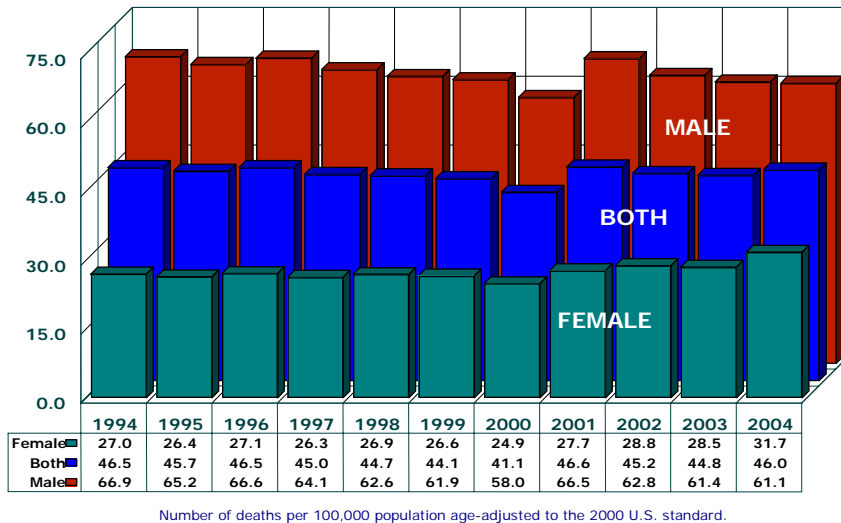


## ACCIDENTAL (UNINTENTIONAL INJURY) DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

### KEY FINDINGS

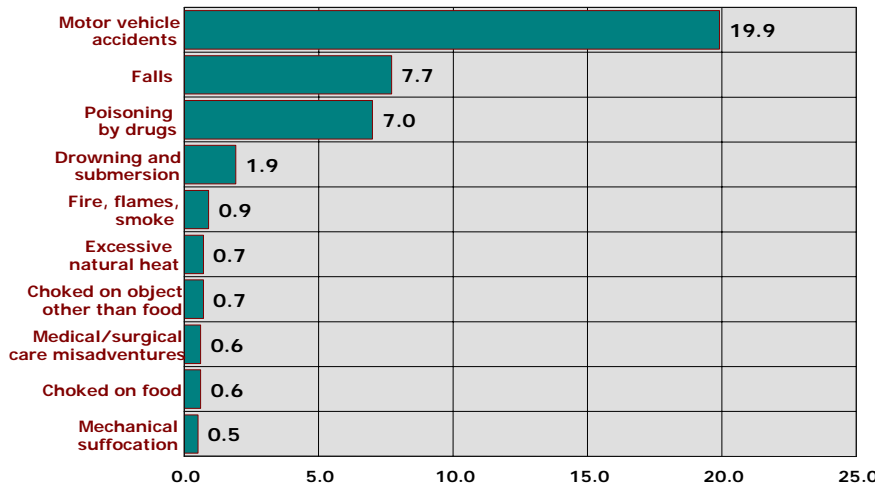
**Figure 2-1**  
**Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Accidents**  
**(unintentional) Injury by Gender and Year,**  
**Arizona, 1994-2004**



In 2004, there were 2,641 unintentional injury deaths among the residents of Arizona, compared to 1,879 in 1994 (**Table 2-1**). However, the 2004 age-adjusted mortality rate for accidental (unintentional) injuries changed very little from the 1994 rate for both genders (46.0 and 46.5 deaths per 100,000 population, respectively, **Figure 2-1**).

The age-adjusted mortality rate for unintentional injuries among males decreased for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year to 61.1 deaths per 100,000, respectively). (**Figure 2-1**). In contrast, the 2001-2004 mortality rates for unintentional injuries among females were higher than the annual rates seven earlier years. In fact, the 2004 female mortality rate was the highest rate of the eleven-year period from 1994 to 2004.

**Figure 2-2**  
**Average Annual\* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of**  
**Accidental (unintentional) Injury, Arizona, 1994-2004**



\* Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

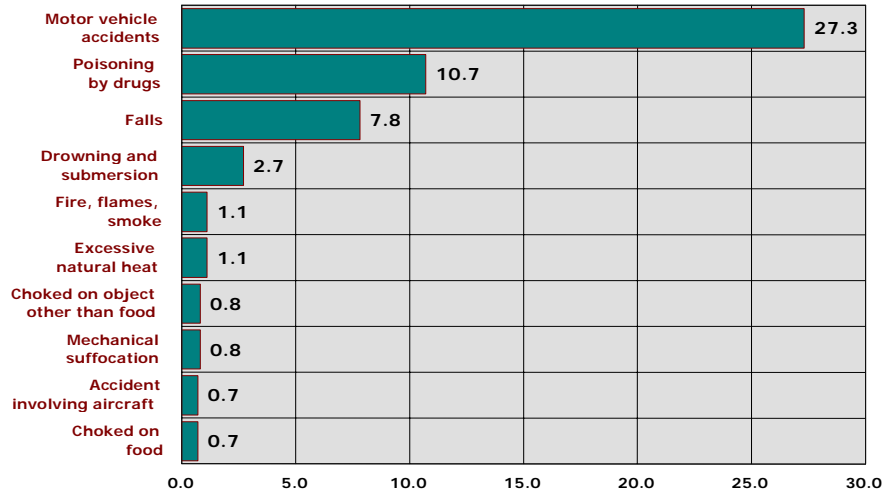
The leading causes of accidental (unintentional) injury are the ten causes with the greatest number of deaths over the 1994-2004 period. *Motor vehicle accidents* (10,796 deaths), followed by *falls* (4,163), *poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biological substances* (3,813), *drowning and submersion* (957), and *exposure to smoke, fire and flames* (479) have remained the top five leading causes of accidental injury death in Arizona (**Figure 2-2**, **Table 2-1**), as they were in 1990-2000.

