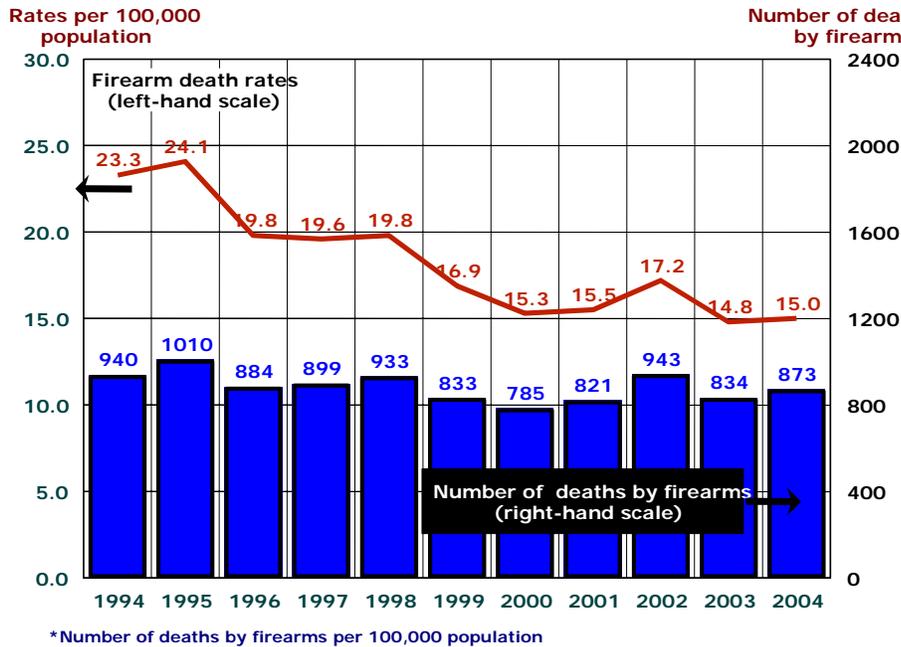


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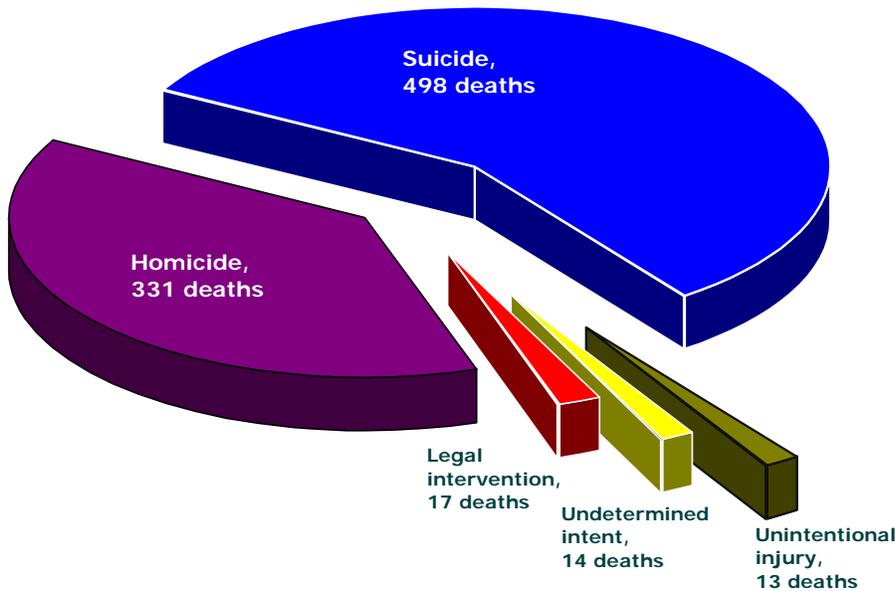
**Figure 7-1**  
Trends in the Number of Deaths and Mortality Rates\* for Injury by Firearms, Arizona, 1994-2004



Causes of death attributable to firearm mortality include accidental discharge of firearms (ICD-10 codes W32-W34), intentional self-harm (suicide) by discharge of firearms (X72-X74), assault (homicide) by discharge of firearms (X93-X95), discharge of firearms, undetermined intent (Y22-Y24); and legal intervention involving firearm discharge (Y35.0).

