

# ASSAULT (HOMICIDE), ARIZONA, 1993-2003

## KEY FINDINGS

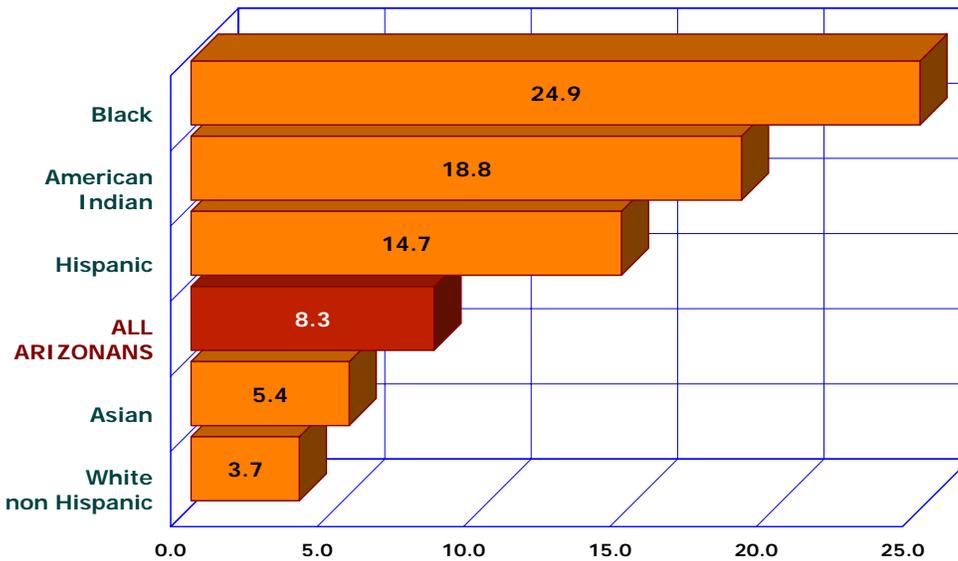
**Figure 4-1**  
Age-Adjusted \* Mortality Rates for Assault (Homicide)  
by Gender and Year, Arizona, 1993-2003



After reaching the decade's peak rate of 12.1 homicides per 100,000 population in 1995, the homicide rate has declined for the five consecutive years to a rate of 7.6/100,000 in 2000. (Figure 4-1). The homicide death rate increased for males but it declined for females both in 2001 and 2002. In contrast, in 2003, the homicide rate decreased for males and it increased for females.

\* Number of deaths per 100,000 population age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard.

**Figure 4-2**  
Age-Adjusted\* Mortality Rates for Assault (Homicide)  
by Race/Ethnic Group, Arizona, 2003



The 2000 homicide rates were substantially higher among Black, American Indian and Hispanic residents of the state compared to homicide rates among White non-Hispanics and Asians. Blacks were 6.7 times more likely, while American Indians 5.1 times and Hispanics 4 times more likely to die from assault than White non-Hispanics (Figure 4-2).

\*Number of deaths per 100,000 population age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard

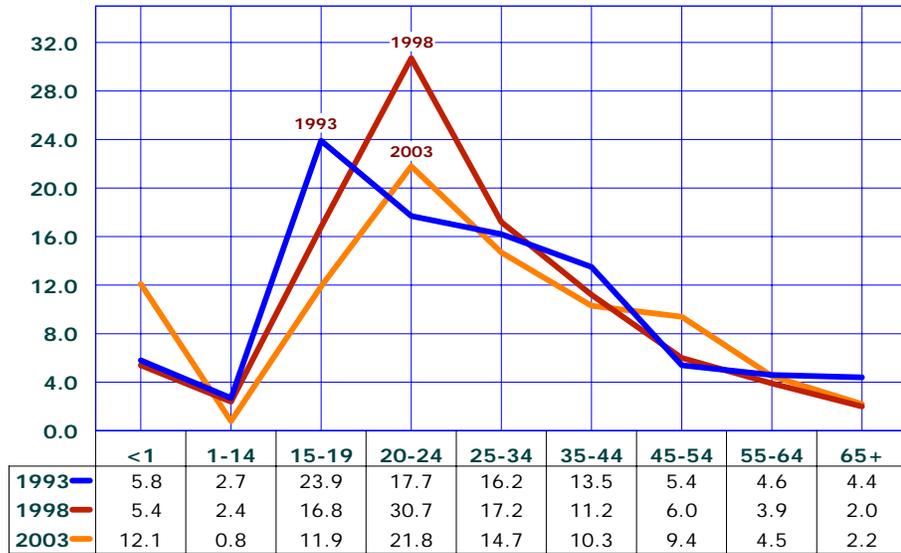
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In 1993, the homicide rate of 23.9/100,000 for adolescents 15-19 years old was the highest rate among the age groups (**Figure 4-3**). Both in 1998 and 2003, the highest age-specific homicide rates were those for young adults 20-24 years old.

The 2003 rate of 12.1 homicides per 100,000 infants was the highest homicide rate for this age since at least 1980. Eleven infants were murdered in 2003 compared to 3 babies less than one year of age assaulted in 2002.

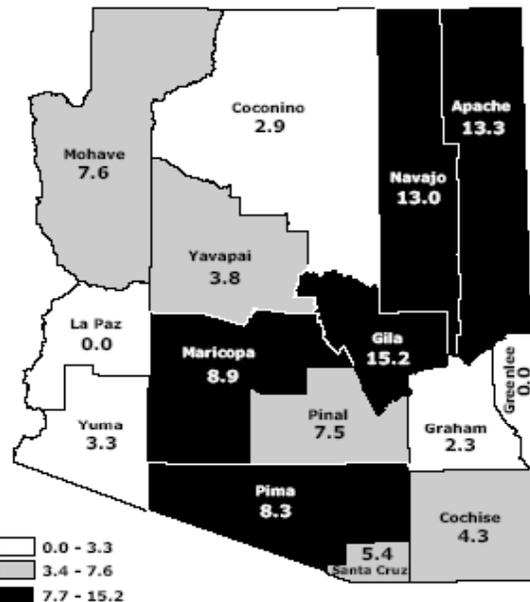
**Figure 4-3**  
Mortality Rates\* for Assault (Homicide) by Age Group for Selected Years, Arizona, 1993, 1998, and 2003



\*Number of homicide deaths per 100,000 population in specified group

**Figure 4-4**  
Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Assault (Homicide) By County of Residence, Arizona, 2003

The age-adjusted homicide mortality rates varied in Arizona in 2003 from zero (no fatalities) in La Paz and Greenlee counties to 13.3/100,000 in Apache County and 15.2 homicides per 100,000 population in Gila County (**Figure 4-4**).



NUMBER OF DEATHS PER 100,000 POPULATION (age-adjusted to 2000 standard)

ARIZONA RATE = 8.3