

How Arizona Compares:

Real Numbers and Hot Topics

has provided a dizzying array of numbers and rankings. To make its “new sense of the state” clearer, the following pages present rankings for the 3 highlighted rankings in each section for the 50 states.



Signal Measures on Hot Topics stand out.

These Signal Measures provide a quick way to assess Arizona's standing — or any state's — among its peers.

	Crime & Punishment				Health		Education			Business Future			Families & Incomes		
	serious crime	rate of incarceration	justice spending per capita	without health insurance	overall health	per capita expenditures on health care	number of charter schools	science and engineering doctorates	per student spending for current expenses	job growth	Milken Technology and Science Index	per capita gross state product	percent of children in poverty	birth rate	per capita income
	2003	2003	FY2000	2001-03	2004	1998	2003	2002	2001-02	1990-2003	2004	2001	1999	2002	2003
Alabama	17	5	46	25	43	28	NA	25	45	37	36	45	6	31	41
Alaska	20	21	1	7	24	36	24	50	7	13	40	3	40	6	13
Arizona	1	9	9	10	23	48	1	19	47	2	17	37	12	3	38
Arkansas	22	12	42	12	46	31	32	41	41	18	49	47	5	20	49
California	25	16	2	4	22	37	2	1	24	35	2	8	11	8	10
Colorado	21	18	16	15	13	43	8	18	33	5	3	9	41	7	7
Connecticut	41	27	12	40	8	3	23	23	3	50	10	2	47	43	1
Delaware	24	10	5	42	32	5	29	37	8	30	13	1	34	22	11
Florida	4	14	7	8	42	8	3	9	43	6	32	39	16	41	24
Georgia	14	7	28	14	45	34	15	12	25	11	18	18	17	4	27
Hawaii	2	36	18	43	4	18	20	40	28	46	39	19	28	19	21
Idaho	36	19	30	9	18	49	25	44	46	3	30	44	26	4	45
Illinois	28	32	15	22	29	17	17	5	16	43	21	10	23	16	14
Indiana	30	29	43	29	32	30	30	14	21	36	29	35	37	20	32
Iowa	35	39	39	47	11	19	NA	22	27	31	37	34	45	37	35
Kansas	19	34	32	35	16	24	16	27	26	27	26	28	39	12	26
Kentucky	40	24	36	25	39	23	NA	32	38	25	48	41	7	28	40
Louisiana	9	1	22	3	50	22	22	26	37	28	42	23	2	12	43
Maine	46	50	47	37	10	10	NA	49	9	40	33	42	33	49	30
Maryland	15	20	10	27	34	13	NA	11	10	38	4	16	46	25	4
Massachusetts	38	43	20	46	6	1	13	4	4	48	1	4	38	40	3
Michigan	29	11	19	33	29	25	5	8	11	41	25	30	31	36	19
Minnesota	33	49	29	50	1	11	11	21	20	16	8	13	49	24	8
Mississippi	23	2	45	11	49	35	35	36	49	29	50	50	1	12	50
Missouri	16	8	37	35	36	20	19	20	29	39	31	29	21	28	28
Montana	32	22	33	16	26	44	NA	43	30	7	38	48	14	43	44
Nebraska	26	44	40	41	12	29	NA	35	19	19	28	25	36	11	23
Nevada	10	15	4	6	37	47	25	42	44	1	43	12	28	9	18
New Hampshire	48	46	41	43	2	15	NA	38	17	22	12	14	50	48	6
New Jersey	42	37	6	23	17	6	12	15	1	44	7	6	41	25	2
New Mexico	12	37	14	2	38	46	18	33	34	8	14	38	3	9	46
New York	44	33	3	18	31	2	14	2	2	49	15	5	9	31	5
North Carolina	13	31	31	16	41	32	8	10	39	20	20	22	20	17	36
North Dakota	50	48	50	39	7	12	NA	46	36	15	45	40	30	42	34
Ohio	27	26	17	32	26	21	6	7	15	42	24	26	23	34	25
Oklahoma	11	4	34	4	40	38	30	31	42	23	35	46	10	15	39
Oregon	7	30	8	19	21	42	20	30	22	14	19	21	23	37	31
Pennsylvania	43	35	21	37	25	7	10	6	14	45	16	24	22	46	17
Rhode Island	34	47	23	49	14	4	34	34	6	47	11	20	19	43	16
South Carolina	3	6	35	28	47	33	25	29	32	32	44	43	13	28	42
South Dakota	49	22	48	33	19	27	NA	47	40	10	47	31	17	17	37
Tennessee	8	17	38	31	48	16	NA	24	48	21	34	32	15	25	33
Texas	5	3	27	1	35	38	4	3	35	9	23	17	8	2	29
Utah	18	42	25	24	5	50	28	28	50	4	9	36	48	1	47
Vermont	47	45	44	43	3	26	NA	45	5	33	22	33	44	50	22
Virginia	39	13	26	30	20	45	32	13	23	26	5	11	34	22	9
Washington	6	40	24	21	15	40	NA	17	31	17	6	15	32	34	12
West Virginia	45	40	49	19	43	9	NA	39	18	34	46	49	4	47	48
Wisconsin	37	24	13	47	9	14	7	16	13	24	27	27	41	39	20
Wyoming	31	28	11	13	28	41	35	48	12	12	41	7	26	31	15

