Nicknamed the Grand Canyon State, Arizona is a land widely assumed to be a desert with sizzling temperatures. While a large part of the state is a desert, portions of the state also include forested, woodland and grassland regions. Home to the Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest, Painted Desert, Hoover Dam, Lake Mead, and Fort Apache, Arizona draws visitors from around the globe. In 2016, Arizona’s population reached over 6 million, and is home to 27 federally recognized Native American tribes - including the Navajo Nation, the largest in the state and the nation.  

Arizona Economy

According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), in 2016 the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in Arizona reached $311,454,000,000, which was 1.7% of total U.S. GDP and ranked the state as the 21st largest state economy in the nation. Since 2014, Mexico, Canada, and China have been Arizona’s biggest partners in international import and export. It is no surprise that Mexico is Arizona’s leading trade partner with their shared border offering a myriad of opportunities to work across international lines.

Arizona-Mexico Border

Established in 1853, the Arizona-Sonora border is part of a 389-mile international border between Arizona and the Mexican states of Sonora and Baja California. Throughout this border there are six ports of entry into the U.S. which include the following cities: Douglas, Arizona with Agua Prieta, Sonora; Naco, Arizona with Naco, Sonora; Nogales, Arizona with Nogales, Sonora; Sasabe, Arizona with Altar, Sonora; Lukeville, Arizona with Sonoita, Sonora, and San Luis, Arizona with San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora.

Arizona-Mexico Commission

For nearly six decades, the Arizona-Mexico Commission (AMC), a cross-border nonprofit organization, has worked to strengthen Arizona’s ties to Mexico by building a cross-border community and network of professionals. AMC’s mission is driven by the Governors’ policy priorities, as well as the vision for an Arizona that ensures “Opportunity for All.” For more information on the Arizona-Mexico Commission click HERE.

"The 21st century economy is a global economy. And I am proud that, in many ways, Arizona is at its forefront. As we implement new and innovative ways to lead both domestically and internationally – our strong ties to Mexico help drive our state’s competitiveness. Arizona’s relationship with Mexico is also about our shared priority of improving the quality of life for everyone." -Gov. Doug A. Ducey

1 Retrieved from https://www.britannica.com/place/Arizona-state
4 Retrieved by https://www.azmc.org/about-us/
Arizona Legislature

The Arizona State Legislature is a bicameral body with 30 members in the Senate and 60 members in the House of Representatives. Each district is served by one Senator and two members of the House. During the 2018 November election, all of these seats were up for election.

Pending the final November 2018 election results, the Arizona Legislature will be considerably balanced in terms of political party and gender during the 2019-20 legislative session. Republicans will hold a majority in the Senate comprising 57% while Democrats will comprise 43%. Of these, 57% will be men and 43% women. Each Senator represents an average of 213,067 residents, based on the 2010 Census. Senators serve two-year terms, limiting them to four terms, or 8 total years of service. Similarly, Republicans will hold a majority in the House with 51% and Democrats with 49% in the incoming legislature of which 61% will be men and 39% women. According to the 2010 Census, each house member represents an average of 106,354 residents. House Members serve two-year terms, limiting Representatives to four terms, or 8 total years of service.

Article IV of the Arizona Constitution establishes when the Legislature is to be in session and states that sessions are to convene on the second Monday of January of each year. The 2019 regular session is set to convene on January 14 and which will last 100 days.¹

Similar to Oregon, Maine and Wyoming, the Arizona Legislature abolished the office of lieutenant governor, a position which serves as head or tie breaking vote in most upper houses of state legislatures. Currently, there are a total of 48 committees, 16 of which are joint legislative committees. The Senate has 15 standing committees, and the House has 17 standing committees.² Additionally, it has a full-time, statewide cable television channel called Arizona Capitol Television (ACTV).

Along the Arizona – Mexico border, there are three legislative districts. In 2019, Senator Andrea Dalessandro, Representative Rosanna Gabaldon, and Representative Daniel Hernandez will represent district 2. Senator Lisa Otondo, and Representatives Charlene Fernandez and Geraldine Peten will represent district 4. Lastly, Senator David Gowan and Representatives Gail Griffin and Becky Nutt will represent district 14.

Up Next: Baja California

¹ Retrieved from the 2019 State Legislative Sessions Calendar, LexisNexis
² Retrieved by https://www.azleg.gov/
Arizona Demographics 2016

- Capital City: Phoenix
- Population: 6,931,071
- Nickname: Grand Canyon State

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the state reached $311,454,000,000 which was 1.7% of U.S. GDP

Arizona’s top international trading partners since 2014
- Mexico
- Canada
- China

Arizona State Legislative Demographics Projected 2019-20 Legislative Session

- 90 Legislators
- Male 60%
- Female 40%
- DEM: 42
- REP: 48

Arizona – Mexico Border State Legislative Districts 2019

**District 02**
- Sen. Andrea Dalessando
- Rep. Rosanna Gabaldon
- Rep. Daniel Hernandez

**District 04**
- Sen. Lisa Otondo
- Rep. Charlene Fernandez
- Rep. Geraldine Peten

**District 14**
- Sen. David Gowan
- Rep. Gail Griffin
- Rep. Becky Nutt

The following resources were used:
- https://www.azleg.gov/

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