

A Glimpse of Growth

Metropolitan Phoenix Area Population, 1900-1999 Census Chart

Year	Phoenix	Glendale	Peoria	Tempe	Mesa	Chandler
1999	1,240,775	208,095	101,235	161,995	374,560	169,000
1990	983,403	148,134	50,618	141,865	288,901	90,524
1980	789,704	97,172	12,307	106,920	152,453	29,673
1970	584,303	36,228	4,792	63,550	63,049	13,763
1960	439,170	15,893	2,593	24,897	33,772	9,531
1950	106,818	8,179	1,925*	7,684	16,790	3,799
1940	65,414	4,855	--	2,906	7,224	1,239
1930	48,118	3,665	1,748	2,495	3,711	1,378
1920	29,053	2,737	2,371	1,963	3,036	--
1910	11,134	1,000	300	1,473	1,692	--
1900	5,544	--	--	885	722	--

*1954 special census

Taken from census populations for Arizona cities:
<http://www.azplansite.com/city/index.htm>

GROWTH OF PHOENIX CHART 1 Name _____

METROPOLITAN PHOENIX GROWTH TODAY

Phoenix is the 6th largest city in the U.S. Name various factors that a person could experience living in a large metropolitan city, such as Phoenix.

Factors of change	Phoenix in 2000 Population 1,240,774+
<u>Transportation and Roads</u> How do people move around today?	
<u>Economics</u> Agriculture - Farming What kinds of food and animals are raised? Where do people get their food? Other Food Businesses Misc. Businesses (not food)	
<u>Social Activities</u> Recreation Games	
<u>Human Adaptation</u> How do people adapt to the hot climate and desert environment?	
<u>Land Use</u> Downtown Phoenix	
<u>Landmarks</u> Cultural (buildings) and/or Physical (land)	
<u>Reasons for Migration</u>	

GROWTH OF PHOENIX CHART 1

Name _____

ANSWER KEY**METROPOLITAN PHOENIX GROWTH TODAY**

Phoenix is the 6th largest city in the U.S. Name various factors that one would experience living in a large metropolitan city, such as Phoenix.

(Note: These are some suggestions. You may add more to your own lists.)

Factors of change	Phoenix in 2000 Population 1,240,774+
<u>Transportation and Roads</u> How do people move around today?	Cars, buses, airplanes, trucks, golf carts, etc. Bicycles, roller blades, skate boards, walking airports, etc. Major interstates, state highways, paved or dirt roads, sidewalks
Economics Agriculture - Farming What kinds of food and animals are raised? Where do people get their food?	Egg Ranch, Dairy Farms, Cattle Ranches-chickens, cows, cattle, Grocery Stores-Frys, Safeway, Albertsons, Bashas, etc. Walmart, Fast Foods-McDonalds, Wendy's, Kentucky Fried Chicken, etc., Gas Markets-AM/PM, etc., Costco, Sam's Club
Other Food Businesses	Restaurants – various ethnic choices
Misc. Businesses (not food)	Answers will vary-electronics, aerospace, manufacturing, Tourism, etc.
Social Activities Recreation Games	Swimming Pools at homes and community pools Bicycles, rollerblades, skateboards Sports stadiums, concert facilities Computer, Game Boy, Nintendo, etc. Parks, golf courses
Human Adaptation How do people adapt to the hot climate and desert environment?	Air conditioning, evaporative coolers Running in sprinklers, swimming Wear white clothing, cotton clothing Put on suntan lotion/ wear hats/ sunglasses Stay indoors, in the shade, etc.
Land Use	Residential subdivisions, Industrial Parks, Shopping Malls, Public Parks and Recreation Centers, Government Areas, Agriculture
Landmarks Cultural (buildings) and/or Physical (land)	Capitol, Courthouses, Government Buildings, Banks, Theaters, Museums, Bank One Ballpark, America West Arena, etc. Camelback Mountain, South Mountain Park
Reasons for Migration	Jobs, Military (Luke AFB-Phoenix), School, Climate (no snow!), Family, Health, etc.

Cliff H.

Early Memories of Phoenix – starting around 1912

My family followed the Rio Grande from Texas to Colorado in a covered wagon. We migrated to Arizona around 1912 from Colorado. I was born on the way to Phoenix. Phoenix was a little town surrounded by farms. Most people had a rooster, chickens, and some goats. In the morning you could hear the roosters crowing. My dad eventually bought a one-ton model T truck. He would buy produce from small farms and deliver it to local stores.

