# THE **PHOENIX** TECH STORY

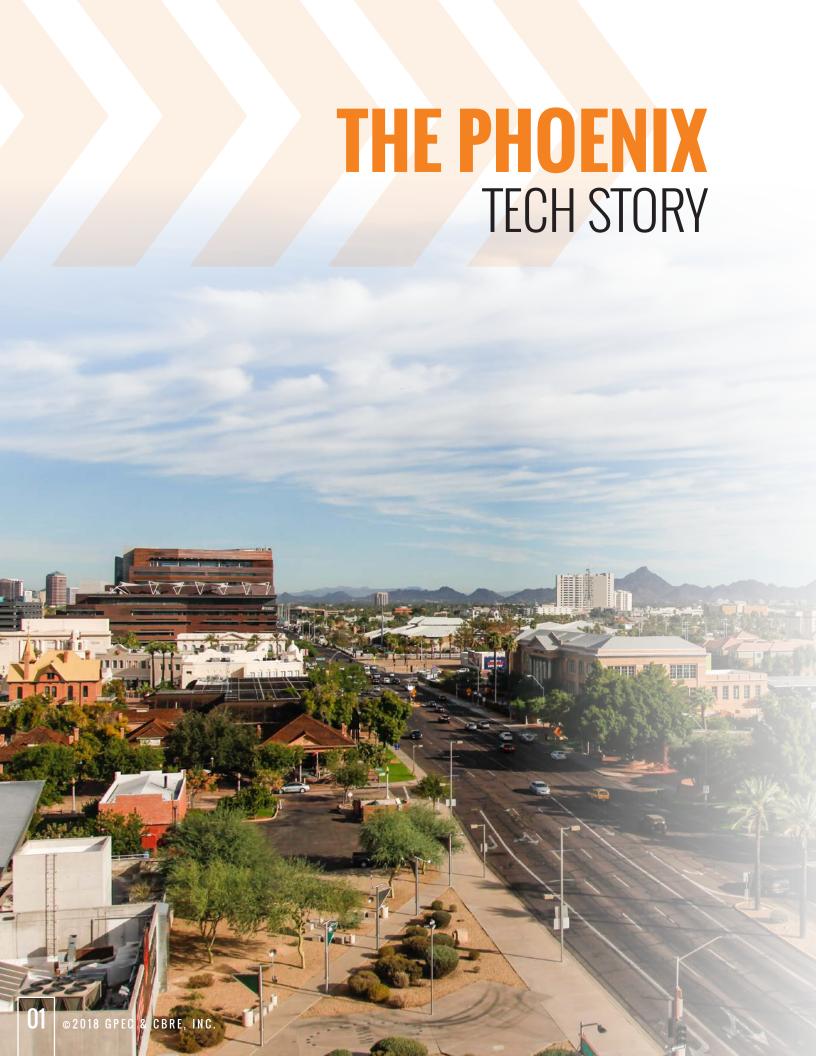
How talent, a pro-business environment and quality of life are shaping the Phoenix tech scene











This report examines the Phoenix value proposition to tech companies and how Phoenix compares to some of the most dynamic tech cities in the country. Although companies continue to operate—and in some cases, expand—in established markets such as the Bay Area, New York, Washington, D.C., and Seattle, rising costs and intense competition for talent have continued to motivate business leaders to consider alternative locations. The most competitive alternative locations are generally smaller, have a strong talent pool and business-friendly environment and also offer a high quality of life. Phoenix is an attractive place, not just because of its competitive advantage with regard to cost, but because of its deep talent pool; existing and growing portfolio of tech companies, universities and tech resources; and quality of life.

## **Testimonials**

"Fueled by a diverse, motivated talent pool and an excellent transportation hub."

## **Bruce Hoechner CEO, Rogers Corporation**

"The excitement behind the Phoenix technology scene is contagious... The value proposition of starting and scaling a business in Phoenix is clear and has the attention of our friends in Silicon Valley, who are investing their dollars and creating jobs in our community."

## Anthony Kaennada CMO, Gainsight

"Arizona is a wonderful state, ripe with talented people and a favorable business environment. We are excited for the future."

### Pat Hurley VP Sales, Acronis

"Incredibly diverse, LGBTQ friendly, and a surplus of tech and support talent."

Ben Hindman CEO, Splash

"For nearly two decades, University of Advancing Technology (UAT) has been committed to producing the best cybersecurity talent in the world. This next generation of cyber warriors is ethically trained and thoughtfully prepared to thwart crime and protect our nation's assets."

### Jason Pistillo President, UAT

"The talent pool in Phoenix is as robust as anywhere in the country ... It's the perfect place for startups—a supportive, unpretentious community with no existing status quo—so you don't get lost in the crowd, and everyone plays a role in shaping it."

### Brad Jannenga CEO, SaaS Industries

"Greater Phoenix is the only metropolitan [area] in America without natural disasters, which makes it perfect for data centers and fighting cyber crime. This is just one of the many reasons I chose to start and grow my business here."

