2C. AGE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY
Elderly mortality (ages 65 years and older)

In 2008, an estimated 849,677 elderly over 64 years of age resided in the State (Table 10A-1). No other age group has as great a disproportionate gender distribution as the elderly. As a result of the higher total mortality rates for males in each of the earlier periods of lifespan, 23.2 percent more elderly women than men were alive in 2008.

The 2008 elderly mortality rate of 3791.3 per 100,000 was 9.5 percent lower than the 1998 rate of 4191.1, and it was the 2nd lowest annual elderly mortality rate of the eleven years from 1998 to 2008.

Survival chances improved from 1998 to 2008 for both elderly males and females. The 2008 total mortality rate among elderly females was 8.2 percent lower than their rate in 1998. The mortality rate among elderly males decreased 11.0 percent from 1998 to 2008 (Figure 2C-21, Table 2C-24).

In 2008 the mortality rate for Arizona’s White non-Hispanic elderly residents was 1.8 times that for the Asian elderly population. The mortality rate of 2216.0 /100,000 among elderly Asians was the lowest rate among the race/ethnic groups (Figure 2C-22). Blacks or African American elderly had the second lowest mortality rate in 2008, 10.8 percent lower than the mortality rate of American Indian elderly.

The 2008 mortality rates of Black or African American and Hispanic or Latino elderly differed by a mere 2.3 percent.