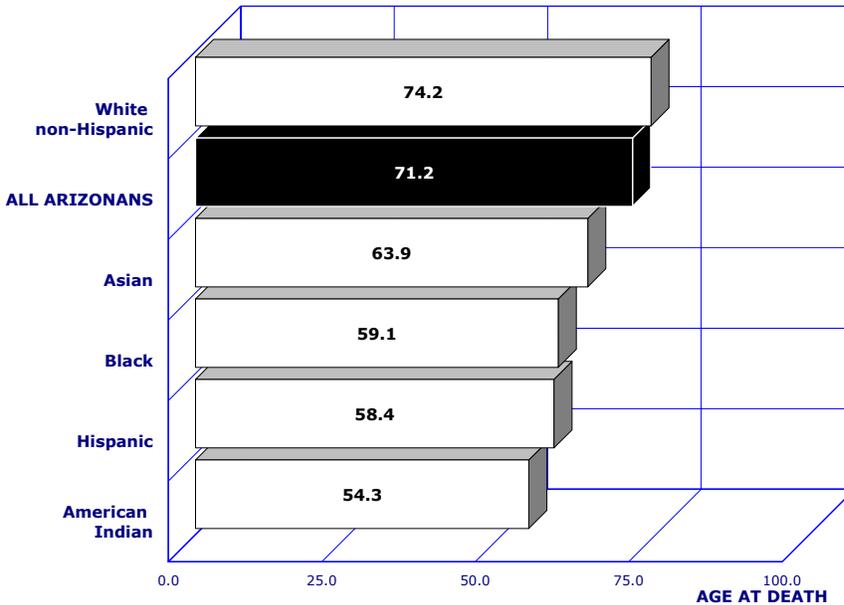


2D. PATTERNS OF PREMATURE MORTALITY

Figure 2D-1
Average Age At Death by Race/Ethnicity,
Arizona, 2001

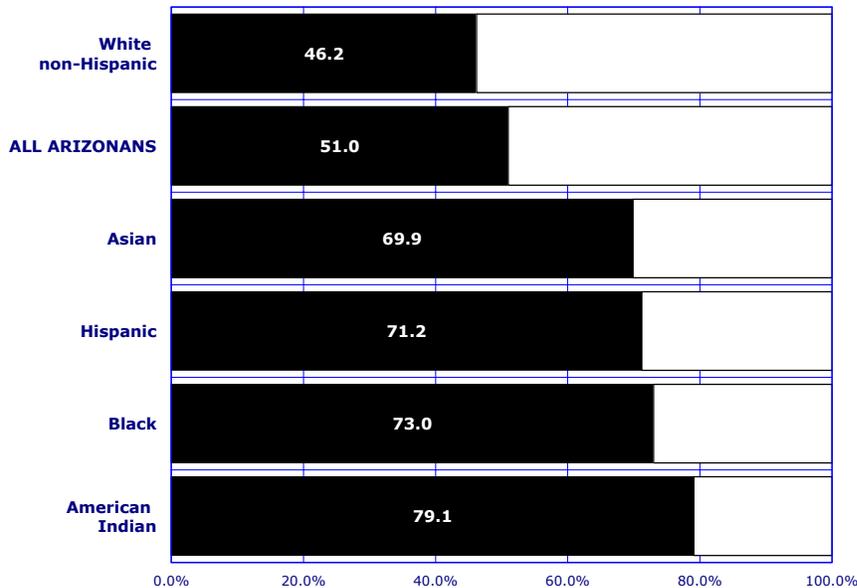


The average age of Arizonans who died in 2001 was 71.2 years, with males below the mean at 67.9 years and females above the mean at 75.0 years (**Table 2D-1**).

Neither the average age at death nor its increase over time was demonstrated in the four ethnic minority groups. In contrast, White non-Hispanics, the largest ethnic group, had an average age at death exceeding the overall average.

White non-Hispanics during 2001 died at an average age that exceeded the average age of death of Asians by 10.3 years, Blacks by 15.1 years, Hispanics by 15.8 years and American Indians by 19.9 years (**Figure 2D-1, Table 2D-1**).