### Ori Eisen Founder & CEO, Trusona

## THE TECHNOLOGY SECTOR HAS DEEP ROOTS IN PHOENIX

Greater Phoenix's tech sector emerged following World War II, as the federal government spread outposts throughout the U.S. Phoenix quickly became a hotbed for aerospace and defense and semiconductor industries as companies servicing military operations started investing in research and development labs in the region. The region evolved with the rise of the internet age, becoming home to several large enterprise software development and web hosting companies. Today, Greater Phoenix is attracting expanding companies from New York to California due to its ability to attract top talent outside of high-cost markets. In recent years, the tech ecosystem has progressed into a highly desirable market for next-generation technologies focused on cybersecurity, autonomous vehicles, fintech, medtech and other industries related to the internet of things.

## **Companies with Large Tech Presence**

Intel • Chandler 11,000 Employees Headquartered in Santa Clara

**Charles Schwab** • Phoenix 3,650 Employees Headquartered in San Francisco

**General Motors** • Chandler 700 Employees Headquartered in Detroit

**Uher** • Phoenix 600 Employees Headquartered in San Francisco **Infusionsoft** • Chandler 550 Employees Headquartered in Chandler

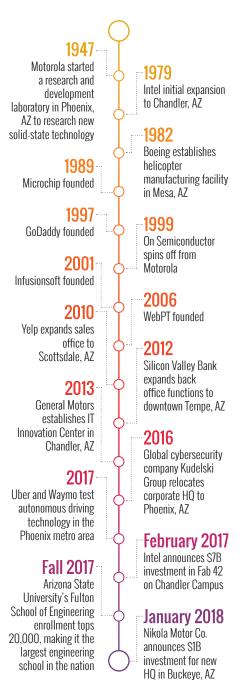
**Northern Trust** • Tempe 500 Employees Headquartered in Chicago

**Carvana •** Tempe 479 Employees Headquartered in Tempe

**JDA Software •** Scottsdale 314 Employees Headquartered in Scottsdale

Source: Maricopa Association of Governments (2016): Phoenix Business Journal, Book of Lists (2017-2018).

## **Phoenix Tech Timeline**



Source: Greater Phoenix Economic Council.

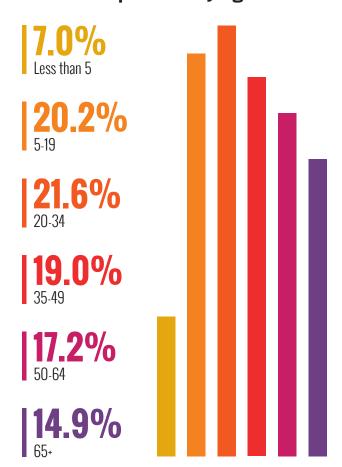
## **Recent Tech Job Announcements**

Company	Function	Location	Expected New Jobs	Total Occupied SF
Intel	Manufacturing	Chandler	3,000	7,200,000**
USAA	Software Development, Data Scientist, IT	Phoenix	1,100	150,000
Willis Towers Watson	Software Engineers, Customer Service	Tempe	800	92,000
Orbital ATK	Manufacturing	Chandler/Gilbert	655	777,000**
Endurance Intl. Group	Sales/Customer Service, Software Developers	Tempe	600	140,000
Zenreach	Sales/Customer Service	Phoenix	350	34,074
Amazon	Software Development	Tempe	300	81,405
Indeed	Sales/Customer Management	Downtown Scottsdale	300	52,641
Upgrade Inc.	Customer Sevice	Phoenix	300	34,070
Vixxo	Web Developer, Analysts, Technicians	Scottsdale	300	37,500*
Dexcom	Manufacturing	Mesa	262	148,797
General Motors	Software Devs, Database Admins, System Analysts	Chandler	250	160,000
Nextiva Inc	Software Developers, Customer Support	Scottsdale	200	75,000
Oscar Health	Customer Support	Tempe	200	93,481
ZipRecruiter	Sales/Customer Service	Tempe	200	54,270
Benchmark Electronics	Headquarters	Tempe	170	63,000
Clearlink	Sales/Customer Support	Downtown Scottsdale	150	39,218
Freshly	Customer support/ Engineers	Downtown Phoenix	150	13,561
Houzz	Sales/Client Services	Tempe	150	32,206
MST Solutions	Managers, Analysts, Architects, Developers	Chandler	150	7,000
SAP SE	Sales/Management	Tempe	150	40,000
Valor Global Services	Customer Support	Scottsdale	120	15,000*
Gabriel Partners	Sales Support	Downtown Phoenix	100	20,000
Ring	Customer Support	Glendale	100	25,904**
Sitelock	Sales/Customer Service, Software Engineers	Scottsdale	100	54,000
Upgrade Inc.	Customer Service, Credit Operations, Collections	Downtown Phoenix	100	37,001
Microchip Technology	Software Developers, Hardware/Product Engineers	Chandler	85	1,093,622**
OpenDoor	Sales, Support, Operations	Scottsdale	85	25,092
Solera Health	Engineers, Account Managers	Downtown Phoenix	80	19,300
Pivotal Payments	Sales/Customer Service, Software Developers	Scottsdale	70	26,000
Datashield	Security Analysts	Scottsdale	60	7,500*
Mindtree	Network Operations Engineers, Applications Operators	Scottsdale	60	10,000
Mosaic451	Security Analysts, Network Engineers	Phoenix	60	7,500*
SiSense	Sales/Management/Support Engineers	Downtown Scottsdale	50	6,299
Aviage	R&D/Manufacturing	Peoria	40	5,000