*Exposure to excessive natural heat* (387 deaths), was the sixth leading cause of unintentional injury death, followed by *choking on object other than food* (382) *misadventures to patients during medical/surgical care* (347), *choking on food* (325) and *mechanical suffocation* (282).

## ACCIDENTAL (UNINTENTIONAL INJURY) DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004 KEY FINDINGS

Males accounted for 68.4 percent of all death in motor vehicle accidents (7,382 out of 10,796). In 1994-2004, the average-annual death rate for *motor vehicle accidents* among Arizona males was 2.2 times greater than that for females (**Figure 2-3, Figure 2-4, Tables 2-2 and 2-3**). *Poisoning by drugs* ranked second for males, but third for females. In contrast, deaths from *falls* ranked second for females, but third for males. The fourth and fifth causes of accidental injury death – accidental *drowning and submersion* and *fire, flames and smoke*, were the same for both males and females.

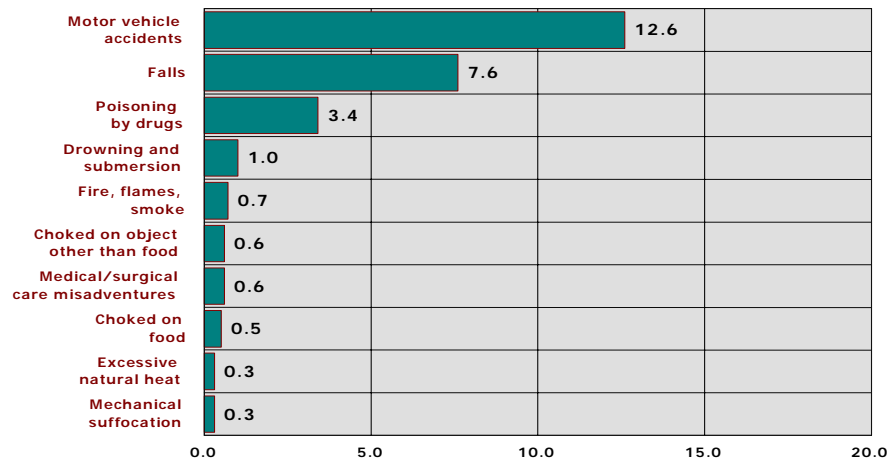
**Figure 2-3**  
**Average Annual \* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among Males, Arizona, 1994-2004**



\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

*Choking on objects other than food* was the sixth leading cause of accidental injury death among females (**Figure 2-4**). *Exposure to excessive natural heat* ranked sixth for males, but ninth for females. *Misadventures during surgical and medical care* were the seventh cause of accidental injury death for females, but they were not ranked in the top 10 for males. In contrast, *accidents involving aircraft* (195 deaths in 1994-2004) were among the leading causes of injury death for males, but not females (**Figure 2-3**). All types of accidents combined accounted for 7,968 deaths among females in 1994-2004, compared to 16,493 male deaths during that period (**Table 2-2, Table 2-3**).

**Figure 2-4**  
**Average Annual \* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among Females, Arizona, 1994-2004**

