EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The award-winning MAP Dashboard project was created to measurably improve Southern Arizona through data-driven collective civic action and education. The MAP provides users with measures of our region’s progress, as well as access to the latest information and research. MAP fills a gap by providing a common collection of information upon which to evaluate our community and collaborate to address our shared issues.

In the fall of 2021, the MAP Dashboard launched an updated and improved website. It includes the addition of several new features including interactive fuel gauges, multimedia highlights, and a prominent location to showcase our community spotlights.

The Southern Arizona community continues to embrace the MAP Dashboard. The website had over 220,000 unique users since launch with more than 650,000 page views. In addition, over 4,200 people subscribe to the MAP monthly newsletter, 390 people follow on Twitter, and 328 people follow on Facebook.

Since its founding, the MAP Dashboard has been recognized for excellence five times by international, national, state, and local organizations. Most recently, the MAP received the 2021 Research Award for Data Collection, Dissemination, and Visualization from the Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER) for its contribution to the success of local, regional, or state community, economic, and workforce development initiatives.

The content on the MAP Dashboard is constantly expanding and changing in response to the most pressing community issues. In addition to the 36 core data updates found in the Economy, Education, Health & Social Well-Being, Infrastructure, Quality of Place, and Workforce & Demographics categories in 2021, 21 feature articles and two white papers appeared on the website. These included articles on:

- Who can afford a house? Housing affordability declines
- Education and labor force trends for the Southern Arizona communities
- Funding regional transportation
- Tucson’s performance in the 2020 Census
- How will we work and travel post-pandemic
- Job disruptions due to COVID-19 impact food security
- Why high quality early education matters
- Labor market trends in Tucson and Arizona
- And many others
White papers written by University of Arizona faculty are funded by MAP white paper grants and featured on the website. White papers published on the MAP in 2021 included research on:

- Indexing housing vulnerability in Tucson
- Effect of the Census Bureau’s differential privacy initiative

The MAP Dashboard highlights regional impact through the Community Spotlight. This Spotlight highlights how various organizations around Southern Arizona are using the MAP Dashboard. Each spotlight provides insight on how to get the most out of the MAP and inspire others on new ways to use the website. Community Spotlights in 2021 featured the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona.

Community outreach and engagement is a key part of the MAP Dashboard. Researchers from the University of Arizona’s Economic and Business Research Center frequently participate in print, radio, and television interviews. The MAP team and associated researchers gave 16 public presentations to local residents last year, reaching 2,490 attendees. These public presentations included events such as:

- The Future of the Workforce: Today and Tomorrow
- Eller’s Economic Outlook Luncheon and Breakfast with the Economists
- MAP 101: Early Childhood Education
- MAP Talks on Select Topics: Housing, White Papers, COVID-19’s Impact on Tucson
- MAP 101: Housing Affordability
- And many other public gatherings

Information from the MAP Dashboard website also reaches thousands of readers each month through a full-color feature in the Sunday Business section and Monday Health section of the Arizona Daily Star.

This annual report provides a snapshot of the MAP Dashboard as of spring 2022, using the most up-to-date annual data. Since federal agencies release this information with significant delays, the majority of the estimates are for 2020 and 2021. In some cases, in particular the health-related data, the most recent estimates available for all comparison regions are for 2019. This is due to the time required by federal agencies to acquire and report the data. This report summarizes the latest results for all indicators and highlights key changes during the past year. It also documents changes to the website during 2021, brings together website metrics, and summarizes outreach activities.
FEATURED ARTICLE

Student Achievement

Measuring student achievement is a complicated undertaking. The MAP core indicator, Student Achievement, compares Arizona to other Western states using National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) data. NAEP is an ongoing student assessment program conducted by the National Center for Educational Statistics under the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP assessment includes students from across the nation who are selected at random. The data allow for a state-to-state or state-to-nation comparison but not for a more nuanced comparison of school districts, cities, or metros. The MAP also compares county level data using Arizona’s AzM2 test scores. However, a metro to metro comparison across states had not been possible, until recently.

The Stanford Educational Opportunity Project at Stanford University has built the first national database aimed at helping scholars, policymakers, educators, and parents learn how to improve educational opportunities for all children. The Stanford Education Data Achieve (SEDA) results are based on the standardized accountability tests in math and Reading Language Arts (RLA) administered by each state to students in 3-8th grade. The SEDA data aligns state tests to the NAEP and finds the national average for each grade such that an average score for 3rd grade is a 3.0, 4th is 4.0, etc. The SECA data reports on three aspects of educational opportunity: average test score, learning rates, and trends in test scores.

When exploring the SEDA data across all grade levels and subjects for all of the years of data available, the Tucson Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) was approximately half a grade year behind with a score of -0.5. A value of 0 represents the national average for all students, values less than 0 indicate scores below the national average, and values above 0 represent scores above the national average. For example, a -1 would be one-grade level behind and a +1 would be one-grade level ahead. When compared to peer MSAs, Tucson had the third-lowest average score (Figure 1).
FEATURED ARTICLE

Future of the Workforce

On April 21, 2022, the MAP Dashboard and sponsors brought together over 250 participants from the local community for the Future of the Workforce event. The gathering increased our understanding of how Tucson’s labor market was impacted by the pandemic and how to improve performance in the future. It brought together experts from the academic, education, and business communities for an informative and lively discussion.

The MAP presented data on current labor market performance in Tucson and Arizona. The discussion highlighted the unusual amount of churn in state and local labor markets, noting that:

- quit rates are high,
- hiring performance is strong,
- the unemployment rate has fallen to a new low.

The Arizona Board of Regents released a new report at the event on the importance of improving educational attainment for the state’s economic future. The report states that despite strong economic growth Arizona has yet to reach its full potential. The state continues to trail the nation in measures such as per capita GDP and the report indicates that unless Arizona sees significant improvements in degree production either through in-state education or through in-migration that current economic output levels are at risk.

Targeted investment in workforce development, including postsecondary education, is needed according to the report. The report documents that Arizona would reap a sizable economic return on its investment.

Select Key Findings

- In 2019, those with a high school diploma in Arizona earned $7,200 more than someone without a high school diploma. Those with a bachelor’s degree earned $22,500 more than someone with a high school diploma.
- During the most recent recession, the number of jobs in Arizona that required less than a high school diploma declined by 21.8%, compared to an 11.4% decline in jobs that required at least a high school diploma, and only a 0.2% decline in jobs that required a bachelor’s degree.
- From 2010 to 2020, the share of Arizona jobs that required a bachelor’s degree or higher increased from 16.1% to 26.5%.
- Arizona currently lags behind the nation in key measures of economic performance, including per capita personal income, per capita GDP, and average wages. These measures will improve with increases in educational attainment.

Visit the MAP Dashboard to watch the recorded Future of the Workforce event. Advancing Arizona’s Economy – Investment in Workforce Development is available for review on the Arizona Board of Regents website.

EVENT SPONSORS
FEATURED ARTICLE

Who Can Afford a House?

The MAP Dashboard published multiple articles last year on housing trends. You can find information on affordability, home prices, housing-cost burdens for owners and renters, and recent changes in rental prices. A recent article focused on skyrocketing home prices.

In 2020, single-family home prices in the Tucson MSA increased by 11.0%. That was the fourth-fastest growth rate when compared to peer MSAs (Figure 1). Phoenix’s home prices grew even faster at 16.0%. Factors driving home prices upward include increased demand as the state’s population rises and cost pressures resulting from reduced housing inventory, labor shortages, and rapidly rising construction input prices.

Prices rose even faster in 2021. The data for Tucson shows a median home price of $331,200 in 2021. That was up by 24.9% from 2020, when the median price of a home was $265,100. House price increases have been far outpacing income growth, putting significant downward pressure on affordability.

Check out the MAP website for an updated housing article in early summer of 2022.

(Figure 1) Growth Rate in Median Home Prices (2020)
**FEATURED ARTICLE**

**Shocking Developments in Tucson’s Labor Market**

The pandemic delivered a huge shock to the Tucson labor market, which lost 45,500 jobs from February to April 2020. As of March 2022, Tucson has added back 37,800 of those jobs for a replacement rate of 83.1%. That was below the replacement rate for the nation, the state, and all metropolitan areas in Arizona except Sierra Vista. When compared to peer metros in the West, Tucson’s job recovery rate also falls near the bottom of the pack, ahead of only Portland.

Tucson, and the nation, posted low unemployment rates over the past year. As of March 2022, Tucson’s unemployment rate was 2.9%, which was below the state rate (3.3%) and the nation at 3.6%. The unemployment rate declines for two primary reasons: unemployed residents find jobs or the unemployed drop out of the labor force, perhaps because they are discouraged. Overall, Tucson’s unemployment rate has dropped primarily because unemployed residents have become employed.

While the unemployment rate has improved drastically since the beginning of the pandemic that is not the case for the labor force participation rate. Exploring monthly data for Arizona and the nation, the state labor force participation rate remains well below its pre-pandemic level as of March 2022. Monthly data are not available for Tucson. The labor force participation rate is the ratio of the labor force (employed and unemployed residents) divided by the non-institutionalized population aged 16 and older.

A recent trend discussed widely in the media is the Great Resignation. This refers in part to the higher than normal quit rate that occurred during the pandemic and has continued. In February 2022, 98,000 people in Arizona quit their job, which translates into a rate of 3.2 quits per 100 jobs (Figure 1). At the same time, job openings have skyrocketed to 242,000 and hiring remains solid. The combination of increased quit rates and solid hiring rates reflects individuals reassessing their labor market options and moving across firms, occupations, and/or industries. The data on quits does not include retirements.

(Figure 1) Arizona and U.S. Quit Rates, Twelve-Month Moving Average, Seasonally Adjusted, Percent

![Arizona and U.S. Quit Rates](image-url)
The award-winning Making Action Possible (MAP) Dashboard was formed through a unique partnership between the University of Arizona, Community Foundation for Southern Arizona, and Southern Arizona Leadership Council to develop a project to measurably improve Southern Arizona through data-driven, collective civic action and education. Subsequently, Pima Association of Governments and Sun Corridor Inc. joined the partnership in 2016 and 2018, respectively. The partnership represents the non-profit and business communities, regional government, local economic development, and higher education. The MAP Dashboard fills a resource gap by providing a common collection of research and information upon which to evaluate and measure key socio-economic indicators in our community and collaborate to address our shared issues.

The socio-economic indicators are grouped into six categories: 1) Economy, 2) Education, 3) Health and Social Well-Being, 4) Infrastructure, 5) Quality of Place, and 6) Workforce and Demographics. For each indicator, users can learn how Southern Arizona is doing, how it compares, and what the latest trends tell us about our progress. Users can compare Southern Arizona to the United States, states in the West, and select Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). With this information, Southern Arizonans can decide priorities, shape and pursue effective policies, and seek external funding opportunities. They can also use the data to drive business and organizational decisions, as well as build collaborative and cross-sector partnerships capable of taking action throughout our region.

While the MAP Dashboard focuses on state, county, and metropolitan area data, it also includes a wealth of information for cities and towns located in the Southern Arizona region. The Southern Arizona region commonly includes the following counties: Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, and Yuma. The MAP Dashboard also includes data for all 15 Arizona counties.

In the seven years since its launch, the MAP Dashboard has received international, national, state, and local recognition. It was awarded the 2016 Award for Website Excellence by the Association for University Business and Economic Research and the 2016 DataViz Award from the Association for Public Data Users. The MAP Dashboard was one of three finalists for the Arizona Governors Award for Innovation in Academia and received the 2016 Common Ground Award from the Metropolitan Pima Alliance. Additionally, in 2018, the MAP received the impact award from the international Community Indicators Consortium for its demonstrated ability to drive positive community change in Southern Arizona. Most recently, the Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER) awarded the MAP the 2021 Research Award for Data Collection, Dissemination, and Visualization for its contribution to the success of local, regional, or state community, economic, and workforce development initiatives.

Local community support makes the MAP Dashboard possible. Funding partners include the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona, Pima Association of Governments, the Southern Arizona Leadership Council, Sun Corridor Inc., and the University of Arizona. The UA’s Economic and Business Research Center maintains, updates, and administers the MAP Dashboard website.

Financial support is also provided by community sponsors. Sustaining sponsors include the Thomas R. Brown Foundation, Tucson Electric Power, and Freeport McMoRan. Wells Fargo is a supporting sponsor, while Sundt Construction and Visit Tucson are contributing sponsors.
An economy is defined by the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. The decisions of individuals and firms interacting in this process determine how economic resources are allocated. The quality of a region’s economy reflects the opportunities available to individuals and businesses. Strong economies typically result in a high standard of living, higher wages, and consistent job growth. The economic indicators included in this section help identify where Southern Arizona stands in comparison to other economies in the Western United States.
Tucson Metropolitan Statistical Area Economy Scorecard

NOTABLE ANNUAL CHANGES

- In 2020, Tucson MSA’s growth in the number of establishments employing workers ranked last among peer Western metropolitan areas, at 1.1%.
- Despite rising home prices, the Tucson MSA ranked second among peer metros in housing affordability for 2021.

Note: Data refer to the Tucson Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) unless otherwise noted. Information published in this report uses the most up-to-date data available.

- Tucson MSA’s business growth rate in 2020 of 1.1% underperformed the state and the nation and remains well below pre-Great Recession levels.
- In 2021, total nonfarm employment for the Tucson MSA increased by 1.6%. That was an improvement from the decline in 2020 of 4.5% due to jobs lost during the pandemic. However, Tucson ranked last compared to its peers.
- In 2021, 64.4% of homes sold in the Tucson MSA were affordable to a family earning the local median income. That was better than the national average of 57.3% but declined from 74.7% in 2020.
- Median household income in the Tucson MSA has increased by nearly 50% since 2000. However, at $55,023, Tucson’s median household income ranked near the bottom of peer metros and was almost $10,000 below the nation.
- In 2020, the Tucson MSA posted a patent rate of 16.8 patents per 10,000 workers, a slight increase over the 2019 rate. Tucson MSA’s patent activity is well above the Phoenix MSA, the state, and the nation.
Overview

Education

Education is one key driver of economic success, both for individuals and for regions. Individuals benefit from education in a variety of ways, including higher productivity, higher wages, better health outcomes, and less need for publicly funded economic assistance. In addition, research has shown that the benefits of education spill over to the region as a whole. Local areas with high concentrations of highly educated residents tend to have better aggregate socioeconomic outcomes, such as higher per capita income, lower crime, and faster job and population growth. Thus, less educated residents also benefit by locating in regions with high educational attainment rates.
In 2020, the Tucson MSA ranked fourth among peer Western metros in the share of college graduates with a major in a science and engineering or related field, at 47.8%. That was above the national average of 44.9% and was only exceeded by Portland, Albuquerque, and San Diego.

In 2020, the four-year college attainment rate in the Tucson MSA was 33.6%, placing it in the middle compared to peer metros and just ahead of the U.S. The Tucson MSA had a larger share of residents with a graduate or professional degree at 14.3% compared to the U.S. (12.7%).

In 2020, 40.6% of three-to-four-year-olds were enrolled in an early education program in the Tucson MSA. Research has shown children who attend a high-quality early education program enter kindergarten better prepared.

The median annual wage for secondary school teachers in the Tucson MSA was $47,910 in 2021. That ranked the Tucson MSA last out of 12 peer metros.

In 2021, 35.0% of students in Arizona passed the AzM2 in English Language Arts (ELA). Pima County’s rate was slightly lower at 34.0%. AzM2 scores in 2021 were lower across the board than in 2019, mainly due to the challenging environment the COVID-19 pandemic created for students and educators.

In the Tucson MSA, wages for secondary school teachers increased by nearly $5,000 from the previous year. However, even when adjusting for Tucson’s cost of living, teacher wages remain below peer Western metros.

• In 2020, 40.6% of three-to-four-year-olds were enrolled in an early education program in the Tucson MSA. Research has shown children who attend a high-quality early education program enter kindergarten better prepared.

• The median annual wage for secondary school teachers in the Tucson MSA was $47,910 in 2021. That ranked the Tucson MSA last out of 12 peer metros.

