

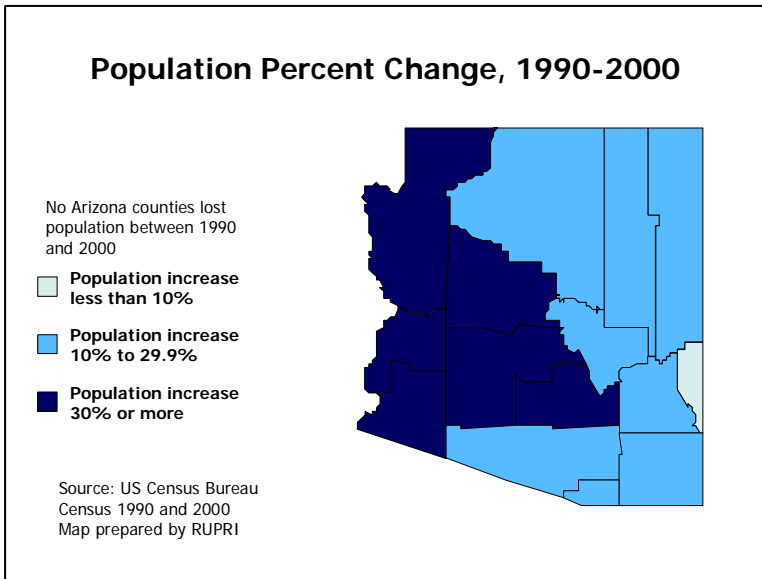


## Population

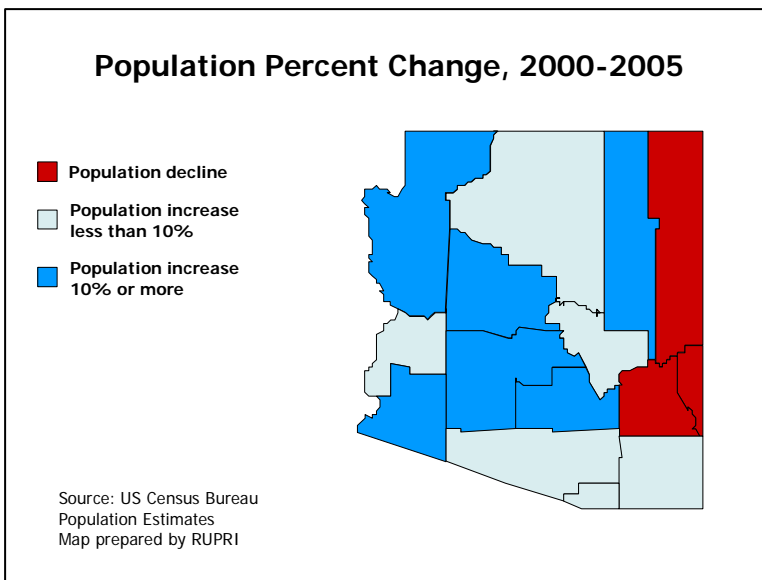
Arizona's population in July of 2005 was 5,939,292, up 15.8 percent from the 2000 Census. During the 1990s, the population in Arizona increased by 40.0 percent. Nationally, population increased 13.1 percent during the 1990s and 5.3 percent from April 2000 to July 2005. The population growth in Arizona's metropolitan areas outpaced the nonmetropolitan areas in both time periods.

Percent Change in Population		
Area:	1990-2000	2000-2005
<b>U.S.</b>	<b>13.1%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
<b>Arizona</b>	<b>40.0%</b>	<b>15.8%</b>
Metropolitan	41.1%	16.6%
Nonmetropolitan	31.8%	9.2%
Micropolitan	36.9%	10.6%
Noncore	21.9%	6.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



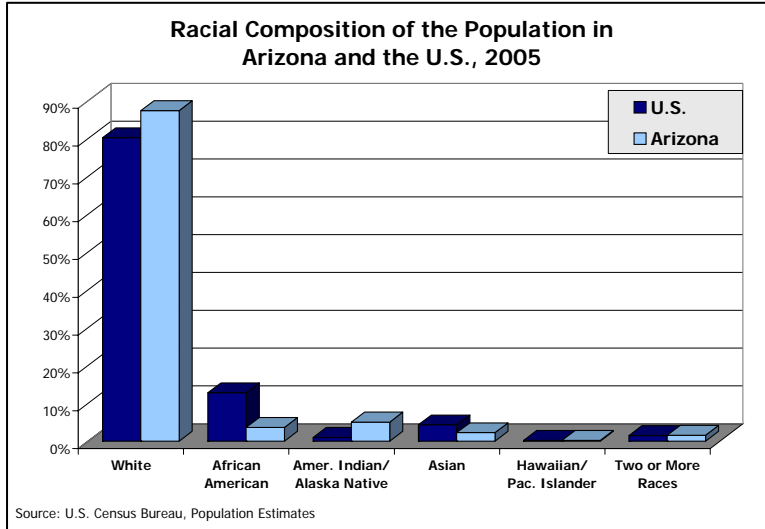
No counties in Arizona lost population during the 1990s. The fastest growth during this time period was in Mohave County, which represents the Lake Havasu City-Kingman Micropolitan Area. This county experienced a population growth of 65.8 percent during the 1990s.



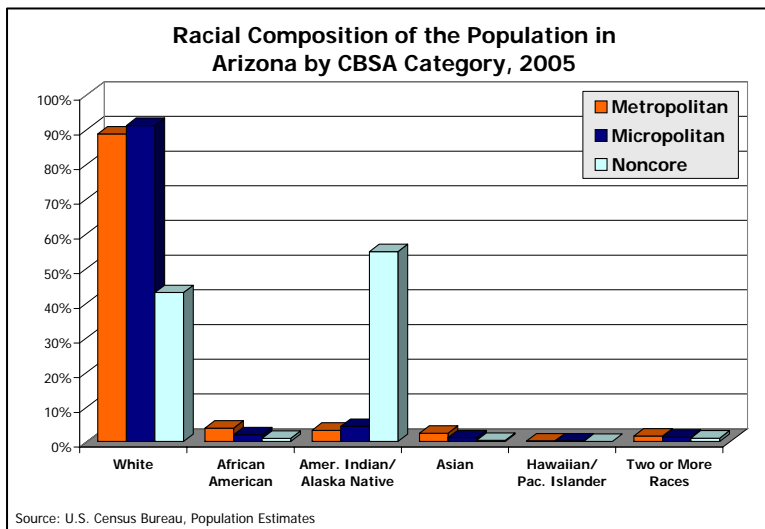
From 2000 to 2005, three counties in Arizona lost population, all of them nonmetro. The fastest growth during this time was in Pinal County in the Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale Metropolitan Area, with a population increase of 27.9 percent.

