

Turkey and Arizona: A Job-Creating Economic Partnership



Arizona imports more from Turkey than from any other MENA country besides Israel.

In 2018, Arizona imported almost \$68 million worth of goods and services from Turkey.

Arizona is home to more than 3,000 Turkish Americans, many of whom are small business owners. Most live in Phoenix and Tucson.

Turkey is the fourth biggest importer from Arizona in the MENA region.

In 2018, Turkey imported \$184 million worth of goods and services from Arizona.

A number of Arizona companies, particularly in the technology and electronics sectors, have strong ties to Turkey.



To the right are the locations of seven companies in Arizona that have strong ties to Turkey.

These include:


- Turkish companies with operations or investments in the state.
- Arizona companies that have major activities and investments in Turkey.
- Small business owned and run by Turkish-Americans living in Arizona.



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Arizona has benefited greatly from its strong ties to Turkey, with Turkish and Turkish-American businesses bringing numerous jobs and millions of dollars in investments to the people of Arizona.




Godiva: Tucson & Chandler

- One of the world's most famous chocolatiers, Godiva was acquired by Yildiz Holding, a Turkish conglomerate, in 2007.
- Godiva has stores in Tucson and Chandler, with around 5 employees in each store.



Taronis Technologies: Peoria


- Taronis Technologies is a renewable fuel producer founded in 2018. In January 2020, the Turkish government invested \$20 million into the company as part of a joint venture in Turkey, where Taronis has a number of contracts.
- In Arizona, Taronis has recently acquired a 65,000 square foot manufacturing facility in Peoria, where it will produce over one hundred Venturi plasma arc gasification units annually. The fuel will then be exported to Turkey.



Turkish Mediterranean Cuisine: Chandler


- Owned and run by a local Turkish-American family, this Turkish restaurant has received highly positive reviews from publications in both Arizona and Turkey.
- The restaurant is popular among the local Turkish community and also provides catering services.

Similarly, companies in Arizona have played a major role in Turkey's growing prosperity.




Avnet: Phoenix

- Founded in 1921, Avnet is a distributor of electronics components based in Phoenix. The company has around 15,500 employees and had a net income of \$176.3 million last year.
- In Turkey, Avnet has an office in Istanbul and is one of the largest IT distributors in the country.




TPI Composites: Scottsdale

- Based in Scottsdale, TPI Composites is the largest U.S.-based independent manufacturer of composite wind blades.
- In Turkey, TPI has 3,300 employees working at its two advanced wind blade plants, both of which are located in Izmir.
- In addition to manufacturing, both plants are also involved in the company's engineering and research & development operations. The plants supply multiple customers in the European, Middle Eastern and African markets.



Microchip Technology: Chandler

- Microchip Technology is a manufacturer of microcontroller, mixed-signal, analog and Flash-IP integrated circuits.
- The company has more than 18,000 employees and had a revenue of \$5.35 billion in 2019.
- In Turkey, the company has many close partnerships, including three representatives and ten different distributors.



First Solar: Tempe

- Based in Tempe, First Solar is a manufacturer of solar panels with 6,400 employees. In 2009, the company became the first solar panel manufacturer to lower its manufacturing cost to \$1 per watt.
- In Turkey, First Solar has had a number of contracts, an office in Istanbul, and has an ongoing joint venture with Zorlu Enerji to build a factory that will reach 10,000 megawatts of panel production per year.
- First Solar is one of the only firms of its kind in the world which does not rely on crystalline-silicon technology, which is dominated by manufacturers in China. The company has also been a proud advocate for human rights in Xinjiang.

Arizona: Home to a Turkish-American Success Story



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