

Founded in 1912 as the first planned community to house workers from the copper mines in Jerome, Clarkdale is located in the heart of the vibrant Verde Valley wine country in Yavapai County. The town originally operated as a United Verde smelter town until 1953. During that period, Clarkdale was a company town with commercial, industrial, and retail businesses. Today, Clarkdale is only 10 squares miles in size with about 4,100 residents. Glimpses into its historic past are still evident in the historic business district and the housing of the area. Ore was processed from the nearby copper mining town of Jerome until 1953 when the copper and zinc production also closed.

Principal Economic Activities

Clarkdale's economy has four major sectors: tourism, precision manufacturing, education and the arts. Lovers of history and geo-tourism will find a home here with lots to see and do. Not only does Clarkdale feature multiple precision manufacturers, but the town also recently purchased industrial acreage and is beginning the planning for this site. Further, as home to the Verde Valley Campus of Yavapai College plus its new Southwest Wine Center, there are many educational opportunities here. With the Made in Clarkdale organization operating here for over 28 years, Clarkdale is home to visual and performing artists.



Scenic Attractions

With three major attractions, the Arizona-Copper Art Museum, the Verde Canyon Railroad, and the Verde River @ Clarkdale, tourism and outdoor recreation are also essential to Clarkdale's success. The award-winning Arizona-Copper Art Museum features more than 5,000 copper art pieces while the Verde Canyon Railroad offers 19-mile scenic passenger train tours along the Verde River introducing passengers to the beauty of the terrain and bald eagle sightings at various times of the year. With two river access points developed as parks along the Verde River, unparalleled outdoor recreation abounds.

The town also offers cultural windows into our rich history with the Clarkdale Historical Society and Museum showcasing historical artifacts representing our mining roots, and the John Bell Museum at the Verde Canyon Railroad. Our large historic district anchored by the historic Town Hall complex boasts many preserved and revitalized homes and buildings keeping the original spirit of Clarkdale alive. Town Park features the iconic gazebo and serves as the summer gathering place for free outdoor concerts. The town is also mindful of its stewardship role, resulting in the creation of the Sustainable Clarkdale Initiative, featuring several projects, the most recent of which are the geothermal heat and air conditioning installed at the Clark Memorial Clubhouse in the Town Hall complex and Centennial Plaza – a new permaculture display garden. Clarkdale also features fun for the wine lover as home to the only winemakers' incubator, Four Eight Wineworks and the Southwest Wine Center, a working vineyard and tasting room at Yavapai College.

Community Facilities

Clarkdale has many "Points of Pride" within the community. These include the historic downtown area, the Verde River @ Clarkdale River Access Points, Town Park and other community parks, the Arizona Copper Art Museum, the Clark Memorial Clubhouse, Centennial Plaza, Clarkdale's Historical Society and Museum, Tuzigoot National Monument, Tavasci Marsh, Yavapai College, and the Verde Canyon Railroad.

BASIC INFORMATION

Founded:	1912	Incorporated:	1957
Elevation:	3,550 ft.	Location:	Yavapai County
Distance to major cities:			
Phoenix:	107 miles	San Diego:	454 miles
Tucson:	220 miles	Los Angeles:	471 miles
Las Vegas:	276 miles		

POPULATION

	1990	2000	2014 (est.)
Clarkdale	2,170	3,422	4,102
Yavapai County	108,500	167,517	215,357
State of Arizona	3,680,800	5,130,632	6,667,241

Arizona Dept. of Administration - azstats.gov

PROPERTY TAX

	1990	2000	2014
Elementary / High School	6.13	4.86	5.63
City / Fire District	2.17	1.22	3.23
Yavapai County	5.14	4.18	5.01
Totals (Yavapai County)	13.43	10.26	13.88

Arizona Dept. of Revenue & Arizona Tax Research Foundation

SALES TAX / TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX

Clarkdale	3.00%
Yavapai County	0.75%
State	5.60%

Arizona Dept. of Revenue & Arizona Tax Research Foundation

LABOR FORCE

	1990	2000	2014
Civilian Labor Force	894	1,597	1,970
Unemployed	56	63	47
Unemployment Rate	6.3%	3.9%	2.4%

Arizona Dept. of Administration - azstats.gov

WORKFORCE EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

	Count	Share
Less than high school	269	8.7%
High school or equivalent, no college	933	30.2%
Some college or Associate degree	1,455	47.0%
Bachelor's degree or advanced degree	437	14.1%

Census Bureau - Fact Finder

INDUSTRY (RANKED BY EMPLOYMENT)

	Count	Share
Education, health care & social assistance	344	19.3%
Retail trade	267	15.0%
Transportation, warehousing, & utilities	263	14.8%
Finance, insurance & real estate	237	13.3%
Manufacturing	141	7.9%
Construction	130	7.3%
Public administration	112	6.3%
Arts, entertainment, food & recreation services	85	4.8%
Professional, scientific, & administrative services	80	4.5%
Wholesale trade	60	3.4%
Other services, except public administration	33	1.9%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, & mining	26	1.5%
Information	0	0.0%

Census Bureau - Fact Finder

This profile was prepared by the Arizona Commerce Authority in cooperation with local sources. For further information, please contact:

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