

# What Are The Leading Causes Of Death In NYC?

## Major Diseases That Are Killing People In New York City

Mohamed Mohamar  
Data Science Institute

mmohamar@saintpeters.edu – (+1) (201)-687-7088



### Abstract

Our health and well being have always been a concern since the beginning of humanity. While people work, party, rest, and try to enjoy life to the fullest, we are also trying to keep a healthy life style. But the perfect balance between working hard, resting and enjoying life have always been a challenge. Unfortunately, we are always subject to and exposed to illness and diseases. This work will look at the leading causes of death in New York City from 2007 to 2014.

### Introduction

Our data shows first of all that the number of people who had died from diseases in New York City had noticeably decreased from 2007 to 2012, and had stabilized since then. That was a good news! Looking at the highest numbers though, we see that among the deaths, 7050 (49%) were White Non-Hispanic - number reached in 2007; 2725 (27%) were Black Non-Hispanic; 1445 (18%) were Hispanic, and 657 (6%) were Asian and Pacific Islander. Among all the populations, 49% were Female and 43% Male. Heart Diseases, Malignant Neoplasms, Influenza and Pneumonia, Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases, and Cerebrovascular Diseases had killed more people in NYC from 2007 to 2014. Within the Black Non-Hispanic and White Non-Hispanic communities in NYC, DISEASES OF HEART, MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS and Other Causes are the deadliest diseases. However, in the Hispanic population, DISEASES OF HEART has killed more women than men, while MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS and Other Causes are the deadliest diseases among men compared to women. Overall, the trend is reversing since 2013, since the data shows that more men are being killed compared to women. In the Asian and Pacific Islander population, the overall number of deaths is increasing. Although, the same causes are affecting this group of population, more men are killed than women.

### Main Objectives

1. Find the major diseases that killed people in New York City from 2007 to 2014.
2. Discuss which communities have been affected the most by those diseases.
3. Discuss which gender have been affected the most by those diseases in general.
4. Within each community, which gender have suffered the most by those diseases.