The number of firearm-related fatalities increased in Arizona by 4.7 percent, from 834 in 2003 to 873 in 2004 (Figure 7-1). The Arizona firearm-related mortality rate increased by 1.4 percent from 14.8 firearm-related deaths per 100,000 persons in 2003 to 15.0/100,000 in 2004. The latter was the second lowest firearm-related mortality rate in the eleven-year period from 1994 to 2004.

**Figure 7-2**  
Number of Firearm-Related Deaths by Intent Among Arizona Residents, 2004



All but a small fraction of firearm-related fatalities are intentionally inflicted. Among 873 firearm (Figure 7-2) related deaths in 2004, 13 (or 1.5 percent) were classified as unintentionally inflicted firearm injuries, 498 (57.0 percent) as suicides, 331 (37.9 percent) as homicides, 17 (2.0 percent) were fatal injuries inflicted by the police or other law-enforcement agents, and 14 (1.6 percent) were undetermined whether the injury was accidentally or purposely inflicted.

Fifty-eight of every 100 suicides in Arizona and sixty-eight of every 100 murders (Table 7-3, Table 7-4) involved firearms in 2004.

FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

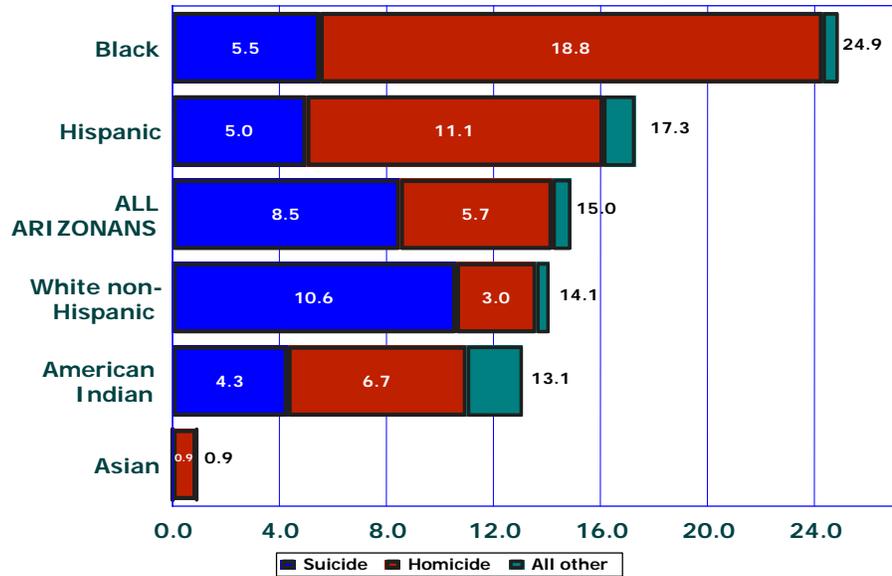
KEY FINDINGS

The total firearm-related death rate among Blacks or African Americans (24.9/100,000) was the highest rate among race/ethnic groups in Arizona for 2004 (Figure 7-3). Firearm homicide (18.8 deaths per 100,000) was the major component cause of all firearm injury deaths among Blacks.

In contrast, firearm suicide (10.6 deaths per 100,000) was the major component cause of all firearm injury deaths among White non-Hispanics in 2004.

The firearm injury death rate for Asians is based on a single death in 2004. This rate (0.9/100,000) is not statistically reliable.

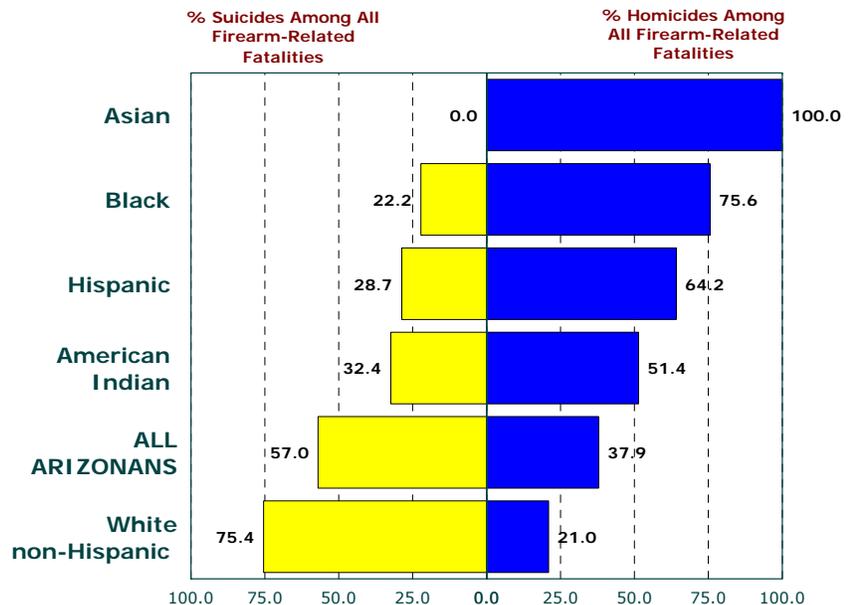
Figure 7-3  
Firearm-Related Death Rates by Intent and Race/Ethnicity, Arizona, 2004



