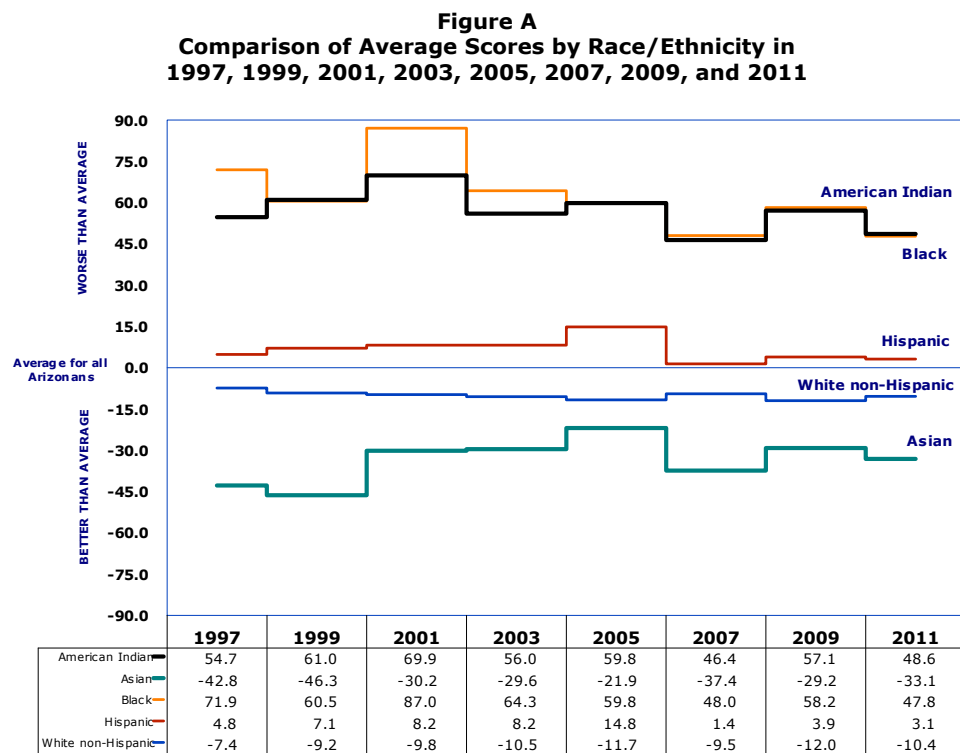


KEY FINDINGS

The overall inequity between the groups, as measured by the range of score values from the lowest (the most favorable standing among the groups, for 2011 Asian or Pacific Islander at -33.1) to the highest (the least favorable standing, for 2011 American Indians at 48.6), decreased from 87.4 in 2009 to 81.7 points in 2011 (**Figure A**). From 2009 to 2011, all racial/ethnic groups excluding White non-Hispanics experienced favorable change, meaning that the average score for Blacks, American Indians, Hispanics, and Asians decreased (**Figure A**). The shift in average score for White non-Hispanics was trivial.



In 2011, as in prior years, Arizona's Asian residents ranked highest among racial/ethnic groups in overall health status, followed by White non-Hispanics, Hispanics, American Indians, and Blacks (**Figure B**).

Figure B
Number of Times Each Group Ranked Better Than Average, Average, and Worse than Average on 70 Indicators, Arizona 2011

