

Mortality Trends among Arizona Resident Females Age 65 and Older

Table 13 presents the 2012 leading causes of death as mortality trends for resident females 65 years and older from 2002 to 2012, with trends in the mortality rates among females from 2002 – 2012 depicted in Figure 11.

Overall, the number of deaths among females age 65 and older increased 14 percent from 2002 (n = 15,614) to 2012 (n = 17,856). The greatest percent increase in number of deaths occurred to females 85 years and over, displaying a 30 percent increase from 2002 (n = 6,549) to 2012 (n = 8,522). Of specific mention are the increases in the number and rate of deaths from Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and ill-defined/unspecified causes. Alzheimer's disease became the leading cause of death among Arizona's older female residents in 2010 when 1,505 deaths were reported. From 2002 to 2012, there was a 20 percent increase in the number of deaths due to Alzheimer's, but more troublesome, the mortality rate for Alzheimer's disease among females 65 and older increased 55 percent during the same period.

Table 12. Specific Leading Causes of Death among Arizona Resident Males^a 65 Years and Older, 2012

	65 - 74 Years	75 - 84 Years	85 Years and Over	All Males 65+
Counts by Cause of Death				
Atherosclerotic Heart Disease	395	575	682	1,652
Malignant Neoplasm of Bronchus and Lung- (Lung Cancer)	494	479	168	1,141
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease - (COPD)	307	453	296	1,056
Alzheimer's Disease	58	256	403	717
Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease	285	222	182	689
Acute Myocardial Infarction	207	240	217	664
Dementia	47	184	343	574
Malignant Neoplasm of Prostate - (Prostate Cancer)	124	206	183	513
Stroke	75	172	173	420
Parkinson's Disease	59	160	139	358
Total	2,051	2,947	2,786	7,784
Mortality Rates^b				
Atherosclerotic Heart Disease	155.4	426.0	1,714.4	385.2
Malignant Neoplasm of Bronchus and Lung- (Lung Cancer)	194.4	354.8	422.3	266.0
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease - (COPD)	120.8	335.6	744.1	246.2
Alzheimer's Disease	22.8	189.6	1,013.0	167.2
Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease	112.2	164.5	457.5	160.7
Acute Myocardial Infarction	81.5	177.8	545.5	154.8
Dementia	18.5	136.3	862.2	133.8
Malignant Neoplasm of Prostate - (Prostate Cancer)	48.8	152.6	460.0	119.6
Stroke	29.5	127.4	434.9	97.9
Parkinson's Disease	23.2	118.5	349.4	83.5

Notes: ^a Leading Causes of Death are conditions defined by the International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision (ICD-10), 2008; ^b Age-specific and crude mortality rates represent the number of deaths per 100,000 persons 65 years of age and older.