

Table 8. Deaths<sup>a</sup> among Arizona Residents 65 Years and Older by Gender and Age Group, 2012

	Females				Males			
	65 – 74 Years	75 – 84 Years	85 + Years	Total	65 – 74 Years	75 – 84 Years	85 + Years	Total
Total Deaths	3,662	5,672	8,522	17,856	5,010	6,427	5,664	17,101
Overall Mortality Rate	1,286.7	3,582.2	12,409.0	3,490.1	1,971.6	4,761.1	14,237.8	3,987.4
<i>Race and Ethnicity</i>								
Asian and Pacific Islander	48	78	86	212	58	48	39	145
American Indian/Alaskan Native	128	142	138	408	135	140	74	349
Black/African American	121	150	144	415	165	139	65	369
Hispanic/Latino	394	622	681	1,697	531	641	466	1,638
White Non-Hispanic	2971	4680	7473	15,124	4,121	5,459	5,020	14,600
<i>Educational Attainment</i>								
No High School Diploma	618	1,143	1,743	3,504	807	1,208	1,126	3,141
High School Diploma	1,405	2,437	3,789	7,631	1,669	1,984	1,783	5,436
Some College	1,557	1,984	2,845	6,386	2,355	3,094	2,675	8,124
Unknown or Missing	81	108	145	335	178	140	80	400
<i>Marital Status</i>								
Married	1,586	1,755	988	4,329	2,959	4,078	2,786	9,823
Widowed	931	2,867	6,681	10,479	415	1,233	2,412	4,060
Divorced	922	856	623	2,401	1,224	846	331	2,401
Never Married	193	177	216	586	312	206	120	638
Unknown or Missing	30	17	14	61	98	64	15	179
<i>Location</i>								
Urban	2,871	4,565	7,064	14,500	3,761	4,970	4,593	13,324
Rural	789	1,098	1,450	3,337	1,214	1,440	1,066	3,720
Unknown/Other	2	9	8	19	35	17	5	57

Notes: <sup>a</sup> Based on death certificates submitted to the Arizona Office of Vital Records.

### *Combined Leading Causes of Death*

Table 9 lists the ten leading combined causes of death among persons 65 years and older in Arizona for 2012 and for the United States in 2011 (2011 national data was preliminary and national data for 2012 was not yet available; Hoyert and Xu 2012).

Both for Arizona in 2012 and for the U.S. for 2011, diseases of the heart, malignant neoplasms, and chronic lower respiratory diseases were the three leading causes of death. Heart disease and cancer have consistently been the two leading causes of death in the U.S. since 1935 (Hoyert 2012). Alzheimer's disease was the 4<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death among Arizona's elderly adults, where Alzheimer's disease was ranked as the 5<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death for elderly adults nationally. Cerebrovascular diseases including stroke were the 5<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death for older Arizonans in 2012, where this group of diseases was ranked 4<sup>th</sup> for older adults nationally in 2011. Influenza and pneumonia were the 6<sup>th</sup> leading cause, and diabetes was the 7<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death for Arizonans age 65 and older in 2012, where the order of rankings for these disease grouping were opposite for similarly aged adults nationally. Accidents, nephritis, and septicemia were the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> leading causes of death for both Arizonan elderly in 2012 and national elderly in 2011.