## 2C.AGE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY Adolescent mortality (ages 15-19 years)

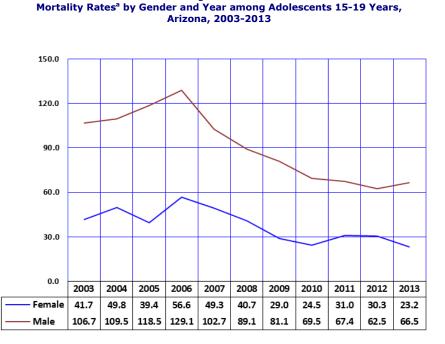


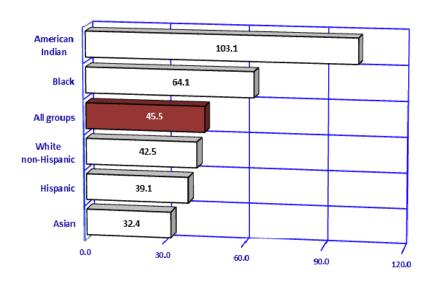
Figure 2C-9

Adolescence refers to individuals between the ages of 15 and 19, an important developmental period marking the transition from childhood to adulthood. In 2013, an estimated 470,793 adolescents resided in Arizona, comprising 7.2 percent of the State's population (**Table 10A-1**). The lives of 214 resident adolescents prematurely ended in 2013, resulting in a total mortality rate of 45.5 deaths per 100,000 adolescents. This mortality rate was 39.7 percent lower than the 2003 rate (Table 2C-11).

The likelihood of dying was 2.9 times greater for adolescent boys than for adolescent girls in 2013 (**Figure 2C-9**, **Table 2C-11**).

Notes: <sup>a</sup> Number of deaths per 100,000 persons, 15 - 19 years old in specified group.





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The five causes with the greatest number of deaths over the 2003-2013 period were unintentional injuries in accidents, suicide, homicide malignant neoplasms, and symptoms, signs, and abnormal findings (**Table 2C-14**).

In 2013, adolescents who were Asian, Hispanic, or White non-Hispanic had greater survival chances than the state average for all adolescents, while American Indian and Black adolescents had lower survival chances than average (Figure 2C-10). If the 2013 mortality risk of Asian adolescents (i.e., their mortality rate) applied to all adolescents, only 153 would have died: 61 less than the 214 who actually did.

The number of deaths from accidental drug poisoning declined from 39 in 2009 and 25 in 2011 to 18 in 2012, but rose to 25 in 2013.

The number of suicides among Arizonans age 15-19 years decreased 33.3 percent from 2012 (n = 48) to 2013 (n = 32; **Table 2C-14**). In 2013, as in prior years, male adolescents accounted for the absolute majority (81.3 percent) of completed suicides.

The adolescent suicide rate for males in 2013 was the lowest recorded since at least 1990 (Figure 2C-11, Table 2C-11). In 2013, the adolescent male suicide rate was 27.7 percent lower, and the adolescent female suicide rate was 36.6 percent lower, than in 2003, respectively. The male to female ratio in suicide mortality rates increased from 3.6:1 in 2003 to 4.1:1 in 2013. In other words, male adolescents were 4.1 times more likely to kill themselves in 2013 female adolescents, than compared to 3.6 times more likely in 2003.

From 2004 to 2006, homicide rates increased for both adolescent males and females (Figure 2C-12, Table 2C-11). From 2008 to 2012, the homicide rate decreased by 62.4 percent for adolescent males, and by 69.5 percent for adolescent females. The adolescent homicide mortality rate increased 41.8 percent for males from 2012 to 2013. The male mortality risk due to homicide was 6.6 times greater than the female mortality risk in 2013.

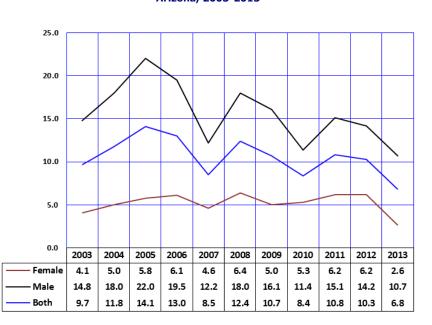
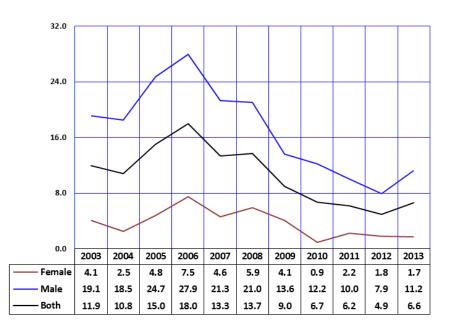


Figure 2C-11 Suicide Rates<sup>a</sup> by Gender and Year among Adolescents 15-19 Years, Arizona, 2003-2013

Notes: <sup>a</sup> Number of suicide deaths per 100,000 persons, 15 - 19 years old in specified group.

Figure 2C-12 Homicide Rates<sup>a</sup> by Gender and Year among Adolescents 15-19 Years, Arizona, 2003-2013



Notes: <sup>a</sup> Number of homicide deaths per 100,000 persons, 15 - 19 years old in specified group.