

## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1 Research Question**

"What is the relationship between gender inequality and breast cancer case-fatality rates across different countries in 2022?"

Investigating the correlation between the Gender Inequality Index (GII) and breast cancer case-fatality rates is critical because systemic gender disparities directly impact women's access to healthcare, early diagnosis, and treatment quality. Higher GII values reflect inequalities in reproductive health, economic participation, and political empowerment, which can delay cancer detection and reduce survival rates (Nations United).

This relationship has been studied before using 2018 World Health data, investigating several female-specific cancers such as cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, and breast cancer. For example, *Kavousi et al. (2024)* specifically focused on breast cancer, and found a weak association between Gender Inequality Index and Breast cancer incidence but identified a non-linear relationship between GII and Breast cancer mortality, with higher mortality rates in regions with greater gender inequality. This investigation aims to build on this previous study by examining 2022 data, as this is the most recent and fully updated dataset available from WHO databases.

Focusing on case-fatality rates rather than mortality rates provides a more precise measure of how gender disparities impact survival outcomes after diagnosis. Mortality rate refers to the overall number of deaths in a population, which can be influenced by factors such as incidence rates and population demographics (Merriam-Webster). In contrast, care-fatality rate specifically measures the proportion of diagnosed individuals who die from the disease, making it a better indicator of healthcare access, treatment effectiveness, and systemic inequalities. This is important because it helps determine whether gender inequalities are impacting the quality of care and treatment that female patients receive, leading to higher or lower fatalities. Hence, understanding this connection is crucial in ensuring that all women, regardless of where they live, have an equal chance of fighting and surviving this disease.

### **1.2 Background Information**

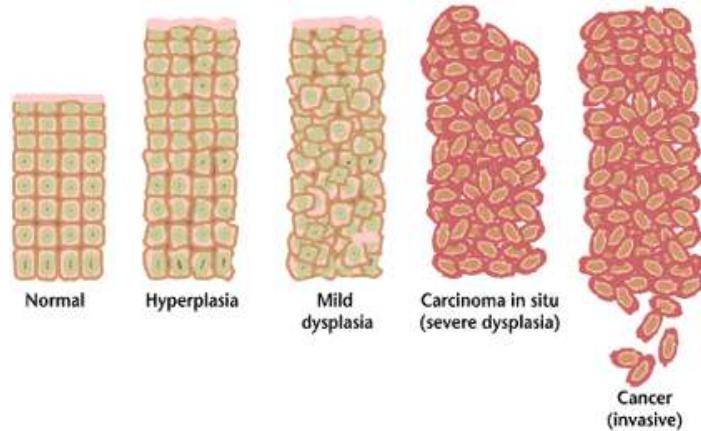
#### **1. Cancer**

Cancer refers to a group of diseases involving abnormal cell growth with the potential to invade or spread to other parts of the body. Normally, cells grow, divide and die in an orderly way, but in cancer, this process is disrupted, leading to tumor formation. Cancer cells grow uncontrollably, evade apoptosis (cell death), spread to other areas, trick the immune system, and rely on alternative energy sources. These abnormalities often result from genetic mutations caused by cell division errors, environmental factors such as smoking and UV radiation, or inherited mutations (Overview of Cancer).

When cancer metastasizes, it retains characteristics of its original form, for instance, breast cancer that spreads to the lungs is still BREAST cancer. Some metastatic cancers can be managed but are often life-threatening. However, not all tissue changes are cancerous. Conditions like hyperplasia, dysplasia, and carcinoma in situ involve abnormal cell growth but may not progress to cancer, particularly with early

treatment. This is illustrated in Figure 1, and can be detected and managed with regular checkups (Canadian Cancer Society).

**Figure 1:** Depicts the development of Cancer.

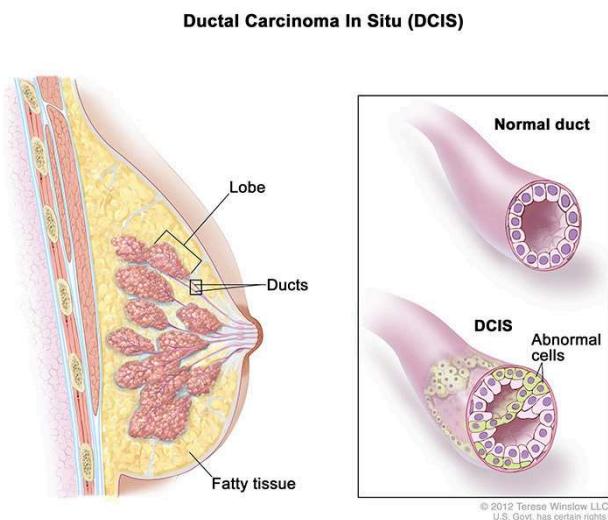


## 2. Breast Cancer

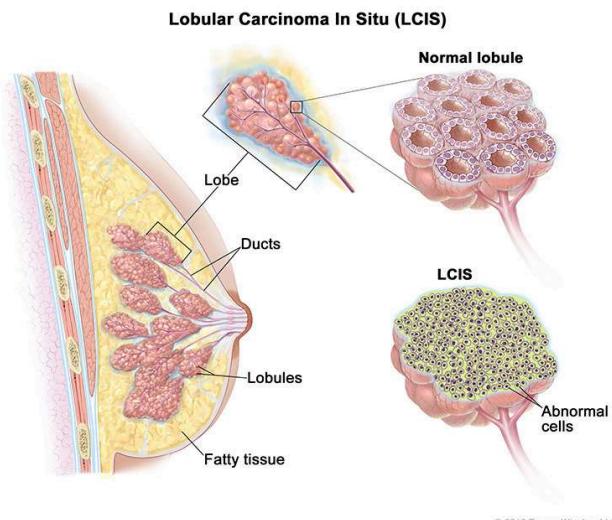
In 2022, WHO reported approximately 2.3 million breast cancer diagnoses among women worldwide. Breast cancer, a carcinoma, originates from epithelial cells in the breast ducts or lobules. *Anderson et al.* (2010) state that breast cancer is among the most prevalent cancers, primarily affecting women, who account for over 99% cases and leaving only 1% of male cases. This significant gender disparity makes breast cancer a valuable case for examining inequalities in healthcare, as it predominantly impacts females.

