

INJURY MORTALITY AMONG ARIZONA RESIDENTS



ASSAULT (HOMICIDE)

ARIZONA,
1994-2004

Public Health Services
Bureau of Public Health Statistics
Health Status and Vital Statistics Section



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ARIZONA, 1994-2004

BY

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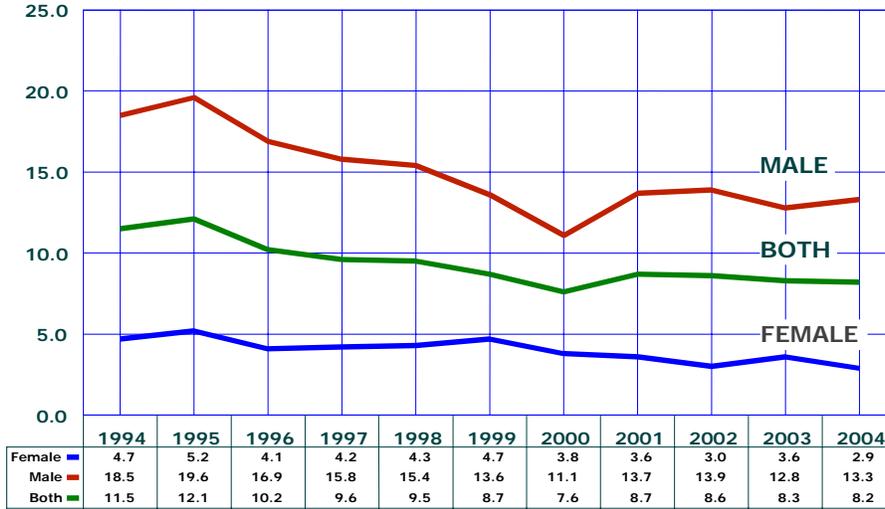
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ASSAULT (HOMICIDE), ARIZONA, 1994-2004

KEY FINDINGS

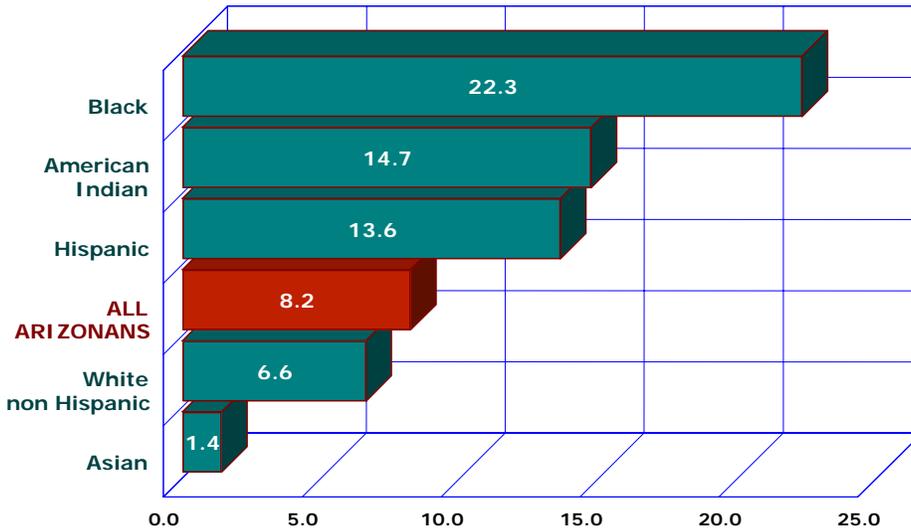
Figure 4-1
Age-Adjusted * Mortality Rates for Assault (Homicide)
by Gender and Year, Arizona, 1994-2004



