

OPPORTUNITY YOUTH PROFILES

Avondale

Avondale, a growing community of 83,000, is located west of Phoenix. The city includes six school districts with a combined total of 14 elementary schools and three high schools. All six of these districts have schools in one or more neighboring city.

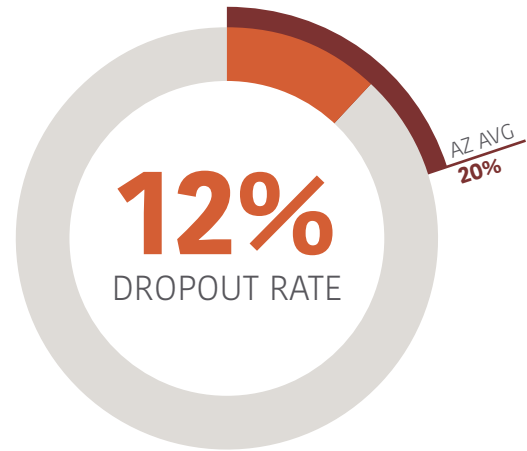
In 2009, Avondale became the first Kids at Hope City in the nation when the city council adopted this innovative concept and community wide philosophy, demonstrating a commitment to supporting the success of all children.

Avondale held Education Summits in 2013 and 2014, which brought together educators, community leaders and other stakeholders to discuss and develop education-focused initiatives. From these summits, programs that focused on early childhood education were created and have since flourished.

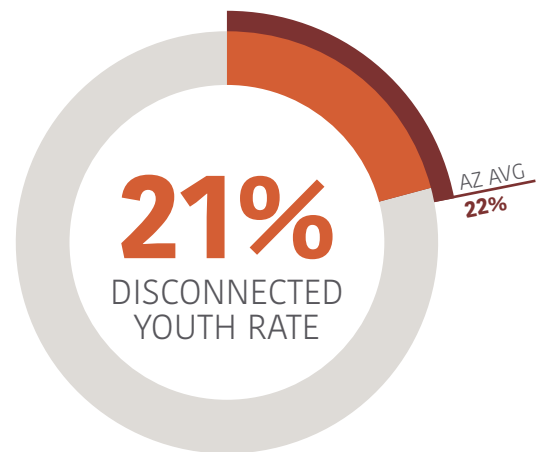
Several city departments have programs that are geared to providing early learning opportunities that ensure that Avondale children enter school ready to learn. Programs such as the Born Learning Trails, found in various locations throughout the city, the annual Kid Fest literacy fair, and the Read On Avondale program all serve as examples of a city committed to ensuring the educational success of all its youth.

Through the AmeriCorps VISTA program, the city is working closely with one of its districts to enhance its Avondale Education and Community Engagement Initiative by assisting with the delivery of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) activities geared toward improving academic performance in the areas of literacy and mathematics.

Understanding that the educational success of all children will lead to a highly educated and capable workforce that will in turn result in a strong and stable economy in the future, Avondale has focused its efforts toward that end.



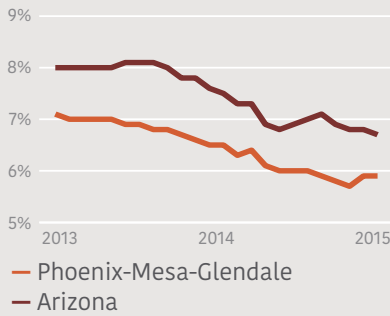
250 dropouts per year
\$110 million lifetime economic loss



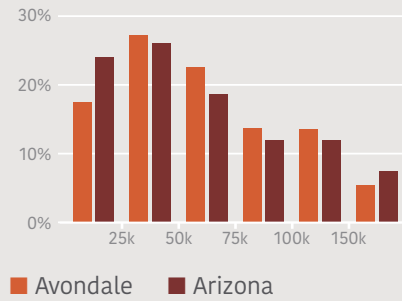
250 disconnected youth
\$1.5 billion lifetime economic loss

ECONOMIC LOSS BY RACE/ETHNICITY	White		Black		Hispanic	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Lifetime loss per dropout	\$438,100	\$384,700	\$277,700	\$163,300	\$468,100	\$350,100
Lifetime loss per disconnected youth	\$812,600	\$667,900	\$901,100	\$775,100	\$698,300	\$641,600

Unemployment Rate



Household Income

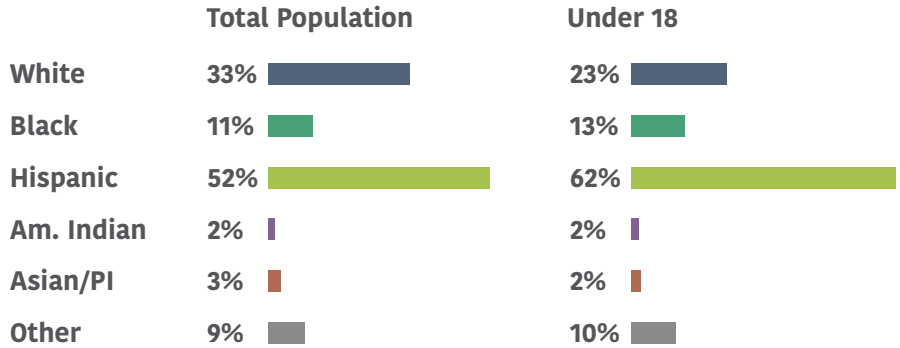


ECONOMIC INDICATORS

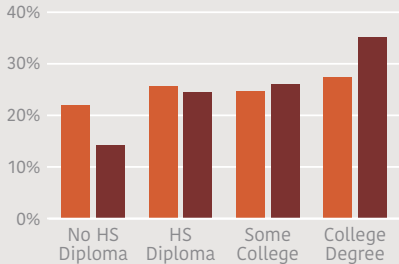
Education and the economy are closely intertwined subjects. In order to address educational challenges it is necessary to understand the economic context within which students, families and schools operate, while a well-educated population enjoys higher employment and incomes.

DEMOGRAPHICS

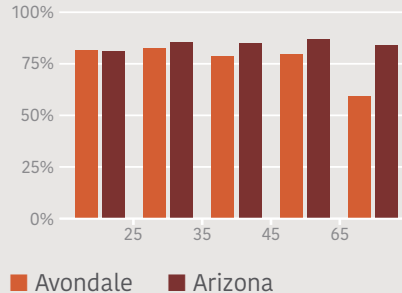
All across Arizona the demographic picture is changing rapidly. Comparing the racial/ethnic composition of the youth population with that of the city as a whole illustrates the pattern of these demographic shifts and the growth of the Hispanic population in particular.



Education Attainment



HS Completion by Age



EDUCATION RATES

Cities included in the profiles have a large amount of variation in the rates of education for their adult population. Educational outcomes for students are strongly associated with the education levels of their families and, to an extent, their communities.

AIMS READING PROFICIENCY BY RACE/ETHNICITY

All		White		Black		Hispanic	
3 rd grade	8 th grade	3 rd grade	8 th grade	3 rd grade	8 th grade	3 rd grade	8 th grade
65%	67%	77%	80%	57%	58%	60%	65%

The Arizona Mayors Education Roundtable brings together mayors across the state to share data, promising practices and strategies to boost students' educational and career success. azmayors.org



Sources: Arizona Department of Administration Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Seasonally Adjusted Tables, Updated January 22, 2015; US Census Bureau 2009-13 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Arizona Department of Education Report Cards, azreportcards.com