TECHNOLOGY

MESA, AZ

THE OPTIMAL LOCATION FOR TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES

"We chose Mesa due to it progressing as an up-and-coming technology region, reasonable energy prices, existing infrastructure, lack of natural disasters, and business-friendly opt-in processes which reduced timelines for go-live. The Mesa Office of Economic Development team was also a positive factor as they created a support system to make it easier to navigate an otherwise complicated endeavor for an international company."

— Louis Rossi, Director of Business Development for North America, Comarch

Mesa's Technology Cluster

The City of Mesa has a longstanding history of encouraging the creation and growth of technology-focused companies across numerous industry sectors such as healthcare and biosciences, aerospace and defense, electric and autonomous vehicles, battery technologies, software, datacenters, semiconductors, and so much more. Mesa is host to large operations for some of the world's top technology companies.

- Apple
- Meta
- Google
- Waymo
- Amazon
- AT&T
- Boeing
- Daicel
- Santander

- Virgin Galactic
- Textron
- Gulfstream
- Amphenol
- Cognizant
- First Solar
- Benchmark Electronics
- Infineon
- JX Nippon

- FUJIFILM
- Mitsubishi Chemical
- Hyundai
- Bridgestone
- Northrop Grumman
- Dexcom
- NTT
- Merz
- ZF

//////////// Arizona ////////////

Top 4
largest technology & innovation manufacturing employment
Lightcast, 2023[i]

Top 4
largest semiconductor and other electronic component manufacturing employment
Lightcast, 2023[ii]

➤ Top: Exro Technologies, a leading clean-tech developer and manufacturer of a new class of power electronics for electric motors and batteries, moved its headquarters and production facility to Mesa in 2021.

Middle: FUJIFILM Electronic Materials manufacturing facility is located in Mesa.

Bottom: Auer Precision provides design and manufacturing services for diverse industries, from semiconductors to medical diagnostics.

Workforce: Abundant, Skilled, Affordable

The Phoenix-Mesa metro labor pool is abundant, affordable, highly educated, and technically skilled. As a right-to-work state, Arizona has one of the lowest unionization rates in the nation. Compared to other metro markets, Mesa offers a compelling value proposition for wage rates and payroll costs for many different technology occupations.

> "Choosing to headquarter our office in Mesa allows OptimumHQ to attract talented employees where they live. We can do amazing work as a startup software company with employees who are not only highly skilled and productive, but who also enjoy a work-life balance with the amenities and family-friendly atmosphere that Mesa provides."
>
> — Simon Chatfield, CEO, OptimumHQ

	PHX-Mesa Metro	Austin Metro	Denver Metro	San Jose Metro	Seattle Metro
Laborforce (Age 16+)	2,148,651	1,105,924	1,497,029	1,087,575	1,968,690
Average Wage (of all metro employment in all industries)	$58,958	$60,366	$67,325	$87,235	$75,010
Engineers	$106,310	$112,276	$111,996	$117,857	$147,248
Software Developers and Programmers	$108,109	$106,608	$115,864	$143,262	$161,762
Computer Programmers	$80,787	$85,114	$105,477	$143,666	$119,766
Life Scientists	$86,362	$90,549	$65,707	$92,920	$120,174
Biological Scientists	$88,434	$61,178	$101,462	$90,366	$115,789
Unemployment Insurance (Cost/Employee)	$140	$243	$449	$238	$813

Source: Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC), Lightcast, 2022

Exceptional Talent Pipeline

The Phoenix-Mesa metro offers a skilled, diverse workforce that is continuously fueled by globally recognized universities and community colleges. These institutions prepare highly qualified graduates for in-demand disciplines within established and emerging industries.

Arizona State University, Maricopa Community Colleges, Grand Canyon University, Northern Arizona University, and the University of Arizona are among more than 40 universities and institutions of higher learning preparing talent for today's industries.

MESA: HOME TO 14 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Arizona State University Polytechnic Campus is a nexus for studies in integrative sciences and arts, engineering, management, technology, and education. Industry partnerships are key to the campus' distinctive course offerings, which provide opportunities for project-based learning within advanced laboratory spaces. Important technology assets include:

- **Innovation Zone**, adjacent to the Polytechnic campus, specializes in hands-on exploration of innovative solutions in aviation, renewable energy, human-technology integration, comprehensive commercial printing and design services, on-demand digital manufacturing, and better health outcomes. It is an ideal co-location opportunity for companies with a focus on interdisciplinary sciences, engineering, management, technology, and education.

- **Innovation Hub**, a 15,000-square-foot 3D printing research center, is the largest additive manufacturing facility in the southwestern U.S. Students have access to more than $2 million worth of plastic, polymer, and metal 3D printing technologies that support a wide range of research, material and process development, and educational training.

- **Arizona Center for Algae Technology and Innovation (AzCATI)** conducts research and development of algae technology to create energy, food, and other product innovations.

AT Still University's Mesa campus offers healthcare education programs, including Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO), Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD), and Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences (MSBS).