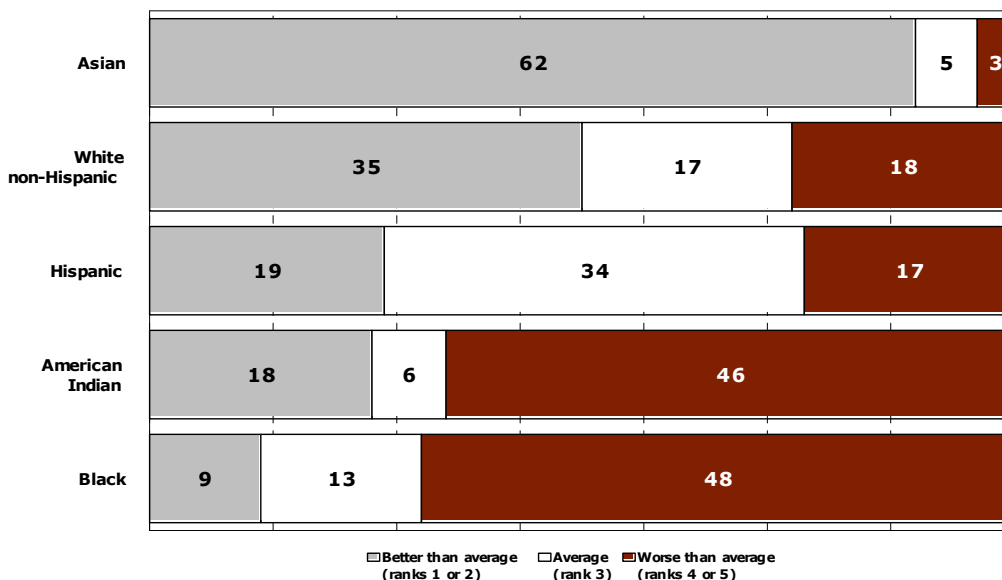
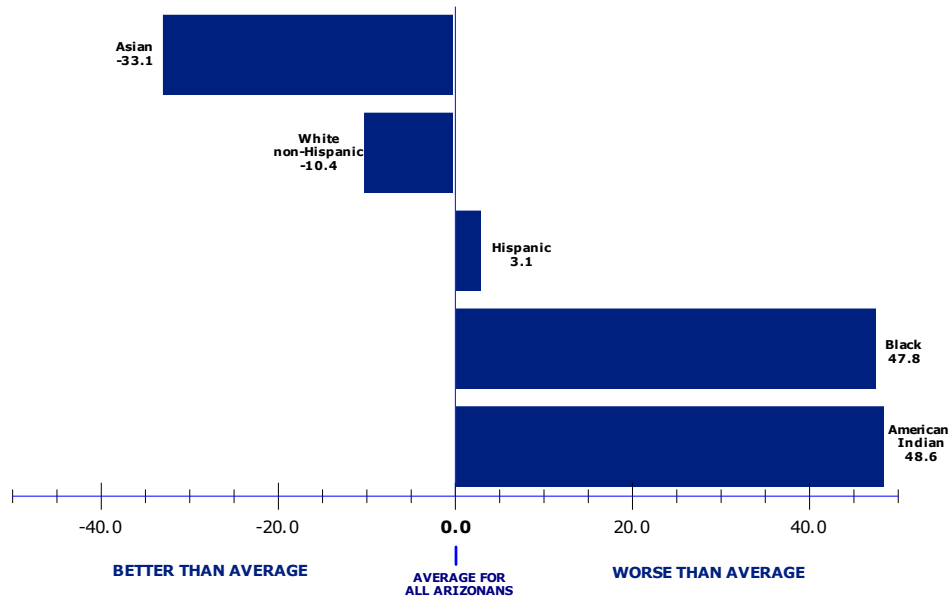


Figure C
Average Scores in 2011

(A score is the percent above or below the average for all Arizona residents.
 A negative score reflects better than average standing on an indicator.)



ASIANS or PACIFIC ISLANDERS

Average rank: 1.6*

Total score: -2,319.5

Average score: -33.1**

In 2011, Asian residents of Arizona ranked best or second best among all racial/ethnic groups on 60 of 70 indicators, including low incidence of drug or alcohol induced deaths, low postneonatal mortality, and low mortality from reportable diseases, chronic diseases, and injuries. The total mortality rate of 436.7 deaths per 100,000 Asian or Pacific Islander residents of the State was the lowest rate among all racial/ethnic groups. Asians’ median age at death was the second highest among the racial/ethnic groups in Arizona in 2011. The 2011 average score of -33.1 for Asian residents was slightly better than their average score of -29.2 in 2009 and indicates Asians’ health status remained stable in relation to the health of other racial/ethnic groups.

*The average rank based on all 70 measurements (the sum of the ranks divided by 70 measurements. Ranks range between 1 = the highest rank of health indicators and 5 = the lowest rank of health indicators).
 **The average score based on all 70 measurements (the sum of all scores divided by 70 measurements). See section SCORES IN 2011.

WHITE NON-HISPANICS

Average rank: 2.6

Total score: -727.5

Average score: -10.4

White non-Hispanics ranked second best in relative healthiness among racial/ethnic groups in Arizona. They ranked 1st or 2nd on 35 of 70 measures of health, including low teen pregnancy rates, high utilization of prenatal care, and low premature mortality. However, White non-Hispanics ranked worse than all other racial/ethnic groups in mortality due to chronic lower respiratory diseases, malignant neoplasms, injury by firearms, drug-induced deaths, and suicide. The White non-Hispanic overall score of -10.4 in 2011 was similar to their overall score of -12.0 in 2009. The total mortality rate of 741.5 deaths per 100,000 in 2011 was somewhat higher than the total mortality rate for Whites in recent years (2006 – 2010).