## Race / Ethnicity

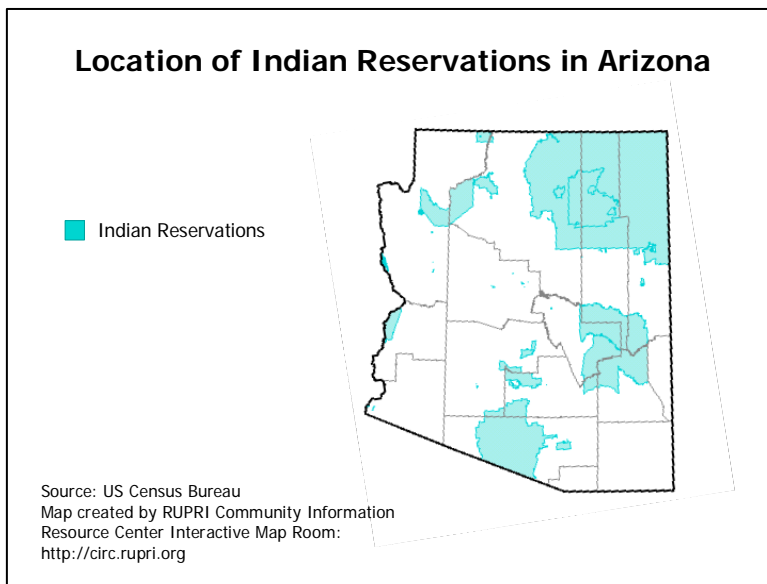
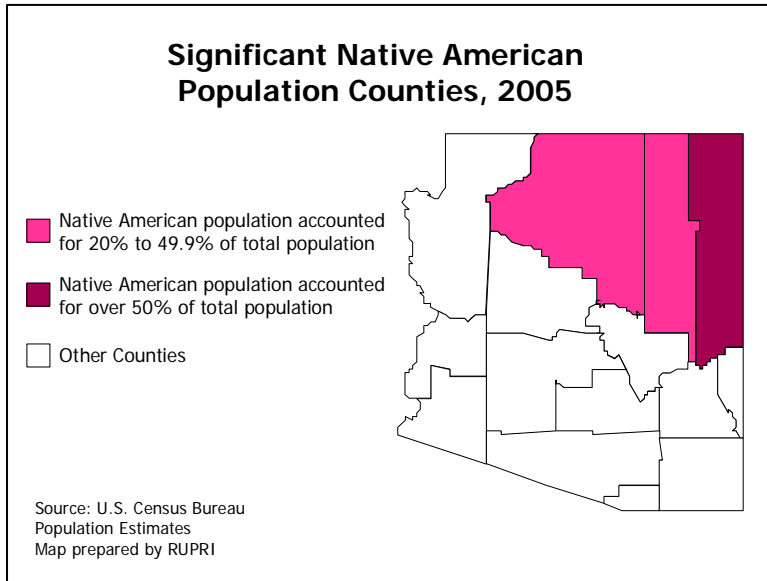
The population in Arizona is 87.4 percent white and 3.6 percent African American. Nationally, the population is 80.2 percent white and 12.8 percent African American (2005 Census Bureau population estimates). Native Americans make up 5.1 percent of Arizona's population, compared to 1.0 percent of the total U.S. population.



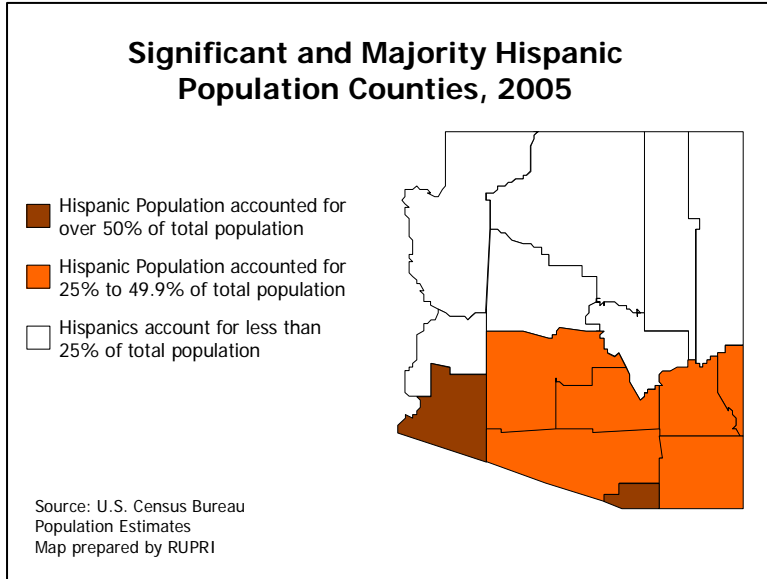
Within Arizona, the metropolitan population is 88.7 percent white, 3.9 percent African American, and 3.3 percent Native American. The micropolitan population is 91.1 percent white, 2.0 percent African American, and 4.4 percent Native American. The noncore population is 42.9 percent white, 0.9 percent African American, and 54.7 percent Native American.



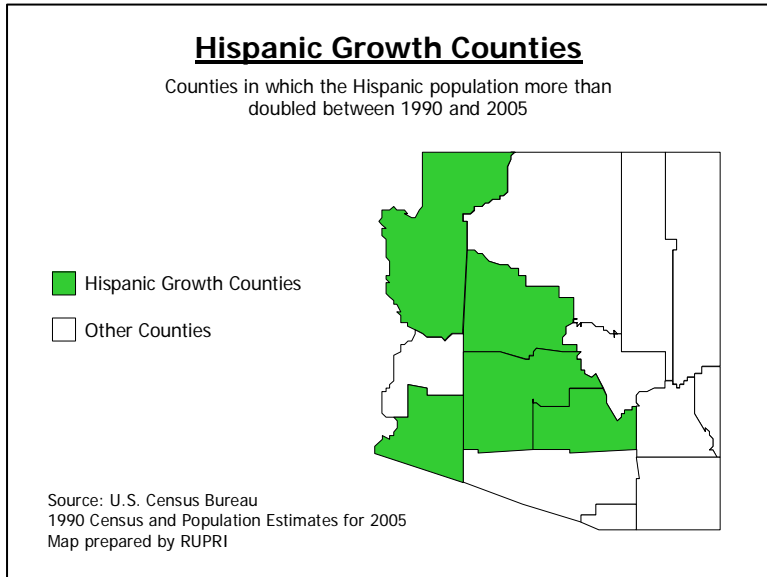
Native Americans account for a significant portion of total population in three Arizona counties, shown in the first map below. In Apache County, Native Americans make up 76.1 percent of total population. Native Americans made up 48.8 percent of the population in Navajo County, and 29.9 percent of the population in Coconino County. The second map below shows the location of Indian reservation boundaries in Arizona.



People of Hispanic origin make up 28.5 percent of Arizona’s population, compared to 14.4 percent of the total U.S. population. People of Hispanic origin make up a significant portion of total population in several Arizona counties, shown in the map below. Hispanics make up the majority of total population in Santa Cruz County (80.5%) and Yuma County (55.1%).

