

Phoenix, AZ

2000–Today

Phoenix Population

1990: 992,511

2000: 1,327,000 +33.7%

2010: 1,449,000 +9.2%

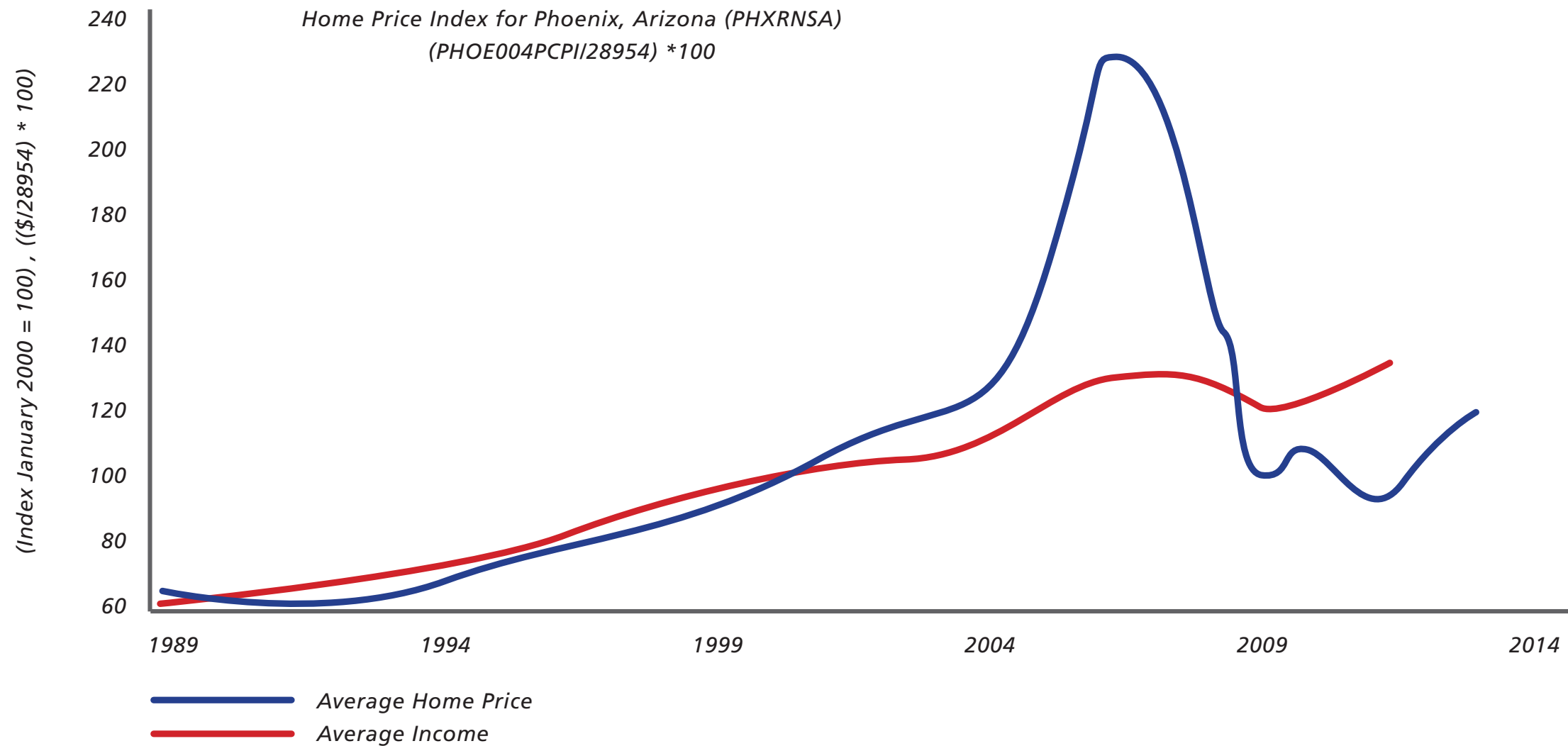
Community Building and Civic Life

Business and construction were booming in 2000. There were 1.38 million people in Phoenix at the time¹ and many people were making more than they were in the 90's. Even though the car bombings of Don Bolles happened in 1976 the greater Phoenix

community was still battling issues with disconnectedness citizens.

Resources

[1]: <http://www.worldpopulationstatistics.com/phoenix-population-2013/>



Community Building and Civic Life

People were migrating to Phoenix because of the affordable and plentiful housing in the early 2000s. The average income and average housing price were in line with each other so people were still comfortably moving to Phoenix to start their lives. Before the housing bubble burst people were not very

worried about community, they were content in their world of stability.

Resources

Above: <http://go.bloomberg.com/market-now/2013/01/15/the-recovery-gap-phoenix-edition/>



The Built Environment

The sprawling nature of the Phoenix kept a lot of people working and the houses here were being built faster than they ever were before, and in large quantities. Developers were not considering the future as much as they should have and new “communities” actually lacked a lot of crucial aspects that

make a community successful and vibrant.