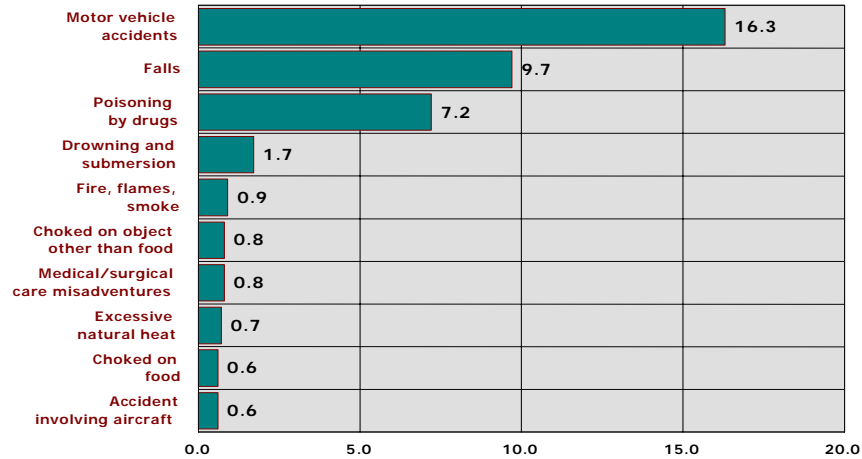


\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

# ACCIDENTAL (UNINTENTIONAL INJURY) DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

## KEY FINDINGS

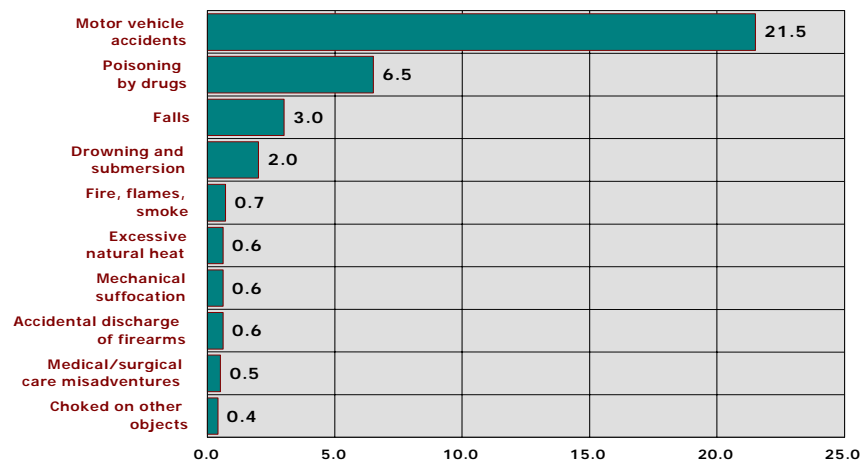
**Figure 2-5**  
**Average Annual\* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of**  
**Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among White**  
**non-Hispanics, Arizona, 1994-2004**



\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

Among White non-Hispanic residents of Arizona, the average annual mortality rate for *motor vehicle crashes* (16.3 deaths per 100,000) was 9.6 times greater in 1994-2004 than the rate for *drowning* (1.7/100,000). During 1994-2004, *choking on food* posed the same mortality risk as *accidents involving aircraft* (0.6/100,000; **Figure 2-5**). The number of fatal *drug overdoses* among White non-Hispanics increased 2.7 times from 145 deaths in 1994 to 390 deaths in 2004 (**Table 2-10**). The number of deaths from *falls* more than doubled from 204 in 1994 to 453 in 2004.

**Figure 2-6**  
**Average Annual\* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of**  
**Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among Hispanics or**  
**Latinos, Arizona, 1994-2004**



\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

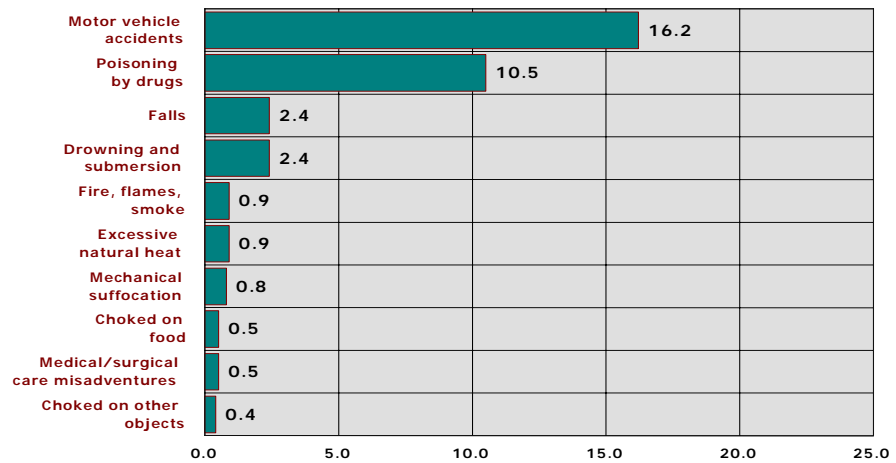
The leading cause of unintentional injury death among Hispanic or Latino residents of the State were *motor vehicle accidents* which accounted for 54.5 percent of all accidental fatalities in this group in 1994-2004 (**Figure 2-6, Table 2-11**). The average annual motor vehicle fatality rate of 21.5 deaths per 100,000 Hispanics per year was the second highest rate among the race/ethnic groups.

## ACCIDENTAL (UNINTENTIONAL INJURY) DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

### KEY FINDINGS

The average annual mortality rate for *accidental poisoning by drugs* among Blacks or African Americans (**Figure 2-7**) was the highest rate among the race/ethnic groups at 10.5 deaths per 100,000 population. Drug overdoses accounted for 25.9 percent of all fatal unintentional injuries in this group between 1994 and 2004 (**Table 2-12**). The *drowning* rate of 2.4 per 100,000 Blacks or African Americans was the second highest rate among the race/ethnic groups in the State.