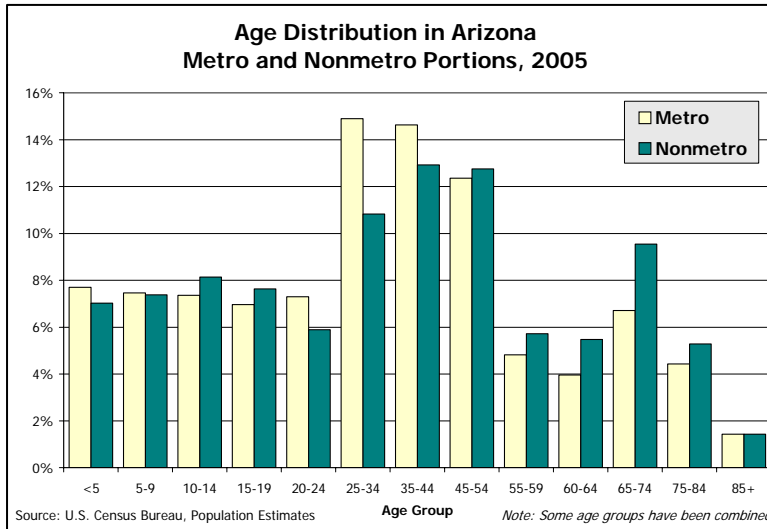


Many areas have experienced a significant growth in the Hispanic population over the past decade and a half. The map below shows the counties in which the Hispanic population more than doubled from 1990 to 2005.

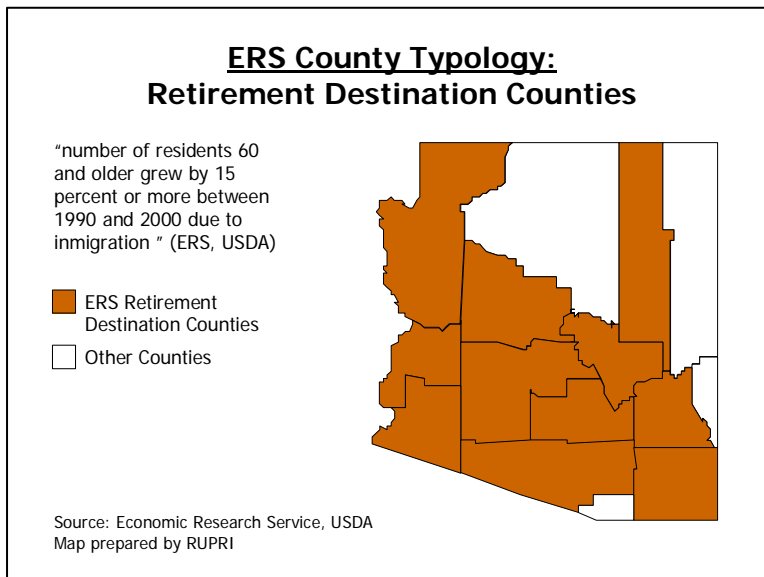


## Age

The chart below shows the age distribution of the metro and nonmetro populations in Arizona. The percent of the population in the 20 to 44 age groups is greater in the metro areas, while the percent of the population age 55 to 84 is greater in the nonmetro areas.

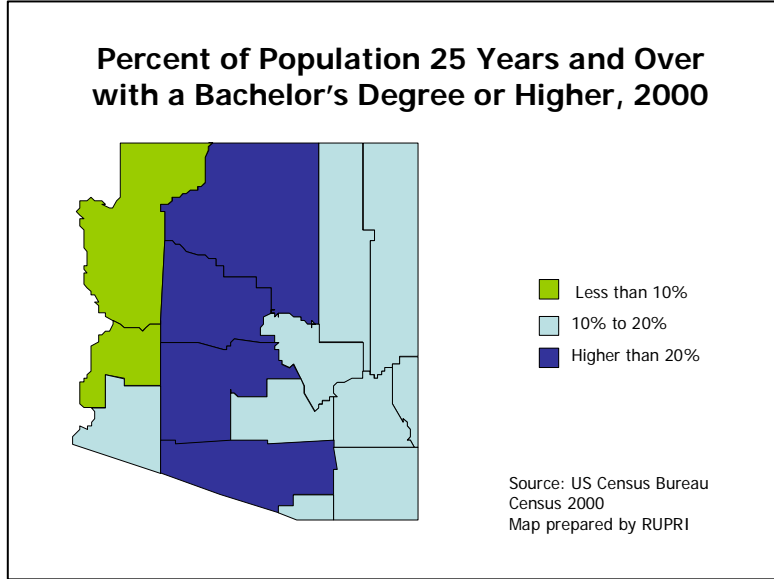


The Economic Research Service, USDA, classifies counties as retirement destination counties based on population change due to immigration. In Arizona, 11 counties are classified as retirement destination counties (5 metro and 6 nonmetro counties).

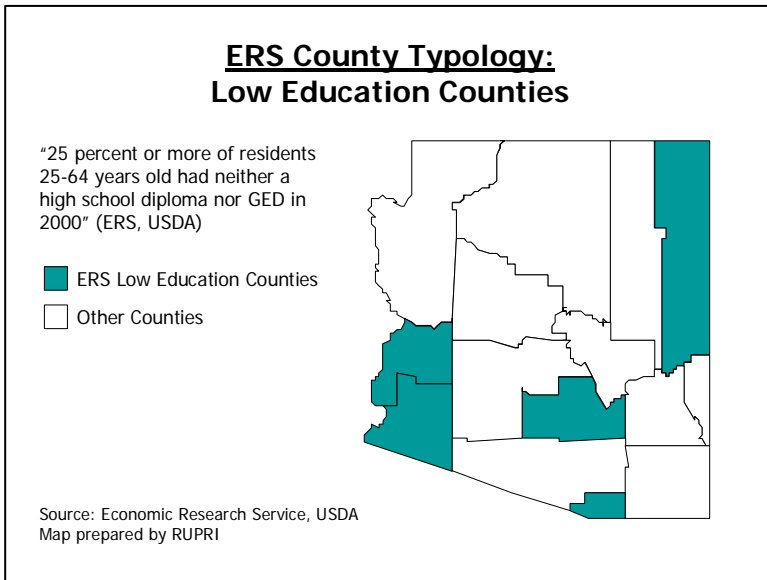
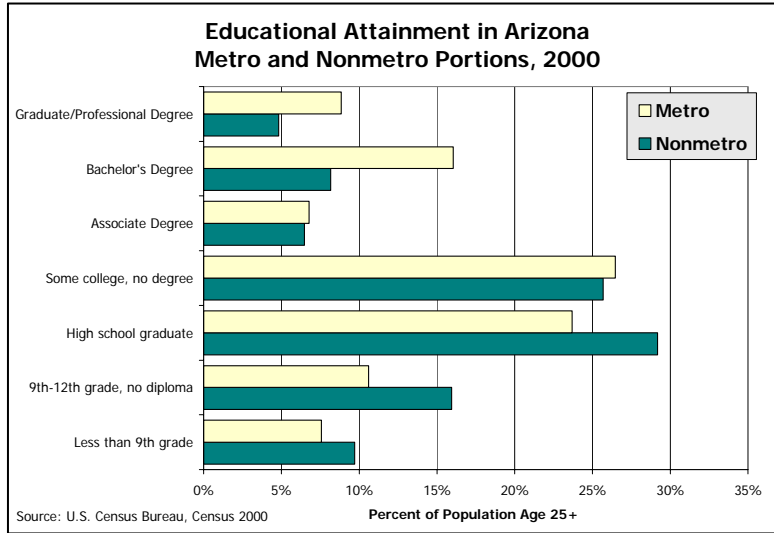


### Educational Attainment

The percent of the population age 25 and over that has earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher is 24.4 percent in the U.S. and 23.5 percent in Arizona. In metro areas of Arizona, this percentage is 24.9 percent, compared to only 13.0 percent in nonmetro areas.



