

Central Region Profile

2021-22 Update



Jurisdictions

The Central Region includes 7 Tribal Nations and 3 Arizona counties. There are 12 rural and 4 Indian census-recognized primary care areas (PCAs). These PCAs include multiple medically underserved areas and are geographically isolated from healthcare services.

Tribal Nations:² Ak-Chin Indian Community, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Gila River Indian Community, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation, Tohono O'odham Nation, Tonto Apache Reservation

Counties: Gila, Maricopa, Pinal

Rural and Indian PCAs: Gila County - Payson, Globe, San Carlos Apache Tribe, Maricopa County - North Gateway/Rio Vista Village, Desert View Village,

Laveen Village, Surprise North & Wickenburg, New River/Cave Creek, Anthem, Fountain Hills/Rio Verde, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Sun City and Sun City West, Glendale West, El Mirage and Youngtown, Paradise Valley, Salt River Pima - Maricopa Indian Community, Tempe South, Queen Creek, Sun Lakes, Pinal County - Apache Junction, Gila River Indian Community, Gold Canyon, Florence, San Tan Valley, Saddlebrooke, Maricopa, Coolidge, Eloy, Casa Grande

Population and Vulnerable Demographics

About 4,439,220 people live in the Central Region. The population varies seasonally with winter visitors staying 30 days or longer, and migrant/agricultural workers coming into the communities during the winter growing season.

During a disaster, individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs may require special assistance from the emergency management system. In the Central region, there are demographic disparities between rural and urban counties where the former record higher proportions of persons living below the FPL (including children <12) and those who are Medicare beneficiaries. This is also the case with the Persons with Disabilities where the figure reflects the largest county but is doubled in the smallest county.

Considerations for those who are very old or very young, live in rural settings, have transportation challenges, have limited English proficiency, have low-socioeconomic status, or face challenges accessing health services should be included as well. 36% of the population lives below 200% of the federal poverty level; 29.4% of children under age 12 also live in poverty.² The inmate population is vulnerable due to access to care and congregate living conditions. The Central Region houses 58% of the total prison inmate population of Arizona.

Risk Factors	Central Region	Arizona
Persons with Disabilities ³	16%	13%

AHCCCS (Medicaid) Population (%) ⁴	1,510,431 (64.1%)	2,355,253
Medicare Beneficiaries (%) ⁵	829,960 (60%)	1,384,923
Electricity-Dependent Medicare Beneficiaries (%) ⁵	32,901 (53%)	62,243
Medically Uninsured (%) ²	10.4%	10.4%
Population below 200% FPL (%) ²	36%	34.5%
Children <12 Living in Poverty (%) ²	29.4%	24.2%
Correctional Facilities (%) ⁶	9 (56%)	16
Correctional Facility Inmate Capacity-prisons only (%) ⁶	19,540 (58%)	33,657

Healthcare Utilization

The Central region has one provider for every 460 residents, totaling 70.3% of the total number of primary care providers in Arizona. Ambulatory care sensitive conditions - care that if delivered properly would not result in hospitalization - relieves the burden on the hospital system. The Central Region communities have slightly higher proportions of ambulatory care sites per resident over 65 years at a ratio of 50.4 sites per 1000 residents.

Utilization	Central Region	Arizona
Total Primary Care Providers (%) ⁷	13,273 (70.3%)	18,878
Total Ambulatory Care Sites (%) ⁸	132 (69.1%)	212
ACSs/1000 Residents Age <65 ²	50.4	42.1
Total Emergency Room Visits (%) ⁹	1,608,735 (67.3%)	2,391,489
Total Hospital Beds (%) ¹⁰	10,232 (66.1%)	15,477
Hospital Inpatient Days/1000 Residents Age <65 ²	591	585
Hospital Beds/1000 Residents ²	1.5	1.8

Regional Healthcare Infrastructure

Thirty-six of the thirty-six general hospitals in the Central Region are sole providers of short-stay, acute care, inpatient services within their PCA.

Diverse regional facilities and resources that serve specific populations, including pediatrics, are critical to the whole community response. The Central Region has 3,022 specialty beds, 111 skilled nursing facilities, 11,028 nursing beds, 131 licensed home health agencies, 953 licensed pharmacies, and 43 certified ambulance services.

