Community Profile

Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Clifton and Morenci were established during the late 1800s as mining towns. They are in eastern Arizona, near the New Mexico border. Clifton incorporated in 1909, is the seat of Greenlee County and the birthplace of Geronimo, famous Apache warrior chief. Morenci boasts the largest open pit copper mine in the U.S. Elevations range from 3,464 feet in Clifton to 4,838 feet in Morenci, which is still unincorporated.

FOUNDED: Late 1800s INCORPORATED: Clifton, Yes - 1909
COUNTY: Greenlee County INCORPORATED: Morenci, No
ELEVATION: CLIFTON 3,464 ft. MORENCI 4,710 ft.

DISTANCE TO PHOENIX: 207 miles DISTANCE TO TUCSON: 159 miles HIGHWAYS: US 70; US 191; SR 75 Enterprise Zone available

POPULATION

	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2008</u>
Clifton	2,840	2,596	2,616
Morenci	1,799	1,879	N/A
Clifton/Morenci	4,639	4,475	N/A
Greenlee County	8,008	8,547	8,950
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	6,629,4554

Sources: AZ. Dept. of Economic Security and U.S. Census Bureau N/A: Not available

N/A: Not available

PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

Mining and mineral processing dominate the economic picture in the Clifton/Morenci area, employing upwards of two-thirds of the workforce. The government and educational sectors are also major employers with about 200 employees. Clifton and Morenci are trade centers for tourists driving the popular Coronado Trail or touring the historic Chase Creek business district. While there are a large number of retail and service firms, they are not major employers.

County Employment	<u>2008</u>
Goods Producing	4,075
Government	550
Other Private Service-Providing	275
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	250

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security

Figures are organized under the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).

Major Private Employers

Phelps Dodge/Morenci

Major Public Employers
Clifton Unified School District #3
Greenlee County
Morenci Unified School District #18



LABOR FORCE DATA

	1990	2000	2008
Clifton Civilian Labor Force	1,163	1,156	1,331
Clifton Unemployment	60	73	91
Clifton Unemployment Rate	5.2%	6.3%	6.8%
Morenci Civilian Labor Force	792	1,127	1,143
Morenci Unemployment	59	84	27
Morenci Unemployment Rate	7.4%	7.5%	2.4%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security

Growth Indicators	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	2008
New Bldg. Permits	25*	19*	N/R
Taxable Sales	8.2 mil	8.4 mil	18.5 mil
Net Assessed Value (\$)	5.1 mil	4.6 mil	7.1 mil

Sources: Arizona State University; AZ Dept. of Revenue; AZ Tax Research Foundation. * Incomplete data: One or more months not available

SCENIC ATTRACTIONS

At the heart of the Clifton Townsite Historic District is Chase Creek with some of the best-preserved examples of Arizona's Territorial Period architecture. In its heyday, Chase Creek's numerous saloons and gambling halls gave Clifton a reputation as the "town tougher than Tombstone." The spirit of those days remains, but with modern amenities. A museum and walking tour enhance the experience. The Coronado Trail cuts a path north through the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest which rises to 9,000 feet at the Mogollon Rim. The San Francisco River meanders through Clifton while the Gila River runs south through the grass-covered meadows of the Gila and Duncan valleys. Eagle Creek, the Blue and Black Rivers form local recreation sites. Popular activities are hunting, fishing and rockhounding.

NOTE: Morenci is an unincorporated community and does not have New Bldg. Permits, Taxable Sales or Net Assessed Value information.

CLIFTON/MORENCI

Community Profile

TAXES

Property Tax Rate	<u>1990</u>	2000	2008
Clifton Elementary/High School	\$ 7.89	\$ 8.42	\$ 6.19
Clifton City/Fire District	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2.83
Countywide	\$ 1.21	\$ 0.91	\$ 0.62
Totals	\$ 9.10	\$ 9.33	\$ 9.64
Morenci Elementary/High School	\$ 4.90	\$ 3.84	\$ 1.82
Morenci City/Fire District	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Countywide	\$ 1.21	\$ 0.91	\$ 0.62
Totals	\$ 6.11	\$ 4.75	\$ 2.44

Source: Arizona Tax Research Foundation.

Note: Tax rate per \$100.00 assessed valuation.

Sales Tax Rate

Clifton	3.00%	
Morenci	0.00%	
County	0.50%	
State	5.60%	

Source: League of Arizona Cities and Towns, Arizona Dept. of Revenue.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The community offers a broad range of facilities. There are a variety of dining establishments, two libraries, one historical museum, two swimming pools, six parks, a gold course, a bowling alley, several tennis courts and two community centers.

Educational Institutions	Public	Private
Elementary	Υ	N
High School	Υ	N
Middle School	Υ	N

Financial

Number of banks: 1

Government

Fire Department: Volunteer

Law Enforcement: Town Police Department/Greenlee County Sheriff

Medical

24-hour urgent care available.

Airport

Residents of the Clifton/Morenci area have access to a local municipal airport with a lighted 4,900-foot runway.

Hotel & Lodging

Number of Rooms: 63 Meeting Rooms: 1 Capacity of Largest Facility: 75

Industrial Properties

For more information contact the Greenlee County Chamber of Commerce.

Utilities

Electricity:	Morenci Water & Electric Co.	520.865.3681
Natural Gas:	Southwest Gas Corp. (statewide)	800.766.9722
Sewer:	Clifton-Town of Clifton	520.865.4146
Telephone:	Copper Valley Telephone	520.865.2881
Water:	Morenci Water & Electric Co.	520.865.3681

Cable Providers: Yes Digital Switching Station: Yes Internet Service Provider: Yes Cable Internet Service: Yes Fiber Optics: Yes

Clifton Weather

	Avg. Low (°F)	Avg. High (°F)	Prec (in.)
Jan.	32.1	59.7	1.1
Feb.	37.1	65.8	1.0
Mar.	42.4	72.4	0.8
Apr.	49.1	80.9	0.4
May	57.5	89.7	0.4
June	67.1	99.2	0.4
July	71.4	100.2	2.2
Aug.	70.4	97.7	2.4
Sept.	65.1	93.2	1.6
Oct.	54.0	82.9	1.1
Nov.	40.7	69.3	0.8
Dec.	33.4	59.7	1.2
Annual	51.7	80.9	1.1
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Source: Western Regional Climate Center, www.wrcc.dri.edu. Period of record 1893 – 2005. Average Snow Depth 1.1".

For further information, contact:

Greenlee County Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 1237 Clifton, AZ 85533

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Greenlee County Economic Development

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



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