## **POPULATION**

Phoenix is one of the fastest-growing regions in the nation. The metro is home to more than 4.7 million people, and its growth is fueled by net migration. Over the last two decades, the metro has grown on average by 92,000 people annually. In 2017, the region added an average of 100 new households each day. Furthermore, metro Phoenix has a relatively young population with a median age of 35.8 years, falling below the national median of 38.2.

## **Phoenix Population by Age**



Source: Esri, U.S. Census Bureau, 2017.

## **Median Age by Metro**

Salt Lake City	32.1
Austin	34.0
Phoenix	35.8
Los Angeles	36.0
Denver	36.9
Chicago	37.0
San Jose	37.3
Charlotte	37.4
Seattle	37.9
U.S.	38.2
New York	38.6
San Francisco	39.2
Boston	39.4

Source: Esri, U.S. Census Bureau, 2017.

## Change in Population of 20-34 Year Olds

	Phoenix	Austin	Charlotte	Atlanta	Denver	Seattle	Los Angeles
2010-2017	15.6%	15.6%	14.2%	12.2%	11.1%	10.3%	9.7%
2018-2023*	8.0%	12.7%	6.9%	6.5%	6.8%	5.1%	1.0%

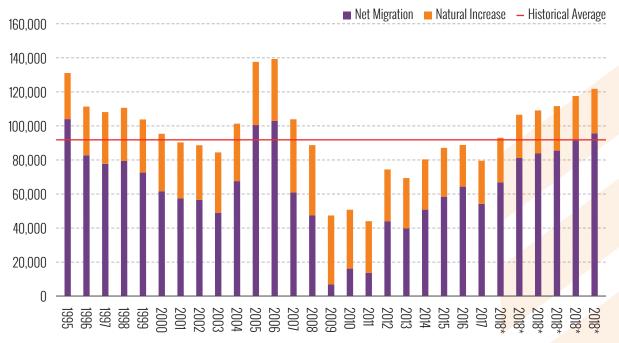
	Salt Lake City	Boston	San Jose	San Francisco	New York	Chicago
2010-2017	7.8%	7.8%	7.0%	6.5%	5.3%	3.8%
2018-2023*	1.4%	3.5%	4.9%	3.6%	1.3%	-1.3%



Source: Esri, U.S. Census Bureau, 2017.

\*Forecast

## Phoenix's Robust Population Growth Driven By Net Migration



Source: Moody's Analytics, 2018.

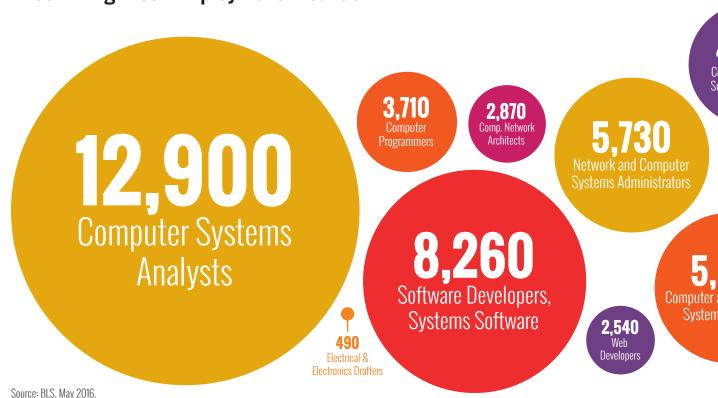
\*Forecast

## **WORKFORCE**

Greater Phoenix is one of the most rapidly expanding high-tech job markets in the nation. With more than 83,000 high-tech employees, metro employment has grown 33.5% over a five-year period. Phoenix tech employment not only surpasses many of its tech peers, such as Denver and Austin, but it also provides labor at a relatively lower cost than its competitive markets. Beyond its existing supply of high-quality talent, its future labor pipeline is bolstered by one of the largest universities in the nation—Arizona State University—in addition to other major universities and college systems, ensuring employers will have access to talent that meets their future labor needs.