Resources

Above Left: <http://www.doobybrain.com/2013/03/08/boom-goes-the-housing-market-a-look-at-suburban-sprawl-in-phoenix-arizona/>

Above Right: <http://www.nocaptionneeded.com/2010/09/spaceship-suburb-planetary-subway/>



The Built Environment

Big box stores were taking over Phoenix as the suburbs developed more and more. In 2013 there are more than 20 Walmarts in the Phoenix-metro area. Many large mall-like developments took root. These developments (like Tempe Marketplace shown above) filled spaces with big box stores that didn't benefit

the economy as much as locally owned businesses did. Local efforts were starting to take place and a movement toward local shopping in 2003 with Kimber Lanning's Arizona Chain Reaction (now Local First).

Resources

Above Left: <http://pics3.city-data.com/businesses/pl115161716131567.JPG>

Above Right: <http://www.kraemereng.com/index.cfm/projects/retail/tempe-marketplace/>



The Built Environment

Education is a relatively new market that is being valued in Arizona. ASU's downtown campus opened its doors in 2008 right before the economy tanked. The downtown campus serves more than 17,000 students in 6 degree granting programs.² The opening of this campus was an initiative that was pushed

through by 2004–2012 Mayor Phil Gordon and ASU's President Michael Crow. Both were adamant about bringing life to downtown Phoenix through education. As mayor, Gordon stressed downtown revitalization and put more than \$1 billion into the city's core.³

Resources

Above: <https://cfo.asu.edu/fdm-construction-at-asu>

[2]: <http://www.asu.edu/colleges/downtown.html>

[3]: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phil_Gordon_\(politician\)#Mayoralty](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phil_Gordon_(politician)#Mayoralty)



The Built Environment

NAU and UofA both have campuses located in downtown Phoenix. This initiative was part of the push for education in the downtown area. Pictured above is the NAU/UofA Biomedical Campus. "The city-owned Phoenix Biomedical Campus (PBC) is a 28-acre urban medical and bioscience campus planned for more than

six million square feet of biomedical-related research, academic and clinical facilities."⁴ The facilities house a large amount of tenants that go beyond the educational programs. PBC is aesthetically modeled after the Grand Canyon- giving it a uniquely Phoenix feel.

Resources

Above: <http://coarchitects.com/expertise-entry/health-sciences-education-building-phoenix-biomedical-campus/>

[4]: <http://phoenix.gov/econdev/reinvest/focus/index.html>



The Built Environment

In 2009 the housing market crashed and left many Phoenix residents in bad situations. Many homes were underwater forcing people to file for bankruptcy. This was the turning point for how Phoenix viewed “community.”

Resources

Above Left: http://www.thepolisblog.org/2013_02_01_archive.html

Above Right: <http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-02-21/a-phoenix-housing-boom-forms-in-hint-of-u-dot-s-dot-recovery>



The Built Environment

2012 held hope for Phoenix's built environment when Mayor Greg Stanton was elected. His agenda included more projects focused on downtown Phoenix revitalization and focused specifically on Phoenix's problem with vacant lots. He was quoted saying "Vacant lots are a minus for our city," he said.

"They hurt the morale of neighborhoods and too often become targets for vandalism and graffiti" in his inaugural State of the City Address. ⁴

Resources

Above Left: <http://www.washingtonblade.com/2013/11/22/phoenix-mayor-celebrates-hrc-ranking/>

Above Right: http://blogs.phoenixnewtimes.com/jackalope/2011/04/real_estate_developer_concord.php

[4]: <http://www.statepress.com/2012/04/11/phoenix-mayor-delivers-inaugural-state-of-the-city-address/>



Community Challenges

One of the most noted disputes in Arizona's recent history was its 2010 State Bill 1070 (SB-1070). Debate over whether or not it was legal to ask people for documentation for their legal status left the state, and even the nation, divided. With many people disagreeing on the issue protests were a

common sight. Phoenix was battling issues of civic engagement, financial devastation and racial inequality publicly for the first time.

Resources

Above Left: http://colorlines.com/archives/2012/06/what_supreme_court_arizona_sb1070_ruling_means.html

Above Right: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nadine-wahab/the-battle-over-sb-1070_b_604356.html



Major Community Assets

Major community assets for Phoenix at this time were held in its opportunity. From 2000–2013 Phoenix went through times of good financial capital and bad financial capital, times of ease and times of turmoil. After the dust settled from the recession Phoenix realized how much potential it has to become

a thriving and vibrant city again. By the end of 2013 financial capital was back on the rise and social capital was becoming an asset that Phoenix wanted to strengthen.

Resources

Above Left: <http://thegreenwombat.com/category/solar-energy/>

Above Right: <http://www.city-data.com/forum/phoenix-area/102198-phoenix-skyline-observation-tower-2.html>