Figure 2D-2
Percent of Deaths Before Expected Years of Life
Reached* by Race/Ethnicity, Arizona, 2001

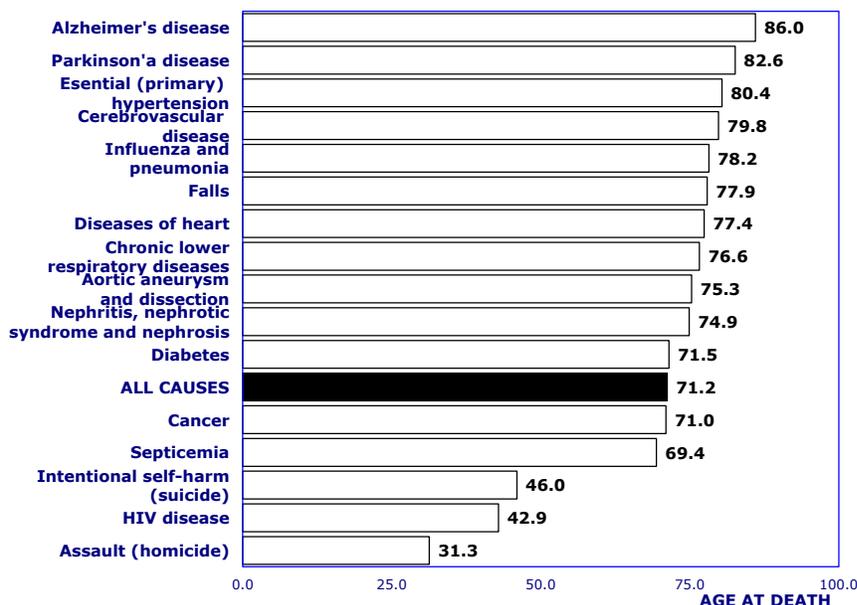


* Expected years of life at birth for all U.S. residents (76.9 years in 2000).

As expected, based on the findings for average age at death, White non-Hispanics were the only group with less than 50 percent of all deaths (47.3 percent) occurring before the expected years of life were reached (**Figure 2D-2**). The 2001 premature death ratio was 38.7 percent for White non-Hispanic females and 55.4 percent for White non-Hispanic males (**Table 2D-2**). In contrast, at least 70 percent of deaths among racial/ethnic minority groups occurred prematurely.

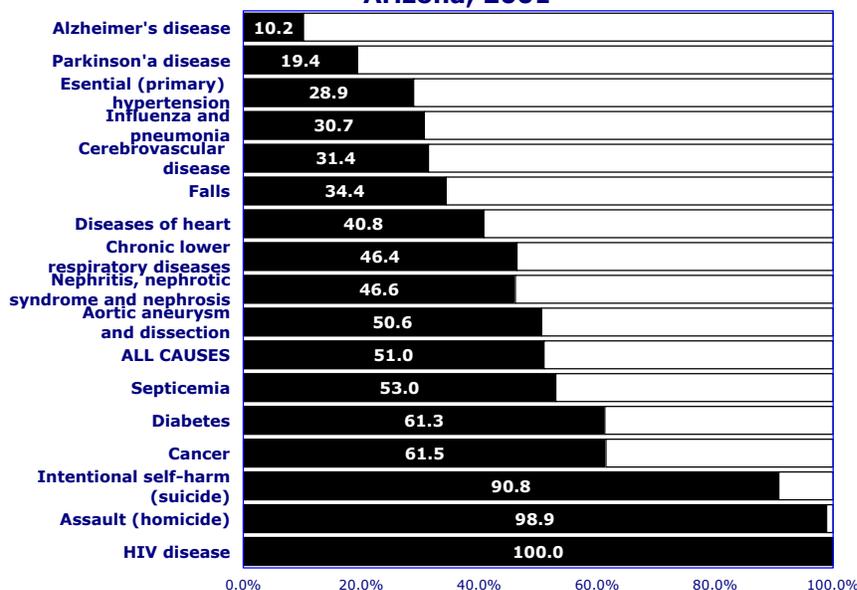
2D. PATTERNS OF PREMATURE MORTALITY

Figure 2D-3
Average Age At Death for Selected Leading Causes of Death, Arizona, 2001



In 2001, *Alzheimer's disease* had the highest average age at death of 86 years, exceeding by almost 15 years the average age at death for all causes (**Figure 2D-3, Table 2D-3**).

Figure 2D-4
Percent Deaths Before Expected Years of Life Reached* for Selected Leading Causes of Death, Arizona, 2001



Only 10.2 percent of deaths from *Alzheimer's disease* occurred before the age of 76.9 years, i.e., before the expected years of life were reached. In contrast, all deaths from *HIV disease* were premature (**Figure 2D-4, Table 2D-4**) and an average age at death from *HIV disease* was 42.9 years (**Figure 2D-3, Table 2D-3**). The average age at death was lower for *homicide*, which had an average age of 31.3 years and a premature death ratio of 98.9 percent.

* Expected years of life at birth for all U.S. residents (76.9 years in 2000).