with 33 acres and Phelps Dodge Industrial Park with 30 acres) are available. All utilities accessible upon request. Air and truck transportation available. For further information, contact the City of Douglas, Economic Development Office at (520) 8054047.

Huachuca City

Huachuca City has one 46-acre industrial park. Utilities and state Highway 90 are accessible. For more information, contact the Town of Huachuca City at (520) 456-1354.

Pearce/Sunsites

Pearce/Sunsites has an 800-acre park, with utilities, railroad and highway access. For more information, contact Arizona Electric Co-op., P.O. Box 670, Benson, AZ 85602, or phone (520) 586-3631

Sierra Vista

Sierra Vista has two parks (50 acres) with Foreign Trade Zone opportunities and all utilities available. Contact the Sierra Vista Economic Development Foundation at 520.458.6948. Sierra Vista is a Foreign Trade Zone grantee.

Willcox

Willcox has one industrial park with utilities. Rail and truck routes are accessible. Contact the Economic Development Division, Willcox Chamber of Commerce, c/o Kathy Smith at (520) 384-2995.



Industrial Development Authorities

Industrial Development Authority of the Cochise County

Mr. Robert Fernandez
P.O. Box 780
Douglas, AZ 85607
(520) 364-8500/Fax: (520) 364-8335

Industrial Development Authority of the Cochise County, City of Benson and City of Douglas

Mr. Martin Ryan, Statutory Agent
Martin F. Ryan, Ltd.
6262 N. Swan Road, Suite 255
Tucson, AZ 85718-3600
(520) 299-8117/Fax: (520) 299-7860

Industrial Development Authority of City of Benson

Mr. Walter Schmidt, President
c/o H & R Block
P.O. Box 4097
Benson, AZ 85602
(520) 586-3030/Fax: (520) 586-0566

Industrial Development Authority of City of Douglas

Mr. Abel Tellez, President
c/o Bank of America
1001-5 G Avenue
Douglas, AZ 85607
(520) 364-3405/Fax: (520) 364-3517

Industrial Development Authority of City of Sierra Vista

Mr. John Neal, President
c/o Russo, Russon and Slania
3002 N. Campbell Ave., Suite 100
Tucson, AZ 85719
(520) 529-1515/Fax: (520) 529-9040

Mr. Steven Russo, Statutory Agent
c/o Russo, Russon and Slania
3002 N. Campbell Ave., Suite 100
Tucson, AZ 85719
(520) 529-1515/Fax: (520) 529-9040
Email: stever@russolaw.net

Industrial Development Authority of Willcox

Mr. James E. Holland, Statutory Agent
801 West Rex Allen Drive, Suite A
Willcox, AZ 85643
(520) 384-2293/Fax: (520) 384-2294

Note: This information is as current as the date of this publication and was taken from reliable sources; however, we do not guarantee its completeness nor does the Arizona Department of Commerce endorse any particular individual. This information is provided as a service only.

Commercial Banks

Armed Forces Bank
Bank of America
Chase

National Bank of Arizona
Wells Fargo Bank



State Corporate Income Tax

Corporate income tax rate is 6.968 percent effective for taxable years beginning from and after December 31, 2000.

Source: Arizona Department of Revenue

2008 Property Tax

Community	School District	City/Fire	Countywide	Total
Benson	5.62	.51	4.79	10.52
Bisbee	5.54	2.22	4.79	12.55
Douglas	5.21	1.02	4.79	11.02
Huachuca City	3.65	.82	4.79	9.26
Sierra Vista	2.84	0.13	4.79	7.76
Tombstone	3.65	6.75	4.79	15.19
Willcox	4.01	1.02	4.79	9.82

Source: Arizona Tax Research Foundation, 2008 (Rate is per \$100 of assessed value)



Benson-San Pedro Valley Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 2255 (520) 586-2842
 Benson, AZ 85602 FAX: (520) 586-1972
www.bensonchamberaz.com Email: info@bensonchamberaz.com

Bisbee Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box BA (520) 432-5421
 Bisbee, AZ 85603 FAX: (520) 432-3308
www.bisbearizona.com Email: chamber@bisbearizona.com

Bowie Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 287 (520) 847-2557
 Bowie, AZ 85605 FAX: (520) 847-2584
 Email: mtviewrv@vtc.net

Cochise County Board of Supervisors, Economic Development

1415 W. Melody Lane, Building G (520) 432-9215
 Bisbee, AZ 85603 FAX: (520) 432-5016
www.cochise.az.com Email: gmitter@cochise.az.us

Douglas Chamber of Commerce

345 16th Street (520) 364-2477
 Douglas, AZ 85607 FAX: (520) 364-6304

City of Douglas, Economic Development

425 10th Street (520) 805-4047
 Douglas, AZ 85607 FAX: (502) 364-1585
www.douglasaz.gov/

Town of Huachuca City

500 N. Gonzales Blvd. (520) 456-1354
 Huachuca City, AZ 85616 FAX: (520) 456-2230
www.huachucacity.org

Sales Tax

The state imposes a 5.6 percent transaction privilege (sales) tax on most business activities. Cochise County has a .50 percent general sales tax. The communities of Benson, Bisbee, Tombstone, and Douglas have a 2.5% sales tax; Huachuca City is at 1.5%; Sierra Vista is at 1.75%; and Willcox is at a 3.00% sales tax. Benson and Bisbee have an additional 2.50% hotel/motel tax. Tombstone has an additional 3.00% bed tax.

Sources: League of Arizona Cities and Towns (Jan 2008)

Payroll Tax

Payroll taxes in Arizona are computed based on federal filing by employers and employees. Generally, withholding for state payroll taxes is between 10 and 32 percent of federal withholding based on employees' income.

Source: Arizona Department of Revenue

Pearce-Sunsites Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Center

P.O. Box 536/225 Frontage Road (520) 826-3535
 Pearce, AZ 85625 Web: www.pearcesunsiteschamber.org

Greater Sierra Vista Area Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 2380/21 E. Wilcox (520) 458-6948
 Sierra Vista, AZ 85635 FAX: (520) 458-7453
 Web: www.sierravistachamber.org/
 Email: president_ceo@sierravistachamber.org

Tombstone Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 995 (520) 457-9317
 Tombstone, AZ 85638 FAX: (520) 457-2458
 Web: www.tombstonechamber.com
 Email: info@tombstonechamber.com

Willcox Chamber of Commerce

1500 N. Circle I Road (520) 384-2272
 Willcox, AZ 85643 FAX: (520) 384-0293
www.willcoxchamber.com Email: chamberdir@vtc.net

County profiles are produced by



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