
Section Eleven

Quality of Life

Greater Phoenix has long been described as one of the best places to live. The area offers a lower cost of living than other metro areas of its size, along with high quality secondary education and a warm, moderate climate that continues to attract over 80,000 new residents a year. Greater Phoenix also offers residents a wide variety of recreational and cultural activities. The area is home to seven professional sports teams and is host to annual events such as the NASCAR Winston Cup Phoenix 500, the PGA Phoenix Open, and the NCAA Fiesta Bowl. Quality of life remains an important consideration in site selection, as business leaders consider if they can attract employees to the area. The extraordinary quality of life offered in Greater Phoenix has allowed many business leaders relocating to the area to be successful in attracting employees.

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11.0 Secondary Education

Greater Phoenix schools rank above national averages

An important issue for residents in any location is the quality of education. The table below shows the high school and unified districts that serve GPEC's member cities. Arizona schools have adopted a new program that focuses on raising standards, requiring more discipline and expecting greater achievement.

- A statewide dropout prevention program was established in 1987
- In 1987, high school graduation requirements in math and science were also strengthened
- The majority of Greater Phoenix school districts rank well above national averages on standardized achievement tests
- A number of the districts offer extensive "magnet" and other programs to help keep education relevant and interesting
- These districts provide specialized courses in career and vocational fields, articulating programs with the community colleges
- Magnet programs include: aeronautics and aerospace, visual arts, performing arts, agribusiness, computer studies, international baccalaureate, applied science and engineering, and 21st century leadership

Figure 11-1

Education Statistics 2003-2004 School Year - Greater Phoenix

District	Enrollment*	Pupil Teacher Ratio**	Current Expenditures per Student**	Average Teacher Salary***	Graduation Rate***	9th Grade Achievement**	
						Reading	Math
Unified School Districts							
Chandler	29,578	18.6	\$5,920	\$46,680	87.7%	48	68
Deer Valley	33,318	17.3	\$5,965	\$38,365	83.7%	50	70
Dysart	14,230	17.5	\$5,911	\$41,300	56.9%	27	44
Fountain Hills	2,457	15.7	\$5,913	\$39,726	91.0%	52	70
Gilbert	37,070	15.8	\$5,295	\$35,732	96.2%	48	75
Mesa	75,471	16.7	\$6,159	\$52,662	81.4%	50	76
Paradise Valley	35,202	16.8	\$5,863	\$46,933	91.0%	52	70
Peoria	36,719	15.9	\$2,867	\$47,409	93.8%	48	66
Scottsdale	26,356	16.1	\$6,300	\$44,075	94.2%	46	66
Wickenburg	1,440	16.1	\$6,539	\$44,780	80.6%	48	67
Union High School Districts							
Agua Fria	4,163	19.2	\$6,039	\$50,567	88.0%	44	59
Buckeye	1,626	16.3	\$6,889	\$33,610	83.5%	39	59
Glendale	14,545	18.4	\$6,646	\$53,569	87.1%	44	70
Phoenix	24,776	14.8	\$8,638	\$54,436	72.9%	25	44
Tempe	13,484	17.0	\$6,268	\$50,109	89.0%	50	75
Tolleson	6,316	17.6	\$6,169***	\$58,334	71.1%	32	56
Maricopa County Total	626,461	15.6	\$5,809	\$44,404	N/A	46	67

Note: Different data is released at different times and is not available for all years.

*Signifies data collected for the 2004-2005

**Signifies data collected for the 2003-2004 school year.

***Signifies data collected for the 2002-2003 school year.

Note: Unified School Districts include grades K-12, Union High School Districts include grades 9-12.

Source: Arizona Department of Education, April 2005.

*Data from the 2002-2003 School Year.

Figure 11-2**Greater Phoenix Pupil Achievement Testing-Percentile Rank for 2003-2004 School Year**

	4th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade
Math			
Greater Phoenix	61	63	66
Arizona	59	59	63
Nationwide	50	50	50
Language			
Greater Phoenix	54	54	44
Arizona	50	50	41
Nationwide	50	50	50
Reading			
Greater Phoenix	57	56	44
Arizona	56	41	41
Nationwide	50	50	50

Source: Arizona Department of Education, August 2004.

Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) is a test that measures students against state benchmarks for math, reading, and writing. Graduating classes of 2006 are the first group of students that must pass the test in order to complete high school. In spring 2004, teachers administered the test to third, fifth, and eight grades, as well as to high school sophomores. Those sophomores that fail part of the test may re-take the failed sections during their junior and/or senior years until they pass.

