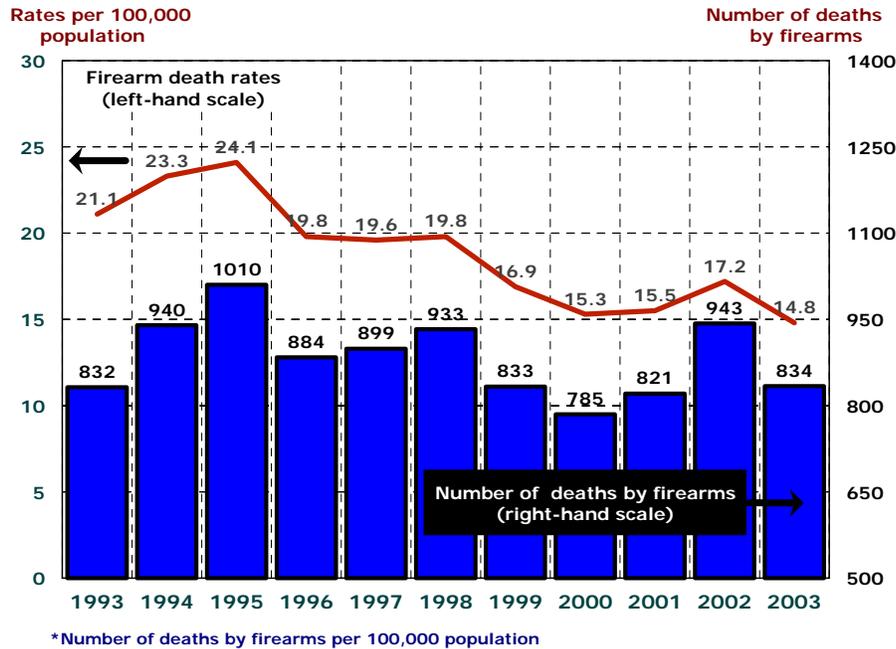


FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1993-2003

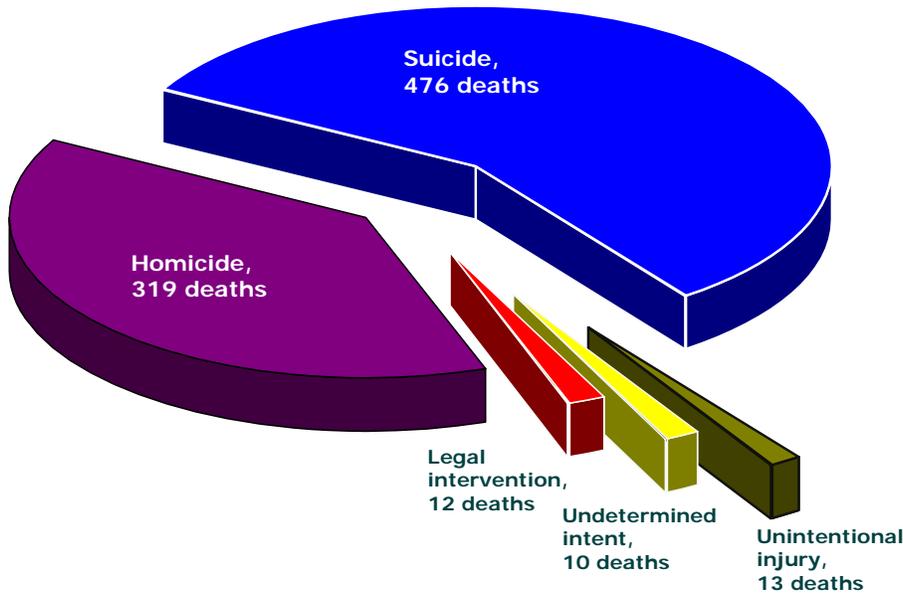
KEY FINDINGS

Figure 7-1
Trends in the Number of Deaths and Mortality Rates*
for Injury by Firearms, Arizona, 1993-2003



The number of firearm-related fatalities decreased in Arizona by 11.6 percent, from 943 in 2002 to 834 in 2003 (**Figure 7-1**). The Arizona firearm-related mortality rate decreased by 14 percent from 17.2 firearm-related deaths per 100,000 persons in 2002 to 14.8/100,000 in 2003. The latter was the lowest firearm-related mortality rate in the eleven-year period from 1993 to 2003.