**Figure 2-7**  
**Average Annual \* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among Blacks or African Americans, Arizona, 1994-2004**

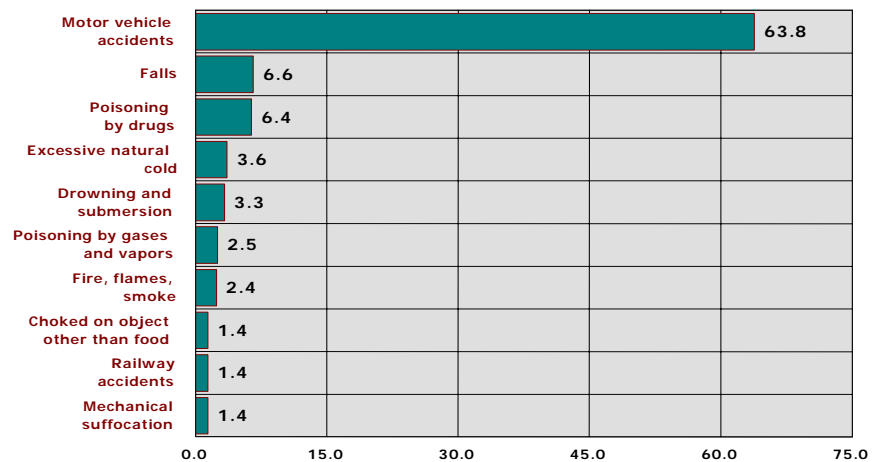


\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

*Excessive natural cold* ranked fourth among the leading causes of unintentional injury death for American Indian residents of Arizona (**Figure 2-8, Table 2-13**), but it did not rank in the top five for any other race/ethnic group. During 1994-2004, 105 deaths of American Indians were attributed to exposure to cold (**Table 2-13**).

Mortality rates of American Indians for both *motor vehicle accidents* and *drowning* were the highest rates among the race/ethnic groups.

**Figure 2-8**  
**Average Annual \* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among American Indians, Arizona, 1994-2004**

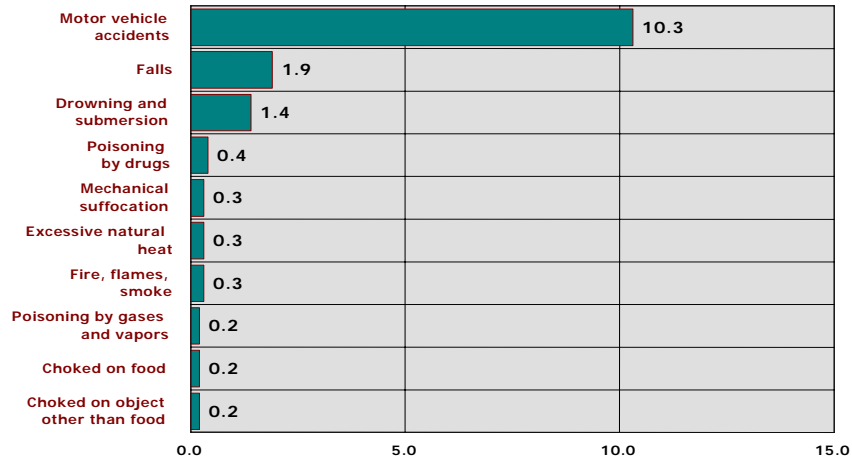


\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

# ACCIDENTAL (UNINTENTIONAL INJURY) DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

## KEY FINDINGS

**Figure 2-9**  
**Average Annual\* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of**  
**Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among Asians or Pacific**  
**Islanders, Arizona, 1994-2004**



\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

During 1994-2004, the cause-specific injury death rates of Asian or Pacific Islander residents of Arizona were the lowest rates among the race/ethnic groups. In the eleven years from 1994 to 2004, only 5 Asians died from poisoning by drugs (Table 2-14). Except for *motor vehicle accidents*, *falls* and *drowning*, the number of deaths for other unintentional injuries among Asians was too small to compute statistically reliable rates (the rates for *choking on food* and *choking on objects other than food* in Figure 2-9 are based on only 2 deaths each during the eleven-year period from 1994 to 2004).

**Figure 2-10**  
**Comparison of Average Annual\* Mortality Rates for the**  
**Five Leading Causes of Accidental (unintentional) Injury**  
**by Race/Ethnicity, Arizona, 1994-2004**

Rank	Asian or Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaska Native	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	White non-Hispanic
1	Motor vehicle accident 10.3	Motor vehicle accident 63.8	Motor vehicle accident 16.2	Motor vehicle accident 21.5	Motor vehicle accident 16.3
2	Fall 1.9	Fall 6.6	Poisoning by drugs 10.5	Poisoning by drugs 6.5	Fall 9.7
3	Drowning 1.4	Poisoning by drugs 6.4	Fall 2.4	Fall 3.0	Poisoning by drugs 7.2
4	Poisoning by drugs 0.4	Excessive natural cold 3.6	Drowning 2.4	Drowning 2.0	Drowning 1.7
5	Mechanical suffocation 0.3	Drowning 3.3	Fire, flames smoke 1.3	Fire, flames smoke 0.7	Fire, flames smoke 0.9

Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

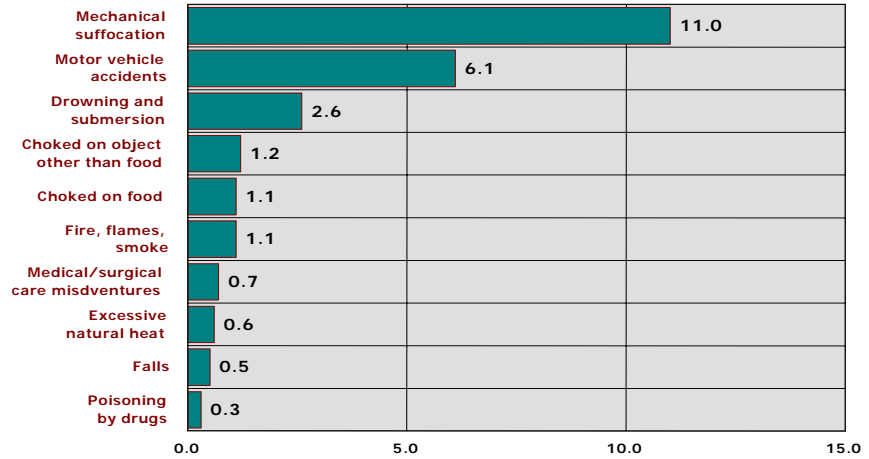
Figure 2-10 shows variation across race/ethnic groups in the five leading causes of unintentional injury mortality. The race/ethnic groups share most of the leading causes in common (*motor vehicle accidents*, *poisoning by drugs*, *drowning*, *fire, flames and smoke*). For Asians, deaths due to *mechanical suffocation* ranked fifth, but they were not ranked in the top 5 for any other race/ethnic group. Deaths due to *excessive natural cold* ranked fourth for the American Indian population, but not ranked in the top 5 for the other racial/ethnic groups.

## ACCIDENTAL (UNINTENTIONAL INJURY) DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

### KEY FINDINGS

The top five causes of unintentional injury death among infants (<1 year of age) for 1994-2004 were *mechanical suffocation*, *motor vehicle accidents*, *accidental drowning and submersion*, *choking on object other than food*, and *choking on food* (Figure 2-11, Table 2-4). During 1994-2004, 5 infants died from exposure to excessive natural heat.

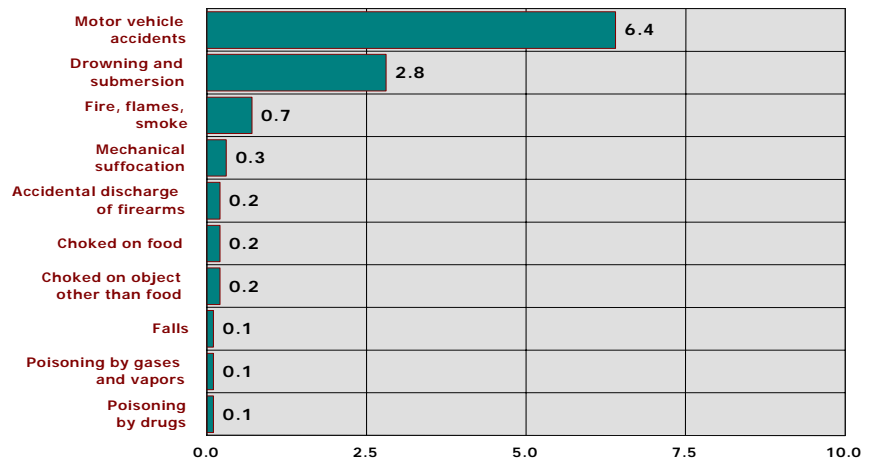
**Figure 2-11**  
Average Annual\* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of  
Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among Infants  
(under 1 year), 1994-2004



\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 births per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 birth figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

Among children 1-14 years old, the average annual mortality rate for *motor vehicle crashes* (6.4 deaths per 100,000) was 2.3 times greater in 1994-2004 than the rate for *drowning* (2.8/100,000), the second cause of unintentional injury. During 1994-2004, *accidental discharge of firearms* posed the same mortality risk as *choking on food* (0.2/100,000; Figure 2-12)

**Figure 2-12**  
Average Annual\* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of  
Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among Children  
(1-14 years old), 1994-2004

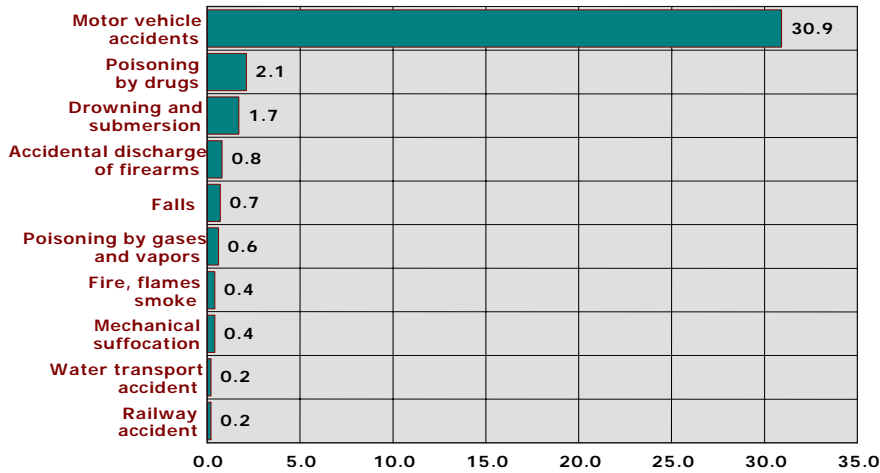


\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 birth figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

## ACCIDENTAL (UNINTENTIONAL INJURY) DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

### KEY FINDINGS

**Figure 2-13**  
**Average Annual \* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of**  
**Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among Adolescents**  
**(15-19 years old), 1994-2004**

