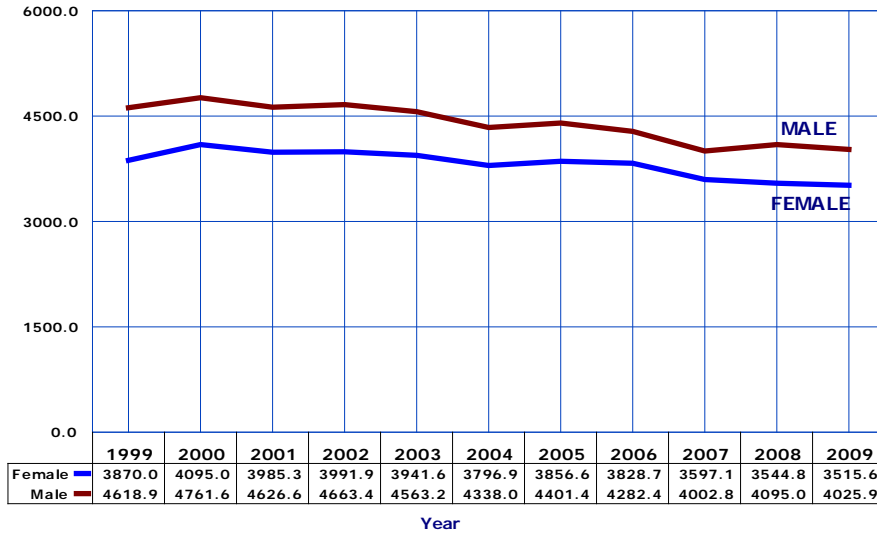


2C. AGE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY  
**Elderly mortality (ages 65 years and older)**

**Figure 2C-21**  
**Mortality Rates by Gender and Year among Elderly 65 Years and Older,**  
**Arizona, 1999-2009**



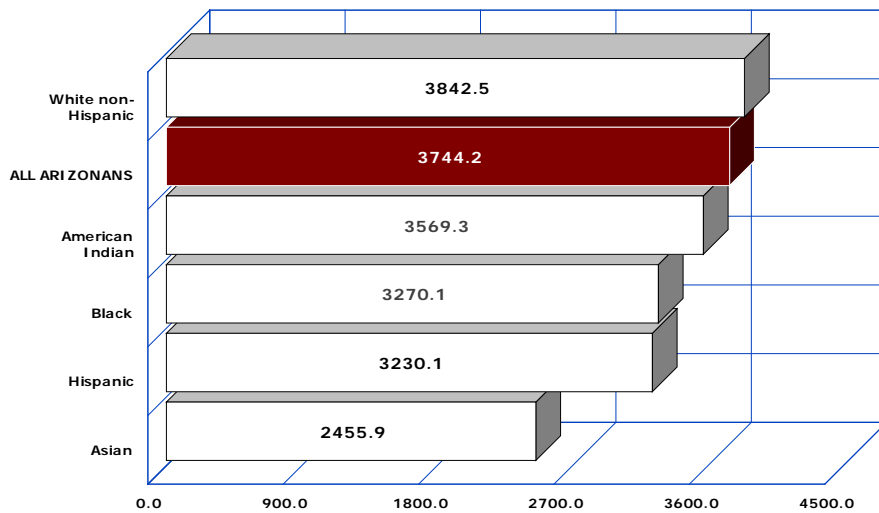
In 2009, an estimated 857,273 elderly over 64 years of age resided in the State (**Table 10A-1**). No other age group has as great a disproportionate gender distribution as the elderly. As a result of the higher total mortality rates for males in each of the earlier periods of lifespan, 23.2 percent more elderly women than men were alive in 2009.

The 2009 elderly mortality rate of 3744.2 per 100,000 was 10.9 percent lower than the 1999 rate of 4203.4, and it was the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest annual elderly mortality rate of the eleven years from 1999 to 2009 (**Table 2C-24**).

Survival chances improved from 1999 to 2009 for both elderly males and females. The 2009 total mortality rate among elderly females was 9.2 percent lower than their rate in 1999. The mortality rate among elderly males decreased 12.8 percent from 1999 to 2009 (**Figure 2C-21, Table 2C-24**).

Number of deaths per 100,000 persons, 65+ years old in specified group.

**Figure 2C-22**  
**Mortality Rates by Race/Ethnicity among Elderly 65 Years and Older,**  
**Arizona, 2009**



In 2009 the mortality rate for Arizona's White non-Hispanic elderly residents was 1.6 times that for the Asian elderly population. The mortality rate of 2455.9 /100,000 among elderly Asians was the lowest rate among the race/ethnic groups (**Figure 2C-22**). Hispanic or Latino elderly had the second lowest mortality rate in 2009, 9.5 percent lower than the mortality rate of American Indian elderly.

The 2009 mortality rates of Black or African American and Hispanic or Latino elderly differed by a mere 1.2 percent.

Number of deaths per 100,000 persons, 65+ years old in specified group.