Healthcare Infrastructure	Central Region	Arizona
General Hospitals ²	36 (54.5%)	66
Critical Access Hospitals ⁸	4 (25%)	16
Behavioral Health Hospitals ⁸	16 (66.7%)	24
Long-term Care Hospitals ⁸	12 (60%)	20
Specialty beds ²	3,022 (81.9%)	3,692
ICU bed capacity ¹⁰	1,085 (67.5%)	1,607
ED bed capacity ¹⁰	1,482 (62.9%)	2,357
Skilled Nursing Facilities ²	111 (69.8%)	159
Nursing Beds ²	11,028 (67.9%)	16,241
Licensed Home Health Agencies ²	131 (69.7%)	188
Licensed Pharmacies ²	953 (72.3%)	1,319
Certified Ambulance Services ²	43 (40.2%)	107
Air Transport ¹⁰	17 (30.9%)	55

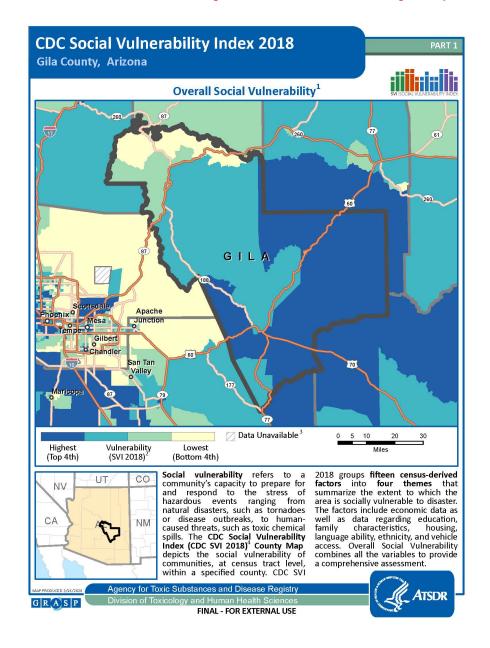
County Hazard Identification Summary

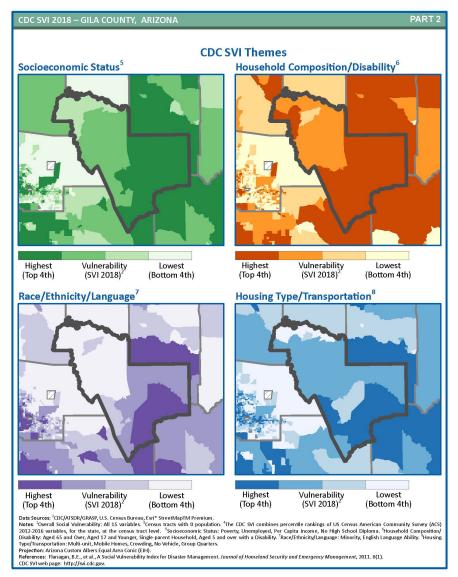
County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plans are administered once every five years to identify the greatest risk of loss to people and critical facilities. Hazards were identified through a Threats and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA). Experiential knowledge of the planning team, considerations of relative risk, historic context, potential for mitigation, alignment with state plans, and duplication of effects for each hazard influenced each County's process.

Central Region Hazard Lists (Referenced from County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plans and 2019 AzCHER CHVA):

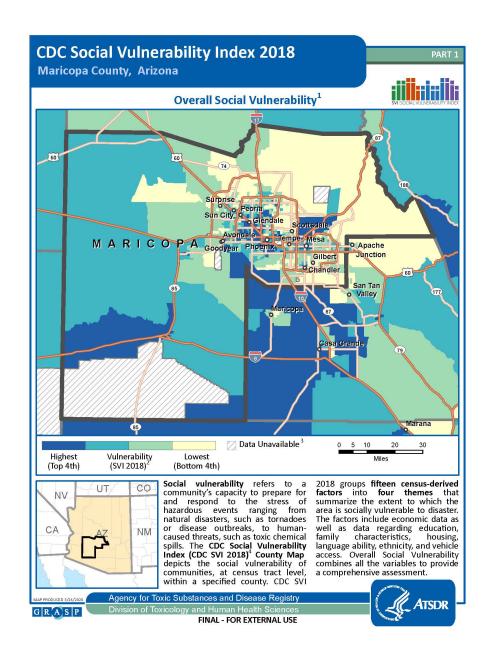
 Drought Flood/Flash Flooding Hazardous Material Severe Wind 	Maricopa (2015) ¹² • Dam Inundation • Drought • Extreme Heat • Fissure • Flood/Flash Flooding • Levee Failure • Severe Wind • Subsidence • Wildfires	Pinal (2016) ¹³ Dam Failure Drought Fissure Flood/Flash Flooding Levee Failure Severe Wind Subsidence Wildfires
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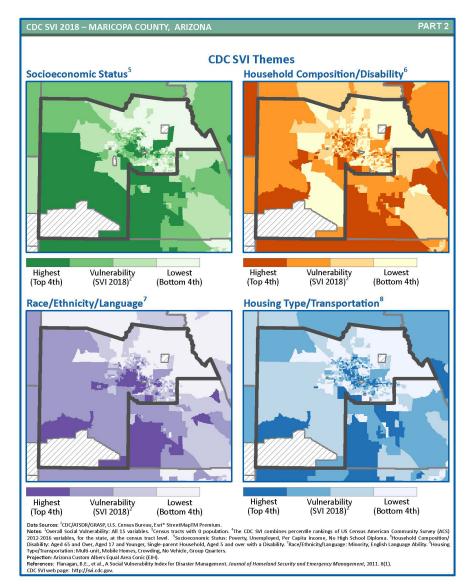
CDC Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) County Maps¹⁵