Figure 7-2
Number of Firearm-Related Deaths by Cause
Among Arizona Residents, 2003

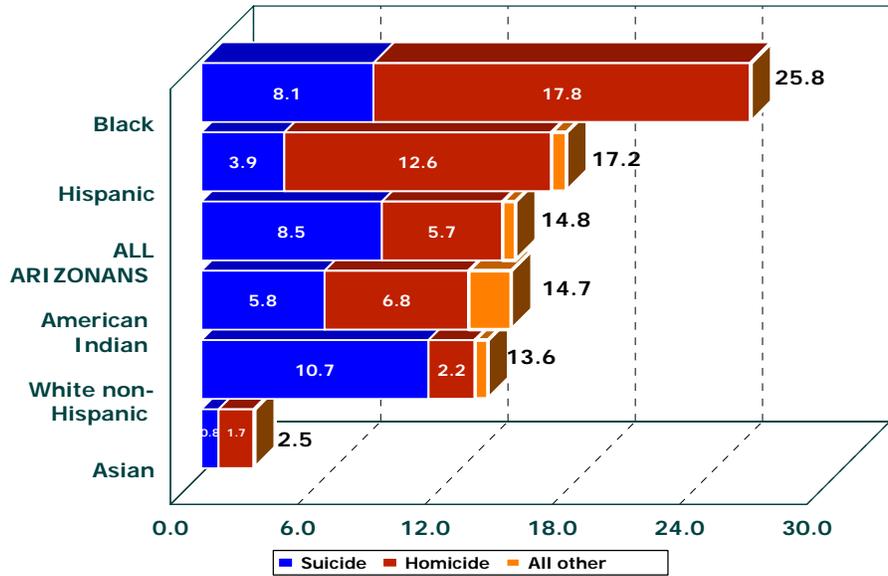


All but a small fraction of firearm-related fatalities are intentionally inflicted. Among 834 firearm related deaths in 2003, 13 (or 1.6 percent) were classified as unintentionally inflicted firearm injuries, 476 (57.1 percent) as suicides, 319 (38.2 percent) as homicides, 12 (1.4 percent) were fatal injuries inflicted by the police or other law-enforcement agents, and 10 (1.2 percent) were undetermined whether the injury was accidentally or purposely inflicted.

FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1993-2003

KEY FINDINGS

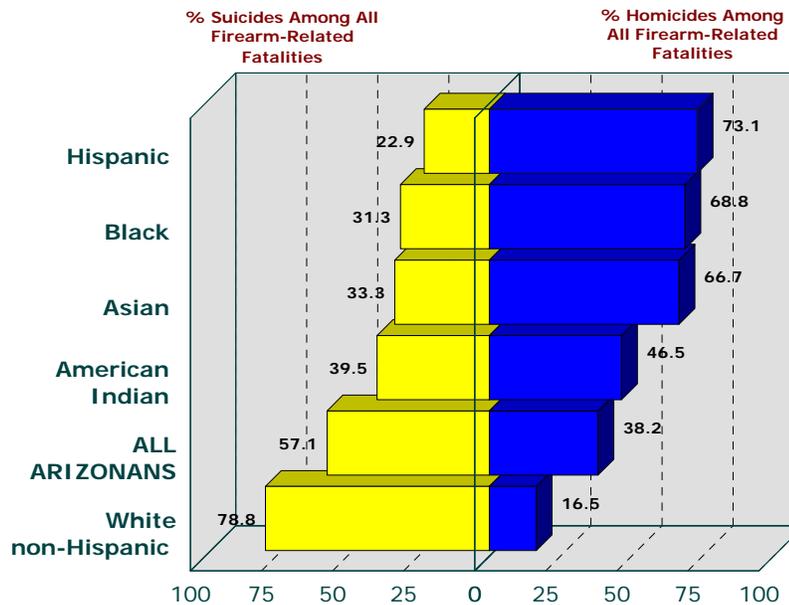
Figure 7-3
Firearm-Related Death Rates by Ethnic Group and Intent, Arizona, 2003



