

Yuma was named after the Yuman Native Americans and founded as a river port. The port supplied outposts for the military and supported commerce just below the confluence of the Colorado and Gila Rivers. Since prehistoric times, Yuma has been the safest site for crossing the Colorado River. Fort Yuma was built during the gold rush to bring peace to the area and ensure a safe route into California. Established in 1854 as Colorado City, the town became Arizona City and was reincorporated as Yuma in 1914. Yuma is the county seat of Yuma County and remains a key crossroad for air, highway and rail transportation. The community's logistics heritage and bicultural reputation are enhanced by the proximity to its three neighboring states: California and Baja and Sonora, Mexico. This prompted the elected leadership to establish 4FrontED, an economic development alliance that includes Yuma, San Luis, Somerton and Welton, Arizona as well as San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora, Mexico, to help facilitate and coordinate cross-border commerce.

## Principal Economic Activities

A \$3.2 billion annual agribusiness industry forms the foundation of Yuma County. Yuma's agribusiness sector is responsible for supplying the United States with 80 percent of its winter, leafy vegetables. A variety of industrial, processing and logistic operations take advantage of Yuma's strategic location, increasing Yuma's economic diversity. The Mexican free-port of San Luis Rio Colorado is located 23 miles southwest, luring industries interested in offshore manufacturing, or twin-plant operations. Yuma is home to two of the largest military installations in the United States. The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground generates an annual economic impact over \$430 million. Marine Corps Air Station-Yuma is the country's foremost Marine Air Base with an enlisted population of more than 7,500 pilots, aviation technicians and aeronautical mechanics. During the winter months more than 100,000 winter visitors flock to the community to enjoy sun-drenched warmth.

## Scenic Attractions

Today, Yuma is a vibrant multicultural community that celebrates its rich heritage surrounded by wide-open spaces and pristine desert scenery - all with a river running through it. The Yuma State Territorial Prison, with cells carved from rock, once housed dangerous outlaws and is now a popular tourist attraction. Another popular site is the historic Quartermaster Depot that helped settle the West. Other attractions in the area include Fort Yuma built in 1851, the 16th century St. Thomas Mission, the Quechan Indian Museum, Laguna, Imperial Dam, Morelos Dam and the nearby California sand dunes. The port-of-entry communities of San Luis and Algodones, Mexico, are centers of entertainment for medical tourism, night spots and shopping. Lakes along the Colorado River offer fishing, water skiing and swimming opportunities. The Yuma Crossing State Park features living history on the Colorado before 1900.

## Community Facilities

The city of Yuma offers a broad range of community facilities including six museums, eight community centers, 10 public and private art galleries, 32 parks, bowling alleys, community swimming pools, biking/hiking trails, multiple lighted tennis courts and a soccer stadium that has been home to the United Premier Soccer League's Frontera United since 2015. The stadium complex is near to the conference center.



BASIC INFORMATION	
Founded:	1854
Incorporated:	1914
Elevation:	138 ft.
Location:	Yuma
<b>Distance to major cities:</b>	
Phoenix:	185 miles
Tucson:	240 miles
Las Vegas:	296 miles
San Diego:	172 miles
Los Angeles:	272 miles

POPULATION			
	2000	2010	2023 (est.)
Yuma	77,515	93,275	97,883

*Office of Economic Opportunity*

SALES TAX / TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX	
Yuma	1.70%
Yuma	1.11%
State	5.60%

*Arizona Dept. of Revenue & Arizona Tax Research Foundation*

LABOR FORCE			
	2000	2010	2022
Civilian Labor Force	34,987	44,855	43,858
Unemployed	4,440	10,196	3,730
Unemployment Rate	12.7%	22.7%	8.5%

*Office of Economic Opportunity*

WORKFORCE EDUCATION ATTAINMENT		
	Count	Share
Less than high school	11,317	18.8%
High school or equivalent, no college	15,021	25.0%
Some college or Associate degree	21,783	36.3%
Bachelor's degree or advanced degree	11,954	19.9%

*American Community Survey*

INDUSTRY (RANKED BY EMPLOYMENT)		
	Count	Share
Education, health care & social assistance	9,220	23.6%
Retail trade	5,581	14.3%
Public administration	4,396	11.3%
Arts, entertainment, food & recreation services	4,142	10.6%
Professional, scientific, & administrative services	3,187	8.2%
Finance, insurance & real estate	2,065	5.3%
Transportation, warehousing, & utilities	2,042	5.2%
Construction	1,970	5.1%
Other services, except public administration	1,768	4.5%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, & mining	1,602	4.1%
Manufacturing	1,459	3.7%
Wholesale trade	1,175	3.0%
Information	390	1.0%

*American Community Survey*

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