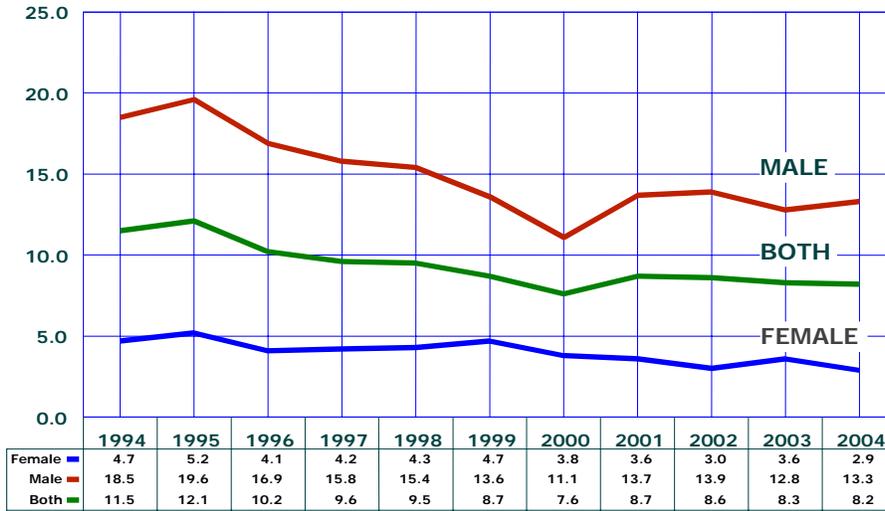


ASSAULT (HOMICIDE), ARIZONA, 1994-2004

KEY FINDINGS

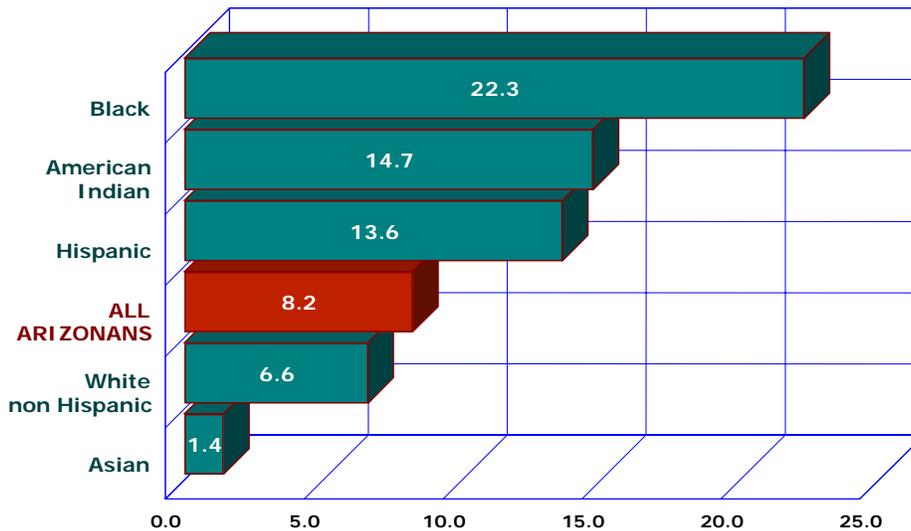
Figure 4-1
Age-Adjusted * Mortality Rates for Assault (Homicide)
by Gender and Year, Arizona, 1994-2004



After reaching the decade's peak rate of 12.1 homicides per 100,000 population in 1995, the homicide rate declined for 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, for 2003, the homicide rate decreased for males and it increased for females. In 2004, the homicide rate increased again for males and it decreased for females. The rate of 2.9 homicides per 100,000 females was the lowest rate of the 1994-2004 period.

* 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, 2004



The 2004 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 3.4 times more likely, while American Indians 2.2 times and Hispanics 2.1 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.