The firearm-related death rate among Blacks (25.8/100,000) was the highest among ethnic groups in Arizona in 2003 (Figure 7-3). It exceeded the corresponding rates for Asian, White non-Hispanic, American Indian, and Hispanic residents of Arizona by 932, 90, 76 and 50 percent respectively

*Number of firearm-related deaths per 100,000 persons in specified group (unadjusted for differences in the age composition).

Figure 7-4
Percent Firearm-Related Fatalities in Each Ethnic Group Attributed to Self-Inflicted Injuries in Suicide and Injuries Purposely Inflicted by Other Person in Homicide, Arizona, 2003

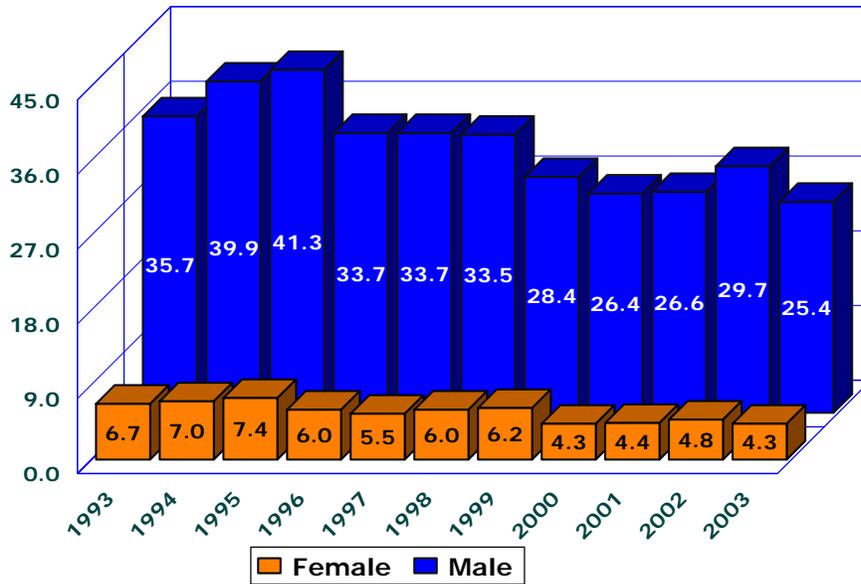


Among White non-Hispanics, firearm-related fatalities predominantly were a result of suicide (78.8 percent, Figure 7-4). In contrast, the majority of deaths from firearms were incurred in acts of homicide among Blacks (76.7 percent), Hispanics (64.7 percent) and Asians (66.7 percent). Among American Indians, firearm-related fatalities also were more likely to be incurred in acts of homicide (46.5 percent) than suicide (39.5 percent).

FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1993-2003

KEY FINDINGS

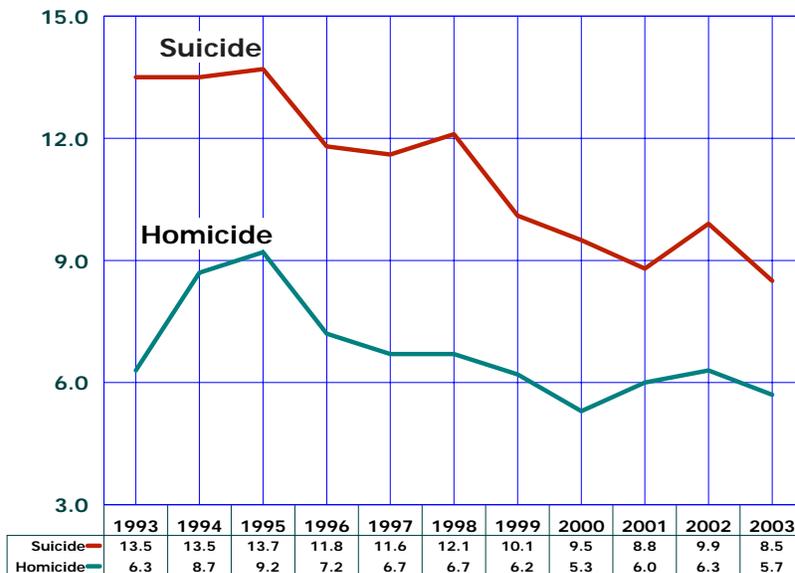
Figure 7-5
Rates* of Firearm-Related Fatalities by Gender and Year, Arizona, 1993-2003



The 2000 mortality rate from firearms among males (25.4/100,000) was 5.9 times greater than the rate of 4.3/100,000 among females (Figure 7-5).

*Number of firearm-related deaths per 100,000 persons in specified group.

Figure 7-6
Rates* of Firearm-Homicides and Firearm-Suicides by Year, Arizona, 1993-2003



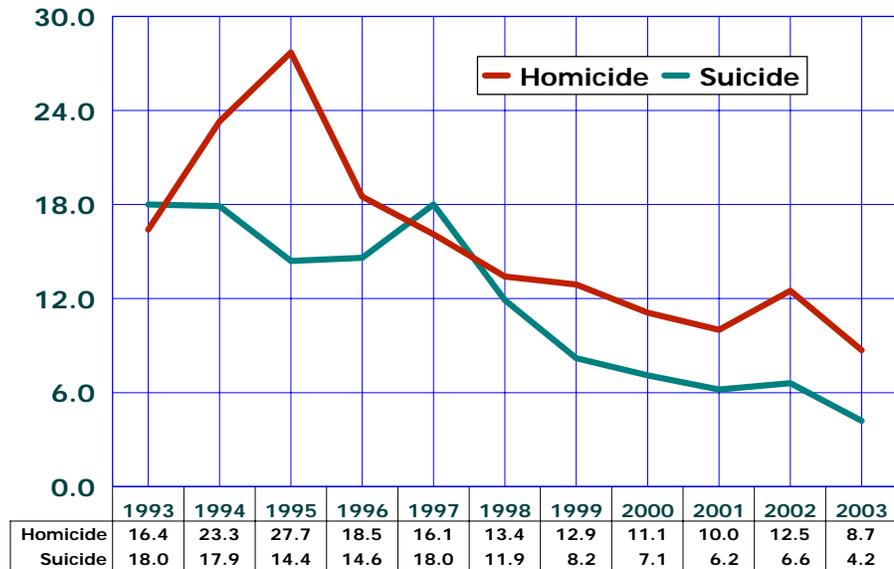
The rates of both firearm-suicides and firearm homicides declined in Arizona from 1993 to 2003 (Figure 7-6). Annual firearm-related homicide death rates among Arizona residents were at least 48 percent lower than the firearm-related suicide death rates from 1993 to 2003.