Phoenix is the place to scale

## **Phoenix High-Tech Employment Breakdown**







**2,130**Elec. Engineering Technicians

**570**and Information s Managers

10,980 Computer User Support Specialists

**2,670**Electrical Engineers

2,280
Info Security
Analysts
310
Electro-Mechanical

Technicians

**550**Computer Hardware Engineers

**2,330**Database Admin.

**2,980**Comp. Jobs (other)

12,190 Software Developers, Applications

## **Workforce vs. Other Tech Markets**

Metro	<b>Labor Force</b>	Unemployed	Unempl. Rate	2016 Tech Jobs	% Change (2011-2016)
New York	7,069,200	276,200	3.9%	246,180	32.9%
Los Angeles	6,736,800	259,700	3.9%	126,730	19.0%
Chicago	4,868,900	229,500	4.7%	143,190	32.8%
San Francisco Bay Area*	3,482,800	93,200	2.7%	328,070	49.9%
Atlanta	3,053,400	126,200	4.1%	133,810	47.6%
Washington, D.C.	2,682,600	99,200	3.7%	243,360	9.6%
Boston	2,681,500	74,100	2.8%	115,560	11.4%
Phoenix	2,325,100	91,700	3.9%	83,140	33.5%
Seattle	2,083,300	84,400	4.1%	136,910	33.4%
Denver	1,613,000	47,400	2.9%	77,310	29.%
Charlotte	1,306,200	54,300	4.2%	49,830	77.1%
Austin	1,150,400	30,800	2.7%	68,810	28.3%
Salt Lake City	663,100	17,900	2.7%	31,750	45.3%

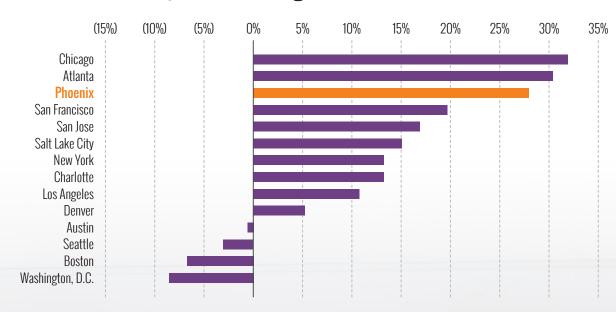
Source: CBRE Scoring Tech Talent, 2017; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, November 2017.

\*Aggregate of San Francisco, Oakland and Silicon Valley



Tech talent density measures the number of computer and mathematical workers in a market relative to the market's total population. The number of tech workers in the Phoenix metro as a percentage of its population has increased an average of 28.2% over the last 5 years, outpacing growth in markets such as San Francisco and New York.

## **Tech Talent Density (5-Year Change)**



Source: CBRE Labor Analytics, 2017.



## **EDUCATION**

Arizona State University is home to the largest engineering school in the nation with 20,000 students currently enrolled. Over 68% of graduates since 2010 stay in the Greater Phoenix region after graduation. The region also draws talent from the other major state universities as well as a system of public and private two-and four-year schools.

## **Enrollment and Graduates: Phoenix Area Universities (2017)**

School	Total Enrollment	2017 Grads
ASU	97,951	23,334
GCU	75,834	17,911
UA	43,387	9,880
NAU	29,524	7,267
TOTAL	246,696	58,392

### **Graduate Students by Major (2010-2017)**

School	<b>Engineering Grads</b>	MBA Grads
ASU	9,528	6,602
UA	4,257	2,586
NAU	1,413	1,985
TOTAL	15,198	11,173

ASU = Arizona State University NAU = Northern Arizona University UA = University of Arizona GCU = Grand Canyon University

Source: ASU (2016), NAU (2017) and U of A Alumni Databases (2016), Maricopa Association of Governments (2016).



Ranked Most Innovative School in the Nation by U.S. News and World Report for the 3rd Straight Year.

## Sample of Higher Education Offerings in Greater Phoenix

- Allen School-Phoenix
- Argosy University
- Arizona Christian University
- Arizona College
- Benedictine University at Mesa
- · Brookline College
- Bryan University
- · Carrington College
- Devry University
- Dunlap Stone University
- Fortis College
- · Grand Canyon University
- Harrison Middleton University
- Northern Arizona University at the Biomedical Campus
- Ottawa University
- Park University at Luke Air Force Base
- Penn Foster College
- Thunderbird School of Global Management
- Universal Technical Institute
- University of Advancing Technology
- University of Arizona
- University of Phoenix
- West Valley Arts & Technology Academy

## **CODING BOOT CAMPS**

### Woz U

Location	Scottsdale
Length of Course	33 weeks

#### **Subject Material**

Full-stack Web Development, Data Science, Data Security, Cyber Security and Mobile Application.

#### **Notable Features**

In addition to online curriculum, Woz U will also provide school districts with K-12 STEAM projects. In 2019, Arizona will become home to the Woz Accelerator, an immersive in-person training program.

## Galvanize

Location	Phoenix
Length of Course	12 & 24 weeks

### **Subject Material**

Web Development, Data Science, Python, JavaScript and others.

### **Notable Features**

120 companies working on site.

## **Tech Talent South**

Location	Phoenix
Length of Course	4, 8, & 12 weeks

#### **Subject Material**

JavaScript, Ruby on Rails, Domain Modeling, HTTP and "RESTful" Design, HTML/CSS, iOS, Google Analytics, and AJAX.

#### **Notable Features**

Lifetime access to Coder Camps online curriculum to maintain current expertise.