I began school at Adams School on 8th Avenue and Adams, but it was too crowded so I went to Nazarene Church School. Many of the students rode their horses to school and tied them up to a post outside while attending school. I was the youngest student and one of the smallest students in school. At recess, I was too young to play ball, but I could play “pigtails.” This was when I stood behind the catcher and caught the balls he missed during the games. Later we moved to 12th Street and Portland and I attended Garfield School. The school was closed for a short time when the flu epidemic broke out around 1918.

Roosevelt Dam, which had been completed around 1912, provided our irrigation water. We had huge fig trees. Our homes had many shrubs and trees. I climbed to the top of the trees and picked the ripest figs before anyone else did!

I remember as a young boy hearing a lot of whistles blowing, and I asked my mother what was happening. She mentioned that the war had ended and people were celebrating. We had a neighbor that owned a talking parrot. The parrot was from San Francisco and was given to her after the earthquake. The parrot had been trained to yell, “Fire!” Soon the parrot learned my name from my mother calling me to come home, and it began to yell my name, too. When I was 14 years old, I delivered meat to customers while riding my bicycle. Meat markets and grocery stores were separate. Some grocery stores delivered kerosene in gallon cans. They put a potato in the spout, so the kerosene would not spill in transit.

The Hispanics carried fresh bakery goods on a table covered with a white cloth above their heads and traveled from house to house. Their baked items smelled so good! Indians came from the reservations on their wagons and horses. They sold their wares, such as pottery, jewelry, rugs, etc. near 4th Street and Jefferson. The Indian women wore their traditional long dresses. The Salt River Indians would chop a lot of mesquite wood and sell it, also.

The Salt River had a lot of cottonwood trees. I used to ride my horse to my favorite swimming hole near 19th Avenue and the river bottom and go swimming. The river would get 5-6 feet deep at places and was about 100 feet wide. The Salt River in Tempe had a running ferry, also. There was a lot of mesquite thicket between 20th Street and Van Buren, as well near Six Points. Six Points is the location of Grand and McDowell Road now. I used to hunt rabbits there.

Downtown Phoenix had streetcars [trolleys]. One streetcar line went from 16th Street and Washington to the Capitol. Then it returned to 17th Street, turned around and went back. This area was called Eastlake Park. Later, there was another streetcar line that traveled from North 10th Street to Glendale Avenue. then west to the town of Glendale. It only cost about 5 cents to ride the streetcar. Some of the streetcars

operated on paved roads. Most of the roads were dirt. The rails from the streetcar lines were made of steel from Germany. They were shipped to California, brought up the Colorado River by boat, and brought to Phoenix.

The original road in Phoenix was Center Street. It went north and south and is now called Central Avenue. Washington Street was another original road going east and west. Phoenix was placed on a grid pattern. Streets north of Washington were named after U.S. Presidents. East streets were called Streets and west streets were called Avenues. Van Buren, which is north of Washington, continued east and was called the Tempe Road.

Phoenix doesn't have flooding today, but in its early days we had heavy rains that came from the Cave Creek area north of town and flooded western Phoenix. I recall being about 9 years old and living at Grand and Pierce. There was about 2 feet of water in the Capitol Building. The local politicians decided to build Cave Creek Diversion Dam which would divert the water to the New River area (also north of town) to solve the problem of flooding.

The main way Phoenix got its products was by rail. Refrigerators were not available until the 1930s. Prior to that time, we had ice delivered in wagons. These ice blocks were put into wooden iceboxes lined with metal. They did not freeze items, but kept them cool. The ice blocks weighed about 25-50 lbs.

Pima cotton was grown west of Phoenix. Glendale and Peoria raised a lot of citrus and vegetables, such as cantaloupe, watermelon, and lettuce. The railroad tracks ran parallel to Grand Avenue. Ice was placed in the railroad cars and there was packing sheds along the railroad tracks where workers placed the produce into these refrigerated railroad cars. The produce was then shipped to other places.

Martha J.

Early Memories of Phoenix - around 1930

Our family moved here from Ohio around 1927. Phoenix was a small, agricultural town with no coolers. My mother had an old, bent fan that she would use to cool off the babies. It was hot, but no one complained. We lived on the outskirts of town near Six Points, which was near McDowell and 19th Avenue.

My mother wanted us to play outside. We played ball outside and built our own baseball diamond in the vacant land. I recall that I loved to climb trees and would find huge, cottonwood trees to climb. When I was about 9 years old, we would skate on the pavement in front of our home because hardly any cars came by. There were a few local swimming pools we could swim at. We went to the Old Swimming Hole at 35th Avenue and Van Buren.