Government			Arts and Culture			Housing			Transportation			Environment		
ballot initiatives	per capita state and local spending	voter turnout among VAP	arts related institutions	number of national monuments	public library circulation per capita	housing unit growth	mobile and manufactured homes	home ownership	highway traffic fatalities	travel time to work	annual miles driven per vehicle	biodiversity	ground-water withdrawal	energy consumption per capita
2003	2000	2000	2004	2000	2001	2000-03	2000	2000	2002	2000	2002	2002	2000	2000
NA	30	20	27	NA	49	29	6	4	16	18	22	5	32	9
17	1	5	46	6	30	38	28	44	14	43	50	49	43	1
5	39	47	19	1	26	2	11	31	4	17	20	4	8	49
7	50	44	35	NA	47	27	8	22	7	35	5	19	4	13
2	9	49	1	4	39	25	41	48	36	5	37	1	1	45
3	21	37	14	5	5	3	34	36	21	22	1	16	9	40
NA	6	33	20	NA	13	45	49	38	46	21	38	41	42	44
NA	11	12	47	NA	29	19	17	6	27	25	19	46	50	17
20	42	41	4	8	38	8	15	17	11	9	25	7	5	46
NA	40	45	11	7	42	4	14	34	28	5	15	6	15	28
NA	10	50	37	NA	31	31	50	49	32	11	46	50	33	50
19	48	36	38	8	16	7	13	5	15	42	45	25	6	15
24	23	30	5	NA	19	34	43	36	31	4	34	23	21	23
NA	44	25	24	NA	3	14	29	12	45	32	24	31	29	8
NA	25	8	29	9	11	33	35	6	33	45	49	40	27	19
NA	38	15	33	NA	7	28	32	24	17	44	28	37	7	18
NA	41	35	30	NA	36	24	10	14	12	28	21	23	40	7
NA	33	7	25	9	46	39	12	32	6	12	30	18	12	2
17	24	2	40	NA	24	35	21	10	26	31	6	43	47	10
NA	28	29	16	9	9	30	45	33	38	2	16	28	38	39
13	8	16	12	NA	20	48	48	45	49	7	47	38	37	41
12	16	16	10	NA	35	26	30	3	37	24	31	29	25	36
NA	4	3	18	8	10	12	40	2	41	35	29	36	26	25
23	36	19	41	NA	50	22	4	6	2	19	2	17	10	14
10	46	6	21	9	18	23	26	16	18	27	4	21	11	38
9	35	12	43	9	34	46	9	25	1	48	48	33	41	4
15	14	21	39	7	12	32	36	35	23	46	32	39	3	27
16	32	48	31	9	37	1	22	46	9	29	13	11	24	34
NA	45	9	36	NA	23	21	31	21	48	15	35	44	46	43
NA	12	33	8	NA	28	40	47	40	44	3	41	32	30	32
NA	19	42	34	2	40	16	2	18	13	35	11	3	13	26
NA	2	43	2	7	21	47	44	50	43	1	26	22	18	47
NA	29	38	13	NA	33	6	5	22	22	25	7	9	31	37
4	15	1	50	NA	22	43	23	39	34	50	39	48	44	5
11	22	27	9	9	1	36	39	25	35	30	43	27	20	24
8	49	26	32	7	32	42	19	27	23	38	10	15	17	12
1	7	14	22	NA	2	17	20	42	38	34	33	8	19	35
NA	18	32	6	NA	41	44	38	13	25	16	36	29	28	16
NA	20	16	42	NA	27	49	46	47	46	33	40	47	49	48
NA	27	21	26	7	43	10	1	9	3	22	12	14	35	21
14	47	23	48	8	14	18	16	29	8	49	42	42	39	30
NA	31	39	17	NA	48	15	18	20	20	20	14	13	34	22
NA	43	46	3	9	45	9	24	43	19	14	8	2	2	6
21	26	31	28	3	4	5	37	11	29	40	18	10	16	33
NA	17	9	44	NA	25	41	27	15	50	39	3	45	48	42
NA	37	28	15	8	15	11	33	30	40	7	27	12	36	31
6	5	24	7	9	6	13	25	41	41	13	44	20	14	20
NA	34	40	45	NA	44	50	3	1	4	9	17	34	45	11
NA	13	3	23	NA	8	20	42	27	29	41	23	35	21	29
22	3	11	49	8	17	37	7	18	10	47	9	26	23	3