## **UA Coding Boot Camp**

Location	Chandler/Gilbert
Length of Course	12 & 24 weeks

#### **Subject Material**

HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, jQuery, Java, Bootstrap, Express.js, React.js, Node.js, Database Theory, Bookshelf.js, MongoDB, MySQL, Command Line, Git and others.

#### **Notable Features**

Portfolio reviews, resume and social media profile support, workshops, mock interviews, sample coding tests, and one-on-one career coaching.

## **Dev Mountain**

Location	Phoenix
Length of Course	12 weeks

#### **Subject Material**

Web Development.

#### **Notable Features**

Free housing for students on a first-come first-serve basis, one-on-one mentoring.

## **Coder Camps**

Location	Scottsdale
Length of Course	12 & 24 weeks

#### **Subject Material**

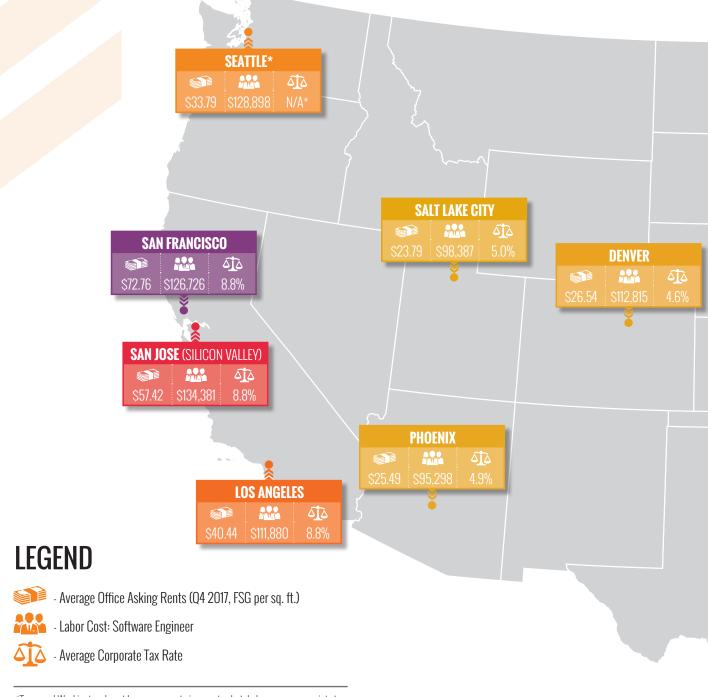
Full Stack Web Development and Coding from Scratch. Languages include JavasScript, .Net and Ruby.

#### **Notable Features**

Lifetime career services and access to all

## **COST OF DOING BUSINESS:**

## A Comparison of Major Tech Hubs

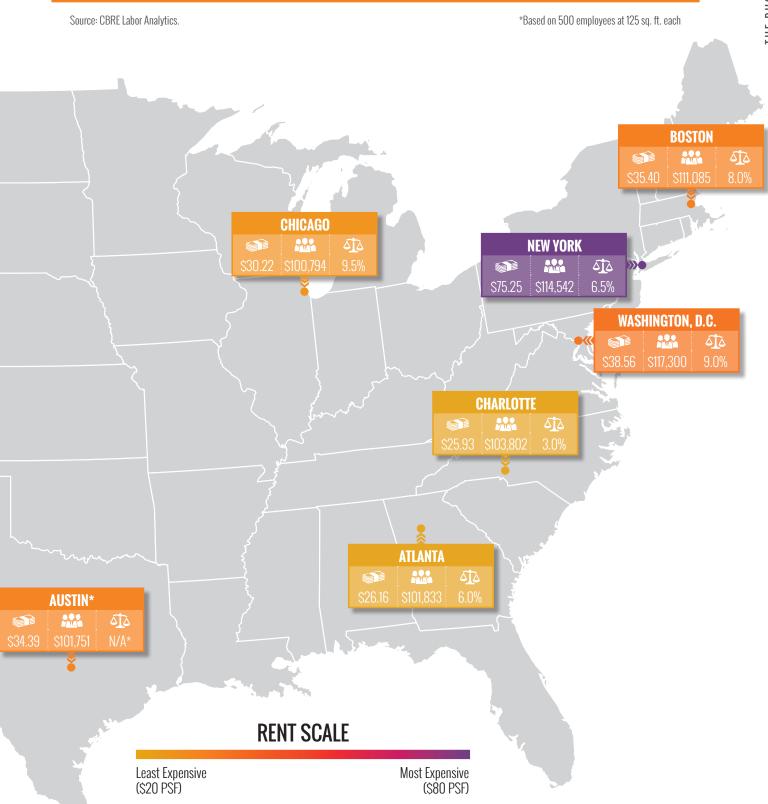


<sup>\*</sup>Texas and Washington do not have a corporate income tax but do have a gross receipts tax. Source: CBRE Research, Q4 2017; Bureau of Labor Statistics, Tax Foundation, 2017.

