TABLE 3-1

NUMBER OF SUICIDES AND AGE-ADJUSTED SUICIDE MORTALITY RATES[a] BY GENDER AND YEAR,

ARIZONA RESIDENTS, 1996-2006

GENDER	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
MALE						unmodified	modified					
--Number	619	662	674	613	604	485	622	692	647	674	723	743
--Rate	28.7	29.5	28.6	25.7	24.7	19.1	24.6	26.4	24.0	24.1	24.9	24.7
FEMALE												
--Number	143	148	171	160	133	115	145	163	160	180	192	205
--Rate	6.4	6.4	7.1	6.5	5.2	4.4	5.6	6.0	5.8	6.3	6.5	6.6
TOTAL												
--Number	762	810	845	773	737	600	767	855	807	854	915	948
--Rate	17.2	17.7	17.7	15.8	14.6	11.5	14.9	15.9	14.6	14.9	15.4	15.4
Rate ratio, M:F	4.5	4.6	4.0	4.0	4.7	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.7
Percent MALE suicides[c]	81.2	81.7	79.8	79.3	81.9	80.8	81.1	80.9	80.2	78.9	79.3	78.4

[a]Number of suicides per 100,000 population in specified group age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard. The age-adjusted mortality rates in this report, based on the (new) 2000 standard, CANNOT BE compared to previously published rates which use the 1940 standard population.

[b]Includes one record with unspecified gender.

[c]TOTAL suicides = 100 percent.

Cause of death	1999	2000	2001		2002	2003
			unmodified	modified		
Suicide	773	737	600	767	855	807
Suicide by drugs	105	59	76	113	100	93
Suicide by firearms	495	486	358	468	544	476
Accidental discharge of firearms	7	11	114	6	26	13

Unprecedented decline in 2001 in the number of suicides and the equally unprecedented increase in the number of firearm deaths classified as accidental obviously are associated. Some of the firearm fatalities (as well as drug poisonings), that would have been classified as suicides had the manual coding system been in place, were classified as accidents in 2001 because the "manner of death" was not indicated and the automated coding system defaulted to accidental injury. Table 3-1 provides two data columns for 2001: unmodified and modified for the misclassification of the underlying cause of death.The numbers and rates used in the "modified" column for 2001 are from the WISQARS site at http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/mortrate10_sy.html.