The most common types include invasive ductal carcinoma (IDC) and lobular carcinoma. Symptoms often involve lumps and breast shape changes. Mutations in tumor suppressor genes like BRCA1 and BRCA2 elevate the risk of breast cancer (Casaubon et al, 2013). Healthcare providers diagnose breast cancer using mammograms, ultrasounds, and biopsies to detect precancerous changes like DCIS and LCIS shown in Figures 2 and 3 (Overview of Cancer).

**Figure 2:** Shows DCIS

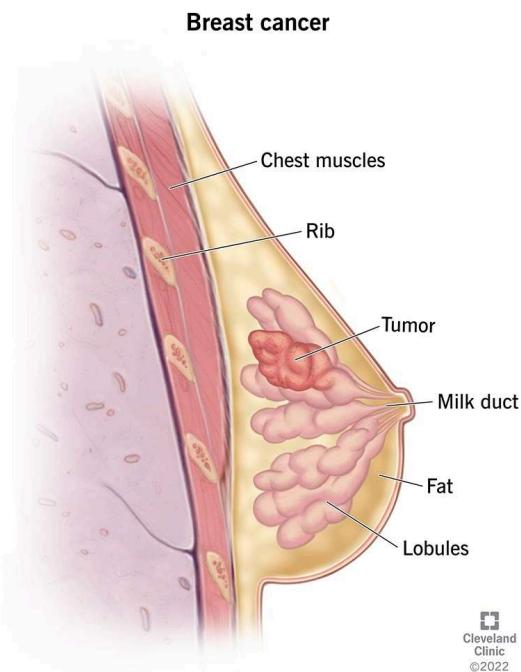


**Figure 3:** Shows LCIS



However, late diagnosis often occurs due to limited access to these diagnostic facilities and then treatment options resulting in fully developed breast cancer as seen in *Figure 4*. In countries with significant gender inequality, there may be barriers to accessing these essential services, hence the objective of the investigation is to explore whether or not these barriers exist and have a significant impact on breast cancer case-fatality rates.

**Figure 4:** Depicts fully developed breast cancer



### 3. Gender Inequality Index (GII)

GII is a composite measure developed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to assess gender-based disparities in countries across three key dimensions; Reproductive health, Empowerment, and Labour Market Participation. Reproductive health dimensions used maternal mortality rates and adolescent birth rates as an indicator to reflect poor access to healthcare, with a particular focus on female health, as reproduction is a crucial female role. The empowerment dimension assesses the political and educational opportunities available to women, including the percentage of parliamentary seats held by women and the level of educational attainment. Empowered women are more likely to influence policies that improve public health systems, including those that focus on early cancer detection, and healthcare infrastructure. Finally, the labour market participation dimension evaluates economic participation, specifically the female labour force participation rate. Women's economic power often determines their ability to afford and access healthcare services, including cancer treatment facilities. All these indicators are combined to calculate a country's GII score, which reflects the level of inequality in that region; the higher the GII score the more unequal the social structure in the country (Understanding the Gender Inequality Index (GII) and Its Impact).

#### 4. Human Development Index (HDI)

HDI, developed by the UNDP, assesses countries' overall development based on health, education, and standard of living. It incorporates life expectancy, mean and expected years of schooling, and Gross National Income per capita, with scores ranging from 0 to 1, where higher values indicate greater development. This index is relevant to this investigation as it provides context regarding the development of countries and their resources, which can impact healthcare systems, including access to breast cancer diagnosis and treatment. The HDI categorizes countries into different groups: Very High, High, Medium, and Low Human Development. This study considers countries from each group to examine how development levels may also correlate to the GII, and then further control for HDI when finding the correlation between GII and case-fatality rates due to breast cancer .

#### 5. Relationship between GII and HDI

Countries with lower HDI values often have higher GII values, indicating greater gender inequality. This investigation will analyze recent data to confirm this correlation, assessing whether gender inequality remains a significant barrier to development and healthcare access. By establishing the relationship, the study ensures that observed trends in breast cancer case-fatality rates are attributed to gender based disparities rather than general developmental differences.

### **2. Exploration**

#### **2.1 Hypothesis**

*Hypothesis:* Countries with higher Gender Inequality Index (GII) values will exhibit higher Breast Cancer Case-Fatality rates.

This hypothesis is grounded in the understanding that elevated GII values reflect systemic disparities in reproductive health, empowerment and labour market participation which can hinder women's access to timely and effective healthcare services, including cancer detection and treatment.

#### **2.2 Methodology**

Firstly, the relationship between HDI and GII will be explored to ensure that they are inversely related as suggested by the Human Development Report. To explore the primary focus of this investigation, an observational cross-sectional study design will be used. Data from various countries will be collected from the year 2022, focusing on GII values, Breast Cancer Incidence, and Mortality rates, which will be used to calculate Case-fatality rates. By statistically analyzing this data, I aim to identify correlations and assess the impact of gender inequality on breast cancer outcomes.

**Table 1:** Variables outlined and explained

| Type of Variable     | Variable                       | Control Method                             | Reason   |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Independent Variable | Gender Inequality Index Values | GII values are used as reported by the HDR | GII quantifies gender disparities and inequality |

|                      |                                   |   |  |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|
|                      |                                   | from the UNDP   | that may influence healthcare access and breast cancer outcomes.   |
| Dependent Variable   | Breast Cancer Case-Fatality Rates | CFR is calculated using incidence and mortality rates obtained from standardized health databases (WHO).                        | CFR measures the proportion of diagnosed breast cancer to those that result in death reflecting healthcare quality especially focusing on women.   |
| Confounding Variable | HDI values                        | Countries are categorized into very high, high, medium, and low HDI levels, with 5 countries randomly selected from each group. | HDI accounts for overall economic development, healthcare infrastructure, and education, which influence both GII and CFR. Controlling for HDI isolates the effect of gender inequality. |
|                      | Age                               | CFR data will be age-standardized using reports that control for age distribution.  | Age is a major risk factor for breast cancer. Standardizing rates prevents misleading comparisons due to demographic differences.  |
|                      | Gender                            | Only female breast cancer cases are analyzed.   | Since GII specifically measures gender inequality affecting women, including male breast cancer cases would introduce confounding variables.   |
|                      | Year                              | Data from a single year (2022) is used for all countries.   | Ensures that variations in CFR are not due to time-dependent medical advancements or changes in healthcare policies.   |
|                      | Data-Base                         | incidence and mortality rates are taken from the same global health database (e.g., WHO, GLOBOCAN)                              | Using a consistent data source ensures uniformity in definitions, data collection methods, and reporting standards.  |
|                      | Countries Selected                | Countries are selected through stratified   | This prevents selection bias while ensuring that   |

