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The Arizona Factbook On Youth

Developed and
Produced by the
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College of Human Services
Partnership For Community Development

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF FIGURES 2

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS 3

INTRODUCTION 4

OVERVIEW 5
CURRENT POPULATION AND PROJECTIONS 5
HOUSEHOLDS WITH FAMILIES 8
MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE 8

HEALTH 9

OVERVIEW 9
GENERAL HEALTH PERCEPTIONS 10
OVERWEIGHT YOUTH 10
INFANT HEALTH 11
HEALTH INSURANCE 16
INFANT MORTALITY 16
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT 18
SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES AND HIV/AIDS 19
CAUSES OF DEATH 21
FIREARM-RELATED DEATHS 23
SUICIDE 25
DROWNING DEATHS 27
MOTOR VEHICLE DEATHS 27
FERTILITY 28

EDUCATION 32

OVERVIEW 32
GRADUATION AND DROP OUT RATES 32
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT 33
FAMILY INVOLVEMENT IN LITERACY ACTIVITIES 34
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER ACTIVITIES 36

ECONOMIC SECURITY 38

OVERVIEW 38
POVERTY 38
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE 40
CHILD CARE 40
PARENTAL EMPLOYMENT 42
DETACHED YOUTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF YOUTH 43

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH 44

OVERVIEW 44
JUVENILE CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION 44
DRUGS 49
SEXUAL ACTIVITY 52
VALUES 52
TRANSITIONS TO THE LABOR FORCE 54

IMPLICATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS 56

REFERENCES 58

TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Firearm-Homicides and Firearm-Suicides among Adolescents 15-19 Years Old, 1986-1996. . 25
Figure 2. Suicide Rates (per 100,000) for Persons 15-19 Years Old by Year, Arizona and U.S. 25
Figure 3. Drowning rates (per 100,000) comparison among children 0-4 Years Old, Arizona and U.S., 1986-1996 27
Figure 4. Pregnancy, Birth, and Abortion Rates (per 1,000) for Females under 20 Years Old 29

Acknowledgments

Much as was the case with the *Arizona Fact Book on Aging*, which was developed and produced by the College of Human Services' Partnership for Community Development at Arizona State University West in 1997, this volume, the *Arizona Fact Book on Youth*, proved no easy task to develop because of the availability—or lack—of data. In some cases, data were available at the County level; in others, information was drawn from national surveys and, accordingly, can only be interpreted at the state level; in some instances, data that would prove useful to policy makers and service providers are simply not available. These issues notwithstanding, this volume should prove a useful tool for decision makers in that it represents as comprehensive and current set of information on youth in Arizona as is available.

I am indebted to Dr. John Hultsman who conceived of this idea and brought it to fruition. I am appreciative of the contributions of Mr. Rudy Navarro who researched, compiled, and developed this volume under Dr. Hultsman's direction. In addition, Ms. Robin Trent invested considerable effort in formatting the tables and figures, and Ms. Mary Flores contributed to the production in numerous ways. Mr. Geoffrey Boyarsky provided design, production, and layout preparation. The Factbook was edited and produced under the auspices of the Partnership for Community Development.

In addition to the individuals who worked to produce the Arizona Factbook on Youth, it is important to recognize the support of its sponsors. The Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and the Arizona Drug and Gang Prevention Resource Center provided funding that made the development of this volume possible and I am grateful for the support they provided as well as for the value to the State of Arizona they saw in producing a volume of this nature.

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Introduction

This fact book is about the health and well being of children in Arizona and the United States. A child's wellness depends on a wide variety of factors and can be described in many ways. This report uses information presented in the form of indicators or characteristics of a child and his or her family that suggest how well off the child might be. Each indicator is described with information presented in one or more tables or figures and each is organized into five general categories representative of important facets of a child's life:

- Characteristics of children and families
- Health
- Education
- Economic security
- Social development and behavioral health

The categories were developed based on a review of categories used in similar local and national efforts. While the indicators reported herein are far from exhaustive, they attempt to provide as comprehensive a picture of the status of children as possible given the space limitations of this report. Sources for additional or more detailed information are listed at the end of the fact book.

This report was created for people who need information to make decisions. No interpretations are offered and the information is presented with a minimal amount of analysis. At times, the relevance of an indicator and how it can be used to assess the well being of children is discussed. When possible, information is presented in the form of rates or percentages so that comparisons can be made at various levels. National, state, and county information is provided when it is available; however, many of the indicators have been assessed with national surveys so state level data are not reported. Trend information is also provided when it is available so that the reader can see changes in the indicator over time.

All information presented was derived from existing reports; none of it was collected from original records or surveys that would have been conducted specifically for this fact book. In most cases, the tables or figures were taken directly from the sources and modified slightly, if at all, for the purposes of this report. All information was taken from sources considered to be credible by virtue of their being a government agency charged with collecting and analyzing such information, such as the U.S. Bureau of the Census, or because they are well known for their publications on these topics, such as the Annie E. Casey Foundation. In all cases, the publication from which the table or figure was derived is cited, and in most cases, the original source for the information is also provided.

Characteristics of Children and Families

This section begins the report by discussing basic characteristics of children and their families. It also presents population projections for children.

Overview

Current population and projections

In 1998, Arizona's population was 4.7 million people and was the 21st most populous state in the Nation (U.S. Census Bureau). Over the next three decades, Arizona's population is expected to increase 2.2 million people. It is one of the fastest growing states in the nation and is ranked 4th largest in rate of population change and 6th largest in population net gain from 1995-2000.

According to the International Economic Data Center at the College of Business at Arizona State University (1998), all states and the District of Columbia are projected to show a decline in the proportion of youth under 20 years old. Arizona's youth population is expected to decrease from 31 percent in 1995 to 27.3 percent in 2025. However, the state had the 10th largest proportion of youth among all states in the nation in 1995 and is projected to have the 11th largest proportion in 2025. Arizona is also expected to rank as the 6th largest for its natural population increase (number of births minus number of deaths). The state's dependency ratio, the number of youth (under age 20) and elderly (ages 65 and over) there would be for every 100 people of working ages (20-64 years of age), could rise from 79.3 in 1995 to 94.5 in 2025. These are the 5th and 4th largest ratios, respectively, in the nation.

Table 1 presents child population estimates for Arizona and its counties. In 1997, Arizona had a child population (under 20 years of age) of 1.3 million. Approximately 78% of this population reside in the urban counties of Maricopa, Pima, and Yuma. The five counties with the largest population of children are Maricopa, Pima, Pinal, Yuma, and Coconino.

Table 1. Population of infants, children (1-14 years), and adolescents (15-19 years) by gender and county of residence, 1997

Area	Gender	<1	1-14	15-19	Total
Arizona	Male	36,940	507,309	166,873	711,122
	Female	35,429	457,489	149,387	642,305
	Total	72,369	964,798	316,260	1,353,427
Apache	Male	766	10,931	3,312	15,009
	Female	736	10,478	3,397	14,611
	Total	1,502	21,409	6,709	29,620
Cochise	Male	882	12,528	4,657	18,067
	Female	840	11,968	4,313	17,121
	Total	1,722	24,496	8,970	35,188
Coconino	Male	948	13,483	4,787	19,218
	Female	908	12,353	4,878	18,139
	Total	1,856	25,836	9,665	37,357
Gila	Male	346	4,986	1,736	7,068
	Female	326	4,669	1,715	6,710
	Total	672	9,655	3,451	13,778
Graham	Male	229	4,138	1,445	5,812
	Female	215	3,852	1,410	5,477
	Total	444	7,990	2,855	11,289

Table 1. Population of infants, children (1-14 years), and adolescents (15-19 years) by gender and county of residence, 1997. (cont'd)

Area	Gender	<1	1-14	15-19	Total
Greenlee	Male	87	1,337	439	1,863
	Female	70	1,079	395	1,544
	Total	157	2,416	834	3,407
La Paz	Male	124	1,806	623	2,553
	Female	109	1,,537	561	2,207
	Total	233	3343	1,184	4,760
Maricopa	Male	22,035	304,294	97,564	423,893
	Female	21,169	265,575	83,791	370,535
	Total	43,024	570,049	181,355	794,428
Mohave	Male	964	12,332	4,236	17,532
	Female	927	11,515	3,493	15,935
	Total	1,891	23,847	7,729	33,467
Navajo	Male	897	12,834	4,060	17,791
	Female	859	11,809	3,684	16,352
	Total	1,756	24,643	7,744	34,143
Pima	Male	5,867	78,987	27,290	112,144
	Female	5,629	76,221	26,366	108,216
	Total	11,496	155,205	53,656	220,357
Pinal	Male	1,073	16,929	5,685	23,687
	Female	1,028	15,611	5,073	21,712
	Total	2,101	32,550	10,758	45,409
Santa Cruz	Male	415	4,752	1,629	6,796
	Female	399	4,829	1,477	6,705
	Total	814	9,581	3,106	13,501
Yavapai	Male	739	12,250	4,337	17,326
	Female	707	11,083	4,118	15,908
	Total	1,446	23,333	8,455	33,234
Yuma	Male	1,568	15,722	5,073	22,363
	Female	1,507	14,900	4,716	21,123
	Total	3,075	30,622	9,789	43,486

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997*

In 1997, 29 percent of Arizona's population was under 20 years of age. The nation has a similar child to adult ratio. Table 2 shows the proportion of children in Arizona and its counties. Apache County has the highest proportion of children with Navajo, Greenlee, Santa Cruz, and Gila Counties following in rank order.

Table 2: Children (0-19 years) as a proportion of the population by county, 1997

Area	Children (0-19 years)	Total (all ages)	Percent children
U.S.[1]	77,576,000	270,029,000	28%
Arizona	1,353,427	4,595,379	29%
Apache	29,620	65,333	45%
Cochise	35,188	116,737	30%
Coconino	37,357	115,920	32%
Gila	13,778	46,216	30%
Graham	11,289	32,243	35%
Greenlee	3,407	8,739	39%
La Paz	4,760	18,764	25%
Maricopa	794,428	2,721,761	29%

Table 2: Children (0-19 years) as a proportion of the population by county, 1997. (cont'd)

Area	Children (0-19 years)	Total (all ages)	Percent children
Mohave	33,467	132,659	25%
Navajo	34,143	85,481	40%
Pima	220,357	799,375	28%
Pinal	45,409	148,648	31%
Santa Cruz	13,501	35,852	38%
Yavapai	33,234	139,480	24%
Yuma	43,486	128,171	34%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1997. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997*
[1] 1998 population figure

Population projections for children under age 20 in Arizona and its counties are presented in Table 3. As noted earlier, Arizona's proportion of children in the population will rank as one of the highest in the nation. It is also evident that the rate of growth of the child population is much higher in Arizona than the nation in general with Arizona projected to experience a 17 percent increase and the nation projected to experience a 3.5 percent increase in children ages 0-19. The highest percentage increases will occur in Mohave, Yavapai, and Yuma counties.

Table 3: Population projection for children (0-19 years) by county

Area	Year 2000	Year 2005	Year 2010	Percent change between 2000 and 2010
U.S.	78,784,000	80,271,000	81,514,000	3.5
Arizona	1,440,777	1,572,155	1,687,440	17.0
Apache	30,539	31,891	33,209	8.7
Cochise	36,203	37,501	38,489	6.3
Coconino	38,963	41,442	43,624	12.0
Gila	14,437	15,153	15,699	8.7
Graham	12,058	13,121	14,019	16.8
Greenlee	3,533	3,691	3,822	8.2
La Paz	4,985	5,318	5,583	12.0
Maricopa	849,754	934,840	1,009,038	18.7
Mohave	36,899	42,031	46,494	26.0
Navajo	34,695	35,520	36,349	4.8
Pima	236,684	251,071	266,779	12.7
Pinal	48,368	52,256	55,495	14.7
Santa Cruz	14,338	15,736	17,080	19.1
Yavapai	35,959	40,157	43,840	21.9
Yuma	46,869	52,427	57,920	23.6

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security, Research Administration, Population Statistics Unit, 1997. *1997-2050, Population Projections: State and county projections by age and sex, report 2b*; and U.S. Census Bureau, 1998. *Resident Population of the United States: Middle Series Projections, 1996 –2000, 2001-2005, 2006 - 2010, by Age and Sex*

Ethnic and racial breakdowns for Arizona's current population by age group are provided in Table 4.

Table 4. Estimated population by age group and ethnicity, 1997

	Age group			
	<1	1-4	5-14	15-24
American Indian	6,006	24,078	62,602	45,517
Asian	1,494	6,119	15,012	14,276
Black	2,967	11,293	30,844	26,358
Hispanic	21,817	90,291	204,207	170,624
Non-Hispanic White	36,750	155,612	400,646	367,882

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997.*

Households with families

Table 5 presents the number of households and number of households with children for the United States, Arizona, and Arizona counties. The percentage of household in Arizona with children is similar to that of the United States, 33 percent and 34 percent respectively. However, there is a great deal of variation between the counties with Apache County having the highest percentage of households with children, 53 percent, and Yavapai County the lowest with 25 percent.

Table 5. Households with children, 1990

	Number of households	Households with children	Percent households with children
U.S.	91,993,582	31,364,670	34
Arizona	1,371,885	454,562	33
Apache	16,237	8,552	53
Cochise	35,140	12,578	36
Coconino	30,167	12,356	41
Gila	15,621	4,556	29
Graham	8,147	3,261	40
Greenlee	277	1,216	44
La Paz	5,427	1,616	30
Maricopa	808,162	265,336	33
Mohave	36,778	9,711	26
Navajo	22,504	10,821	48
Pima	262,129	80,401	31
Pinal	39,181	14,345	37
Santa Cruz	8,873	4,317	49
Yavapai	44,915	11,260	25
Yuma	35,827	14,236	40

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1998.

