



**2A.**

**TOTAL MORTALITY**

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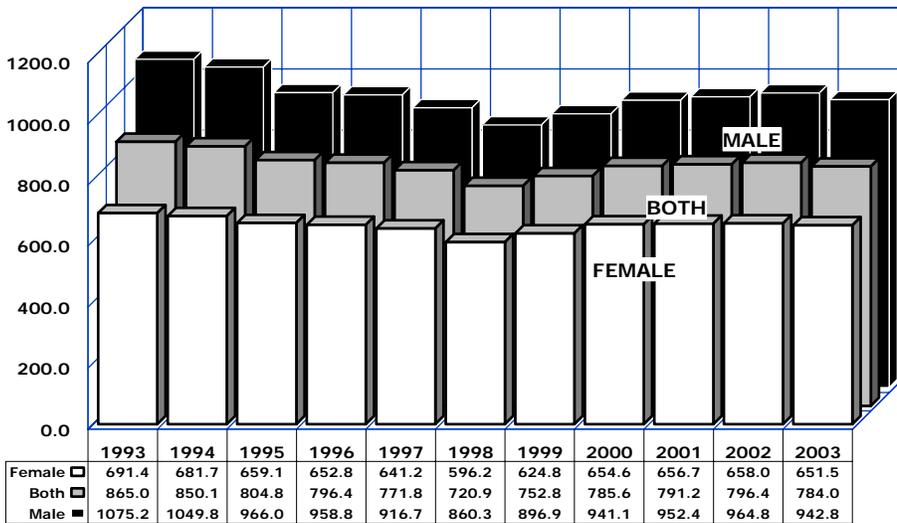
During 2003, 42,830 Arizona residents died, an increase of 9,535 or 28.6 percent from the 1993 figure of 33,295 (**Table 2A-1**). The number of deaths among male residents increased 23.7 percent from 18,144 in 1993 to 22,452 in 2003. The 34.5 percent increase in the number of deaths among female residents, from 15,151 in 1993 to 20,378 in 2003 was 1.5 times greater than the percent increase in the number of deaths among males.

Over 81.5 percent of all resident deaths in 2003 were White non-Hispanics. Hispanics or Latino accounted for 11.5 percent of all resident deaths in 2003, followed by American Indians or Alaska Natives (3.6 percent), Blacks or African Americans (2.7 percent) and Asians or Pacific Islanders (0.7 percent). Females accounted for a minority of deaths in each racial/ethnic group except Asian.

Of the 42,830 deaths in 2003, only 35.4 percent occurred in hospitals. The majority of deaths (64.6 percent) occurred in the place of residence, including nursing homes and other long-term care facilities (**Table 2A-4**). Inpatient deaths accounted for 81.7 percent of all hospital deaths. Hospital deaths accounted for a minority (9,663) of the total deaths (30,815) among elderly 65 years or older. In contrast, nine out of ten (91.6 percent) of all infant deaths occurred in hospitals.

2A. TOTAL MORTALITY

**Figure 2A-1**  
**Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for All Causes**  
**by Gender and Year, Arizona, 1993-2003**



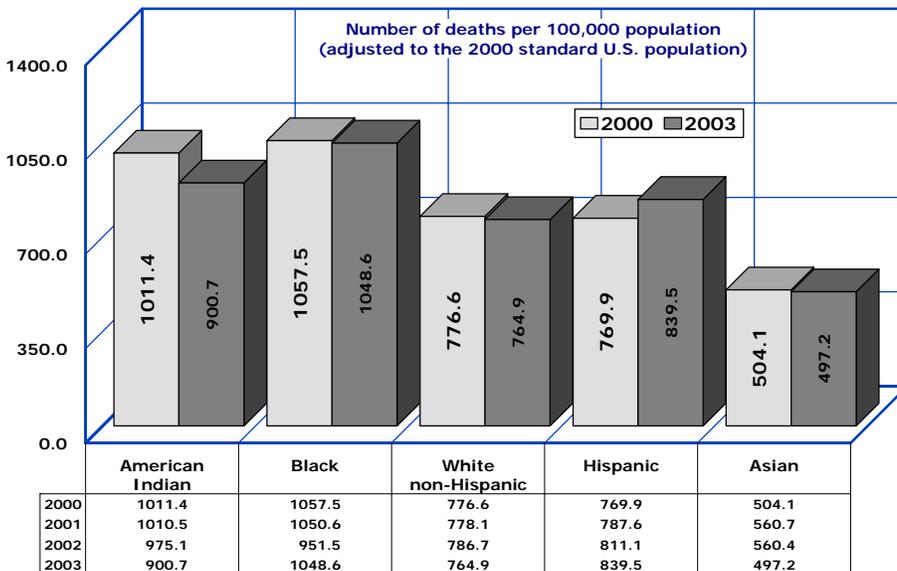
Number of deaths per 100,000 persons  
 (adjusted to the 2000 standard U.S. population)

Beginning with the 2000 data year in Arizona, the age-adjusted mortality rates discussed below are based on the year 2000 population standard. The rates for 1993-1999 were re-calculated using the new standard.