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

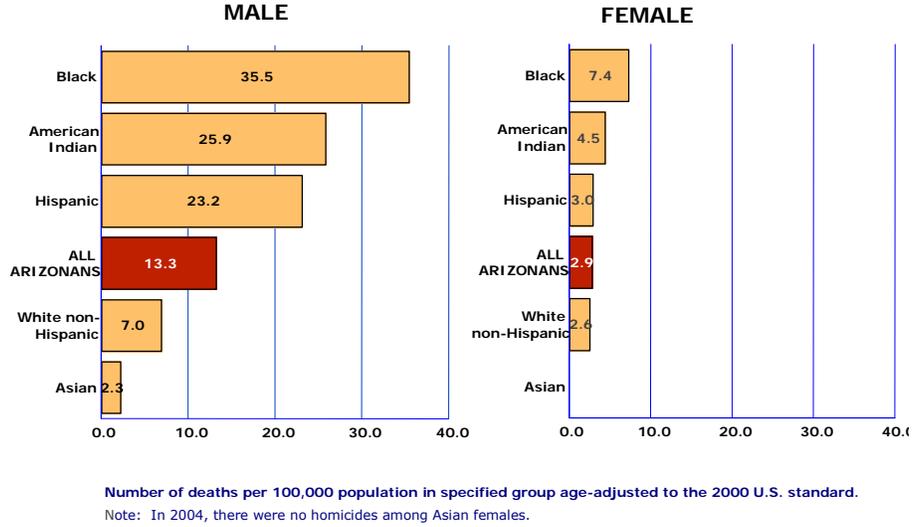
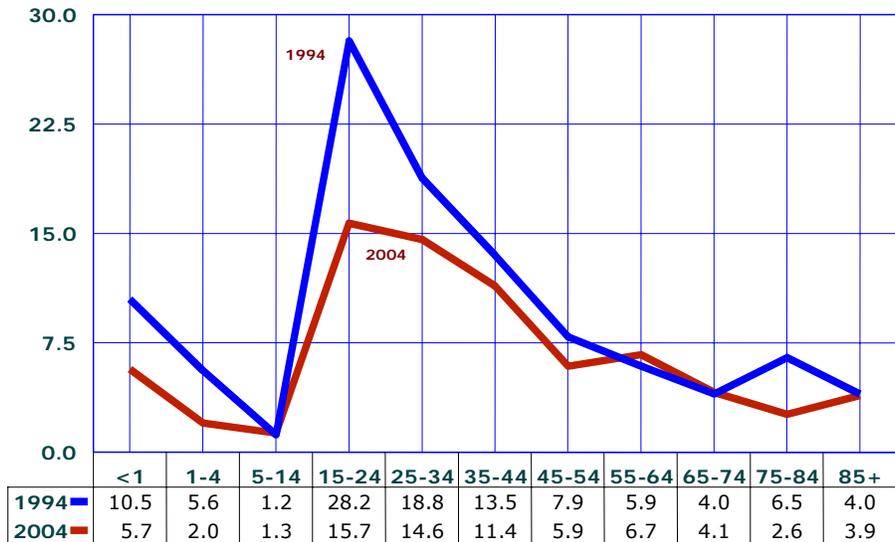


Figure 4-4
Comparison of Mortality Rates* for Assault (Homicide) by Age Group, Arizona, 1994 and 2004

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.



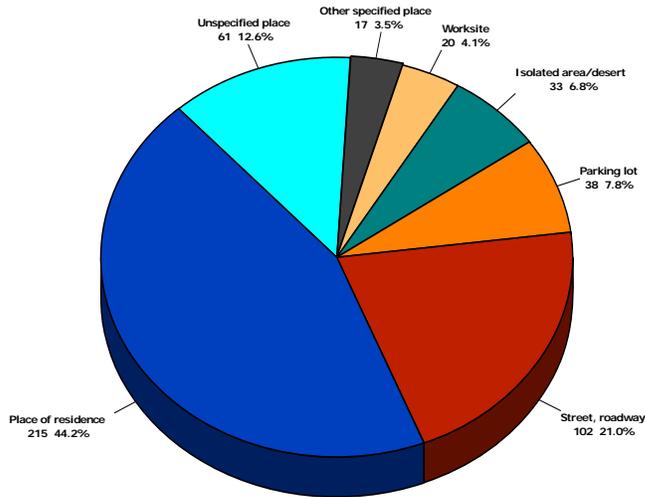
*Number of homicide deaths per 100,000 population in specified group.

