Death claimed the lives of 248 of the 1,213,314 children (1 to 14 years old) residing in Arizona in 2004. Their 2004 mortality rate of 20.4 per 100,000 was the lowest of the eleven-year period from 1994 to 2004 (Table 2C-8). Both females and males experienced a decline in their total mortality rates from 2003 to 2004 (Figure 2C-5). From 1994 to 2004, both genders experienced substantial declines of at least 43 percent in their rates of death from unintentional injuries in accidents and intentional self-harm (Table 2C-8).

Black or African American children had the highest 2004 total mortality rate (39.2/100,000), followed by American Indian children (32.1/100,000) (Figure 2C-6). The mortality rates for Asian, White non-Hispanic and Hispanic children were lower than the average rate for all groups.
Total mortality rates decreased for both urban and rural children from 2003 to 2004. The temporal pattern underlying the changes in mortality between 1994 and 2004 greatly differed by region. From 1994 to 1998, the mortality rate of rural children decreased by 48.4 percent, while the urban children experienced a much lower reduction by 8.5 percent. From 1999 to 2001, the mortality rate of urban children increased by 27.6 percent, 1.7 times as much as the increase of 16.5 in the mortality risk of rural children (Figure 2C-7). From 2002 to 2004, the total mortality rates decreased by 16.6 percent for urban children but only by 4.9 percent for rural children.

Urban females 1-14 years old had the lowest 2004 mortality risk among gender by area groups, followed by urban males, rural females and rural males.