

# Community Profile for

## Colorado City



Colorado City is on the northern border of Arizona and adjacent to Hildale, Utah. Colorado City was originally called Short Creek after a nearby stream that sank into the sand before it had run very far. The scenic Vermillion cliffs form a backdrop for the community and the area shows evidence of an early Anasazi population. One of the first modern settlers was William Maxwell in about 1908. Other early settlers were ranchers and cattlemen and, a few years later, homesteaders. In the 1930s, a religious movement came from Utah seeking refuge and played a major part in building the community into a thriving place. The community officially changed its name to Colorado City in 1963.

### Principal Economic Activities

The traditional economic focus on agriculture and ranching has gradually changed with growth and urban expansion. The school district is the largest single employer, but manufacturing and regional construction provide most jobs. The neighboring community of Hildale, Utah, with an active industrial park and service industry, plays an important part in Colorado City's economy. Many industrial activities are in Hildale, while most commercial retail occurs in Colorado City.

### Scenic Attractions

The Arizona Strip encompasses more than 5 million acres of land and is often called the "Gateway to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon." Points of interest include: House Rock Valley, Navajo Trail, Gooseberry Mesa, Toroweep Overlook, Canaan Mountain hiking trails, Pipe Springs and the Kaibab/Paiute Indian Reservation. Scenery near Colorado City includes Vermillion and Shinorump Cliffs, Steamboat Rock and numerous canyons and Native American ruins. The North Rim of the Grand Canyon is about 100-miles south of Colorado City. The 741,000-acre Kaibab National Forest with picnicking, rockhounding, camping and hunting is less than 40 miles southeast. The town is only hours from Zion and Bryce national parks, Cedar Breaks National Monument, Coral Pink Sand Dunes, Utah State Park, Lake Powell, Glen Canyon and Lake Mead recreation areas and Historic Pipe Springs National Monument.

### Community Facilities

The area has four neighborhood parks, a full-service municipal airport, two public school recreation centers and emergency services.

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## Colorado City, Arizona



### BASIC INFORMATION

Founded: 1908  
Incorporated: 1985  
Elevation: 5,200 ft.  
Location: Mohave

**Distance to major cities:**

Phoenix: 354 miles  
Tucson: 467 miles  
Las Vegas: 166 miles  
San Diego: 491 miles  
Los Angeles: 430 miles

## POPULATION

**2000 2010 2023 (est.)**

Colorado City 3,334 4,821 2,507

*Office of Economic Opportunity*

## SALES TAX / TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX

Colorado City 3.00%  
Mohave 0.25%  
State 5.60%

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

## LABOR FORCE

**2000 2010 2022**

Civilian Labor Force 982 1,237 1,481  
Unemployed 28 192 172  
Unemployment Rate 2.9% 15.5% 11.6%

*Office of Economic Opportunity*

## WORKFORCE EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

**Count Share**

Less than high school	803	40.2%
High school or equivalent, no college	510	25.6%
Some college or Associate degree	452	22.6%
Bachelor's degree or advanced degree	231	11.6%

*American Community Survey*

## INDUSTRY (RANKED BY EMPLOYMENT)

**Count Share**

Construction	395	33.5%
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Education, health care & social assistance	186	15.8%
Manufacturing	111	9.4%
Retail trade	105	8.9%
Arts, entertainment, food & recreation services	100	8.5%
Professional, scientific, & administrative services	80	6.8%
Public administration	76	6.5%
Other services, except public administration	74	6.3%
Finance, insurance & real estate	42	3.6%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, & mining	9	0.8%

*American Community Survey*

This profile was prepared by the Arizona Commerce Authority in cooperation with local sources. For further information, please contact:

### **Colorado City Economic Development**

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