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
|  |  | sampling within each HDI category using a random generator. | countries across different development levels are included. |
|--|--|---|---|

### 2.3 Stratified Sampling of Countries:

Stratified sampling will be used, with a random generator selecting 5 countries from each HDI group, as defined by the Human Development Report:

Low HDI = <0.550

Medium HDI = 0.550-0.699

High HDI = 0.700-0.799

Very High HDI = >0.800

See *Table 2* for randomly generated countries. After randomly generating a country, the Human Development Report databases and WHO databases for breast cancer incidence and mortality rates were cross-referenced to ensure the generated countries had the required data necessary to continue through the investigation. This random generation process controlled for potential researcher bias that could skew the data (Wheel of names).

**Table 2:** Generated countries with respective HDI group and Value

| HDI Group | Country            | HDI Value |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| Very High | Slovenia           | 0.926     |
|           | Japan              | 0.92      |
|           | United Kingdom     | 0.94      |
|           | Austria            | 0.926     |
|           | Lithuania          | 0.879     |
| High      | Armenia            | 0.786     |
|           | Dominican Republic | 0.766     |
|           | Ecuador            | 0.765     |
|           | Uzbekistan         | 0.727     |
|           | China              | 0.788     |
| Medium    | Cambodia           | 0.6       |
|           | Guatemala          | 0.629     |

|            |          |       |
|------------|----------|-------|
|            | India    | 0.644 |
|            | Zambia   | 0.569 |
|            | Iraq     | 0.673 |
| <b>Low</b> | Somalia  | 0.38  |
|            | Yemen    | 0.424 |
|            | Nigeria  | 0.548 |
|            | Pakistan | 0.54  |
|            | Guinea   | 0.471 |

#### **2.4 Data Sources:**

1. Gender Inequality Index (GII) Values: Obtained from UNDP's Human Development Reports, which provide annually updated and standardized data on gender disparities using a scale from 0 to 1 to assess gender inequality.
2. Human Development Index (HDI) Values: Sourced from the UNDP's Human Development reports, using a scale from 0 to 1 to assess a country's development level.
3. Breast Cancer Incidence and Mortality Rates: Acquired from the WHO's Global Health Observatory

These sources are reliable due to their standardized data collection methodologies, transparency in data acquiring processes, and global recognition in health and development statistics (Dieye, 2018).

#### **2.5 Inclusion Criteria:**

1. Countries with available data on GII, HDI and Breast cancer mortality and incidence rates for the year 2022
2. Countries representing a diverse range of HDI categories
3. Exclusion of countries with incomplete or unreliable data to maintain data integrity
4. All **female** population data for breast cancer incidence and mortality rates
5. All Age Standardized Rates have been considered for incidence and mortality rates
6. Rates are all standardized per 100,000 people.
7. All values are taken exactly from the databases from sources therefore, rounding and error uncertainty is the same as the original databases.

By adhering to these criteria, the study aims to produce accurate and representative results.

#### **2.6 Ethical Considerations:**

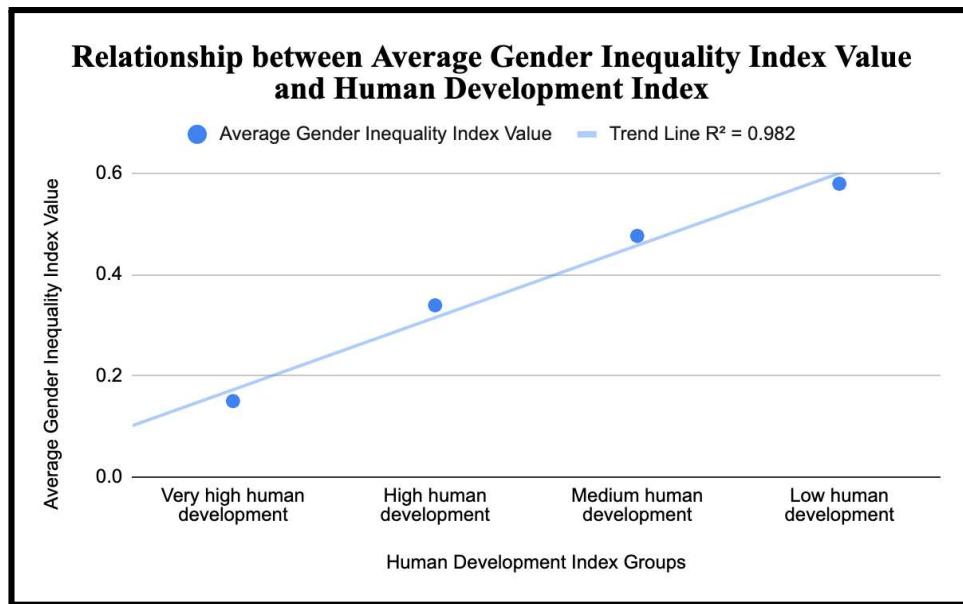
1. As the study involves secondary data analysis, there are no direct safety concerns or undue harm on any participants
2. The research does not involve physical interventions, thus posing no environmental risks

- Since publically available data is being used, proper citation of data sources, and data usage guidelines set by the respective organizations will be adhered to.

### **3. Preliminary Investigation**

#### **3.1 Ensuring Significant Inverse Relationship between HDI and GII**

**Graph 1:** graphed to show the relationship between HDI and GII values.



The coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) as calculated by Google Spreadsheets is a high 0.982, confirming a strong correlation between HDI and GII, showing that lower HDI values are associated with higher gender inequality. Therefore, it is essential to account for HDI when examining the factors of gender inequality to ensure that variations in GII are not confounded by a country's overall development status. By comparing countries across various development levels, the study can better determine whether gender disparities persist beyond general development differences, offering clearer insights into the role of gender inequality in healthcare outcomes.