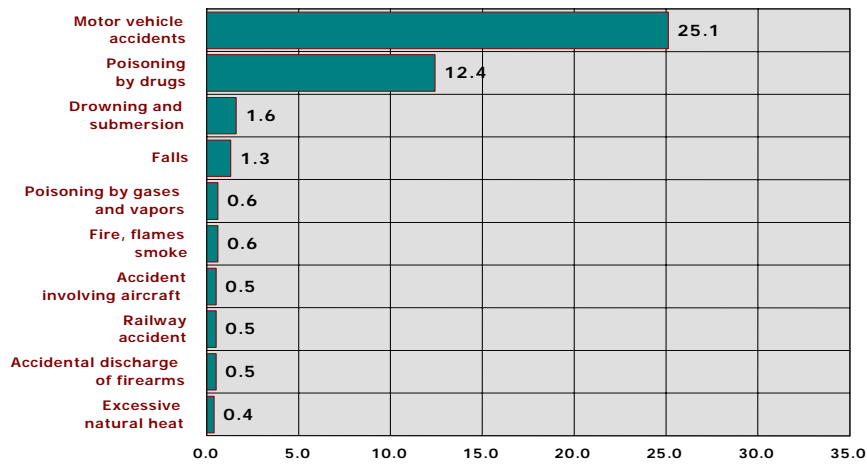


\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

The leading cause of unintentional injury death among adolescents 15-19 years old were *motor vehicle accidents* which accounted for 77.3 percent of all accidental fatalities among Arizona adolescents in 1994-2004 (**Figure 2-13, Table 2-6**). The average annual motor vehicle fatality rate of 30.9 deaths per 100,000 adolescents per year was the highest rate among the age groups.

The number of adolescents who lost their lives in motor vehicle crashes (1,158 deaths in 1994-2004) was 15.0 times greater than the number of those who died from poisoning by drugs (77 deaths), the second leading cause of accidental death of Arizonans 15-19 years old in 1994-2004.

**Figure 2-14**  
**Average Annual \* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of**  
**Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among Young Adults**  
**(20-44 years old), 1994-2004**



\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

The average annual mortality rate for *accidental poisoning by drugs* among young adults 20-44 years old (**Figure 2-14**) was the highest rate among the age groups at 12.4 per 100,000 population. Drug overdoses accounted for 26.2 percent of all fatal unintentional injuries in this group between 1994 and 2004 (**Table 2-7**).

During 1994-2004, *accidental discharge of firearms* posed the same mortality risk as *railway accidents* or *accidents involving aircraft* (0.5 deaths per 100,000).

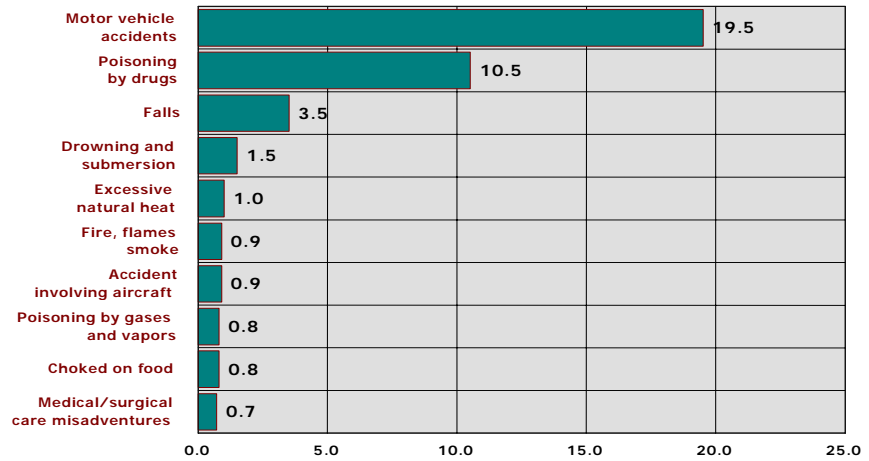
## ACCIDENTAL (UNINTENTIONAL INJURY) DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

### KEY FINDINGS

*Excessive natural heat* ranked fifth among the leading causes of unintentional injury death for middle-aged adults 45-64 years old (**Figure 2-15, Table 2-8**), but it did not rank in the top five for any other age group. In 1994-2004, 109 middle-aged adults died from *exposure to excessive natural heat*, twice the number of those who died from *exposure to excessive natural cold* (57, **Table 2-8**).

During 1994-2004, the average annual mortality rate for drug overdoses (10.5 deaths per 100,000 middle-aged adults) was the second highest rate among the age groups.