HISPANICS or LATINOS

Average rank: 3.1

Total score: 217.1

Average score: 3.1

In 2011 Hispanics achieved a 3rd place health ranking. The average score of Hispanics decreased from a recent peak of 14.8 in 2005 to 3.1 in 2011. Hispanics ranked best or second best on 19 indicators in 2011, a decrease from 25 indicators in 2009. They ranked worse than average with diabetes, high teen pregnancy rates, low utilization of prenatal care, and cervical cancer. They ranked better than average with low alcohol and tobacco use among women giving birth, low incidence of death due to chronic lower respiratory diseases, and a low suicide mortality rate. *Comparative Rates and Ratios for 2001-2011* provides a detailed picture of changes over time for all of the 70 measures.

AMERICAN INDIANS or ALASKA NATIVES

Average rank: 3.7

Total score: 3,404.3

Average score: 48.6

In 2011, American Indians in Arizona had the highest average score among all groups and second poorest rank of overall health status. They ranked 4th or 5th on 46 of the 70 health indicators (**Figure B**) and they exceeded the statewide averages by a wider margin than any other group except Blacks (**Figure C**). American Indians had relatively poor values on a number of health indicators including incidence of alcohol use during pregnancy, infant mortality, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis, diabetes, motor vehicle accidents, and mortality from unintentional injuries, contributing to a high premature death rate. American Indians also ranked poorly on measures of maternal lifestyle and health as well as in utilization of prenatal care. In 2011, compared to White non-Hispanics, American Indian residents of Arizona were on-average 19 years younger at time of death.

BLACKS or AFRICAN AMERICANS

Average rank: 4.0

Total score: 3,345.3

Average score: 47.8

Compared to the average score of 87.0 for Arizona Black or African American residents in 2001, their scores from 2003 - 2011 were substantially lower. Despite this improvement, Blacks or African Americans had the lowest rank of overall health status because they ranked 4th or 5th among the five racial/ethnic groups on 48 of 70 measures (see **Figure B**). High mortality among children and middle-aged adults, high ratios of low birthweight and preterm births, high incidence of many reportable diseases, high mortality rates for almost all of the leading causes of death, and a high rate of premature death all lowered the ranking for this population group. However, Blacks or African Americans ranked better than average with low mortality rates from influenza and pneumonia, fall-related injuries, and low rates of dysfunctional labor and diabetes during pregnancy.

COMPARATIVE CAUSE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY

In 2011, diseases of the heart were the leading cause of death for three of the five racial/ethnic groups in Arizona: American Indians, Blacks or African Americans, and Hispanics or Latinos (**Figure D**). Cancer was the number one cause among Asians or Pacific Islanders and White non-Hispanics. Unintentional injury was the third leading cause of death only for American Indians. For Asians, stroke was the 3rd leading cause of death in 2011. Diabetes was among the top five causes of death among Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, and American Indians. Alzheimer’s disease was the fifth leading cause of death among Asians, Blacks, and White non-Hispanics. Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis was the fifth leading cause of death specific to American Indians. Chronic lower respiratory diseases were the third leading cause of death specific to White non-Hispanics.

Figure D
Comparative Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for the Five Leading Causes of Death by Race/Ethnicity in Arizona in 2011

Rank	Asian or Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaska Native	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	White non-Hispanic
1	Cancer 116.6	Diseases of heart 111.1	Diseases of heart 174.0	Diseases of heart 137.4	Cancer 170.3
2	Diseases of heart 77.0	Cancer 100.8	Cancer 167.1	Cancer 136.3	Diseases of heart 164.3
3	Stroke 29.1	Unintentional injury 100.6	Diabetes 57.8	Diabetes 41.7	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 55.3
4	Diabetes 23.3	Diabetes 61.3	Stroke 56.5	Unintentional injury 38.9	Unintentional injury 46.9
5	Alzheimer's disease 21.0	Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis 43.6	Alzheimer's disease 54.7	Stroke 34.9	Alzheimer's disease 36.3

COMPARATIVE RATES AND RATIOS FOR 2001 and 2011

The 140 bar charts provide both a snapshot of differences between the racial/ethnic groups in Arizona in 2011, as well as a measure of change since 2001. More detailed comparisons over time are available in a special section of the report (**Comparative Rates and Ratios for 2001 – 2011**) that documents specific changes by year from 2001 through 2011 on the 70 health status measures by racial/ethnic group.

RISK PROFILES

Risk profiles presented on the following pages summarize how each racial/ethnic group compares to the State average for the entire set of measures of health status. These profiles use scores developed to describe the level of each of the 70 measures for each racial/ethnic group relative to the average level for all groups. The profiles visually describe the better-than-average and worse-than-average clusters of health status characteristics for each racial/ethnic group.