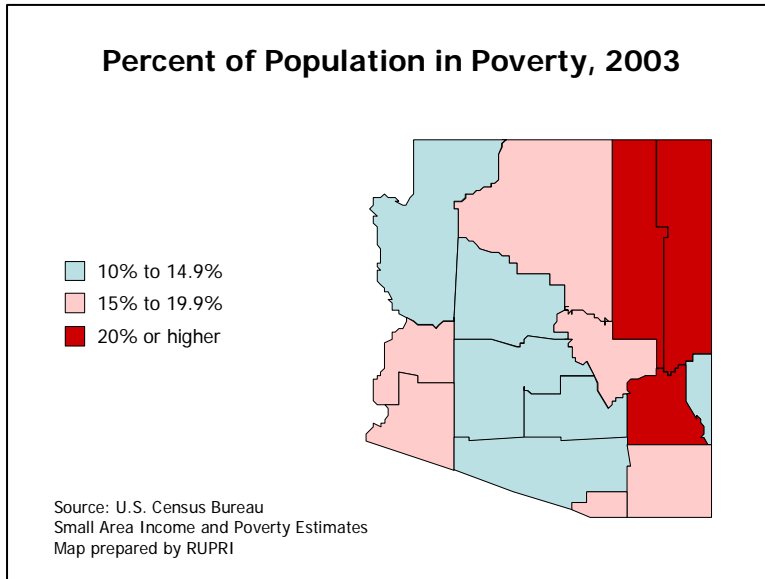
The chart to the right compares the educational attainment of Arizona's metro and nonmetro populations. The percent of the population with high educational attainment (B.S. or higher) is greater in the metro areas, while the percent of the population with low educational attainment (high school degree or lower) is greater in the nonmetro areas.



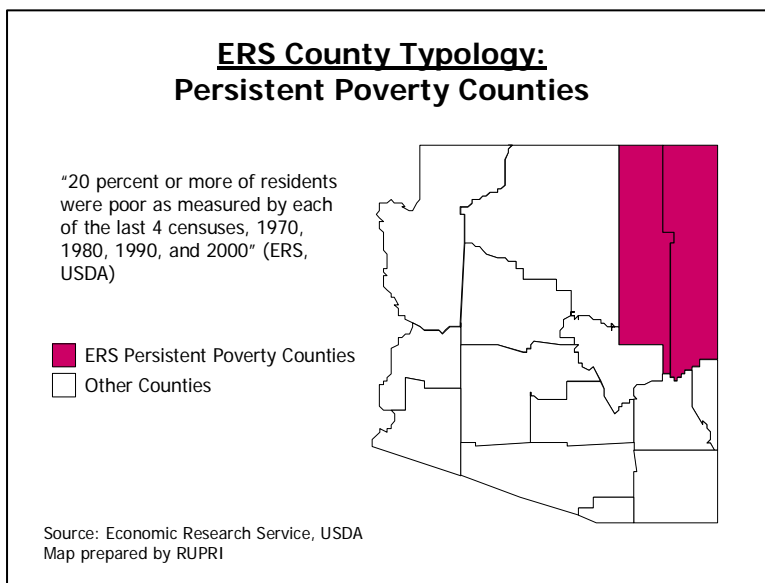
The Economic Research Service classifies counties as low education counties if "25 percent or more of residents 25-64 years old had neither a high school diploma nor GED in 2000." In Arizona, five counties are classified as low education counties (2 metro and 3 nonmetro counties).

## Poverty

The poverty rate in Arizona in 2003 was 13.9 percent, compared to 12.5 percent for the U.S. (Census Bureau estimates). Within Arizona, the 2003 poverty rate ranged from 11.2 percent in Greenlee County to 27.5 percent in Apache County.

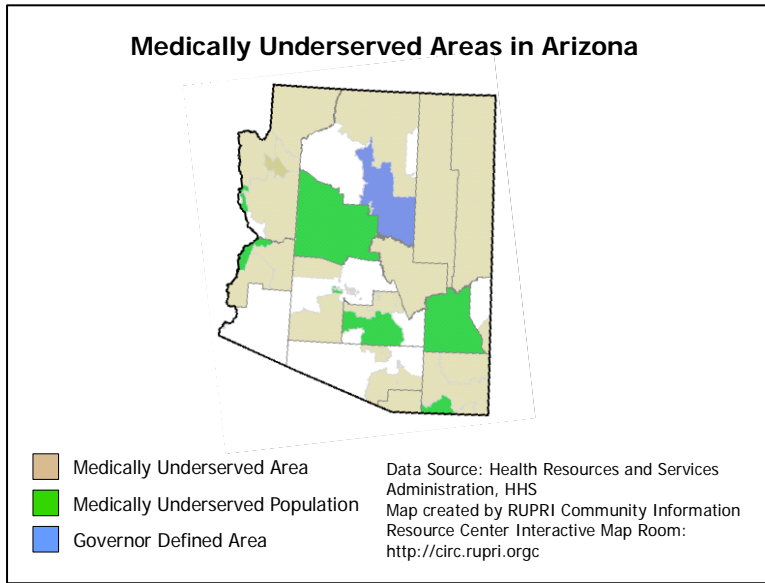


The Economic Research Service classifies counties as persistent poverty counties if they experienced poverty rates of 20 percent or higher in each decennial census from 1970 through 2000. There are 386 persistent poverty counties in the U.S., and two are located in Arizona (Apache and Navajo Counties).