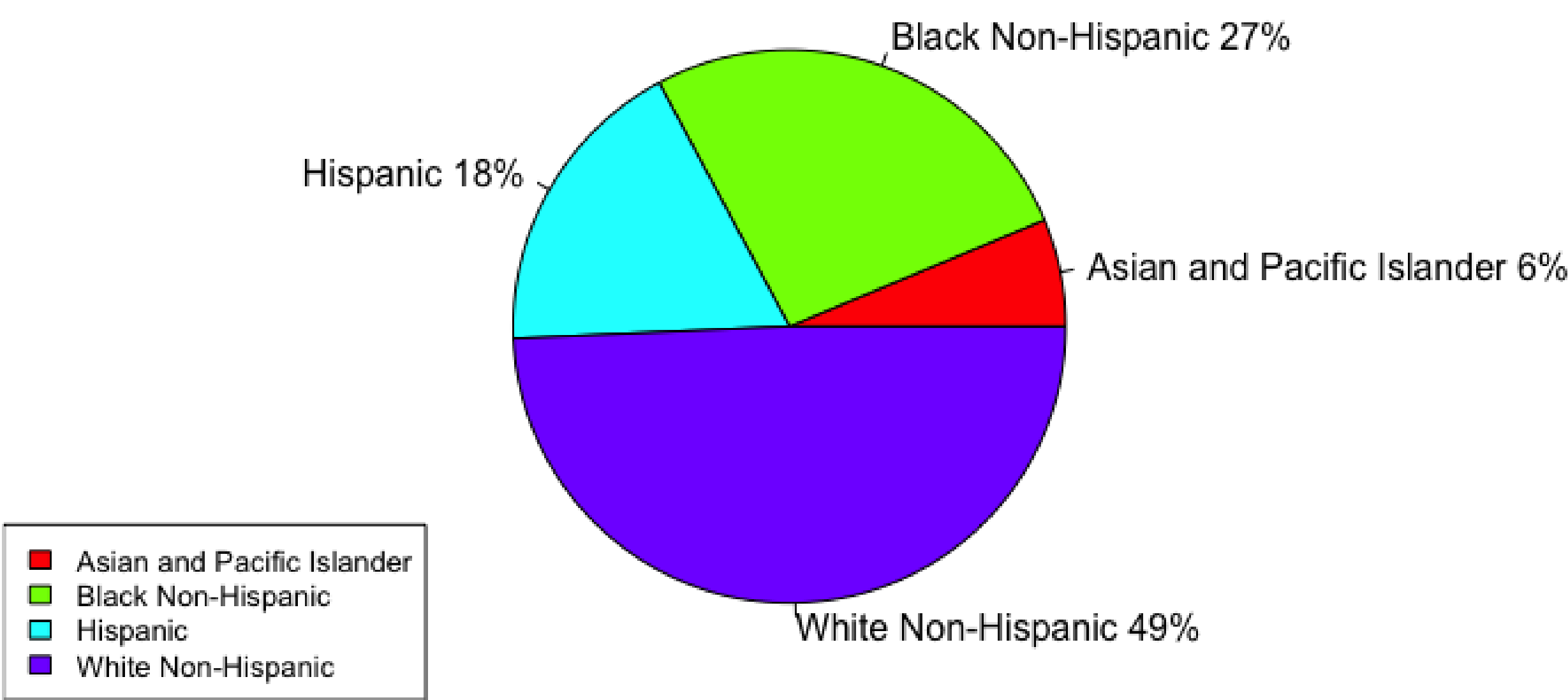
### Data, Materials and Methods

The data comes from a public repository of data catalog of the city of New York. It contains the leading causes of death by gender and ethnicity in New York City from 2007 to 2014. I am using the ggplot2 package in RStudio.

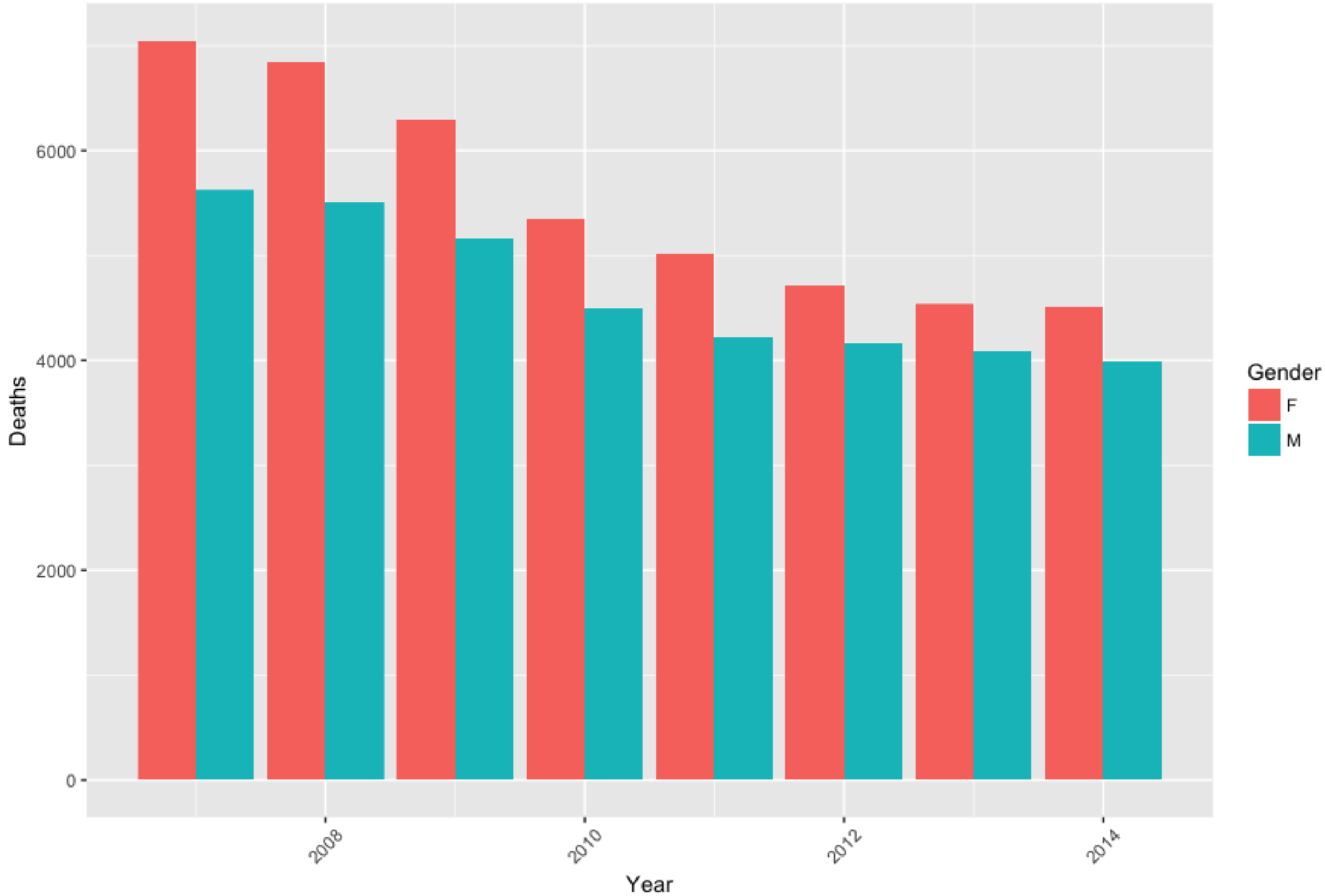
### Results

Race Ethnicity	Deaths
Asian and Pacific Islander	26355
Black Non-Hispanic	111116
Hispanic	74802
White Non-Hispanic	206487