The total age-adjusted mortality rate decreased from 796.4 in 2002 to 784.0 in 2003 (**Figure 2A-1**).

The percent difference between male and female mortality rates narrowed from 55.5 percent greater mortality rate in 1993 to 44.7 percent greater in 2003.

**Figure 2A-2**  
**Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for All Causes by**  
**Ethnic Group, Arizona, 2000 - 2003**



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

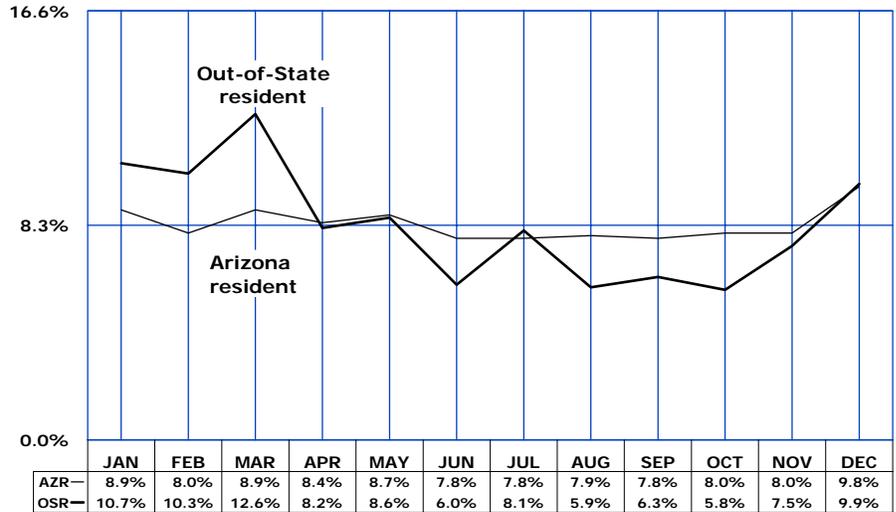
The age-adjusted mortality rates for Asians have consistently shown to be lower than any other ethnic group since 2000. Among those populations in which mortality rates decreased, American Indians demonstrated the most significant improvement from 1011.4 deaths per 100,000 in 2000 to 900.7 deaths per 100,000 in 2003, representing a 12.2 percent decrease in mortality rate followed by White-non-Hispanic (1.5 percent), Asian or Pacific Islander (1.3 percent) and Black or African American (.8 percent) respectively. The mortality rate however, increased in the Hispanic or Latino population by 8.3 percent since 2000.

2A. TOTAL MORTALITY

**Figure 2A-3**  
**Percent Annual Deaths by Month of Occurrence and Residence Status, Arizona, 2003**

Six hundred forty (640) Arizona residents died outside Arizona during 2003 (Table 5E-3) compared to 2,241 non-residents who died in Arizona.

The majority of non-residents who died in Arizona during 2003 did so during December, January, February and March.



AZR: Arizona resident  
 OSR: Out-of-State Resident

Autopsies were reported as performed on 4,437 decedents, or 10.4 percent of the deaths that occurred among Arizona residents in 2003. The percent of deaths autopsied in 2003 was slightly lower from the overall fraction of 10.6 percent calculated for the preceding year.

Among the leading causes of death, the highest percentages of death autopsied were for *homicide* (98.1 percent), *unintentional injuries* (54.9 percent), and *suicide* (54.3 percent). The lowest percentages of autopsies were reported for *Parkinson's disease* (1.0 percent), *Alzheimer's disease* (0.8 percent), *prostate cancer* (0.7 percent), and *breast cancer* (0.6 percent). No autopsies were reported to be performed for *cervical cancer*. Deaths at older ages (i.e., those from chronic diseases) are less likely to be autopsied, than the deaths at younger ages i.e., those more likely to be injury/violence-related. (Figure 2A-4).

**Figure 2A-4**  
**Autopsies Performed by Age Group, Arizona, 2003**