\*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, 2004

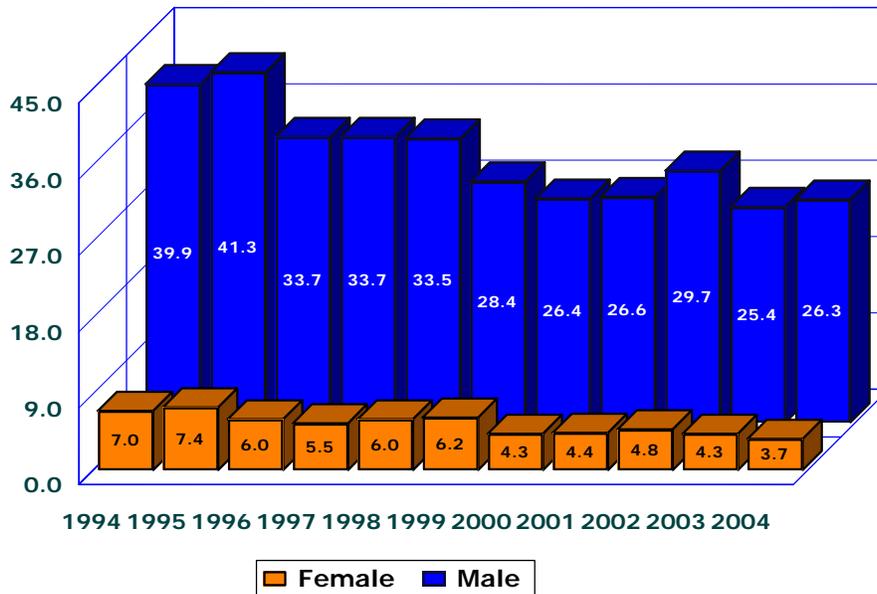
Among White non-Hispanics, firearm-related fatalities predominantly were a result of suicide (75.4 percent, Figure 7-4). In contrast, the majority of deaths from firearms were incurred in acts of homicide among Blacks (75.6 percent), Hispanics (64.2 percent) and Asians (100 percent). Among American Indians, firearm-related fatalities also were more likely to be incurred in acts of homicide (51.4 percent) than suicide (32.4 percent).



FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

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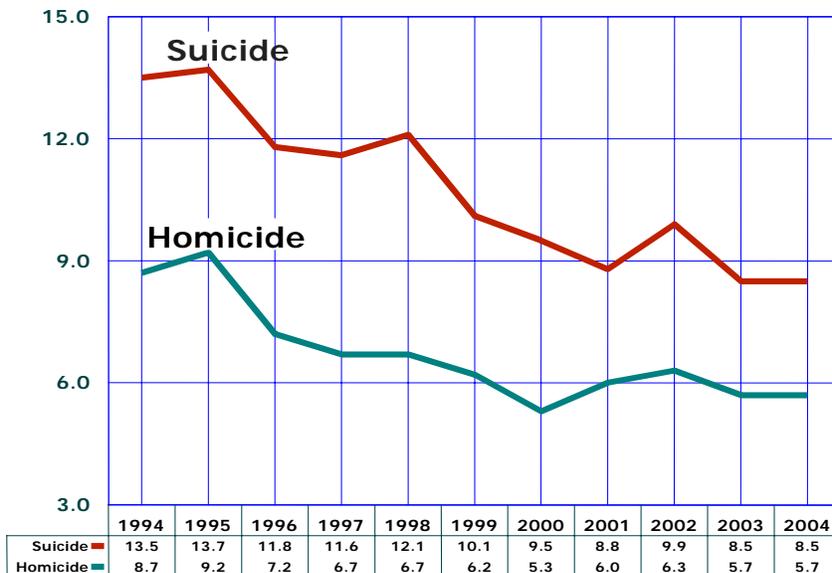
Figure 7-5  
Rates\* of Firearm-Related Fatalities by Gender and Year, Arizona, 1994-2004