Small Change Creates **HUGE** 

Impact





## HOTTEST PHOENIX TECH SUBMARKETS

## Downtown Tempe

**4.0M SF** Total Base

0.9% Vacancy Rate \$41.53/SF

Lease Rate (FSG)

Downtown Tempe was the top tech submarket in the nation for rent growth and net absorption growth from Q2 2015 to Q2 2017.1 The submarket is successfully attracting companies due to the presence of Arizona State University's main campus, a large and talented workforce and a walkable urban environment that provides an abundance of amenities. Additionally, Class A development along Tempe Town Lake has attracted tech companies seeking high-quality space at reduced costs, including Zip Recruiter, LifeLock and Limelight.

### **Downtown Phoenix**

**6.4M SF** Total Base

**15.3%** 

\$31.13/SF Vacancy Rate Lease Rate (FSG)

Downtown Phoenix is a vibrant, diverse neighborhood that offers a genuine live-work-play lifestyle. Major draws to downtown include Arizona State University's Downtown Phoenix Campus, light rail, a large and educated workforce and walkable streets lined with restaurants, retail and entertainment options. An increasing number of technology companies—such as Uber, DoubleDutch and Gainsight—are moving from coastal markets to downtown Phoenix. This shift has diversified the submarket's employer base, which was historically dominated by financial and government services firms.

### **Chandler Price Corridor**

**3.0M SF** Total Base

**6.9%** Vacancy Rate \$29.05/SF Lease Rate (FSG)

The Price Corridor in Chandler is a highdemand submarket for fintech and high-tech manufacturing companies. Notable tech employers in the submarket include Intel, PayPal and General Motors. High college attainment and availability of skilled labor make the area attractive to employers. Additionally, an abundance of low-cost land has resulted in a significant amount of office construction over the last few years, providing users with numerous and quality space options. Furthermore, the submarket is surrounded by affordable housing and a thriving shopping and dining scene that helps attract and retain top talent.

### South Scottsdale

**2.3M SF** 

19.9%

Total Base

Vacancy Rate

Lease Rate (FSG)

Tech employers are drawn to South Scottsdale due to its high concentration of millennials, educated workforce and amenities that attract top talent. The submarket offers numerous and walkable attractions, including Scottsdale Fashion Square (the largest mall in the Southwest), a growing culinary scene, unique shops and boutiques and vibrant nightlife. Technology companies (including Yelp, Weebly and ZocDoc) have expanded in the area over the past several years. Currently, vacancy is elevated due to McKesson's recent relocation to a build-to-suit just outside the submarket.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CBRE Research, 2017 Tech-30 Report. Source: CBRE Research, Q4 2017.

## **QUALITY OF LIFE**

Greater Phoenix offers an array of amenities and attractions expected of a bustling urban and suburban region. From unique art and hip eateries to major sporting events and breathtaking hiking spots, the region offers something for everyone.



### **ARTS AND CULTURE**

Arizona Opera ArtLink First Fridays

Ballet Arizona

**Desert Botanical Gardens** 

Gammage Auditorium

Heard Museum

Mesa Arts Center

Musical Instrument Museum

**Orpheum Theater** 

Phoenix Art Museum

Phoenix Symphony

Phoenix Zoo

Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art

South Mountain Park Tempe Beach Park

WestWorld



### **MAJOR SPORTS EVENTS**

6 professional sports teams including the NFL, MLB, NHL, NBA, WNBA and USL Fiesta Bowl MLB Spring Training NCAA Final Four (2017) Super Bowl (2015)

College Football Playoffs/National Championship



### LOCAL COFFEE SHOPS

Cartel Coffee Lab Copper Star Fair Trade Café Giant

Hob Nobs

Johot

Lola

Lux

Mornin' Moonshine

Nami

One Coffee Co.

Press Coffee Roasters

Red Hut Coffee

Royal Coffee Bar

Shine

Songbird

The Refuge

**Urban Beans** 



### **LOCAL BREWERIES**

8 Bit Brewing Company Arizona Wilderness Brewing Co. Beer Research Institute Blasted Barley Beer Company Bold Barley Brewing Desert Eagle Brewing Company

Dubina Brewing Co.

McFate Brewing Company Four Peaks Brewing Company Freak'N Brewing Company

Goldwater Brewing Co.

Huss Brewing Co.

Mother Bunch Brewing

North Mountain Brewing O.H.S.O. Brewery + Distillery

Peoria Artisan Brewery

The Perch

Saddle Mountain Brewing Company

SanTan Brewing Company Scottsdale Beer Company

Sleepy Dog Brewing

Sonoran Brewing Co. SunUp Brewing Co.

The Phoenix Ale Brewery

Uncle Bear's Brewery

Westward Brewing Co.

Wren House Brewing Co.

