

**INJURY MORTALITY AMONG ARIZONA RESIDENTS**



**INTENTIONAL  
SELF-HARM  
(SUICIDE)**

**ARIZONA RESIDENTS,  
1996-2006**

**BUREAU OF PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICS  
HEALTH STATUS AND VITAL STATISTICS SECTION**



~ Leadership for a Healthy Arizona ~



**Janet Napolitano, Governor**  
*State of Arizona*

**Susan Gerard, Director**  
*Arizona Department of Health Services*

**HEALTH STATUS AND VITAL STATISTICS SECTION**  
**BUREAU OF PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICS**  
**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES**  
150 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 550  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-3248  
Phone: 602/542-7333; FAX: 602/542-2940  
[www.azdhs.gov/plan](http://www.azdhs.gov/plan)

**This publication can be made available in alternative format.**  
Please contact the Bureau of Public Health Statistics  
at 602/542-7333 (voice) or call 1-800-367-8939 (TDD).

*The Arizona Department of Health Services is  
an Equal Employment Opportunity Agency.*

*Permission to quote from or reproduce materials from this  
publication is granted when due acknowledgment is made.*



## *Office of the Director*

150 North 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 500  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
(602) 542-1025  
(602) 542-1062 FAX

JANET NAPOLITANO, GOVERNOR  
SUSAN GERARD, DIRECTOR

March 5, 2008

Dear Arizona Resident,

With sadness for the lives lost, I am hopeful in presenting to you Arizona's report, "Injury Mortality among Arizona Residents – Intentional Self-Harm (suicide), that we can learn how to prevent suicide. Although the occurrence of suicide is rare in Arizona, tracking these incidents and analyzing data is important to our work in that it enables us to develop programs towards preventing these devastating occurrences. This report is particularly constructive in that it shows the rate of suicide by age, gender, race/ethnicity, marital status and county of residence. Having this level of disaggregated data provides us with the information needed to promote relevant programs that meet the needs of different population subgroups in our State.

I would like to congratulate the Bureau of Public Health Statistics in compiling a unique and robust report. It is my hope that this report provides us at The Department of Health Services and our partners alike, the data needed to work towards decreasing the incidents of intentional self-harm (suicide) in our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Gerard". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Director  
Arizona Department of Health Services

# **INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE)**

## **ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1996-2006**

---

BY

CHRISTOPHER K. MRELA, PH.D., *ARIZONA VITAL STATISTICIAN*  
CLARE TORRES, *SENIOR HEALTH DATA ANALYST*

**February 2008**

---

## **Acknowledgment**

Grateful acknowledgement is made to Richard S. Porter and Hilary B. Tabish for reviewing the typescript.

---

# INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE), ARIZONA, 1996-2006

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Purpose</b> .....	1
<b>Methods and Sources</b> .....	1
<b>Data Organization</b> .....	1
<b>Summary of Findings</b> .....	2
<b>Key Findings/Figures</b> .....	3-13
<b>Technical Notes</b> .....	14-16
<b>Data Tables</b> .....	17-36
3-1 Number of suicides and age-adjusted suicide mortality rates by gender and year, Arizona residents, 1996-2006 .....	17
3-2 Age-specific and age-adjusted suicide mortality rates for Arizona and United States, 1996-2006 .....	18
3-3 Number of suicides and suicide rates for persons 15-24 years old by age group and year, Arizona and United States, 1996-2006.....	19
3-4 Number of suicides by race/ethnicity, age group and year, Arizona residents, 1996-2006.....	20
3-5 Number of suicides and suicide mortality rates by age group and gender, Arizona residents, 2006.....	22
3-6 Age-specific and age-adjusted suicide rates by category of marital status and gender, Arizona residents aged 18 years or older in 2006.....	23
3-7 Suicide mortality by means of injury race/ethnicity and gender, Arizona residents, 2006.....	25
3-8 Suicide mortality rates by county of residence, Arizona residents, 1996-2006.....	26
3-9 Number of suicides by county of residence and year, Arizona residents, 1996-2006.....	27
3-10 Number of suicides for persons 15-19 years old by county of residence and year, Arizona, 1996-2006 .....	28
3-11 Number of suicides for elderly (65 years or older) by county of residence and year, Arizona residents, 1996-2006.....	29
3-12 Suicide mortality by month and year, Arizona residents, 1996-2006 .....	30
3-13 Suicide deaths by gender, means of injury and year, Arizona residents, 1996-2006 .....	31
3-14 Suicide mortality by means of injury and age group, Arizona residents, 2006 .....	32
3-15 Suicides among Arizona residents by age group race/ethnicity and year, A summary table with totals for 1996-2006 .....	33
Table A Population denominators used to compute age-adjusted suicide rates by race/ethnicity, age group and gender, Arizona 2006 .....	35
Table B Population denominators used to compute age-specific and age-adjusted suicide rates by gender and category of marital status, Arizona residents 18 years or older in 2006.....	36

## PURPOSE

This report is the annual update of information about suicide among Arizona residents. The data for 2006 are placed in a temporal context by comparison with the data for the preceding years.

Nine of the previously published suicide reports are also available online at <http://www.azdhs.gov/plan/report/im/suicide.htm>. The oldest online report provides suicide statistics for [1985-1995](#).

This publication hopes to contribute to epidemiology of suicide – “the distribution of suicide deaths by characteristics of people, regions and over time – for one of the states that continues to have a much higher mortality rate from this cause than the country as a whole”.<sup>1</sup> In 1999-2005, only five states (Alaska, Nevada, Montana, Colorado, and Wyoming) had higher suicide rates than Arizona.<sup>2</sup>

## METHODS AND SOURCES

Data on the number and characteristics of suicide deaths in Arizona were obtained from the death certificates filed with the Arizona Department of Health Services.

Beginning with the 2000 data year in Arizona (1999 nationally) two major changes have occurred that affect the computation of mortality rates and analyses of mortality data over time. First, the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), used to classify causes of death was revised. The Tenth Revision (ICD-10) replaced the Ninth Revision (ICD-9), which was in effect since 1979. Second, a new population standard for the age adjustment of mortality rates replaced the 1940 standard that has been used since 1943. The new set of age-adjustment weights uses the year 2000 U.S. population as its standard.

Both changes have profound effects on the comparability of mortality data and continuity of statistical trends. Age-adjusted rates can only be compared to age-adjusted rates that use the same population standard. In this report, ALL age-adjusted mortality rates are based on the (new) 2000 standard, and CANNOT BE compared to rates using the 1940 standard population. This is because the age structures of the 1940 and year 2000 populations differ. From 1940 to 2000 the U.S. population “aged” considerably. The age-adjusted rates based on the year 2000 standard are different because the year 2000 population standard, which has an older age structure, gives more weight to death rates at older ages where mortality is higher.

The comparability ratio for suicide (a measure of comparison between ICD-9 and ICD-10) is close to 1.0 (.9982), indicates that the same number of deaths would be assigned to suicide when ICD-9 or ICD-10 was used. Prior to 2000, suicide is defined by the ICD-9 codes E950-E959 and, beginning in 2000, by the ICD-10 codes X60-X84, Y87.0 for underlying cause of death.

Population denominators for Arizona residents, used to calculate rates, are projections from the Population Statistics Unit in the Arizona Department of Economic Security (1996-1999) and the U.S. Census Bureau (census enumerations for 2000). For 2001-2006 we are using our own population estimates. For more detail regarding the data sources and estimation procedures see <http://www.azdhs.gov/plan/menu/info/pd.htm>. **Table A** in *Technical Notes* provides the denominators used to compute the age-adjusted suicide rates shown in Table 3-1 and 3-2, as well as in Figures 3-1 and 3-13.

Numerous studies have shown an association between marital status and suicide. We have expanded current edition of this report to provide age-specific and age-adjusted suicide rates by category of marital status and gender. Age adjustment is important for any analysis of the association between marital status and suicide because both marital status and risk of suicide vary by age. **Table B** in *Technical Notes* provides the population estimates by age group, gender and marital status for Arizonans aged 18 years or older in 2006 (note that **Table A** provides population estimates for Arizonans of all ages).

## DATA ORGANIZATION

In 2002, in a special publication on “[Injury Mortality among Arizona Residents, 1990-2000](#)”, we have incorporated the contents of several previously published reports on firearm-related deaths, drug-related deaths, suicide, unintentional drowning deaths, etc. Suicide was the subject matter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter in this publication and we continue to use prefix 3 for the data tables and figures related to suicide. (A broad overview of patterns of injury mortality both by the “intent” or manner of injury death (that is accidents, homicides, suicides, etc.), and “mechanism” (for example drowning, firearm, drugs) continues to be updated annually and is available at <http://www.azdhs.gov/plan/report/im/imindex.htm>).

Figures 3-1, 3-2, and 3-5 show annual rates of suicide by year from 1996 to 2006. Temporal trends and changes may be assessed from these data. Figures 3-8 through 3-12 reveal race/ethnicity patterns in age-specific suicide mortality. In order to increase the statistical reliability of those rates, the total number of suicides from 1996 to 2006 is used as the numerator and the 2001 population estimates (population at mid-point) multiplied by 11 as the denominator. A comparison of age-adjusted suicide rates by race/ethnicity and gender is available in Figure 3-13. Figures 3-14, 3-15, and 3-16 provide for the first time in this report the age-adjusted and age-specific suicide rates by category of marital status and gender. Figure 3-17 and 3-18 provide evidence of striking differences in the risk of suicide among native-born and non-native Arizonans. Figure 3-7 contrast differences in the age-specific suicide rates by gender. Figure 3-19 provides data on method of self-injury by race/ethnicity. Geographic differences in age-adjusted suicide rate by county of residence in Arizona are illustrated in Figure 3-22.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

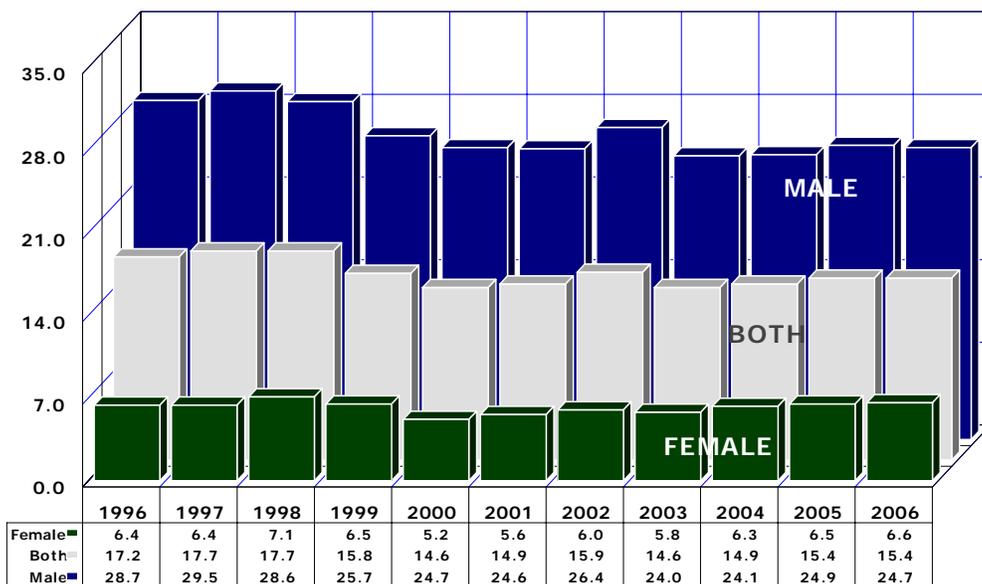
This section presents some illustrative findings contained in the figures and tables of the report. It is not intended to be an exhaustive analysis of the tabulated data.

- In 2006, 948 residents of Arizona prematurely ended their own lives.
- The age-adjusted suicide rate remained unchanged in 2006. However, this rate was 43 percent higher than the average annual rate of 10.8 suicides per 100,000 population nationally per year for 1996-2005.
- In Arizona, males accounted for 78.4 percent of all suicides. The 2006 male risk for intentional self-harm (24.7/100,000) exceeded 3.7 times the female risk of 6.6/100,000.
- The suicide rate for adolescents 15-19 years old decreased from 14.1 suicides per 100,000 in 2005 to 13.0 per 100,000 in 2006. In 1996-2006, the average annual suicide rate of 36.3 suicides per 100,000 American Indian adolescents 15-19 years old exceeded by 177.1 percent (or 2.8 times) the rate for all Arizona adolescents (13.1 suicides per 100,000 per year).
- Suicide rate among elderly Arizonans 65 years or older increased for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year from 19.8 suicides per 100,000 in 2003 to 20.4/100,000 in 2004, 20.9/100,000 in 2005, and 24.5/100,000 in 2006.
- In 1996-2006, the average annual suicide rate of White non-Hispanic elderly 65 years or older was the highest rate among the race/ethnicity groups. In contrast, the lowest suicide rate was among the Black or African American elderly 65 year or older. The suicide rate of White non-Hispanic elderly was 3.4 times greater than the suicide rate of Black or African American elderly Arizonans.
- As in the past, married Arizonans were the least likely to end their own lives in 2006, as compared to Arizonans with other marital statuses. A divorced female was 6 times, never married female 3.9 times, and a widowed female 3.2 times more likely to end her own life than a married female. The suicide rate for widowed males (94.6/100,000) was the highest among the four marital status categories.
- In each of the marital status categories, the suicide rates were substantially higher for men than women.
- Females have the highest suicide rates in midlife (ages 45-64), but even in this age group the risk of suicide for those who were unmarried was 3.5 times greater than for those who were married (20.9 suicides per 100,000 vs. 5.9 per 100,000).
- In 2006, all age-specific suicide rates for married males were consistently lower than the rates for unmarried males.
- The suicide rate among foreign-born residents of the State (14.2/100,000) exceeded by 15.4 percent the suicide rate of native-born Arizonans. The suicide rate among residents of Arizona born in other states in the U.S. (23.9/100,000) was 1.9 times greater than the rate for native-born Arizonans.
- Firearms accounted for 58.4 percent of suicides in 2006. White non-Hispanic suicides used firearms more frequently (62.7 percent). Asian or Pacific Islander and American Indian suicides were more likely to die from hanging or strangulation than firearm use.
- Male suicides used firearms more frequently (69.3 percent) than female suicides (41.0 percent). In contrast, poisoning accounted for 41.0 percent of female suicides, but 10.1 percent of male suicides in 2006.
- The age-adjusted suicide mortality rates varied in Arizona in 2006 from 8.1 suicides per 100,000 residents of La Paz County, to 26.1 suicides per 100,000 residents of Navajo County.

## INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE), ARIZONA, 1996-2006

### KEY FINDINGS

**Figure 3-1**  
Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Intentional Self-Harm (suicide) by Gender and Year, Arizona, 1996-2006



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

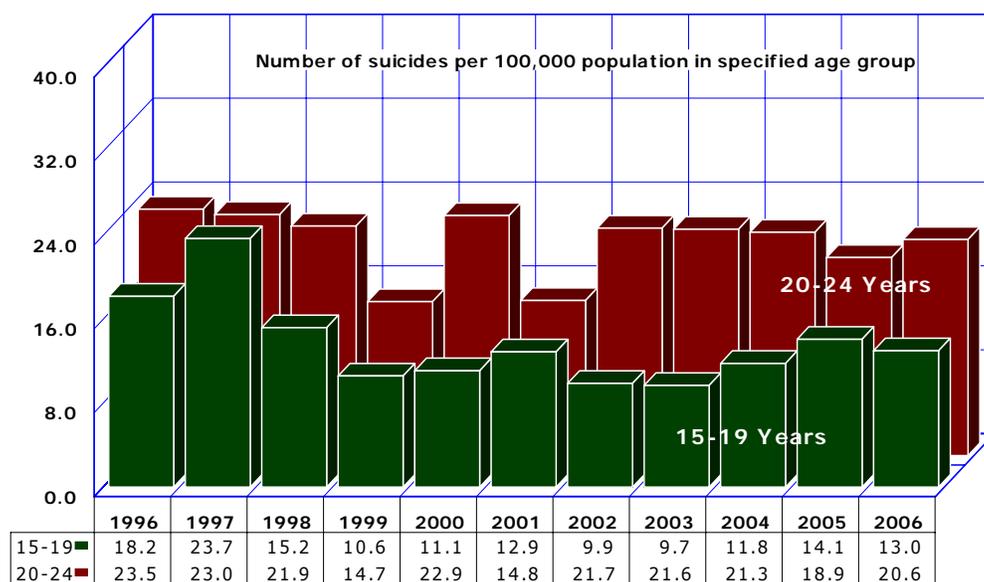
In 2006, 948 residents of Arizona prematurely ended their own lives. These suicide deaths exceeded the entire 2006 population of such Arizona cities as Patagonia or Duncan. However, the age-adjusted suicide rate remained unchanged in 2006 at 15.4 suicides per 100,000 resident population (Figure 3-1, Table 3-1).

In the 1996-2006 period, no suicide death rate among Arizona's males was below 24.0/100,000. In contrast, none of the annual female death rates from suicide exceeded 7.1/100,000 during that period.

The 2006 male risk for intentional self-harm (24.7/100,000) exceeded 3.7 times the female risk of 6.6/100,000. In 2006, males accounted for 78.4 percent of all suicides (Table 3-1).

In 2006, the rate of suicide deaths in Arizona was 43 percent higher than the average annual rate of 10.8 suicides per 100,000 population per year in 1996-2005 nationally.

**Figure 3-2**  
Suicide Mortality Rates by Year for Adolescents 15-19 Years and Young Adults 20-24 Years, Arizona, 1996-2006



The suicide rate for adolescents 15-19 years old decreased from 14.1 suicides per 100,000 in 2005 to 13.0 per 100,000 in 2006 (Figure 3-2, Table 3-3). In 2006, there were 57 suicides among Arizona adolescents 15-19 years old, compared to 61 suicides in 2005 and 39 suicides both in 2002 and 2003.

In contrast, the annual suicide rates for young adults 20-24 years old increased from 18.9 suicides per 100,000 in 2005 to 20.6/100,000 in 2006. In 2006, there were 92 suicides among young Arizona adults 20-24 years old, compared to 81 suicides in 2005 (Table 3-15).

Note: See footnote to Table 3-1. The rates for 2001 are from the WISQARS site at [http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10\\_sy.html](http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_sy.html)

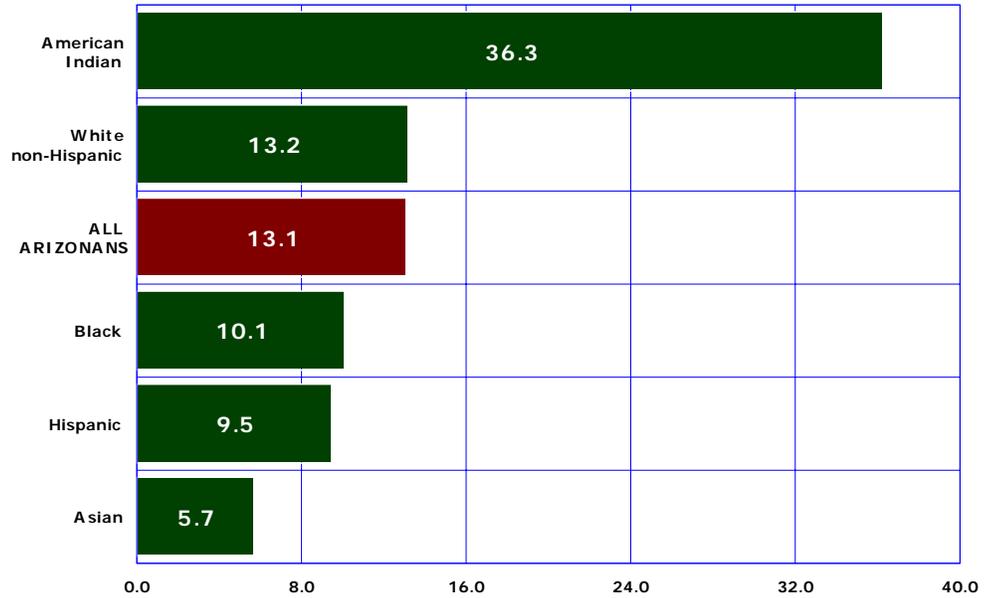
## INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE), ARIZONA, 1996-2006

### KEY FINDINGS

**Figure 3-3**  
Average Annual Suicide Rates by Race/Ethnicity among Adolescents  
15-19 Years, Arizona, 1996-2006

In 1996-2006, the average annual suicide rate of 36.3 suicides per 100,000 American Indian adolescents 15-19 years old exceeded by 177.1 percent (or 2.8 times) the rate for all Arizona adolescents (13.1 suicides per 100,000 per year, **Figure 3-3**). American Indians, who accounted for 7.4 percent of Arizona adolescents 15-19 years old in 1996-2006, disproportionately accounted for 17.9 percent of all adolescent suicides.

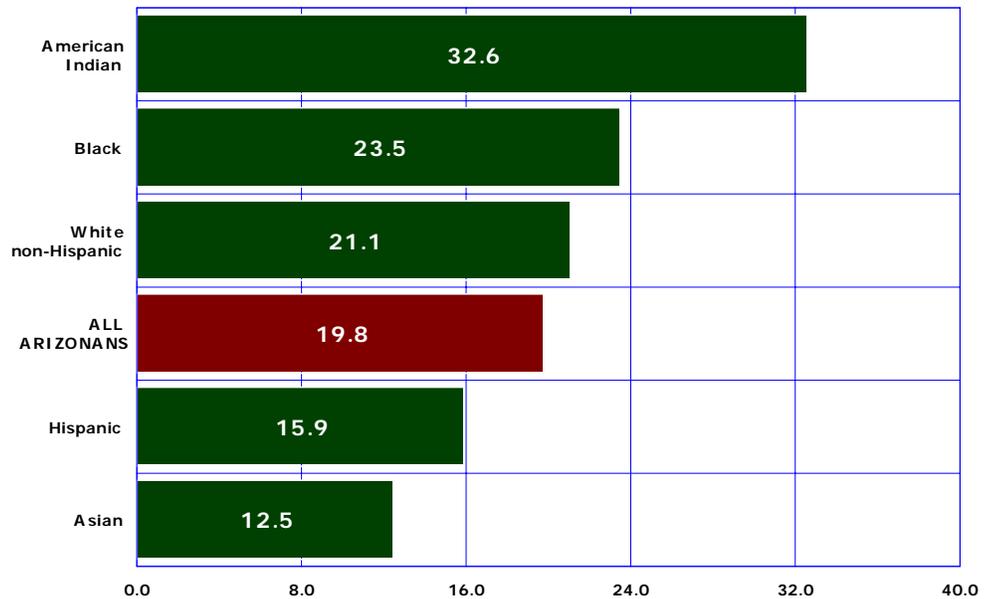
If the average annual suicide rate for American Indian adolescents applied to all Arizonans 15-19 years old in 1996-2006, 1,578 would have died from self-inflicted injuries in suicide during that time, 975 more than 543 who actually did.



Number of suicides per 100,000 population in specified group per year in 1996-2006.

**Figure 3-4**  
Average Annual Suicide Rates by Race/Ethnicity among Young Adults  
20-24 Years, Arizona, 1996-2006

Among young adults 20-24 years old, the average annual suicide rate (computed for the entire period 1996-2006) for American Indians also was the highest rate among the race/ethnicity groups in Arizona. In contrast, the suicide rate among Asian or Pacific Islander residents of Arizona was 36.9 percent lower than the rate for all groups (**Figure 3-4**).

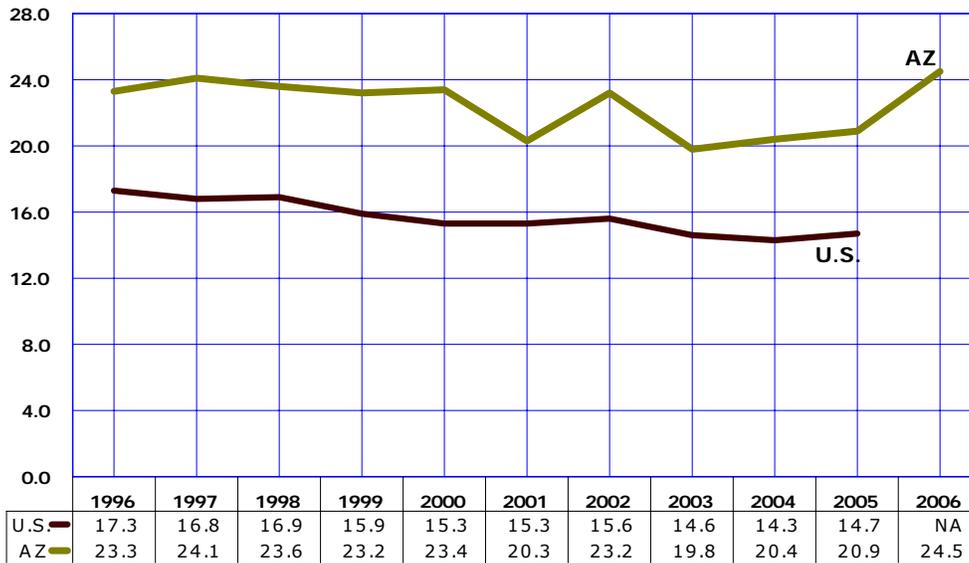


Number of suicides per 100,000 population in specified group per year in 1996-2006.

## INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE), ARIZONA, 1996-2006

### KEY FINDINGS

**Figure 3-5**  
**Suicide Mortality Rates by Year among Elderly 65 Years or Older,**  
**Arizona and the U.S., 1996-2006**

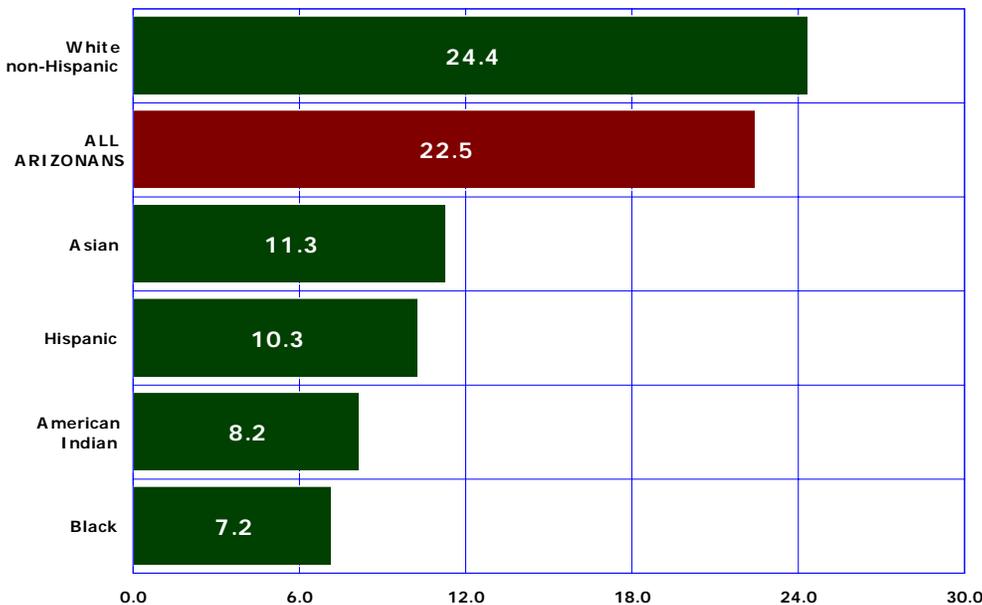


Suicide rate among elderly Arizonans 65 years or older increased for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year from 19.8 suicides per 100,000 in 2003 to 20.4/100,000 in 2004, 20.9/100,000 in 2005, and 24.5/100,000 in 2006. It was the highest elderly suicide rate of the 1996-2006 period (**Figure 3-5**). In 2006, 196 elderly Arizonans 65 years or older died from self-inflicted injuries, compared to 144 in 1996 (**Table 3-15**).

In 1996-2005, all annual age-specific suicide mortality rates among Arizonans aged 65 and older exceeded by at least 25.8 percent the corresponding U.S. rates.

Number of suicides per 100,000 population 65+.

**Figure 3-6**  
**Average Annual Suicide Rates by Race/Ethnicity among**  
**Elderly 65 Years or Older, Arizona, 1996-2006**



In 1996-2006, the average annual suicide rate of White non-Hispanic elderly 65 years or older was the highest rate among the race/ethnicity groups (**Figure 3-6**). In contrast, the lowest suicide rate was among the Black or African American elderly 65 years or older. The suicide rate of White non-Hispanic elderly was 3.4 times greater than the suicide rate of Black or African American elderly Arizonans.

