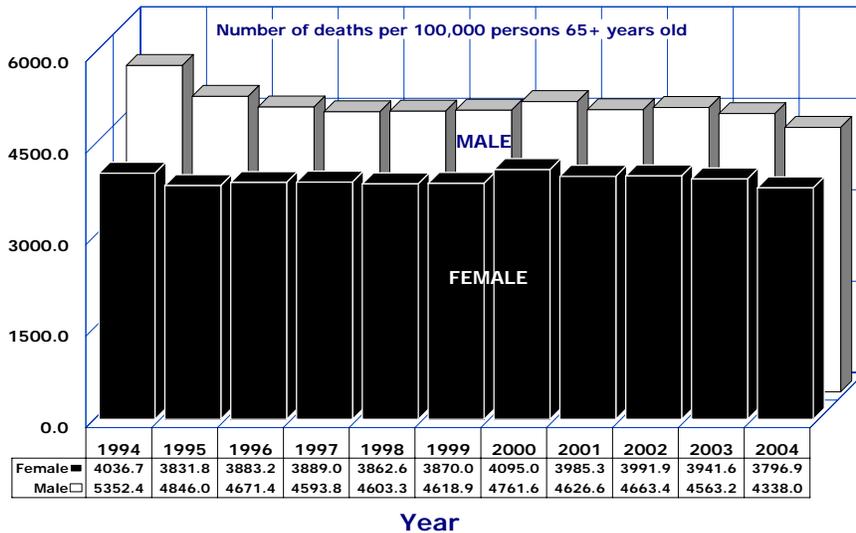


2C. AGE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY
Elderly mortality (ages 65 years and older)

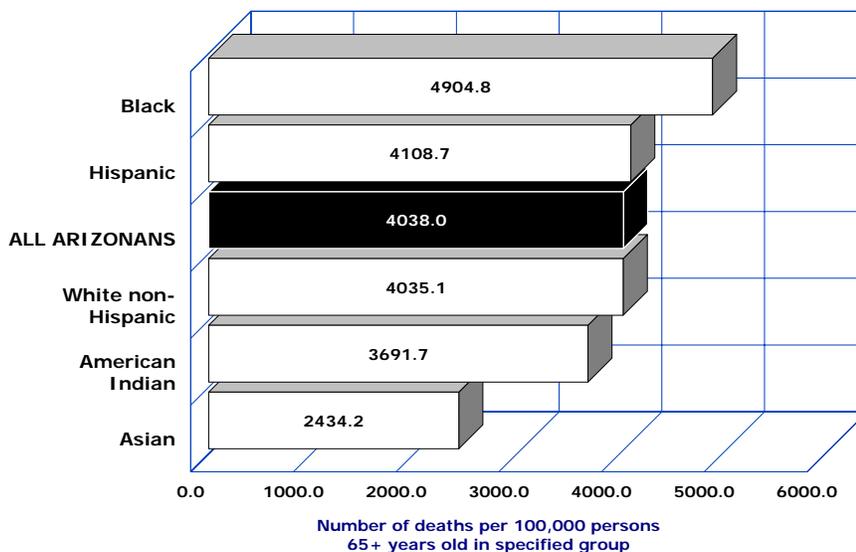
Figure 2C-21
Mortality Rates By Gender and Year Among Elderly 65 Years and Older, Arizona, 1994-2004



Arizona's elderly persons 65 years and over experienced a decrease in mortality between 2003 and 2004. The number of elderly deaths in 2004 (30,532) was lower than it was in 2003 (30,815; **Table 2C-24**). The 2004 elderly mortality rate of 4,038.0 per 100,000 was 12.1 percent lower than the 1994 rate of 4,596.1, and it was the lowest annual elderly mortality rate of the eleven years from 1994 to 2004.

Survival chances improved from 1994 to 2004 for both elderly males and females. The 2004 total mortality rate among elderly females was 5.9 percent lower than their rate in 1994. The mortality rate among elderly males decreased 19 percent from 1994 to 2004, 3.2 times more than the female rate (**Figure 2C-21, Table 2C-24**).

Figure 2C-22
Mortality Rates by Race/Ethnicity Among Elderly 65 Years and Older, Arizona, 2003