### OTHER EVENTS

Arizona Jazz Festival Barrett-Jackson Classic Car Auction McDowell Mountain Music Festival Lost Lake Music Festival Rock 'n' Roll Marathon Scottsdale Arts Festival Viva PHX

Wickenburg Gold Rush Days Waste Management Phoenix Open



### **LOCAL RESTAURANTS**

Barrio Café Binkley's

Blanco Tacos + Tequila Bourbon & Bones

Chestnut

Churn

Citizen Public House

Crudo

Culinary Dropout

Doughbird Famous 48

Fat Ox

Federal Pizza

Flower Child

Forno Fabbri

Four Peaks Gallo Blanco

Garcia's Mexican Restaurant

Hot Noodles Cold Sake

Joe's Farm Grill

Joyride Taco House

Kai

Liberty Market

Little Cleo's Seafood Legend

Lo-Lo's Chicken & Waffles

Morning Glory Café

North Italia

Olive & Ivy

Otro Café

Pizzeria Bianco

Pomo Pizzeria

Postino

Quiessence

The Arrogant But<mark>cher</mark>
The Breadfruit and Rum Bar

The Farm Kitchen

The Gladly

The Greene House

The Henry

The House Brasserie

The Mission

Tratto True Food Kitchen

Vincent on Camelback

Virtù

**Wasted Grain** 

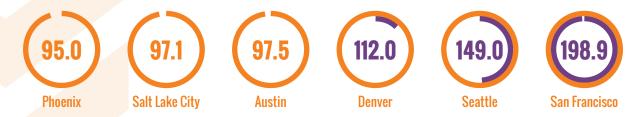
Windsor

Zinburger Wine & Burger Bar

Zinc Bistro

## **COST OF LIVING**

The **cost of living index** measures relative price levels for consumer goods and services. The national average is 100, and each index is read as a percentage of the national average.



Source: C2ER Cost of Living Index Calculator Q3 2017.

## **Rent to Income Ratio**

Metro	Median Household Income (\$)	Average Rent (\$, monthly)	Rent to Income Ratio
New York	75,419	2,761	43.9%
San Francisco	101,555	3,386	40.0%
Los Angeles	68,599	2,242	39.2%
San Diego	72,880	1,942	32.0%
Boston	87,130	2,150	29.6%
San Jose	115,807	2,714	28.1%
Chicago	70,149	1,478	25.3%
Seattle	82,786	1,702	24.7%
Denver	76,057	1,429	22.5%
Atlanta	64,754	1,144	21.2%
Dallas	66,120	1,137	20.6%
Charlotte	62,479	1,052	20.2%
Austin	73,812	1,197	19.5%
Phoenix	61,932	997	19.3%
Salt Lake City	72,776	1,075	17.7%

Source: Moody's Analytics, CBRE EA, Q3 2017.

<sup>\*</sup>Based on average rent for a one bedroom apartment (CBRE EA) and median household income (Moody's)

## **HOUSING AFFORDABILITY**

The Housing Opportunity Index (HOI) for each market is defined as the percent of homes sold in that area that would have been affordable to a family earning the metro area median income, based on standard mortgage underwriting criteria.

Nationwide, **59.6%** of new and existing homes sold in Q4 2017 were affordable to families earning the U.S. median income of \$68,000.

## **Percentages of Homes That Are Affordable**

68.7%

Charlotte

Median Price \$227,000

67.3%

**Atlanta** 

Median Price \$217,000

65.7%

Chicago

Median Price \$230,000

63.1%

**Phoenix** 

Median Price \$255,000

62.1%

Salt Lake City

Median Price \$307,000

57.6%

Austin

Median Price \$293,000

50.3%

Denver

Median Price \$381,000

48.2%

**Dallas** 

Median Price \$287,000

45.3%

Boston

Median Price \$430,000

39.3%

Seattle

Median Price \$501.000

32.7%

**New York\*** 

Median Price \$440.000

18.2%

San Diego

Median Price \$530

\$530,000

15.0%

Silicon Valley

Median Price

\$945,000

9.6%

Los Angeles

Median Price \$575,000

6.3%

San Francisco

Median Price

\$1,257,000

Source: National Association of Home Builders, Q4 2017.

<sup>\*</sup>New York-Jersey City-White Plains, NY-NJ

## **TAXES**

Arizona maintains its pro-business climate through a simplified tax system and comparatively low corporate and personal income taxes. Following a multi-year phasedown in 2015, the state's corporate income tax rate fell from 5.5% to 4.9% in 2017—one of the lowest rates in the country and significantly below coastal and competitive markets.

## Corporate Income Tax

#### **ARIZONA**

Bracket	All
Tax Rate	4.90%

#### **TEXAS**

Bracket	Texas Margin Tax
Tax Rate	N/A

Texas does not have a corporate income tax but does have a gross receipts tax\* that ranges from .331% to .75%

### **COLORADO**

Bracket	All
•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	
Tax Rate	4.63%

#### **CALIFORNIA**

Bracket	All
•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	
Tax Rate	8.84%

#### **WASHINGTON**

Bracket	Washington Business & Occupation Tax
Tax Rate	N/A
Washington	does not have a corporate income
tax but does	have a gross receipts tax* that
ranges from	.13% to 3.3%

### **UTAH**

Bracket	All
Tax Rate	5.00%

## \*Gross receipts taxes are business taxes imposed at a low rate but on a wide base of transactions, resulting in effective tax rates that can vary by industry