I attended Issac School near 35 Avenue and McDowell. It was a tiny school. We had a lot of Japanese students whose families truck-farmed raising vegetables. Truck farming was when the farming families would use their trucks to take vegetables to a market to sell because the produce would spoil very quickly without refrigeration. We made many friends with the Japanese girls.

In town, the Indian women sat on the streets near Central and Washington selling their beautiful turquoise jewelry and baskets that they wove. Mexican men pedaled hot tamales in carts around the streets of Phoenix. Phoenix had large fields of cantaloupes and watermelons in the summer and lettuce in the fall and winter.

Past Six Points to the west were many ranches and dairy farms. Streetcars were in the center of town and very few people owned cars. Most residential neighborhoods were unpaved. The downtown area was very small. The courthouse was located in "town" and the Capitol Building was west of downtown Phoenix. Our local stores were Penneys, Newberrys, and Kress stores. The Penneys' store had narrow aisles and merchandise stacked on tables. When you paid for your purchase, the clerk sent your money and receipt to the cashier in the balcony via a vacuum device. My mother would buy our school clothes at Penneys.

There were few restaurants in downtown Phoenix, and most everyone ate at home. For entertainment, we had a small Strand Movie Theatre, Rialto Theatre, and several Spanish language theatres—the Rex and Ramona. As youngsters we went to the Strand Theatre, which showed kids' movies and westerns for about 5 cents. The Rialto showed movies for our parents.

Viola G.

Early Memories of Phoenix – around 1930

In 1922, our family traveled from Iowa to Phoenix by train. I was 12 years old and found the trip very exciting. My younger brother had pneumonia every winter. The doctor told my parents that he would not live another winter if we stayed and we should move to a warmer climate. My brother is now 86 years old and still living!

We lived near Six Points, which is where McDowell Road and Grand Avenue intersect and the Fairgrounds are located. I attended Adams School through 8th grade. At one time, they were considering having the school become part of the Capitol, as it was close by it. I also attended Phoenix Union High School downtown.

We had no air conditioning or cooling during those years. It was common to sleep in our yards on cots. Some people had sleeping porches with roll up flats. These porches were usually small rooms with screens on three sides and canvas flats that rolled up and down like blinds. We never worried about crime.

There were a few stores downtown. Newberrys was called the “dime” store. I worked at Newberry’s on Saturdays. Both Newberrys and Kress were similar to our discount stores today. Penneys was a two-story building at 2nd Street and Washington. A two-story building was very unique.

Streetcars traveled in different directions downtown. Some went to the Capitol; some went to the Indian School north of town. When I rode the streetcar, I had to transfer lines downtown. I would stop and go into the Ford Hotel at the corner of 2nd Avenue and Washington. The hotel had a soda fountain on the first floor, and I would wait in the lobby. This was the first place I ever saw a woman smoking a cigarette in public. I was shocked! At that time it was only proper for men to smoke in public.

My dad worked for the YMCA. It was near 2nd Avenue and Adams. My mother suffered from asthma and dad would drive us to Cave Creek for a few weeks to help her health. Cave Creek only had a few cabins and a campground during those years. He would leave us there and drive back to work

I remember playing “jacks” and going on many family picnics. I loved going on picnics to South Mountain Park. We would drive down south on Central Avenue and pass citrus groves on both sides of the road.

Floyd P.

Phoenix - starting from 1959

Our family migrated to Phoenix by automobile in May, 1959, from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. I was working in the construction industry and was tired of the cold weather. However, I still wanted to work outside. Our daughter had bronchitis and the doctor advised us to move to a warmer climate, so we moved to Phoenix.

The first restaurant we ate at when we arrived in 1959 was "Bill Johnson's Big Apple" on east Van Buren. It still is there today! Park Central was a very popular shopping mall in the 1960s. I recall going to Sears downtown to buy tires. There was a streetcar line that went to Park Central and continued north toward Camelback Road.

I worked for various construction companies over the years. I began with tract housing projects, then continued with commercial construction for schools, apartments, stores, and a few churches. Construction work was easy to find. Later, I helped build and remodel the Arizona Banks and install their new ATMs.

There was a lot of growth in Phoenix during the 1960s. The electronics industry began to grow, especially with government contracts. Motorola, Honeywell, and General Electric were hiring. On the west side of town, Del Webb noticed that there was a market for retiring people. He set up a retirement community called Sun City in Northwest Phoenix near Grand Avenue and Bell Road.