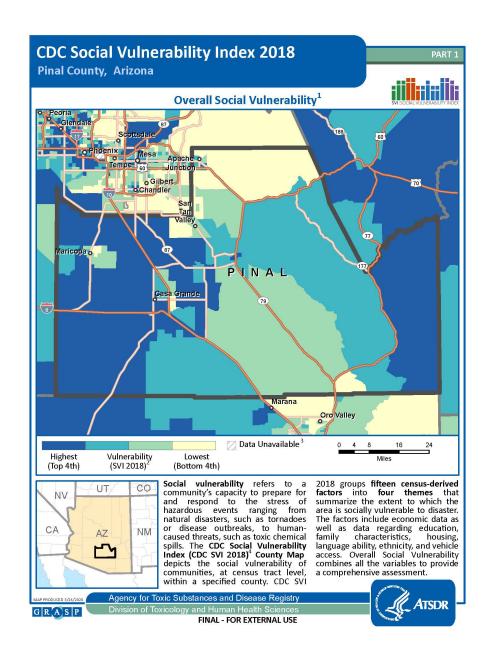


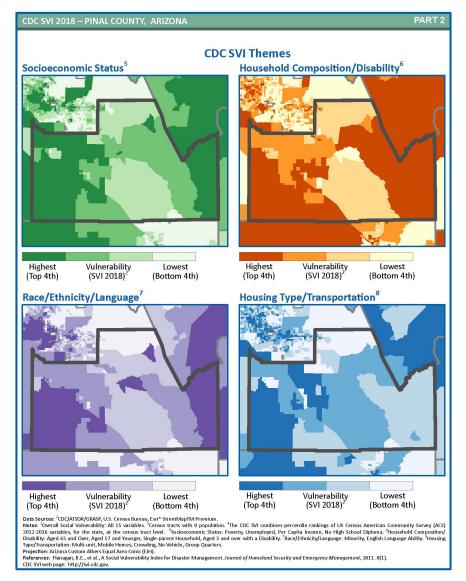
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Resources

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- 2. Arizona Department of Health Services. Statistical Profiles Primary Care Area Statistical Profiles. https://www.azdhs.gov/prevention/health-systems-development/data-reports-maps/index.php#statistical-profiles-pca. Published February 1, 2021. Accessed February 14, 2022.
- 3. Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. Disability data for Arizona. https://addpc.az.gov/disability-data-arizona. Published 2020. Accessed February 14, 2022.
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- 5. <u>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. HHS EmPOWER Map 3.0. HHS.gov.</u> <u>https://empowermap.hhs.gov/</u>. Published November 4, 2021. Accessed February 14, 2022.
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- 8. Arizona Department of Health Services. Public Health Licensing Provider & Facility Databases. https://azdhs.gov/licensing/index.php#databases. Published February 3, 2022. Accessed February 14, 2022.
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- 10. Arizona EMResource. Updated February 14, 2022. Accessed February 14, 2022.
- 11. Gila County. Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

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Glossary

ACS	Ambulatory Care Site	
AHCCCS	Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System	
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	
HHS emPOWER map	Over 2.5 million Medicare beneficiaries rely on electricity-dependent medical equipment, such as ventilators, to live independently in their homes. Severe weather and other emergencies, especially those with long power outages, can be lifethreatening for these individuals.	
	The HHS emPOWER Map is updated monthly and displays the total number of at-risk electricity-dependent Medicare beneficiaries in a geographic area, down to the ZIP Code.	
	The HHS emPOWER Map gives every public health official, emergency manager, hospital, first responder, electric company, and community member the power to discover the electricity-dependent Medicare population in their state, territory, county, and ZIP Code. When combined with real-time severe weather and hazard maps, communities can easily anticipate and plan for the needs of this population during an emergency.	
FPL	Federal Poverty Level	
PCA	Primary Care Area: A Primary Care Area is a geographic area in which most residents seek primary health services from the same place(s). The PCA is meant to depict the "primary care service seeking patterns" of the residents.	
Specialty Beds	The number of hospital beds located at "Specialty" hospitals, such as emergency or surgical hospitals	
SVI	Social Vulnerability Index Social vulnerability refers to the potential negative effects on communities caused by external stresses on human health. Such stresses include natural or human-caused disasters, or disease outbreaks. Reducing social vulnerability can decrease both human suffering and economic loss.	
	CDC Social Vulnerability Index (CDC SVI) uses 15 U.S. census variables to help local officials identify communities that may need support before, during, or after disasters.	