

PURPOSE

Differences in Health Status among Racial/Ethnic Groups, Arizona, 2021 is drawn upon information reported to the Department (see Source of Data on page 130). The report provides population-level data concerning differences in the health of five racial/ethnic groups residing in Arizona: White non-Hispanics, Hispanics or Latinos, Blacks or African-Americans, American Indians or Alaska Natives, and Asians or Pacific Islanders including Hawaiians.

The report compares the relative standing of racial/ethnic groups on 66 indicators (prior to the 2013 report there were 70 indicators) or measures of health status. Due to the implementation of the revised birth certificate, the 2021 report will reflect 66 indicators. The indicators are presented in a series of simple, self-explanatory bar charts and are organized around 9 major subject areas.

(1) TEEN PREGNANCIES, (2) MATERNAL LIFESTYLE AND HEALTH CHARACTERISTICS, (3) UTILIZATION OF PRENATAL CARE SERVICES, (4) NEWBORN'S HEALTH, (5) MORTALITY FROM NATURAL CAUSES (CHRONIC AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES), (6) MORTALITY FROM INJURIES, (7) AGE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY, (8) PATTERNS OF PREMATURE MORTALITY, and (9) INCIDENCE OF REPORTABLE DISEASES.

Each bar chart visually describes how the racial/ethnic group compares to other groups and the overall State level for each indicator. These graphic representations are found in ***Comparative Measures of Health Status by Race/Ethnicity in 2021*** while the tabulated values also are available in the ***Comparative Rates and Ratios for 2011-2021*** section of the report.

The report also provides comparative risk profiles, as well as scores and rankings of racial/ethnic groups on each of the 66 health status measures. The comparisons of rates and ratios, as well as scores and rankings, are intended to present the extent of the inequalities in health status among racial/ethnic groups in our state and to stimulate viable initiatives to improve the health of **all** Arizonans.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF ARIZONA'S RACIAL/ETHNIC DIVERSITY

The racial and ethnic composition of the population has important consequences for the state's health status because many measures of disease and disability differ significantly by race and ethnicity. Among the estimated 7,285,370 Arizona residents in 2021, approximately 4,004,058 (55.0 percent) were White non-Hispanic, 2,323,013 (31.9 percent) were Hispanic or Latino, Black or African Americans accounted for 376,013 or (5.2 percent), 292,068 (4.0 percent) were Asian or Pacific Islanders, and American Indian or Alaska Natives represented 4.0 percent 290,218 people, of the state's population. Historically, Asian and Pacific Islanders have had the smallest racial group among the racial/ethnic categories in Arizona. Current population projections by the Arizona State Demographer's Office (2022-2060) are showing a trend of an increase in the proportion of the state with people who identify as Asian and Pacific Islanders. The proportion of people who identify as American Indian and Alaska Native is not growing as fast and therefore has moved to the smallest racial/ethnic group within this report. By 2040, projections are showing that the Asian and Pacific Islander population will overtake the current third largest group in 2021, Black or African Americans.

Racial/ethnic minority groups have greater percentages of people younger than 25 years (41.4 percent) when compared with White non-Hispanics (23.6 percent). In contrast, people aged 65 years and older accounted for (26.7 percent) of White non-Hispanics, but only (8.5 percent) of all racial/ethnic minority groups combined. In 2021, among Arizonans less than 25 years old, (59.0 percent) more than half were a race/ethnicity other than White non-Hispanic. Among the Arizona's adults 65 years old or older, (79.3 percent) eight out of ten were White non-Hispanic (**Table A**).

Table A. POPULATION BY AGE GROUP AND RACE/ETHNICITY, ARIZONA, 2021

POPULATION BY AGE GROUP IN 2021	All groups	White non-Hispanic	Other than White non-Hispanic ^a				
			Total	Hispanic or Latino	Black or African American	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian or Pacific Islander
< 25 years	2,305,688	945,963	1,359,725	1,012,695	145,704	111,151	90,175
Percent	31.6%	23.6%	41.4%	43.6%	38.7%	38.3%	30.9%
25-64 years	3,631,882	1,988,630	1,643,252	1,132,824	195,036	147,933	167,459
Percent	49.9%	49.7%	50.1%	48.8%	51.9%	51.0%	57.3%
65+ years	1,347,800	1,069,465	278,335	177,494	35,273	31,134	34,434
Percent	18.5%	26.7%	8.5%	7.6%	9.4%	10.7%	11.8%
Total, all ages ^b	7,285,370	4,004,058	3,281,312	2,323,013	376,013	290,218	292,068
Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: ^a Includes groups other than Hispanic, Black, American Indian, and Asian; ^b Includes unknown age.

Mortality patterns by age group in Arizona show similar contrasts between race/ethnicity groups. In 2021, the elderly (65 years and older) comprised 78.6 percent of the total mortality among White non-Hispanics, compared to 69.1 percent among Asians, 55.5 percent among Hispanics, 50.7 percent among Blacks, and 39.7 percent among American Indians. Only 1.1 percent of White non-Hispanics who died in 2021 were less than 25 years old. In comparison, (5.0 percent) of individuals who were of a racial/ethnic group other than White non-Hispanic died before reaching 25 years of age.

Table B. MORTALITY BY AGE GROUP AND RACE/ETHNICITY, ARIZONA, 2021

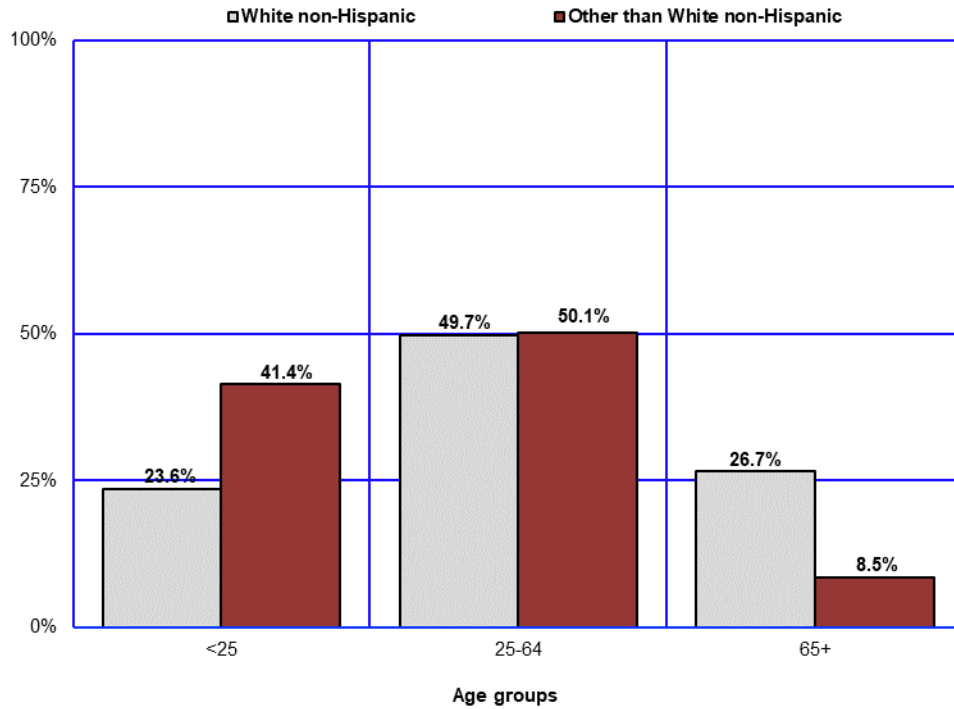
.MORTALITY BY AGE GROUP IN 2021	All groups	White non- Hispanic	Other than White non-Hispanic ^a				
			Total	Hispanic or Latino	Black or African American	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian or Pacific Islander
< 25 years	1,800	644	1,156	724	216	181	35
Percent	2.2%	1.1%	5.0%	5.3%	6.6%	4.1%	2.3%
25-64 years	21,490	11,769	9,721	5,414	1,406	2,459	442
Percent	26.4%	20.3%	42.3%	39.3%	42.7%	56.1%	28.6%
65+ years	57,699	45,574	12,125	7,647	1,672	1,740	1,066
Percent	70.8%	78.6%	52.7%	55.5%	50.7%	39.7%	69.1%
Total, all ages ^b	81,482	57,987	23,003	13,785	3,295	4,380	1,543
Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: ^a Includes groups other than Hispanic, Black, American Indian, and Asian; ^b Includes unknown age; Source: The 2021 death certificate file for Arizona residents.

In 2021, the absolute majority of deaths of American Indian (60.3 percent) and Black (49.2 percent) residents of Arizona occurred before the age of 65 years, compared to 21.4 percent among White non-Hispanics.

Graphic representations of the contrasting patterns in age-specific mortality and in the age composition of the population are provided below:

Percent distribution of population by age group and race/ethnicity, Arizona, 2021



Percent distribution of deaths by age group and race/ethnicity, Arizona, 2021

