

PURPOSE

The report *Differences in the Health Status Among Race/Ethnic Group, Arizona, 2005* is the update of population-level data about differences in the relative health of five race/ethnic groups residing in Arizona: White non-Hispanics, Hispanics or Latinos, Blacks or African-Americans, American Indians or Alaska Natives and Asians or Pacific Islanders including Hawaiians.

The report compares the relative standing of race/ethnic groups on 70 indicators or measures of health status. The indicators are presented in a series of simple, self-explanatory bar charts and organized around 9 major subject areas:

(1) TEEN PREGNANCIES, (2) MATERNAL LIFESTYLE AND HEALTH CHARACTERISTICS, (3) UTILIZATION OF PRENATAL CARE SERVICES, (4) NEWBORN'S HEALTH, (5) MORTALITY FROM NATURAL CAUSES (CHRONIC OR INFECTIOUS DISEASES), (6) MORTALITY FROM INJURIES, (7) AGE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY, (8) PATTERNS OF PREMATURE MORTALITY and (9) THE INCIDENCE OF REPORTABLE DISEASES.

Each bar chart visually describes how the race/ethnic group compares to other groups and the overall State level for each indicator. These graphic representations are found in *Comparative Measures of Health Status by Race/Ethnicity in 2005* while the tabulated values also are available in the *Rates and Ratios in 2005* and *Comparative Rates and Ratios for 2000-2005* sections of the report.

The report also provides comparative risk profiles, as well as scores and rankings of race/ethnic groups on each of the 70 health status measures. The comparisons of rates and ratios, as well as scores and rankings are intended to give some sense of the inequalities in health status among race/ethnic groups in our State and to stimulate viable initiatives to improve the health of **all** Arizonans.

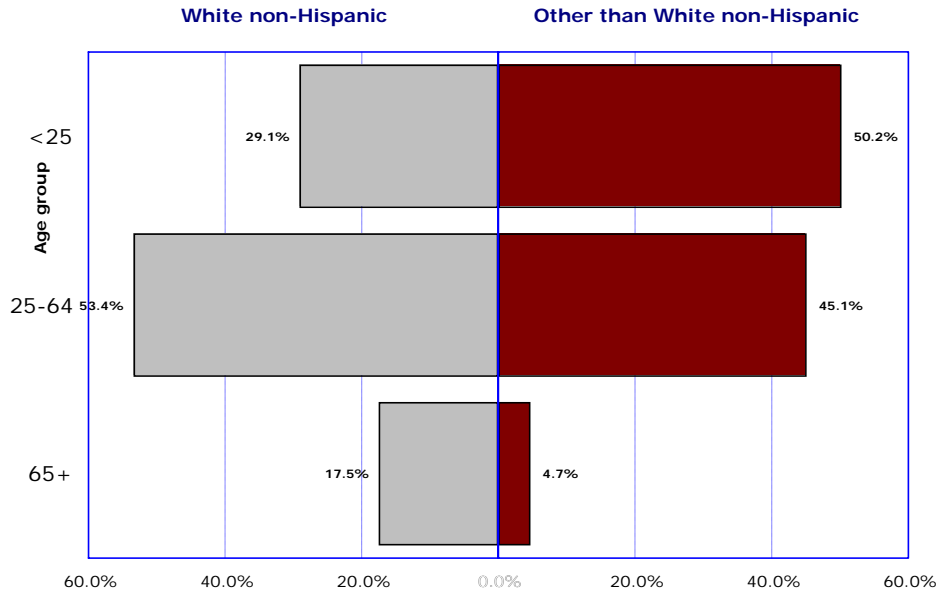
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF ARIZONA'S RACE/ETHNIC DIVERSITY

The racial and ethnic composition of the population has important consequences for the State's health status because many measures of disease and disability differ significantly by race and ethnicity. Among the estimated 6,044,985 Arizona residents in 2005, approximately 3,922,026 (64.9 percent) were White non-Hispanic, 1,527,388 (25.3 percent) were Hispanic or Latino, and 291,684 (4.8 percent) were American Indian or Alaska Natives. Blacks or African Americans accounted for 187,507 or 3.1 percent of the State's population. Asians or Pacific Islanders, the smallest race/ethnic group, represented 1.9 percent of the total population (116,380 people).

The White non-Hispanic population increased by 50.4 percent from 1990 to 2005, while Arizona saw a 100.7 percent increase in its minority population (See p.159: *Population by Race/Ethnic Group: Arizona Residents, 1990, 2000 and 2005*). Both the Asian and Hispanic race/ethnic minority groups in Arizona more than doubled in size since 1990. The Black or African American population increased by 69.7 percent while the American Indian population increased by 43.3 percent from 1990 to 2005.

Compared with the White non-Hispanics, the race/ethnic minority groups have had greater percentages of people younger than 25 years (50.2 vs. 29.1 percent). In contrast, people aged 65 years and older accounted for 17.5 percent of White non-Hispanics, but only 4.7 percent of all race/ethnic minority groups combined. Among Arizonans 25 years old or younger in 2005, one out of two (48.3 percent) was other than White non-Hispanic. Among Arizona's older adults 65 years old or older, nine out of ten (87.3 percent) were White non-Hispanic (**Table A**).

Percent distribution of population by age group and race/ethnicity, Arizona, 2005



Percent distribution of deaths by age group and race/ethnicity, Arizona, 2005