Among males, the firearm mortality rate increased from 25.4 deaths per 100,000 in 2003 to 26.3/100,000 in 2004. In contrast, the female death rate for firearm injuries decreased from 4.3 deaths per 100,000 in 2003 to 3.7/100,000 in 2004. The 2004 mortality rate for firearm injuries among males (26.3/100,000) was 7.1 times greater than the rate of 3.7/100,000 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, 1994-2004



Compared to 1994, the rates of both firearm-suicides and firearm-homicides were lower in 2004 (Figure 7-6). Annual firearm-related suicide death rates among Arizona residents were at least 47 percent higher than the firearm-related homicide death rates from 1994 to 2004.

The death rates for both firearm suicide and firearm homicide in 2004 remained what they were in 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 website at: [http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10\\_sy.html](http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_sy.html)

FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

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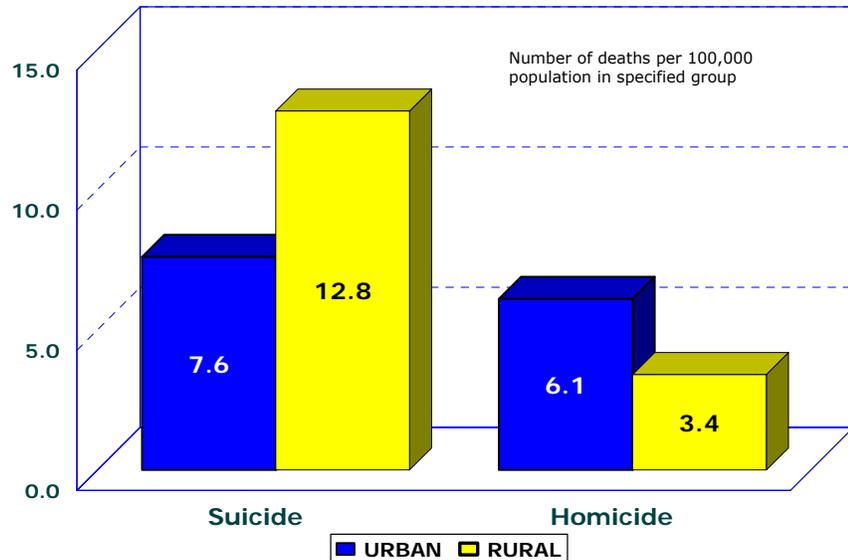
**Figure 7-7**  
Firearm-Homicides and Firearm-Suicides Among Adolescents 15-19 Years Old, Arizona, 1994-2004



The firearm-homicide rate among teenagers 15-19 years old decreased by 70.4 percent from a high of 27.7 deaths per 100,000 in 1995 to 8.2 deaths per 100,000 in 2004 (Figure 7-7). The rate of firearm-suicides decreased by 76.7 percent from a recent peak of 18.0/100,000 in 1997 to 4.2/100,000 in 2003. However, the rate for firearm-suicides increased again by 42.9 percent to 6.0 firearm suicides per 100,000 adolescents 15-19 years old in 2004.

\*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](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, 2004



