

# NOGALES

# Community Profile

## Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Nogales, Arizona, and its twin city, Nogales, Sonora, Mexico, are on the international border separating the United States and Mexico. The Arizona city serves as both the economic capital and the county seat of Santa Cruz County, the smallest and southernmost of Arizona's counties. The city is in a mountainous setting at an elevation of 3,865 feet. Nogales was established in 1880 by Jacob and Isaac Isaacson, who built a trading post along the border. Two years later, Nogales was the site of the first rail connection between Mexico and the United States.

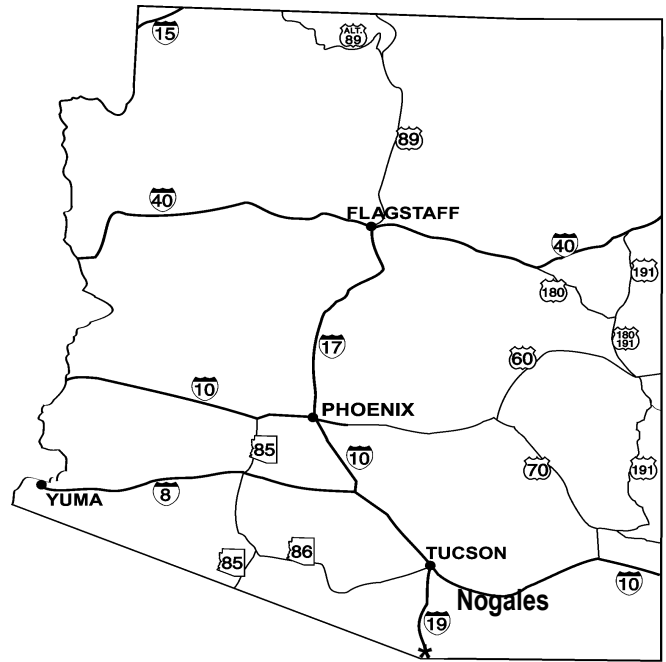
FOUNDED: 1880  
 COUNTY: Santa Cruz County  
 DISTANCE TO PHOENIX: 179 miles  
 HIGHWAYS: I-19; SR 82  
 ENTERPRISE ZONE AVAILABLE/MAIN STREET COMMUNITY

INCORPORATED: Yes - 1893  
 ELEVATION: 3,865 feet  
 DISTANCE TO TUCSON: 67 miles

## POPULATION

	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2004</u>
Nogales	19,489	20,878	21,375
Santa Cruz County	29,676	38,381	41,985
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	5,833,685

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security and U.S. Census Bureau.



## PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

International commerce is important to Nogales' economy. Over 60 percent of Nogales' sales tax comes from Mexican shoppers crossing the border daily. Nogales and its sister city, Nogales, Sonora, Mexico, are home to one of the largest cooperative manufacturing (maquiladora) clusters. Maquiladoras enable American manufacturing plants located on both sides of the border to take advantage of favorable wage and operating costs and excellent transportation and distribution networks.

<u>County Employment</u>	<u>2004</u>
Goods Producing	1,000
Government	3,300
Other Private Service-Providing	3,200
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	4,750

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security

Figures are organized under the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).

## LABOR FORCE DATA

	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2004</u>
Civilian Labor Force	8,403	9,085	9,819
Unemployed	1,489	1,662	1,629
Unemployment Rate	17.7%	18.3%	16.6%

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security.

<u>Growth Indicators</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2004</u>
New Bldg. Permit	193	N/R	29*
Taxable Sales (\$)	291,409,766	419,772,048	463,135,542
Net Assessed Valuation (\$)	65,128,785	94,163,420	112,965,087

Sources: Arizona State University; AZ Dept. of Revenue; AZ Tax Research Foundation  
 N/R: No report; \*Incomplete Data: One or more months not available

## SCENIC ATTRACTIONS

Santa Cruz County and the city of Nogales have 200 properties listed in the National Register of Historic Sites, two of which are Tumacacori National Monument, visited by Father Kino in 1691; and Tubac Presidio, established by the Spanish in 1752 on an Indian village site. Other sites are the Old Tubac Schoolhouse, Old Nogales City Hall, Santa Cruz County Courthouse, and Patagonia Railroad Depot. The Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Sanctuary, 19 miles east, attracts worldwide visitors to see its diverse bird life. Nogales' original city hall houses Pimeria Alta Historical Society Museum. Nearby are Parker Canyon, Pena Blanca Lake and Patagonia Lake State Park. Visitors also enjoy area ghost towns and mining camps. Nogales, Sonora, offers curio shops, first-class restaurants and night clubs.

