



ARIZONA BUILDING PERMITS

HOW PERMITTING DELAYS ADD WEEKS TO HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

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CSI analyzed 2.8 million building permit records across 29 jurisdictions, covering nearly three-quarters of Arizona's population, to understand how permitting affects residential project timelines.



106

Permitting
Jurisdictions



2.8M

Permit Records
reviewed



29

Jurisdictions
studied

 **23** Obtaining a permit adds
DAYS
on average to project time.

PERMIT APPROVAL TIME BY JURISDICTION

5 DAYS Fastest 25%

16+ DAYS

Slowest 25%

 **4X** Each extra permit day
adds ~4 days project time.

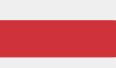
SELF-CERTIFICATION IMPACT

13%
saved

40 DAYS

Average reduction in project time
Phoenix approval: months reduced
to just 24 hours

PROJECT COMPLETION RANGE

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<40 days 73 avg 107+ days

Permit requirements vary statewide **Nearly 50% of Arizonans**

don't require a permit for some HVAC, roof, or water heater replacements, depending on where they happen to live

 **Permit fees range from
\$200 to \$600+**
depending on jurisdiction

 **In Pima County, times
TRIPLED IN 20 YEARS**
for permits & project completion

 **10% faster approvals=**
6% SHORTER PROJECTS
efficiency gains compound

Bottom Line: Permitting delays are not inevitable. Jurisdictions that streamline approval processes consistently reduce project timelines without changing safety standards, lowering costs and improving outcomes for homeowners.

Read the report:

<https://www.commonsenseinstituteus.org/arizona/>