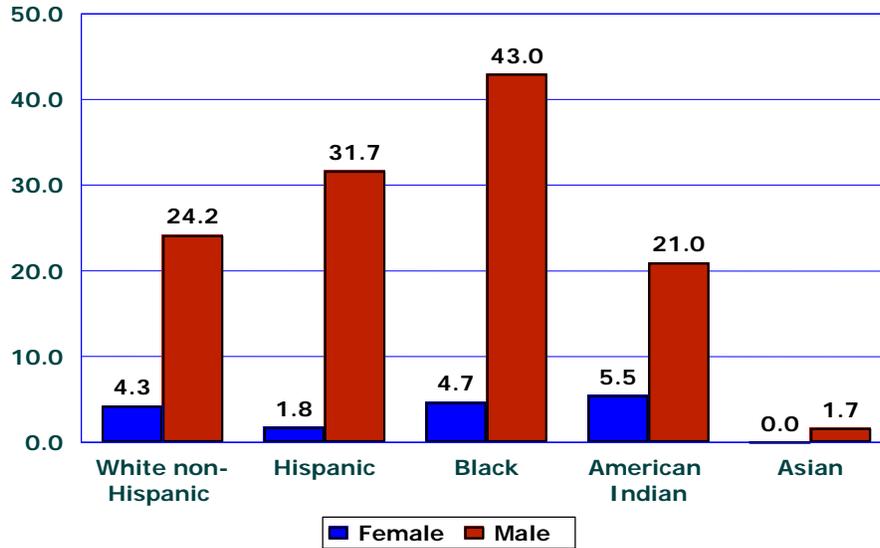
In 2004, firearm-suicides were 1.7 times more likely among rural compared to urban residents of Arizona. In contrast, urban residents were 1.8 times more likely to be fatally assaulted by firearms (Figure 7-8).

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

FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

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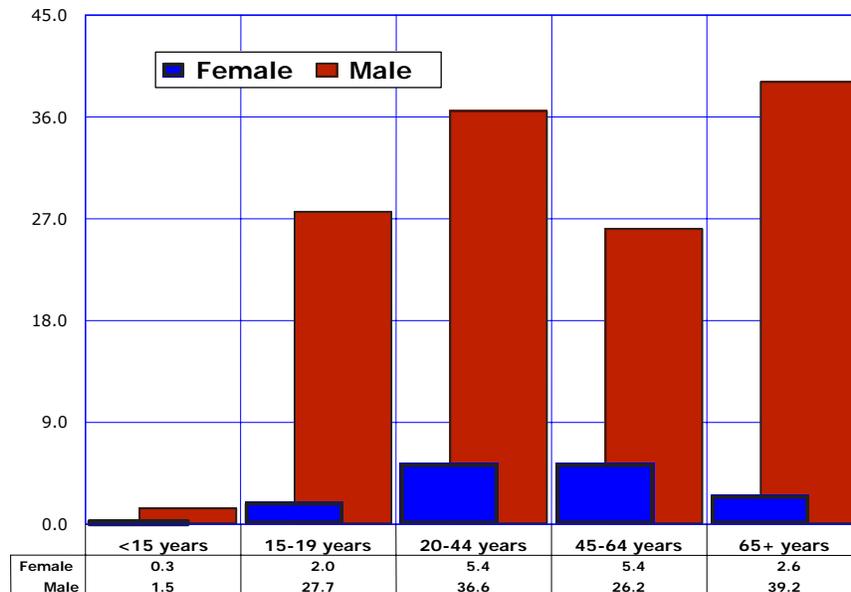
**Figure 7-9**  
Firearm-Related Death Rates\* by Gender and Race/Ethnicity, Arizona, 2004



Particularly high gender ratios in firearm mortality were evident in 2004 for Hispanics or Latinos (male rate of 31.7/100,000 was 17.6 times the rate of 1.8/100,000 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, 2004



Among males, the 2004 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 26.2/100,000 at ages 45-64, and rising to a second peak among the elderly 65 years and older (39.2 per 100,000). The female firearm death rates were highest for those 20-64 years old (5.4/100,000).

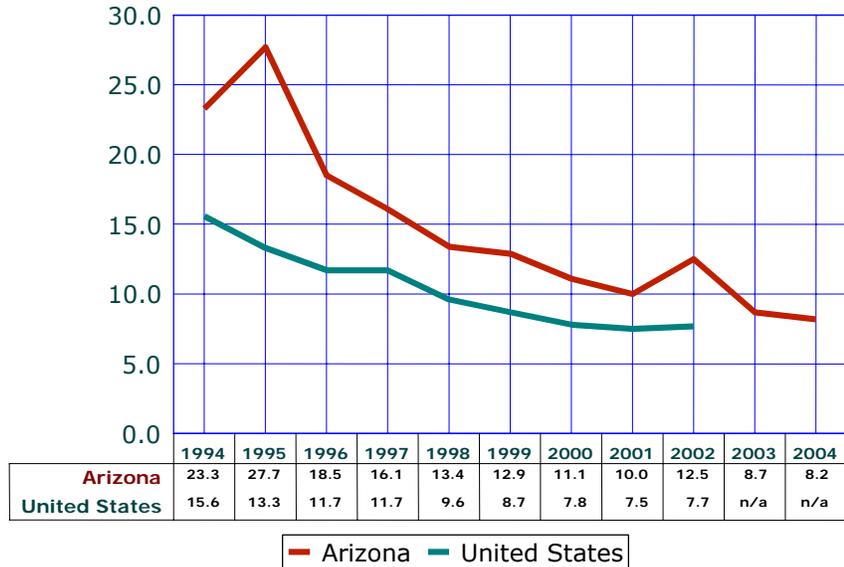
\*Number of deaths per 100,000 population in specified group.

FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

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**Figure 7-11**  
**Firearm Related Death Rates Associated with Homicide**  
**Among Adolescents 15-19 Years Old,**  
**Arizona 1994-2004 and United States 1994-2002 \***

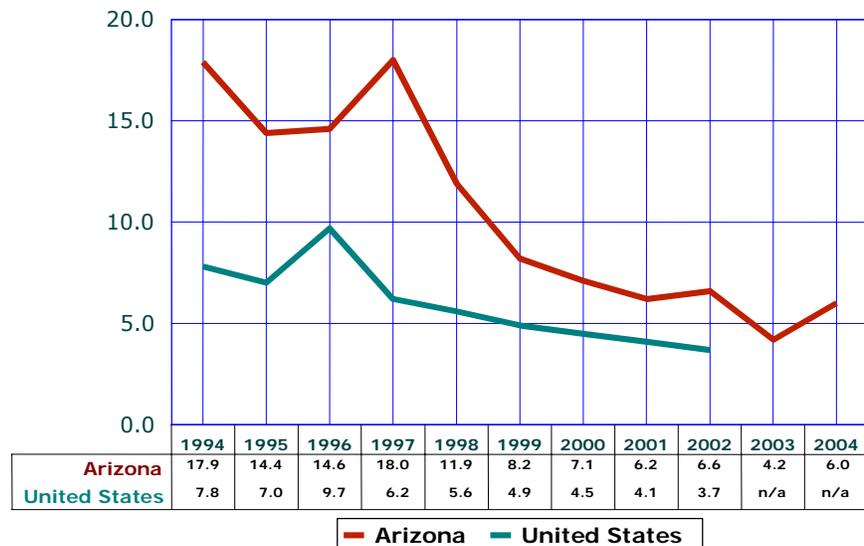
Relative to their peers nationally, Arizona adolescents 15-19 years old were more likely to be fatally assaulted by firearms in each year from 1994 to 2002 (**Figure 7-11**). In 1995, the firearm homicide rate for Arizona adolescents was 2.1 greater than the rate for their peers nationally. In 2004, the Arizona rate for adolescents 15-19 years old exceeded the latest U.S. rate by a mere 6 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 1994-2004 and United States 1994-2002 \***

Relative to their peers nationally, Arizona adolescents 15-19 years old were more likely to kill themselves using a firearm in each year from 1994 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, in spite of the increase between 2003 and 2004, the rate of 6 firearm suicides per 100,000 adolescents 15-19 years old was 66.7 percent lower than the peak rate of 18.0/100,000 recorded in 1997.