Marriage and divorce

Finally, marriage and divorce rate trends for the United States, Arizona, and Arizona counties are presented in Table 6 and Table 7. Arizona's marriage, 9.0, is almost the same as that of the nation, 8.9. Mohave County has had the highest marriage rate in Arizona for the 10 year period, 1987 to 1997 and Apache County the lowest. Divorce rates in Arizona are higher than national rates, 5.7 and 4.3 respectively. As with marriage rates, divorce rates are highest in Mohave County and lowest in Apache County.

Table 6. Marriage Rates (per 1,000) by County of Occurrence, Arizona and United States, 1987-1997

County	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
U.S.	9.9	9.7	9.7	9.8	9.4	9.2	9.2	9.1	9.1	8.8	8.9[1]
Arizona	10.4	9.9	9.6	10.1	9.7	9.6	10.1	9.7	9.6	8.9	9.0
Apache	3.1	3.0	4.0	4.5	3.9	3.6	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.2
Cochise	8.8	8.7	7.9	8.7	5.9	9.1	9.9	9.8	9.3	8.8	8.8
Coconino	10.2	10.3	9.8	10.2	9.5	10.1	9.5	9.9	9.2	9.4	9.4
Gila	10.4	9.3	10.2	10.9	10.2	11.7	9.3	11.4	9.5	10.2	9.3
Graham	11.1	11.3	11.6	10.6	9.8	12.1	9.9	11.1	10.3	10.6	11.9
Greenlee	6.1	5.9	3.8	5.7	8.8	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.3	8.7	7.3
La Paz	10.2	13.0	9.7	17.0	12.9	13.4	12.4	11.8	8.0	10.3	9.2
Maricopa	10.6	10.0	9.5	9.9	9.6	8.7	8.7	8.5	8.7	7.8	8.1
Mohave	13.3	17.9	21.1	23.8	26.3	32.1	49.1	40.8	36.9	30.4	25.7
Navajo	6.4	7.6	6.7	7.4	6.1	6.4	8.1	7.1	6.5	7.6	7.5
Pima	10.1	8.9	8.6	9.2	9.1	9.2	8.8	8.9	8.5	8.7	9.5
Pinal	8.4	7.9	6.5	7.2	6.1	6.5	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.6	7.5
Santa Cruz	10.7	10.9	11.5	12.0	9.5	10.5	9.9	10.6	8.4	8.9	9.6
Yavapai	9.2	8.1	7.5	7.3	7.1	7.7	8.2	8.6	7.6	7.9	7.7
Yuma	22.2	21.6	21.7	17.5	16.7	18.3	17.6	16.1	15.8	14.3	13.8

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health and Vital Statistics, 1997*
[1] Preliminary

Table 7. Dissolution of Marriage Rates (per 1,000) by County of Occurrence, Arizona and United States, 1987-1997

County	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
U.S.	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.3[1]
Arizona	6.8	6.9	6.2	6.8	6.6	6.8	6.1	6.2	6.5	6.0	5.7
Apache	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.6	1.1	1.5	1.2	1.9	2.0
Cochise	7.1	6.7	7.2	8.7	7.3	8.1	8.2	7.9	8.4	5.3	6.5
Coconino	5.7	5.0	6.5	6.0	4.7	3.4	4.3	3.1	2.3	3.3	3.1
Gila	5.8	6.4	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.7	7.8	5.7	5.6	6.4	5.8
Graham	6.8	5.7	5.5	6.9	5.8	6.5	6.2	6.3	4.6	5.7	5.1
Greenlee	4.0	4.0	3.5	5.1	5.3	7.4	7.3	4.8	7.3	5.4	4.2
La Paz	4.5	6.5	3.3	4.5	4.5	4.6	3.4	4.1	2.5	4.2	3.3
Maricopa	7.6	7.9	6.6	7.7	7.2	7.4	6.3	6.6	7.4	6.3	6.0
Mohave	6.5	6.6	7.4	6.9	8.0	6.9	8.2	7.0	5.8	7.5	6.8
Navajo	3.1	3.5	2.6	2.8	3.5	4.0	3.6	3.4	3.5	4.6	4.2
Pima	6.2	5.7	5.4	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.7	5.8	5.5	5.4	5.2
Pinal	5.8	6.1	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.9	5.9	5.6	5.7	5.3	5.3
Santa Cruz	3.7	4.3	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.6	4.7	4.1	3.8	3.3	3.9
Yavapai	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.5	6.8	6.1	8.2	8.1	7.5	7.6	7.8
Yuma	6.3	6.7	7.8	3.5	5.7	9.0	6.2	6.1	7.1	5.8	5.6

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health and Vital Statistics, 1997*
[1] Preliminary

Health

Overview

This section looks at the physical health, including mortality, of children in Arizona and the United States. The Arizona Department of Health Services is responsible for collecting and analyzing much of the information presented in this section and has made it all readily available on the Internet and in published reports. The Department's phone

number and World Wide Web address are included in the reference section. Information for several indicators in this portion is available only at the national level.

General health perceptions

Since 1984, the percentage of parents in the U.S. who think their children are in very good or excellent health has remained at about 80 percent. Table 8 shows this information for the nation. Differences are most notable for families of different race and income level. For the period reported, black parents were less likely than white parents to consider their child in very good or excellent health and parents with higher incomes were more likely to consider their child in very good or excellent health.

Table 8. Percentage of children under age 18 in the United States who are reported by their parents to be in very good or excellent health.

	1984	1987	1990	1992	1993	1994	1995
Under age 5							
Total	79	81	81	80	80	81	81
Race							
White	81	84	83	82	82	83	83
Black	67	71	72	70	71	72	72
Annual family income[1]							
<$10,000							67
$10,000-$19,999							72
$20,000-$34,999							82
$35,000 or more							89
Ages 5-17							
Total	77	80	80	80	79	79	80
Race							
White	80	83	83	82	81	81	82
Black	65	66	68	68	70	68	70
Annual family income[1]							
<$10,000							62
$10,000-$19,999							69
$20,000-$34,999							79
$35,000 or more							89

Source: Unpublished data from the National Health Interview Survey, National Center for Health Statistics; and National Center for Health Statistics, 1995. *Current Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey, 1994* in U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. *Trends in the Well-being of America's Children and Youth, 1998.*

[1] Family income is not adjusted in the National Health Interview Survey for comparison over time; therefore, family income is shown only for the most recent year.

Overweight youth

Children who are overweight are more likely to be overweight as adults and overweight adults are at-risk for health conditions such as hypertension, coronary health disease, gallbladder disease, and some cancers (Department of Health and Human Services, 1998). Table 9 shows the percentage of overweight children and adolescents in the nation for various years. Overall, the percentage of overweight children in the United States has doubled since 1963.

Table 9. Percentage of overweight[1] children and adolescents in the Untied States.

	1963-65	1966-70	1971-1974	1976-1980	1988-1994
Ages 6-11	5.0	-	5.5	7.6	13.6
Ages 12-17	-	5.0	6.2	5.6	11.5

Sources: National Center for Health Statistics. Health, United States, 1996-97. Estimates were calculated from the National Health Examination Survey (1963-1965 for ages 6 through 11, and 1966-1970 for ages 12 through 17) and from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey in U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. *Trends in the Well-being of America's Children and Youth, 1998.*

[1] Overweight is defined as body mass index at or above the sex-and age-specific 95th percentile body mass index cutoff points calculated at 6-month age intervals for children ages 6-11 and for adolescents ages 12-17.

Infant health

Tables 10 through 12 present information on infants with a low birth weight. The weight of an infant at birth is an important indicator of the overall health of the child and can predict future problems such as disabilities, death, and visual and hearing defects (Children's Action Alliance, 1997). Table 10 shows that Arizona, like the nation as a whole, has gotten worse on this measure of infant health over the past several years in all ethnic groups and geographic areas. In Arizona, African Americans continue to experience the highest rate of low birth weight infants. In 1995, Arizona had the 19th lowest percentage of low birth weight infants at 6.2. The United States had a 7.3 low birth weight rate in 1995 (Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1998). In 1997, Arizona's low birth weight rate was 6.9 compared to the nation's 7.5 rate.

Table 10. Changes in low birth weight rates from 1990 to 1997 by area and ethnicity

	1990	1997	% Change
Urban	6.4	6.9	+7.8
Rural	6.9	7.1	+2.9
White	6.2	6.7	+8.1
Hispanic	6.4	6.6	+3.1
Black	11.5	13.6	+18.3
American Indian	6.1	6.6	+8.2

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997*

Table 11. Percent of total births that are low birth weight by County, 1997

County	Total births	Low birth weight	% of total births
United States	--	--	7.5
Arizona	75,563	--	6.9
Apache	1,327	82	6.2
Cochise	1,650	117	7.1
Coconino	1,802	135	7.5
Gila	665	50	7.5
Graham	491	36	7.3
Greenlee	166	11	6.6
La Paz	200	16	8.0
Maricopa	47,127	3,212	6.8
Mohave	1,763	106	6.0

Table 11. Percent of total births that are low birth weight by County, 1997. (cont'd)

County	Total births	Low birth weight	% of total births
Navajo	1,656	127	7.7
Pima	11,372	879	7.7
Pinal	2,150	150	7.0
Santa Cruz	778	64	8.2
Yavapai	1,546	108	7.0
Yuma	2,861	133	4.6

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997*

Table 12. Low birthweight births by mother's ethnic group and county of residence, 1997

County	Total	Ethnicity of Mother					
		White	Hispanic	Black	American Indian	Asian	Other or unknown
Total	5,227	2,543	1,854	337	347	122	24
Apache	82	9	2	0	71	0	0
Cochise	117	47	46	16	2	6	0
Coconino	135	66	14	4	49	2	0
Gila	50	24	10	1	14	1	0
Graham	36	22	11	0	3	0	0
Greenlee	11	5	6	0	0	0	0
La Paz	16	7	6	0	3	0	0
Maricopa	3,212	1,621	1,155	255	80	86	15
Mohave	106	78	19	2	5	0	2
Navajo	127	38	15	4	70	0	0
Pima	879	426	345	50	29	25	4
Pinal	150	69	60	3	15	0	3
Santa Cruz	64	7	57	0	0	0	0
Yavapai	108	90	15	1	1	1	0
Yuma	133	34	93	1	4	1	0
Unknown	1	0	0	0	1	0	0

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997*

Table 13 presents a variety of characteristics of newborns and their mothers for 1997. The Arizona Department of Health Services reports that caesarian section has been decreasing steadily to a low of 16.2 percent in 1996 since a 1989 high of 18.8 percent. 1997's rate was a bit higher at 17 percent.

Medical risk factors during pregnancy can be indicative of adverse pregnancy outcomes such as low birth weight and congenital abnormalities, the leading causes of infant death. Forty seven percent of births in 1997 reported medical risk factors compared to 50.2 percent in 1986.

Rates of dysfunctional labor were higher among black mothers (27.8 per 1,000 births) than they were for Asians (22.5), American Indian (20.1), non-Hispanic whites (12.6), and Hispanics (8.0).

Cigarette smoking during pregnancy has been associated with reduced infant birth weight, intrauterine growth retardation, and pre-term births. In 1989, 15.2 percent of women giving birth reported smoking during pregnancy compared with 8.5 percent in 1997.

Rates of abnormal conditions of newborns in 1997 were higher for Black births (134.4) than for non-Hispanic whites (97.2), Asians (96.1), Hispanic (95.4) and American Indian (93.7 per 1000) births. Congenital anomalies (birth defects) in 1997 were highest for American Indians (2.5 per 1000), followed by Blacks (2.2), Asians (1.5), and non-Hispanic whites and Hispanics (1.4).

Table 13. Rate of occurrence (per 100 births) for selected characteristics of newborns and mothers giving birth by county of residence, 1997. (cont'd)

Characteristics	Total	Apache	Cochise	Coconino	Gila	Graham	Greenlee	La Paz	Maricopa	Mohave	Navajo	Pima	Pinal	Santa Cruz	Yavapai	Yuma
Births with Complications of Labor and/or Delivery Reported	31.1	33.3	36.9	31.6	28.5	38.9	43.4	24.0	29.0	37.8	40.3	42.9	28.9	18.9	17.9	22.8
Births with Medical Risk Factor Reported	28.2	33.1	26.5	36.7	22.9	29.7	31.9	38.0	27.7	34.5	34.8	35.8	27.6	14.4	8.7	5.9

Characteristics	Total	Apache	Cochise	Coconino	Gila	Graham	Greenlee	La Paz	Maricopa	Mohave	Navajo	Pima	Pinal	Santa Cruz	Yavapai	Yuma
Gestational Age less than or equal to 37 weeks	17.5	13.5	17.9	20.4	16.5	23.0	17.5	18.0	17.4	18.9	17.3	18.4	16.3	15.6	19.1	13.6
Births with abnormal conditions reported	9.7	4.0	8.4	4.2	9.9	8.4	9.6	18.5	10.3	17.6	5.5	11.0	8.1	5.0	4.0	5.0
Births with Congenital Anomalies Reported	1.5	2.1	1.5	1.3	2.0	2.2	1.8	7.5	1.4	4.1	7.1	0.9	1.4	0.6	1.1	0.9
Tobacco Use During Pregnancy	8.5	3.5	10.1	2.7	14.7	11.2	9.0	8.5	9.1	20.3	7.1	8.6	11.1	1.2	14.7	2.3
Primary and Repeat Cesarean Deliveries	17.0	12.7	17.9	12.8	16.2	21.2	22.9	31.5	16.5	20.5	12.5	18.3	21.9	19.2	16.6	18.9
Infants Admitted to Newborn Intensive Care Units	6.6	2.3	4.0	3.1	5.7	3.5	4.8	4.0	7.3	3.6	3.8	7.8	6.0	3.2	3.0	2.8

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997*

Additional information about mothers' risk factors associated with alcohol and tobacco are presented in Table 14.