Number of suicides per 100,000 population in specified group per year in 1996-2006.

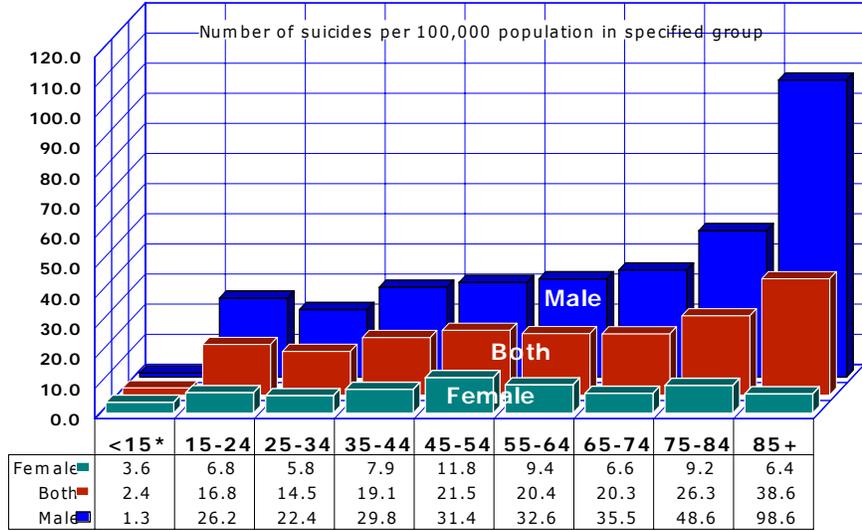
## INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE), ARIZONA, 1996-2006

### KEY FINDINGS

**Figure 3-7**  
**Suicide Mortality Rates by Age Group and Gender, Arizona, 2006**

Among males, the 2006 suicide mortality curve was bimodal (**Figure 3-7, Table 3-5**) reaching the first peak at ages 15-24 years (26.2/100,000), tapering off to 22.4/100,000 at ages 25-34, and rising to a second peak among the elderly 85 years or older (98.6/100,000). The suicide rate among the oldest was the highest rate among all age groups in Arizona. Among females, the highest suicide rate was among those 45-54 years old (11.8 suicides per 100,000).

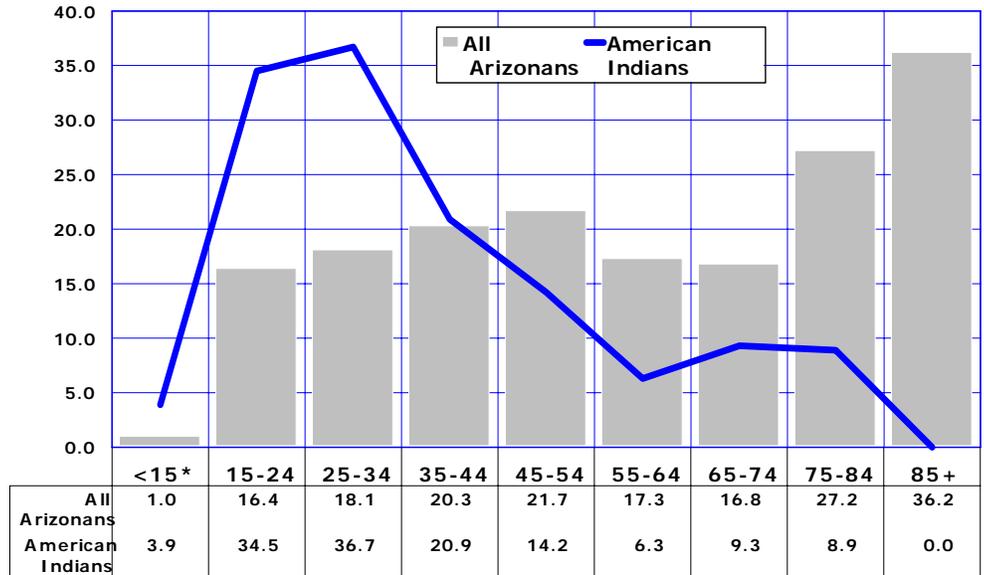
The 2006 suicide rate among males 85+ years old was 15.4 times greater than the corresponding female rate of 6.4/100,000. In 2006, males accounted for 89.2 percent of all suicides among Arizonans 85 years or older (based on frequency counts by age group in Table 3-5).



\* 5-14 years old.

**Figure 3-8**  
**Comparison of Average Annual Suicide Mortality Rates by Age Group among American Indians or Alaska Natives and all Residents of Arizona, 1996-2006**

**Figures 3-8, 3-9, 3-10, 3-11, and 3-12** reveal ethnic patterns in age-specific suicide mortality. Among American Indian residents of the State in 1996-2006, the highest average annual suicides rates were those of children, adolescents, and young adults (**Figure 3-8**). After reaching its peak at ages 25-34 years (36.7 suicides per 100,000 persons per year), the suicide rate dropped 82.8 percent to 6.3/100,000 among American Indians who were 35-44 years old in 1996-2006. There were no suicides among the oldest American Indians 85 years or older.

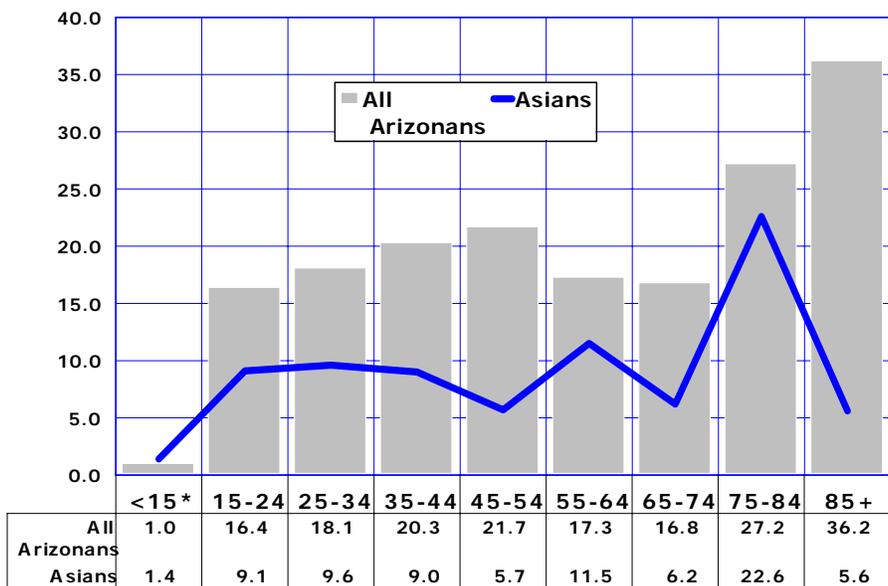


Number of suicides per 100,000 population in specified group per year in 1996-2006.  
\*5-14 years old.

## INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE), ARIZONA, 1996-2006

### KEY FINDINGS

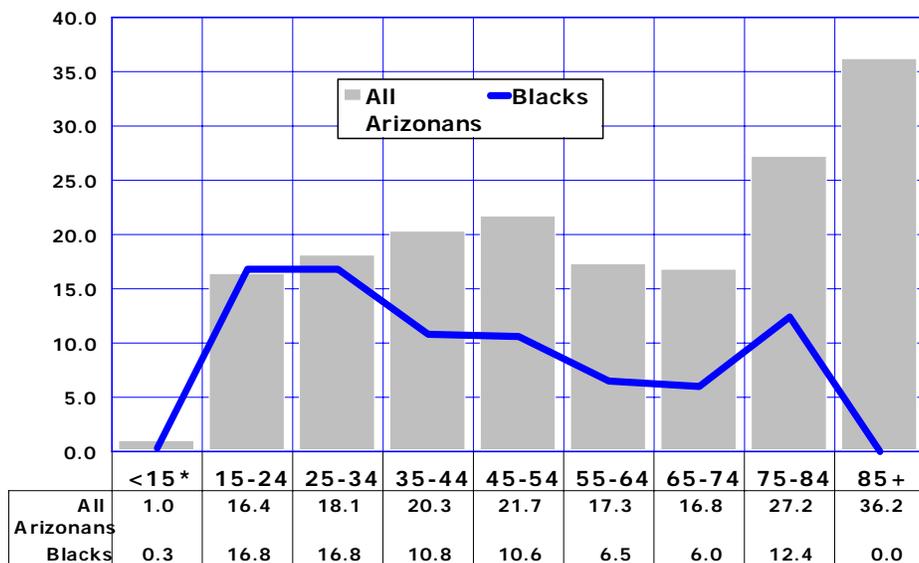
**Figure 3-9**  
**Comparison of Average Annual Suicide Mortality Rates by Age Group among Asians or Pacific Islanders and all Residents of Arizona, 1996-2006**



Among Asian or Pacific Islander residents of Arizona none of the average annual (computed for the entire period 1996-2006) age-specific suicide rates exceeded the average rates for all groups (**Figure 3-9**). The suicide rate among elderly persons 75-84 years old was the highest age-specific rate among Asians or Pacific Islanders.

Number of suicides per 100,000 population in specified group per year in 1996-2006.  
 \*5-14 years old.

**Figure 3-10**  
**Comparison of Average Annual Suicide Mortality Rates by Age Group among Blacks or African Americans and all Residents of Arizona, 1996-2006**



Among Blacks or African Americans only one of the average annual (computed for the entire period 1996-2006) age-specific suicide rates slightly exceeded the average rates for all groups (a rate of 16.8/100,000 among those aged 15-24 years; **Figure 3-10**). However, the age-specific suicide mortality curve reflected 4 distinct peaks for Blacks at ages 15-24 years, 25-34 years, 45-54 years and 75-84 years.

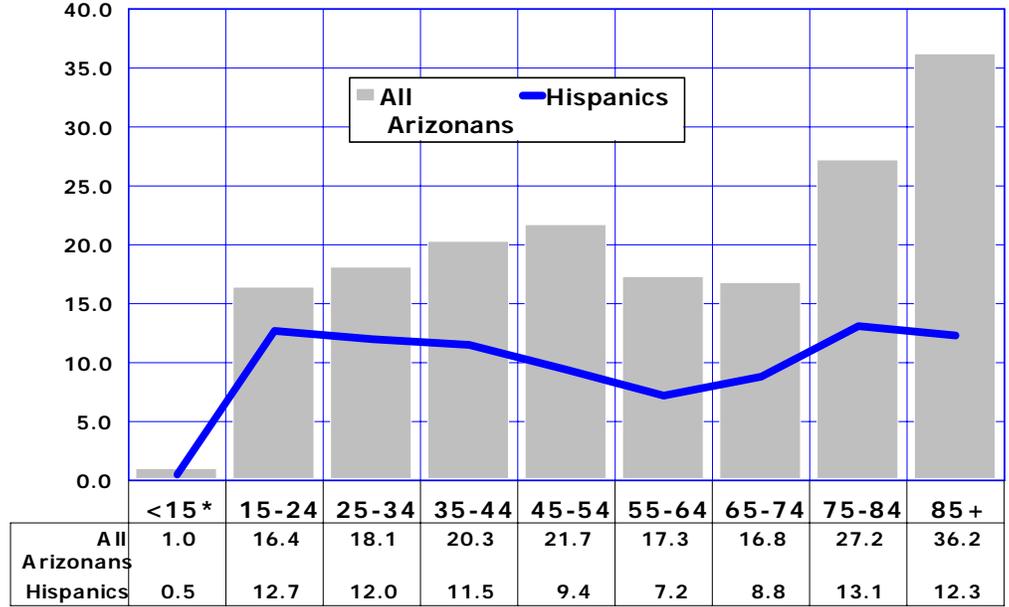
Number of suicides per 100,000 population in specified group per year in 1996-2006.  
 \*5-14 years old.

INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE), ARIZONA, 1996-2006

KEY FINDINGS

Figure 3-11  
Comparison of Average Annual Suicide Mortality Rates by Age Group among Hispanics or Latinos and all Residents of Arizona, 1996-2006

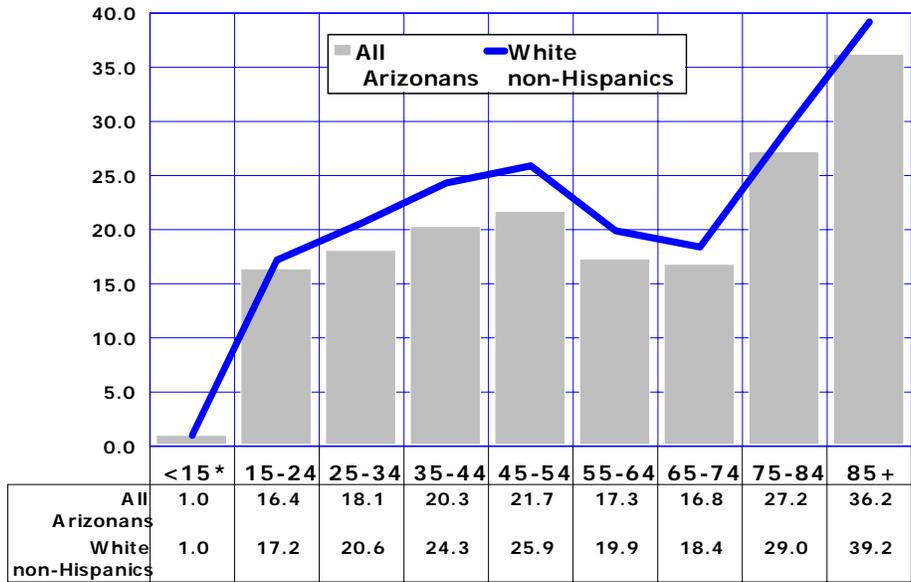
In addition to Asians and Blacks, also among Hispanic or Latino residents of Arizona none of the average annual (computed for the entire period 1996-2006) age-specific suicide rates exceeded the average rates for all groups (Figure 3-11). Among Hispanics or Latino, the age-specific suicide mortality curve was bimodal, reaching its first peak at ages 15-24 years (12.7 suicides per 100,000), tapering off at ages 55-64 (7.2 suicides per 100,000), and rising to a second peak among the elderly 75-84 years old (13.1 suicides per 100,000).



Number of suicides per 100,000 population in specified group per year in 1996-2006.  
\*5-14 years old.