Figure 11-3**Greater Phoenix AIMS Testing 2003-2004 School Year**

	10 th Grade					
	MS	MP	RS	RP	WS	WP
Unified School Districts						
Chandler	506	54	524	72	576	82
Deer Valley	503	53	525	76	540	74
Dysart	473	15	493	45	509	58
Fountain Hills	502	51	525	79	560	82
Gilbert	519	67	533	84	561	82
Mesa	511	60	521	70	540	74
Paradise Valley	504	53	528	78	542	71
Peoria	509	57	526	76	562	81
Scottsdale	513	63	536	81	569	82
Wickenburg	505	56	512	65	528	70
Union High School Districts						
Agua Fria	493	39	515	64	554	76
Buckeye	496	46	513	62	518	55
Glendale	504	51	519	69	557	72
Phoenix	477	21	489	62	485	40
Tempe	511	58	532	79	558	81
Tolleson	487	33	510	59	535	72
Maricopa County Totals	497	45	514	63	532	66

Source: Arizona Department of Education, August 2004.

MS= Math Score

RS= Reading Score

WS= Writing Score

MP= Percentage Passing Math RP= Percentage Passing Reading

WP= Percentage Passing Writing

Over the past several years, high schools in the area have produced numerous National Merit Scholars. Overall, Arizona exam scores are above the national average for college-bound seniors, and higher than other states such as California, Florida, Texas, and Massachusetts. Arizona has also had a dramatic increase in the number of students taking Advanced Placement Exams in high school. In 2001, over 14,000 Advanced Placement Exams were taken in Arizona, compared to only 5,400 the decade before.

Figure 11-4**SAT Scores for College Bound Seniors**

	<i>Arizona</i>		<i>United States</i>	
	<i>Verbal</i>	<i>Math</i>	<i>Verbal</i>	<i>Math</i>
1990	521	520	500	501
1991	519	514	499	500
1992	516	517	500	501
1993	520	520	500	503
1994	519	519	499	504
1995	524	520	504	506
1996	525	521	505	508
1997	523	522	505	511
1998	525	528	505	512
1999	524	525	505	511
2000	521	523	505	514
2001	523	525	506	514
2002	520	523	504	516
2003	524	525	507	519
2004	523	524	508	518

Source: College Board, September 2004.

11.1 Cost of Living

Greater Phoenix is one of the most affordable major metro areas in the U.S.

Overall cost of living in Greater Phoenix is below the national average. It is interesting to note that metropolitan area cost of living tends to increase proportionally with population size. Given that fact, Greater Phoenix is one of the most affordable major metropolitan areas in the country.

Figure 11-4

ACCRA Cost of Living Index-Greater Phoenix

Year/4th QTR	Composite	Grocery	Housing	Utilities	Transportation	Health Care	Misc
1992	101.2	100.1	96.4	90.4	116.0	111.3	102.5
1993	103.6	101.3	96.3	103.1	116.8	121.9	104.0
1994	101.2	105.0	94.2	102.3	110.6	109.5	101.1
1995	101.4	104.3	93.6	107.6	111.7	116.9	99.4
1996	102.5	105.2	97.5	106.6	113.7	115.0	99.2
1997	103.6	104.6	101.0	105.3	114.3	114.4	100.1
1998	101.6	103.7	96.9	106.5	113.1	111.6	98.4
1999	102.4	101.7	100.9	102.4	108.7	115.7	100.0
2000	102.5	104.9	100.9	101.2	109.1	118.8	98.6
2001	100.2	99.6	96.8	96.0	105.2	112.0	101.2
2002	95.1	102.8	83.8	97.1	103.8	108.4	95.9
2003	98.5	100.8	88.9	91.5	111.2	112.3	102.6
2004	98.7	98.2	94.7	94.4	108.2	106.6	100.2
2005*	96.8	100.7	88.8	92.9	102.3	99.5	101.3

*First Quarter 2005

Note: US Average = 100.0. The Index compares the cost of maintaining a standard of living appropriate for moderately affluent professional and managerial households (annual income over \$70,000 in most parts of the country).

Source: American Chamber of Commerce Research Association, June 2005.

11.2 Climate

Greater Phoenix enjoys more than 325 days of sunshine annually

- Greater Phoenix is located in a valley and is surrounded by mountains on all sides
- Although the annual rainfall totals only about 7 inches, the Sonoran Desert hosts a variety of native plants and animals
- The region boasts almost 300 days of sunshine annually, low humidity, and very mild winters
- The average annual temperature in Greater Phoenix is about 73 degrees
- The warm, yet moderate, climate allows residents to take full advantage of the many outdoor recreational opportunities

Figure 11-6

Climate Statistics—Greater Phoenix

Average Daily High	
January	65.2
July	105
October	87.7
Average Daily Low	
January	39.4
July	79.5
October	59.1
Annual Average/Totals	
Precipitation	8.3 inches
Precipitation Days	36
Average Wind Speed	6.2 mph

