

Source: Arizona Republic Sunday, April 4, 2010

Valley cities' taxes and fees

A few dollars here and there add up when it comes to municipal taxes and fees. Families with identical incomes and home values who spend about \$35,000 a year on taxable goods and services would save an estimated \$776 if they live and shop in Gilbert instead of Avondale, for example. » See *the Republic's* Review of city taxes and the differences between cities at news.azcentral.com.

Municipality	City property-tax rate*	Sales tax (city rate and combined city, county and state rate)	Garbage (monthly and annually)	Water (monthly and annually)*	Sewer (monthly and annually) +	Total estimated annual city taxes and fees for average household**	Approximate staffing per 1,000 residents
Gilbert	\$1.15 (\$233.80)	1.5% (7.8%)	\$17.30 (\$207.60)	\$31.13 (\$373.56)	\$24.93 (\$299.16)	\$1,645.65	5.5
Chandler	\$1.18 (\$232.82)	1.5% (7.8%)	\$15.07 (\$180.84)	\$32.56 (\$390.72)	\$19.97 (\$239.64)	\$1,650.08	6.5
Tempe	\$1.40 (\$273.67)	1.8% (8.1%)	\$19.98 (\$239.76)	\$30.29 (\$363.48)	\$23.68 (\$284.16)	\$1,798.91	10.7
Mesa	\$0.30 (\$60.52)	1.75% (8.05%)	\$23.88 (\$286.56)	\$52.48 (\$629.76)	\$30.19 (\$362.23)	\$1,861.55	8
Scottsdale	\$0.74 (\$142.93)	1.65% (7.95%)	\$15.89 (\$188.28)	\$51.81 (\$621.72)	\$39.11 (\$469.32)	\$2,006.94	10.1
Surprise	\$0.57 (\$79.85)	2.2% (8.5%)	\$16.63 (\$199.56)	\$51.14 (\$613.68)	\$24.78 (\$297.36)	\$2,040.61	6.6
Peoria	\$1.44 (\$288.50)	1.8% (8.1%)	\$15.06 (\$180.72)	\$40.87 (\$598.44)	\$24.56 (\$294.72)	\$2,091.91	7.3
Phoenix	\$1.82 (\$352.87)	2% (8.3%)	\$26.85 (\$322.20)	\$40.96 (\$491.52)	\$31.53 (\$378.36)	\$2,208.40	10.2
Glendale	\$1.60 (\$319.25)	2.2% (8.5%)	\$16.30 (\$195.60)	\$40.94 (\$49,1.28)	\$37.79 (\$453.48)	\$2,309.77	8.7
Avondale	\$1.11 (\$283.07)	2.5% (8.8%)	\$19.00 (\$228)	\$42.05 (\$504.60)	\$44.29 (\$531.48)	\$2,422.15	8.6

*Combined annual municipal primary and secondary taxes per \$100 assessed valuation for a \$250,000 home. Primary and secondary taxes are calculated differently. Mesa has secondary tax only. Surprise has primary tax only. ** Includes garbage, water and sewer fees, property taxes on a \$250,000 home and sales tax on \$35,000. +Based on 15,000 gallons monthly usage. Source: Cities

Observations:

- 1) Incorporation is expensive, close to \$2,000.00/year/household forever
- 2) Cities have sizable property taxes and sales taxes
- 3) BCCWID's average water costs are on the low end of the above amounts shown for 10 valley cities
- 4) BCCWID does not use property taxes or any other taxes and has no debt.