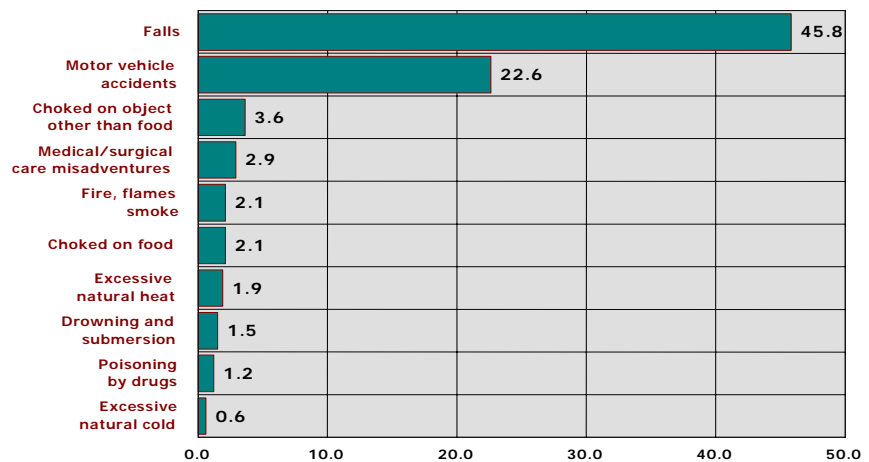
**Figure 2-15**  
Average Annual\* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among Middle-Aged Adults (45-64 years old), 1994-2004



\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

During 1994-2004, *falls* were the leading cause of unintentional injury death among elderly 65 years or older (**Figure 2-16, Table 2-9**). The number of deaths from *falls* more than doubled among elderly Arizonans from 203 in 1994 to 460 in 2004. Deaths due to exposure to *fire, flames and/or smoke* ranked fifth among the leading causes of accidental death for this age group. Both excessive natural heat (145 deaths in 1994-2004) and excessive natural cold (43 deaths in 1994-2004) were among the top 10 causes of unintentional injury mortality of the elderly Arizonans 65 years or older.

**Figure 2-16**  
Average Annual\* Mortality Rates for Leading Causes of Accidental (unintentional) Injury Among Elderly (65 years and older), 1994-2004



\*Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004. The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999 population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.



## ACCIDENTAL (UNINTENTIONAL INJURY) DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

### KEY FINDINGS

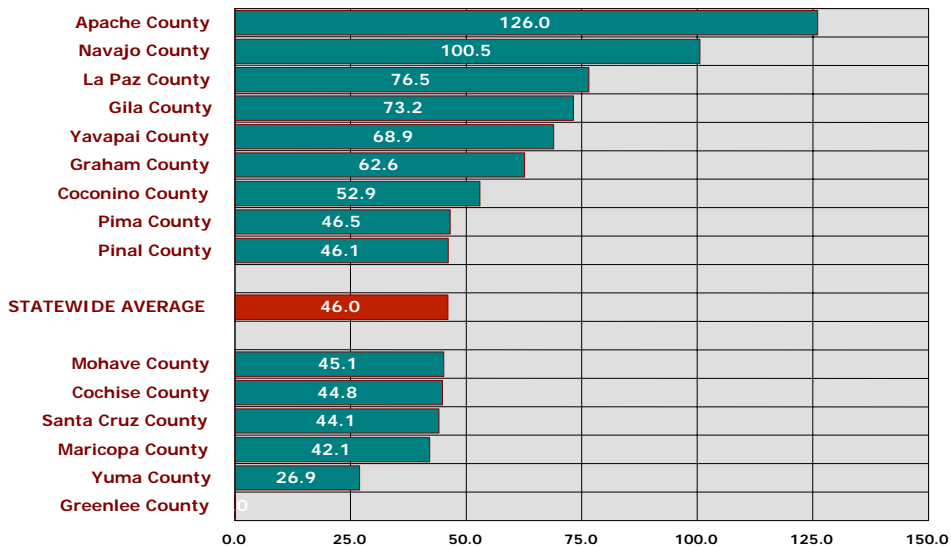
**Figure 2-17**  
Comparison of Average Annual\* Mortality Rates for the  
Five Leading Causes of Accidental (unintentional) Injury  
by Age Group, Arizona, 1994-2004

Rank	Children 1-14 years old	Adolescents 15-19 years old	Young Adults 20-44 years old	Middle-Aged Adults 45-64 years old	Elderly 65 years or older
1	Motor vehicle accident 6.4	Motor vehicle accident 30.9	Motor vehicle accident 25.1	Motor vehicle accident 19.5	Falls 45.8
2	Drowning 2.8	Poisoning by drugs 2.1	Poisoning by drugs 12.4	Poisoning by drugs 10.5	Motor vehicle accident 22.6
3	Fire, flames smoke 0.7	Drowning 1.7	Drowning 1.6	Fall 3.5	Choked on objects other than food 3.6
4	Mechanical suffocation 0.3	Accidental discharge of firearms 0.8	Falls 1.3	Drowning 1.5	Medical/sur- gical care mis- adventures 2.9
5	Accidental discharge of firearms 0.2	Falls 0.7	Poisoning by gases and vapors 0.6	Excessive natural heat 1.0	Fire, flames smoke 2.1

Number of deaths from specified cause per 100,000 population per year from 1994 to 2004.  
The rates were computed using an 11-year total number of deaths for 1994-2004. The 1999  
population figures (i.e., population at mid-point) multiplied by eleven were used as the denominators.

**Figure 2-17** shows variation across age groups in the five leading causes of unintentional injury mortality. The age groups share most of the leading causes in common (*motor vehicle accidents, poisoning by drugs, drowning, and falls*). For children 1-14 years old, deaths due to *mechanical suffocation* ranked fourth, but they were not ranked in the top 5 for any other age group. Deaths due to *excessive natural heat* ranked fifth for the middle-aged adults 45-64 years old, but not ranked in the top 5 for the other age groups.

