

SUPERIOR

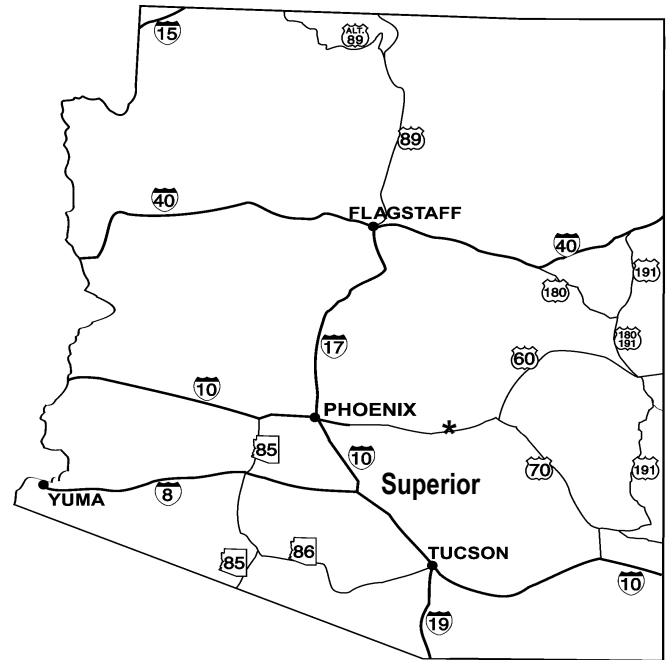
Community Profile

Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Superior is on U.S. 60 at the junction of state Highway 177. The town, in a mountainous setting, is surrounded by peaks such as 6,056-foot Iron Mountain. In 1900, George Lobb laid out the town, naming it Hastings. Mines dotted the hills around the prosperous Pinal County community. Stockholders in one of the successful silver mines lived in Michigan and named their mine Lake Superior. This mine fed the area economy and the community changed its name to Superior after this mine. The Magma Copper Company was established in 1910 and ran the Silver Queen Mine which became a great copper producer after its silver ran out. A smelter was built in 1924 and remained in operation for 47 years.

FOUNDED: 1882
 COUNTY: Pinal County
 DISTANCE TO PHOENIX: 63 miles
 HIGHWAYS: US 60; SR 177
 ENTERPRISE ZONE AVAILABLE

INCORPORATED: Yes - 1976
 ELEVATION: 2,820 feet
 DISTANCE TO TUCSON: 102 miles



POPULATION

	1990	2000	2004
Superior	3,468	3,254	3,195
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.

PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

Major employment sectors in the Superior area include mining, and trade and service. The community is improving its trade and service sector in order to expand the income from tourism. Agriculture is significant to the Pinal County economy. Ranching is conducted in the surrounding areas.

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).

Major Private Employers

Edwardo's Pizza
 Save Money Market
 Los Hermanos Restaurant

Major Public Employers

Arizona Department of Transportation
 CAAG
 Town of Superior
 Boyce Thompson Arboretum
 Superior School District

LABOR FORCE DATA

	1990	2000	2004
Civilian Labor Force	1,097	1,637	1,872
Unemployed	81	75	117
Unemployment Rate	7.4%	4.6%	6.3%

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security.

Growth Indicators

	1990	2000	2004
New Bldg. Permit	6	12*	N/R
Taxable Sales (\$)	5,588,100	11,313,700	9,610,900
Net Assessed Valuation (\$)	3,412,490	4,160,038	10,475,277

Sources: Arizona State University; AZ Dept. of Revenue; AZ Tax Research Foundation

* Incomplete data: One or more months not available; N/R: No report

SCENIC ATTRACTIONS

Along the famous 98-mile Apache Trail on state Highway 88, imposing saguaros, rugged mountains, desert vistas, and four lakes created by dams on the Salt River give the traveler a glimpse of Arizona's beauty and diversity. East of town are Queen Creek Bridge and Tunnel. On the eastern side of Queen Creek Canyon are the red-streaked towering cliffs of Apache Leap Mountain where Apaches are said to have jumped rather than surrender to U.S. troops. Nearby attractions include Magma Copper Company Mine, the state's largest underground mine; Oak Flats campground; and Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum, with more than 10,000 desert plants. Superior has identified three historic districts and the Superior Historical Society opened the home of Bob Jones (Arizona's sixth governor) as a museum.

TAXES

Property Tax Rate	1990	2000	2004
Elem/High School	8.78	7.64	7.01
City/Fire District	0.00	4.12	4.75
Countywide	7.46	7.63	7.56
Total	\$16.24	\$19.39	\$19.32

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

NOTE: School district participates in the Cobre Valley Institute of Technology (CVIT).

Sales Tax Rate

City	2.00%
County	1.00%
State	5.60%

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

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The Town of Superior has a broad range of community facilities including a senior center, a community center, a library, one swimming pool, a Little League field, two parks with football, softball and baseball fields, and the First Municipal Peace Site in Arizona.

Educational Institutions

	Public	Private
Elementary	Y	N
High School	Y	N
Middle School	Y	N

Financial

Number of Banks: 1

Governmental Agencies

Fire Department: Volunteer

Law Enforcement: City Police Department

Airports

Local municipal airport has one 3,000-ft. runway.

Medical

Copper Canyon Health care and Cobre Valley Health Care Clinic

Hotel and Lodging Facilities

Number of Rooms: 24

Meeting Rooms: 5

Capacity of Largest Facility: 850

Industrial Properties

A 46-acre fully improved industrial park is offering parcels ranging from two to nine acres.

Utilities

Electricity	APS (Statewide)	800.253-9405
Natural Gas	Southwest Gas Corp. (Statewide)	800.766.9722
Sewer	Municipal (Superior)	520.689.5752
Telephone	Qwest (statewide)	800.244.1111
Water	Arizona Water Company (Superior)	520.689.2312

Cable Providers: Yes

Cable Internet Service Provider: Yes

Digital Switching Station: Yes

Fiber Optics: Yes

Internet Service Provider: Yes

Weather

Month	Average Temperature (°F)		Average Total
	Daily Minimum	Daily Maximum	Precipitation (Inches)
January	43.2	60.9	1.99
February	45.3	64.1	1.94
March	48.3	68.6	2.01
April	54.4	76.4	0.81
May	62.5	86.0	0.35
June	71.9	95.6	0.26
July	75.6	97.6	1.90
August	74.1	95.5	2.77
September	71.1	92.2	1.50
October	62.0	82.5	1.19
November	51.0	69.7	1.43
December	44.0	61.6	2.13
Yearly Avg	58.6	79.2	18.27

Western Regional Climate Center, wrcc@dri.edu. Period of record 1920-2004. Average Total Snowfall 1.4".

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

For further information, contact:

Superior Chamber of Commerce
 P.O. Box 95/350 Main St.
 Superior, AZ 85273
 520.689.0200 Fax: 520.689.0200
 Web: www.superior-arizona.com
 Town of Superior
 734 Main St.
 Superior, AZ 85273
 520.689.5752 Email: townmanager@theriver.com
 Web: www.superior-arizona.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