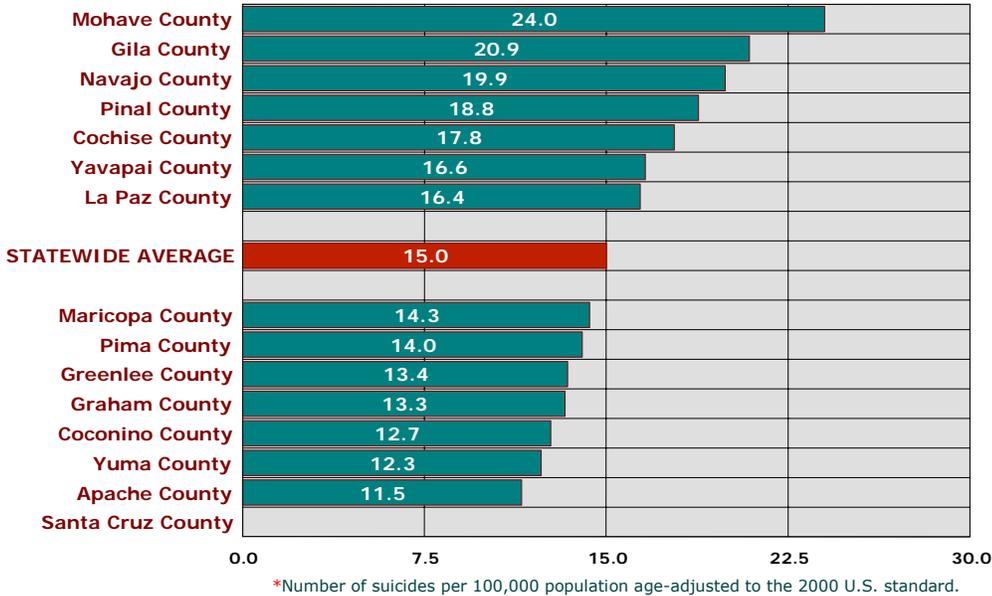


\*The latest year for which the U.S. data are available. The 2001 firearm-suicide rate for Arizona is from the CDC/ National Center of Injury Prevention and Control web site at [http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10\\_sy.html](http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_sy.html)

FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

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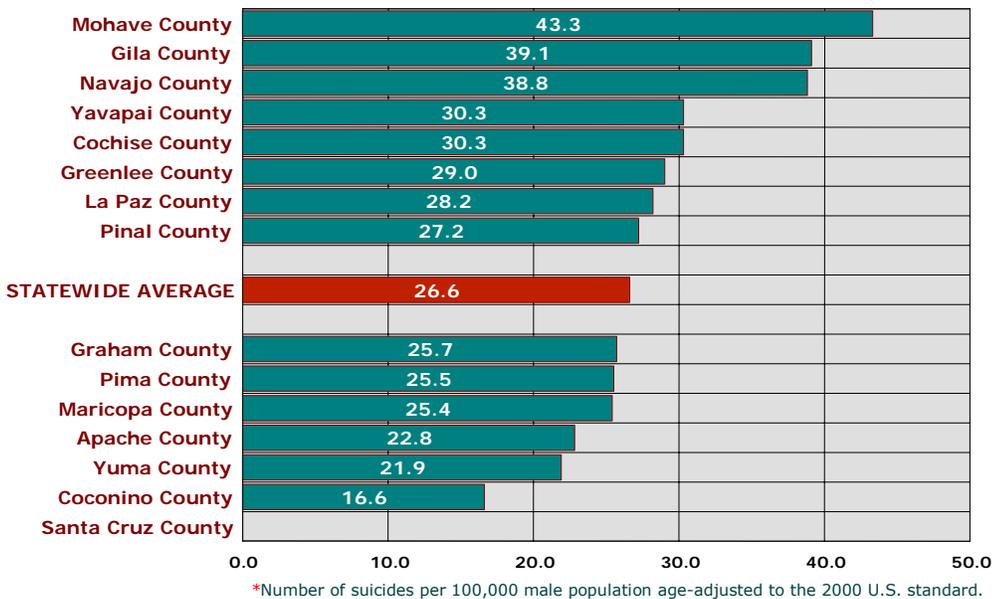
**Figure 7-13**  
**Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Injury by Firearms by County of Residence in Arizona, 2004**



Note: There were no firearm-related deaths in Santa Cruz County. The rates for Apache, Graham, Greenlee and La Paz counties are based on fewer than 10 deaths. These rates are not statistically reliable.

The age-adjusted death rates for injury by firearms varied in Arizona in 2004 from 11.5 deaths per 100,000 residents of Apache County, to 24 deaths per 100,000 residents of Mohave County (Figure 7-13). There were no firearm-related deaths in Santa Cruz County.

**Figure 7-14**  
**Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Injury by Firearms Among Males by County of Residence in Arizona, 2004**



Note: There were no firearm-related male deaths in Santa Cruz County. The rates for Apache, Graham, Greenlee and La P counties are based on fewer than 10 deaths. These rates are not statistically reliable.

Males accounted for 766 of the 873 total deaths from injury by firearms. As for both genders, the highest age-adjusted male mortality rates for firearm injuries were those of residents of Mohave, Gila and Navajo counties (Figure 7-14).

In 2004, there were no female deaths from injury by firearms in Apache, Graham, Greenlee, and Santa Cruz counties. The only statistically reliable age-adjusted female mortality rates for injury by firearms were those for Maricopa (3.3 deaths per 100,000 female population) and Pima (3.4/100,000) counties.