Source: National Weather Service and Greater Phoenix Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

11.3 Public Safety

Crime in Greater Phoenix continues to decline

- In the past five years, Greater Phoenix crime rates have fallen in most categories
- The violent crime rate in Greater Phoenix is lower than many other comparable sized cities such as Dallas and Atlanta
- In the past year, robbery and assault rates have declined by 12% and 14.1% respectively

Figure 11-17

Greater Phoenix Crime Rates - Rate per 100,000 Residents

Type of Crime	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Violent Crimes	574.9	560.4	566.5	572.1	506.5
Murder	9.7	7.2	8.9	8.2	9.2
Rape	28.8	29.5	26.6	27.5	32.5
Robbery	182.8	169.6	197	177.1	155.9
Assault	353.6	354.1	334	359.4	308.9
Property Crimes	5,708.40	5,644.80	5,860.30	6,274.60	5,852.6
Burglary	1,136.30	1,110.50	1,136.10	1,178.00	1,127.4
Larceny	3,590.20	3,524.00	3,546.70	3,775.80	3,467.4
Auto Theft	981.9	1,010.30	1,177.50	1,320.80	1,257.8

Source: FBI, "Crime in the United States 2003" November 2004.

11.4 Medical Facilities

Greater Phoenix provides residents with high quality medical care

Health care facilities in the Greater Phoenix area provide access to the latest developments in treatment and technology. Several research facilities are located in Greater Phoenix such as the Mayo Clinic and the Arizona Heart Institute. Greater Phoenix also has a variety of general and specialized hospitals, outpatient facilities, and nursing homes.

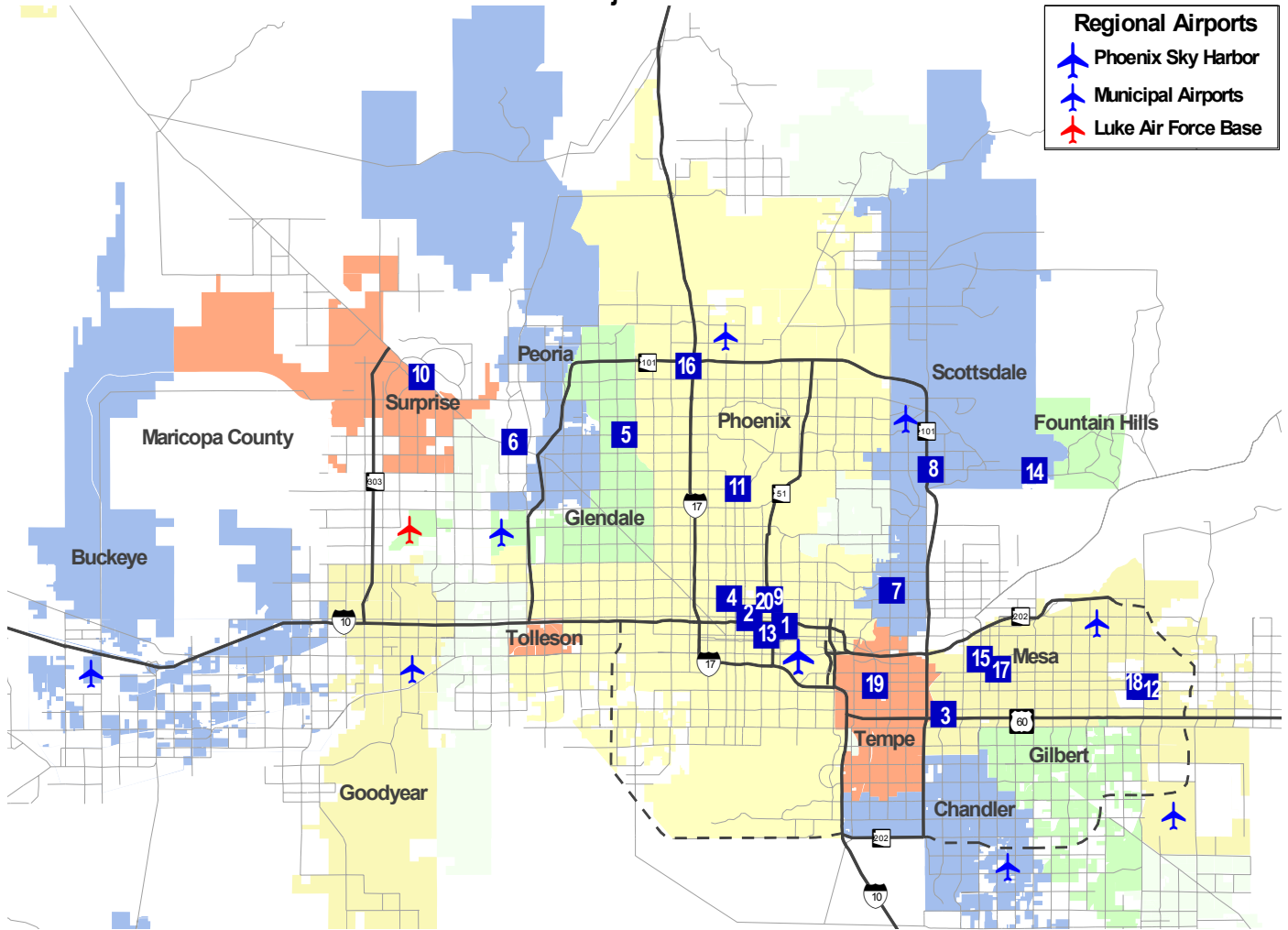
Figure 11-8

Major Medical Facilities - Greater Phoenix

Map No.	Facility	No. of Beds	Address	City
1	Maricopa Integrated Health System	621	2601 E. Roosevelt Street	Phoenix
2	Banner Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center	619	1111 E. McDowell Road	Phoenix
3	Banner Desert Medical Center	600	1400 S. Dobson Road	Mesa
4	St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center	520	350 W. Thomas Road	Phoenix
5	Banner Thunderbird Medical Center	375	5555 W. Thunderbird Road	Glendale
6	Boswell Memorial Hospital	352	10401 Thunderbird Boulevard	Sun City
7	Scottsdale Healthcare Osborn	311	7400 E. Osborn Road	Scottsdale
8	Scottsdale Healthcare Shea	310	9003 E. Shea Boulevard	Scottsdale
9	Phoenix Children's Hospital	290	1919 E. Thomas Road	Phoenix
10	Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital	269	14502 W. Meeker Blvd	Sun City West
11	John C. Lincoln Hospital-North Mountain	262	250 E. Dunlap Avenue	Phoenix
12	Banner Baywood Medical Center	242	6644 E. Baywood Avenue	Mesa
13	St. Luke's Medical Center	211	1800 E. Van Buren	Phoenix
14	Mayo Clinic Scottsdale	202	13400 E. Shea Blvd.	Scottsdale
15	Banner Mesa Medical Center	158	1010 N. Country Club Drive	Mesa
16	John C. Lincoln Hospital-Deer Valley	127	19829 N. 27th Avenue	Phoenix
17	Mesa General Hospital	126	515 N. Mesa Drive	Mesa
18	Banner Baywood Heart Hospital	111	6750 E. Baywood Ave.	Mesa
19	Tempe St. Luke's Hospital	100	1500 S. Mill Ave.	Tempe
20	Arizona Heart Hospital	59	1930 E. Thomas Road	Phoenix

Source: *The Business Journal Book of Lists, 2005.*

Figure 11-9
Location of Major Medical Facilities



11.5 Recreational Opportunities

Greater Phoenix offers spectator sports and a full range of outdoor recreation

- Greater Phoenix is one of a few metropolitan areas with all four major professional sports teams
- Cactus League spring training baseball also attracts a million fans to the Valley each year
- Greater Phoenix has more than 150 golf courses and 1,200 tennis courts
- A number of major golf tournaments are played in Greater Phoenix each year
- Within a short drive from the metro area, a full range of outdoor recreation is available in all types of terrain
- There are seven lakes within an hour of Greater Phoenix that offer fishing, boating, water skiing, picnic areas, and camping
- There are also many opportunities for hiking, mountain biking and off-road driving in and around the Greater Phoenix area

Figure 11-10

Professional Sports in Greater Phoenix

<i>Team/League</i>	<i>Annual Attendance</i>
Arizona Diamondbacks Baseball (MLB)	2,500,000
Cactus League Baseball (MLB)	1,000,000
Turf Paradise Race Course	777,585
Phoenix Coyotes (NHL)	725,000
Phoenix Suns (NBA)	715,352
Arizona State University Athletics	490,000+
FBR Open (PGA)	477,000
Phoenix International Raceway (BIR)	420,000
Firebird International Raceway (BIR)	410,000
Arizona Cardinals (NFL)	360,000+

Source: *The Business Journal*, April 2005.

Figure 11-11

Annual Special Events

Golf and Tennis

FBR Open Golf Tournament
Franklin Templeton Men's Tennis Classic
Legends Tennis Classic
Safeway International LPGA Tournament
The Tradition Senior PGA Tour

Art and Cultural Events

Annual Cowboy Artists of America Exhibition
Arizona Renaissance Festival
Arizona Scottish Highland Games
Dia de los Muertos Festival
Family Cornfest and Arts and Crafts Fair
Harvest Festival
Matsuri – A Festival of Japan
Native American Fine Art Invitational
Scottsdale Arts Festival
Scottsdale Culinary Festival
Tempe Festival of the Arts
Way Out West Oktoberfest

Rodeo

Coors Pro Rodeo Showdown
Senior Pro Rodeo

Racing

Coors Light World Finals Drag Boat Racing
Bombardier ATV Copper World Classic
NHRA World Series of Drag Racing

Football and Baseball

Cactus League Spring Training
Fiesta Bowl Football Classic

Other Events

Barret-Jackson Classic Car Auction
Bring In the Clowns
Fiesta Bowl Events (50)
Fiesta Bowl New Year's Eve Block Party
Fiesta Bowl Parade
Thunderbird Classic hot Air Balloon Race

Source: *Phoenix and Valley of the Sun Convention and Visitors Bureau*.

Figure 11-12**Outdoor Recreational Attractions**

	Camping	Boating	Fishing	Hunting	Mountain Biking	Horseback Riding
Greater Phoenix/Central Arizona						
Cave Creek Recreation Area	X	X			X	X
Estrella Mountain Park	X				X	X
Lake Pleasant Regional Park	X	X	X		X	X
McDowell Mountain Regional Park	X				X	X
Roosevelt Lake	X	X	X		X	
Salt River Canyon Wilderness	X	X	X	X		
Superstition Wilderness	X			X		X
Usery Mountain Recreation Area	X				X	X
White Tank Mountain Regional Park	X				X	X
Northern Arizona						
Canyon de Chelly National Monument	X					X
Christopher Creek	X		X	X	X	X
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area	X	X	X		X	
Grand Canyon National Park	X	X	X		X	X
Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park	X					X
Petrified Forest National Park	X					X
Red Rock State Park					X	X
Slide Rock State Park			X			
Tonto Natural Bridge State Park						
Willow Springs Lake		X	X			
Woods Canyon Lake		X	X		X	X
Greater Tucson/Southern Arizona						
Chiricahua National Monument	X					
Chiricahua Wilderness	X			X		
Madera Canyon	X					
Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument		X			X	X
Rincon Mountain District	X			X		
Tucson Mountain District					X	
Colorado River Region						
Lake Havasu	X	X	X		X	
Lake Mead National Recreation Area	X	X	X		X	

Source: Individual Websites, 2003.

Figure 11-13**Top Area Golf Courses Ranked by U.S.G.A Slope Rating**

<i>Course</i>	<i>USGA Slope Rating</i>	<i>Course Length (yds)</i>	<i>Par</i>	<i>Course Designer</i>
Public Courses				
Troon North/Pinnacle	147	7,044	72	Tom Weiskopf, Jay Morrish
Troon North/Monument	147	7,028	72	Jay Morrish, Tom Weiskopf
Las Sendas	145	6,874	71	Robert Trent Jones Jr.
Grayhawk/Talon	143	6,973	72	Graham & Panks Int'l
Grayhawk /Raptor	143	7,250	72	Tom Fazio
Gold Canyon/Dinosaur Mountain	143	6,682	70	Ken Kavanaugh
Sunridge Canyon	142	6,840	71	Keither Foster
Eagle Mountain	139	6,777	71	Scott Miller
TPC of Scottsdale	138	7,216	71	Tom Weiskopf, Jay Morrish
We-Ko-Pa	137	7,225	72	Scott Miller
Estrella Mountain	136	7,139	72	Jack Nicklaus
Legend Trail	135	6,845	72	Reese Jones
JW Marriotts Wildfire/Palmer	135	7,145	72	Arnold Palmer
Tonto Verde/Peaks	133	6,744	72	David Graham, Gary Panks
Whirlwind/Cattail	132	7,218	72	Gary Panks
Whirlwind/Devil's Claw	131	7,029	72	Gary Panks
Tonto Verde/Ranch	130	6,988	72	Gary Panks
The Phoenician	130	6,300	71	Homer Flint/Ted Robinson Sr.
Raven/South Mountain	130	7,078	72	David Graham, Gary Panks
The Legacy	128	6,765	71	Gary Panks
Kierland /Ironwood/Acacia	128	6,974	72	Scott Miller
JW Marriotts Wildfire/Faldo	127	6,846	71	Nick Faldo
Arizona Biltmore/Links	126	6,300	71	William Bell, Bill Johnson
Talking Stick/South	125	6,833	71	Bill Coore/Ben Crenshaw
Arizona Biltmore/Adobe	119	6,522	72	William Bell, Bill Johnson
Private Courses				
Desert Mountain/Renegade	150	7,412	72	Jack Nicklaus
Desert Forest/Championship	149	7,011	72	Red Lawrence
Troon Golf & Country Club/Championship	148	7,041	72	Jay Morrish/Tom Weiskopf
Desert Mountain/Chiricahua	146	7,197	72	Jack Nicklaus
Desert Highlands	145	7,072	72	Jack Nicklaus
Desert Mountain/Geronimo	145	7,099	72	Jack Nicklaus
Quintero Golf & Country Club	145	7,190	72	Reese Jones
Red Mountain Ranch Country Club	144	6,774	72	Pete Dye
Desert Mountain/Cochise	142	7,026	72	Jack Nicklaus
Whisper Rock/Championship	141	7,035	72	Phil Mickelson/Gary Stephenson
Boulders Club/South	140	7,107	72	Jay Morrish
Desert Mountain/Outlaw	140	7,107	72	Jack Nicklaus
Superstition Mountain/Lost Gold	140	7,351	72	Jack Nicklaus
Ancala Country Club/Championship	138	6,847	72	Pete Dye Jr.
Boulders Club/North	137	6,811	72	Jay Morrish
The Estancia Club	137	7,146	72	Tom Fazio
Anthem Country Club/Persimmon	136	7,229	72	Greg Nash
Pinnacle Peak/Championship	136	7,030	72	Dick Turner
Terravita Golf Club	136	7,186	72	Billy Casper/Greg Nash
Desert Mountain/Apache	135	7,211	72	Jack Nicklaus
The Mirabel Club	135	7,147	71	Tom Fazio
Country Club at DC Ranch	133	6,888	71	Tom Lehman/John Fought
Superstition Mountain/Prospector	133	7,225	72	Jack Nicklaus
Alta Mesa Country Club	132	7,093	72	Dick Phelps
Paradise Valley/Championship	132	6,802	72	Keith Foster