Figure 3-12  
Comparison of Average Annual Suicide Mortality Rates by Age Group among White non-Hispanics and all Residents of Arizona, 1996-2006

The age-specific suicide mortality profile of White non-Hispanics (Figure 3-12) can be best contrasted with the American Indian profile (Figure 3-8). Beginning at ages 15-24 years, all of the average annual (computed for the entire period 1996-2006) age-specific suicide rates of White non-Hispanics exceeded the average rates for all groups. The suicide rate among the oldest 85 years or older (39.2 suicides per 100,000 persons per year) was the highest age-specific suicide rate among White non-Hispanic residents of Arizona.

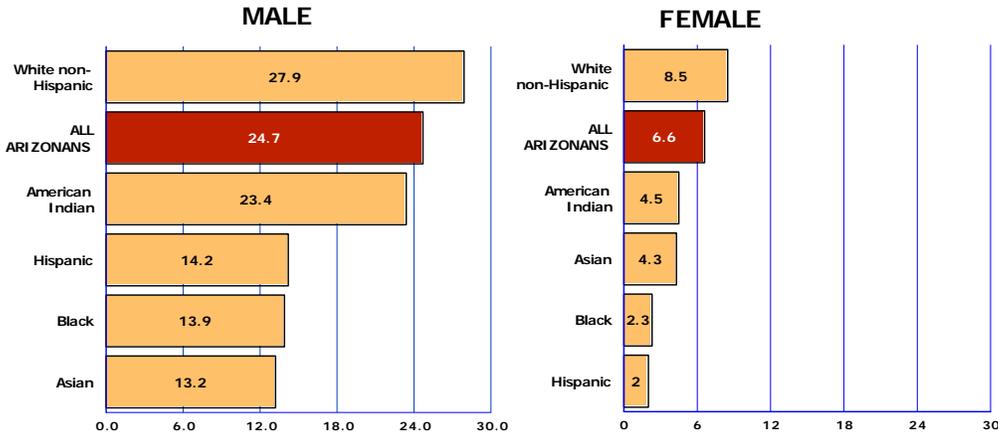


Number of suicides per 100,000 population in specified group per year in 1996-2006.  
\*5-14 years old.

## INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE), ARIZONA, 1996-2006

### KEY FINDINGS

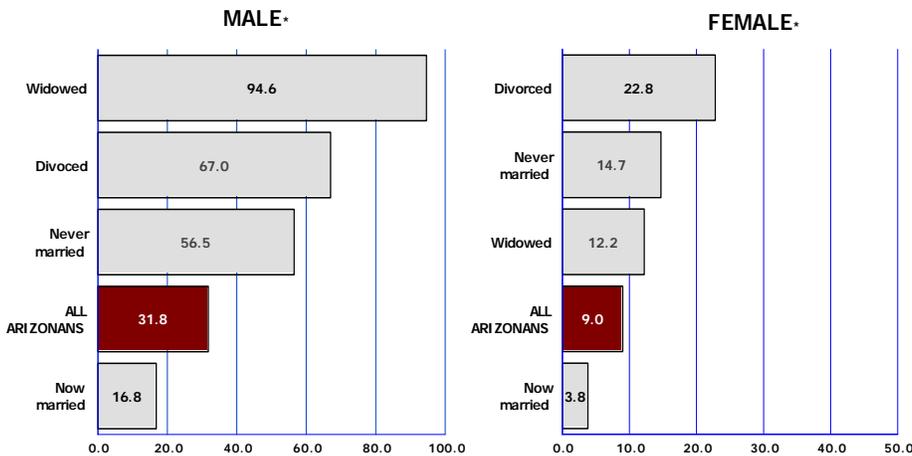
**Figure 3-13**  
Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Suicide by Gender and Race/Ethnicity, Arizona, 2006



The age-adjusted suicide rate for White non-Hispanic males was the highest gender-specific rate in 2006, followed by American Indians among the race/ethnicity groups in Arizona. Among females, the suicide rate for White non-Hispanics was the highest, also followed by the suicide rate of American Indian females (Figure 3-13). Particularly high gender ratio in suicide mortality was evident in 2006 for Hispanics (male rate of 14.2 was 7.1 times the rate of 2.0 for females).

Number of deaths per 100,000 population in specified group age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard.

**Figure 3-14**  
Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Suicide by Category of Marital Status, Arizona Residents 18 years or Older in 2006



\* Aged 18 years or older.

In his classic 1897 work "Suicide: A Study in Sociology"<sup>1</sup>, Emile Durkheim proposed that we need to look beyond individual characteristics in explaining the act of suicide. Durkheim found out that suicide rates are higher for those who are widowed, never married and divorced compared to married. He proposed that suicide is directly linked to a person's feeling of social integration. Marital disruption in the form of divorce or death of a spouse "can greatly reduce people's feeling of social bonding to the extent at which they become more likely to commit suicide."<sup>2</sup>

As in the past, married Arizonans clearly were the least likely to end their own lives in 2006 compared to Arizonans in other marital statuses (Figure 3-14, Table 3-6). A divorced female was 6 times, never married female 3.9 times, and a widowed female 3.2 times more likely to end her own life than a married female. Unlike for females, the suicide rate for widowed males (94.6/100,000) was the highest among the four marital status categories. In each of the marital status categories, the suicide rates were substantially higher for men than women.

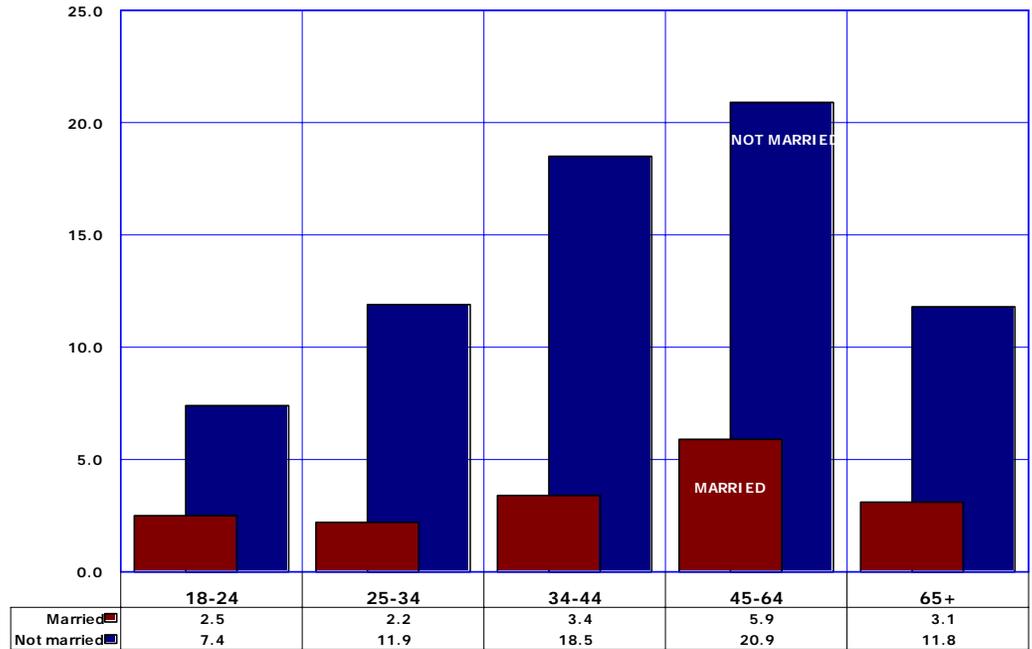
INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE), ARIZONA, 1996-2006

KEY FINDINGS

Figure 3-15  
Age-Specific Suicide Rates\* by Marital Status among Arizona Females  
18 Years or Older in 2006

Durkheim said, "The role of a spouse is the nucleus of their social support network for most persons in their adult lives."<sup>3</sup>

In 2006, the age-specific suicide rates for married females were consistently lower than the rates for unmarried females (Figure 3-15, Table 3-6). Females have the highest suicide rates in midlife (ages 45-64), but even in this age group the risk of suicide for those who were unmarried was 3.5 times greater than for those who were married (20.9 suicides per 100,000 vs. 5.9 per 100,000). For the two younger age groups, females 25-34 and 35-44 years old in 2006, the rate ratio of 5.4 was 54.3 percent higher than the rate ratio of 3.5 among the middle-age females.

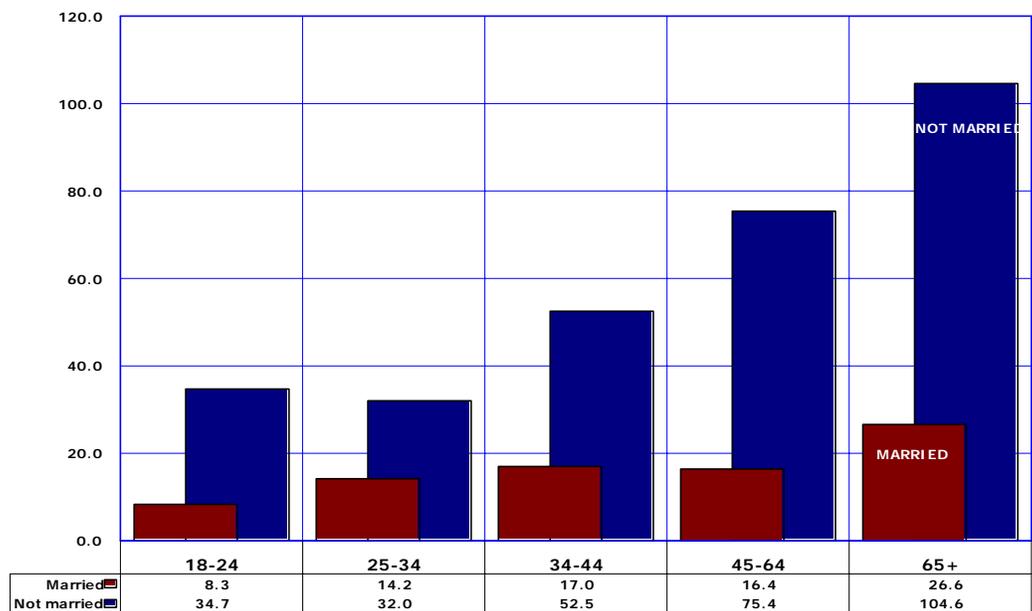


The number of suicides per 100,000 females in specified group.

In 2006, the age-specific suicide rates for married males were consistently lower than the rates for unmarried males (Figure 3-16). Among married males, the 2006 suicide mortality curve by age was bimodal, reaching the first peak at ages 18-24, tapering off at ages 25-34, and rising to a second peak among the elderly 65 years or older. Among those aged 18-24 years, the risk of suicide for those who were unmarried was 4.2 times greater than for those who were married (34.7 suicides per 100,000 vs. 8.3/100,000). The rate ratio of 3.9 times greater for those unmarried was only slightly lower among Arizona males 65 years or older in 2006 (104.6 : 26.6 =3.9).

While the protective effect of marriage clearly operates in male suicide, men of any age and in any marital status commit suicide far more frequently than women (compare the rates in Figure 3-15 and Figure 3-16 or in Table 3-6).

Figure 3-16  
Age-Specific Suicide Rates\* by Marital Status among Arizona Males  
18 Years or Older in 2006

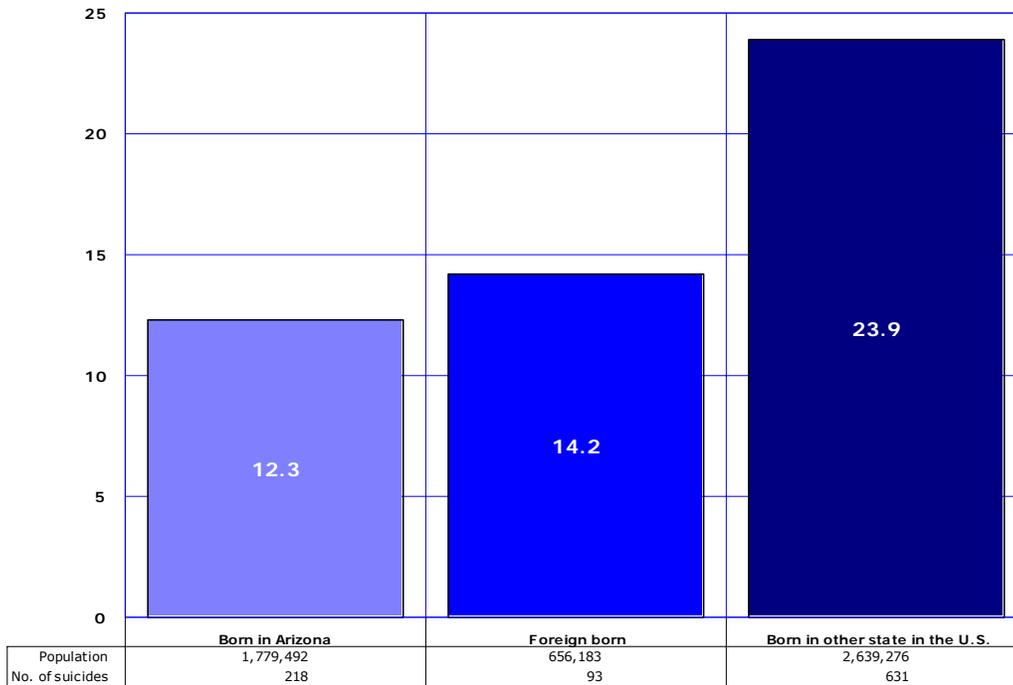


The number of suicides per 100,000 males in specified group.

# INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE), ARIZONA, 1996-2006

## KEY FINDINGS

**Figure 3-17**  
**The Risk of Suicide among Native-Born and Non-Native Arizonans, 2006**



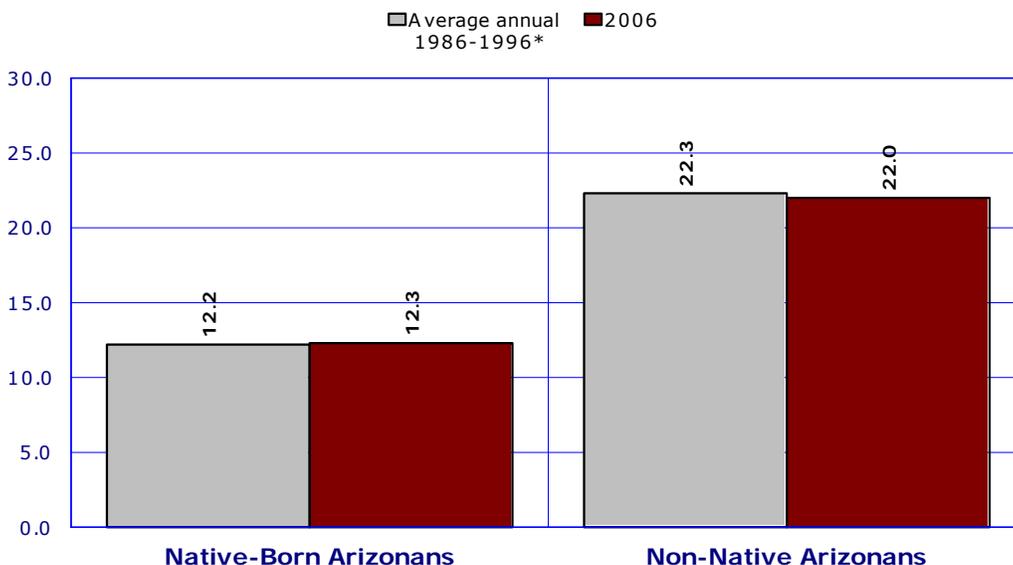
\*The number of suicides per 100,000 population by category of place of birth.