NOTE: Data refer to the Tucson Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) unless otherwise noted. Information published in this report uses the most up-to-date data available.
Overview

Health & Social Well-Being

Indicators in this section identify critical trends in the health and social well-being of Southern Arizona residents. Measures of physical and behavioral well-being provide information about the health of residents, which plays an important role in determining the overall quality of life. Households that are housing cost-burdened or whose income is at or near the poverty level are more likely to endure adverse social, economic, and health conditions. Likewise, those who lack health insurance coverage are at a greater risk for bankruptcy and illness. The data provide residents and policymakers with performance measures crucial to gauging the overall well-being of a region.
Tucson Metropolitan Statistical Area Health & Social Well-Being Scorecard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>HOW ARE WE DOING?</th>
<th>HOW DO WE COMPARE?</th>
<th>RECENT CHANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral Health</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>Poor Mental Health Days</td>
<td>▼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance Coverage</td>
<td>91.1%</td>
<td></td>
<td>▲</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Cost Burden</td>
<td>31.7%</td>
<td>Of Households</td>
<td>▼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Well-Being</td>
<td>80.5%</td>
<td>Good or Excellent Health</td>
<td>▼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty Rate</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td></td>
<td>▼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Birth Rate</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>Per 1,000 Females</td>
<td>▼</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MAP Scorecard “How Do We Compare?” Rankings Are Relative To The Following Peer Metropolitan Areas: Albuquerque, Austin, Colorado Springs, Denver, El Paso, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Antonio, and San Diego

Notable Annual Changes

- The Tucson MSA’s poverty rate of 15.9% in 2020 was the second-highest among peer metros. However, it was an improvement from 2015 when the poverty rate hit 19.3%.
- The teen birth rate in the Tucson MSA has declined by 63.1% since 2006. Tucson’s rate of 19.9 births per 1,000 females age 15-19 placed it in the middle of peer Western metros.

Note: Data refer to the Tucson Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) unless otherwise noted. Information published in this report uses the most up-to-date data available.

- In 2019, the Tucson MSA’s reported rate of smoking, at 14.3%, was lower than the national rate (16.0%) and the state rate (15.6%).
- In 2020, 91.1% of residents had health insurance coverage in the Tucson MSA nearly equal to the national rate of 91.3%. However, the share of children that were insured in the Tucson MSA was lower than the nation as a whole.
- In 2020, 21.6% of owners and 51.0% of renters were housing cost-burdened (paid more than 30% of their income in housing costs). This was consistent with the state and the nation.
- Residents living in the Tucson MSA in 2019 reported an average of 4.0 poor physical health days per month.
- In 2020, the poverty rate for residents age 65 and older was below the state and national average.
- Hispanic or Latino teens had the highest birth rate among all races and ethnicities in the Tucson MSA, with 27.0 births per 1,000 females age 15-19.
Overview

Infrastructure

A region’s overall prosperity is related to the quality of its infrastructure. People rely on transportation and communication networks for access to employment, goods, and services. Businesses also rely on infrastructure to provide access to trade, raw materials, labor, and other inputs to production. The responsible use of natural resources by residents is also important, as energy and water use can affect long-term regional sustainability. Responsive and well-planned infrastructure results from a collaborative process between residents and policymakers, improving current levels of service and meeting future demand. Data presented in this category identify key trends in infrastructure performance and provide a valuable basis to inform future decisions related to its development.
The Tucson International Airport ranked fifth out of seven non-hub airports in 2020 with 36 departures per day, a significant decline from its 2007 average of 78. Tucson airport, along with most other airports across the country, were significantly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

The city of Tucson ranked at the top in bicycling miles compared to peer Western cities. Tucson had 8.9 miles of bicycle infrastructure per 10,000 residents in 2018.

Average residential electricity prices were relatively high in Arizona in 2020 at 12.3 cents per kilowatt-hour. Arizona has a large number of customers who generate their own electricity through net metering.

The Tucson MSA had a notably higher percentage (91.1%) of Hispanic people living in a household with broadband internet access than the U.S. (86.3%) and Arizona (85.9%) in 2020.