Source: *The Business Journal*, April 2004.

11.6 Cultural Activities

Greater Phoenix offer cultural opportunities year round to residents

There are many opportunities year round for residents to experience the performing arts, museums, galleries, and other cultural opportunities.

- Greater Phoenix hosts a large number of resident artists, as well as many touring groups and exhibits
- There are over 40 museums, and over 150 art galleries in Greater Phoenix
- One truly unique cultural opportunity in Greater Phoenix is the internationally acclaimed Heard Museum
- Greater Phoenix offers performing arts including the Phoenix Symphony, Arizona Opera, and Broadway Theater
- Venues in Greater Phoenix include Gammage Auditorium at ASU, Herberger Theater, the Sundome, and Orpheum Theatre

Figure 11-14

International Cultural Events

Annual Christmas Mariachi Festival	St. Katherine's Greek Festival
Arizona Scottish Highland Games	St. Patrick's Day Parade and Irish Family Faire
Chinese Week	World Championship Native American Hoop Dancing
Cinco de Mayo Festival	Mesa Native American Pow Wow
Dia de los Muertos Festival	Yaqui Easter Pageant-Guadalupe
Festival de Bandas	Arizona Asian Festival
French Week	Heard Museum Guild Annual Indian Fair and Market
Matsuri-A Festival of Japan	Native American Fine Art Invitational
Noche de las Luminarias	Scottsdale Greek Festival
Scottsdale Fiesta Navidad	Greater Phoenix Greek Festival
Way Out West Oktoberfest	Pueblo Grande Indian Market
Wickenburg Septiembre Fiesta	

Source: Phoenix and Valley of the Sun Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Figure 11-15**Cultural Activities in Greater Phoenix****Performing Arts Centers**

America West Arena
 Arizona Performing Arts' Murder Ink
 Arizona State Activity Center
 Arizona Veterans Memorial Coliseum
 Celebrity Theatre
 Chandler Center for the Arts
 Cricket Pavilion

Dodge Theatre
 El Pedregal, Festival Marketplace
 Gammage Auditorium
 Herberger Theatre Center
 Kerr Cultural Center
 Mesa Arts Center

Orpheum Theatre
 Phoenix Civic Plaza/Symphony Hall
 Scottsdale Center for the Arts
 Scottsdale Center for the Arts
 Sundome Center for Performing Arts
 Tempe Arts Center

Dance

A. Ludwig Dance Theatre
 Arizona Dance Theatre
 Ballet Arizona

Center Dance Ensemble
 Dancemotion Performing Company
 Desert Dance Theatre

Jazz Etc Dance Company
 Movement Source Dance Company
 Primavera Folklorico Dance Co.

