2C. AGE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY

Middle-age adult mortality (ages 45-64 years)

The 1,503,839 middle-aged adult residents aged 45 to 64 experienced 8,899 deaths or an average of 24 deaths per day. The total mortality rate of middle-aged adults increased by 1.5 percent from 582.8 deaths per 100,000 in 2007 to 591.8/100,000 in 2008 (Table 2C-20), but it was 11.7 percent lower than the 1998 rate of 669.9 deaths per 100,000.

The 2008 total mortality rate among middle-age females was 8.3 percent lower and among middle-aged males 14.1 percent lower than their respective rates in 1998 (Figure 2C-17, Table 2C-20).

Suicide (2,051 deaths in 1998-2008) replaced chronic lower respiratory diseases (1,675 deaths) as the fifth leading cause of death among male middle-aged adults. Diabetes (1,236 deaths in 1998-2008) replaced chronic liver disease and cirrhosis (1,135 deaths) as the fifth leading cause of death among female middle-aged adults (Table 2C-20).

Black middle-aged adults, followed by American Indians and White non-Hispanics had the three highest mortality rates (843.0 deaths per 100,000, 832.3 per 100,000, and 609.7/100,000 respectively) among the race/ethnic groups. If the 2008 total mortality rate for Asian middle-aged adults applied to all Arizona residents 45-64 years old, 4,534 middle-aged adults would have died rather than 8,899 who actually did.