### **4. Main Investigation - Correlation between GII and CFR**

#### **4.1 Calculating Case-Fatality Rates using Breast Cancer Incidence and Mortality Rates**

To understand the relationship between GII and CFR, it is necessary to calculate CFR using breast cancer incidence and mortality rates data taken from WHO as provided in *Appendix A*.

Using the data from *Appendix A*, the following formula can be used to calculate Case-fatality rate. This will measure the severity of breast cancer by indicating the proportion of people diagnosed with the condition who die from it. Hence, a high CFR suggests poor access to medical care, late-stage diagnosis, or inadequate treatment which may be linked to systemic issues like gender inequality, especially since breast cancer predominantly affects women.

Formula:

$$\text{Case - Fatality Rate} = \frac{\text{ASR Mortality Rate in a given area in 2022}}{\text{ASR Incidence Rate in a given area in 2022}} \times 100$$

ASR Mortality and Incidence Rates are age-standardized rates and are measured per 100,000 people. This calculated case-fatality rate value will be expressed as a percentage, indicating the proportion of individuals who die from breast cancer.

*Sample Calculation with Slovenia:*

$$\text{Case - Fatality Rate} = \frac{\text{ASR Mortality Rate in a given area in 2022}}{\text{ASR Incidence Rate in a given area in 2022}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Case - Fatality Rate} = \frac{15.0}{82.3} \times 100$$

$$\text{Case - Fatality Rate} = 18.22600243$$

Hence, Slovenia's Case-Fatality rate due to Breast Cancer is 18.2% (3 sig figs).

Note that all values in the original WHO database are rounded to 3 significant figures. For consistency, I will round the calculated values to 3 significant figures, however the original calculations done by Google Spreadsheets will be using the unrounded values. The Case-fatality rates for all 20 countries were calculated through Google Spreadsheets and values are shown in *Table 3*.

**Table 3** - All calculations of CFR from Google Spreadsheets

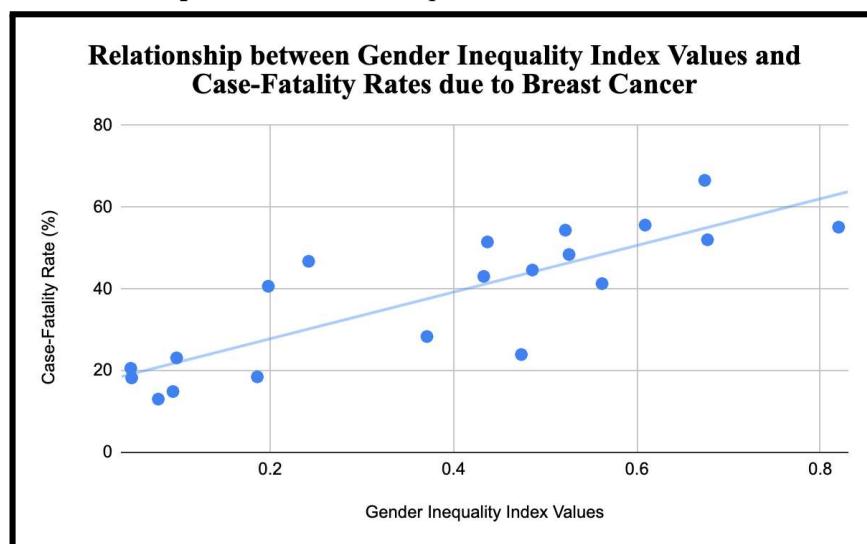
| Country            | GII value | Case-Fatality Rate due to Breast Cancer of women in 2022 (%) | CFR (%) Rounded to 3 sig figs |
|--------------------|-----------|--|-------------------------------|
| Slovenia           | 0.049     | 18.22600243  | 18.2                          |
| Japan              | 0.078     | 13.03763441  | 13.0                          |
| United Kingdom     | 0.094     | 14.89361702  | 14.9                          |
| Austria            | 0.048     | 20.57553957  | 20.6                          |
| Lithuania          | 0.098     | 23.12599681  | 23.1                          |
| Armenia            | 0.198     | 40.65656566  | 40.7                          |
| Dominican Republic | 0.433     | 43.07116105  | 43.1                          |
| Ecuador            | 0.371     | 28.35443038  | 28.4                          |
| Uzbekistan         | 0.242     | 46.76258993  | 46.8                          |
| China              | 0.186     | 18.48484848  | 18.5                          |

|           |       |             |      |
|-----------|-------|-------------|------|
| Cambodia  | 0.486 | 44.62151394 | 44.6 |
| Guatemala | 0.474 | 23.94366197 | 23.9 |
| India     | 0.437 | 51.5037594  | 51.5 |
| Zambia    | 0.526 | 48.43049327 | 48.4 |
| Iraq      | 0.562 | 41.30052724 | 41.3 |
| Somalia   | 0.674 | 66.58031088 | 66.6 |
| Yemen     | 0.82  | 55.11811024 | 55.1 |
| Nigeria   | 0.677 | 52.03883495 | 52.0 |
| Pakistan  | 0.522 | 54.38596491 | 54.4 |
| Guinea    | 0.609 | 55.625      | 55.6 |

## 4.2 Graphing Correlation Between GII and CFR

With the case-fatality rates calculated, we can now explore their relationship with gender inequality. Since CFR reflects healthcare accessibility, early detection, and treatment quality, analyzing its correlation with GII will help determine whether disparities in gender equity contribute to differences in breast cancer outcomes. This analysis will provide insights into how societal factors influence disease severity and survival rates.

*Graph 2:* The relationship between the GII and CFR



A scatter plot was created to visually assess the relationship between GII and CFR. The trendline indicates a linear relationship, with minimal outliers, hence a Pearson's correlation can be used to quantify the strength and direction of this relationship; providing a numerical measure of how gender inequality may influence breast cancer case-fatality rates (Interpreting the Pearson Coefficient).