Museums

American Museum of Nursing
 Arizona Capital Museum
 Arizona Doll & Toy Museum
 Arizona Hall of Fame Museum
 Arizona Historical Society Museum
 Arizona Mining & Mineral Museum
 Arizona Museum for Youth
 Arizona Railway Museum
 Arizona Science Center
 Arizona's Wildlife Museum
 Boyce Thompson Arboretum
 Challenger Space Center
 Champlin Fighter Aircraft Museum
 Buckeye Museum
 Cave Creek Museum

Confederate Air Force Museum
 Deer Valley Rock Art Center
 Desert Botanical Garden
 Fleischer Museum
 Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin West
 George Washington Carver Museum
 Gilbert Historical Society & Museum
 Hall of Flame Fire Fighting Museum
 Heard Museum
 Heritage & Science Park
 Mesa Southwest Museum
 Museo Chicano
 Petersen House Museum
 Phoenix Art Museum
 Phoenix Museum of History

Pioneer Arizona Living History Museum
 Pueblo Grande Museum
 Rosson House Historic Museum
 Scottsdale Historical Museum
 Shemer Art Center & Museum
 Sistine House Museum
 Sun Cities Art Museum
 Sylvia Plotkin Judaica Museum
 Tempe Historical Museum
 Superstition Mt. Lost Dutchman Museum
 The Bead Museum
 West Valley Art Museum

Music

Allegro Quartet
 Arizona Arts Chorale
 Arizona Opera
 Arpeggio
 Cantemus
 Celebrity Theatre
 Desert Chamber Musicians
 Jazz in Arizona
 Mesa Symphony Orchestra

Orpheus Male Chorus of Phoenix
 Phoenix Bach Choir
 Phoenix Boys Choir
 Phoenix Early Music Society
 Phoenix Girls Chorus
 Phoenix Symphony
 Quintessence Chamber Ensemble
 Red River Music Hall
 Salt River Brass

Scottsdale Community Players
 Scottsdale Symphony Orchestra
 Southwest Brass Society
 Sun Cities Symphony
 Sunland Strings
 Symphony of the West Valley
 Symphony Hall
 Valley Chamber Musicians
 Web Theatre

Theatre

Actors Theatre of Phoenix
 Arizona Jewish Theatre Company
 Arizona Theatre Company
 Barn Comedy Theatre Company
 Childsplay Theatre
 Desert Foothills Theater
 Desert Stages
 East Valley Children's Theatre
 Ensemble Theatre

Foothills Community Theatre
 Fountain Hills Community Theatre
 Great Arizona Puppet Theatre
 Helen K Mason Center for the Performing Arts
 Herberger Theater Center
 Is What It Is Theatre
 Max's Copperstate Dinner Theatre
 Mesa Encore Theatre Inc
 Mesa Youtheatre

On the Spot Theater
 Phoenix Theatre & Cookie Company
 Playwrights Workshop Theatre
 Southwest Shakespeare Company
 Stagebrush Theatre
 Tempe Little Theatre
 Theatre Works
 Valley Youth Theatre

Source: Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce Relocation Guide and Community Economic Report, 2002; Qwest Dex Yellow Pages, 2002

11.7 Housing

Greater Phoenix has a Housing Market that is Both Large and Diverse

Phoenix is known for its readily available and affordable housing market. While the regional market has shown healthy appreciation rates throughout the last decade, median home-costs are still well below the median national average. Several new communities are being planned within a thirty-minute commute from major downtown areas. Infill developments are also providing reasonably priced single-family and multifamily living with easy access to inner-city amenities. Additionally, a recent surge in the values of new condominium units is creating a healthy niche for luxury condominium development and investment throughout several corridor areas.

- Greater Phoenix offers a wide variety of new and existing homes
- In 2004, 140,000 new and resale homes were sold
- The ongoing residential construction boom has created close to 135,000 new units over the past three years.
- Greater Phoenix is about 10 percent below the national average based on sales prices for existing single family homes
- The overall appreciation rate in the valley was 8.4 percent in 2004.
- Rental apartments are also widely available. The average cost of a one bedroom apartment is \$610 a month, while a two bedroom averages \$760 a month.

