



**Moving to Arizona for your golden years?  
Already live here but want to know more?  
Curious about how we compare with other states?**

**State**

- *History:* the Mexican-American War concluded in 1848 with U.S. gaining the land that is now Arizona and six other states; Arizona joined the Union in 1912 as the 48th state
- *Nicknames:* the Grand Canyon State and the Copper State
- *Capital:* Phoenix (2.3 million residents); other cities with significant populations: Greater Phoenix (Glendale, Peoria, Mesa, Tempe, Scottsdale, Chandler and Gilbert), Tucson, Flagstaff and Yuma.
- *Population:* 5.13 million (estimated 50,000 deaf and 400,000 hard of hearing)
- *Growth rate:* 38.2% 1990-2000, 14.2% estimated for 2001-2005
- *Age:* 0-24 years: 1.9 million; 25-54 years: 2.2 million; 55+ years: 1.1 million
- *Race:* 3.2 million White; 1.3 million Hispanic; 250,000 American Indian; 150,000 Black; 100,000 Asian; 50,000 others
- *Weather:* Average year temperature: 72.6 degrees Fahrenheit (high 86, low 59)
- *Industries:* Tourism, travel, copper and other mining
- *Average income:* \$22,188
- *Real estate:* 63% of houses cost between \$50,000 and \$150,000
- *Sales tax:* 7%
- *Traffic:* Phoenix is 6<sup>th</sup> in city population but 20<sup>th</sup> in congestion and 41<sup>st</sup> out of 44 in traffic growth rate

**Senior Citizens**

- 340 days of sunshine
- Dew point average is 33
- 325 golf courses, 12 national parks, 20 state parks
- Retirement communities include Sun City (west) & Sun Lakes (south)
- Weekly social events in Phoenix, Mesa, and Tucson
- Weekly bowling league in Phoenix
- Estimated 275,000 snowbirds October-April

**Organizations**

- Arizona Association of the Deaf (PO Box 80217 / Phoenix 85060)
- Arizona Council for Seniors (PO Box 25573 / Tempe 85285)
- Arizona Deaf Senior Citizens Coalition (602-946-7009 TTY)
- Grand Canyon State Recreation Association of the Deaf (623-588-9344 TTY)
- Phoenix Association of the Deaf/Phoenix Deaf Community Center (602-279-9301 TTY)
- Tucson Deaf Community Center (520-578-3876 TTY)
- Tucson Hearing Society (520-792-1906)

*(Please contact ACDHH for a comprehensive list of organizations)*

## **ACDHH (602-542-3323 TTY/V)**

- Provides information and referral
- Produces “Sign Out,” America’s longest running weekly TV show for the deaf and hard of hearing
- Publishes Clear Channels, a quarterly newsletter, and the state TTY directory
- Staffed by a deaf executive director, a deaf specialist and a hard of hearing specialist
- Programs include interpreter licensure, relay administration, and no-cost TTY distribution

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## **Interpreting**

- Arizona Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (email: azridterps@hotmail.com)
- Eight agencies in the state; seven are based in Greater Phoenix, one is statewide
- 104 interpreters registered with ACDHH; 83 with RID, 21 with NAD
- By 2007, all interpreters except for Educational Interpreters are required to be licensed by ACDHH

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## **Religion**

- 17% Catholic (1996), 11% Baptist (1990), 6.4% LDS (1997)
- There are congregations and churches of the Jewish, Latter-Day Saints, Catholic, Baptist, and Lutheran; some services are in ASL and some are interpreted
- ACDHH’s TTY directory and website list 14 faith-based organizations. Some offer FM systems

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## **Services & Accessibility**

- Advocates for the Deaf (520-855-0843 TTY/V)
- Adult Loss of Hearing Association (520-795-9585 TTY, 520-795-9887 V)
- American Association for Retired Persons – (602-262-5177 TTY, 602-256-2277 V)
- Area Agency on Aging (800-686-1431 V)
- Arizona Hearing Resources (480-777-1145)
- Community Outreach Program for the Deaf (800-234-0344 TTY/V)
- Governor’s Council on Disabilities (602-542-8920 TTY, 602-542-4048 V)
- Plus 50 Placement Center, Inc. (602-246-0260)
- Self-Help for Hard of Hearing People, Inc. – two chapters (623-915-3030)
- Valley Center of the Deaf (602-267-1921 TTY/V)

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## **Social & Culture**

- Grand Canyon State Recreation Association of the Deaf sponsors the annual Salt River Tubing and Autumn Social Swing, and events such as deep sea fishing and holiday celebrations
- Daily open captioned movies in Phoenix; monthly open captioned movies in Tucson
- Popular athletic activities include bowling and softball, both with year-round recreational leagues
- Athletic events between ASDB and PDSB occur as often as five times a year
- The Grand Canyon is the state’s best known natural feature
- 67 natural and man-made lakes, 25 state and historic parks
- Professional sports teams: Arizona Cardinals (NFL), Arizona Diamondbacks (MLB), Phoenix Coyotes (NHL), Phoenix Mercury (WNBA), and Phoenix Suns (NBA)
- Preserved ruins of ancient Indian civilizations, Rodeos, Pioneer Day observances, dude ranches
- Artist colonies in Bisbee, Jerome, Lakeside, Sedona and Tubac

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## **Telecommunications**

- State relay number for both TTY and voice is 7-1-1
- The Arizona Relay Service, a program of ACDHH, monitors state relay service operations
- The state relay service is currently provided by MCI
- The Arizona Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (AzTEDP) provides state residents with one telecommunications device and a secondary device at no cost and has multiple locations across the state