



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



Obtaining a permit adds
23 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.

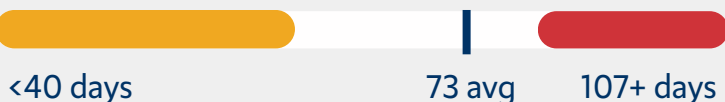
SELF-CERTIFICATION IMPACT

13%
saved

40 DAYS

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

PROJECT COMPLETION RANGE



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/>