* Number of firearm-homicides and firearm-suicides per 100,000 population. The 2001 firearm-suicide rate for Arizona is from the CDC/ National Center of Injury Prevention and Control web site at http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_sy.html

FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1993-2003

KEY FINDINGS

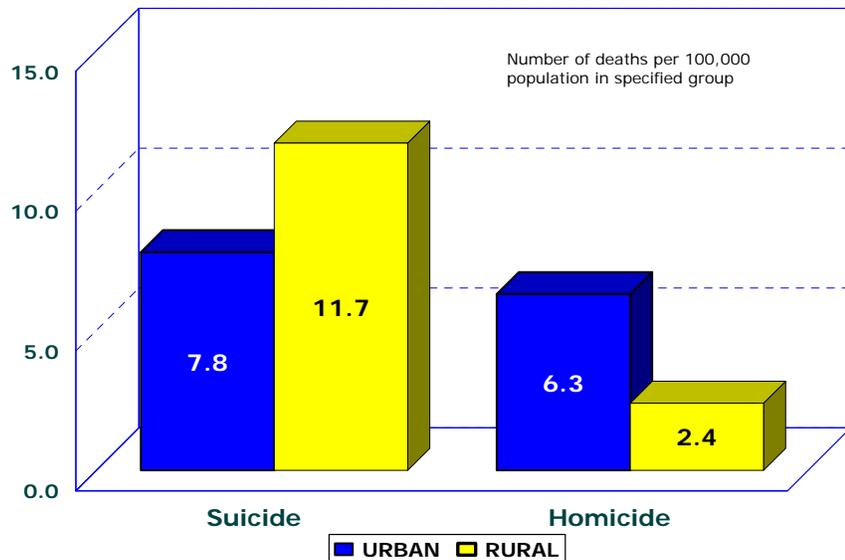
Figure 7-7
Firearm-Homicides and Firearm-Suicides Among Adolescents 15-19 Years Old, Arizona, 1993-2003



Between 1995 and 2003, the total firearm death rate among teenagers 15-19 years old decreased by 68.9 percent from 45.3 to 14.1 fatalities per 100,000 persons in this age group in 2003 (Table 7-1). The firearm-homicide rate decreased from 27.7 per 100,000 in 1995 to 8.7/100,000 in 2003 (Figure 7-7). At the same time, the rate for firearm-suicide decreased by 76.7 percent from a recent peak of 18.0/100,000 in 1997 to 4.2/100,000 in 2003.

*Number of firearm-homicides and firearm-suicides per 100,000 adolescents 15-19 years old. The 2001 firearm-suicide rate for Arizona is from the CDC/ National Center of Injury Prevention and Control web site at http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_sy.html

Figure 7-8
Mortality Rates for Firearm-Suicides and Firearm-Homicides by Urban*/Rural Area, Arizona, 2003



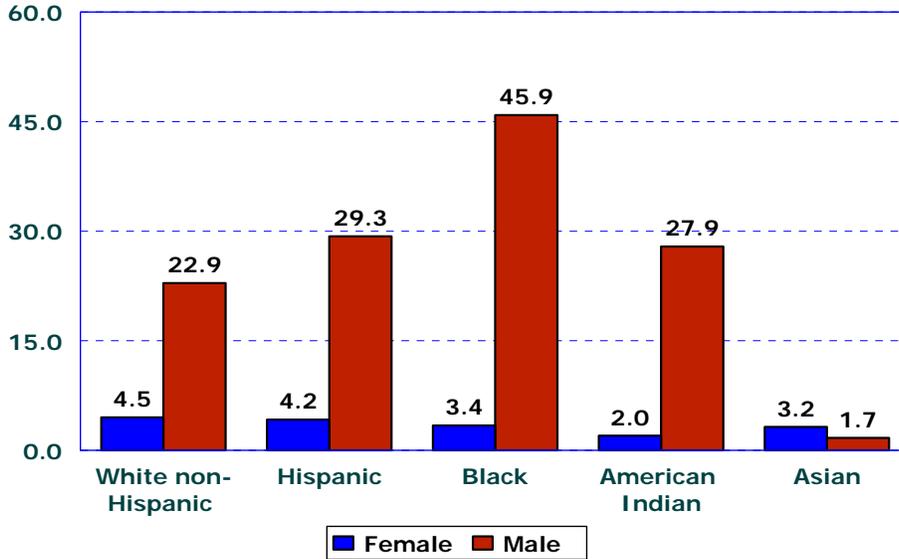
In 2000, firearm-suicides were 1.5 times more likely among rural compared to urban residents of Arizona. In contrast, urban residents were 2.6 times more likely to be fatally assaulted by firearms (Figure 7-8).