It was Emile Durkheim who also proposed that suicide is directly linked to the degree of cohesion present in society and to a "person's feelings of social integration".<sup>4</sup> According to Durkheim, suicide proneness exists only in relation to specific social conditions.

One of the indirect measures of social integration is the proportion of a population which is native-born in an area. Arizona continues to be a state with a low rate of native-born residents. In 2000, as in 1990 and 1980, only one in three Arizonans were native-born (34.7, 34.1 and 33.0 percent respectively).

The suicide rate among foreign-born residents of the State (14.2/100,000) exceeded by 15.4 percent the suicide rate of native-born Arizonans (12.3/100,000; **Figure 3-17**). The suicide rate among residents of Arizona born in other states in the U.S. (23.9/100,000) was 1.9 times greater than the rate for native-born Arizonans.

**Figure 3-18**  
**Comparison of the Risk of Suicide among Native-Born and Non-Native Arizonans, Average Annual for 1986-1996 and 2006**



As shown in **Figure 3-18**, the pattern of suicide mortality in Arizona remained virtually unchanged since 1986-1996. In 1986-1996 as in 2006, the suicide rate was approximately 1.8 times higher for non-native (22.0 per 100,000) than the rate for native-born Arizonans (12.3 per 100,000).

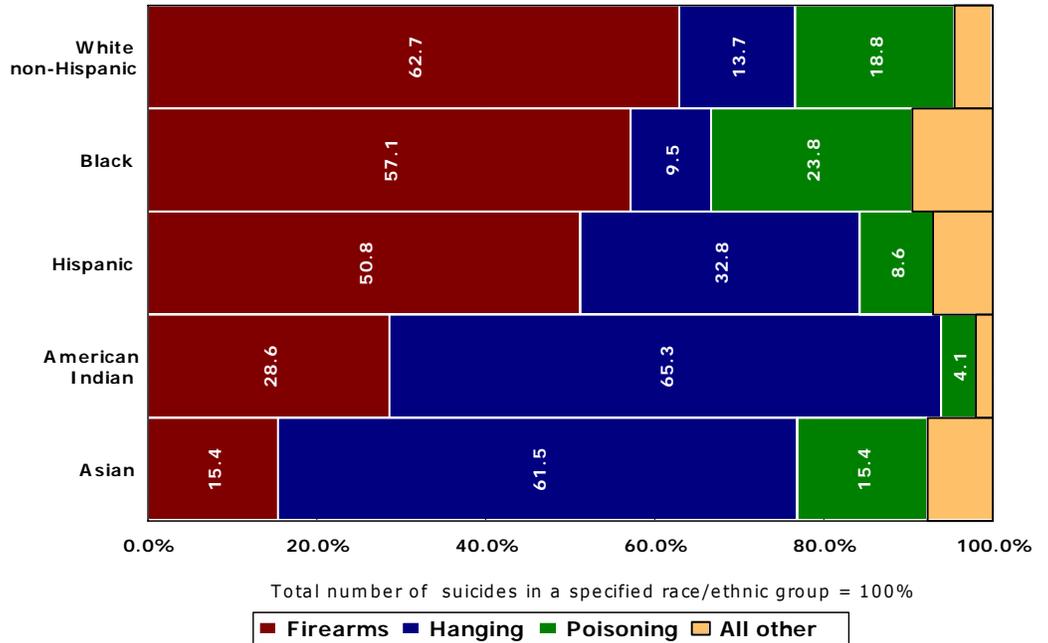
\* <http://www.azdhs.gov/plan/report/im/sm/suicid96/images/96suf8.htm>

INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE), ARIZONA, 1996-2006

KEY FINDINGS

Figure 3-19  
Percent Distribution of Suicides by Means of Injury and Race/Ethnicity, Arizona, 2006

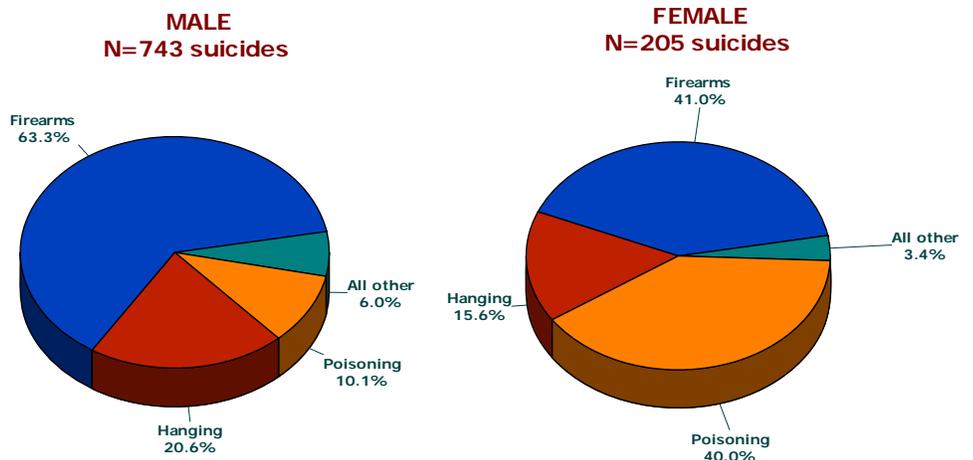
Firearms accounted 58.4 percent of suicides in 2006 (based on data in Table 3-7). White non-Hispanic suicides used firearms more frequently (62.7 percent, Figure 3-15). Asian or Pacific Islander and American Indian suicides were more likely to die from hanging or strangulation than firearm use.



Total number of suicides in a specified race/ethnic group = 100%.

Figure 3-20  
Means of Self-Inflicted Injury per 100 Suicides by Gender, Arizona, 2006

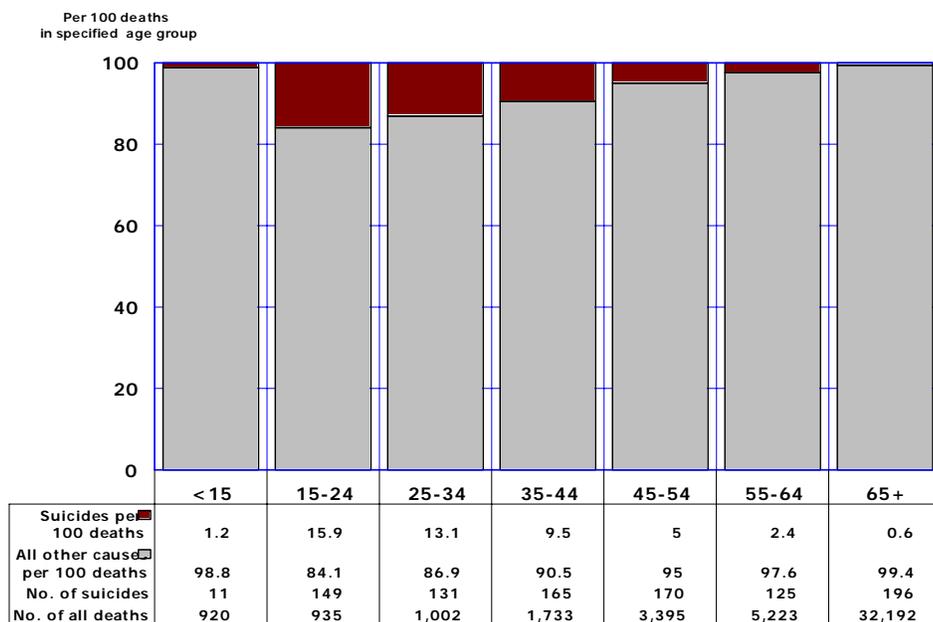
Male suicides used firearms more frequently (69.3 percent) than female suicides (41.0 percent, Figure 3-16). In contrast, poisoning accounted for 41.0 percent of female suicides, but 10.1 percent of male suicides in 2006.



## INTENTIONAL SELF-HARM (SUICIDE), ARIZONA, 1996-2006

### KEY FINDINGS

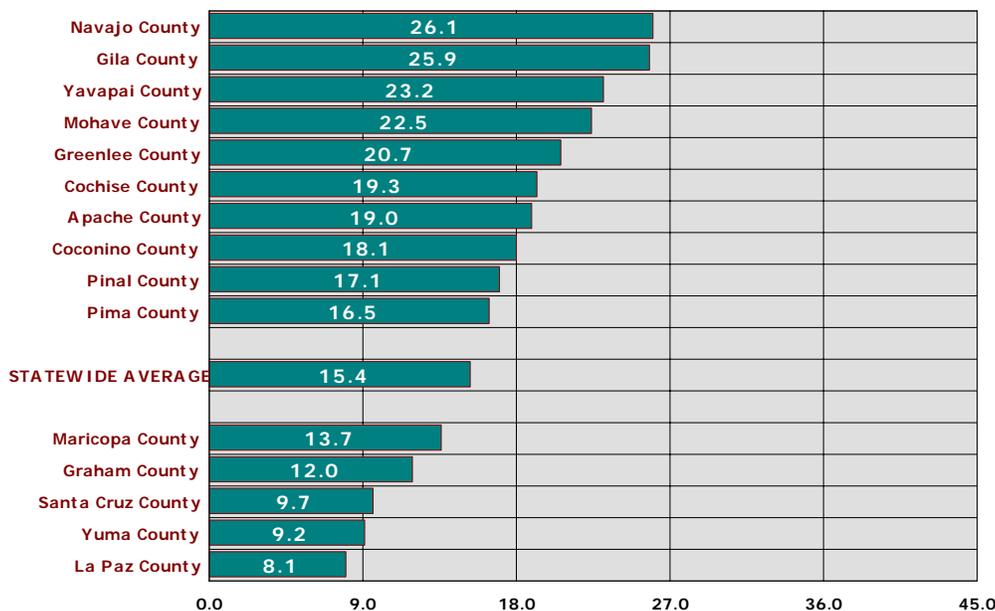
**Figure 3-21**  
**Suicides per 100 Deaths by Age Group, Arizona, 2006**



Suicide has been and continues to be a relatively rare occurrence. In 2006, suicide accounted for 2.1 percent of the 45,415 total deaths of Arizona residents. Among 32,192 Arizonans aged 65 and older who died in 2006, only 0.6 percent (196 deaths) were suicides (**Figure 3-17**). Still, the elderly comprised 20.7 percent of all suicide deaths, a 59 percent excess over their proportion in the population (13 percent).

The contribution of suicide to total mortality was strongly marked at ages 15-24. One out of six deaths in this age group was a suicide in 2006 (149 suicides among 935 total deaths).

**Figure 3-22**  
**Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates\* for Intentional Self-Harm (suicide) by County of Residence in Arizona, 2006**



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

Note: The rates for Graham, Greenlee and Santa Cruz and La Paz counties are not statistically reliable. These rates are based on fewer than 10 suicides in 2006.

The age-adjusted suicide mortality rates varied in Arizona in 2006 from 8.1 suicides per 100,000 residents of La Paz County, to 26.1 suicides per 100,000 residents of Navajo County (**Figure 3-18, Table 5E-11 in Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics 2006**). Including Navajo, ten counties exceeded the statewide average rate of 15.4 suicides per 100,000 resident population in 2006.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

### Misclassification of suicides in 2000 and 2001

Before data 2000, mortality medical information was based on manual coding of an underlying death for each certificate in accordance with WHO rules, and done locally by the Office of Vital Records. Effective with the 2000 data year and the implementation of ICD-10, cause-of-death data presented in this publication were coded by the National Center for Health Statistics, using computerized procedures of SuperMICAR (Mortality Medical Indexing and Retrieval) and ACME (Automated Classification of Medical Entities) systems.

The conversion to computerized coding contributed to at least some of the breaks in comparability over time of cause-of-death statistics for intentional self-harm (suicide), drug-induced deaths and accidental discharge of firearms:

Data year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Drug-induced deaths	543	331	577	645	646	745
Suicide	773	737	600	855	807	854
Suicide by firearms	495	486	358	544	476	498
Suicide by drugs	105	59	76	100	93	115
Accidental discharge of firearms	7	11	114	26	13	13

Unprecedented decline in 2001 in the number of suicides and the equally unprecedented increase in the number of firearm deaths classified as accidental obviously are associated. Approximately 100 firearm fatalities, that would have been classified as suicides had the manual coding system been in place, were classified as accidents in 2001 because the "manner of death" was not indicated and the automated coding system defaulted to accidental injury. Computerized coding of the underlying cause of death also affected the number of drug-induced deaths in 2000, as well as the number of suicides by drug poisoning in both 2000 and 2001.

The suicide statistics for 2000-2001, both numbers and rates, should be used with caution. Whenever available, the originally reported data for 2001 have been supplemented with a bit more realistic statistical information from the WISQARS (Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System) site at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/>.

### Age-adjustment of mortality rates

Because mortality from most causes of death occurs predominately among the elderly, a population group with a larger proportion of older persons would have a higher mortality rate. The "age-adjustment" removes the effect of the age differences among sub-populations (or in the same population over time) by placing them all in a population with a standard age distribution. All age-adjusted mortality rates in this report were computed by the direct method, that is, by weighting the age-specific rates for a given year by the age distribution of a standard population. The weighted age-specific rates are then added to produce the summary rate for all ages combined.