My neighbor had a farm in the area of Grand Avenue and Thomas from 27th to 35th Avenue. It was sold and used for industrial and commercial property. There were agricultural fields all around Phoenix. Several crops, including alfalfa and cotton, onions, lettuce, radishes, etc. were grown. Crops could be grown year round due to our mild climate. I also remember Peoria's roses. Peoria was the "Rose Capital of the U.S." and had beautiful roses.

The intersection of 27th Avenue, Indian School Road, and Grand Avenue was a landing field for crop spraying planes. (It is now an industrial area for Costco, HomeBase, etc.) The planes would fly to Goodyear, Litchfield, and other agricultural areas to spray fields. One reason they crop-sprayed was to get rid of the boll weevils in the cotton. Another way they got rid of the insects was to burn the cotton stubble. I remember seeing small fires in many of the cotton fields. Eventually, the fires were not allowed due to environmental laws and the cotton stubble was plowed underground.

Many people kept cool by having a shelf outside a window of their homes where they placed a bale of hay. They would soak bale of hay with water and put a fan near it to push the cool air into the house. I also saw car radiators in front of windows with a hose running cool water into them. They also used a fan to push the cool air into the house. These were the beginning of our evaporative coolers. Evaporative coolers became popular and worked as long as the humidity was low. It was an inexpensive way to keep your house cool in the desert. People still use evaporative coolers today.

GROWTH OF PHOENIX - CHART 2 Name _____

PHOENIX GROWTH – 1910 TO 1930

Read the stories of people who have experienced Phoenix change from a rural to urban community. List their information below to compare the different changes over time.

Put the information in only one box.

*Population of Phoenix was taken from the Phoenix Census Population Chart.

Factors of change	Cliff’s Story 1910s – Population 11,134*	Martha’s Story 1930s – Population 48,118*
<u>Transportation and Roads</u> How did people move around then?		
<u>Economics</u> Agriculture - Farming What kinds of food and animals were raised? Where did people get their food? Other Food Businesses Misc. Businesses(not food)		
<u>Social Activities</u> Recreation Games		
<u>Human Adaptation</u> How did people adapt to the hot climate and desert environment?		
<u>Land Use</u> Downtown Phoenix		
<u>Landmarks</u> Cultural (buildings) and/or Physical (land)		
<u>Reasons for Migration</u>	Not given	Not given

GROWTH OF PHOENIX - CHART 3 Name _____
PHOENIX GROWTH – 1930 TO 1960

Read the stories of people who have experienced Phoenix change from a rural to urban community. List their information below to compare the different changes over time.

Put the information in only one box. (Note: Land Use expands beyond downtown area.)

*Population of Phoenix was taken from the Phoenix Census Population Chart.

Factors of change	Viola’s Story 1930s – Population 48,118*	Floyd’s Story 1960s – Population 439,170*
<u>Transportation and Roads</u> How did people move around then?		
<u>Economics</u> Agriculture - Farming What kinds of food and animals were raised? Where did people get their food? Other Food Businesses Misc. Businesses (not food)		
<u>Social Activities</u> Recreation Games		
<u>Human Adaptation</u> How did people adapt to the hot climate and desert environment?		
<u>Land Use</u> Downtown Phoenix and surrounding area		
<u>Landmarks</u> Cultural (buildings) and/or Physical (land)		
<u>Reasons for Migration</u>		

WRITING PROMPT AND STUDENT CHECKLIST

Writing Prompt

The Play: A Glimpse of Growth in Phoenix

You are in the school Drama Club, auditioning for the lead role of 90-year old, Grandpa Henry/Grandma Hazel, in the play, "A Glimpse of Growth in Phoenix."

For your audition, the director has asked you to: 1) choose ONE historical factor of change and 2) compose a short script in which lifelong Phoenix resident, Grandpa Henry/Grandma Hazel, reflects on how this factor of change has contributed to the urbanization of Phoenix over the years.

Student Checklist for Short Script

_____ Does your script focus on ONE definite historical factor of change?

_____ Have you described, in detail, how the factor of change has made a significant contribution to the urbanization of Phoenix?

_____ Have you logically organized your script to reflect on the growth and changes you have observed in Phoenix over a 90-year time span?

_____ Have you written a believable script, in the voice of a 90 year old Phoenix resident, recalling lifetime experiences focusing on one historical factor of change?

GROWTH OF PHOENIX - CHART 2 Name _____

ANSWER KEY

PHOENIX GROWTH – 1910 TO 1930

Read the stories of people who have experienced Phoenix change from a rural to urban community. List their information below to compare the different changes over time.

Put the information in only one box.

*Population of Phoenix was taken from the Phoenix Census Population Chart.

Factors of change	Cliff’s Story 1910s – Population 11,134*	Martha’s Story 1930s – Population 48,118*
<u>Transportation and Roads</u> How did people move around then?	Covered Wagon, Horse, Ferry, Bicycle, Railroads, Street Cars, Dad’s Model-T Truck, Dirt Roads Grid system–Six Points Road	Street Cars Few cars Most unpaved roads Six Points Rd-outskirts of town
<u>Economics</u> Agriculture - Farming What kinds of food and animals were raised? Where did people get their food? Other Food Businesses Misc. Businesses (not food)	Roosters, chickens, goats Cotton Hunted rabbits Meat Markets – he delivered meat Dad delivered produce Grocery Stores – also had kerosene Hispanics-bakery goods Indians - pottery, rugs, wood, etc.	Ranches Dairy Farms Cantaloupe, watermelon - in summer Lettuce – in fall Japanese truck produce farms Hispanics-sold tamales in carts Dept. Stores, Movie Theaters, Indians – sold jewelry, rugs, baskets
<u>Social Activities</u> Recreation Games	Swimming in Salt River, hunting, ball, played “pigtails” Games, climbed fig trees	Ball, baseball Climbed cottonwood trees Roller skating Swimming pools (public) Going to movies
<u>Human Adaptation</u> How do people adapt to the hot climate and desert environment?	Wooden Ice Boxes for blocks of ice to cool food Roosevelt Dam – for water and irrigation	Used old bent fan
<u>Land Use</u> Downtown Phoenix	Agricultural Salt River – cottonwood trees Mesquite thickets near town Residential homes	Agricultural Residential homes
<u>Landmarks</u> Cultural (buildings) and/or Physical (land)	Adams School Nazarene Church School Garfield School, Capitol Bldg. Salt River	Courthouse, Capitol Building, Stores-Penneys, Newberrys, Kress, Movie Theaters, Isaac School
<u>Reasons for Migration</u>	Not given	Not given

GROWTH OF PHOENIX - CHART 3 Name _____

ANSWER KEY

PHOENIX GROWTH – 1930 TO 1960

Read the stories of people who have experienced Phoenix change from a rural to urban community. List their information below to compare the different changes over time. Put the information in only one box.

(Note: Land Use expands beyond downtown area.)

*Population of Phoenix was taken from the Phoenix Census Population Chart.

Factors of change	Viola’s Story 1930s – Population 48,118*	Floyd’s Story 1960s – Population 439,170*
<u>Transportation and Roads</u> How did people move around then?	Train (migration to Phoenix) Street Cars, Family had a car Central Avenue Six Points Road-at Fairgrounds	Automobile (migration to Phoenix.) Crop Spray Planes Streetcars, Paved roads. Grand Ave.-important road
<u>Economics</u> Agriculture - Farming What kinds of food and animals were raised? Where did people get their food? Other Food Businesses Misc. Businesses (not food)	Citrus Trees – south on Central Avenue (could also be Put under land use) Discount Stores (like 99-Cent Stores today)	Peoria’s roses Lettuce, radishes, alfalfa, Onions Cotton Construction Electronics Industries
<u>Social Activities</u> Recreation Games	Played jacks Family picnics at parks Soda fountain in hotel Smoking-taboo for women	Ate out at “Bill Johnson’s Big Apple” restaurant
<u>Human Adaptation</u> How did people adapt to the hot climate and desert environment?	Slept outside on cots or on sleeping porches with rolled up flats (No cooling) (no worry about crime)	Evaporative cooling Used wet bale of hay with fans Used car radiators with hose and fans
<u>Land Use</u> Downtown Phoenix and surrounding area	Citrus Groves Fairgrounds, South Mountain Park, Cave Creek Campground (north of Phoenix)	Retirement – Sun City (Grand and 99Ave-west of Phoenix) Industrial & Commercial Prop. Agricultural fields
<u>Landmarks</u> Cultural (buildings) and/or Physical (land)	Capitol, Adams School, Phoenix Union HS, YMCA, Ford Hotel, Newberrys, Kress, Penneys Store (2 stories)	Park Central Mall Sears
<u>Reasons for Migration</u>	Brother’s health	Daughter’s health Work in a warmer climate