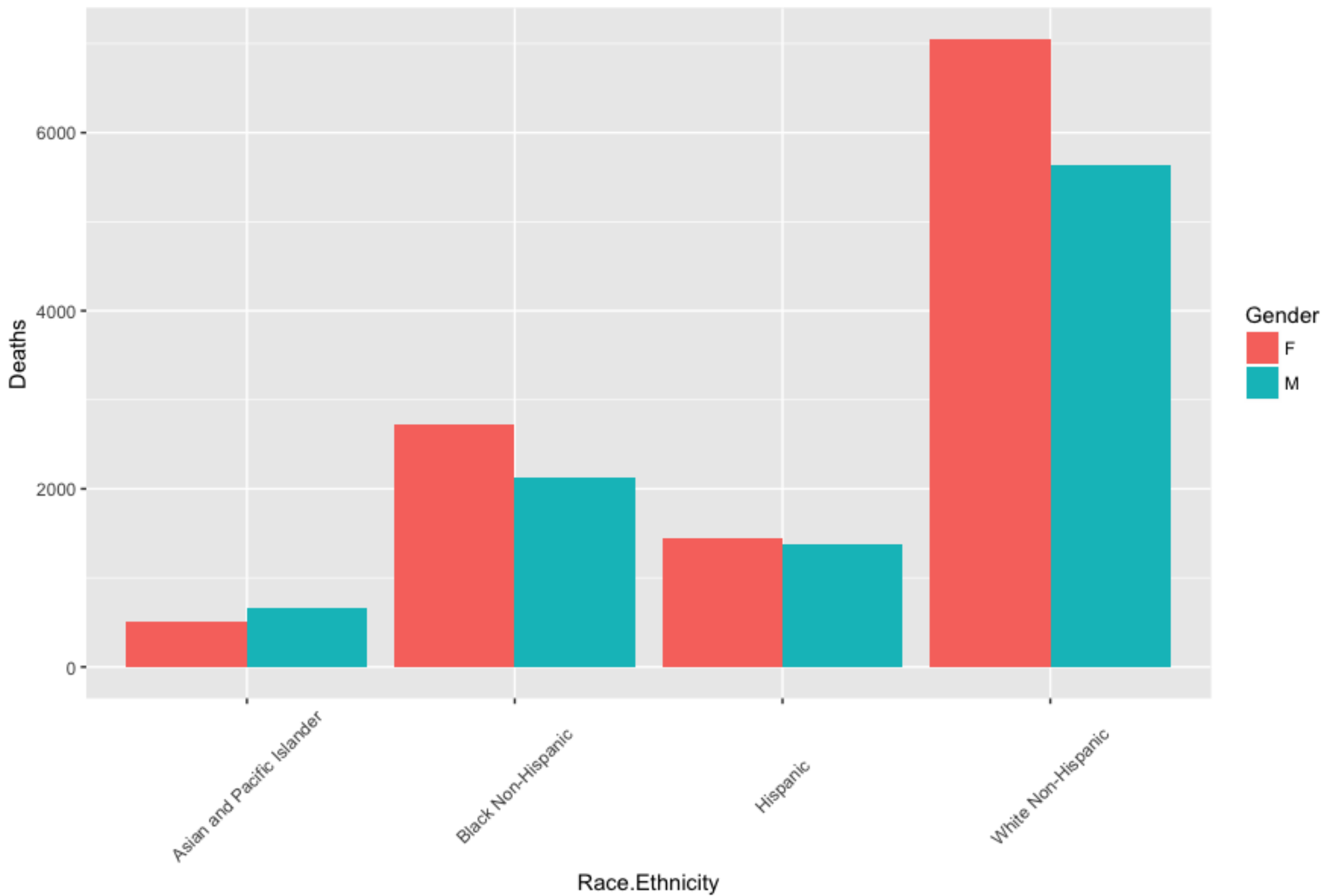
**Table 1:** Total Number of Deaths per Race Ethnicity in NYC. More White Non-Hispanic have been killed compared to the other race ethnic groups