Table 14. Risk factors by mother's county of residence, 1997

	Total	Apache	Cochise	Coconino	Gila	Graham	Greenlee	La Paz	Maricopa	Mohave	Navajo	Pima	Pinal	Santa Cruz	Yavapai	Yuma	Unknown
Drinker, nonsmoker	464	22	9	5	14	1	1	0	279	17	29	62	16	0	7	2	0
Smoker, nondrinker	5,961	39	161	44	82	54	14	14	3,690	338	100	920	219	8	214	63	1
Smoker and drinker	484	8	6	5	16	1	1	3	309	19	18	59	20	1	14	4	0
Nonsmoker and nondrinker	68,654	1,258	1,474	1,748	553	435	150	183	42,894	1,389	1,509	10,331	1,895	769	1,311	2,792	8

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997*

Immunizations can protect a child from a variety of illnesses. Immunization rates for the years 1994 and 1996 are provided in Table 15.

Table 15. Rates of Fully Immunized Two Year Olds

1994	1996
77%	72%

Source: State of Arizona's Children, 1997. Children's Action Alliance.

Health insurance

The number of children with health insurance can be predictive of the future health of an infant or child. While children in upper-income families may have private health insurance, low income families may rely on Arizona's Medicaid program, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), for health care provision. Table 16 presents information on the number of children enrolled in AHCCCS, births covered by AHCCCS, and children without health insurance.

Table 16. Children enrolled in AHCCCS and Births Covered by AHCCCS, Arizona

	1996 number	1990 rate	1996 rate	Percentage rate change
Children enrolled in AHCCCS	279,872	20.2%	22.2%	9.9%
Births covered by AHCCCS	33,071	29.6%	44.6%	50.7%
Children with no health insurance		12.8%	14.0%	

Source: Children's Action Alliance, 1997. *State of Arizona's Children, 1997*

Infant mortality

The infant mortality rate reflects the number of children per 1000 that die before their first birthday. Arizona's infant mortality rate has improved in the ten-year period from 1985 to 1995 (Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1998) and was ranked 25th in the nation in 1995. The 1997 rate of 7.2 is slightly higher than the nation's rate of 7.1. In 1997, male infants died at a 23.4 percent higher rate than female infants did (Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998b). White non-Hispanic babies had the lowest mortality rate among ethnic groups. While mortality rates for Black babies declined by 33.3 percent from 1996 to 1997, they still experienced the worst survival chances. Table 17 presents 1997 infant mortality information for counties and ethnicities.

Table 17. Infant Mortality Rates (per 1,000 Live Births in specific group) by County of Residence, Child's Ethnic Group and Gender, 1997

	Ethnic Group																	
	Total, all groups			White			Hispanic			Black			American Indian			Asian		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
United States			7.1															
Arizona	7.9	6.4	7.2	7.5	5.8	6.7	8.1	6.6	7.3	9.5	11.3	10.4	9.7	7.1	8.4	3.7	4.0	3.9
Apache	8.4	3.3	6.0	22.7	-	12.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.8	3.9	5.5	-	-	-
Cochise	3.6	8.6	6.1	2.9	3.0	3.0	7.6	15.8	9.0	-	-	-	*	-	83.3	-	-	-
Coconino	10.9	9.1	9.4	8/1	5.4	6.7	19.6	18.2	19.0	-	-	-	36.8	8.0	9.3	-	-	-
Gila	11.6	9.4	10.5	13.8	13.8	13.8	10.2	-	5.5	-	-	-	10.4	11.9	11.1	-	-	-
Graham	11.2	4.5	8.1	7.1	-	3.9	11.2	11.5	11.4	-	-	-	40.0	-	21.7	-	-	-
Greenlee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
La Paz	18.4	33.0	25.0	22.2	55.6	37.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	58.8	-	37.0	-	-	-
Maricopa	8.2	6.4	7.3	7.9	5.0	6.5	9.0	7.1	8.0	11.6	14.9	13.2	3.1	6.4	4.7	3.3	5.9	4.5
Mohave	9.8	9.5	9.6	5.9	11.9	8.7	21.0	5.1	12.9	-	-	-	33.3	-	16.7	-	-	-
Navajo	7.1	7.4	7.2	4.0	4.1	4.1	11.5	12.1	11.8	-	-	-	8.1	8.5	8.3	-	-	-
Pima	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.5	8.6	6.8	6.1	5.2	5.6	3.4	-	1.8	8.7	4.0	6.2	8.6	-	3.8
Pinal	9.0	10.6	9.8	2.4	5.0	3.7	7.6	11.2	9.2	27.8	4.0	26.0	33.6	22.6	27.8	-	-	-
Santa Cruz	4.8	-	2.6	-	-	-	5.3	-	2.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yavapai	4.9	5.5	5.2	1.7	5.5	3.5	16.5	6.3	11.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yuma	3.4	2.9	3.1	6.3	7.9	7.0	2.9	1.9	2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health and Vital Statistics, 1997*

- No infant deaths recorded in 1997.
* Fewer than 10 births

Child abuse and neglect

Tables 18-20 report on child abuse, maltreatment, and neglect. Abuse of children manifests in short term psychological affects such as poor peer relations and violent behavior. Long-term consequences include criminality, poverty, and future violence (Department of Health and Human Services, 1998). Nationally, an 18 percent increase in abuse has been identified between the years 1990 and 1996.

In Arizona, rates of reports of child abuse and neglect rose 29 percent over the period from 1991-1997 as shown in Table 18. No substantial differences in rates are apparent between Arizona's counties as shown in Table 19. Table 20 reports on neglect, abuse, or maltreatment as the causes of death for children 0-14 years of age. Among the 2,113 infants and children under 15 years who were fatally injured between 1985 and 1995, 275 or 13 percent were victims of neglect, maltreatment, or murder (Arizona Department of Health Services, 1997a).

Table 18. Rates and percentage rate of change in child abuse and neglect reports, Arizona

	1991 rate	1997 rate	Percentage rate of change
CPS Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect per Child Population	2.4%	3.1%	29.2%
CPS Reports Substantiated (per Investigated Report)	52.4%	44.8%	-14.5%
CPS Reports Substantiated (per Child Population)	1.1%	1.2%	9.1%

Source: Department of Economic Security, Child Welfare Reporting Requirements, Annual Report for the Period July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997 in Children's Action Alliance, 1997. *The State of Arizona's Children 1997*

Table 19. Rates of Reported Child Abuse by County, 1997

Arizona	3.1
Apache	2.6
Cochise	3.1
Coconino	2.6
Gila	3.8
Graham	3.1
Greenlee	3.1
La Paz	3.6
Maricopa	3.0
Mohave	3.6
Navajo	2.6
Pima	3.7
Pinal	3.8
Santa Cruz	3.1
Yavapai	2.6
Yuma	3.6

Source: Department of Economic Security, Child Welfare Reporting Requirements, Annual Report for the Period July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997 in Children's Action Alliance, 1997. *The State of Arizona's Children 1997*

Table 20. Neglect, abuse and maltreatment as causes of death among children 0-14 years of age by select years

Circumstance	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995
Homicide and injury purposely inflicted by other Person, Total	19	13	24	15	27	34
Child Battering and other Maltreatment	3	3	7	2	4	10
All other Kinds of Assault and Late Effects of Injury Purposely Inflicted by Other Person	16	10	17	13	23	24

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1997. *Injury Mortality among Children and Adolescent: Arizona, 1985-1995.*

Children are often placed in foster care due to substantial physical risks as a result of abuse and neglect. Table 21 shows rates of children in foster care by county for 1997.

Table 21. Rate (per 1,000) of children in foster care by county, 1997

Apache	0.7
Cochise	5.0
Coconino	1.9
Gila	8.2
Graham	2.6
Greenlee	4.8
La Paz	1.7
Maricopa	4.8
Mohave	5.2
Navajo	1.9
Pima	7.4
Pinal	4.9
Santa Cruz	2.0
Yavapai	4.9
Yuma	3.3

Children's Action Alliance, 1997. *State of Arizona's Children, 1997.*

Sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS

In 1997, the highest incidence of chlamydia and gonorrhea occurred among females ages 15 to 19 (Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998b). In the 10-14 year old age group, gonorrhea incidence for girls was 36 times greater than the incidence for boys. Forty percent of all chlamydia cases were reported in women younger than 20 years old. Table 22 presents these data.

The 1997 chlamydia incidence rates was 8 times higher among infants and preschoolers than children 5-9 years old (Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998b).

Table 22. Rates (number of cases per 100,000 population) of Reported Cases of Sexually Transmitted Diseases by Age, Gender, and Disease, 1997

	Gonorrhea			Chlamydia			Early Syphilis			Genital Herpes		
Age Group	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Female	Total
0-4	.7	1.5	1.1	10.6	16.8	13.5	-	-	-	0.6	3.0	1.7
5-9	-	0.6	0.3	-	3.6	1.7	-	-	-	-	1.2	.6
10-14	0.6	21.7	10.5	6.2	108.9	54.5	1.1	1.3	1.2	-	3.2	1.5
15-19	166.5	350.3	253.2	329.3	2330.2	1272.8	2.4	8.7	5.4	14.4	118.1	63.3

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1998.*

Children under the age of 20 only account for approximately 2 percent of cumulative HIV and AIDS diagnoses. However, given the length of time a person may be infected with HIV, its is predicted that a large portion of those reported in the 20-29 year old range may have been infected as adolescents. Table 23 provides cumulative cases for AIDS and HIV by age group.

Table 23. Number of HIV and AIDS cases by age at diagnosis, Arizona, 1981-1997

Age Group	AIDS	HIV	Total	Percent of total cases all ages
Under 5	12	39	51	0.5
5-12	7	9	16	0.2
13-19	26	73	99	1.0
20-29	1074	1509	2583	26.5

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997.*

Causes of death

Tables 24 and 25 present information about the various causes of death for children ages 1-19 in 1997. In 1997, Arizona's unintentional injury rate of 45.9 was substantially higher than the nation's rate of 35.1. Apache, Gila, La Paz, and Navajo counties' injury-related mortality rates were more than twice the national rate.

Injury is the leading cause of death among children (except infants under one year of age) and adolescents both nationally and in Arizona (Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998b). Between 1985 and 1995, injury accounted for more deaths among children ages 1-19 than all major diseases. Unintentional injuries accounted for 2.3 times as many deaths as homicides and suicides combined.

For adolescents, ages 15-19, motor vehicle crashes, suicides, and homicides were the three leading causes of death (Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998b). One out of every four deaths among adolescents in 1997 was motor vehicle related and four out of every ten adolescents who died were either murdered or committed suicide. From 1987 to 1997, adolescent death rates for unintentional injury and malignant neoplasms (cancers) declined while death rates for homicide, suicide, and diseases of the heart increased.

Table 24. Rates (per 100,000 children ages 1-14 and 15-19) for causes of death among children (1-14, 15-19 years) by county, 1997

	US	Arizona	Apache	Cochise	Coconino	Gila	Graham	Greenlee	La Paz	Maricopa	Mohave	Navajo	Pima	Pinal	Santa Cruz	Yavapai	Yuma
Unintentional injury (1-14)		15.0	19.0	8.2	15.5		12.5		.0	13.0	29.4	20.3	11.6	18.4	10.4	17.1	22.9
Unintentional injury (15-19)		35.7	89.4	.0	72.4	29.0	35.0	119.9	168.9	24.8	64.7	90.4	26.1	55.8	.0	35.5	91.9
Unintentional injury (all ages)	35.1	45.8	101.0	36.0	58.7	77.9	52.7	22.9	74.6	39.3	54.3	104.1	42.4	57.2	8.4	45.9	38.2
Motor Vehicle Related (1-14)		8.4	19.0	8.2	7.7		12.5		.0	6.7	25.2	16.2	6.4	6.1	.0	8.6	16.3
Motor Vehicle Related (15-19)		27.2	89.4	.0	41.4	.0	35.0	119.9	168.9	17.6	25.9	77.5	24.2	37.2	.0	71.0	20.4
Motor Vehicle Related (all Ages)	16.3	21.2	71.9	19.7	27.6	36.8	37.2	11.4	53.3	16.4	29.4	60.8	16.1	33.6	2.8	25.8	19.5
Drowning (1-14)		3.3	.0	.0	.0		.0		.0	4.0	.0	.0	.6	6.1	.0	8.6	3.3
Drowning (15-19)		2.8	.0	.0	10.3	.0	.0	.0	.0	2.2	12.9	.0	1.9	.0	.0	.0	.0
Drowning (all ages)	NA	2.1	.0	.9	5.2	4.3	.0	.0	5.3	1.9	3.0	5.8	.6	1.3	.0	2.9	3.9
Other injury (1-14)		3.3	.0	.0	7.7		.0		.0	2.3	4.2	4.1	4.5	6.1	10.4	.0	3.3
Other injury (15-19)		5.7	.0	.0	20.7	29.0	.0	.0	.0	5.0	25.9	12.9	.0	18.6	.0	.0	.0
Other injury (all ages)	18.8	24.6	29.1	16.3	31.1	41.1	15.5	11.4	21.3	22.9	24.9	43.3	26.3	23.5	5.6	20.1	18.7
Homicide (1-14)		1.3	.0	.0	.0		.0		.0	1.1	.0	.0	1.9	6.1	.0	.0	.0
Homicide (15-19)		19.0	14.9	33.4	10.3	.0	.0	.0	.0	18.2	12.9	.0	22.4	37.2	32.2	23.7	.0
Homicide (all ages)	7.5	10.2	23.0	6.0	5.2	8.7	6.2	.0	.0	10.6	9.0	11.7	8.9	12.8	8.4	5.7	4.7
Suicide (1-14)		.7	.0	.0	.0		.0		.0	.5	4.2	.0	1.3	.0	.0	.0	.0
Suicide (15-19)		23.7	59.6	.0	10.3	.0	.0	.0	.0	22.6	25.9	38.7	20.5	27.9	.0	11.8	10.2
Suicide (All ages)	11.3	17.6	26.0	14.6	17.3	26.0	15.5	22.9	37.3	15.0	21.9	21.1	17.9	15.5	11.2	26.5	14.8

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997*

Table 25. Mortality rates (per 100,000) by injury type and age group, Arizona (1995) and United States (1993)

	Age Group			
Category of Injury	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19
All Injury Deaths				
Arizona	31.5	12.1	27.1	109.9
U.S.	22.3	9.8	14.5	69.8
Unintentional Injury, Total				
Arizona	25.7	11.5	17.0	52.8
U.S.	17.7	8.6	10.1	37.3
Motor-Vehicle-Related, Total				
Arizona	10.2	6.7	10.4	41.0
U.S.	5.5	4.7	5.9	28.6
Drowning				
Arizona	8.8	2.2	1.7	2.9
U.S.	3.2	1.0	1.3	2.4
Poisoning				
Arizona	0.3	0.0	0.0	3.2
U.S.	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.9
Suffocation				
Arizona	2.3	1.6	0.7	1.1
U.S.	2.8	0.3	0.4	.04
Fire/Flames				
Arizona	2.0	0.3	2.0	0.7
U.S.	3.5	1.2	0.5	0.5
Homicide				
Arizona	5.1	0.6	4.4	33.4
U.S.	4.1	1.1	2.5	20.7
Suicide				
Arizona	0.0	0.0	3.7	18.7
U.S.	0.0	0.0	1.7	10.9
Firearms[1]				
Arizona	0.9	1.0	7.4	45.3
U.S.	0.6	0.8	3.8	27.8

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1997. *Injury Mortality among Children and Adolescents, Arizona, 1985-1995*

[1] Includes unintentional injuries caused by firearms, firearm-suicides, firearm-homicides, and firearm-related fatalities which are undetermined.

Firearm-related deaths

Information on firearm-related deaths are presented in Tables 26 and 27 and Figure 1. In each of the years from 1986 to 1996, Arizonans were more likely to die from firearms than their national counterparts (Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998a). Since 1991, firearm-related death rates among adolescents 15-19 years of age were the highest of any age group. Since 1986, Arizona teenagers have been more likely to die from firearms than other natural causes of death. In 1996, firearms caused one out of every three deaths among those 15-19 compared with one out of every six deaths in 1986.

Table 26. Age-specific and age-adjusted death rates (per 100,000 in specified age group) for injury by firearms, Arizona and United States, 1986-1996

Age Group	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Under 5[1]	.3	0.3	1.2	1.2	0.3	0.7	1.0	.03	1.2	0.9	.06
5-14	2.0	2.5	1.8	2.3	1.9	2.0	4.8	5.3	2.5	4.1	2.4
15-19	20.3	18.5	21.6	21.4	20.7	34.3	26.9	39.5	43.9	45.3	36.7
Arizona Age-Adjusted Rate[2]	18.2	18.1	18.2	17.1	18.3	17.9	18.7	21.0	24.0	24.4	20.1
U.S. Age-Adjusted Rate[2]	13.3	13.0	13.4	13.7	14.6	15.2	14.9	15.7	15.4	13.9	13.0

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Firearm-related Fatalities, Arizona, 1986-1996*

[1] 0-4 years old

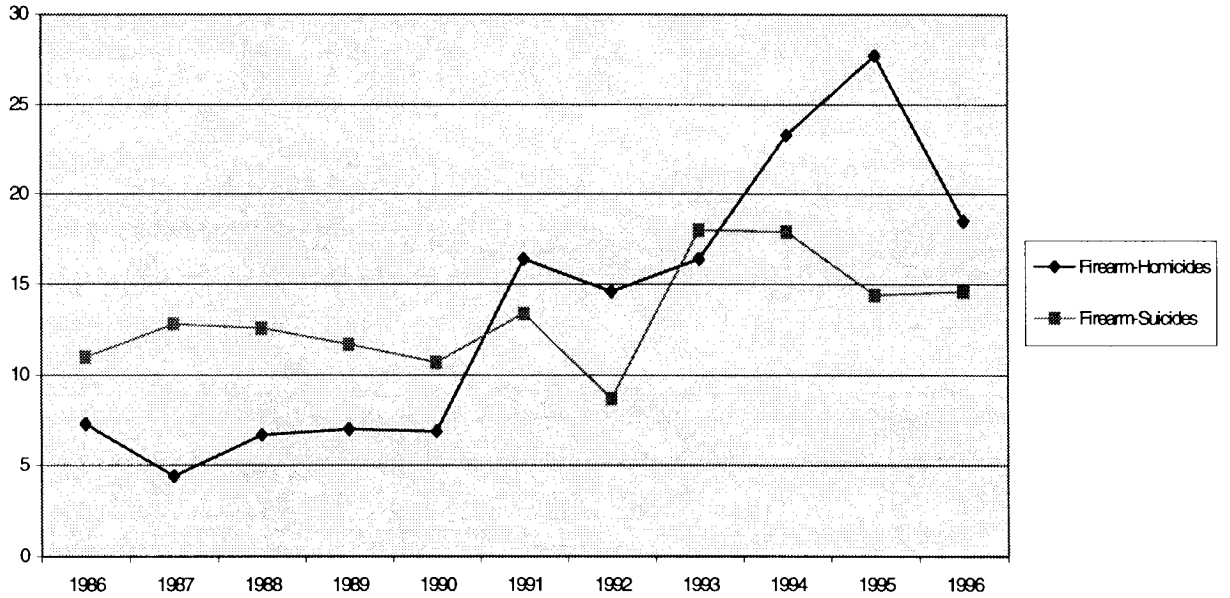
[2] Adjusted to U.S. population of 1940.

Table 27. Rate (per 100,000 population) of firearm-related deaths by county of residence and selected year

County	1986	1988	1990	1992	1994	1996
Arizona	18.1	18.6	18.9	19.2	23.3	19.8
Apache	18.2	21.7	11.4	14.3	6.1	27.9
Cochise	12.3	15.5	18.4	18.8	34.6	10.5
Coconino	18.0	9.5	9.3	12.8	17.9	19.4
Gila	15.1	22.2	32.3	31.2	25.9	26.5
Graham	12.2	16.3	3.8	18.1	17.5	6.4
Greenlee	-	31.5	-	24.0	23.4	23.1
La Paz	21.3	56.0	36.1	33.7	32.7	38.5
Maricopa	18.2	17.5	18.9	18.3	22.0	18.8
Mohave	27.1	29.5	34.2	36.9	31.0	20.4
Navajo	17.6	14.2	16.7	17.4	19.3	17.8
Pima	18.5	19.4	17.1	18.4	19.5	18.2
Pinal	25.0	31.7	30.9	21.2	27.6	28.5
Santa Cruz	3.6	9.9	3.4	19.3	18.4	8.9
Yavapai	17.4	22.5	30.6	25.4	29.9	20.7
Yuma	14.8	16.4	7.5	12.4	21.2	10.4

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Firearm-related Fatalities: Arizona, 1986-1996.*

Figure 1. Firearm-Homicides and Firearm-Suicides among Adolescents 15-19 Years Old, 1986-1996.



Suicide

In 1985, Arizona ranked third in the nation for suicide mortality with a rate of 19.5 (Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998d). In each year from 1986 to 1996, Arizona residents were more likely to kill themselves than their national counterparts. This trend also holds true for Arizona's youth between the ages of 15-19 years as shown in Figure 2.

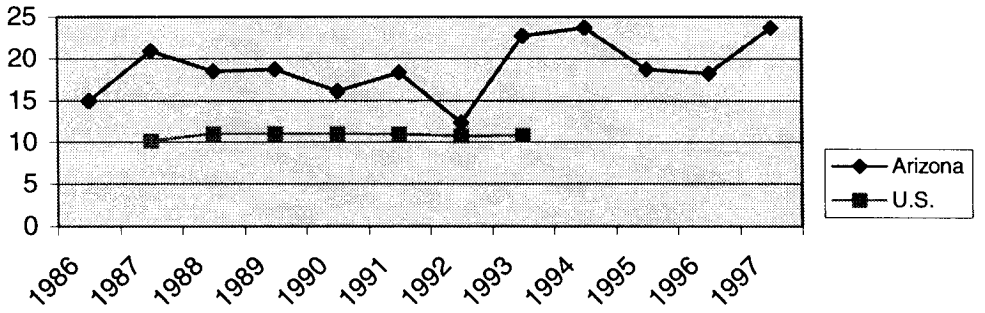


Figure 2. Suicide Rates (per 100,000) for Persons 15-19 Years Old by Year, Arizona and U.S.

The teen suicide rate was 13% higher in 1996 than in 1990 and 47% higher in 1997 than in 1990. As shown in Table 28, 1997 suicide rates among 15-19 year olds were the highest in Apache and Navajo Counties.

Table 28. Age specific suicide mortality rates (per 100,000 population in specific group) by county of residence

	10-14 (1996 rates)	15-19 (1996 rates)	15-19 (1997 rates)
Arizona	2.2	18.2	23.7
Apache	13.5	15.0	59.6
Cochise	.0	22.8	.0
Coconino	11.5	20.9	10.3
Gila	.0	0.0	.0
Graham	.0	36.4	.0
Greenlee	.0	0.0	.0
La Paz	.0	0.0	.0
Maricopa	1.1	18.1	22.6
Mohave	12.9	27.0	25.9
Navajo	.0	26.3	38.7
Pima	.0	13.4	20.5
Pinal	8.7	19.4	27.9
Santa Cruz	.0	0.0	.0
Yavapai	.0	0.0	11.8
Yuma	9.4	0.0	10.2

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Suicide Mortality: Arizona, 1986-1996*; and Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997.*

Tables 29 and 30 show suicide deaths by ethnicity and age group for 1996 and suicide trends for each county.

Table 29. Number of suicide deaths by ethnicity and age group, 1996

	<15	15-19
All Ethnic Groups	7	56
White	4	34
Hispanic	1	13
Black	0	1
American Indian	2	7
Asian	0	1

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Suicide Mortality: Arizona, 1986-1996*

Table 30. Number of suicides for persons 15-19 years old by county of residence and selected year

County	1986	1988	1990	1992	1994	1996
Arizona	37	47	42	34	62	56
Apache	4	2	1	0	0	1
Cochise	1	3	1	0	3	2
Coconino	3	1	3	2	1	2
Gila	0	0	1	2	1	0
Graham	0	1	0	0	0	1
Greenlee	0	1	0	0	0	0
La Paz	0	1	1	0	0	0
Maricopa	17	18	25	16	32	32
Mohave	0	4	1	2	1	2
Navajo	3	1	2	1	2	2

Table 30. Number of suicides for persons 15-19 years old by county of residence and selected year (cont'd)

County	1986	1988	1990	1992	1994	1996
Pima	7	9	5	5	9	7
Pinal	2	5	0	2	2	2
Santa Cruz	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yavapai	0	1	2	0	3	0
Yuma	0	0	0	2	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	2	8	5

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Suicide Mortality: Arizona, 1986-1996.*

Drowning deaths

Children ages 5 years and younger are at the highest risk of drowning both in Arizona and nationally. Historically, children ages 1-4 in Arizona have been at higher risk for drowning than their national peers as shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3. Drowning rates (per 100,000) comparison among children 0-4 Years Old, Arizona and U.S., 1986-1996.

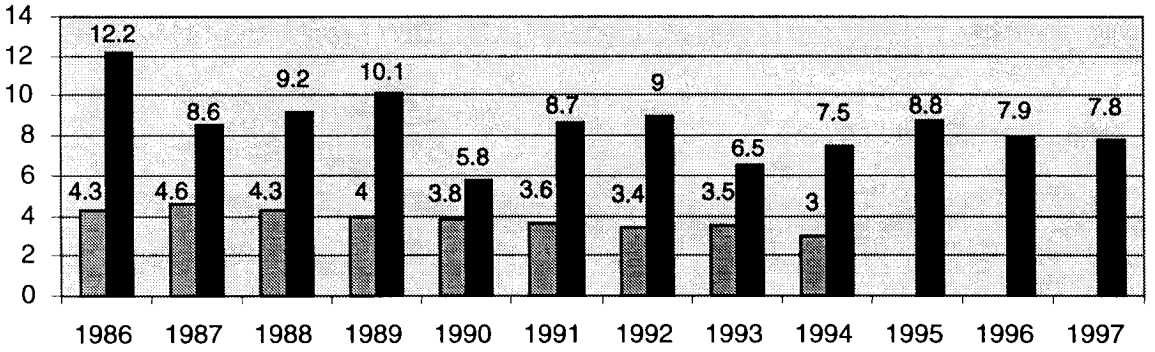


Table 31 shows drowning death rates for selected years. The 1997 rate for drowning deaths was 8% lower that the rate in 1996.

Table 31. Drowning mortality rates (per 100,000) among children 1-4 years old by selected year, Arizona and United States, 1970-1996

Year	U.S.	Arizona
1970	5.7	19.9
1975	5.7	15.0
1980	5.4	15.6
1985	4.1	11.5
1990	3.8	5.8
1995	NA	9.9
1996	NA	8.0
1997	NA	7.8

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Unintentional Drowning Deaths: Arizona 1986-1996*; and Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997.*

Motor vehicle deaths

Motor vehicle collisions and drownings are the most frequent event that cause injury and death for children and adolescents (Arizona Department of Health Services, 1997a).

Table 32 presents historical information about the numbers and characteristics of deaths associated with motor vehicles. Table 24 contains 1997 data for motor vehicle-related deaths by age group. In 1997, the rates of motor vehicle-related deaths among adolescents 15-19 years of age was higher in almost all counties than the rate for all ages combined. Greenlee and La Paz Counties had the highest motor vehicle fatality rate for 15-19 year olds.

Table 32. Annual numbers of motor-vehicle, other road vehicle and railway-related fatalities by person injured and age group

	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995
Driver total:	38	25	30	20	25	30
5-9 Years	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-14 Years	1	1	2	0	0	1
15-19 Years	37	24	28	20	24	29
Occupant, total	89	102	99	82	99	122
Under 1 Year	3	9	7	3	4	6
1-4 Years	8	14	7	14	12	13
5-9 Years	6	7	13	9	8	10
10-14 Years	14	14	13	8	16	19
15-19	58	58	59	48	59	74
Motorcyclist, total	13	6	1	7	4	4
1-4 Years	0	0	0	0	0	0
5-9 Years	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-14 Years	2	0	0	0	0	0
15-19 Years	11	6	1	7	4	4
Pedal Cyclist, total						
1-4 Years	10	8	7	13	3	9
5-9 Years	0	1	0	2	0	0
10-14 Years	3	0	1	4	2	5
15-19 Years	4	4	4	5	0	3
	3	3	2	2	1	1
Pedestrian, total						
Under 1 year	41	37	39	33	38	36
1-4 Years	0	0	0	2	1	0
5-9 Years	9	11	20	11	17	16
10-14 Years	11	7	7	7	6	6
15-19 Years	6	10	4	7	5	8
	15	9	8	6	9	6

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Injury Mortality among Children and Adolescents: Arizona, 1985-1995*

Fertility

Births to teenage mothers are predictive of a variety of social problems including poverty, welfare dependence, and educational underachievement. Children born to teen parents are also more likely to be disadvantaged as children and adults and drop out of school, divorce or separate as adults, and become welfare dependent (Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1998; Children's Action Alliance, 1997). In 1995, Arizona's birth rate for females ages 15-17 was ranked 45th in the nation.

Figure 4 presents trend data for Arizona pregnancy, birth, and abortion rates. The 1997-pregnancy rate of 38.0 shows a decrease of 25 percent over the decade's high of 50.5. The number of abortions has consistently declined from 1987 to 1997 but the birth rate, with the exception of 1997, has shown a steady increase over the same time period.

Figure 4. Pregnancy, Birth, and Abortion Rates (per 1,000) for Females under 20 Years Old

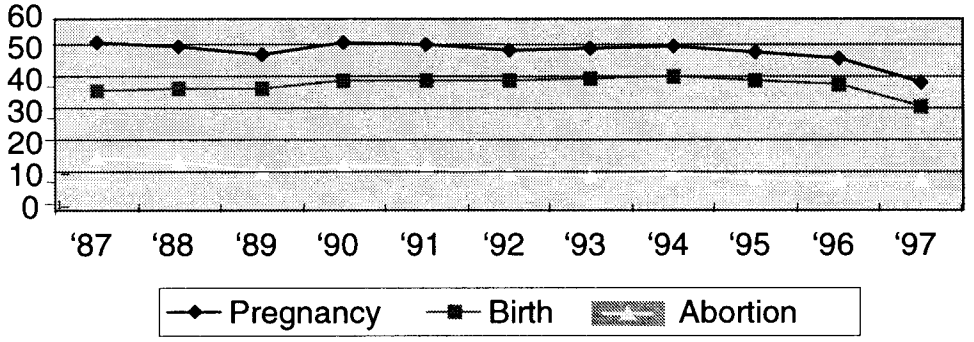


Table 33 provides pregnancy information by ethnic group and pregnancy outcome. Between the years 1986 and 1996, the number of pregnancies among non-Hispanic white pre-adolescent and adolescent females declined 17 percent. Pregnancies to Hispanic females age 19 or younger more than doubled in the same time period. Hispanic teens alone accounted for the entire increase in the absolute number of pregnancies from 1990 to 1996 (Arizona Department of Health Services, 1997b). Other ethnic groups remained the same.

Table 33. Number of pregnancies by pregnancy outcome, ethnic group, and selected years among females 19 or less years old.

Ethnicity/Pregnancy Outcome	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1997 rate
White, total	6,821	5,935	5,861	5,335	5,286	4,413	24.5
Births	4,220	4,104	4,061	4,024	4,042	3,129	17.4
Abortions	2,601	1,831	1,800	1,311	1,244	1,179	6.6
Hispanic, total	3,453	3,874	4,860	5,237	5,902	5,442	67.9
Births	2,984	3,459	4,255	4,688	5,351	4,800	59.9
Abortions	469	415	605	549	551	642	8.0
Black, total	687	729	768	728	590	559	41.7
Births	501	593	620	581	491	445	33.2
Abortions	186	136	148	147	99	107	8.0
American Indian, total	1,074	1,179	1,151	1,121	1,057	903	34.4
Births	1,020	1,137	1,102	1,060	991	838	31.9
Abortions	54	42	49	61	66	58	2.2

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997.*

Nationally, it is estimated that 50 percent of pregnant adolescents give birth (Arizona Department of Health Services, 1997b). Arizona adolescents appear more likely than national youth to give birth and less likely to abort the pregnancy. In 1990, 75.5 percent of Arizona's adolescent pregnancies ended in birth and 83.2 percent in 1996. Table 34

provides additional abortion information by county of residence for 1997.

Table 34. Abortions by county of residence and age group, 1997

	10-14	15-17	18-19
Apache	0	1	1
Cochise	1	16	23
Coconino	0	13	46
Gila	0	2	1
Graham	0	5	3
Greenlee	1	0	1
La Paz	0	0	0
Maricopa	32	458	764
Mohave	0	2	0
Navajo	0	6	13
Pima	16	207	362
Pinal	0	14	14
Santa Cruz	1	5	1
Yavapai	0	15	21
Yuma	0	12	6

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997*

As shown in Table 35, Yuma and Pinal Counties had the highest pregnancy rates in 1997 for youth age 19 years or less with 41.0 and 40.6 respectively.

Table 35. Pregnancy rates (per 1,000), females 19 or less years old, by county of residence, 1997

			15-19 Years		
	Total Females 19 or less	Under 15 Years	Total	15-17 Years	18-19 Years
Arizona	38.0	1.1	77.1	44.6	128.4
Apache	27.9	0.7	45.3	33.1	98.0
Cochise	29.1	-	64.2	36.2	134.6
Coconino	28.7	-	53.7	28.8	72.9
Gila	37.7	-	75.2	38.6	138.5
Graham	34.5	1.3	68.8	51.7	96.3
Greenlee	33.6	2.5	65.8	23.1	148.1
La Paz	31.8	1.7	62.4	25.4	125.6
Maricopa	38.7	1.1	79.9	46.9	132.0
Mohave	34.6	0.3	72.1	34.8	136.7
Navajo	32.5	0.5	67.9	39.8	113.7
Pima	38.0	1.1	74.1	41.4	123.4
Pinal	40.6	1.2	84.2	49.8	143.5
Santa Cruz	35.4	0.7	70.4	44.5	110.5
Yavapai	28.6	1.2	57.1	30.9	101.5
Yuma	41.0	0.6	85.2	49.9	147.4

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997*

Nearly one third of teenage mothers in 1996 had at least one prior pregnancy as shown in Table 36.

Table 36. Teenage births by number of previous pregnancies by age group, 1996, Arizona.

			Total	Age Group of Mother		
				<15	15-17	18-19
Total			11,247	216	4,340	6,691
Previous Pregnancies	None	Count	8,066	210	3,630	4,226
		Percent	71.7	97.2	83.6	63.2
	One or more	Count	3,181	6	710	2,465
		Percent	28.3	2.8	16.4	36.8

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1997. *Teenage Pregnancy: Arizona, 1986-1996.*

In 1997, only 3 percent of pregnant women under 19 had not received any prenatal care. The majority or 60 percent began to receive care in the first trimester of pregnancy. Hispanics were most likely to have no prenatal care (4%), followed by Blacks and American Indians (3%), Asians (2%), and whites (1%). Table 37 presents more detailed information on the trimester in which prenatal care began.

Table 37. Births by mother's age group, ethnicity and trimester of pregnancy prenatal care began, 1997, Arizona

		Age Group of Mother		
		<15	15-17	18-19
All Ethnic Groups	No care	8	94	150
	1st trimester	37	1,815	3,778
	2nd Trimester	33	977	1,559
	3rd Trimester	11	275	417
	Unknown	3	44	113
Non-Hispanic White	No care	1	19	24
	1st trimester	6	570	1,571
	2nd Trimester	3	249	497
	3rd Trimester	3	46	96
	Unknown	1	9	34
Hispanic	No care	4	57	109
	1st trimester	24	988	1,702
	2nd Trimester	223	566	817
	3rd Trimester	6	172	242
	Unknown	2	21	67
Black	No care	2	4	6
	1st trimester	5	86	179
	2nd Trimester	0	44	78
	3rd Trimester	1	14	19
	Unknown	0	3	4
American Indian	No care	1	14	9
	1st trimester	2	157	283
	2nd Trimester	6	106	144
	3rd Trimester	1	42	56
	Unknown	0	10	7

Table 37. Births by mother's age group, ethnicity and trimester of pregnancy prenatal care began, 1997, Arizona (cont'd)

		Age Group of Mother		
		<15	15-17	18-19
Asian	No care	0	0	1
	1st trimester	0	11	31
	2nd Trimester	1	5	14
	3rd Trimester	0	1	2
	Unknown	0	0	0
Other	No care	0	0	1
	1st trimester	0	3	12
	2nd Trimester	0	7	9
	3rd Trimester	0	0	2
	Unknown	0	1	1

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 1998. *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics, 1997.*

Education

Overview

Indicators related to student achievement and performance in school is presented in this section. Also included is information about student and family behavior outside of the classroom that may impact a student's academic performance. Unfortunately, most of this information is collected at the national level so specific Arizona findings are not available.

Graduation and drop out rates

High school dropout is predictive of future economic disadvantage. The likelihood of poverty is three times higher for high school dropouts than it is for those that complete high school (Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1998). The median personal income of those with just a high school degree ($18,235) is almost twice that of those dropped out of high school ($10,400).

Dropout and graduation rates for Arizona and its counties are presented in Table 38. In 1995, Arizona ranked 50th in terms of teens, ages 16-19, who had dropped out of high school. Pinal, Mohave, and La Paz had the highest dropout rates, which were 71, 29, and 26 percent higher than the state's dropout rate.

Table 38. Percent of students dropped out of school and graduating

	Percent dropping out (1995)	Percent dropping out (1998)	Percent graduating (1994)
Arizona	8.8	8.5	69.3
Apache	12.0	9.9	61.1
Cochise	11.8	7.5	74.3
Coconino	9.9	9.2	75.3
Gila	10.8	9.8	71.0
Graham	6.9	5.8	77.5
Greenlee	3.9	2.3	91.2
La Paz	11.8	10.7	57.2

Table 38. Percent of students dropped out of school and graduating (cont'd)

	Percent dropping out (1995)	Percent dropping out (1998)	Percent graduating (1994)
Maricopa	7.7	8.0	71.7
Mohave	13.7	11.0	51.1
Navajo	7.2	9.2	72.0
Pima	9.8	9.5	65.0
Pinal	11.2	14.5	62.9
Santa Cruz	9.0	7.1	70.8
Yavapai	9.7	5.2	74.0
Yuma	10.9	7.0	63.3

Source: Children's Action Alliance, 1997. *State of Arizona's Children, 1997*; and Arizona Department of Education, 1996. *Graduation Rate Study, 1994*; and Arizona Department of Education, *Dropout Rate Statistics, 1994-1998*, Available on-line, http//www.ade.state.az.us/schools/ResearchPolicy/DropoutInfo/97-98DropOutRate.htm, 1998.

Academic achievement

Skills and knowledge gained through education provide a variety of benefits to the individual and society including higher earning, better job opportunities, reduced reliance on welfare subsidies, and greater productivity (U.S. Department of Education, 1998).

Table 39 provides Stanford Achievement Test scores for each county and Arizona for 1998. By Arizona law, a nationally standardized, norm referenced achievement test must be administered to all students. The Stanford test provides percentile scores that indicate the percentage of students nationally scoring at or lower than the county and state average.

Table 39. Stanford Achievement Test Percentile Rankings for Reading, Language, and Math, Grades 4th, 8th, and 12Th Grade students by County, 1998

	Reading			Language			Math		
	4th grade	8th grade	12th grade	4th grade	8th grade	12th grade	4th grade	8th grade	12th grade
Arizona	53	54	54	47	46	45	51	52	50
Apache	29	32	37	29	25	35	28	34	37
Cochise	49	53	50	44	43	43	44	49	44
Coconino	48	52	47	41	41	39	41	47	50
Gila	45	47	48	37	35	39	43	45	42
Graham	46	48	47	40	39	38	48	57	44
Greenlee	56	58	53	50	50	42	56	56	47
La Paz	42	41	37	39	34	33	47	47	25
Maricopa	56	57	59	50	51	49	56	56	55
Mohave	51	55	48	46	47	37	50	54	45
Navajo	38	40	42	35	29	36	36	39	39
Pima	55	54	54	50	46	42	51	50	49
Pinal	35	42	44	32	30	34	31	39	37
Santa Cruz	36	37	36	35	29	31	40	35	30
Yavapai	62	61	62	51	53	49	55	59	54
Yuma	35	38	40	33	31	29	34	40	37

Source: Arizona Department of Education, 1998. *Stanford Achievement Test, Ninth Edition; State Report, Arizona Student Achievement Program.*

In addition, the National Assessment of Educational Progress is mandated by Congress to monitor the knowledge and skills of the nation's children. According to the mathematics assessment reported in 1996, 43 percent of 4th grade students in Arizona scored below basic mathematics level compared to 38% of their national peers. Forty-five percent of 8th grade students in Arizona scored below basic science levels compared to 40 percent of students nationally (Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1998).

Family involvement in literacy activities

The importance of parental involvement in their child's literacy activities has been documented in numerous studies and the National Education Goals stress such engagement, especially for at-risk children, to ensure they start school ready to learn (DHHS, 1998). The percentage of 3-5 year olds participating in various literacy activities with their families is provided in Table 40. Increases over 1991 levels are seen across race, poverty status, and family structure variables. White families are more likely than Black or Hispanic families to engage in such activities as are families at or above the poverty level and two-parent families.

Table 40. Percentage of 3- through 5-year-olds in the United States who have participated in literacy activity with a family member

	Read to every day				Told a story at least three time a week				Visited a library at least once in the past month			
	1991	1993	1995	1996	1991	1993	1995	1996	1991	1993	1995	1996
Total	-	53	58	57	39	43	50	55	35	38	39	37
Race and Hispanic Origin												
White	-	59	65	64	40	44	53	59	39	42	43	41
Black	-	39	43	44	34	39	42	47	25	29	32	31
Hispanic	-	37	38	39	38	38	42	47	23	26	27	27
Poverty status												
At or above poverty		56	62	61	39	44	53	58	38	42	43	41
Below poverty		44	48	46	38	40	44	49	26	29	30	28
Family structure												
Two parents		55	61	61	39	44	52	59	38	41	43	40
One or no parent		46	49	46	37	41	46	47	23	30	30	29

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1991, 1993, 1995, and 1996 in U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. *Trends in the Well-being of America's Children and Youth, 1998.*

Student engagement in other activities

The way students spend their out of school time can affect their performance in school and their success in life (NCES, 1996). Activities may provide valuable support for learning activities while others can be take time away from educational pursuits or be harmful. Table 41 shows how seniors in the United States spend their time on various activities. Table 42 presents the percentage of youth 7 years old and over that participate in sports activities.

Table 41. Percent of Seniors Who Say They Engage in Various Activities: 1980 and 1992

Student characteristic	Driving around at least once per week		Five or more hours of television on a school night		1992			
					Use a personal computer at least once a week	Do things with friends at least once a week	Do things with parents at least once a week	Read more than one hour per week not related to school work
	1980	1992	1980	1992				
All Senior	59.1	73.3	16.1	8.4	23.7	88.1	66.7	55.4
Male	63.6	74.3	14.7	8.5	28.1	88.2	61.2	53.1
Female	55.2	72.3	17.0	8.4	19.3	88.0	72.1	57.1
Race/Ethnicity								
White	60.7	75.7	13.7	6.4	23.9	90.7	68.2	56.3
Black	48.9	67.8	29.0	21.3	23.6	79.8	62.0	51.0
Hispanic	58.6	66.2	21.5	9.3	20.9	82.4	63.8	54.4
Asian	49.1	66.7	15.0	6.4	27.0	85.9	63.4	54.4
American Indian	59.9	53.3	19.7	15.8	23.8	77.2	61.2	59.3
Socioeconomic status								
Low	53.8	69.6	22.7	12.0	18.9	80.8	59.6	51.6
Middle	61.9	75.3	15.8	9.4	23.3	88.1	66.3	55.0
High	59.3	72.4	9.6					

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, High School and Beyond, 1980 Senior Cohort; and National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988, "Second Follow-up" in National Center for Education Statistics, 1996. *Youth Indicators 1996: Trends in the Wellbeing of American Youth.*

Table 42. Percent of population 7 years old and over participating in sports activities in the past year, by age: 1990 and 1994

Activity	1990			1994		
	7 years old and over	12-17 years old	18-24 years old[1]	7 years old and over	12-17 years old	18-24 years old[1]
Aerobic exercising [2]	10.4	9.4	17.6	10.0	5.0	17.3
Backpacking	4.8	6.2	6.3	4.2	6.5	6.4
Baseball	6.9	22.9	9.4	6.5	18.9	5.1
Basketball	11.7	41.4	17.2	12.1	36.3	14.9
Bicycle riding[2]	24.6	45.0	24.5	21.4	42.7	19.7
Calisthenics[2]	5.9	10.7	7.0	3.6	5.7	4.8
Camping	20.6	27.3	20.7	18.4	25.4	20.8
Exercise walking[2]	31.8	16.9	25.2	30.4	12.9	28.4
Exercising[2]	15.7	16.2	25.0	18.8	14.0	27.0
Fishing – fresh water	18.5	21.8	20.0	17.4	21.1	19.5
Fishing – salt water	5.5	6.6	6.4	4.9	4.7	5.3
Football	6.4	25.5	12.4	6.7	22.6	9.1
Golf	10.2	7.9	11.2	10.6	8.6	13.3
Hiking	9.8	9.5	8.6	10.9	12.8	13.2
Hunting/shooting firearms	8.2	10.6	11.3	7.0	9.7	9.0
Racquetball	3.6	3.1	9.0	2.3	2.0	4.9
Running/jogging[2]	10.6	22.8	17.2	8.8	15.5	14.1
Skiing-alpine/downhill	5.1	10.2	10.4	4.6	5.1	7.8
Skiing-cross country	2.3	2.5	2.2	1.5	2.1	1.5
Soccer	4.9	18.7	4.1	5.4	16.1	3.6
Softball	4.9	18.7	4.1	5.4	16.1	3.6
Swimming[2]	30.0	52.8	38.1	25.9	42.6	25.9
Tennis	8.2	18.4	15.3	5.0	9.5	7.2
Volleyball	10.3	28.5	18.4	7.5	19.3	11.9

Source: National Sporting Goods Association, Sports Participation in 1998-1991, Series I; and unpublished data in National Center for Education Statistics, 1996. *Youth Indicators 1996:Trends in the Wellbeing of American Youth.*

[1] Data are not available in same age categories for each year

[2] Participant engaged in activity at least six times in the year

Economic Security

Overview

This section describes characteristics of families that allow them to provide for themselves and their children. As will be noted, self-sufficiency is important not only for financial well being but also for physical and mental health.

Poverty

Poverty is an important indicator of child well being because of its link to a variety of bad outcomes in health, education, emotional wellbeing, and delinquency (Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1998). The following tables provide information on several indicators of poverty in Arizona.

Table 43 presents the median incomes of families in Arizona and its counties. Arizona's median family income is approximately 9 percent lower than the national family median income but several of Arizona's counties are up to 54 percent lower than the national median.

Table 43. Median family income in 1989 by county

U.S.	35,225
Arizona	32,178
Apache	16,346
Cochise	26,152
Coconino	30,648
Gila	24,877
Graham	21,754
Greenlee	29,945
La Paz	18,771
Maricopa	36,078
Mohave	27,010
Navajo	21,336
Pima	30,985
Pinal	23,993
Santa Cruz	24,431
Yavapai	26,238
Yuma	25,648

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990.

Information is also available on the number of children under age 18 that are living in poverty. Table 44 shows that 24.7 percent of Arizona's children are living in poverty compared to 20.8 percent of children nationally. In 1995, Arizona ranked 41st in number of children in poverty (Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1998).

Table 44. People under age 18 in poverty by county, 1993

State and County	Number	Percent
U.S.	14,665,019	20.8
Arizona	309,584	24.7
Apache	13,688	46.1
Cochise	9,541	29.2
Coconino	9,590	26.1
Gila	3,653	28.4
Graham	3,156	29.6
Greenlee	413	12.4
La Paz	1,380	33.8
Maricopa	156,791	21.5
Mohave	7,715	25.9
Navajo	13,395	36.5
Pima	52,347	25.8
Pinal	13,660	31.6
Santa Cruz	4,327	32.8
Yavapai	6,558	20.8
Yuma	13,370	33.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1999

Public assistance

Table 45 shows percentages of children receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) payments and food stamps, two of the programs most commonly associated with government welfare. The percentage of children receiving free/reduced price lunches is also shown. Eligibility for free lunch programs is considered a measure of family income status because students are eligible if their family income is below 85 percent of the federal poverty level ($24,000 for a family of three in 1996).

Table 45. Means tested assistance, 1996

	Receiving AFDC	Receiving Food Stamps	Free/Reduced Price Lunch
Arizona	10.2	20.1	46.0
Apache	21.6	48.3	73.5
Cochise	12.5	25.8	47.9
Coconino	9.0	22.7	45.0
Gila	15.8	32.4	56.4
Graham	12.9	26.8	50.7
Greenlee	6.1	11.9	26.3
La Paz	13.9	2834	63.0
Maricopa	8.0	14.9	40.9
Mohave	12.5	27.1	43.0
Navajo	17.7	36.6	63.8
Pima	10.0	20.6	49.1
Pinal	15.8	27.0	56.5
Santa Cruz	8.7	24.8	62.6
Yavapai	7.0	15.3	42.3
Yuma	12.5	29.7	61.6

Source: Children's Action Alliance, 1997. *State of Arizona's Children, 1997.*

Table 46 shows the percent rate changes between 1990 and 1996 for children enrolled in these programs.

Table 46. Children receiving public services

	1990 rate	1996 rate	Percentage rate change
Children approved for free and reduced price lunch	36.1	46.0	27.4
Children in families receiving AFDC	8.1	10.2	25.9
Children in families receiving food stamps	15.5	20.1	29.7

Source: Children's Action Alliance, 1997. *The State of Arizona's Children, 1997.*

Child care

A child's early experiences can greatly affect his or her later development and strong preschool programs coupled with family support have been shown to reduce school failure, out-of-wedlock births, and delinquency (Children's Action Alliance, 1997). The availability of preschool and childcare programs can provide some indication of the future of children growing up in low-income or single parent families. Poor families

spend a larger portion of their income on child care and a study by the U.S. General Accounting Office in 1994 cites child care subsidies as an important step in moving low-income mothers from welfare to work (Children's Action Alliance, 1997).

An increasing number of mothers have been moving into employment over the past decade with significant effects on family life. Maternal employment may add financial resources to the family's income or may be the sole source of income for families headed by single mothers (DHHS, 1998). Table 47 shows the percentage of mothers in the United States who were employed with children under age 18. Total employment has increased 25 percent since 1980. For all years, the number of mothers employed increased as their children got older. Increases are noted in numbers of mothers employed over time among all racial and Hispanic origin groups.

Table 47. Percentage of mothers in the United States with children under age 18 who were employed, full-time and part-time.

	1980[1]	1988	1990	1994	1995	1996
Total employed	53	60	63	64	66	66
Working full time		44	46	45	46	47
Working part-time		16	17	19	19	19
Age of youngest child						
Under age 3	37	47	50	52	54	55
Working full-time		32	34	34	35	36
Working part-time		15	16	18	19	19
Ages 3-5	50	57	61	60	62	63
Working full-time		40	43	41	42	43
Working part-time		17	18	19	20	20
Ages 6-17	60	70	70	72	73	74
Working full-time		53	53	53	53	55
Working part-time		17	17	19	19	19
Race and Hispanic origin						
White	52	62	63	65	67	67
Working full-time		44	44	45	46	47
Working part-time		18	19	20	21	21
Black	54	56	61	58	62	63
Working full-time		48	53	47	50	52
Working part-time		8	8	11	11	10
Hispanic	42	49	50	48	49	49
Working full-time		38	39	36	37	37
Working part-time		11	11	12	12	12

Source: Unpublished tables, Bureau of Labor Statistics, based on analyses of March Current Population Surveys for 1980, 1988, 1990, 1994-1996 in U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. *Trends in the Well-being of America's Children and Youth, 1998.*

[1] Percentages for 1980 are not presented separately by full-time and part-time due to incompatibilities with definitions used in later years.

Table 48 provides information on Arizona's ability to meet the need of families requiring childcare.

Table 48. Child care indicators, Arizona

	1990 percent	1996 percent	Percent change
State approved child care spaces	11.1	14.2	27.9
Children receiving child care subsidies	2.8	3.5	25.0
Available tax-funded preschool slots	11.4	18.9	65.8

Source: Children's Action Alliance, 1997. *State of Arizona's Children, 1997.*

Parental employment

The percentage of children in the United States that do not have a parent employed is shown in Table 49. For most families, having at least one parent employed is a financial necessity. Children with no parents in the labor force are at high risk of poverty, which can lead to negative consequences for their overall well being (DHHS, 1998). Throughout the period reported, the percentage of children without an employed parent fluctuated within a narrow range. Parent employment increased, sometimes dramatically for racial and ethnic groups, in 1997.

Table 49. Percentage of children in the United States with no resident parent in the labor force.

	1985	1990	1994	1995	1996	1997
All children	11	10	12	11	11	9
Under age 6	12	13	14	14	13	10
Ages 6-17	10	9	11	10	9	8
Race and Hispanic origin						
White	8	7	9	8	7	7
Under age 6	8	9	11	10	9	7
Ages 6-17	7	6	8	7	7	6
Black	27	26	27	27	25	20
Under age 6	33	34	33	33	32	23
Ages 6-17	24	21	24	23	21	18
Hispanic	19	17	19	19	17	14
Under age 6	20	19	22	21	20	15
Ages 6-17	19	16	18	17	15	13

Source: 1985, 1990, 1994, and 1995 statistics calculated by Child Trends, Inc., Based on analyses of the March 1985, 1990, 1994, and 1995 Current Population Surveys; 1996 and 1997 statistics calculated by US. Bureau of the Census based o the March 1996 and 1997 Current Population Surveys in U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. *Trends in the Well-being of America's Children and Youth, 1998.*

Table 50 provides parent employment information for children in Arizona in 1995.

Table 50. Parental employment, 1995

	Arizona	U.S.
Percent of children under age 6 living with working parents	58	63
Percent of children ages 6-12 living with working parents	48	51
Percent of children under age 13 living in low-income families with working parents	24	21

Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1998. *Kids Count Data Book, 1998.*

Detached youth and employment status of youth

Detached youth refers to young people who are neither enrolled in school nor working. Such detachment may lead to lower earnings and less stable employment, especially if it lasts for several year (DHHS, 1998). Table 51 shows the percentage of detached youth, ages 16-19 in the United States. Young women are more likely than males to be out of school and unemployed. This also is true for Black and Hispanic youth.

Table 51. Percentage of 16- through 19-year-olds in the United States who are neither enrolled in school nor working[1]

	1985	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
All youth	11	10	10	10	9	10	9	9
Gender								
Male	9	8	9	8	8	8	8	8
Female	13	12	13	12	11	11	11	11
Race and Hispanic origin								
White	10	9	9	9	8	9	8	8
Black	18	15	17	17	15	14	15	14
Hispanic	17	17	16	16	16	17	16	16

Source: Special tabulations of the Current Population Survey prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. *Trends in the Well-being of America's Children and Youth, 1998.*

[1] The figures represent a yearly average based on responses for the nine months youth typically are in school (September through May). Youth are asked about their activities for the week prior to the survey.

The percentage of students, ages 16-17, who are employed is presented in Table 52. Student employment declined between 1990 and 1993. Females appear more likely to be employed than males and whites are more likely to be employed than Blacks.

Table 52. Employment status of 16-and 17-years olds enrolled in school, by sex and race: 1990-1993

Year	Males			Females		
	Total	White[1]	Black[1]	Total	White[1]	Black[1]
	Percent employed					
1990	31.6	40.0	20.2	39.1	42.6	23.8
1991	29.1	33.8	10.2	32.7	37.9	10.3
1992	29.4	33.6	11.7	28.8	33.2	10.0
1993	28.9	33.3	9.8	31.1	36.0	13.0
	Percent employed full-time					
1990	2.1	2.3	[2]	1.1	1.3	0.4
1991	0.9	1.1	[2]	1.1	1.3	0.6
1992	1.6	1.9	0.4	0.9	1.0	[3]
1993	1.0	1.1	0.6	1.1	1.2	1.2
	Percent employed part-time					
1990	29.5	33.2	15.0	30.1	33.8	16.3
1991	28.2	32.8	10.2	31.5	36.6	9.6
1992	27.8	31.7	11.3	28.0	32.2	9.9
1993	27.8	32.2	9.1	30.0	34.8	12.0
	Unemployment rate[3]					
1990	16.8	15.4	31.8	16.0	13.9	34.0
1991	21.0	18.5	40.7	18.6	15.4	50.0
1992	20.7	17.3	48.1	20.1	17.9	44.7
1993	21.5	18.4	51.0	18.0	16.0	35.3

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Special Labor Force Reports, no 16 and 68; and unpublished data in National Center for Education Statistics, 1996. *Youth Indicators 1996:Trends in the Wellbeing of American Youth.*

[1] Includes Hispanics

[2] Less than .05 percent

[3] The unemployment rate is the percentage of those in the labor force who are not working and are seeking employment

Note: Part-time workers are persons who work less than 35 hours per week.

Social Development and Behavioral Health

Overview

Youth behavior that is important because of its direct impact on society it reported in this section. Indicators related to crime, drug use, and personal values are included.

Juvenile crime and victimization

According to the Morgan Quitno Corporation's, Crime State Rankings, 1997, Arizona's juvenile arrest rate in 1995 was ranked 7th highest in the nation at 14,447 per 100,000 juveniles (Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, 1997). Arizona's reported juvenile arrest rate for violent crime in 1995 was ranked 15th highest at 490 per 100,000 juveniles.

Table 53 presents changes in juvenile criminal activity from 1990 to 1996. During that period, arrest rates for juveniles increased by 10 percent but arrest rates for violent crime

had decreased by 5 percent. A substantial increase of 41 percent was seen for runaway and curfew violations and an increase of 250 percent for drug related crimes occurred.

Table 53. Youth and the juvenile justice system, Arizona

	1990 rate	1996 rate	Percentage rate change
Juvenile arrests	10.3%	11.3%	9.7
Juvenile arrests for violent crimes	3.7	3.5	-5.4
Juvenile arrests for runaway and curfew violations	19.2	27.1	41.1
Juvenile arrests for drug crimes	2.4	8.4	250.0
Juveniles committed to the Department of Juvenile Corrections	2.3	2.0	-13.0

Source: Children's Action Alliance, 1997. *The State of Arizona's Children, 1997.*

Table 54 shows rates for juvenile arrests in Arizona and its counties for 1996.

Table 54. Juvenile arrest rates (per 1,000 juveniles) by county, 1996 (actual number of arrests are in parenthesis)

	Arizona	Apache	Cochise	Coconino	Gila	Graham	Greenlee	La Paz	Maricopa	Mohave	Navajo	Pima	Pinal	Santa Cruz	Yavapai	Yuma
Murder	0.04	0	0.03	0 .03	0	0	0	0	0.03	1.9	0	0.07	0	0	0	0
	(46)		(1)	(1)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(24)	(6)	(0)	(14)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Rape	0.03	0.04	0	.12	0	0	0	0	0.03	0	0	0.06	0	0	0.07	0
	(38)	(1)	(0)	(4)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(19)	(0)	(0)	(12)	(0)	(0)	(2)	(0)
Robbery	.39	0	0.06	0.14	0	0.1	0	0	0.5	0	0.12	0.41	0.31	0.08	0.07	0.2
	(486)	(0)	(2)	(5)	(0)	(1)	(0)	(0)	(366)	(0)	(4)	(84)	(13)	(1)	(2)	(8)
Aggravated Assault	1.3	.46	0.67	2.3	1.6	2.0	.93	0	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.6	2.0	1.3	1.6	1.4
	(1668)	(14)	(22)	(89)	(21)	(22)	(3)	(0)	(1,299)	(46)	(48)	(334)	(97)	(17)	(49)	(58)
Burglary	2.3	1.5	1.9	3.7	4.3	1.5	1.9	0.22	1.9	5.6	1.4	2.5	5.7	3.4	5.1	1.6
	(2961)	(42)	(64)	(127)	(56)	(16)	(6)	(1)	(1413)	(173)	(46)	(512)	(240)	(43)	(156)	(66)
Larceny/ theft	9.9	2.1	8.5	11.4	15.9	11.4	4.7	0.22	10.0	15.4	7.6	11.4	11.7	4.0	14.4	6.5
	(12538)	(60)	(280)	(396)	(205)	(120)	(15)	(1)	(7413)	(476)	(246)	(2349)	(498)	(51)	(442)	(264
Vehicle theft	1.3	0.61	0.7	0.7	1.32	0.1	0	0.68	1.2	1.1	0.52	2.1	1.2	0	2.4	0.47
	(1599)	(17)	(22)	(24)	(17)	(1)	(0)	(3)	(877)	(35)	(17)	(441)	(53)	(0)	(73)	(19)
Arson	0.22	0	0.12	0.14	0.16	0.57	0	0	0.11	1.1	0.15	0.48	0.26	0	0.82	0.17
	(17378)	(0)	(4)	(5)	(2)	(6)	(0)	(0)	(83)	(33)	(5)	(99)	(11)	(0)	(25)	(7)
Drug sale or manufacturing	0.48	0.32	0.48	0.52	0.08	0.1	0	0	0.39	1.6	0.28	0.5	0.42	0	2.3	0.64
	(610)	(9)	(16)	(18)	(1)	(1)	(0)	(0)	(291)	(48)	(9)	(103)	(18)	(0)	(70)	(26)
Drug possession	3.8	1.4	3.0	3.5	3.9	3.6	1.9	0.67	2.9	3.2	2.2	8.1	3.6	3.9	3.2	3.6
	(4816)	(38)	(99)	(123)	(50)	(38)	(6)	(3)	(2176)	(98)	(72)	(1667)	(153)	(49)	(98)	(146)

Source: Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, 1997. *Crime and the Criminal Justice System in Arizona, 1997.*

Table 55 presents the number of cases referred to Arizona's juvenile courts in 1996.

Table 55. Juvenile referral activity by county, 1996

	Arizona	Apache	Cochise	Coconino	Gila	Graham	Greenlee	La Paz	Maricopa	Mohave	Navajo	Pima	Pinal	Santa Cruz	Yavapai	Yuma
Total referrals	86,617	850	3,672	4,007	1,739	708	304	266	38,648	3,110	2,005	18,794	3,470	644	2,945	5,455
Crime against person	10,272	80	343	320	156	68	27	28	4,617	349	178	2,734	485	103	274	510
Crime against property	24,348	196	885	1,249	425	223	53	55	12,409	1,018	550	4,071	1,044	247	976	947
Obstruction (hindering justice)	8,535	95	588	273	192	51	66	10	3,120	188	106	1,520	311	40	206	1,769
Drugs	6,949	47	284	472	158	37	10	32	2,613	215	165	1,920	284	68	269	375
Disturbing the peace	11,663	121	459	602	366	119	40	43	3,561	519	439	3,669	648	107	464	506
Status Offenses (Incorrigible, Runaway, etc.)	24,444	311	1,104	1,090	430	210	108	95	12,156	793	522	4,880	588	67	745	1,345
Citations/Administrative	406	0	9	1	12	0	0	3	172	28	45	0	110	12	11	3

Source: Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, 1997. *Crime and the Criminal Justice System in Arizona, 1997.*

Statistics on juvenile probation in Arizona are provided in Table 56.

Table 56. Statewide juvenile probation data, 1996

	Arizona	Apache	Cochise	Coconino	Gila	Graham	Greenlee	La Paz	Maricopa	Mohave	Navajo	Pima	Pinal	Santa Cruz	Yavapai	Yuma
On probation	14,892	169	500	390	375	233	92	44	7,509	606	409	2,189	572	372	448	984
Cases added	7,619	89	218	224	149	137	66	25	3,841	242	217	1,114	317	131	287	562
Terminations	5,356	61	193	201	94	106	57	20	2,419	209	156	886	254	57	170	473
Revocations	799	1	39	15	19	2	1	5	450	30	14	154	25	6	16	22

Source: Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, 1997. *Crime and the Criminal Justice System in Arizona, 1997.*

Drugs

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey conducted every other year by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention presents information on the prevalence of a variety of behaviors. Ninth and 12th grade students in schools throughout the U.S. are surveyed. Unfortunately, Arizona schools did not participate in 1997 so the information provided in the following tables is for the nation as a whole.

Table 57 shows the prevalence of tobacco use among the nation's youth. The percentage of students who have ever tried cigarettes has been declining slightly since 1991 but the percentage of students who have smoked a cigarette in the past 30 days has increased by 32 percent.

Table 57. Tobacco use among students in the United States

	1990	1991	1993	1995	1997
Percentage of students who have ever tried cigarette smoking	72	70.1	69.5	71.3	70.2
Percentage of students who smoked a cigarette for the first time before age 13	25.8	23.8	26.9	24.9	24.8
Percentage of students who smoked cigarettes on 1 or more of the past 30 days	-	27.5	30.5	34.8	36.4
Percentage of students who used chewing tobacco or snuff on one or more of the past 30 days	-	-	-	11.4	9.3

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1998. *Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 1997.*

The percentage of students using alcohol has remained consistent over the period reported here. A slight increase of about 7 percent has been found for binge drinking which is defined as have 5 or more drinks in a row. Table 58 presents this information.

Table 58. Alcohol use among students in the United States

	1990	1991	1993	1995	1997
Percentage of students who had first drink of alcohol other than a few sips before age 13.	37.5	32.7	32.9	32.4	31.1
Percentage of students who had at least one drink of alcohol on 1 or more of the past 30 days	-	50.8	48.0	51.6	50.8
Percentage of students who had 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a row in 1 or more of the past 30 days	-	31.3	30.0	32.6	33.4

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1998. *Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 1997.*

Some of the sharpest increases in drug use have occurred with marijuana and cocaine use. The percentage of students who tried marijuana before age 13 increased by 35 percent

during the period reported in Table 59. A 78 percent increase occurred for youth using marijuana in the past 30 days, a measure of regular use. Although the percentage of youth using cocaine is relatively small, use in the past 30 days has almost doubled since 1991.

Table 59. Other illicit drug use among students in the United States

	1990	1991	1993	1995	1997
Percentage of students who had used marijuana before age 13	7.2	7.4	6.9	7.6	9.7
Percentage of students who used marijuana 1 or more times in past 30 days	-	14.7	17.7	25.3	26.2
Percentage of students who had used any form of cocaine for the first time before age 13	.9	1.0	.9	1.2	1.1
Percentage of students who had used any form of cocaine in the past 30 days	-	1.7	1.9	3.1	3.3

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1998. *Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 1997.*

The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission conducts a survey of sampled schools in Arizona every other year. Alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use findings for the most current survey are reported in Tables 60-65. Increases in use of all substances can be seen in Tables 60-62 for all grade levels although some changes may not be significant. Marijuana use has doubled among high school students, almost tripled among junior high school students, and quadrupled among elementary school students.

Table 60. Percent Elementary School Students Using Substance in Past Month, Arizona, 1997

Substance	1991	1993	1995	1997
Alcohol	3.5	10.4	10.6	6.0
Marijuana	0.3	1.8	3.2	4.0
Cocaine	0.2	0.4	1.6	1.9
Meth/Amphetamines	0.1	0.8	1.6	1.4
Inhalants	0.9	3.3	3.4	4.9
Hallucinogens	0.3	0.9	1.0	1.5

Source: Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, 1997. *Substance Abuse and Public School Students, 1997.*

Table 61. Percent Junior High/Middle School Students Using Substance in Past Month, Arizona

Substance	1991	1993	1995	1997
Alcohol	21.4	20.0	20.2	23.7
Marijuana	5.0	9.4	9.0	13.6
Cocaine	1.8	2.6	3.0	2.9
Meth/Amphetamines	2.3	2.4	3.8	2.6
Inhalants	7.2	7.3	7.6	8.6
Hallucinogens	2.5	3.6	3.8	3.0

Source: Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, 1997. *Substance Abuse and Public School Students, 1997.*

Table 62. Percent High School Students Using Substance in Past Month, Arizona

Substance	1991	1993	1995	1997
Alcohol	42.8	34.5	37.7	43.4
Marijuana	12.7	17.1	21.8	25.1
Cocaine	3.3	3.1	4.5	3.8
Meth/Amphetamines	3.5	3.7	5.8	6.6
Inhalants	4.2	5.1	6.3	5.5
Hallucinogens	5.2	3.7	6.7	6.4

Source: Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, 1997. *Substance Abuse and Public School Students, 1997.*

As shown in Tables 63-65, American Indians at all grade levels are more likely than other racial or ethnic groups to use certain substances.

Table 63. Percent of Elementary School reporting substance use ever in Life by Ethnicity

Substance	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Other
Cigarettes	13.8	12.2	15.1	37.3	0.0	19.5
Smokeless Tobacco	4.7	6.0	3.9	12.3	4.4	7.9
Alcohol	16.9	25.0	18.5	28.1	8.9	20.6
Marijuana	3.3	8.8	5.4	26.9	4.7	8.5
Cocaine	1.3	2.7	3.0	10.2	7.0	3.3
Meth/Amphetamines	2.0	4.7	2.2	5.9	4.7	2.4
Depressants	1.8	3.4	1.6	4.8	2.4	2.4
Inhalants	7.3	10.1	8.4	24.1	7.0	9.2
Hallucinogens	1.1	4.3	2.2	6.5	0.0	2.4
Narcotics	1.2	2.7	1.8	5.4	0.0	2.4
Steroids	1.2	4.7	2.0	5.0	7.0	1.9

Source: Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, 1997. *Substance Abuse and Public School Students, 1997.*

Table 64. Percent of Junior High/Middle School Students reporting substance use ever in Life by Ethnicity, 1997

Substance	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Other
Cigarettes	40.8	42.3	49.4	67.6	32.8	52.0
Smokeless Tobacco	8.9	11.1	9.3	25.3	13.1	14.5
Alcohol	51.4	55.7	60.6	56.8	44.3	58.2
Marijuana	17.2	26.8	32.2	57.8	16.4	32.7
Cocaine	3.0	8.2	8.0	12.8	16.4	9.9
Meth/Amphetamines	4.7	9.3	6.3	5.8	9.8	8.8
Depressants	6.2	9.1	5.9	4.7	13.1	7.1
Inhalants	17.9	15.5	26.7	24.2	23.3	22.5
Hallucinogens	6.0	10.1	5.8	9.2	10.0	9.3
Narcotics	4.1	6.1	7.7	5.1	11.5	8.8
Steroids	2.2	6.1	4.8	4.7	13.1	4.6

Source: Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, 1997. *Substance Abuse and Public School Students, 1997.*

Table 65. Percent of High School Students reporting substance use ever in Life by Ethnicity, 1997

Substance	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Other
Cigarettes	56.9	60.0	76.0	81.1	52.5	69.0
Smokeless Tobacco	22.7	25.0	22.4	37.7	18.8	26.4
Alcohol	70.6	81.3	85.4	79.2	58.8	78.5
Marijuana	40.2	57.9	62.8	68.1	35.4	56.5
Cocaine	8.2	19.7	19.1	17.7	12.5	17.8
Meth/Amphetamines	14.3	19.7	23.4	17.7	20.0	21.5
Depressants	9.4	15.8	14.5	14.2	15.0	13.7
Inhalants	19.9	29.7	37.2	40.6	22.5	31.0
Hallucinogens	16.0	20.0	20.9	23.0	25.0	25.2
Narcotics	8.3	14.5	14.9	12.6	12.5	18.0
Steroids	1.9	10.5	3.0	3.5	6.3	5.2

Source: Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, 1997. *Substance Abuse and Public School Students, 1997.*

Sexual activity

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey also collects information on sexual activity among the nation's youth. This is presented in Table 66. Sexual activity has been decreasing during the time period reported. Condom use, important for its role in preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, has increased by 23 percent. Using drugs or alcohol before sex may place the individuals at greater risk for pregnancy and disease due to lapses in judgment or birth control use. Drug and alcohol use before sex increased 14 percent.

Table 66. Sexual activity among students in the United States

	1990	1991	1993	1995	1997
Percentage of students who ever had sexual intercourse	54.2	54.1	53.0	53.1	48.4
Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13	-	10.2	9.2	8.9	7.2
Percentage of students having sexual intercourse during the past 3 months	-	37.5	37.5	37.9	34.8
Of students who had sexual intercourse in past three month, the percentage who used condoms during last sexual intercourse.		46.2	52.8	54.4	56.8
Percentage of students who drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse	-	21.6	21.3	24.8	24.7

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1998. *Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 1997.*

Values

The outlook for young people may be partly expressed in the things they find important. The beliefs and actions of high school seniors on life values, religion, and community involvement are presented in Tables 67, 68, and 69 respectively.

Work, family, and friends have remained important values for youth over the past two decades. Compared to men, women appear to find more value in family and less in work.

Table 67. Percent of 1992 high school seniors who felt that certain life values were "very important," by sex:1992 and 1994

Values	1972 Seniors in 1974		1982 Seniors in 1984		1992		1994 (2 years after high school)		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Being successful in work	81.2	74.9	88.7	84.2	89.0	89.6	90.1	89.9	90.3
Finding steady work	74.7	59.9	87.4	83.3	87.1	88.6	89.7	88.7	90.7
Having lots of money	17.8	9.1	35.8	20.9	45.3	29.4	35.2	39.5	30.9
Being a leader in the community	8.5	4.4	13.7	6.4	--	--	--	--	--
Correcting inequalities	16.6	18.2	13.3	13.9	17.0	23.6	--	--	--
Having children	--	--	42.7	56.3	39.0	49.2	--	--	--
Having a happy family life	83.1	86.7	86.1	90.2	--	--	--	--	--
Providing a better opportunities for my children	59.5	61.6	72.1	69.6	74.5	76.5	90.5	90.3	90.8
Living closer to parents or relatives	8.3	12.4	15.6	20.1	15.2	1837	--	--	--
Moving from area	8.3	7.4	10.5	9.1	20.7	20.1	--	--	--
Having strong friendships	76.5	74.7	80.1	79.7	79.8	80.0	87.6	88.1	87.0
Having leisure time	60.9	55.1	74.5	72.0	65.3	62.0	--	--	--

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National center for Education Statistics, "National Education Longitudinal Study," First Followup study, "Highs School and Beyond " Second Followup survey, and "National Education Longitudinal Study," Second and Third Followup surveys in National Center for Education Statistics, 1996. *Youth Indicators 1996:Trends in the Wellbeing of American Youth.*

The value of religion has declined since 1976 with less religious service attendance and less importance placed on religion.

Table 68. Religious involvement of high school seniors: selected years, United States.

Year	Attending religious services				Importance of religion in my life			
	One or two times per Week	Month	Rarely	Never	Very important	Pretty important	A little	Not important
1976	40.7	16.3	32.0	11.0	28.8	30.5	27.8	12.9
1980	43.1	16.3	32.0	8.6	32.4	32.6	25.3	9.8
1985	35.3	16.6	37.0	11.1	27.3	32.4	27.6	12.7
1990	30.4	15.7	39.7	14.1	26.4	29.5	28.7	15.5
1994	32.3	16.5	36.8	14.3	29.6	28.6	26.4	15.4

Source: University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research, Monitoring the Future, various years in National Center for Education Statistics, 1996. *Youth Indicators 1996:Trends in the Wellbeing of American Youth.*

Activity in community and volunteer work seems to have remained constant since 1980 with small fluctuations in participation over the years.

Table 69. Percent of high school senior who participate in community affairs or volunteer work: 1980 to 1994, United States.

Participation	1980	1984	1986	1988	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Almost everyday	2.5	2.6	1.7	2.6	1.8	2.4	2.8	2.7	3.2
At least once a week	7.4	7.4	8.4	6.3	6.9	5.9	7.4	8.0	7.6
Once or twice a month	14.0	14.1	14.0	13.4	13.0	14.6	16.5	15.0	17.2
A few times a year	45.2	44.9	44.9	45.4	43.3	44.6	41.7	44.0	44.8
Never	30.9	31.0	31.0	32.3	35.1	32.4	31.6	30.3	27.2

Source: University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research, Monitoring the Future, various years in National Center for Education Statistics, 1996. *Youth Indicators 1996:Trends in the Wellbeing of American Youth.*

Transitions to the labor force

The activity status of students after leaving school is reported in Table 70. A large proportion of students (55%) that graduated from high school in 1992 were enrolled in post-secondary education. Most of those attending higher education were also working at the same time. Whites were more likely than Blacks or Hispanics to attend post-secondary education. Differences in post-secondary enrollment and work force participation can also be seen in racial and ethnic and income groups. Whites were more likely than Blacks or Hispanics to attend college as were those students from a higher socio-economic level.

Table 70. Primary activities of high school class of 1992 by graduation status, sex, race, and socioeconomic status, United States.

Student characteristic	Activity status[1]						
	Student only	Student and working	Working only	Home-maker only	Homemaker and worker, or student	Military	Other
	High school graduates and GED recipients						
Total	22.0	32.8	34.0	2.6	3.4	3.2	2.0
Male	21.9	29.4	39.4	0.1	1.0	5.6	2.6
Female	22.2	36.2	28.4	5.1	5.8	0.8	1.5
Race/Ethnicity							
White	22.9	34.3	32.5	2.2	3.3	3.3	1.6
Black	18.3	27.8	40.6	2.6	3.8	3.7	3.2
Hispanic	16.7	27.9	41.1	4.8	3.8	2.8	2.9
Asian	34.8	40.3	18.0	1.3	1.8	1.9	1.9
American Indian	10.3	20.5	41.0	10.7	4.5	3.2	9.9
Socioeconomic status[2]							
Low	11.2	22.9	51.6	4.1	4.0	3.7	2.5
Middle	18.3	35.8	34.5	2.6	3.4	3.8	1.6
High	39.7	39.5	14.5	0.8	1.7	2.4	1.4
	High school dropouts and other noncompleters[3]						
Total	3.4	4.4	61.4	14.1	7.0	0.2	9.5
Male	2.0	6.0	79.5	0.2	1.7	0.1	10.5
Female	5.0	2.7	41.8	29.3	12.7	.03	8.3
Race/Ethnicity							
White	2.4	5.0	64.9	14.1	8.8	0.1	4.7
Black	7.6	4.0	52.6	9.4	4.0	0.3	22.2
Hispanic	3.0	3.5	57.0	19.5	5.0	0.1	11.9
Asian	2.3	3.7	78.6	6.0	4.9	0.9	5.6
	High school dropouts and other noncompleters[3]						
Socioeconomic status[2]							
Low	3.4	4.7	59.4	16.3	8.5	0.4	7.3
Middle	4.9	4.5	63.5	11.2	6.3	0.1	9.5
High	0.0	5.8	65.3	7.6	1.9	0.0	19.4

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National center for Education Statistics, "National Education Longitudinal Study, "Third Follow-up survey in National Center for Education Statistics, 1996. *Youth Indicators 1996:Trends in the Wellbeing of American Youth.*

[1] Primary activity in spring 1994.

[2] Socioeconomic status was measured by a composite score on parental education an occupation, and family income, the "low" SES group is the lowest quartile; the "middle" SES group is the middle two quartiles; and the "high" SES group is the highest quartile.

[3] Dropouts from the class of 1992 may have left school any time after the middle of 8th grade. Also includes some still enrolled in high school in 1994.

Implications and Conclusions

There are perhaps two primary inferences one can draw from reviewing this report. The first of these implications deals with the "state of the State" with respect to what data are or, are not available about youth in Arizona today. Many types of information that would be useful for policy makers and service providers — such as perceptions of parents about the health of their children, family involvement in literacy activities, and engagement by youth in extracurricular activities — are not available other than in aggregate or national-level form.

If the types of data that are available are compared to the types that are not, it becomes apparent that Arizona does a relatively good job of collecting vital statistics on youth: rates of teenage births and abortions, child abuse, suicide, graduation and dropout, and the like. What is much less likely to be found is perceptual information: how youth perceive themselves, how their parents and other adults see them, and how youth feel about the issues and concerns facing them in an increasingly complex and dynamic world.

It is understandable that perceptual data such as these are less available—they can be expensive to collect and require relatively sophisticated instruments and survey techniques to tap. However — and this is critical from both policy and service delivery perspectives — both vital statistics and perceptual data are necessary to paint an accurate portrait of the state of youth in Arizona. For example, vital statistics alone may inform policy makers that cocaine use is on the rise among youth in Arizona. However, without an understanding of the dynamics (peer pressures, social mores, stress factors, and the like) associated with such an increase, it is unlikely that effective countermeasures can be developed and implemented. Perhaps just as importantly, we know little about the level of optimism and hope among young people that needs to be nurtured and enhanced. The youth are the future of our community and as such, need to be supported in their aspirations for achievement not just protected from risk.

This problem is evidenced by a reading of the *Annual Inventory of Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention Programs* undertaken by the Arizona Drug and Gang Policy Council: Of the approximately eighty million dollars the State spends on substance abuse prevention, about one-third of these dollars fund programs that have been demonstrated, through rigorous evaluations, to be effective; another one-third of the money funds programs that have not been assessed with respect to their efficacy; and, a final third of the eighty million funds programs that have been shown not to be effective in achieving their intended outcomes. Accordingly, we need better information about what works and what does not, and one facet of this information is a more comprehensive perspective on how youth feel, view the world, and are understood by adults.

The second basic inference that one may draw from reading this report relates to the disturbing trends that appear if the data are viewed over the course of the last decade or so. Fortunately, some trends — perhaps chief among them violence perpetrated by youth — show a lessening. However, most basic indicators of the well-being of youth in

Arizona such as abuse and neglect, pregnancy rates and sexually transmitted diseases, lack of economic security, and abuse of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs among them, are increasing. Often these increases evidence alarming rates, such as the 250% growth in drug-related crimes from 1990 to 1996.

These negative trends will likely be exacerbated in the coming decades by two demographic factors. The first of these is the projected growth of the State's population in general. The second factor is the increase in the number of "children having children." Today's youth are in many ways ill prepared to function as productive adults. They are less likely to be prepared to provide a positive environment for children of their own.

It is not the intent of this report to be prescriptive or to serve as an advocacy document. We do feel that the report depicts a sobering portrait of the conditions in which many Arizona youth exist. Hopefully this report will provide some basis for policy and service delivery that will improve the lot of youth in Arizona. Sound decisions require a basis in information, and provision of some of this information as well as pointing to a lack of other needed data is what we have attempted to provide with the development of this *Factbook.*

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Citations for all sources of information in this report are provided here. The information available on the well being of youth in the United States is far too extensive to be included in this report. Should the reader wish to further investigate indicators or data that were not able to be included, contact or mailing information is provided for each source.

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