## Personal Income Tax (Single Filer)

#### **ARIZONA**

Rates	Brackets
2.59% >	\$0
2.88% >	\$10,179
3.36% >	\$25,445
4.24% >	\$50,890
4.54% >	\$152,668

#### **TEXAS**

Rates	Brackets
None	None

#### **COLORADO**

Rates	
4.63% of federal taxable income	

#### **CALIFORNIA**

Rates	Brackets
1.00% >	\$0
2.00% >	\$8,015
4.00% >	\$19,001
6.00% >	\$29,989
8.00% >	\$41,629
9.30% >	\$52,612
10.30% >	\$268,750
11.30% >	\$322,499
12.30% >	\$537,498
13.30% >	\$1,000,000

#### WASHINGTON

Rates	Brackets
None	None
	••••••

#### **UTAH**

Rates	Brackets
5.00 >	\$0

Source: Tax Foundation 2017 Facts and Figures.

## **Relevant Tax Credit Programs in Arizona**

#### RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT

Provides an Arizona income tax credit for increased research and development activities conducted in the state, including research conducted at a state university and funded by the company. It applies to both corporations and individuals and is equal to 24% of the first \$2.5 million in qualifying expenses plus 15% of the qualifying expenses in excess of \$2.5 million.

### **QUALITY JOBS TAX CREDIT**

Provides tax credits to employers creating a minimum number of net new quality jobs and making a minimum capital investment in Arizona. The program offers up to \$9,000 of Arizona income or premium tax credits spread over a three-year period for each net new quality job.

### **ANGEL INVESTOR TAX CREDIT**

Provides tax credits to investors who make investments in targeted small businesses certified by the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA). The ACA can authorize \$10 million in tax credits against qualified investments made in qualified small businesses through June 30, 2021. No more than \$2.5 million in tax credits may be authorized per calendar year.

#### MICROENTERPRISES FUND DEDICATION

Requires the ACA to reserve up to \$1 million of the Arizona Competes Fund (ACF) for grants to advance microenterprise development (companies based in Arizona with 10 or fewer employees, including start-up, home-based and self-employed businesses).



## **REGULATORY POLICY**

## **Arizona Works to Enable New Technology Adoption**

Arizona's regulatory environment is intentionally pro-business, fostering a culture of innovation and growth in the state. Whether encouraging research and development into autonomous vehicles or working to make sure that ride-share drivers have protections under the law, Arizona is embracing the future. The reduction of regulatory burdens on existing and prospective companies in Arizona will continue to attract new companies and create jobs in the state.

#### Self-Driving Testing and Piloting in the State of Arizona (2015)

In 2015, Governor Ducey signed Executive Order 2015-09, which allows for the testing of autonomous vehicles in Arizona. The order explicitly encouraged state agencies to support the development of autonomous vehicles and set basic safety parameters under which testing should occur. It also established the Self-Driving Vehicle Oversight Committee, which is charged with advising relevant stakeholders on the matter.

It should come as no surprise that in the years following the implementation of this Executive Order, Greater Phoenix has developed a robust autonomous vehicle development environment. Companies like Uber, Waymo, Cruise Automation and Local Motors are all testing and developing autonomous vehicle technology in Greater Phoenix.

#### **Establishing New Insurance Financial Limits and Requirements for TNCs (2015)**

House Bill 2135, which was signed into law in 2015, was designed to provide a basic, safety-oriented regulatory framework for Transportation Network Companies (TNCs). The law created insurance financial limits and requirements for TNCs and required TNCs to conduct background checks on drivers, mandated TNC vehicle identification, and set requirements on what is and is not acceptable for drivers to have been cited for. This legislation legitimized the industry and gave TNCs a clear set of rules under which to operate. Notably, these rules were not written in a way that would inhibit the industry from actively functioning in Arizona.

#### Short-Term Rentals (2016)

Senate Bill 1350, which was signed into law in 2016, prohibits banning of short-term rentals. It also establishes a straightforward regulatory framework in which some taxation is enacted for online lodging services. It also limits the ways in which cities and towns can regulate short-term rentals. These regulatory avenues are largely aimed at the protection of public health and safety.

#### **Enabling Electronic Transactions Utilizing Blockchain Technology (2017)**

HB 2417 recognizes smart contracts, which are secured through blockchain, as valid forms of contracts in Arizona. Governor Ducey and the State Legislature, through this bill and others, are working to show that Arizona recognizes and embraces new technologies. This forward-thinking legislation places Arizona among a handful of states that have enacted legislation that recognizes and utilizes the security benefits of blockchain technology.

#### **Regulatory Sandbox for Fintech (2018)**

In 2018, Governor Ducey signed H.B. 2434 which is intended to spur the development of fintech, blockchain and cryptocurrencies in the state by removing regulatory barriers for innovators. Arizona is the first in the U.S. to adopt a "regulatory sandbox" which will take effect in late 2018. Under the measure, companies will be able to test their products for up to two years and serve as many as 10,000 customers before needing to apply for a formal license.











