Navajo County, Arizona

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Coordinates: 35°25′52″N 110°17′22″W

Navajo County is in the northern part of the U.S. state of Arizona. As of the 2020 census, its population was 106,717.[1] The county seat is Holbrook.[2]

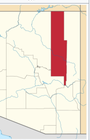
Navajo County comprises the Show Low, Arizona Micropolitan Statistical Area.

Navajo County contains parts of the Hopi Indian reservation, the Navajo Nation, and Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

Navajo County
County
Navajo County

Historic Navajo County Courthouse and Museum in Holbrook

Seal



Location within the U.S. state of Arizona

Arizona's location within the U.S.
Coordinates: 35°25′52″N 110°17′22″W

Country	United States
State	Arizona
Founded	March 21, 1895
Named for	Navajo Nation
Seat	Holbrook
Largest city	Show Low
Area	
• **Total**	9,960 sq mi (25,800 km²)
• **Land**	9,950 sq mi (25,800 km²)
• **Water**	9.3 sq mi (24 km²) 0.09%
Population (2020)	
• **Total**	106,717
• **Density**	11/sq mi (4.1/km²)
Time zone	UTC−7 (Mountain)
Congressional district	1st
Website	www.navajocountyaz.gov

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History [edit]

Navajo County was split from Apache County on March 21, 1895. The first county sheriff was Commodore Perry Owens, a legendary gunman who had previously served as the sheriff of Apache County. It was the location for many of the events of the Pleasant Valley War.[3]

Geography [edit]

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 9,960 square miles (25,800 km²), of which 9,950 square miles (25,800 km²) is land and 9.3 square miles (24 km²) (0.09%) is water.[4]

Navajo County offers not only the Monument Valley, but Kearns Canyon, part of the Petrified Forest National Park, and one of the largest contiguous ponderosa pine forest in North America.

Adjacent counties [edit]

- Apache County – east
- Graham County – south
- Gila County – southwest
- Coconino County – west
- San Juan County, Utah – north

Indian reservations [edit]

Navajo County has 6,622.73 square miles (17,178.7 km²) of federally designated Indian reservation within its borders, the third most of any county in the United States (neighboring Apache County and Coconino County are first and second). In descending order of territory within the county, the reservations are the Navajo Nation, Hopi Indian Reservation, and Fort Apache Indian Reservation, all of which are partly located within Navajo County.

National protected areas [edit]

- Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest (part)
- Navajo National Monument
- Petrified Forest National Park (part)

Demographics [edit]

2000 census [edit]

As of the 2000 census, there were 97,470 people, 30,043 households, and 23,073 families living in the county. The population density was 10 inhabitants per square mile (3.9/km²). There were 47,413 housing units at an average density of 5/sq mi (1.9/km²). The racial makeup of the county was 47.7% Native American, 45.9% White, 0.9% Black or African American, 0.3% Asian, 0.1% Pacific Islander, 3.2% from other races, and 55.9% from two or more races. 8.2% of the population were Hispanic or Latino of any race. 24.8% reported speaking Navajo at home, 5.9% other Southern Athabaskan languages, 4.7% Spanish, and 3.2% Hopi.[5][6]

There were 30,043 households, out of which 40.5% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 55.5% were married couples living together, 16.3% had a female householder with no husband present, and 23.2% were non-families. 19.9% of all households were made up of individuals, and 7.2% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 3.17 and the average family size was 3.68.

In the county, the population was spread out, with 35.4% under the age of 18, 8.8% from 18 to 24, 25.3% from 25 to 44, 20.4% from 45 to 64, and 10.0% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 30 years. For every 100 females there were 98.7 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 97.2 males.

The median income for a household in the county was $28,569, and the median income for a family was $32,409. Males had a median income of $30,509 versus $21,621 for females. The per capita income for the county was $11,609. About 23.4% of families and 29.5% of the population were below the poverty line, including 36.6% of those under age 18 and 20.3% of those age 65 or over.

