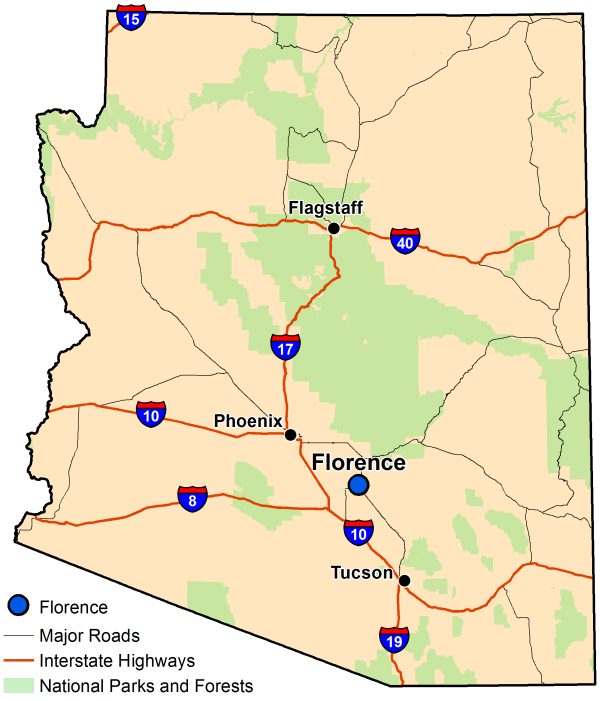
Community Profile for

Florence

ARIZONA COMMERCE AUTHORITY

Florence is the seat of Pinal County and located halfway between the Phoenix and Tucson metropolitan areas. Founded in 1866 by Colonel Levi Ruggles, Florence is one of the oldest towns in Arizona. While Florence is rich in history with many buildings and a historic district listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it is also poised for significant new growth. Florence is an ideal place for businesses to take advantage of existing and emerging opportunities, particularly with Territory Square, to expand downtown to the Gila River.



Principal Economic Activities

Major employers in Florence include Pinal County, Florence Hospital at Anthem, Arizona Department of Corrections, Department of Homeland Security, GEO Group, CoreCivic, Florence Unified School District and the town of Florence. Three major transportation corridors run through Florence, including State Route 287 with direct access to Chandler, State Route 79 with access to Tucson and Phoenix and Hunt Highway with access to the east valley of Maricopa County. Florence is 20 miles from Interstate 10.

Scenic Attractions

Florence has year-round sunshine, a warm climate and many opportunities for hiking, horseback riding and four-wheeling that make it popular for retirees and recreational enthusiasts. Box Canyon, Martinez Canyon, Silverbell Mine, Coke Ovens, Gila River and many other sites to the east of Florence provide visitors with fantastic scenic views of the Sonoran Desert. A short hike to the summit of Poston Butte concludes at the final resting place of Charles D. Poston, the "Father of Arizona." Many prominent historic buildings reside in Florence including McFarland State Historic Park, built in 1878, which serves as the town's visitor center. Also, the recently renovated 1891 Pinal County Courthouse acts as the home of the Pinal County Board of Supervisors. Several special events occur in Florence every year such as the Tour of Historic Florence in February, Country Thunder U.S.A. music festival in April and the world's oldest children's rodeo, the Florence Junior Parada, every Thanksgiving weekend with an accompanying parade.

Community Facilities

Florence is home to McFarland State Historic Park, Pinal County Historical Museum, Florence Aero Modeler Park, Charles Whitlow Rodeo Grounds and a quaint historic downtown. Anthem at Merrill Ranch is a master planned community developed by Pulte Homes offering many fine amenities. Florence residents enjoy a new library and aquatics center with soccer fields and pickleball courts.

Community Profile for

Florence, Arizona

ARIZONA COMMERCE AUTHORITY

BASIC INFORMATION

Founded:	1866
Incorporated:	1900
Elevation:	1,500 ft.
Location:	Pinal

Distance to major cities:

Phoenix:	61 miles
Tucson:	70 miles
Las Vegas:	356 miles
San Diego:	380 miles
Los Angeles:	435 miles

POPULATION

	2000	2010	2023 (est.)
Florence	17,054	25,537	25,250

Office of Economic Opportunity

SALES TAX / TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX

Florence	2.00%
Pinal	1.10%
State	5.60%

Arizona Dept. of Revenue & Arizona Tax Research Foundation

LABOR FORCE

	2000	2010	2022
Civilian Labor Force	2,181	3,725	4,305
Unemployed	100	304	241
Unemployment Rate	4.6%	8.2%	5.6%

Office of Economic Opportunity

WORKFORCE EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

	Count	Share
Less than high school	6,196	27.0%
High school or equivalent, no college	7,075	30.8%
Some college or Associate degree	7,062	30.8%
Bachelor's degree or advanced degree	2,616	11.4%

American Community Survey

INDUSTRY (RANKED BY EMPLOYMENT)

	Count	Share
Education, health care & social assistance	945	26.4%
Public administration	626	17.5%
Finance, insurance & real estate	341	9.5%
Retail trade	302	8.4%
Professional, scientific, & administrative services	294	8.2%
Arts, entertainment, food & recreation services	271	7.6%
Construction	271	7.6%
Other services, except public administration	150	4.2%
Manufacturing	141	3.9%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, & mining	86	2.4%
Information	69	1.9%
Transportation, warehousing, & utilities	62	1.7%
Wholesale trade	27	0.8%

American Community Survey

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

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