In 2017, a total of 231 deaths were recorded among 1,270,968 children aged 1-14 years residing in Arizona. The 2017 childhood mortality rate of 18.2 per 100,000 did not budge much from the rate of 18.3 recorded in 2016 (Table 2C-7). Between 2016 and 2017 the mortality rate for female children witnessed an increase while the rate for male children decreased (Figure 2C-5, Table 2C-7).

The five causes with the greatest mortality rates in childhood from 2007-2017 were accidents (unintentional injuries), malignant neoplasms, congenital malformations, homicide, and suicide (Table 2C-7).

American Indian children had the highest 2017 total mortality rate (39.2 deaths per 100,000) followed by Black or African American children (24.2/100,000; Figure 2C-6). The mortality rates of Asian and Hispanic or Latino children were lower than the average rate for all groups.

It is important to note that the mortality rate for Asians is based on a very low death count (Table 2C-10) thus not statistically reliable. In 2017, there 23 children aged 1-14 years who died of accidental drowning and submersion, and fewer than 20 children completed suicides among this age group (Table 2C-10).
From 2016 to 2017, overall mortality rates decreased for rural children while it increased slightly among their urban counterparts (Figure 2C-7, Table 2C-8). From 2007 to 2017, both urban and rural children have witnessed a decrease in mortality rate. The decline was however more markedly among rural children (13.5 percent) than urban children (5.7 percent).

From 2016 to 2017, the mortality rate for accidents increased for urban children but decreased substantially for rural children (Table 2C-8). In 2017, the mortality rate for unintentional injuries among rural children (6.8/100,000) was 18.2 percent higher than the rate among urban children (5.8/100,000; Table 2C-8). In the same year, 23 children died of accidental drowning; all of them resided in urban areas (Table 2C-10).

Rural females aged 1-14 years old had the lowest mortality risk among gender by area groups in 2017, followed by urban females, urban males, and rural males.

Notes: " Number of deaths per 100,000 persons, 1-14 years old in specified group; " Urban counties are Maricopa, Pima, Pinal, and Yuma Counties. Rural counties are those remaining.