Petroglyphs at Rock Art Canyon Ranch near Winslow

2010 census [edit]

As of the 2010 census, there were 107,449 people, 35,658 households, and 25,923 families living in the county.[11] The population density was 10.8 inhabitants per square mile (4.2/km²). There were 56,938 housing units at an average density of 5.7 per square mile (2.2/km²).[12] The racial makeup of the county was 49.3% white, 43.4% American Indian, 0.9% black or African American, 0.5% Asian, 0.1% Pacific islander, 3.4% from other races, and 2.5% from two or more races. Those of Hispanic or Latino origin made up 10.8% of the population.[11] In terms of ancestry, 13.7% were German, 12.5% were English, 9.3% were Irish, and 2.3% were American.[13]

Of the 35,658 households, 39.2% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 48.1% were married couples living together, 17.1% had a female householder with no husband present, 27.3% were non-families, and 23.0% of all households were made up of individuals. The average household size was 2.95 and the average family size was 3.50. The median age was 34.7 years.[11]

The median income for a household in the county was $39,774 and the median income for a family was $45,906. Males had a median income of $41,516 versus $28,969 for females. The per capita income for the county was $16,745. About 19.1% of families and 24.4% of the population were below the poverty line, including 32.6% of those under age 18 and 12.4% of those age 65 or over.[14]

2020 census of religion [edit]

Navajo County is among the most religiously diverse places in the United States. A 2020 census by the Public Religion Research Institute (unconnected to the official US census) calculates a religious diversity score of 0.876 for Navajo County, where 1 represents complete diversity (each religious group of equal size) and 0 a total lack of diversity. Only three other counties in the US have higher scores, all much more urban than Navajo County.[15]

Politics [edit]

Navajo County leans towards the Republican Party. Although its Native American population makes up nearly half of the county, a demographic that politically favors those of the Democratic Party, the county has a strong Latter-Day Saint presence (particularly in population centers such as Snowflake) that normally allows Republican candidates to carry the county by small margins. However, in the 2018 gubernatorial election, the county voted Republican over Democrat by a large margin (56–42%).

United States presidential election results for Navajo County, Arizona[16][17]
[show]

Education [edit]

School districts that serve the county include:[18]

- Blue Ridge Unified School District
- Cedar Unified School District
- Heber-Overgaard Unified School District
- Holbrook Unified School District
- Joseph City Unified School District
- Kayenta Unified School District
- Pilton Unified School District
- Show Low Unified School District
- Snowflake Unified School District
- Whiteriver Unified School District
- Winslow Unified School District

There is a tribal elementary school called Little Singer Community School, affiliated with the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE).[19] Hataalii Yazhi, a medicine man,[20] in the 1970s proposed establishing the school so area children did not have to travel far for their education.[21] The school was named after him. The original buildings used two geodesic domes as features.[20] In 2014 the school had 81 students. By 2014 the original campus was described by the Associated Press as being in poor repair.[21] In 2004 the school first asked the BIE to provide funding for a new building. The current campus had a total of $28 million and an area of 32,000 square feet (3,000 m²). It uses intersecting circles as an architectural feature.[20] The current building was dedicated in November 2020.[22] It is physically in an unincorporated area 6 miles (9.7 km) southeast of Birdsprings, and has a postal address of Winslow.[23]

Transportation [edit]

Major highways [edit]

- I-40 Interstate 40
- US-60 U.S. Route 60
- US-180 U.S. Route 180
- US-191 U.S. Route 191
- US-180 U.S. Route 180
- SR-73 State Route 73
- SR-77 State Route 77
- SR-87 State Route 87
- SR-98 State Route 98
- SR-99 State Route 99
- SR-260 State Route 260
- SR-264 State Route 264
- SR-277 State Route 277
- SR-377 State Route 377

Airports [edit]

The following public-use airports are located within the county:[24]

- Cibecue Airport (Z86) – Cibecue
- Holbrook Municipal Airport (P14) – Holbrook
- Kayenta Airport (INW) – Kayenta
- Polacca Airport (P18) – Polacca
- Show Low Regional Airport (SOW) – Show Low
- Taylor Airport (TYL) – Taylor
- Whiteriver Airport (E24) – Whiteriver
- Winslow-Lindbergh Regional Airport (INW) – Winslow

Communities and other places [edit]

Cities [edit]

- Holbrook (county seat)
- Show Low
- Winslow

Towns [edit]

- Pinetop-Lakeside
- Snowflake
- Taylor

Ghost towns [edit]

- Brigham
- Obed
- Sunset
- Wilford
- Zenith

Census-designated places [edit]