#### 4.3 Pearson Correlation Coefficient

The **Pearson correlation coefficient (r)** is calculated using the formula:

$$r = \frac{n(\sum xy) - (\sum x)(\sum y)}{\sqrt{[n\sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2][n\sum y^2 - (\sum y)^2]}}$$

Where:

- **X** = First variable (**GII**)
- **Y** = Second variable [**CFR (%)**]
- **n** = Number of data points (20 countries)
- $\sum X$  = Sum of all values in **X**
- $\sum Y$  = Sum of all values in **Y**
- $\sum XY$  = Sum of the product of each **X** and **Y**
- $\sum X^2$  = Sum of squared values of **X**
- $\sum Y^2$  = Sum of squared values of **Y**

$$r = \frac{20(350.3332182) - (7.584)(760.7365625)}{\sqrt{[(20)(3.959454) - (7.584)^2][(20)(34021.85581) - (760.7365625)^2]}}$$

$$r = \frac{1237.238274}{1484.7266538}$$

$$r = 0.83331047559$$

$$r = 0.833 \text{ (rounded to 3 sig figs)}$$

A Pearson's correlation coefficient of  $r = 0.833$  suggests a strong positive relationship between GII and Case-Fatality Rate for breast cancer. Since the correlation is positive and close to 1, this indicates that as gender inequality increases, the case-fatality rate also tends to rise. As this correlation is above 0.8, this suggests that this trend is consistent across the countries analyzed, highlighting the potential influence of gender disparities on access to healthcare, early detection, and treatment outcomes for breast cancer.

#### 4.4 Statistical Significance Analysis

While the Pearson correlation coefficient ( $r = 0.833$ ) suggests a strong relationship between GII and Case Fatality Rate, it is essential to determine whether this correlation is statistically significant or if it could have occurred by chance. To achieve this, the p-value will be calculated. The p-value helps assess the reliability of the correlation by indicating whether the observed relationship is likely to exist in the larger population, rather than just in the selected sample of countries. A low p-value (typically below 0.05) would suggest that the correlation is statistically significant, meaning there is strong evidence that higher gender inequality is associated with higher case-fatality rates in breast cancer cases. If the p-value is high, it would suggest that the correlation could have occurred due to random variation. This test was conducted using an online calculator, giving a p-value of  $<0.0001$  as shown in *Appendix B*. This indicates that the correlation between GII and Case-Fatality Rate due to breast cancer is highly statistically significant, with the likelihood of it occurring due to chance being less than 0.01%. This provides evidence that higher gender inequality is strongly associated with higher case-fatality rates. Since the correlation is both strong ( $r = 0.833$ ) and statistically significant ( $p < 0.0001$ ), no further statistical tests are necessary. The findings suggest a meaningful relationship, supporting my research hypothesis that countries with higher GII values will exhibit higher Breast Cancer Case-Fatality rates.

## **5. Evaluation**

### **5.1 Implications of Findings**

The strong correlation between GII and Case-Fatality Rate due to breast cancer suggests that systemic gender disparities in healthcare access, awareness, and treatment significantly impact survival rates. Countries with higher gender inequality may face barriers such as limited access to early screening, delayed diagnosis, and inadequate treatment, leading to higher mortality despite similar incidence rates. These findings emphasize the need for policy interventions aimed at reducing gender-based disparities in healthcare, such as improving access to cancer screenings, increasing healthcare funding for women's health services, and addressing socioeconomic factors that limit healthcare access. Furthermore, the statistical significance of the results indicates that addressing gender inequality could play a crucial role in improving cancer survival rates, reinforcing the need for global health organizations and policymakers to prioritize gender equity in medical research and public health strategies.

### **5.2 Limitations and Modifications for Further Research**

**Table 4:** Limitations and Modifications explained.

| <b>Limitation</b>          | <b>Explanation</b>   | <b>Modification</b>   |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| Use of National-level data | National averages may not reflect regional disparities in gender inequality and healthcare access. For example, rural areas often experience higher gender inequality and poorer healthcare access than urban regions, meaning that national averages may not reflect the full scope of the issue. | Use subnational data (regional/provincial) to analyze differences in more areas within the country itself |

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Variability in data collection methods                    | Some countries may have incomplete cancer registries or underreported breast cancer cases and deaths. The UNDP and WHO use data from private research facilities as well as government databases that could potentially pose a threat of bias within the collection methods. | Cross-checking the data by using multiple sources might be a better method of data collection, however due to the lack of data available online, this modification is not as feasible.  |
| Lack of causal evidence                                   | Correlation does not indicate causation; other variables may mediate the relationship  | Conducting longitudinal studies to track changes in gender inequality and breast cancer outcomes over time, will better enhance the study to focus on changes to isolate for gender inequality as a cause. Follow-up study could examine how specific components of GII (e.g., female education levels or labor force participation) influence early detection rates, treatment delays, or survival outcomes. |
| Focus only on breast cancer within the female population. | As this study does not allow for comparisons with other populations, it cannot conclude that women are the only group impacted by gender inequality.   | Expanding the analysis to include male populations and male-specific diseases would provide a more comprehensive understanding of how gender inequality influences health outcomes. This broader approach would offer deeper insights into the influence of gender disparities within healthcare systems across different countries.  |

## **6. Conclusion**

This investigation explores how gender inequality affects breast cancer case-fatality rates across countries aiming to understand how systemic gender disparities impact women's access to healthcare, early diagnosis, and treatment. The findings support the hypothesis, confirming that countries with higher levels of gender inequality (lower GII scores) tend to have worse breast cancer survival rates (High CFR). This correlation highlights how restricted access to timely diagnosis, quality treatment, and comprehensive healthcare services in these countries directly impacts women's chances of survival. The study builds on previous research by using recent data to reaffirm the ongoing relevance of this issue. Thus highlighting the importance of improving healthcare access and promoting gender equity on a global scale. Gender inequality is not just a matter of fairness, but a life-and-death issue, particularly when it comes to health outcomes. In countries with high gender inequality, women often face barriers to essential healthcare services. These disparities contribute to higher case-fatality rates for breast cancer, as women in such regions may not receive timely diagnosis or may face economic and social obstacles that prevent them from accessing the best care.