Arizona’s residential water use of 146 gallons per capita per day (GPCD) in 2015 was significantly higher than the national average of 83 GPCD.

In the Tucson MSA, 75.2% of residents drove alone to work in 2020. That was higher than the state and national rates.

**NOTABLE ANNUAL CHANGES**

- The Tucson MSA, at 91.2%, had a higher percentage of people living in a household with broadband internet access compared to the nation or the state of Arizona in 2020.

- In 2020, the Tucson MSA had the second-highest percentage of those commuting to work by bicycle at 1.4% compared to peer Western metros.
Overview

Quality of Place

Indicators in this category capture a wide range of influences on quality of life. Individuals who feel safe in their homes and surrounding areas are more likely to be involved in their community, increase civic participation, and even overall outdoor activity. Likewise, good air quality may increase residents’ ability to participate in outdoor activities. Another aspect of quality of place is access to cultural amenities, such as the arts, entertainment, and other creative activities. How an individual values the quality of a region may differ depending on a multitude of factors, such as race and ethnicity, age, socioeconomic status, gender, and personal preference. However, the indicators included in this category reflect a broad range of factors affecting the quality of life in a region.
Tucson Metropolitan Statistical Area Quality of Place Scorecard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATOR</th>
<th>HOW ARE WE DOING?</th>
<th>HOW DO WE COMPARE?</th>
<th>RECENT CHANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AIR QUALITY</td>
<td>39.2% GOOD DAYS</td>
<td></td>
<td>▼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COST OF LIVING</td>
<td>6.2% LESS THAN THE U.S.</td>
<td></td>
<td>▼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CREATIVE OCCUPATIONS</td>
<td>115.9 JOBS PER 1,000 RESIDENTS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUTDOOR RECREATION</td>
<td>33.2% NATIONAL PARK VISITS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC SAFETY</td>
<td>473.5 VIOLENT CRIMES PER 100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOTER TURN OUT</td>
<td>59.0% IN ARIZONA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MAP Scorecard “How Do We Compare?” Rankings Are Relative To The Following Peer Metropolitan Areas: Albuquerque, Austin, Colorado Springs, Denver, El Paso, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Antonio, and San Diego

mapazdashboard.arizona.edu

• In 2021, the Tucson MSA’s good air quality days ranked seventh among Western MSAs. Prolonged smoke from fires in the West has contributed to the decline in air quality over the past few years.

• In 2020, the overall cost of living for the Tucson MSA was 6.2% below the U.S. When broken out by category, housing was 14.6% below the U.S., while utilities were 4.8% higher.

• Employment in creative occupations in the Tucson MSA was below the national average in 2021, at 115.9 jobs per 1,000 residents. The Tucson MSA ranked 10th among peer metropolitan areas.

• Employment in creative occupations in the Tucson MSA was below the national average in 2021, at 115.9 jobs per 1,000 residents. The Tucson MSA ranked 10th among peer metropolitan areas.

• In 2016, the Tucson MSA ranked fifth among peer metropolitan areas with 29.0% of its land cover comprised of federal recreational land. The Tucson and Phoenix MSAs both have a slightly higher percentage of federal recreational land than the nation as a whole.

• The Tucson MSA's violent crime rate of 473.5 per 100,000 residents in 2020 was significantly higher than the national rate of 387.8.

• During the 2020 presidential election, the voter turnout rate for Arizona was 59.0%, nearly 10 percentage points higher than the 2016 presidential election.

NOTE: Data refer to the Tucson Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) unless otherwise noted. Information published in this report uses the most up-to-date data available.
Overview

Workforce & Demographics

The indicators included in this section help identify the demographic mix and workforce characteristics of Southern Arizona compared to other regions in the Western United States. The data can provide government officials, policymakers, and planners with the information necessary to gauge demand for future resources. The type of resources a region may need in the future are highly dependent on the demographic mix and could range from educational needs to infrastructure to services, such as health care. Population growth is a measure of how well a community attracts and retains residents, which reflects economic opportunities and the quality of life. The workforce is a subset of the population and refers to those individuals who participate in the labor market. A highly educated and skilled workforce tends to generate greater economic opportunities for a region’s residents.
In 2021, the Tucson MSA employment mix was similar to the nation and the state of Arizona. However, Tucson has a larger concentration of jobs in government, which accounted for 19.1% of total employment locally, compared to the national rate of 14.9%.

The labor force participation rate in the Tucson MSA was 80.1% among prime working-age adults in 2020 (those 25 to 54 years of age). That was below the national rate of 82.4% and ranked Tucson 11th among peer Western MSAs.

In 2021, the median wage in the Tucson MSA declined by approximately 2.2% relative to 2020, while the nation’s median wage increased by a whopping 9.1%.

The Tucson MSA’s share of the population 65 years and older in 2019 was 20.3%, which was nearly five percentage points higher than the national rate.

The ratio of wages for the Tucson MSA’s high earners compared to low earners, the 90/10 ratio, declined from a high of 4.6 in 2006 to 3.4 in 2021.

The college attainment rate for working-age residents in the Tucson MSA was 32.3% in 2020. That was an increase from 29.3% in 2015 but was below the national rate.
Acknowledgements

The MAP Dashboard is made possible through the support of its partners and sponsors.

**PARTNERS**

- Community Foundation for Southern Arizona
- Pima Association of Governments
- Southern Arizona Leadership Council
- SUN Corridor
- Arizona Eller College of Management

**SUSTAINING SPONSORS**

- Freeport-McMoRan Foundation
- TRBF
- TEP

**SUPPORTING SPONSORS:**

- Wells Fargo
- Sundt
- Visit Tucson

**CONTRIBUTING SPONSORS:**

- Arizona Daily Star
- Arizona Public Media

The MAP Dashboard would like to thank our media partners for their contributions in promoting the content on the MAP and supporting MAP related events.

**MAP Dashboard Update: Web Analytics**

- 4,289 Subscribers to the newsletter
- 221,049 Users
- 390 Twitter followers
- 328 Likes on Facebook
The MAP Dashboard is a product of the Economic and Business Research Center in the Eller College of Management at the University of Arizona.

Jennifer Pullen  MAP Dashboard Coordinator and Senior Research Economist
Valorie Rice  Business Information Specialist
Beatriz Del Campo-Carmona  Research Economist
Laurie Sheldon  Graduate Research Assistant
Maile Nadelhoffer  Webmaster and Research Economist
George Hammond  Director and Research Professor

The MAP Dashboard is guided by an Advisory Board, consisting of representatives from Partner organizations (listed alphabetically by last name).

Jamie Brown  Strategic Planning and Public Affairs Administrator, Pima Association of Governments (co-alternate member)
Allison Duffy  President, Silverado Technologies
Celestino Fernandez  Professor, University of Arizona, (past member)
Jenny Flynn  President and CEO, Community Foundation for Southern Arizona
Paulo Goes  Dean, Eller College of Management, University of Arizona
Jan Lesher  Chief Deputy County Administrator, Pima County, (past member)
Steve Lynn  Chief Strategy Officer, NüPoint Marketing, (past member)
Clint Mabie  President and CEO, Community Foundation for Southern Arizona, (past Chair)
Farhad Moghimi  Executive Director, Pima Association of Governments
Mark Montoya  Interim President/CEO, Community Foundation for Southern Arizona
Richard Mundinger, CFA  RMH Investment Management
Paki Rico  Community Affairs Administrator, Pima Association of Governments (co-alternate member)
Jeff Schatzberg  Interim Dean, Eller College of Management, University of Arizona, (past member)
Laura Shaw  Senior Vice President, Sun Corridor Inc.
Ron Shoopman  Director of Innovation and Special Projects, Southern Arizona Leadership Council, Chair
Joe Snell  President, Sun Corridor Inc.

The MAP Dashboard would like to thank NüPoint Marketing for their efforts in promoting the project.

Mary Rowley  Founder and CEO, NüPoint Marketing
Jan Howard  Vice President, NüPoint Marketing
Steve Lynn  Chief Strategy Officer, NüPoint Marketing

Growth between 2020 and 2021

+8.7% USERS
+2.0% PAGEVIEWS