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

Figure 2C-23  
Trends in Mortality Rates for Alzheimer's Disease by Gender and Year among Elderly 65 Years and Older, Arizona, 1999-2009

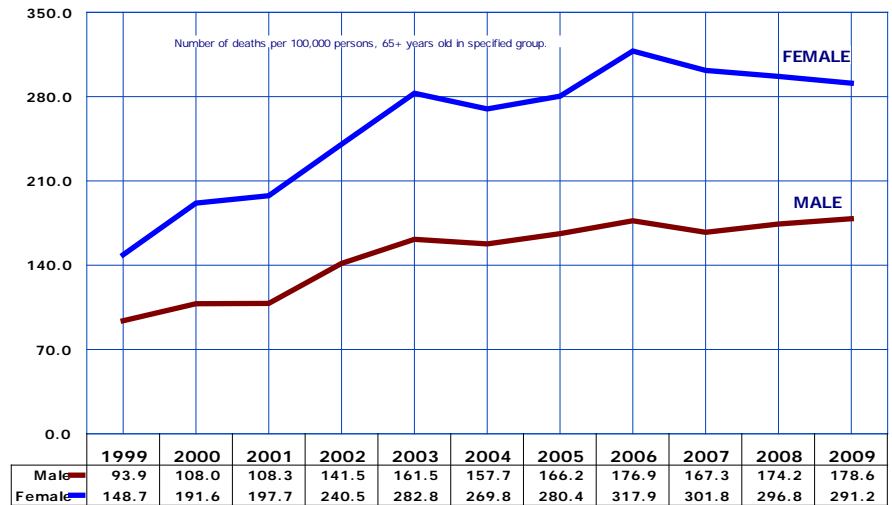
The two tables (Tables 2C-24 and 2C-25) provide mortality rates for the five causes with the greatest number of deaths over the 1999 – 2009 period.

In 1999-2009, Alzheimer's disease (5,526 deaths) replaced influenza and pneumonia (5,178 deaths) as the 5th leading cause of death among elderly males 65 years or older.

From 2006 to 2009, age-specific death rates for Alzheimer's disease decreased by 8.4 percent for elderly females (Figure 2C-23). In contrast, the mortality rate for Alzheimer's disease among males increased by 6.8 percent from 167.3 in 2007 to 178.6 in 2009.

There were 1,378 deaths from Alzheimer's disease among elderly females in 2009, 2 times the number of deaths from this cause among males (686; Table 2C-27).

White non-Hispanic elderly accounted for 89.0 percent of the 2009 deaths from Alzheimer's disease (based on data in Table 2C-27).

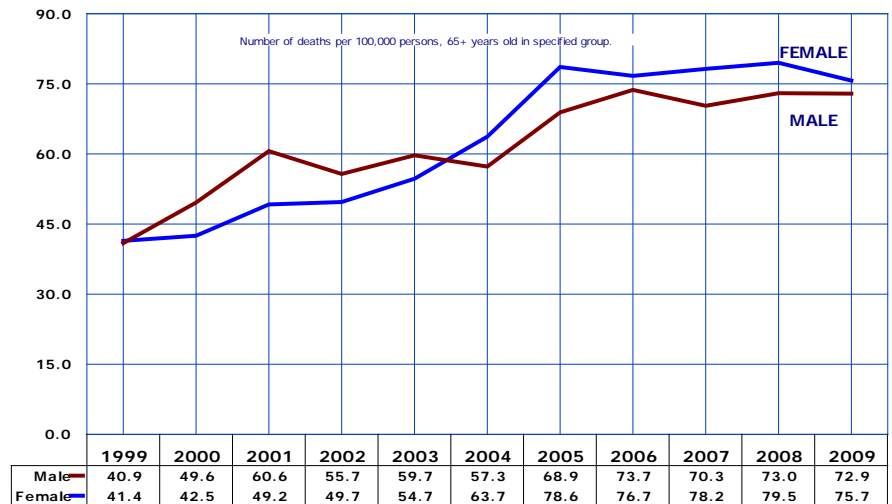


Note: The rates for 1998-1999 are based on the number of deaths according to ICD-9. The rates for 2000-2008 are based on the number of deaths according to ICD-10. For comparability, the rates for 1998-1999 are adjusted using the preliminary comparability ratio of 1.5536 from NCHS. Comparability ratio of 1.0 indicates that the same number of deaths was assigned to a cause of death whether ICD-9 or ICD-10 was used.

Figure 2C-24  
Trends in Mortality Rates for Falls and Fall-related Injuries by Gender and Year among Elderly 65 Years and Older, Arizona, 1999-2009

Among unintentional injury deaths unrelated to motor vehicles, Arizona's elderly experienced a substantial increase in mortality from fall-related injuries (Figure 2C-24). In 2009, 639 elderly Arizona 65 years or older died from fall-related injuries, compared to 337 in 1999, and 5 times as many as the number of those who died from motor vehicle-related injuries (129; Table 2C-27).

In 2009, those 85 years old or older, experienced the largest number of fall-related deaths (363), followed by Arizonans 75-84 years old (202 deaths) and the youngest elderly 65-74 years old (74 fall-related deaths). Among Arizonans 85 years or older in 2009, the rate of 326.6/100,000 for fall-related deaths was 19.2 times greater than the rate of 17.0/100,000 for those 65-74 years old (there is more data available online at <http://www.azdhs.gov/plan/report/im/falls.htm>)



Note: The rates for 1999 are based on the number of deaths according to ICD-9. The rates for 2000-2009 are based on the number of deaths according to ICD-10. For comparability, the rates for 1999 are adjusted using the preliminary comparability ratio of 1.5536 from NCHS. Comparability ratio of 1.0 indicates that the same number of deaths was assigned to a cause of death whether ICD-9 or ICD-10 was used.