Figure 11-16

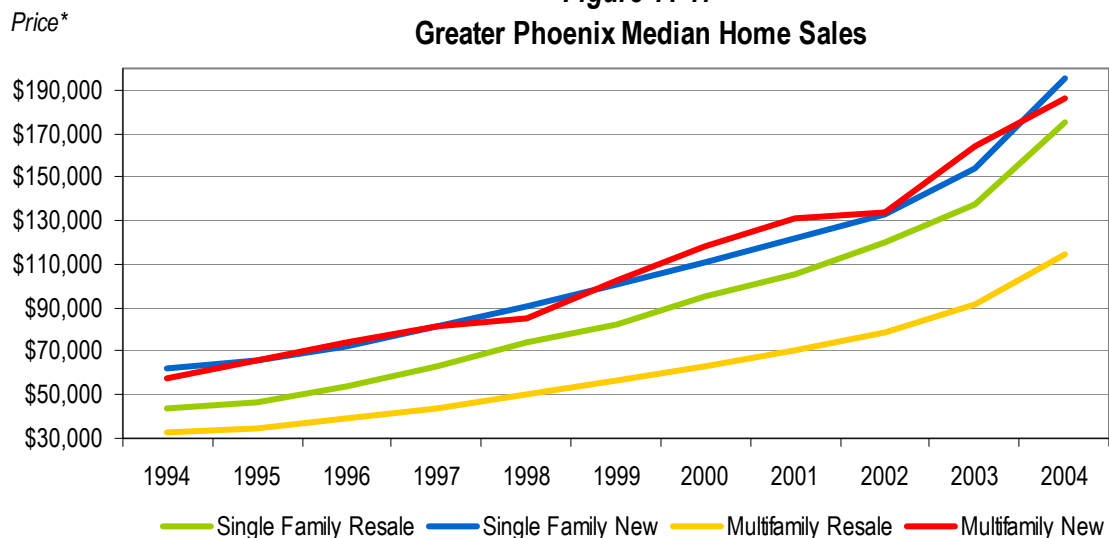
Greater Phoenix Area Median Sales Price

Year	Single Family Resale	Single Family New	Single Family Total	Multifamily Resale	Multifamily New	Multifamily Total
1995	\$90,500	\$127,600	\$105,100	\$67,000	\$100,250	\$70,000
1996	\$97,000	\$130,750	\$111,400	\$69,875	\$110,850	\$72,900
1997	\$105,000	\$136,130	\$116,230	\$72,500	\$116,500	\$76,000
1998	\$113,585	\$139,070	\$122,000	\$77,500	\$119,400	\$82,500
1999	\$120,000	\$146,710	\$129,900	\$81,900	\$136,070	\$86,000
2000	\$128,900	\$150,770	\$136,820	\$86,000	\$152,350	\$90,000
2001	\$136,000	\$156,560	\$142,680	\$90,500	\$163,710	\$95,000
2002	\$144,900	\$159,990	\$149,900	\$95,500	\$162,660	\$100,000
2003	\$155,000	\$173,240	\$160,000	\$103,275	\$184,700	\$109,000
2004	\$174,815	\$195,000	\$180,000	\$114,530	\$186,485	\$121,000

Source: Arizona State University Real Estate Center, February 2005.

Figure 11-17

Greater Phoenix Median Home Sales



Source: Arizona Real Estate Center, March 2005

*In 2004 current dollars.

Figure 11-18

Median Sales Price of Existing Single Family Homes - 2005*

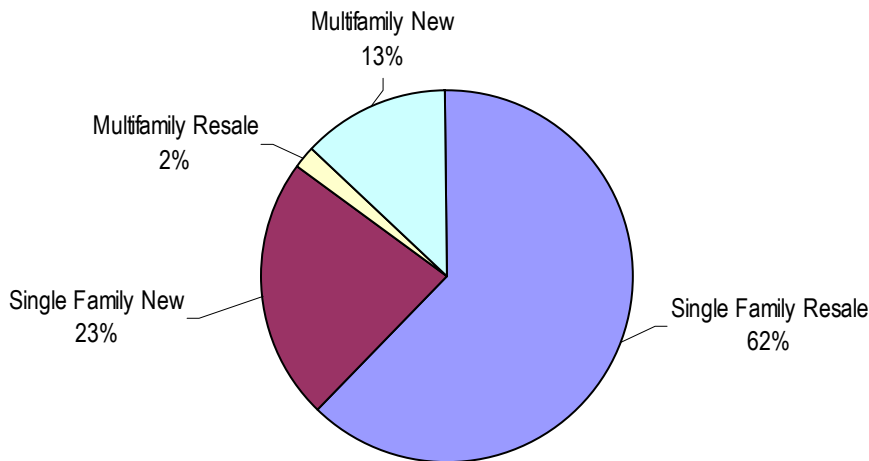
<i>Metro Area</i>	<i>Existing Home Price</i>
Houston, TX	\$138,100
Albuquerque, NM	\$149,700
Salt Lake City, UT	\$157,000
Tampa, FL	\$172,800
Greater Phoenix	\$193,800
Minneapolis, MN	\$218,700
Denver, CO	\$236,000
Portland, OR	\$243,100
Chicago, IL	\$243,800
Las Vegas, NV	\$291,000
Seattle, WA	\$321,100
Riverside/San Bernardino, CA	\$343,400
Boston, MA	\$398,300
New York, NY	\$435,200
Los Angeles, CA	\$474,700
San Francisco, CA	\$689,200
U.S. Average	\$188,800

Source: National Association of Realtors

*1st Quarter Data

Figure 11-19

Distribution of Home Sales For Greater Phoenix in 2004



Source: Arizona Business, March 2005