*Maricopa, Pima, Pinal and Yuma counties. The remaining counties comprise Arizona's rural areas.

FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1993-2003

KEY FINDINGS

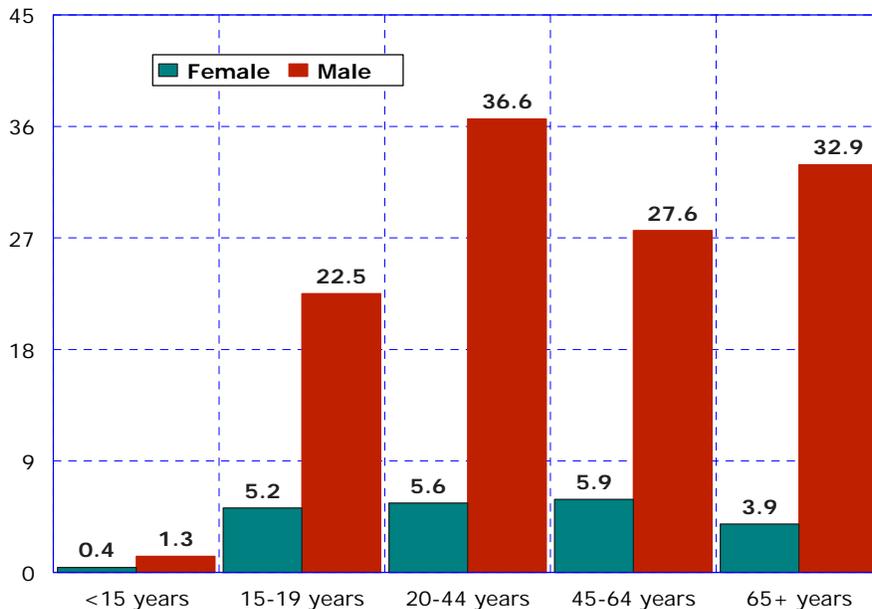
Figure 7-9
Firearm-Related Death Rates* by Gender and Race/Ethnicity, Arizona, 2003



Particularly high gender ratios in firearm mortality were evident in 2003 for American Indians (male rate of 27.9/100,000 was 14 times the rate of 2.0/100,000 for females, **Figure 7-9**).

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

Figure 7-10
Firearm-Related Death Rates* by Age Group and Gender, Arizona, 2003



Among males, the 2003 firearm mortality curve by age was bimodal (**Figure 7-10**), reaching the first peak at ages 20-44 (36.6/100,000), tapering off to 27.6/100,000 at ages 45-64, and rising to a second peak among the elderly 65 years and older (32.9 per 100,000). The female firearm death rate was highest for those 45-64 years old (5.9/100,000).

