Death claimed the lives of 285 of the 1,257,269 children (1 to 14 years old) residing in Arizona in 2005. Their 2005 mortality rate of 22.7 per 100,000 was the second lowest of the eleven-year period from 1995 to 2005 (Table 2C-8). However, both females and males experienced an increase in their total mortality rates from 2004 to 2005 (Figure 2C-5). (Table 2C-8).

The increase in total mortality was nearly identical for the two genders, so the male excess in mortality risk relative to females was the same in 2005 as in 2004 (about 40 percent).

Black or African American children had the highest 2005 total mortality rate (35.7/100,000), followed by American Indian (33.4/100,000) and Hispanic children (26.3 deaths per 100,000) (Figure 2C-6). The mortality rates for Asian and White non-Hispanic children were lower than the average rate for all groups.
Total mortality rate decreased by 14.8 percent for rural children from 31.1/100,000 in 2004 to 26.5/100,000 in 2005. In contrast, the mortality rate of urban children increased by 19.7 percent from 18.3/100,000 in 2004 to 21.9/100,000 in 2005 (Figure 2C-7).

The temporal pattern underlying the changes in mortality between 1995 and 2005 greatly differed by region. From 1996 to 1998, the mortality rate of rural children decreased by 65.1 percent, while the urban children experienced an increase in their mortality risk by 6.2 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 2005, the total mortality rates decreased by 19 percent only for rural children.

Urban females 1-14 years old had the lowest 2005 mortality risk among gender by area groups, followed by urban males, rural females and rural males.