Age group	2006 population	2006 suicide deaths	Age-specific suicide Rates in 2006	2000 standard	Weighted age-specific rates and the age-adjusted suicide rate for 2006
A	B	C	D (C/B)*100000	E	F D*E
<1	97,113	0	.0	.013818	.0
1-4	385,231	0	.0	.055317	.0
5-14	907,783	11	1.2	.145565	.2
15-24	885,751	149	16.8	.138646	2.3
25-34	900,752	131	14.5	.135573	2.0
35-44	861,992	165	19.1	.162613	3.1
45-54	790,400	170	21.5	.134834	2.9
55-64	611,914	125	20.4	.087247	1.8
65-74	432,488	88	20.3	.066037	1.3
75-84	270,162	71	26.3	.044842	1.2
85+	95,896	37	38.6	.015508	.6
All ages	6,239,482	948		TOTAL	15.4

The age-adjusted suicide mortality rate should be viewed as relative index rather than as actual measure of mortality risk.

### Age-adjustment weights used to compute age-adjusted rates by category of marital status

Age-adjusted suicide rates by marital status were computed based on the age-specific rates and the standard population for ages 18 years and older. Ages 17 years and younger were excluded because of their high variability, particularly for the widowed population. The age-adjustment weights shown below follow the Distribution #9 (See: Klein RJ, Schoenborn CA. Age-adjustment using the 2000 projected U.S. population. Healthy People Statistical Note, no. 20. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. January 2007).

	Population in thousands	Adjustment weight
Total	203,851	1.000000
18-24	26,258	0.128810
25-34	37,233	0.182648
35-44	44,659	0.219077
45-64	60,991	0.299194
65+	34,710	0.170271

### Computation of standard errors and confidence intervals

In table 3-6 each of the age-specific or age-adjusted suicide rates is accompanied by its standard error and 95 percent confidence interval.

When the number of deaths is 100 or greater

$$L(R) = R - 1.96(SE(R)) \text{ and } U(R) = R + 1.96(SE(R))$$

where  $L(R)$  and  $U(R)$  are the lower and upper limits of the confidence interval, respectively. The resulting 95 percent confidence interval can be interpreted to mean that the chances are 95 out of 100 that the "true" death rate falls between  $L(R)$  and  $U(R)$ .

For the number of deaths and death rates when the number of deaths is less than 100, 95 percent confidence limits can be estimated using the lower and upper confidence limit factors shown in [Table XIV](#) on p.118 in Minino AM, Heron MP, Murphy SL, Kochanek, KD "Deaths: Final Data for 2004". National vital statistics reports; vol. 55 no 19. Hyattsville, MD. National Center for Health Statistics. 2007.

---

### REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> Gersten, Joanne C., Teitelbaum, F, Chapin C, Research Notes, Vol.2 No.1, p.1. June 1986, *Suicide in Arizona*, Phoenix: Arizona Department of Health Services.

<sup>2</sup> Based on WISQARS (Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System), a CDC interactive database system at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/>

<sup>3</sup> Durkheim, Emile. (1897) 1951. *Suicide: A Study in Sociology*, trans. J.A. Spaulding and G. Simpson, New York: Free Press.

<sup>4</sup> Levin, William C.1991. *Sociological Ideas. Concepts and Applications*, Belmont: Wadsworth Publishing Company, p.384.

<sup>5</sup> Gersten, Joanne C., Teitelbaum, F, Chapin C, *ibid.* p 1.



**TABLE 3-1  
NUMBER OF SUICIDES AND AGE-ADJUSTED SUICIDE MORTALITY RATES<sup>a</sup> BY GENDER AND YEAR,  
ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1996-2006**

GENDER	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
						unmodified	modified					
<b>MALE</b>												
--Number	619	662	674	613	604	485	622	692	647	674	723	743
--Rate	28.7	29.5	28.6	25.7	24.7	19.1	24.6	26.4	24.0	24.1	24.9	24.7
<b>FEMALE</b>												
--Number	143	148	171	160	133	115	145	163	160	180	192	205
--Rate	6.4	6.4	7.1	6.5	5.2	4.4	5.6	6.0	5.8	6.3	6.5	6.6
<b>TOTAL</b>												
--Number	762	810	845	773	737	600	767	855	807	854	915	948
--Rate	17.2	17.7	17.7	15.8	14.6	11.5	14.9	15.9	14.6	14.9	15.4	15.4
Rate ratio, M:F	4.5	4.6	4.0	4.0	4.7	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.7
Percent MALE suicides <sup>c</sup>	81.2	81.7	79.8	79.3	81.9	80.8	81.1	80.9	80.2	78.9	79.3	78.4

<sup>a</sup>Number of suicides per 100,000 population in specified group age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard. The age-adjusted mortality rates in this report, based on the (new) 2000 standard, CANNOT BE compared to previously published rates which use the 1940 standard population.

<sup>b</sup>Includes one record with unspecified gender.

<sup>c</sup>TOTAL suicides = 100 percent.

Cause of death	1999	2000	2001		2002	2003
			unmodified	modified		
<b>Suicide</b>	773	737	600	767	855	807
<b>Suicide by drugs</b>	105	59	76	113	100	93
<b>Suicide by firearms</b>	495	486	358	468	544	476
<b>Accidental discharge of firearms</b>	7	11	114	6	26	13

Unprecedented decline in 2001 in the number of suicides and the equally unprecedented increase in the number of firearm deaths classified as accidental obviously are associated. Some of the firearm fatalities (as well as drug poisonings), that would have been classified as suicides had the manual coding system been in place, were classified as accidents in 2001 because the "manner of death" was not indicated and the automated coding system defaulted to accidental injury. Table 3-1 provides two data columns for 2001: unmodified and modified for the misclassification of the underlying cause of death. The numbers and rates used in the "modified" column for 2001 are from the WISQARS site at [http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10\\_sy.html](http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_sy.html).

**TABLE 3-2  
AGE-SPECIFIC\* AND AGE-ADJUSTED SUICIDE MORTALITY RATES FOR ARIZONA AND UNITED STATES, 1996-2006**

Year	Area	Age group:								Age-adjusted mortality rate**
		15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+			
1996	AZ	20.9	22.3	24.4	21.8	14.9	23.3	17.2		
	U.S.	12.1	12.0	14.5	15.5	14.9	17.3	11.5		
1997	AZ	23.4	22.4	26.3	20.3	14.6	24.1	17.7		
	U.S.	11.4	14.3	15.3	14.7	13.5	16.8	11.2		
1998	AZ	18.5	23.6	26.3	24.2	17.6	23.6	17.7		
	U.S.	11.1	13.8	15.4	14.8	13.1	16.9	11.1		
1999	AZ	12.6	19.7	21.0	21.9	22.5	23.2	15.8		
	U.S.	10.3	13.5	14.4	14.2	12.4	15.9	10.5		
2000	AZ	17.0	14.9	18.9	21.2	13.8	23.4	14.6		
	U.S.	10.1	13.2	14.6	14.6	12.3	15.3	10.4		
2001	AZ	21.5	25.2	21.2	22.0	24.0	20.3	11.5 ***(14.9)		
	U.S.	9.9	12.7	14.7	15.2	13.1	15.3	10.7		
2002	AZ	15.8	18.9	18.2	23.6	20.8	23.2	15.9		
	U.S.	9.9	12.7	15.3	15.8	13.6	15.6	11.0		
2003	AZ	15.6	16.4	20.7	19.7	17.1	19.8	14.6		
	U.S.	9.7	12.7	14.9	15.9	13.8	14.6	10.8		
2004	AZ	16.5	15.7	18.8	23.8	18.2	20.4	14.9		
	U.S.	10.4	12.7	15.1	16.6	13.8	14.3	10.7		
2005	AZ	16.5	18.0	18.0	24.1	18.3	20.9	15.4		
	U.S.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
2006	AZ	16.8	14.5	19.1	21.5	20.4	24.5	15.4		
	U.S.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		

\*\*\*See footnote to Table 3-1. The rate of 11.5 is based on the number of suicides unmodified for misclassification of firearm suicides and suicide poisonings deaths as accidents. The U.S. data for 1996-2004 are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/>.

**TABLE 3-3  
NUMBER OF SUICIDES AND SUICIDE RATES\* FOR PERSONS 15-24 YEARS OLD BY AGE GROUP AND YEAR,  
ARIZONA AND UNITED STATES, 1996-2006**

Year	Area	15-24 Years		
		Total, 15-24 Years	15-19 Years	20-24 Years
1996	AZ	20.9 (128)	18.2 (56)	23.5 (72)
	U.S.	12.1	9.7	14.5
1997	AZ	23.4 (147)	23.7 (75)	23.0 (72)
	U.S.	12.1	9.4	13.6
1998	AZ	18.5 (120)	15.2 (50)	21.9 (70)
	U.S.	11.1	8.9	13.6
1999	AZ	12.6 (85)	10.6 (36)	14.7 (49)
	U.S.	10.1	8.0	12.3
2000	AZ	17.0 (124)	11.1 (41)	22.9 (83)
	U.S.	10.1	8.0	12.8
2001	AZ	11.4 (86)	12.9/10.5 (40)	14.8/12.3 (46)
	U.S.	9.9	8.0	12.0
2002	AZ	15.8 (123)	9.9 (39)	21.7 (84)
	U.S.	9.9	8.0	12.3
2003	AZ	15.6 (125)	9.7 (39)	21.6 (86)
	U.S.	9.7	7.3	12
2004	AZ	16.5 (137)	11.8 (49)	21.3 (88)
	U.S.	10.4	8.2	12.5
2005	AZ	16.5 (142)	14.1 (61)	18.9 (81)
	U.S.	NA	NA	NA
2006	AZ	16.8 (149)	13.0 (57)	20.6 (92)
	U.S.	NA	NA	NA

Note: Numbers in parentheses are the numbers of suicides in specified age groups of Arizona residents. The rates in red for 2001 are from the WISQARS site. See footnote to Table 3-1.

NA: Not available.

The U.S. data for 1996-2004 are available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/>.

**TABLE 3-4  
NUMBER OF SUICIDES BY RACE/ETHNICITY, AGE GROUP AND YEAR, ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1996-2006**

Race/ethnicity	Age group	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	
White non-Hispanic	<15	4	4	6	3	5	2	6	4	2	5	6	
	15-19	34	38	27	17	26	17	23	21	27	33	27	
	20-24	43	45	42	32	38	23	43	47	54	38	57	
	25-34	106	115	111	86	77	67	97	82	80	92	74	
	35-44	140	157	163	114	114	90	124	135	135	125	113	
	45-54	101	94	122	110	118	107	140	119	144	157	154	
	55-64	50	48	62	79	55	52	94	78	78	87	116	
	65+	136	143	148	147	153	104	157	138	142	156	187	
	Unknown	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>735</b>	
	Hispanic or Latino	<15	1	1	3	2	0	1	3	0	0	2	2
		15-19	13	24	14	13	8	7	10	6	9	16	15
		20-24	20	12	17	9	31	15	25	22	27	28	20
25-34		22	22	28	33	23	20	31	31	32	41	33	
35-44		19	12	17	28	15	12	14	24	18	31	38	
45-54		3	4	10	9	9	13	10	15	14	17	9	
55-64		1	4	2	5	3	3	3	3	11	6	5	
65+		7	7	7	7	3	2	7	4	9	6	6	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>86</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>128</b>	
Black or African American		<15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
		15-19	1	3	1	0	3	1	1	0	2	1	2
		20-24	3	4	2	4	2	2	5	7	2	0	4
		25-34	6	5	4	5	0	4	4	6	4	5	7
	35-44	2	3	1	5	1	4	1	7	5	0	4	
	45-54	1	2	2	2	3	3	1	1	4	1	1	
	55-64	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	2	
	65+	0	2	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>	
	American Indian or Alaska Native	<15	2	1	3	1	1	6	3	2	0	4	3
		15-19	7	10	5	5	4	15	4	12	11	11	13
		20-24	4	8	9	4	11	5	11	9	5	12	9
		25-34	18	11	20	17	7	6	16	13	16	18	13
35-44		6	10	7	7	13	6	10	7	7	6	6	
45-54		3	6	0	5	3	2	5	1	7	3	4	
55-64		1	0	1	3	1	1	0	1	0	2	0	
65+		1	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	0	1	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>42</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>49</b>	

**TABLE 3-4  
NUMBER OF SUICIDES BY RACE/ETHNICITY, AGE GROUP AND YEAR, ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1996-2006**

Race/ethnicity	Age group	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	
Asian or Pacific Islander	<15	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
	15-19	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
	20-24	2	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	
	25-34	1	3	2	2	4	1	2	2	1	2	3	
	35-44	0	3	2	2	2	1	0	2	0	2	4	
	45-54	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	
	55-64	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	
	65+	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	1	2	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>
	Other/Unknown	<15	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		15-19	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		20-24	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
		25-34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
35-44		0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
45-54		0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
55-64		0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
65+		0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Unknown		1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
Ethnic Groups, Total		<15	7	7	10	6	6	9	12	8	1	11	11
		15-19	56	75	50	36	41	40	39	39	49	61	57
		20-24	72	72	70	49	83	46	84	86	88	81	92
	25-34	153	156	165	143	111	98	150	134	133	158	131	
	35-44	167	185	190	158	145	113	149	175	165	164	165	
	45-54	109	107	134	129	133	125	158	136	171	179	170	
	55-64	52	53	67	90	61	56	98	83	92	96	125	
	65+	144	154	156	160	157	113	165	145	154	164	196	
	Unknown	2	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>737</b>	<b>(*767)</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>854</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>948</b>	

\*The number of 767 suicides includes firearm suicides and suicide poisoning deaths misclassified as accidents by the automatic coding of the underlying cause of death. See preface. The race/ethnicity-and age-specific count of suicides in the above table has not been modified.

**TABLE 3-5  
NUMBER OF SUICIDES AND SUICIDE MORTALITY RATES BY AGE GROUP AND GENDER, ARIZONA, 2006**

	Male		Female		Total	
	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
<15*	3	1.3	8	3.6	11	2.4
15-24	120	26.2	29	6.8	149	16.8
15-19	44	19.5	13	6.1	57	13.0
20-24	76	32.7	16	7.5	92	20.6
25-34	106	22.4	25	5.8	131	14.5
35-44	132	29.8	33	7.9	165	19.1
45-54	123	31.4	47	11.8	170	21.5
55-64	95	32.6	30	9.4	125	20.4
65+	163	45.7	33	7.5	196	24.5
65-74	73	35.5	15	6.6	88	20.3
75-84	57	48.6	14	9.2	71	26.3
85+	33	98.6	4	6.4	37	38.6
Unknown	1	NA	0	NA	1	NA
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>23.8</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>15.2</b>

\* 10-14 years old.

**TABLE 3-6  
AGE-SPECIFIC AND AGE-ADJUSTED SUICIDE RATES BY CATEGORY OF MARITAL STATUS AND GENDER,  
ARIZONA RESIDENTS AGED 18 YEARS OR OLDER IN 2006**

	Number of suicides	Suicide rate	Standard error	95% confidence interval	
				Lower limit	Upper limit
<b>Never married</b>	Male				
	18-24	88	34.4	3.7	27.6 42.4
	25-34	55	30.8	4.2	23.2 40.1
	35-44	37	45.3	7.5	31.9 62.5
	45-64	41	72.5	11.3	52.0 98.4
	65+	8	86.9	30.7	37.5 171.2
	<b>Age-adjusted rate for never married males 18 or older</b>		<b>56.5</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>44.1 68.8</b>
	Female				
	18-24	13	6.2	1.7	3.3 10.6
	25-34	14	12.0	3.2	6.6 20.2
35-44	7	13.5	5.1	5.4 27.7	
45-64	8	19.3	6.8	8.3 38.0	
65+	2	17.3	12.2	2.1 62.4	
<b>Age-adjusted rate for never married females 18 or older</b>		<b>14.7</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>9.1 20.2</b>	
<b>Now married</b>	Male				
	18-24	5	8.3	3.7	2.7 19.4
	25-34	37	14.2	2.3	10.0 19.6
	35-44	50	17.0	2.4	12.6 22.4
	45-64	84	16.4	1.8	13.1 20.4
	65+	73	26.6	3.1	20.8 33.4
	<b>Age-adjusted rate for married males 18 or older</b>		<b>16.8</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>2.8 30.8</b>
	Female				
	18-24	2	2.5	1.7	0.3 8.9
	25-34	6	2.2	0.9	0.8 4.9
35-44	10	3.4	1.1	1.6 6.2	
45-64	29	5.9	1.1	4.0 8.5	
65+	7	3.1	1.2	1.3 6.5	
<b>Age-adjusted rate for married females 18 or older</b>		<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>0.0 10.4</b>	
<b>Widowed</b>	Male				
	18-24	1	210.1	210.1	5.3 1,170.5
	25-34	0	0.0	0.0	0.0 0.0
	35-44	3	107.5	62.1	22.2 314.2
	45-64	10	89.7	28.4	43.0 164.9
	65+	46	100.6	14.8	73.7 134.2
	<b>Age-adjusted rate for widowed males 18 or older</b>		<b>94.6</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>89.5 99.7</b>
	Female				
	18-24	0	0.0	0.0	0.0 0.0
	25-34	0	0.0	0.0	0.0 0.0
35-44	1	14.3	14.3	0.4 79.5	
45-64	10	23.9	7.6	11.5 44.0	
65+	19	11.2	2.6	6.7 17.5	
<b>Age-adjusted rate for widowed females 18 or older</b>		<b>12.2</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>8.4 15.9</b>	

**TABLE 3-6  
AGE-SPECIFIC AND AGE-ADJUSTED SUICIDE RATES BY CATEGORY OF MARITAL STATUS AND GENDER,  
ARIZONA RESIDENTS AGED 18 YEARS OR OLDER IN 2006**

	Number of suicides	Suicide rate	Standard error	95% confidence interval	
				Lower limit	Upper limit
<b>Divorced</b>	Male				
	18-24	1	31.7	0.7	176.4
	25-34	13	40.2	21.4	68.7
	35-44	38	59.3	42.0	81.4
	45-64	79	75.4	59.7	94.0
65+	32	117.4	80.3	165.8	
	<b>Age-adjusted rate for divorced males 18 or older</b>		<b>67.0</b>	<b>55.7</b>	<b>78.3</b>
<b>Female</b>	18-24	3	55.3	11.4	161.5
	25-34	5	12.3	4.0	28.7
	35-44	15	23.0	12.9	38.0
	45-64	30	20.6	13.9	29.4
	65+	5	13.1	4.2	30.5
	<b>Age-adjusted rate for divorced females 18 or older</b>		<b>22.8</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>29.7</b>
<b>All groups</b>	Male				
	18-24	95	29.7	24.1	36.4
	25-34	106	22.4	18.2	26.7
	35-44	132	29.8	24.7	34.9
	45-64	218	31.9	27.7	36.1
65+	163	45.7	38.7	52.7	
	<b>Age-adjusted rate for males 18 or older</b>		<b>31.8</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>55.8</b>
<b>Female</b>	18-24	18	6.1	3.6	9.6
	25-34	25	5.8	3.8	8.6
	35-44	33	7.9	5.4	11.0
	45-64	77	10.7	8.5	13.4
	65+	33	7.5	5.1	10.5
	<b>Age-adjusted rate for females 18 or older</b>		<b>8.0</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>20.4</b>

Note: See Technical Notes for the population denominators by category of marital status, as well as, explanation of standard errors and confidence intervals.

TABLE 3-7  
 SUICIDE MORTALITY BY MEANS OF INJURY, RACE/ETHNICITY AND GENDER, ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 2006

	Total, all groups	Race/ethnicity						Gender	
		White non-Hispanic	Hispanic or Latino	Black or African American	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian or Pacific Islander	Unknown	Male	Female
Poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biological substances (X60 - X64)	122	105	9	4	2	1	1	52	70
Poisoning by alcohol (X65)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poisoning by gases or vapors (X66 and X67)	35	33	0	1	0	1	0	23	12
Poisoning by pesticides, other and unspecified chemicals and noxious substances (X68 and X69)	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
Hanging, strangulation or suffocation (X70)	185	101	42	2	32	8	0	153	32
Drowning and submersion (X71)	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Firearm discharge (X72-X7)	554	461	65	12	14	2	0	470	84
Explosives (X75)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Smoke, fire, flames (X76)	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	0
Sharp or blunt object (X78 and X79)	25	19	4	1	0	0	1	24	1
Jumping from a high place (X80)	6	4	1	0	0	1	0	4	2
Jumping or lying before a moving object (X81)	6	4	1	0	1	0	0	6	0
Crashing of motor vehicle (X82)	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Other specified means (X83)	4	3	0	1	0	0	0	2	2
Unspecified means (X84)	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total	948	735	128	21	49	13	2	743	205

**TABLE 3-8  
SUICIDE MORTALITY RATES\* BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE, ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1996-2006**

County of residence	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Apache	20.2	26.0	13.6	25.4	20.2	13.1	18.5	19.8	23.8	17.6	16.1
Cochise	13.9	14.6	16.9	16.1	18.7	17.6	16.1	18.2	29.7	22.0	20.8
Coconino	22.0	17.3	21.9	15.5	16.3	17.0	15.1	12.4	20.1	22.2	18.1
Gila	28.7	26.0	25.5	23.9	13.6	11.7	26.4	20.5	18.5	29.4	27.2
Graham	9.6	15.5	15.0	25.2	0.0	12.0	23.5	2.9	11.1	8.5	11.2
Greenlee	11.6	22.9	22.6	10.8	11.7	36.1	0.0	11.6	12.0	0.0	24.2
La Paz	44.0	37.3	25.9	15.6	20.3	0.0	24.6	19.8	47.3	14.2	14.0
Maricopa	15.3	15.0	15.1	13.0	12.4	9.7 (12.5)	13.9	13.2	13	13.3	13.2
Mohave	16.4	21.9	23.3	25.9	33.5	17.3	28.8	20.5	22.2	21.8	26.7
Navajo	16.6	21.1	23.1	17.1	17.4	25.0	22.6	28.9	19.5	21.8	24.9
Pima	15.5	17.9	18.7	18.6	15.3	12.5 (16.0)	16.2	14.5	14.2	15.7	16.7
Pinal	24.3	15.5	24.2	15.1	13.9	13.2	17.7	18.4	18.3	14.6	17.0
Santa Cruz	8.6	11.2	10.9	12.8	2.6	5.1	5.0	9.8	4.8	11.3	8.8
Yavapai	22.2	26.5	27.1	28.9	29.8	18.2 (23.4)	28.3	22.5	24.4	28.8	22.6
Yuma	15.2	14.8	14.5	11.5	9.4	3.6	10.0	14.3	9.4	11.1	9.7
<b>ARIZONA</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>11.3</b> <b>(14.5)</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>15.2</b>

\*Rates per 100,000 population (unadjusted for differences in the age composition).

Note: The 2001 Arizona rate of 11.3 is unmodified for the misclassification of firearm suicides and suicide poisoning deaths as accidents. The rate of 14.5 includes the originally misclassified suicides. The rates in parentheses for Maricopa, Pima and Yavapai counties also have been corrected for misclassification. See Preface.

**TABLE 3-9  
NUMBER OF SUICIDES BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE AND YEAR, ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1996-2006**

County of residence	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Apache	13	17	9	17	14	9	13	14	17	13	12
Cochise	16	17	20	20	22	21	20	23	27	29	28
Coconino	25	20	26	19	19	20	19	16	26	29	24
Gila	13	12	12	12	7	6	14	11	10	16	15
Graham	3	5	5	9	0	4	8	1	4	3	4
Greenlee	1	2	2	1	1	3	0	1	1	0	2
Maricopa	402	407	425	379	381	311	457	447	458	486	498
Mohave	21	29	32	37	52	28	48	35	40	41	52
Navajo	14	18	20	16	17	25	23	30	21	24	28
Pima	121	143	153	157	129	108	144	132	132	150	164
Pinal	35	23	37	25	25	25	34	37	40	36	46
Santa Cruz	3	4	4	5	1	2	2	4	2	5	4
Yavapai	30	37	39	45	50	32	51	42	48	59	48
Yuma	19	19	19	16	15	6	17	11	17	21	19
Unknown	38	50	37	12	0	0	0	1	1	0	3
La Paz	8	7	5	3	4	0	5	2	10	3	1
<b>ARIZONA</b>	762	810	845	773	737	600 (*767)	855	807	854	915	948

\* The number of 767 suicides includes firearm suicides and suicide poisoning deaths misclassified as accidents by the automatic coding of the underlying cause of death. See footnote to Table 3-1. The county-specific count of suicides in the above table has not been modified.

**TABLE 3-10  
NUMBER OF SUICIDES FOR PERSONS 15-19 YEARS OLD BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE AND YEAR,  
ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1996-2006**

County of residence	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Apache	1	4	1	1	0	2	0	3	5	2	2
Cochise	2	0	1	1	0	3	0	1	1	0	3
Coconino	2	1	2	0	2	3	0	0	2	4	2
Gila	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	1	1
Graham	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Greenlee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Maricopa	32	41	25	16	26	15	23	21	27	33	29
Mohave	2	2	0	4	1	1	3	0	0	2	3
Navajo	2	3	1	2	1	7	4	2	1	2	5
Pima	7	11	12	5	9	5	7	7	10	10	6
Pinal	2	3	1	1	2	3	0	2	2	2	2
Santa Cruz	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Yavapai	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	0
Yuma	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
La Paz	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	5	8	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>ARIZONA</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>57</b>

**TABLE 3-11  
NUMBER OF SUICIDES FOR ELDERLY (65 YEARS OR OLDER) BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE AND YEAR,  
ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1996-2006**

County of residence	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Apache	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
Cochise	3	6	8	3	8	3	9	5	4	12	7
Coconino	2	0	4	2	5	2	1	1	0	0	3
Gila	1	4	6	5	1	1	2	1	2	4	7
Graham	0	1	2	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Greenlee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Maricopa	81	71	74	66	70	48	72	72	75	77	91
Mohave	6	9	11	9	15	11	15	5	9	14	22
Navajo	1	1	3	1	0	5	3	5	2	3	0
Pima	21	33	25	43	23	23	34	35	28	25	43
Pinal	13	6	2	4	4	3	7	6	8	4	4
Santa Cruz	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2
Yavapai	8	14	13	16	21	13	14	11	12	14	9
Yuma	6	6	8	6	6	1	5	3	7	6	6
La Paz	0	3	0	2	3	0	2	0	6	1	1
<b>ARIZONA</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>196</b>

\* See preface. Modified counts of suicides for 2001 are not available.

**TABLE 3-12  
SUICIDE MORTALITY BY MONTH AND YEAR, ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1996-2006**

Month of death	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
January	77	75	79	71	73	48	80	62	79	82	87
February	62	42	58	63	68	46	62	50	66	60	59
March	65	68	69	75	67	56	60	84	75	79	81
April	66	58	70	71	70	40	94	72	52	71	81
May	65	78	77	61	54	45	80	79	58	85	95
June	62	81	70	62	73	32	49	74	90	84	74
July	75	80	80	64	67	55	79	75	94	95	91
August	66	71	79	68	42	47	77	77	78	74	81
September	68	75	77	60	66	60	74	60	59	75	73
October	57	61	58	63	53	60	75	81	59	65	82
November	65	59	68	71	50	59	73	54	80	76	88
December	34	62	60	44	54	52	52	39	64	69	56
<b>TOTAL</b>	762	810	845	773	737	600 (*767)	855	807	854	915	948

\* See preface. Modified monthly counts are not

**TABLE 3-13  
SUICIDE DEATHS BY GENDER, MEANS OF INJURY AND YEAR, ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1996-2006**