ASSAULT (HOMICIDE), ARIZONA, 1994-2004

KEY FINDINGS

The highest homicide rates among race by gender groups in 2004 were those of Black or African American male and female residents of the State (Figure 4-3). In 2004, the homicide rate among Black males was 5.1 times higher than the rate for White non-Hispanics and 15.4 times as high as the homicide rate of Asians. Among females, the injury mortality rate for Black females was 2.9 times greater than the homicide rate for White non-Hispanic females. There were no homicides among Asian female residents of the State. Particularly high gender ratio in homicide was evident in 2004 for Hispanics (male rate of 23.2 was 7.7 times the rate of 3.0 for females).

Figure 4-3
Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Assault (Homicide) by Gender and Race/Ethnic Group, Arizona, 2004

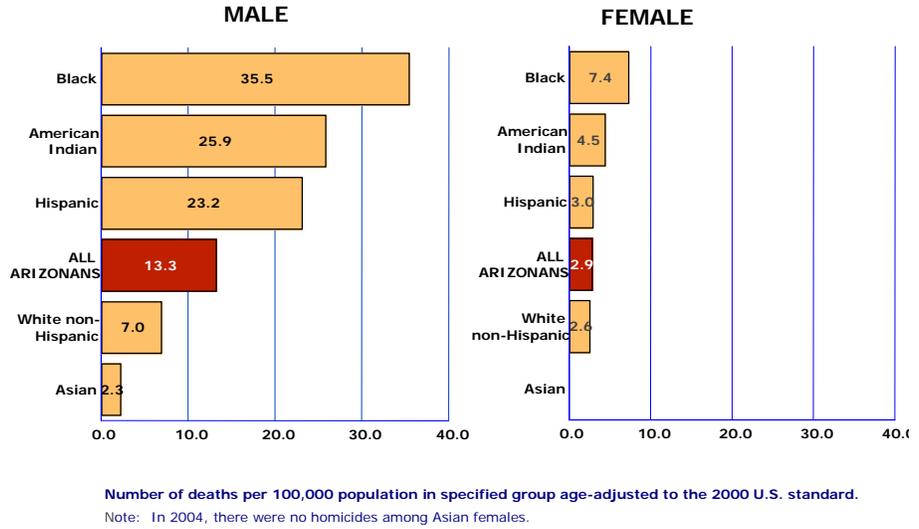
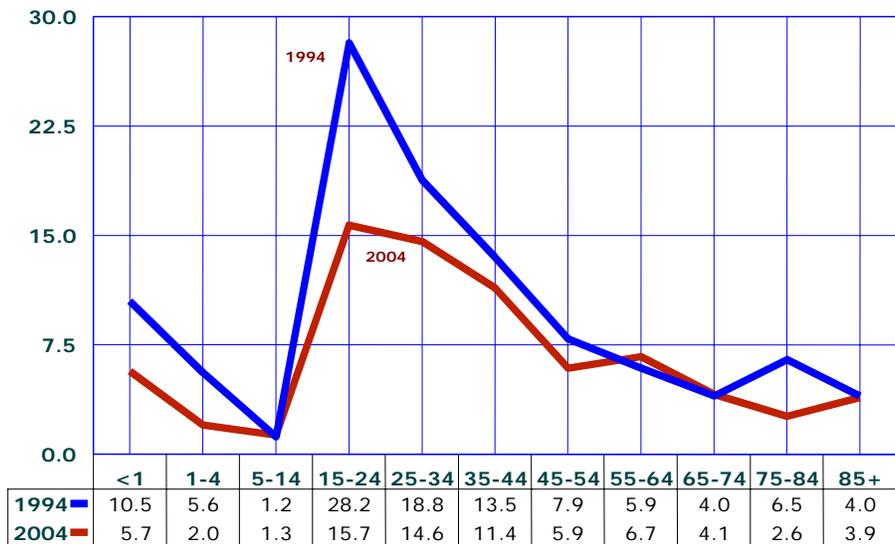


Figure 4-4
Comparison of Mortality Rates* for Assault (Homicide) by Age Group, Arizona, 1994 and 2004

Both in 1994 and 2004, the highest age-specific homicide rates were those for adolescents and young adults 15-24 years old (Figure 4-4). However, the homicide rate declined by 44.3 percent from 28.2 per 100,000 Arizonans 15-24 years old in 1994, to 15.7/100,000 in 2004.