**Figure 2-18**  
Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Accidents (unintentional)  
Injury by County of Residence in Arizona, 2004



Number of deaths from unintentional injuries (accidents) per 100,000 population age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard.

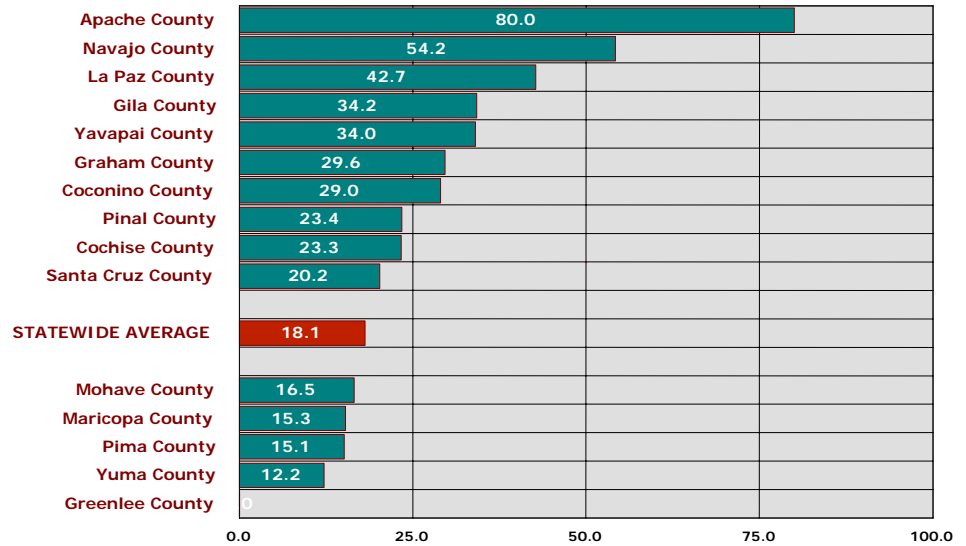
In 2004, the age-adjusted mortality rates for all accidents ranged from a low of 26.9/100,000 in Yuma County to a high of 126.0/100,000 in Apache County (**Figure 2-18**). Nine among Arizona's fifteen counties exceeded the statewide average rate of 46.0 deaths per 100,000 age-adjusted population. There were no deaths from unintentional injuries in Greenlee County.

# ACCIDENTAL (UNINTENTIONAL INJURY) DEATHS, ARIZONA, 1994-2004

## KEY FINDINGS

No resident of Greenlee County died in 2004 in a motor vehicle accident. In 2004, as in the past, the residents of the metropolitan areas of Phoenix (Maricopa County), Tucson (Pima County) and Yuma (Yuma County, **Figure 2-19**) had the lowest age-adjusted mortality rates for motor vehicle accidents. The residents of the rural counties of Apache, Navajo and La Paz had the highest mortality risk for motor vehicle accidents.

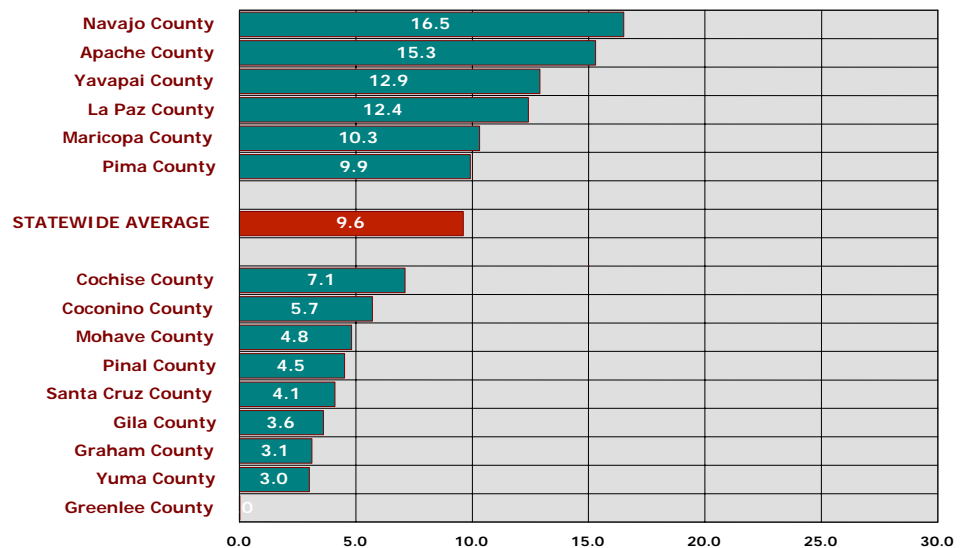
**Figure 2-19**  
**Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Motor Vehicle Accidents**  
**by County of Residence in Arizona, 2004**



Number of deaths from motor vehicle accidents per 100,000 population age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard.

The age-adjusted mortality rates for falls varied in Arizona in 2004 from zero to 16.5 deaths per 100,000 residents of Navajo County.

**Figure 2-20**  
**Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates for Accidental Falls**  
**by County of Residence in Arizona, 2004**



Number of deaths from falls per 100,000 population age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard.