

Heber-Overgaard

Community Profile

Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Heber and Overgaard in northeastern Arizona in Navajo County are situated in the Sitgreaves National Forest north of the Mogollon Rim. The communities are reached by taking state Highway 87 to Payson (north from Phoenix or south from Interstate 40), and continuing east via state Highway 260. During the Mormon migration in 1876 and 1877, the Little Colorado River settlements were established. James E. Shelley and Sanford Porter, Jr. founded Heber which was named after Heber J. Grant, a prominent member of the Mormon Church. The post office in Heber was established in 1890 by James E. Shelley. Overgaard was originally called Oklahoma Flat and was later named after the first sawmill owner.

Basic Information

Founded: 1883	Distance to Major Cities:
Incorporated: No	Phoenix: 138 miles
Elevation: 6,000	Tucson: 225 miles
Located in Navajo County	
Nearby Highways: HWYS SR 87, SR 260	

Population

	1990	2000	2007
Heber-Overgaard	1,581	2,722	N/A
Navajo County	77,674	97,470	113,796
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	6,500,194

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security and US Census Bureau
N/A: Population estimates for this community are not available.

Principal Economic Activities

Economic activities are varied; retirement and tourism are an important part of the economy. Proximity to the Sitgreaves National Forest provides recreation opportunities, and timber is harvested for Precision Pine Sawmill and Stone Container Paper Mill. A mulch plant processes forest by-products. Service businesses provide employment and services for the retirement community. Government, schools, retail trade and construction also contribute to the local economy.

County Employment

	2007
Government	10,600
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5,900
Professional and Business Services	3,475
Educational and Health Services	3,150
Mining and Construction	2,825
Manufacturing	875
Information	800
Leisure and Hospitality	725
Other Services	725
Financial Activities	600

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security
Figures are organized under the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).



Labor Force Data

	1990	2000	2007
Civilian Labor Force	556	1,007	1,091
Unemployed	43	18	18
Unemployment Rate	7.7%	1.8%	1.6%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security

Growth Indicators

	1990	2000	2007
Net Assessed Value (\$)	19.9 million	36.4 million	82.2 million

Source: Arizona Tax Research Foundation

Scenic Attractions

The Heber/Overgaard area is surrounded by many year-round recreational opportunities and points of scenic interest. Immediately south is the Mogollon Rim, a steep escarpment ranging from 1,000 to 2,000 feet from the base to the highest plateau. The Rim divides the northern plateau region from the lower central and southern areas. It offers exceptional views and numerous man-made lakes ideal for boating and other water sports. Hunting and fishing are popular. There are also extensive picnic and camping facilities available within the area. Other scenic attractions in the area include Chevelon Canyon Dam, the Canyon Creek Fish Hatchery, Chevelon Butte, and the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. The 200-acre Mogollon Lake three miles east of Overgaard is in the planning stages.

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Community Facilities

Heber/Overgaard offers many community facilities including a library, 40-acre park, and many athletic facilities: baseball, football and Little League fields; basketball, volleyball, tennis and raquetball courts; and a golf course.

Educational Institutions

	Public	Private
Elementary	Y	N
High School	Y	N

Financial

Number of banks: 2

Government

Fire Department: Volunteer

Law Enforcement: County Deputies/DPS/Sheriff's Posse

Medical

Local doctor, dentist, optometrist. Hospital in Show Low (36 miles away).

Hotel & Lodging

Number of Rooms:

Meeting Rooms:

Capacity of Largest Facility:

Industrial Properties:

For more information contact the Heber/Overgaard Chamber of Commerce.

Utilities

Electricity	Navopache Electric Coop. (statewide)	800.543.6324
L.P. Gas	Amerigas (Overgaard)	928.535.5123
L.P. Gas	Northern Energy (Overgaard)	928.535.4439
Sewer	Individual septic tanks	
Telephone	Citizens Communications (statewide)	800.921.8101
Water	Arizona Water Company (Overgaard)	928.535.4469
Water	Heber Domestic Water District	928.535.5748

Cable Providers: N

Digital Switching Station: N

Internet Service Provider: N

Cable Internet Service Provider: N

Fiber Optics: N

Taxes

Property Tax Rate	1990	2000	2007
Elementary/High Schools	5.26	5.99	4.32
City/Fire District	1.02	1.01	1.80
Countywide	2.32	2.90	2.67
Totals	8.60	9.90	8.79

Source: Arizona Tax Research Foundation
Note: Tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation

NOTE: School district participates in the Northern Arizona Vocational Institute of Technology (NAVIT).

Sales Tax

	2007
City/Town	0.00%
County	0.50%
State	5.60%

Sources: Arizona League of Cities & Towns, Arizona Dept. of Revenue

Weather

	Avg. Low (°F)	Avg. High (°F)	Precip. (in.)
January	15.9	46.6	1.2
February	19.0	50.3	1.2
March	22.9	55.6	1.4
April	28.1	63.9	0.7
May	34.9	72.1	0.6
June	43.0	82.5	0.5
July	52.2	84.7	2.7
August	50.9	81.7	3.0
September	43.8	77.2	1.9
October	32.8	67.8	1.5
November	23.0	55.1	1.3
December	17.2	47.4	1.6
Yearly Avg.	32.0	65.4	17.5

Source: Western Regional Climate Center
Western Regional Climate Center, wrcc@dri.edu. Period of record 1950-2004.
Average Total Snowfall 38.9". Data from Heber Ranger Station, AZ.

This profile was prepared by the Arizona Department of Commerce Communications Division in cooperation with local sources.

For further information contact:

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