Additionally, policymakers should prioritize equitable healthcare access, especially in regions with pronounced gender disparities. Promoting systemic change to eliminate these barriers will significantly improve survival rates for diseases like breast cancer and contribute to better health outcomes for women worldwide. Addressing gender inequality requires both systemic change and societal shifts, ensuring that all women have equal access to the resources and support they need for better health outcomes. By reducing these disparities, we can make significant strides in increasing survival rates for diseases like breast cancer, ultimately promoting a healthier and more equitable world for women globally.

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## APPENDIX

Appendix A: breast cancer incidence and mortality rates data taken from WHO

| Alpha-3 cod | Cancer cod | Population | Country            | Label | Sex | Number | 95% UI low | 95% UI high | Number | ASR (World) | Crude rate | Cumulative |
|-------------|------------|------------|--------------------|-------|-----|--------|------------|-------------|--------|-------------|------------|------------|
| AFG         | 20 004     | 4          | Afghanistan        |       | 2   | 1960   | 1296       | 2964        | 1960   | 17.9        | 9.9        | 2.0        |
| ALB         | 20 008     | 8          | Albania            |       | 2   | 407    | 341        | 486         | 407    | 14.5        | 28.9       | 1.7        |
| DZA         | 20 012     | 12         | Algeria            |       | 2   | 4893   | 4825       | 4962        | 4893   | 20.8        | 21.8       | 2.2        |
| AGO         | 20 024     | 24         | Angola             |       | 2   | 1333   | 1302       | 1364        | 1333   | 14.3        | 7.5        | 1.6        |
| AZE         | 20 031     | 31         | Azerbaijan         |       | 2   | 794    | 666        | 946         | 794    | 11.8        | 15.4       | 1.3        |
| ARG         | 20 032     | 32         | Argentina          |       | 2   | 6436   | 6147       | 6739        | 6436   | 17.6        | 27.3       | 1.9        |
| AUS         | 20 036     | 36         | Australia          |       | 2   | 3993   | 3188       | 3611        | 3993   | 12.3        | 25.9       | 1.3        |
| AUT         | 20 040     | 40         | Austria            |       | 2   | 1789   | 1655       | 1933        | 1789   | 14.3        | 39.0       | 1.6        |
| BHS         | 20 044     | 44         | Bahamas            |       | 2   | 87     | 54         | 141         | 87     | 31.7        | 42.3       | 3.3        |
| BHR         | 20 048     | 48         | Bahrain            |       | 2   | 96     | 63         | 147         | 96     | 19.7        | 15.3       | 2.1        |
| BGD         | 20 050     | 50         | Bangladesh         |       | 2   | 6162   | 6144       | 6180        | 6162   | 7.6         | 7.4        | 0.81       |
| ARM         | 20 051     | 51         | Armenia            |       | 2   | 453    | 381        | 539         | 453    | 16.1        | 28.8       | 1.9        |
| BRB         | 20 052     | 52         | Barbados           |       | 2   | 88     | 54         | 145         | 88     | 29.8        | 59.3       | 3.2        |
| BEL         | 20 056     | 56         | Belgium            |       | 2   | 2324   | 2173       | 2486        | 2324   | 14.2        | 39.5       | 1.5        |
| BTN         | 20 064     | 64         | Bhutan             |       | 2   | 8      | 8          | 8           | 8      | 2.3         | 2.2        | 0.28       |
| BOL         | 20 068     | 68         | Bolivia            |       | 2   | 514    | 416        | 635         | 514    | 7.5         | 8.6        | 0.69       |
| BIH         | 20 070     | 70         | Bosnia Herz.       |       | 2   | 564    | 514        | 619         | 564    | 15.0        | 34.0       | 1.7        |
| BWA         | 20 072     | 72         | Botswana           |       | 2   | 91     | 81         | 102         | 91     | 8.3         | 7.2        | 0.89       |
| BRA         | 20 076     | 76         | Brazil             |       | 2   | 22189  | 21669      | 22722       | 22189  | 13.9        | 20.2       | 1.5        |
| BLZ         | 20 084     | 84         | Belize             |       | 2   | 21     | 9          | 52          | 21     | 11.7        | 10.1       | 1.3        |
| SLB         | 20 090     | 90         | Solomon Is.        |       | 2   | 51     | 46         | 56          | 51     | 20.4        | 14.4       | 2.2        |
| BRN         | 20 096     | 96         | Brunei Daru        |       | 2   | 35     | 18         | 67          | 35     | 14.3        | 16.3       | 1.7        |
| BGR         | 20 100     | 100        | Bulgaria           |       | 2   | 1399   | 1243       | 1575        | 1399   | 15.5        | 39.7       | 1.7        |
| MMR         | 20 104     | 104        | Myanmar            |       | 2   | 3271   | 3249       | 3293        | 3271   | 10.1        | 11.4       | 1.1        |
| BDI         | 20 108     | 108        | Burundi            |       | 2   | 513    | 461        | 571         | 513    | 15.7        | 8.1        | 1.7        |
| BLR         | 20 112     | 112        | Belarus            |       | 2   | 1384   | 1297       | 1476        | 1384   | 13.3        | 27.5       | 1.6        |
| KHM         | 20 116     | 116        | Cambodia           |       | 2   | 917    | 911        | 923         | 917    | 11.2        | 10.4       | 1.1        |
| CMR         | 20 120     | 120        | Cameroon           |       | 2   | 2285   | 1879       | 2779        | 2285   | 27.4        | 16.4       | 3.0        |
| CAN         | 20 124     | 124        | Canada             |       | 2   | 6827   | 6519       | 7042        | 6827   | 13.4        | 35.3       | 1.2        |
| CPV         | 20 132     | 132        | Cape Verde         |       | 2   | 23     | 10         | 54          | 23     | 7.8         | 8.1        | 0.78       |
| CAF         | 20 140     | 140        | Central Afr.       |       | 2   | 376    | 315        | 449         | 376    | 25.3        | 14.9       | 2.7        |
| LKA         | 20 144     | 144        | Sri Lanka          |       | 2   | 1991   | 1931       | 2053        | 1991   | 11.2        | 17.7       | 1.3        |
| TCD         | 20 148     | 148        | Chad               |       | 2   | 446    | 420        | 474         | 446    | 8.8         | 5.1        | 0.88       |
| CHL         | 20 152     | 152        | Chile              |       | 2   | 1775   | 1626       | 1937        | 1775   | 10.3        | 18.2       | 1.1        |
| CHN         | 20 156     | 160        | China              |       | 2   | 74986  | 72510      | 77546       | 74986  | 6.1         | 10.9       | 0.67       |
| COL         | 20 170     | 170        | Colombia           |       | 2   | 4752   | 4517       | 5000        | 4752   | 13.3        | 18.1       | 1.4        |
| COM         | 20 174     | 174        | Comoros            |       | 2   | 34     | 32         | 36          | 34     | 11.8        | 7.6        | 1.2        |
| COG         | 20 178     | 178        | Congo, Rep.        |       | 2   | 241    | 218        | 266         | 241    | 12.5        | 8.3        | 1.4        |
| COD         | 20 180     | 180        | Congo, Dem.        |       | 2   | 4254   | 3805       | 4756        | 4254   | 15.6        | 8.9        | 1.7        |
| CRI         | 20 188     | 188        | Costa Rica         |       | 2   | 423    | 370        | 483         | 423    | 10.6        | 16.3       | 1.2        |
| HRV         | 20 191     | 191        | Croatia            |       | 2   | 612    | 539        | 694         | 612    | 11.7        | 29.2       | 1.4        |
| CUB         | 20 192     | 192        | Cuba               |       | 2   | 1779   | 1635       | 1935        | 1779   | 13.9        | 31.2       | 1.5        |
| CYP         | 20 196     | 196        | Cyprus             |       | 2   | 238    | 191        | 296         | 238    | 18.6        | 38.9       | 2.0        |
| CZE         | 20 203     | 203        | Czechia            |       | 2   | 1709   | 1595       | 1831        | 1709   | 11.7        | 31.4       | 1.3        |
| REN         | 20 204     | 204        | Benin              |       | 2   | 734    | 676        | 797         | 734    | 18.9        | 11.5       | 2.2        |
| DNK         | 20 208     | 208        | Denmark            |       | 2   | 1114   | 983        | 1263        | 1114   | 14.1        | 38.0       | 1.5        |
| DOM         | 20 214     | 214        | Dominican          |       | 2   | 1457   | 1318       | 1611        | 1457   | 23.0        | 26.3       | 2.4        |
| ECU         | 20 218     | 218        | Ecuador            |       | 2   | 1154   | 1032       | 1291        | 1154   | 11.2        | 12.7       | 1.2        |
| SLV         | 20 222     | 222        | El Salvador        |       | 2   | 332    | 242        | 455         | 332    | 7.8         | 9.5        | 0.81       |
| GNO         | 20 226     | 226        | Equatorial G.      |       | 2   | 87     | 77         | 99          | 87     | 21.4        | 13.1       | 2.2        |
| ETH         | 20 231     | 231        | Ethiopia           |       | 2   | 9626   | 8657       | 10703       | 9626   | 24.0        | 16.0       | 2.6        |
| ERI         | 20 232     | 232        | Eritrea            |       | 2   | 291    | 262        | 324         | 291    | 22.4        | 15.9       | 2.4        |
| EST         | 20 233     | 233        | Estonia            |       | 2   | 267    | 222        | 321         | 267    | 13.2        | 38.5       | 1.5        |
| FJI         | 20 242     | 242        | Fiji               |       | 2   | 182    | 143        | 231         | 182    | 38.9        | 40.5       | 4.2        |
| FIN         | 20 246     | 246        | Finland            |       | 2   | 879    | 799        | 967         | 879    | 11.9        | 31.2       | 1.4        |
| FRA         | 20 250     | 250        | France (me)        |       | 2   | 14739  | 14369      | 15119       | 14739  | 15.8        | 43.6       | 1.7        |
| GUF         | 20 254     | 254        | French Guiana      |       | 2   | 24     | 24         | 24          | 24     | 15.9        | 15.1       | 1.5        |
| PYF         | 20 258     | 258        | French Pol.        |       | 2   | 45     | 45         | 45          | 45     | 23.2        | 32.1       | 2.4        |
| DJI         | 20 262     | 262        | Djibouti           |       | 2   | 102    | 89         | 117         | 102    | 22.1        | 21.1       | 2.4        |
| GAB         | 20 266     | 266        | Gabon              |       | 2   | 113    | 103        | 124         | 113    | 13.2        | 9.9        | 1.6        |
| GEO         | 20 268     | 268        | Georgia            |       | 2   | 861    | 754        | 983         | 861    | 20.6        | 41.4       | 2.3        |
| GMB         | 20 270     | 270        | The Gambia         |       | 2   | 50     | 39         | 65          | 50     | 6.6         | 3.9        | 0.62       |
| PSE         | 20 275     | 275        | Gaza Strip         |       | 2   | 333    | 325        | 341         | 333    | 19.7        | 12.6       | 2.3        |
| DEU         | 20 276     | 276        | Germany            |       | 2   | 20601  | 20086      | 21129       | 20601  | 15.8        | 48.6       | 1.7        |
| GHA         | 20 288     | 288        | Ghana              |       | 2   | 2369   | 2293       | 2448        | 2369   | 19.3        | 14.8       | 2.1        |
| GRC         | 20 300     | 300        | Greece             |       | 2   | 2431   | 2252       | 2624        | 2431   | 14.7        | 46.3       | 1.6        |
| GLP         | 20 312     | 312        | France, Guadeloupe |       | 2   | 73     | 72         | 74          | 73     | 16.7        | 33.9       | 1.8        |