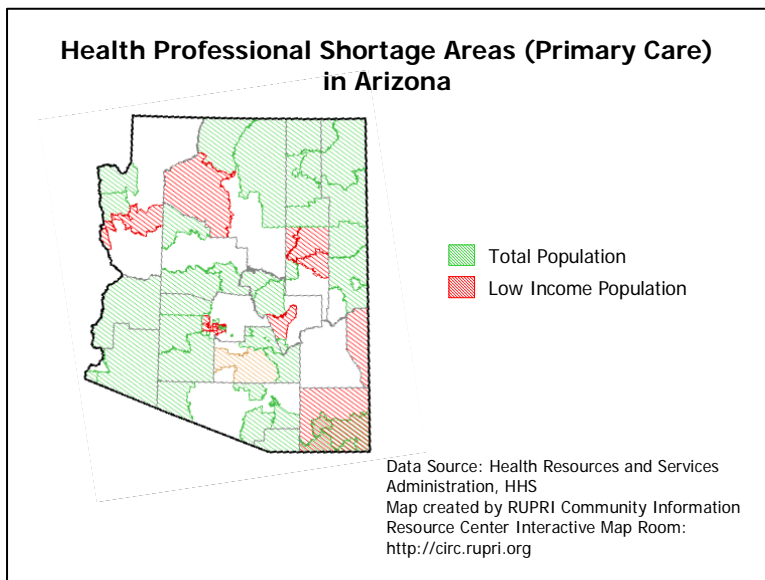


## Health Services

The designation of areas or populations as medically underserved is based on an index of four variables - the ratio of primary care physicians per 1,000 population, the infant mortality rate, the percent of the population with incomes below the poverty level, and the percent of the population age 65 and over (Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS). Within Arizona, several areas of the state are considered medically underserved, shown in the map below.

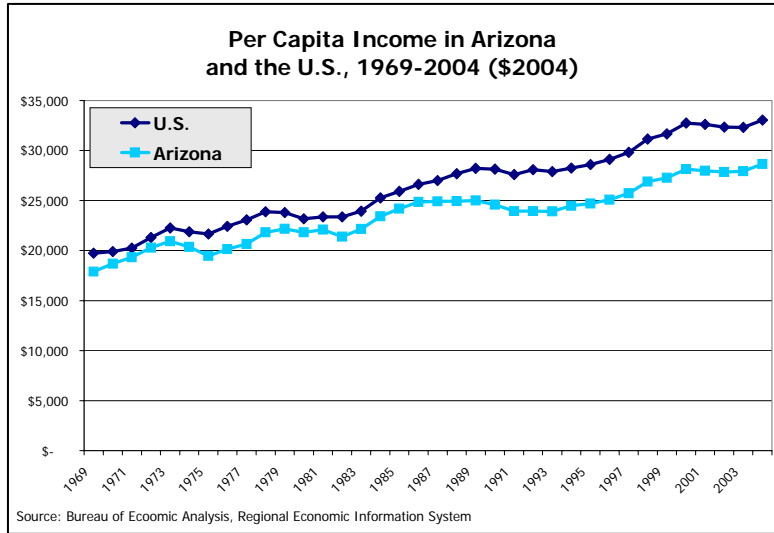


Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) are those areas that “may have shortages of primary medical care, dental or mental health providers and may be urban or rural areas, population groups, or medical or other public facilities” (Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS). Within Arizona, several areas in the state are designated as primary care HPSAs.

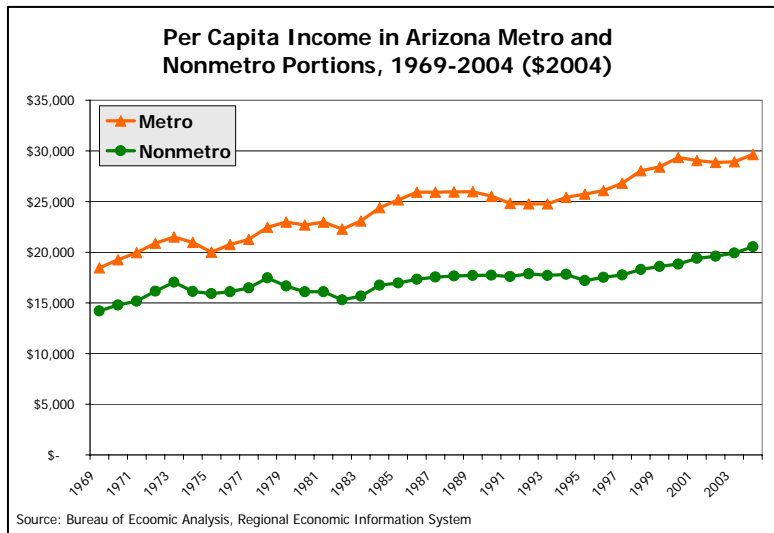


## Per Capita Income

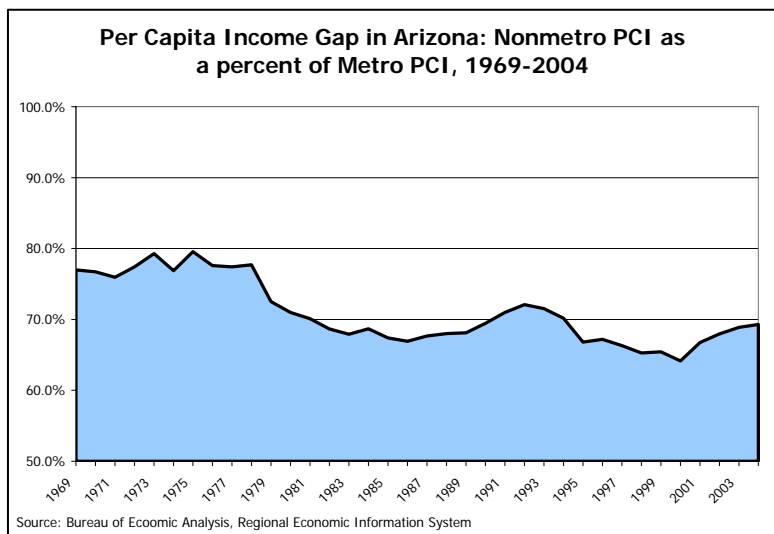
Per capita income trends in Arizona have mirrored national trends, with Arizona's income lagging slightly behind over the past several decades. In 2004, per capita income in Arizona was \$28,658, compared to \$33,050 for the U.S.



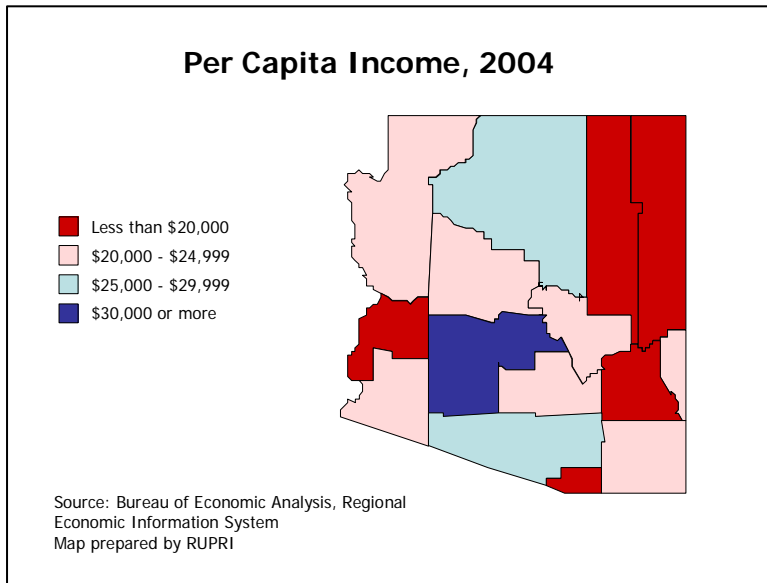
Nonmetro per capita income in Arizona has lagged behind metro per capita income over the past several decades. In 2004, metro per capita income in Arizona was \$29,659, compared to \$20,555 in nonmetro areas.