		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	*2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Male</b>	<b>Total</b>	Count 619	662	674	613	604	485	692	647	674	723	743
		Percent 100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	<b>Firearm discharge or explosive material</b>	Count 450	464	491	430	432	311	466	414	437	445	470
		Percent 72.7%	70.1%	72.8%	70.1%	71.5%	64.1%	67.3%	64.0%	64.8%	61.5%	63.3%
	<b>Hanging, strangulation or suffocation</b>	Count 85	107	95	84	92	95	122	129	127	169	153
		Percent 13.7%	16.2%	14.1%	13.7%	15.2%	19.6%	17.6%	19.9%	18.8%	23.4%	20.6%
	<b>Poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biological substances</b>	Count 29	42	44	60	21	35	47	40	51	49	52
		Percent 4.7%	6.3%	6.5%	9.8%	3.5%	7.2%	6.8%	6.2%	7.6%	6.8%	7.0%
	<b>Poisoning by gases or vapors</b>	Count 32	26	19	21	31	19	29	25	24	23	23
		Percent 5.2%	3.9%	2.8%	3.4%	5.1%	3.9%	4.2%	3.9%	3.6%	3.2%	3.1%
	<b>Sharp or blunt object</b>	Count 11	13	8	9	9	10	8	8	8	15	16
		Percent 1.8%	2.0%	1.2%	1.5%	1.5%	2.1%	1.2%	1.2%	2.2%	2.2%	3.2%
	<b>Drowning and submersion</b>	Count 1	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	3	2	1
	Percent 0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.5%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	
<b>Other specified and unspecified means</b>	Count 11	9	17	9	17	14	19	19	24	18	21	
	Percent 1.8%	1.4%	2.5%	1.5%	2.8%	2.9%	2.7%	2.7%	3.7%	2.7%	2.8%	
<b>Total</b>	Count 143	148	171	160	133	115	163	160	160	180	192	
	Percent 100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
<b>Firearm discharge or explosive material</b>	Count 77	74	79	65	54	47	78	62	61	63	84	
	Percent 53.8%	50.0%	46.2%	40.6%	40.6%	40.9%	47.9%	38.8%	33.9%	32.8%	41.0%	
<b>Hanging, strangulation or suffocation</b>	Count 18	17	25	30	20	13	17	30	30	44	32	
	Percent 12.6%	11.5%	14.6%	18.8%	15.0%	11.3%	10.4%	18.8%	16.7%	22.9%	15.6%	
<b>Poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biological substances</b>	Count 31	38	48	45	38	41	53	53	53	64	59	
	Percent 21.7%	25.7%	28.1%	28.1%	28.6%	35.7%	32.5%	33.1%	35.6%	30.7%	34.1%	
<b>Poisoning by gases or vapors</b>	Count 6	9	10	9	10	8	8	8	9	10	9	
	Percent 4.2%	6.1%	5.8%	5.6%	7.5%	7.0%	4.9%	5.6%	5.6%	4.7%	5.9%	
<b>Sharp or blunt object</b>	Count 4	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	5	
	Percent 2.8%	0.7%	0.6%	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%	2.6%	
<b>Drowning and submersion</b>	Count 1	2	1	2	1	0	4	1	1	5	4	
	Percent 0.7%	1.4%	0.6%	1.3%	0.8%	0.0%	2.5%	0.6%	2.8%	2.1%	0.5%	
<b>Other specified and unspecified means</b>	Count 6	7	7	7	10	6	3	3	5	6	8	
	Percent 4.2%	4.7%	4.1%	4.4%	7.5%	5.2%	1.8%	1.8%	3.1%	3.3%	4.2%	

Note: The cause-of-death titles are according to the Tenth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10). The causes of death for 2000-2006 are classified by ICD 10, replacing the Ninth Revision (ICD-9) used during 1979-1999. Modified counts for 2001 are not available. See footnote to Table 3-1.

TABLE 3-14  
 SUICIDE MORTALITY BY MEANS OF INJURY AND AGE GROUP, ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 2006

	Total	<15	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Un- known
Poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biological substances (X60 - X64)	122	1	1	3	15	30	34	19	19	0
Poisoning by alcohol (X65)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poisoning by gases or vapors (X66 and X67)	35	1	0	2	2	9	7	4	10	0
Poisoning by pesticides, other and unspecified chemicals and noxious substances (X68 and X69)	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Hanging, strangulation or suffocation (X70)	185	4	28	24	42	40	22	10	15	0
Drowning and submersion (X71)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Firearm discharge (X72-X7)	554	5	28	59	62	76	96	86	142	0
Explosives (X75)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Smoke, fire, flames (X76)	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0
Sharp or blunt object (X78 and X79)	25	0	0	0	3	4	7	3	8	0
Jumping from a high place (X80)	6	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	0
Jumping or lying before a moving object (X81)	6	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	1
Crashing of motor vehicle (X82)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Other specified means (X83)	4	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0
Unspecified means (X84)	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	948	11	57	92	131	165	170	125	196	1

TABLE 3-15  
 SUICIDES AMONG ARIZONA RESIDENTS BY AGE GROUP, RACE/ETHNICITY AND YEAR:  
 A SUMMARY TABLE WITH TOTALS FOR 1996-2006

	Total, 1996-2006	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Total, all groups</b>												
<15	88	7	7	10	6	6	9	12	8	1	11	11
15-19	543	56	75	50	36	41	40	39	39	49	61	57
20-24	823	72	72	70	49	83	46	84	86	88	81	92
25-34	1,532	153	156	165	143	111	98	150	134	133	158	131
35-44	1,776	167	185	190	158	145	113	149	175	165	164	165
45-54	1,551	109	107	134	129	133	125	158	136	171	179	170
55-64	873	52	53	67	90	61	56	98	83	92	96	125
65+	1,708	144	154	156	160	157	113	165	145	154	164	196
65-74	696	58	67	58	49	72	48	67	59	62	68	88
75-84	730	57	67	71	84	59	51	73	59	69	69	71
85+	282	29	20	27	27	26	14	25	27	23	27	37
Unknown	12	2	1	3	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,906</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>737</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>854</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>948</b>
<b>White non-Hispanic</b>												
<15	44	4	4	4	2	5	2	6	4	2	5	6
15-19	290	34	38	27	17	26	17	23	21	27	33	27
20-24	462	43	45	42	32	38	23	43	47	54	38	57
25-34	987	106	115	111	86	77	67	97	82	80	92	74
35-44	1,410	140	157	163	114	114	90	124	135	135	125	113
45-54	1,366	101	94	122	110	118	107	140	119	144	157	154
55-64	799	50	48	62	79	55	52	94	78	78	87	116
65+	1,611	136	143	148	147	153	104	157	138	142	156	187
65-74	645	52	61	53	45	69	43	64	55	56	63	84
75-84	693	55	62	69	78	58	47	69	57	63	68	67
85+	273	29	20	26	24	26	14	24	26	23	25	36
Unknown	9	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,978</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>735</b>
<b>Hispanic or Latino</b>												
<15	15	1	1	3	2	0	1	3	0	0	2	2
15-19	135	13	24	14	13	8	7	10	6	9	16	15
20-24	226	20	12	17	9	31	15	25	22	27	28	20
25-34	316	22	22	28	33	23	20	31	31	32	41	33
35-44	228	19	12	17	28	15	12	14	24	18	31	38
45-54	113	3	4	10	9	9	13	10	15	14	17	9
55-64	46	1	4	2	5	3	3	3	3	11	6	5
65+	65	7	7	7	7	3	2	7	4	9	6	6
65-74	35	5	3	5	2	2	2	2	2	5	4	3
75-84	24	2	4	1	4	1	0	4	1	4	1	2
85+	6	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,144</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>128</b>

TABLE 3-15  
 SUICIDES AMONG ARIZONA RESIDENTS BY AGE GROUP, RACE/ETHNICITY AND YEAR:  
 A SUMMARY TABLE WITH TOTALS FOR 1996-2006

	Total, 1996-2006	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Black or African American</b>												
<15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
15-19	15	1	3	1	0	3	1	1	0	2	1	2
20-24	35	3	4	2	4	2	2	5	7	2	0	4
25-34	50	6	5	4	5	0	4	4	6	4	5	7
35-44	33	2	3	1	5	1	4	1	7	5	0	4
45-54	21	1	2	2	2	3	3	1	1	4	1	1
55-64	7	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	2
65+	8	0	2	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
65-74	4	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
75-84	4	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>American Indian or Alaska Native</b>												
<15	26	2	1	3	1	1	6	3	2	0	4	3
15-19	97	7	10	5	5	4	15	4	12	11	11	13
20-24	87	4	8	9	4	11	11	11	9	5	12	9
25-34	155	18	11	20	17	7	6	16	13	16	18	13
35-44	85	6	10	7	7	13	6	10	7	7	6	6
45-54	39	3	6	0	5	3	2	5	1	7	3	4
55-64	10	1	0	1	3	1	1	0	1	0	2	0
65+	13	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	0	1
65-74	9	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	0
75-84	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Asian or Pacific Islander</b>												
<15	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
15-19	5	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
20-24	11	2	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	2
25-34	23	1	3	2	2	4	2	2	2	1	2	3
35-44	18	0	3	2	2	2	1	0	2	0	2	4
45-54	8	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	1
55-64	9	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	2
65+	8	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	2	1
65-74	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
75-84	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	1
85+	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Other/Unknown</b>												
<15	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15-19	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20-24	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
25-34	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
35-44	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45-54	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
55-64	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
65+	3	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
75-84	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
85+	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

**TABLE A**  
**POPULATION DENOMINATORS USED TO COMPUTE AGE-ADJUSTED SUICIDE RATES BY RACE/ETHNICITY, AGE GROUP**  
**AND GENDER, ARIZONA, 2006**

	< 1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+	Total
<b>All groups</b>	Total	97,113	385,231	907,783	885,751	900,752	861,992	611,914	432,488	270,162	95,896	6,239,482
	Male	49,609	196,641	464,356	457,646	472,663	442,564	291,856	205,878	117,314	33,452	3,123,612
	Female	47,504	188,590	443,427	428,105	428,089	419,428	398,767	320,058	152,848	62,444	3,115,870
<b>White non-Hispanic</b>	Total	41,954	171,118	433,692	458,890	465,935	521,118	478,600	355,566	234,505	85,046	3,802,214
	Male	21,349	87,837	222,125	234,598	238,117	264,767	274,734	170,515	102,242	29,748	1,874,191
	Female	20,605	83,281	211,567	224,292	227,819	256,351	281,058	185,051	132,263	55,298	1,928,023
<b>Hispanic or Latino</b>	Total	41,041	161,023	337,973	296,128	314,552	232,875	151,331	83,973	47,133	6,810	1,695,577
	Male	21,145	82,058	173,186	156,385	172,984	123,917	77,083	41,038	21,801	2,358	881,644
	Female	19,896	78,965	164,787	139,743	141,569	108,958	74,248	42,935	25,332	4,452	813,933
<b>Black or African American</b>	Total	4,162	16,784	47,521	42,848	40,239	37,062	28,440	15,915	9,513	1,392	247,888
	Male	2,234	8,620	24,339	22,373	21,571	19,626	14,762	7,918	4,557	443	128,049
	Female	1,928	8,164	23,182	20,475	18,668	17,436	13,678	7,997	4,956	949	119,839
<b>American Indian or Alaska Native</b>	Total	7,275	26,728	66,287	65,326	46,990	42,845	34,749	21,090	12,720	1,865	331,850
	Male	3,570	13,272	33,412	32,645	23,564	20,839	16,139	9,661	5,748	620	162,080
	Female	3,705	13,456	32,875	32,681	23,426	22,006	18,610	11,429	6,972	1,245	169,770
<b>Asian or Pacific Islander</b>	Total	2,681	9,579	22,311	22,560	33,036	28,093	20,088	12,336	7,556	783	161,953
	Male	1,311	4,855	11,295	11,645	16,428	13,416	8,915	5,078	3,257	283	77,648
	Female	1,370	4,724	11,016	10,915	16,608	14,677	11,173	7,258	4,299	500	84,305

Note: Two data sources were utilized in producing the 2006 population estimates. The totals for the State and each of its counties agree with the projections released by the Department of Economic Security (DES) on March 31, 2006 (<http://www.workforce.az.gov/?PAGEID=67&SUBID=138>). The percentages of population breakdowns by single-year age, gender and race/ethnicity were derived from the "Bridged-Race Vintage 2005 Postcensal Population Estimates for Calculating Vital Rates", available from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS): <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/dvs/popbridge/data/doc.htm#vintage2005>. These percentages were then applied to total state and county population projections for 2006 from DES. The 2006 population estimates by race/ethnicity should not be compared with the previously published estimates for 2001-2005, which used the 2000 year census shares.

**TABLE B**  
**POPULATION DENOMINATORS USED TO COMPUTE AGE-SPECIFIC AND AGE-ADJUSTED SUICIDE RATES BY GENDER**  
**AND CATEGORY OF MARITAL STATUS, ARIZONA RESIDENTS 18 YEARS OR OLDER IN 2006**

Gender	Age group	Total	Never married	Now married	Widowed	Divorced
<b>Male</b>	<b>18-24</b>	319,455	255,640	60,181	476	3,158
	<b>25-34</b>	472,663	178,682	260,353	1,278	32,350
	<b>35-44</b>	442,564	81,604	294,100	2,790	64,070
	<b>45-64</b>	683,489	56,545	511,040	11,150	104,754
	<b>65+</b>	356,644	9,210	274,459	45,726	27,249
	<b>Total</b>	2,274,815	581,681	1,400,133	61,420	231,581
<b>Female</b>	<b>18-24</b>	297,200	210,347	80,905	521	5,427
	<b>25-34</b>	428,089	116,448	268,809	2,166	40,666
	<b>35-44</b>	419,428	52,025	295,308	7,011	65,084
	<b>45-64</b>	718,825	41,496	489,657	41,799	145,873
	<b>65+</b>	441,902	11,570	222,256	169,797	38,279
	<b>Total</b>	2,305,444	431,886	1,356,935	221,294	295,329

Two data sources were utilized in producing the 2006 population estimates by age group, gender and marital status. The estimated number of Arizona males and females who were 18 years or older in 2006 comes from our population denominator file used to calculate vital rates (detailed information about the estimation procedure is available at <http://www.azdhs.gov/plan/menu/info/pop/pop06/pd06.htm>). The percentages of population breakdowns by marital status, age group and gender were derived from the U.S. Bureau of the Census 2000 Summary File 3 (PCT7. Sex by marital status by age for the population 15 years and over).

Our Web site at <http://www.azdhs.gov/plan> provides instantaneous access to a wide range of statistical information about health status of Arizonans. The *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics* annual report examines trends in natality, mortality and morbidity towards established health objectives. Additional reports and studies include *Differences in the Health Status Among Race/Ethnic Groups*, *Advance Vital Statistics by County of Residence*, *Mortality from Alzheimer's Disease*, *Injury Mortality among Arizona Residents* (accidents, suicides, homicides, legal intervention, firearm-related fatalities, drug-related deaths, drowning deaths, falls among Arizonans 65 years or older), hospital inpatient and emergency department statistics for *mental disorders*, *asthma*, *diabetes*, *influenza and pneumonia* and *substance abuse*, *Community Vital Statistics*, *Teenage Pregnancy*, *Selected Characteristics of Newborns and Mothers Giving Birth by Census Tract* in Maricopa County, Pima County and South Phoenix Area, *Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona* and *Deaths from Exposure to Excessive Natural Heat Occurring in Arizona*.



---

**Health Status and Vital Statistics Section  
Bureau of Public Health Statistics  
Public Health Services  
ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES**