

ARIZONA CAPITOL MUSEUM PRE OR POST-VISIT PACKET



Find Arizona on the map and draw a star within the state lines. What other states does Arizona touch? What is the name of the country just south of Arizona?

Arizona Facts

Nickname: The Grand Canyon State

Motto: Ditat Deus, which means "God Enriches"

Statehood Day: Arizona became the 48th state on February 14, 1912

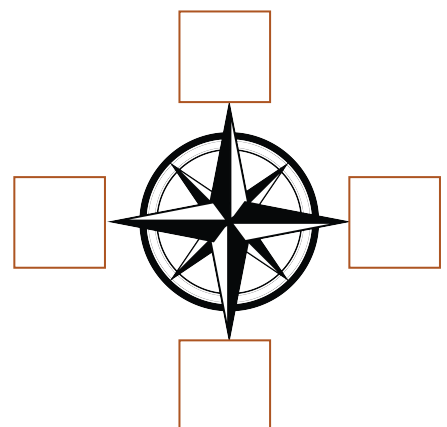
Population: 7,718,747 as of 2025

Time Zone: Mountain Standard Time, Arizona does not observe daylight savings

Number of Counties: 15

Federally Recognized Native American Tribes: 22

Can you add the cardinal directions (north, south, east, west) to this compass rose?



What city or town do you live in?

Where is your city or town? Draw a dot on the Arizona map below to show where your town or city is located. Write the name of your city or town by the dot. The star on the map is Arizona's capital, Phoenix.

Arizona's Capital

Phoenix has been Arizona's capital since 1899. Before Phoenix became the capital, it moved between Prescott and Tucson.

Capital or Capitol?

A capital is the city in a state where state officials meet to do government work. A capitol is the building where legislators meet and make laws.

In Arizona, we do not have one big capitol building like some states. Instead, we have a several buildings close together where government officials meet and work.

To remember the difference, think of the "o" in capitol as the dome, or circular roof, of the building.



Arizona's Capitol dome is covered in real copper.



States are made up of smaller counties. Arizona has 15 counties that are named on this map. What counties are the cities of Prescott, Phoenix, and Tucson in?

What county do you live in?

How did Arizona get its shape?

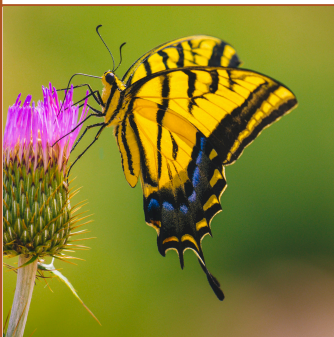
Before the U.S.-Mexico War, the Southwest was a part of Mexico and the Territory of Arizona did not exist. After the U.S. won the war in 1848, the government decided to purchase the bottom piece of modern-day Arizona in what is called the Gadsden Purchase. The land was ideal to connect a railroad running across the United States.



President Abraham Lincoln made present-day Arizona a territory in 1863 and chose the first territorial governor. However, the people living in Arizona did not want the president to choose their leaders. They wanted to be able to elect their own representatives and make their own rules. To do this, they had to follow steps set by the U.S. Congress to become a state. The most important step was writing a state constitution. Arizona finally became a state on February 14, 1912.

State Symbols

All 50 states have a state flag, state motto, state seal, state bird, and state tree. Here are some of Arizona's state symbols. See if you can guess their names. Circle your best choice.



State Butterfly

- A. Monarch
- B. Painted Lady
- C. Two-Tailed Swallowtail



State Bird

- A. Meadowlark
- B. Cactus Wren
- C. Kingfisher



State Tree

- A. Cottonwood
- B. Palo Verde
- C. Willow



State Flower

- A. Saguaro Blossom
- B. White Jasmine
- C. Orchid

Arizona State Flag

In 1910, Colonel Charles W. Harris designed a flag for the Arizona Rifle Team. His wife, May Hicks Curtis Hill, sewed the flag shown in this picture. In 1917, the design was adopted as the official flag of Arizona.

The top half of Arizona's flag has thirteen red and yellow rays, which represent the United States' thirteen original colonies. Since Arizona is a western state, the rays also show a setting sun. The colors of the rays copy the red and yellow in the Spanish flags carried by Coronado when he explored Arizona in the 1500s.



Northern Arizona University, Cline Library.

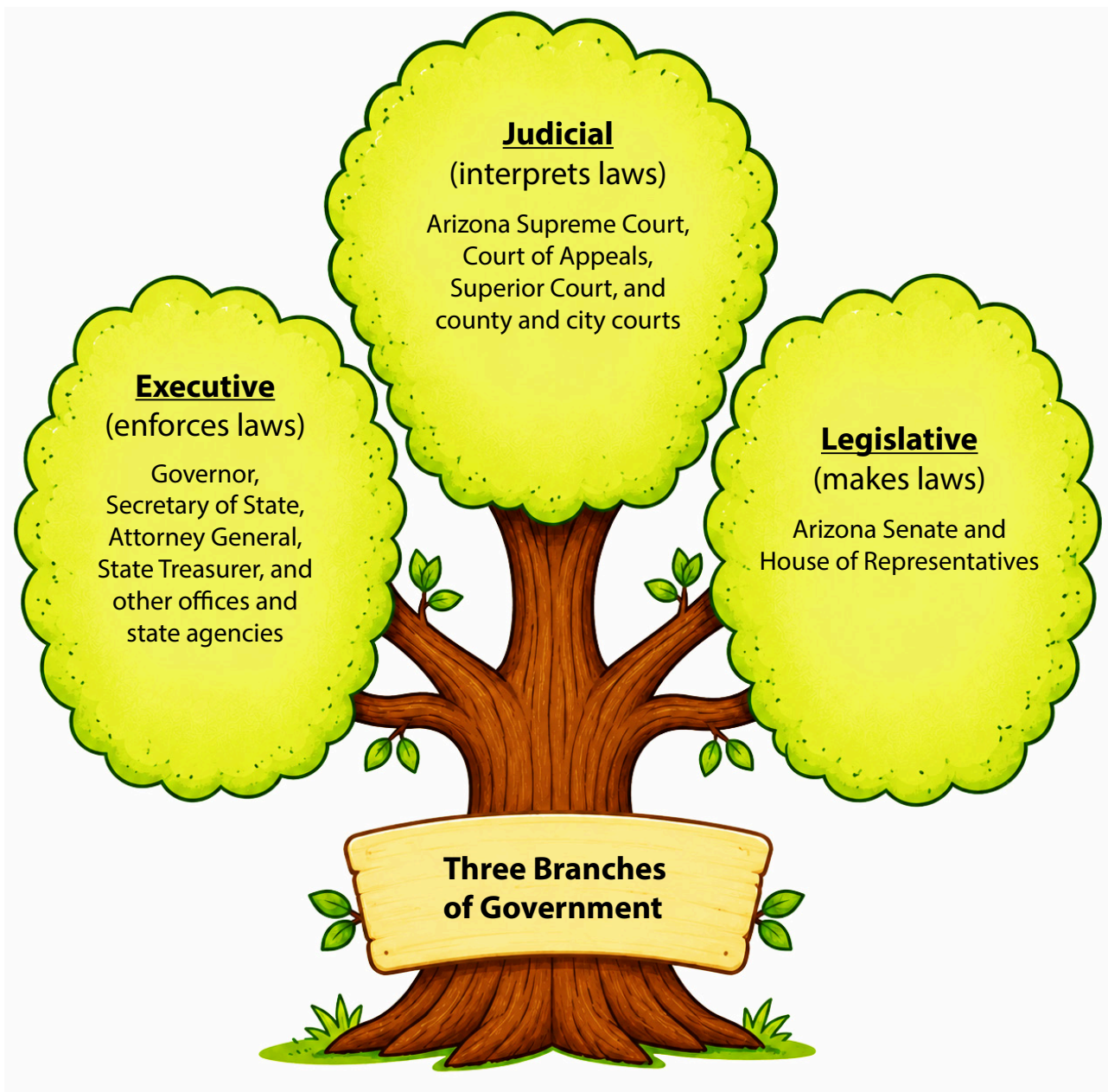
The bottom half of the flag is a solid blue field, the same color as the blue in the United States flag. The large copper star in the center of the flag represents Arizona's role as the largest producer of copper in the United States.



State Flag Word Scramble

Unscramble the words below and write your answer on the blank line provided. All the words are located in the state flag description above.

1. cpopre _____
2. aiznrao _____
3. clinoeso _____
4. stentgi snu _____
5. cnodaoro _____
6. wserent _____
7. snaihps _____
8. uitnde setast _____



Like the United States' government, Arizona has three branches of government that are defined in our state constitution:

Legislative – Consists of a 30-member senate (one from each legislative district) and a 60-member house of representatives (two from each district). Each member is elected to two-year terms.

Executive – Headed by the governor, who is elected to a four-year term. Other elected executive officials include the Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Mine Inspector, and a five-member Corporation Commission.

Judicial – Headed by the Arizona Supreme Court, which has six justices and one chief justice. They are appointed by the governor. Other courts include the Arizona Court of Appeals, Superior Court, Municipal Courts, and Justice of the Peace Courts.

Arizona in the U.S. Government

- Arizona has two senators in the United States Senate. Each state elects two senators for 6-year terms. Each senators represent the entire state.
- Arizona has nine representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives. Each district elects a representative to the House for a two-year term. The number of representatives each state has depends on the state's population. These congressmen/congresswomen each represent about 710,000 people.
- All U.S. Representatives and U.S. Senators work at the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Arizona Government Word Search

Circle the nine words related to Arizona's government listed below.

Words may appear up and down, diagonally, or straight across.

P	X	O	B	C	X	F	Z	G	C	V	W	K	J	N	R	P	Y	N
O	D	X	A	M	J	I	Q	Q	F	U	I	U	U	M	E	F	B	W
L	E	G	I	S	L	A	T	I	V	E	W	Y	D	S	P	G	I	L
A	N	S	Y	Z	Q	L	G	U	G	L	N	X	I	I	R	G	I	F
A	S	B	M	Q	F	Z	V	D	O	S	S	X	C	C	E	J	T	L
K	I	M	E	Q	O	Z	N	K	V	T	F	S	I	P	S	K	A	X
F	Y	F	R	X	D	Z	A	W	E	A	E	N	A	L	E	C	I	Z
C	Q	U	S	H	E	X	W	A	R	T	D	O	L	E	N	W	L	D
Q	L	D	E	K	M	C	C	I	N	E	E	O	V	N	T	G	A	S
Z	P	F	N	X	H	G	U	R	O	H	R	B	G	N	A	J	G	H
T	U	X	A	S	A	V	K	T	R	W	A	B	W	Q	T	Z	T	O
E	V	N	T	N	I	G	O	V	I	U	L	W	Z	K	I	B	K	E
E	F	Q	O	A	D	U	A	E	Q	V	U	J	V	F	V	P	M	K
C	A	L	R	I	X	T	R	F	E	O	E	E	P	Z	E	O	U	M
O	J	J	U	S	T	I	C	E	S	A	H	F	X	H	B	G	W	T

REPRESENTATIVE
LEGISLATIVE
STATE

EXECUTIVE
SENATOR
JUDICIAL

GOVERNOR
JUSTICES
FEDERAL