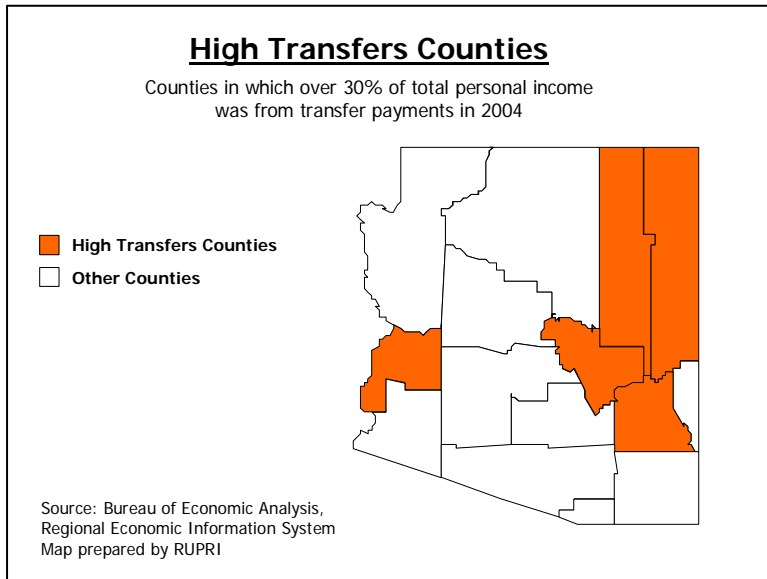
The per capita income gap is measured with nonmetro per capita income as a percent of metro per capita income. In Arizona, the gap was at its largest in 2000 and at its smallest in 1975. In 2004, nonmetro per capita income was 63.9 percent of metro per capita income.



Within Arizona, 2004 per capita income ranged from \$17,313 in Navajo County to \$31,757 in Maricopa County. Five counties in Arizona (all nonmetro) had per capita income less than \$20,000 in 2004.

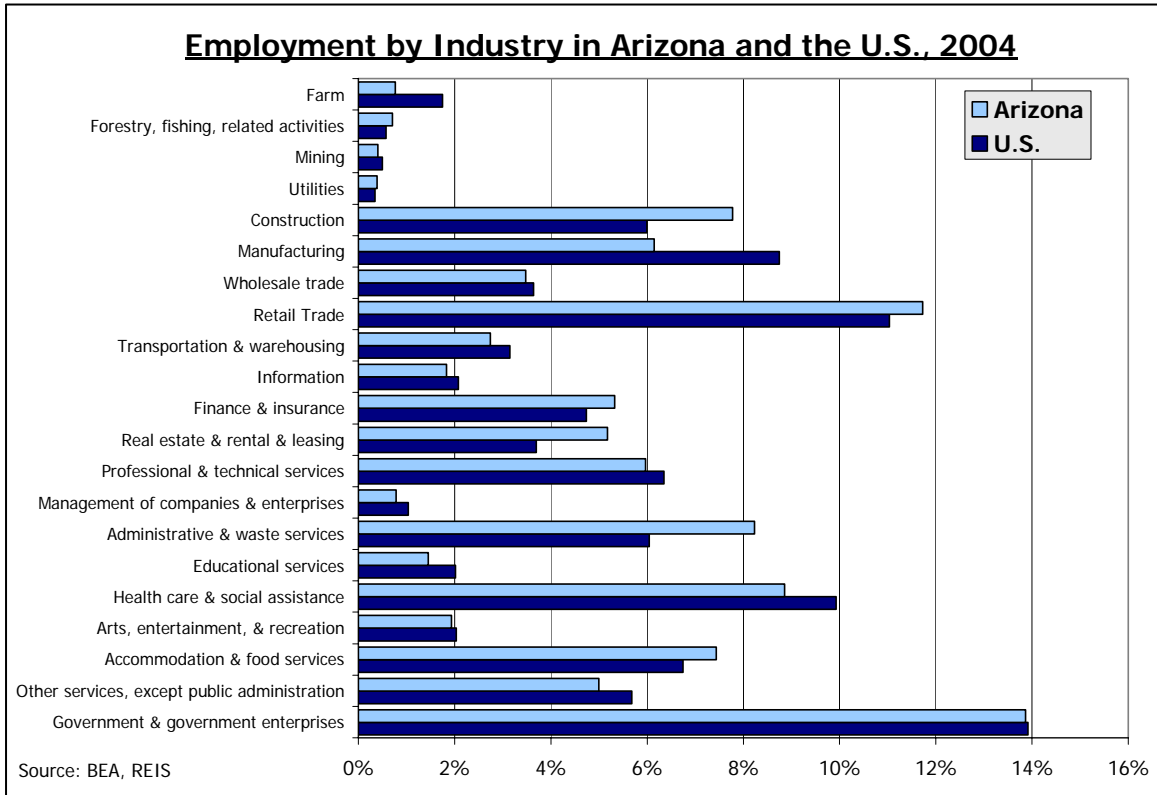


Transfer payments include retirement and disability payments, social security benefits, public assistance, and medical benefits. In Arizona, five counties' incomes rely significantly on transfer payments. In these counties (all nonmetro), transfer payments account for over 30 percent of total personal income in the county.

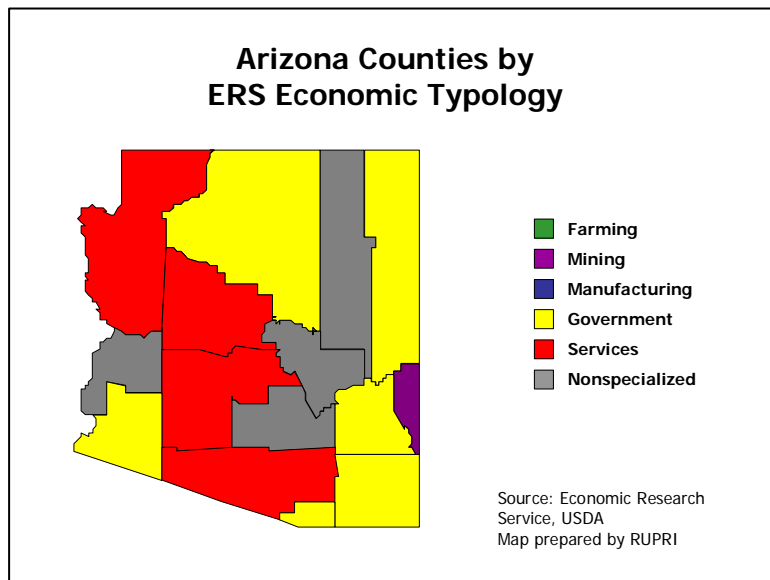


## Employment Structure

In 2004, government and government enterprises accounted for the largest shares of employment in Arizona and the U.S., 13.9 percent of employment in each. Retail trade was the second largest employment sector both in Arizona (11.7%) and the U.S. (11.0%).