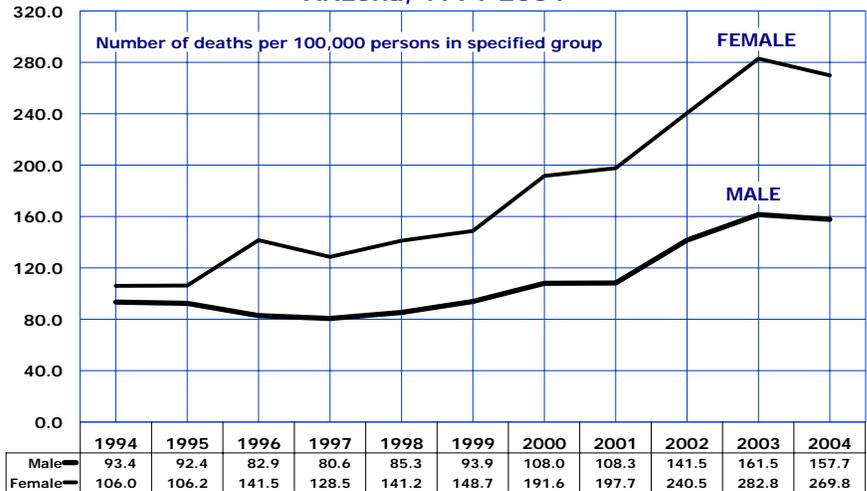
In 2004 the mortality rate for Arizona's Black elderly residents was 2 times that for the Asian elderly population. The mortality rate of 2434.2/100,000 among elderly Asians was the lowest rate among the racial/ethnic groups (**Figure 2C-22**). American Indian elderly had the second lowest mortality rate in 2004, 8.5 percent lower than the mortality rate of White non-Hispanic elderly Arizonans.

The 2004 mortality rates of Hispanic and White non-Hispanic elderly differed by a mere 1.8 percent.

2C. AGE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY
Elderly mortality (ages 65 years and older)

Figure 2C-23
Trends in Mortality Rates for Alzheimer's Disease by Gender
Among Elderly 65 Years and Older by Year,
Arizona, 1994-2004

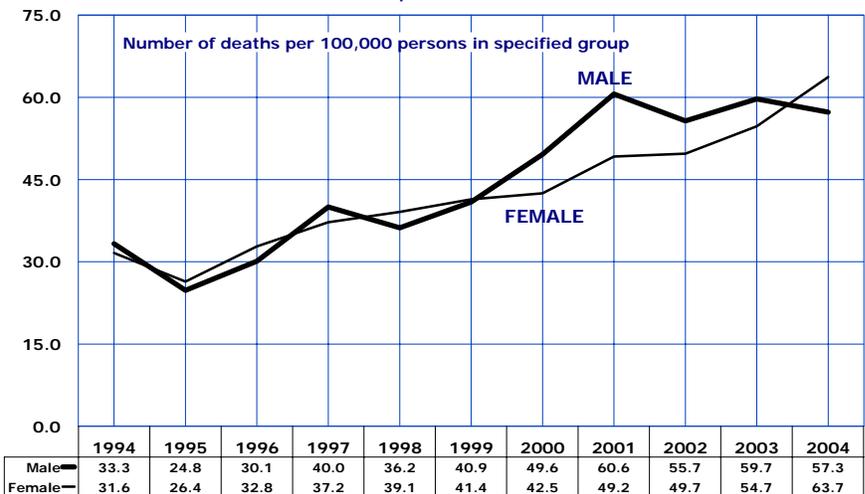
From 2003 to 2004, age-specific death rates for Alzheimer's disease decreased by 2.4 percent for elderly males and by 4.6 percent for elderly females (Figure 2C-23). Still, there were 1,135 deaths from Alzheimer's disease among elderly females in 2004, 2.2 times the number of deaths from this cause among males (Table 2C-27). In 1994, the Alzheimer's disease mortality risk of elderly females compared to males was 13.5 percent greater, while in 2004 the risk was 71.1 percent greater.



Note: the rates for 1994-1999 are based on the number of deaths according to ICD-9. The rates for 2000-2004 are based on the number of deaths according to ICD-10. For comparability, the rates for 1994-1999 are adjusted using the preliminary comparability ratio of 1.5536 from NCHS. Comparability ratio of 1.0 indicates that the same number of deaths was assigned to a cause of death whether ICD-9 or ICD-10 was used.

Figure 2C-24
Trends in Mortality Rates for Falls and Fall-Related Injuries
by Gender Among Elderly 65 Years and Older by Year,
Arizona, 1994-2004

Among unintentional injury deaths unrelated to motor vehicles, Arizona's elderly experienced a substantial increase in mortality from *fall-related injuries* (Figure 2C-24). In 2004, 460 elderly Arizona 65 years or older died from *fall-related injuries*, compared to 181 in 1995. The rate of *fall-related deaths* among elderly females exceeded by 11.2 percent the mortality rate for falls among elderly males.



Note: the rates for 1994-1999 are based on the number of deaths according to ICD-9. The rates for 2000 - 2004 are based on the number of deaths according to ICD-10. For comparability, the rates for 1994-1999 are adjusted using the preliminary comparability ratio of 0.8409 from NCHS. Comparability ratio of 1.0 indicates that the same number of deaths was assigned to a cause of death whether ICD-9 or ICD-10 was used.