Mesa Community College, the largest of the 10 community colleges in the Maricopa County Community College District, offers 300 degrees and certificates along with their Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that equip students with the knowledge and skills for today's jobs.

Chandler-Gilbert Community College offers higher education at four locations in the Southeast Valley, including Mesa's Williams Campus that specializes in Aviation and Applied Technology.

Benedictine University Mesa offers undergraduate and graduate programs in various fields, including business administration, education, health sciences, and psychology, among others.

East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT) provides various career and technical education programs for high school students and adults, including fields such as healthcare, automotive, culinary arts, welding, and computer programming.

Arizona Advanced Manufacturing Institute (AzAMI) provides industry certifications; stackable credentials that are competency based with degree and certificate programs; flexible models of delivery; and portable labs for on-site training.

> "We continue to grow in Mesa because of the access to a great talent pool and the close proximity to key customers both in Arizona and on the West Coast. We wanted to scale this building to be the headquarters of the West to grow our business and support our customers."
>
> – Bill Callahan, General Manager, Times Microwave Systems (Amphenol)

LARGE EDUCATION PIPELINE

	Arizona State University	University of Colorado Boulder	University of Texas Austin	University of California Berkeley	University of Washington Seattle
Total Enrollment (2022)	77,881 (excludes online programs)	36,430	52,384	45,307	49,552

Enrollment Sources: Individual school websites for Fall 2022 asu.edu, cu.edu, utexas.edu, berkeley.edu, washington.edu.

THE NATION'S LARGEST ENGINEERING PIPELINE

For the eighth straight year, Arizona State University has been ranked No. 1 on the "Most Innovative Schools" list by U.S. News & World Report. In addition, The Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering at Arizona State University consistently ranks very high in engineering and engineering technology programs.

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY [iii]	ENGINEERING [iv]
No. 1 for total engineering technology enrollment	**No. 2** for undergraduate enrollment
No. 2 in the nation for awarding the highest number of engineering technology degrees	**No. 2** for graduate enrollment

Engineering Enrollment 2022	Undergraduate	Graduate	Total
ASU, All Campuses (Mesa, Tempe, Online)	21,369	7,464	30,296

Sources: engineering.asu.edu/enrollment/, 2022

➤ Facing Page: Arizona State University's Polytechnic Campus is located in Mesa adjacent to Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport.

Top: Apple, Meta, Google, Comarch, NTT, EdgeCore, and others have data center campuses in Mesa's Elliot Road Technology Corridor®.

Bottom: Times Microwave Systems manufactures high-tech components for the aerospace and defense industries in Mesa.

Competitive Operating Costs

The Phoenix-Mesa metro area compares well to competitive technology markets.

Project assumptions: based on the creation of 150 jobs, 50,000 sq. ft. of space, and $5,000,000 in capital investment.

	PHX-Mesa Metro	Austin Metro	Denver Metro	San Jose Metro	Seattle Metro
Employee Annual Payroll	$4,484,365	$4,832,236	$5,458,519	$7,266,378	$6,038,270
Annual Fringe & Mandated Benefits	$1,083,080	$1,209,389	$1,270,847	$1,524,975	$1,353,653
Utilities (electric, water, wastewater)	$59,796	$79,413	$44,451	$93,246	$98,088
Building/Lease Payments	$250,900	$355,875	$297,050	$565,500	$345,800
Property Tax	$2,465	$108,834	$115,013	$60,500	$47,477
Total Annual Operating Cost	$5,880,606	$6,585,747	$7,185,880	$9,510,599	$7,883,288
Local Index	100%	112%	122%	164%	134%

Source: GPEC, Applied Economic MetroComp Tool, 2022

AZLabs provides the highest security standards for hosting sensitive research projects.

Areas of Opportunity

LaunchPoint, Mesa's Technology Incubator provides flexible space, business development assistance, networking, and training opportunities for entrepreneurs and small companies to launch and scale their businesses.

Arizona Laboratories for Security and Defense Research® (AZLabs) is a city-owned, full-service research facility engineered to the highest security standards and well-suited for hosting sensitive research projects.

The Elliot Road Technology Corridor® (ERTC) provides shovel-ready sites with robust infrastructure and a streamlined entitlement process with a Planned Area Development Overlay Zone that reduces entitlement risk and expedites the development process.

Pecos Road Employment Opportunity Floating Zone, located in southeast Mesa, is an opt-in zoning designation that caters to advanced manufacturing uses, reduces entitlement risk, and greatly expedites the development process.

For additional available properties, visit www.selectmesa.com/available-properties.

The Arizona Center for Algae Technology and Innovation (AzCATI) conducts research to harness algae technology to produce renewable energy, food, feed, and other valuable products.

Empowered to Help Build Your Business

The City of Mesa Office of Economic Development works closely with clients throughout all phases of the development process and looks forward to helping you build and grow your company in Mesa.

SOURCES

[i] https://www.azcommerce.com/industries/technology-innovation/, 2023
[ii] Ibid
[iii] American Society for Engineering Education, 2023
[iv] Ibid

STAY CONNECTED WITH US:

in Mesa-Economic-Development

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