ASSAULT (HOMICIDE), ARIZONA, 1994-2004

KEY FINDINGS

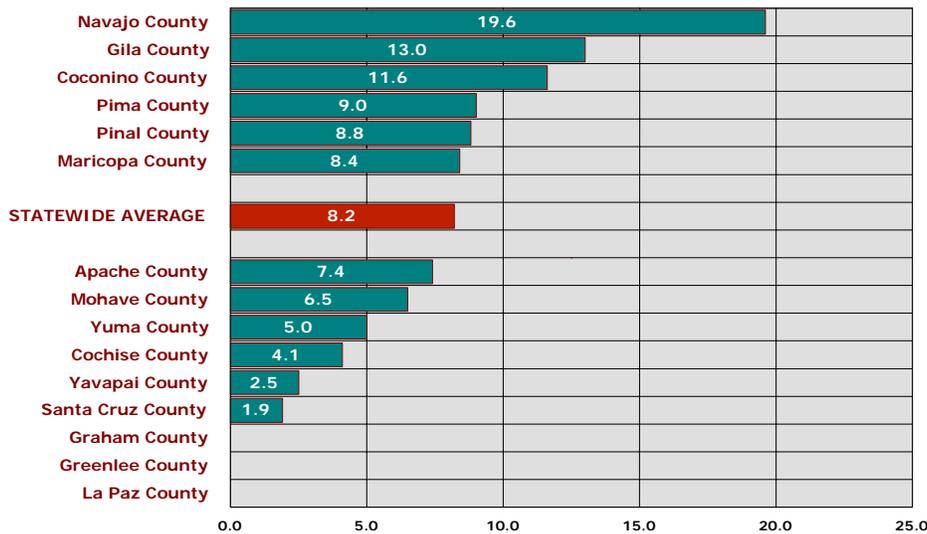
Figure 4-5
Assault (Homicide) by Place of Occurrence, Arizona, 2004

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.

TABLE 4-1
 NUMBER OF HOMICIDES BY MEANS OF ASSAULT AND YEAR, ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1994-2004

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Assault by bodily force	0	5	0	1	1	1	6	2	0	1	2
Neglect, abandonment, maltreatment	9	10	9	5	5	4		4	4	7	1
Assault by drugs, chemicals and noxious substances	0	3	1	2	1	1	0	3	1	1	1
Assault by blunt object	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	3
Assault by firearms	349	383	320	310	318	303	271	318	346	319	331
Assault by explosives	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault by drowning and submersion	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
Assault by hanging, strangulation, suffocation	17	24	16	15	19	12	9	15	6	16	13
Assault by sharp object	49	56	68	48	39	57	53	64	54	42	48
Assault by fire, flames, smoke	3	3	0	0	3	1	2	2	4	3	3
Assault by other means	47	45	43	61	60	49	46	57	62	89	83
Total	477	530	459	443	447	430	394	467	478	480	486

**TABLE 4-2
NUMBER OF HOMICIDES BY GENDER, AGE GROUP AND YEAR, ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1994-2004**

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total	477	530	459	443	447	430	394	467	478	480	486
<1	7	8	4	6	4	6	6	5	3	11	5
1-14	22	26	26	13	24	11	9	24	18	10	18
15-19	72	89	72	56	55	51	53	49	58	48	45
20-44	292	324	279	290	299	273	234	317	302	294	309
45-64	53	58	59	56	48	66	65	56	79	87	76
65+	27	19	17	21	13	21	26	14	12	16	27
Unknown	4	6	2	1	4	2	1	2	6	0	6
Male	378	417	368	352	348	315	295	374	394	379	403
<1	4	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	0	8	1
1-14	11	18	13	8	14	5	6	11	11	4	14
15-19	62	77	65	46	42	42	43	45	52	40	40
20-44	240	262	233	236	238	208	193	259	264	243	262
45-64	41	43	45	46	38	41	39	45	56	62	59
65+	17	9	7	11	9	14	9	9	8	9	21
Unknown	3	4	2	1	3	2	1	2	3	0	6
Female	99	113	91	91	99	115	99	93	84	101	83
<1	3	4	1	2	0	3	2	2	3	3	4
1-14	11	8	13	5	10	6	3	13	7	6	4
15-19	10	12	7	10	13	9	10	4	6	8	5
20-44	52	62	46	54	61	65	41	58	38	51	47
45-64	12	15	14	10	10	25	26	11	23	25	17
65+	10	10	10	10	4	7	17	5	4	7	6
Unknown	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0