- Chilchinbito
- Cibecue
- Clay Springs
- Dilkon
- East Fork
- First Mesa
- Fort Apache
- Greasewood
- Hard Rocks
- Heber-Overgaard
- Hondah
- Hotevilla-Bacavi
- Indian Wells
- Jeddito
- Joseph City
- Kayenta
- Kearns Canyon
- Kykotsmovi Village
- Lake of the Woods
- Linden
- Low Mountain
- McNary (mostly in Apache County)
- North Fork
- Oljato-Monument Valley
- Pinedale
- Pinetop-Country Club
- Pinon
- Rainbow City
- Seba Dalkai
- Second Mesa
- Seven Mile
- Shongopovi
- Shonto
- Shumway
- Sun Valley
- Tees Toh
- Turkey Creek
- Wagon Wheel
- White Mountain Lake
- Whitecone
- Whiteriver
- Winslow West (partially in Coconino County)
- Woodruff

Other communities [edit]

- Birdsprings
- Osaltu

Native American communities [edit]

- Fort Apache Indian Reservation
- Hopi Reservation
- Navajo Nation

Other places [edit]

- Alchesay Flat, a named flat approximately 7 mi (11 km) north of Whiteriver along Arizona State Route 73.

County population ranking [edit]

The population ranking of the following table is based on the 2010 census of Navajo County.[25][26]

† county seat

Rank ♦	City/Town/etc. ♦	Population (2010 Census) ♦	Municipal type ♦	Incorporated ♦
1	**Show Low**	10,660	City	1953
2	**Winslow**	9,655	City	1900
3	**Snowflake**	5,590	Town	1953 (founded 1878)
4	**Kayenta**	5,189	CDP	
5	† **Holbrook**	5,053	City	1917
6	**Pinetop-Lakeside**	4,282	Town	1984
7	**Taylor**	4,112	Town	1966
8	**Whiteriver**	4,104	CDP	
9	**Lake of the Woods**	4,094	CDP	
10	**Heber-Overgaard**	2,822	CDP	
11	**Linden**	2,587	CDP	
12	**White Mountain Lake**	2,205	CDP	
13	**Pinetop Country Club**	1,794	CDP	
14	**Cibecue**	1,730	CDP	
15	**Wagon Wheel**	1,652	CDP	
16	**First Mesa**	1,555	CDP	
17	**North Fork**	1,417	CDP	
18	**Joseph City**	1,386	CDP	
19	**Dilkon**	1,184	CDP	
20	**Rainbow City**	968	CDP	
21	**Second Mesa**	962	CDP	
22	**Hotevilla-Bacavi**	957	CDP	
23	**Pinon**	904	CDP	
24	**Shongopovi**	831	CDP	
25	**Whitecone**	817	CDP	
26	**Hondah**	812	CDP	
27	**Low Mountain**	757	CDP	
28	**Kykotsmovi Village**	746	CDP	
29	**Seven Mile**	707	CDP	
30	**East Fork**	699	CDP	
31	**Shonto**	591	CDP	
32	**Greasewood**	547	CDP	
33	**McNary** (mostly in Apache County)	528	CDP	
34	**Chilchinbito**	506	CDP	
35	**Pinedale**	487	CDP	
36	**Tees Toh**	448	CDP	
37	**Winslow West** (partially in Coconino County)	438	CDP	
38	**Clay Springs**	401	CDP	
39	**Sun Valley**	316	CDP	
40	**Kearns Canyon**	304	CDP	
41	**Turkey Creek**	294	CDP	
42	**Jeddito**	293	CDP	
43	**Indian Wells**	255	CDP	
44	**Woodruff**	191	CDP	
45	**Oljato-Monument Valley**	154	CDP	
46	**Fort Apache**	143	CDP	
47	**Seba Dalkai**	136	CDP	
48	**Hard Rock**	94	CDP	

See also [edit]

- National Register of Historic Places listings in Navajo County, Arizona

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External links [edit]

- Official county homepage ⚲

Places adjacent to Navajo County, Arizona	[show]
Municipalities and communities of Navajo County, Arizona, United States	[show]
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Categories: Arizona counties | Navajo County, Arizona | Populated places established in 1895 | 1895 establishments in Arizona Territory

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