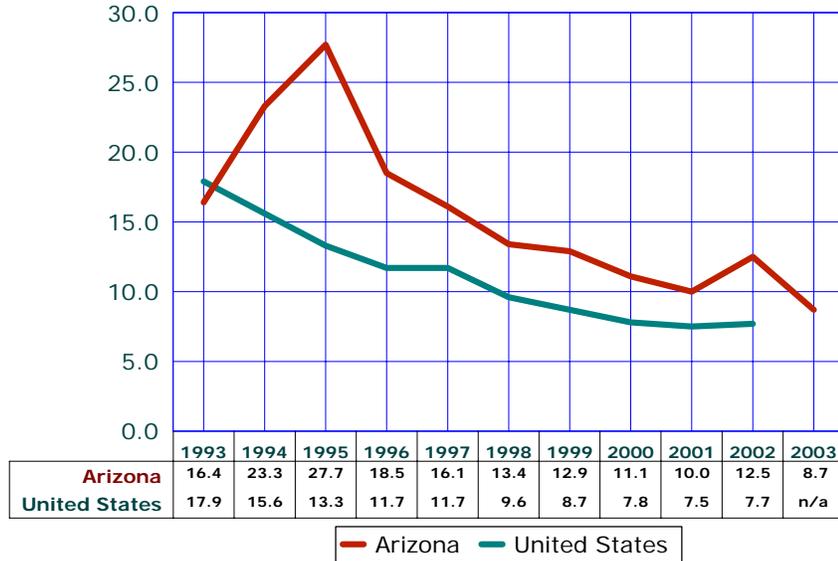
*Number of deaths per 100,000 population in specified group

FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1993-2003

KEY FINDINGS

Figure 7-11
Firearm Related Death Rates Associated with Homicide
Among Adolescents 15-19 Years Old,
Arizona 1993-2003 and United States 1993-2000 *

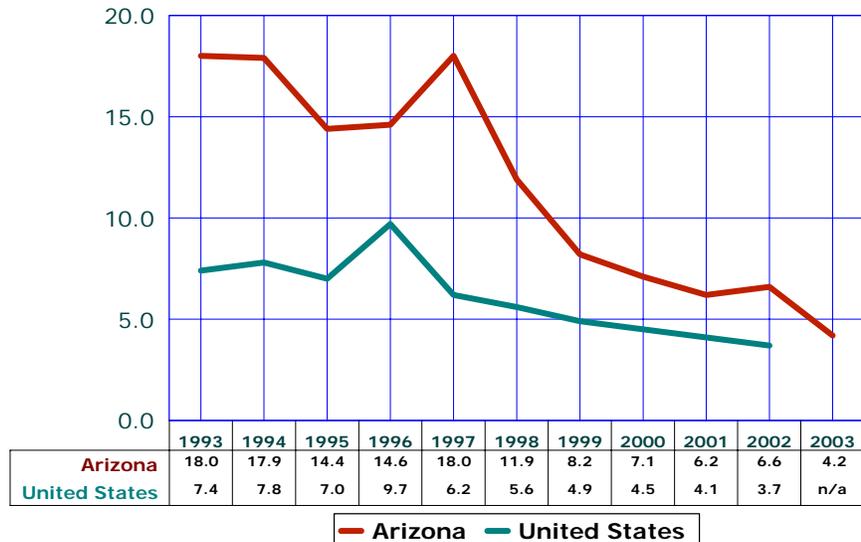
Relative to their peers nationally, Arizona adolescents 15-19 years old were more likely to be fatally assaulted by firearms in each year from 1994 to 2002 (Figure 7-11). In 1995, the firearm homicide rate for Arizona adolescents was 2.1 greater than the rate for their peers nationally. In 2003, the Arizona rate for adolescents 15-19 years old exceeded the latest U.S. rate by a mere 13 percent.



*The latest year for which the U.S. data are available.

Figure 7-12
Firearm Related Death Rates Associated with
Suicide Among Adolescents 15-19 Years Old,
Arizona 1993-2003 and United States 1993-2002*

Relative to their peers nationally, Arizona adolescents 15-19 years old were more likely to kill themselves using a firearm in each year from 1993 to 2002 (Figure 7-12). Nationally, the rate of firearm suicides among adolescents 15-19 years old dropped by 61.9 percent between 1996 and 2002. In Arizona, the 2003 rate of 4.2 firearm suicides per 100,000 adolescents 15-19 years old was 76.7 percent than the peak rate of 18.0/100,000 recorded in 1997.



*The latest year for which the U.S. data are available. The 2001 firearm-suicide rate for Arizona is from the CDC/ National Center of Injury Prevention and Control web site at http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_sy.html