

ORACLE

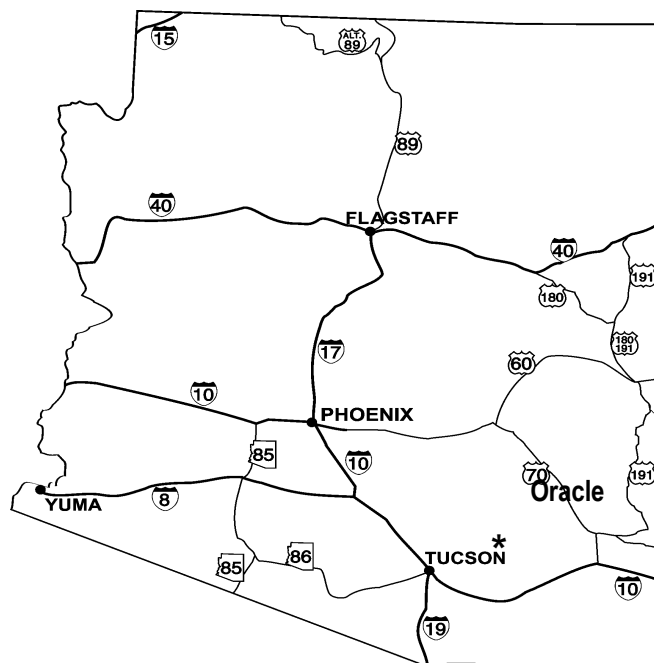
Community Profile

Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Oracle is in the northern foothills of the Catalina Mountains. Oracle and two other towns, Mammoth and San Manuel, make up a tri-community area within a 12-mile radius. Albert Weldon made the trip to the western part of the United States via Cape Horn in his uncle's ship, The Oracle. While working at the Oracle Mine, Weldon began building a brush camp where Oracle exists today. By January 1882, there were approximately eight dwellings in the area. The town did not begin to grow, however, until the Apache Mine began working. One of the early settlers, Edwin S. Dodge, applied for a post office in the 1880s, but his first choice for a name was rejected in favor of Oracle, Weldon's ship.

FOUNDED: 1882
 COUNTY: Pinal County
 DISTANCE TO PHOENIX: 120 miles
 HIGHWAYS: I-10
 ENTERPRISE ZONE AVAILABLE

INCORPORATED: No
 ELEVATION: 4,514 feet
 DISTANCE TO TUCSON: 40 miles



POPULATION

	1990	2000	2004
Oracle	3,043	3,563	N/A
Pinal County	116,397	179,727	218,285
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	5,833,685

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security and U.S. Census Bureau.
 N/A: Population estimates for this community are not available.

PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

With the recent closing of BHP Copper Company, Oracle's economy has shifted from mining and smelting to arts & crafts, a growing electronic cottage industry and tourism. Because of Oracle's setting, climate and other nearby attractions, Oracle has a long history of visitors. It's closest neighbor to the east is Arizona State Park's Environmental Education Center and to the west is the world famous Biosphere II.

County Employment

	2004
Educational & Health Svcs	4,000
Financial Activities	875
Government	16,250
Information	300
Leisure & Hospitality	3,350
Manufacturing	2,850
Mining & Construction	2,725
Professional & Business Svcs	2,950
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	7,475

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security
 Figures are organized under the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).

LABOR FORCE DATA

	1990	2000	2004
Civilian Labor Force	1,164	1,877	2,117
Unemployed	42	22	34
Unemployment Rate	3.6%	1.2%	1.6%

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security.

Growth Indicators

	1990	2000	2004
Net Assessed Valuation (\$)	7,922,704	11,405,506	15,677,405

Source: Arizona Tax Research Foundation

SCENIC ATTRACTIONS

Oracle is a hill town located at 4,500 ft. in the northern oak-woodlands of the Catalina Mountains. Javelina, deer and other wildlife are commonly seen wandering around various neighborhoods. Popular activities for both residents and visitors are biking, hiking, and horseback riding on numerous trails such as the Oracle branch of Arizona trails. The Acadia Ranch Museum, which was Oracle's first post office, is now on the National Register of historic places and houses a collection of historic objects both large and small. Scenic drives include the road to Redrock and Pinal Pioneer Parkway both of which traverse a natural garden of desert flora.

TAXES

Property Tax Rate	1990	2000	2004
Elem/High School	5.34	4.66	3.49
City/Fire District	0.53	1.03	1.70
Countywide	7.46	7.63	7.56
Total	\$13.33	\$13.32	\$12.75

Sources: Arizona Tax Research Foundation
 Note: Tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation.

Sales Tax Rate

City	0.00%
County	1.00%
State	5.60%

Sources: League of Arizona Cities and Towns, Arizona Dept. of Revenue

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Facilities in the tri-community area of Oracle, Mammoth and San Manuel include three libraries, four parks, two swimming pools, a community center, three tennis courts, historical society and museum, three senior citizens organizations, five lighted ball fields and a golf course. The YMCA Triangle Y Camp summer youth camp is located in the Coronado National Forest south of Oracle. There is also a public picnic ground with facilities in Peppersauce Canyon in the same area. A community theater group performs at a nearby facility which has been converted to a theater.

Educational Institutions

	Public	Private
Elementary	Y	N

Financial

Number of Banks: 1

Governmental Agencies

Fire Department: Volunteer

Law Enforcement: Sheriff's Office

Airports

Nearby San Manuel Airport, 6 miles south, has a 4,200-ft. paved runway

Medical

One regional health care facilities.

Hotel and Lodging Facilities

Number of Rooms: 30

Meeting Rooms: 1

Capacity of Largest Facility: 200

Industrial Properties

For more information contact the Oracle Town Hall or the SMOR Chamber of Commerce.

Utilities

Electricity	Bureau of Indian Affairs	928.896.9401
Natural Gas	Southwest Gas Corp. (Statewide)	800.766.9722
Sewer	Individual septic tanks	
Telephone	Qwest (statewide)	800.244.1111
Water	Arizona Water Co. (Oracle)	520.385.2226

Cable Providers: No
 Cable Internet Service Provider: No
 Digital Switching Station: Yes
 Fiber Optics: No
 Internet Service Provider: Yes

Weather

Month	Average Temperature (°F)		Average Total
	Daily Minimum	Daily Maximum	Precipitation (Inches)
January	34.4	56.7	2.10
February	36.2	59.8	2.13
March	39.5	64.5	2.19
April	45.2	72.6	0.91
May	53.7	82.3	0.44
June	63.1	91.9	0.39
July	67.0	92.3	3.19
August	65.3	89.5	3.74
September	61.2	86.5	1.84
October	51.6	77.4	1.60
November	40.8	65.1	1.49
December	35.1	57.2	2.31
Yearly Avg	49.4	74.7	22.34

Western Regional Climate Center, wrcc@dri.edu. Period of record 1950-2004. Average Total Snowfall 10.9".

This profile was prepared by the Arizona Department of Commerce Communications Division in cooperation with local sources.

For further information, contact:

SMOR Tri-Community Chamber of Commerce
 P.O. Box 416
 San Manuel, AZ 85631
 520.385.9322 Fax: 520.385.4593
 Email: smor@theriver.com

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Our Job is JOBS!

1700 W. Washington, Suite 600
 Phoenix, AZ 85007
 602.771.1100 FAX: 602.771.1200
<http://www.azcommerce.com/>

Reproduction of this publication for commercial use is prohibited by A.R.S. 39-121. Permission to reprint may be granted upon written request of the Arizona Department of Commerce.

Prepared on 6/2005