**TABLE 4-3
NUMBER OF HOMICIDES BY RACE/ETHNICITY, GENDER AND YEAR, ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1994-2004**

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total, all groups											
Total	477	530	459	443	447	430	394	467	478	445	486
Male	378	417	368	352	348	315	295	374	394	379	403
Female	99	113	91	91	99	115	99	93	84	101	83
White non-Hispanic											
Total	185	222	155	160	171	146	131	141	154	101	186
Male	134	154	106	108	118	89	88	100	117	93	137
Female	51	68	49	52	53	57	43	41	37	43	49
Hispanic or Latino											
Total	155	191	187	184	169	184	180	233	225	226	215
Male	133	166	168	167	142	158	144	201	202	191	195
Female	22	25	19	17	27	26	36	32	23	35	20
Black or African American											
Total	82	60	49	46	48	43	38	38	39	48	41
Male	67	51	40	42	41	31	31	33	34	40	35
Female	15	9	9	4	7	12	7	5	5	8	6
American Indian or Alaska Native											
Total	52	52	66	46	52	49	36	47	54	54	40
Male	41	42	52	31	42	32	29	33	39	43	32
Female	11	10	14	15	10	17	7	14	15	11	8
Asian or Pacific Islander											
Total	2	2	0	5	4	5	7	6	2	7	1
Male	2	2	0	2	3	2	2	5	0	3	1
Female	0	0	0	3	1	3	5	1	2	4	0
Other/Unknown											
Total	1	3	2	2	3	3	2	2	4	9	3
Male	1	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	2	9	3
Female	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	0

TABLE 4-4
 NUMBER OF HOMICIDES BY FIVE-YEAR AGE GROUPS AND YEAR, ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1994-2004

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<1	7	8	4	6	4	6	6	5	3	11	5
1-4	15	11	8	3	9	6	3	6	11	9	7
5-9	3	2	8	3	4	2	5	8	2	1	4
10-14	4	13	10	7	11	3	1	10	5	0	7
15-19	72	89	72	56	55	51	53	49	58	48	45
20-24	88	76	73	81	98	66	57	99	84	87	85
25-29	72	80	67	76	66	72	50	74	61	70	80
30-34	50	65	54	55	54	52	59	53	63	50	44
35-39	54	54	44	49	37	51	37	54	51	45	56
40-44	28	49	41	29	44	32	31	37	43	42	44
45-49	23	28	20	22	22	34	23	27	28	36	28
50-54	11	17	22	19	11	17	16	19	20	29	14
55-59	9	10	12	9	10	8	19	7	17	14	25
60-64	10	3	5	6	5	7	7	3	14	8	9
65-69	5	7	7	5	2	5	9	5	4	3	10
70-74	8	4	3	5	4	7	6	4	3	7	7
75-79	9	2	3	5	3	5	6	3	4	2	3
80-84	3	4	0	3	2	4	4	1	1	2	4
85-89	1	1	1	2	2	0	1	0	0	1	1
90-94	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
95-99	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	4	6	2	1	4	2	1	2	6	0	6
Total	477	530	459	443	447	430	394	467	478	480	486

TABLE 4-5
 NUMBER OF HOMICIDES BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE AND YEAR, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Apache	7	11	25	15	12	7	5	7	17	8	5
Cochise	11	7	4	7	10	3	9	10	4	5	6
Coconino	10	11	5	6	10	12	9	7	9	5	14
Gila	3	5	6	4	2	3	4	7	2	7	7
Graham	1	2	1	2	1	4	2	1	2	4	0
Greenlee	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Maricopa	299	336	262	275	270	282	242	335	298	319	307
Mohave	13	8	10	12	10	14	8	8	6	12	11
Navajo	9	9	11	9	12	6	7	7	12	13	19
Pima	59	95	78	65	69	61	87	51	92	77	84
Pinal	14	20	13	16	18	12	10	18	17	14	19
Santa Cruz	1	2	1	3	3	2	1	4	1	2	1
Yavapai	12	7	5	8	8	11	5	7	9	7	4
Yuma	12	6	2	6	5	7	4	5	6	6	9
La Paz	4	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0
Unknown	22	9	32	15	15	5	0	0	1	1	0
Total	477	530	459	443	447	430	394	467	478	480	486