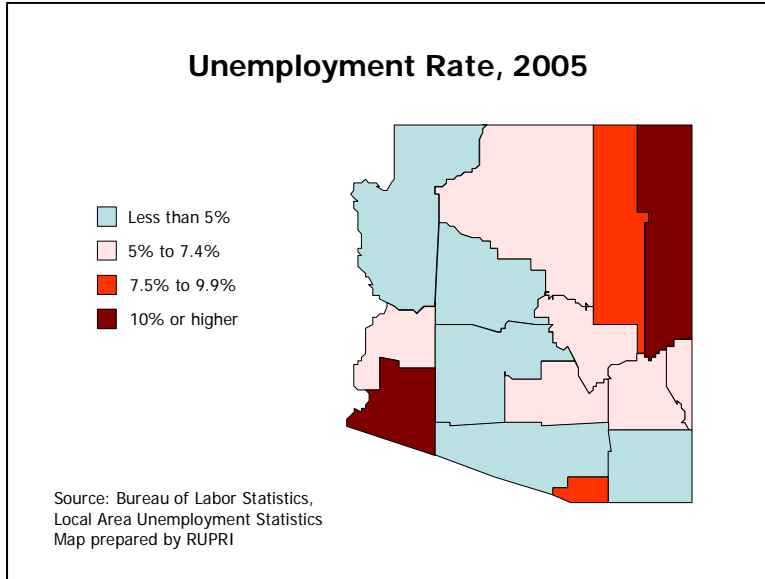


The ERS Economic Typology classifies counties into one of five industry categories of specialization or as nonspecialized. The map to the right shows the classification of Arizona counties by this typology, illustrating the importance of government and services throughout the state.

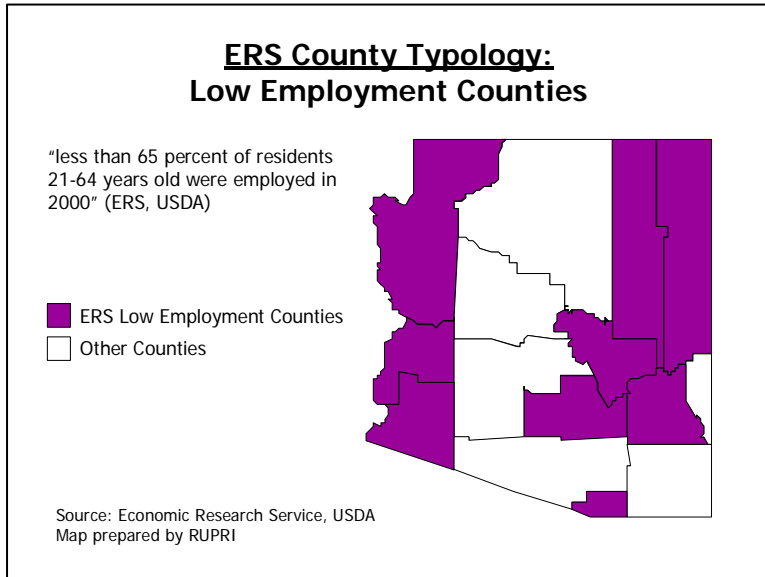


## Unemployment

The unemployment rate in Arizona in 2005 was 4.7 percent, compared to 5.1 percent for the U.S. Within Arizona, the 2005 unemployment rate ranged from 4.0 percent in Mohave County to 16.0 percent in Yuma County.

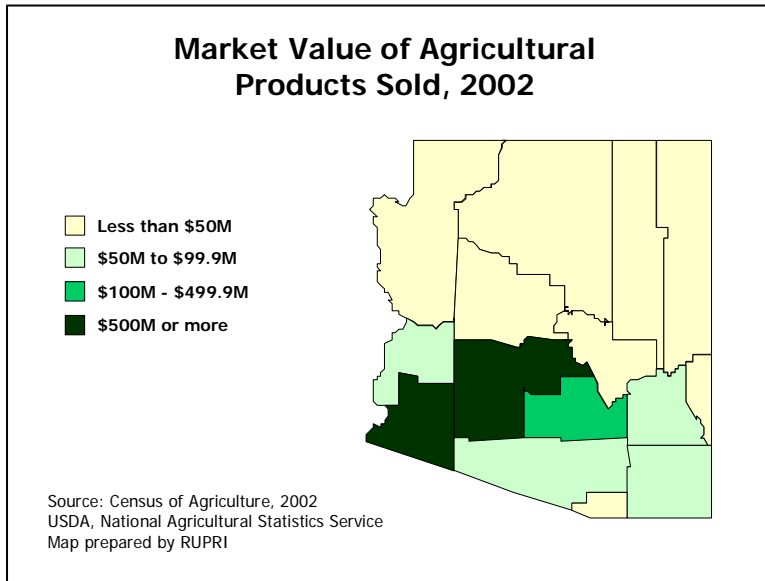


The Economic Research Service classifies counties as low employment counties if “less than 65 percent of residents 21-64 years old were employed in 2000.” In Arizona, nine counties are classified as low employment counties.

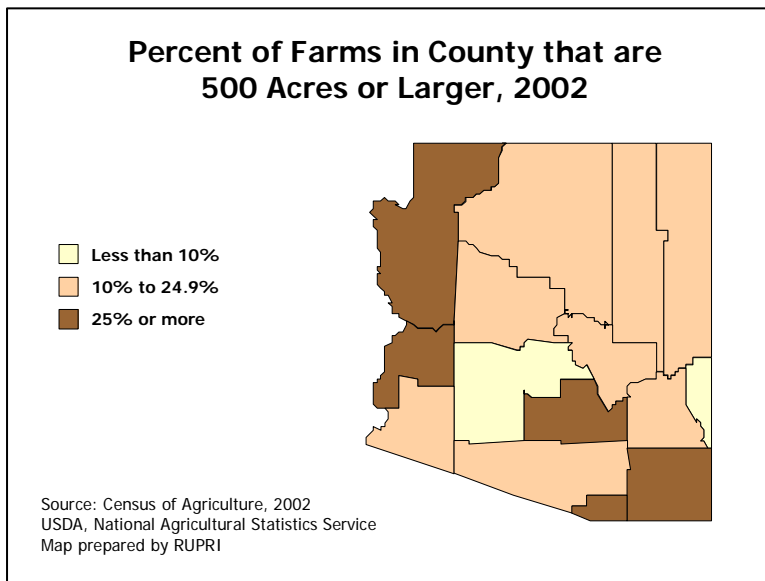


## Agriculture

Agriculture is an important industry in several parts of Arizona. The map below shows the value of agricultural products sold in 2002 for Arizona counties. Three counties had significant values of agricultural products sold - in Pinal County the value was over \$400 million, in Maricopa County the value was over \$740 million, and in Yuma County the value was over \$800 million.