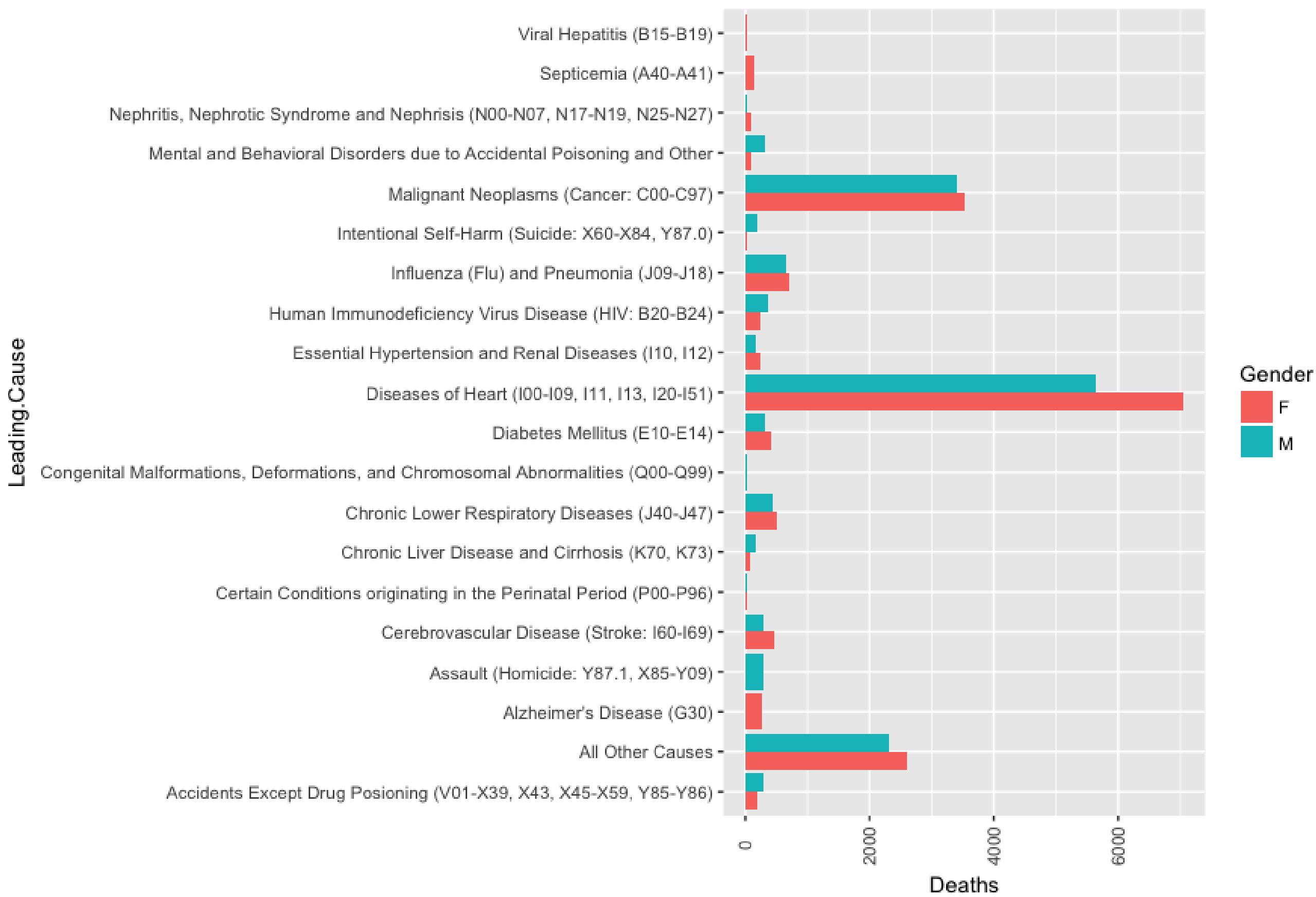
**Figure 1:** Percentage of Total Deaths per Race Ethnicity in NYC. More White Non-Hispanic have been killed compared to the other race ethnic groups



**Figure 2:** Deaths per Race Ethnicity and Gender in NYC. The number of people who had died from diseases in New York City had noticeably decreased



**Figure 3:** Yearly Deaths per Gender. Overall more more white female have died than men.



**Figure 4:** Leading Causes of Deaths. Diseases of Heart, Malignant Neoplasms and Other Causes are the deadliest diseases. More White female have died from Heart Disease

### Conclusions

Asian and Pacific Islander are the healthiest people in NYC. Overall far more people (mostly women), the vast majority of whom are White Non-Hispanic (more than twice of the numbers for the other Ethnicities), had died from DISEASES OF HEART, MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS and Other Causes during that period of time in NYC. In fact, according to the CDC, there are more people in NYC dying from DISEASES OF HEART than the rest of the US states combined. Leading a healthy lifestyle (avoiding tobacco use, being physically active, and eating well) greatly reduces a persons risk for developing chronic disease. Access to high-quality and affordable prevention measures (including screening and appropriate follow-up) are essential steps in saving lives, reducing disability and lowering costs for medical care[2] [1]

### References

[1] cdc.gov. Heart disease facts, feb 2017. <http://www.cdc.gov>.  
[2] data.cityofnewyork.us. New york city leading causes of death, feb 2015. <https://data.cityofnewyork.us/api/views/jb7j-dtam>.