|     |    |       |     |             |   |        |       |        |        |      |      |      |
|-----|----|-------|-----|-------------|---|--------|-------|--------|--------|------|------|------|
| ZAF | 20 | 710   | 710 | South Afric | 2 | 5232   | 4955  | 5514   | 5232   | 17.0 | 17.0 | 1.6  |
| ZWE | 20 | 716   | 716 | Zimbabwe    | 2 | 915    | 864   | 969    | 915    | 18.6 | 11.4 | 2.1  |
| ESP | 20 | 724   | 724 | Spain       | 2 | 6747   | 6490  | 7014   | 6747   | 10.6 | 28.4 | 1.1  |
| SSD | 20 | 728   | 728 | South Sud   | 2 | 657    | 574   | 752    | 657    | 17.6 | 11.3 | 1.9  |
| SDN | 20 | 729   | 729 | Sudan       | 2 | 3243   | 3147  | 3342   | 3243   | 20.7 | 14.1 | 2.1  |
| SUR | 20 | 740   | 740 | Suriname    | 2 | 53     | 29    | 97     | 53     | 14.4 | 17.8 | 1.5  |
| SWZ | 20 | 748   | 748 | Eswatini    | 2 | 47     | 38    | 58     | 47     | 11.3 | 7.8  | 1.1  |
| SLV | 20 | 752   | 752 | Sweden      | 2 | 1535   | 1402  | 1680   | 1535   | 11.9 | 30.3 | 1.3  |
| CHE | 20 | 756   | 756 | Switzerland | 2 | 1541   | 1394  | 1703   | 1541   | 12.4 | 34.9 | 1.3  |
| SYR | 20 | 760   | 760 | Syrian Arab | 2 | 1781   | 1622  | 1955   | 1781   | 20.9 | 18.4 | 2.3  |
| TKM | 20 | 762   | 762 | Tajikistan  | 2 | 283    | 233   | 344    | 283    | 7.4  | 5.7  | 0.81 |
| THA | 20 | 764   | 764 | Thailand    | 2 | 7599   | 7505  | 7695   | 7599   | 11.8 | 21.3 | 1.3  |
| TGO | 20 | 768   | 768 | Togo        | 2 | 524    | 481   | 571    | 524    | 18.1 | 12.0 | 2.0  |
| TTO | 20 | 780   | 780 | Trinidad an | 2 | 255    | 197   | 330    | 255    | 22.1 | 35.8 | 2.3  |
| ARE | 20 | 784   | 784 | United Arab | 2 | 253    | 245   | 261    | 253    | 15.9 | 8.0  | 1.7  |
| TUN | 20 | 788   | 788 | Tunisia     | 2 | 901    | 881   | 922    | 901    | 10.9 | 14.8 | 1.1  |
| TUR | 20 | 792   | 792 | Türkiye     | 2 | 7360   | 6946  | 7799   | 7360   | 12.5 | 17.0 | 1.3  |
| MKD | 20 | 795   | 795 | Turkmenist  | 2 | 485    | 254   | 925    | 485    | 15.6 | 15.4 | 1.7  |
| UGA | 20 | 800   | 800 | Uganda      | 2 | 1560   | 1489  | 1635   | 1560   | 12.6 | 6.4  | 1.4  |
| UKR | 20 | 804   | 804 | Ukraine     | 2 | 6613   | 6171  | 7087   | 6613   | 13.2 | 28.5 | 1.6  |
| MDA | 20 | 807   | 807 | North Mac   | 2 | 379    | 281   | 511    | 379    | 19.5 | 36.4 | 2.2  |
| EGY | 20 | 818   | 818 | Egypt       | 2 | 9595   | 9464  | 9730   | 9595   | 19.9 | 18.3 | 2.1  |
| GBR | 20 | 826   | 826 | United King | 2 | 12122  | 11723 | 12534  | 12122  | 14.0 | 35.0 | 1.5  |
| TZA | 20 | 834   | 834 | Tanzania, U | 2 | 2255   | 2151  | 2364   | 2255   | 12.9 | 7.1  | 1.5  |
| USA | 20 | 840   | 840 | United Stat | 2 | 42900  | 42295 | 43513  | 42900  | 12.2 | 25.4 | 1.3  |
| BFA | 20 | 854   | 854 | Burkina Fas | 2 | 818    | 799   | 837    | 818    | 13.2 | 7.4  | 1.5  |
| URY | 20 | 858   | 858 | Uruguay     | 2 | 777    | 677   | 892    | 777    | 21.6 | 43.0 | 2.4  |
| UZB | 20 | 860   | 860 | Uzbekistan  | 2 | 2246   | 2063  | 2446   | 2246   | 13.0 | 13.0 | 1.5  |
| VEN | 20 | 862   | 862 | Venezuela   | 2 | 2953   | 2749  | 3172   | 2953   | 16.2 | 19.9 | 1.8  |
| WSM | 20 | 882   | 882 | Samoa       | 2 | 24     | 24    | 24     | 24     | 28.1 | 24.6 | 3.1  |
| YEM | 20 | 887   | 887 | Yemen       | 2 | 1528   | 1463  | 1595   | 1528   | 14.0 | 9.9  | 1.4  |
| ZMB | 20 | 894   | 894 | Zambia      | 2 | 507    | 475   | 541    | 507    | 10.8 | 5.2  | 1.2  |
|     |    | Total |     |             |   | 665683 |       | 665683 | 665683 | 12.7 | 17.0 | 1.4  |

*Appendix B:* p-value test from VassarStats

*Data Summary*

|               |          |                |            |
|---------------|----------|----------------|------------|
| $\Sigma X =$  | 7.584    | $\Sigma X^2 =$ | 3.9595     |
| $\Sigma Y =$  | 760.7366 | $\Sigma Y^2 =$ | 34021.8558 |
| $\Sigma XY =$ | 350.3332 |                |            |

|          | X      | Y        |
|----------|--------|----------|
| N        |        | 20       |
| Mean     | 0.3792 | 38.0368  |
| Variance | 0.057  | 267.6763 |
| Std.Dev. | 0.2388 | 16.3608  |
| Std.Err. | 0.0534 | 3.6584   |

| r      | $r^2$  | Slope     | Y Intercept | Std. Err. of Estimate |
|--------|--------|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 0.8333 | 0.6944 | 57.089189 | 16.38858    | 9.2922                |
| t      | df     |           | one-tailed  | <.0001                |
| 6.4    | 18     | P         | two-tailed  | <.0001                |

*0.95 and 0.99 Confidence Intervals for rho*

|      | Lower Limit | Upper Limit |
|------|-------------|-------------|
| 0.95 | 0.62        | 0.932       |
| 0.99 | 0.519       | 0.949       |

*0.95 and 0.99 Confidence Intervals for the Slope of the Regression*

|      | Lower Limit | Upper Limit |
|------|-------------|-------------|
| 0.95 | 38.2542     | 75.9242     |
| 0.99 | 31.3808     | 82.7976     |