Seven infants were murdered in 1994 compared to five babies less than one year of age assaulted in 2004.



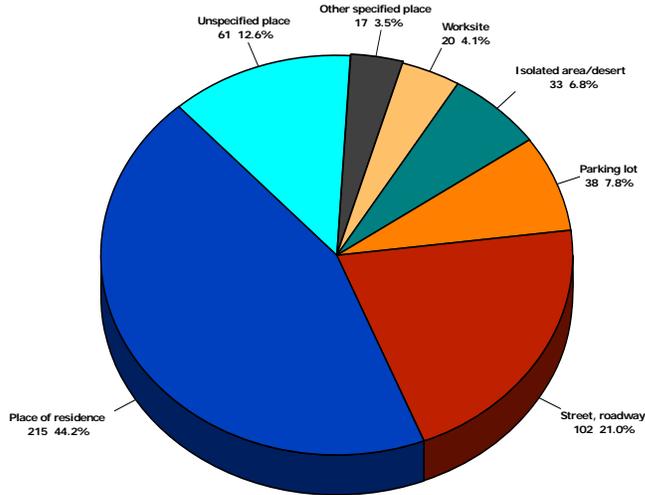
*Number of homicide deaths per 100,000 population in specified group.

ASSAULT (HOMICIDE), ARIZONA, 1994-2004

KEY FINDINGS

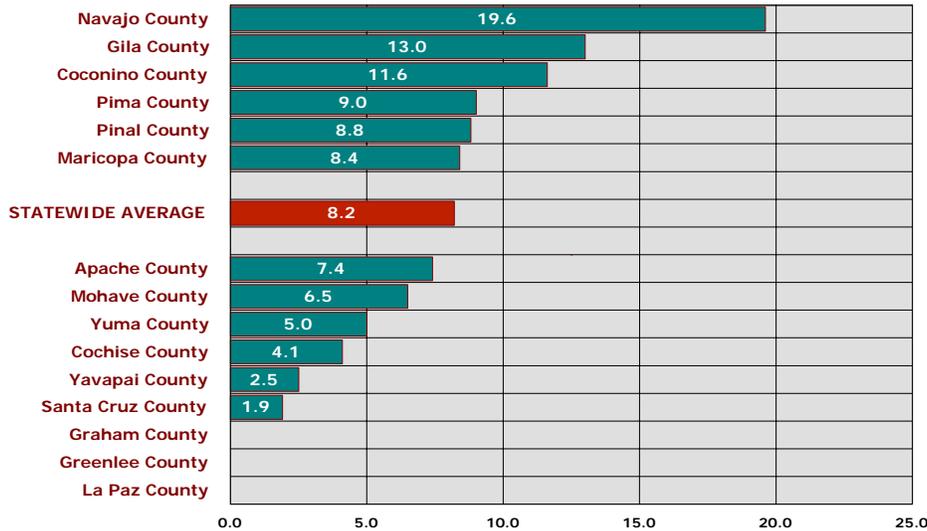
Figure 4-5
Assault (Homicide) by Place of Occurrence, Arizona, 2004

N = 486



Among the 486 homicides in 2004, 215 or 44.2 percent occurred at the place of residence. Street or roadway was the second most frequent place of assault, followed by parking lots and isolated places in the desert or forest (Figure 4-5). In 2004, twenty Arizonans were murdered at their place of work.

Figure 4-6
Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Assault (Homicide) by County of Residence in Arizona, 2004



The age-adjusted homicide rates varied in Arizona in 2004 from zero (no fatalities) in Graham, Greenlee and La Paz counties to 19.6/100,000 in Navajo County (Figure 4-4). The homicide rates for the two major statistical metropolitan areas in Arizona: Phoenix-Mesa MSA (Maricopa and Pinal counties) and Tucson MSA (Pima County) exceeded the statewide average homicide rate of 8.2/100,000.

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

Note: The rates for Apache, Cochise, Gila, Santa Cruz and Yavapai counties are not statistically reliable. These rates are based on fewer than 10 homicides in 2004.