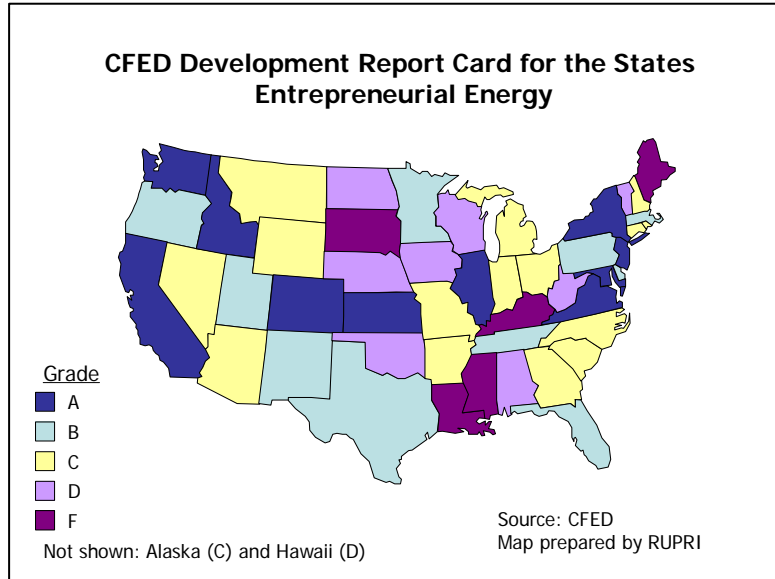


In Arizona, 17.6 percent of farms are 500 acres or larger. Average farm size in the state is 3,645 acres. There are 501 farms in the state that are 2,000 acres or more.

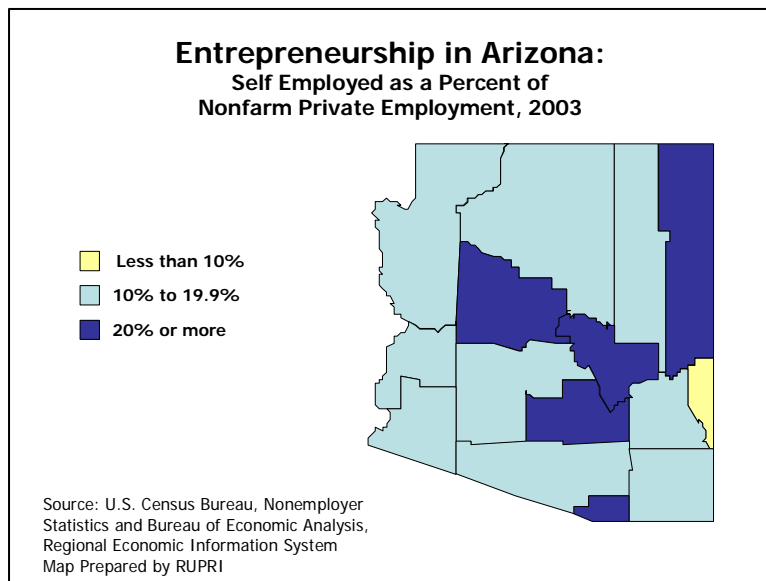


## Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship is an important component to economic development today. Unfortunately, data that allow us to measure entrepreneurial activity and trends is difficult to ascertain, particularly at the county level. The CFED *Development Report Card for the States* rates each state on its entrepreneurial energy, “evaluating the extent to which new firms are generated and whether they are contributing to employment growth.” While this is a state-level ranking, it provides useful insight as to how a state is performing. Arizona’s ranking is “C”.

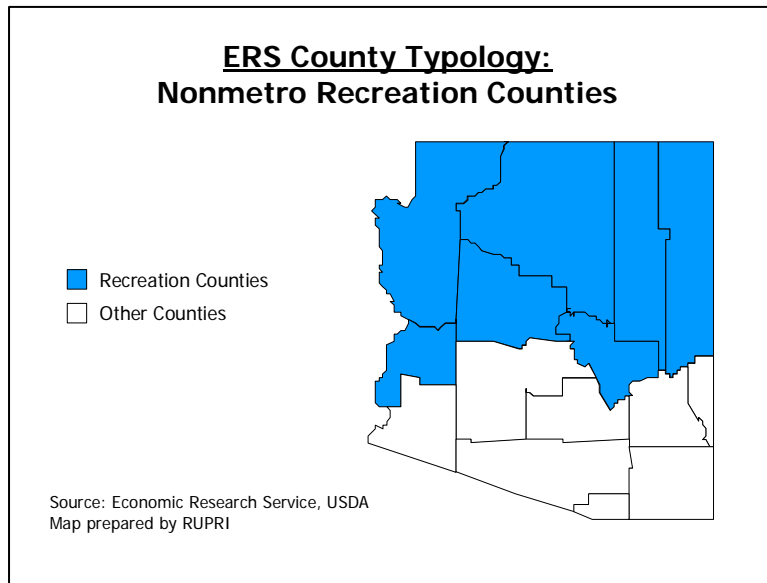


As mentioned, county level indicators of entrepreneurship are difficult to ascertain, but a good indicator is the proportion of workers that are self employed. The map below shows self employed workers as a percent of nonfarm private employment in the county.



## Nonmetro Recreation Counties

The Economic Research Service's classification of nonmetro recreation counties captures the recreational opportunities and development in many rural parts of the nation. The classification is based on a number of factors, including employment and income derived from recreation-related activities, seasonal housing units within the county, and receipts from hotels and motels. Nationally, 334 counties are classified as nonmetro recreation counties, and seven are located in Arizona. Counties that were nonmetro in 1993 or 2003 are classified. Coconino and Yavapai Counties were nonmetro in the 1993 classifications.



## **Data Sources and References**

**Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System**

<http://www.bea.gov/ea/regional/reis/>

**Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics**

<http://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm>

**CFED Development Report Card for the States**

<http://drc.cfed.org/>

**Economic Research Service, USDA, 2004 County Typology**

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Rurality/Typology/>

**Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, Designations of Health Professional Shortage Areas and Medically Underserved Areas and Populations**

<http://www.bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage/>

**National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.**

2002 Census of Agriculture

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Census\\_of\\_Agriculture/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Census_of_Agriculture/index.asp)

**Office of Management and Budget, Statistical Area Definitions and Guidance on Their Uses**

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/bulletins/fy05/b05-02.html>

**RUPRI Community Information Resource Center Interactive Map Room**

<http://circ.rupri.org/>

**U.S. Census Bureau**

Census 2000

<http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html>

Population Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Area Classifications

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/estimates/metrodef.html>

Nonemployer Statistics

<http://www.census.gov/epcd/nonemployer/>

Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saibe/saibe.html>

**For Comments and Questions on this Report:**

Kathleen K. Miller  
RUPRI Program Director  
(573) 882-5098  
[miller@rupri.org](mailto:miller@rupri.org)

**Contact RUPRI**

Rural Policy Research Institute  
Truman School of Public Affairs  
University of Missouri-Columbia  
214 Middlebush Hall  
Columbia, MO 65211  
(573) 882-0316 Voice  
[573] 884-5310 FAX

<http://www.rupri.org>