

# The situation of noncommunicable diseases in the Pacific

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# NCD crisis in the Pacific

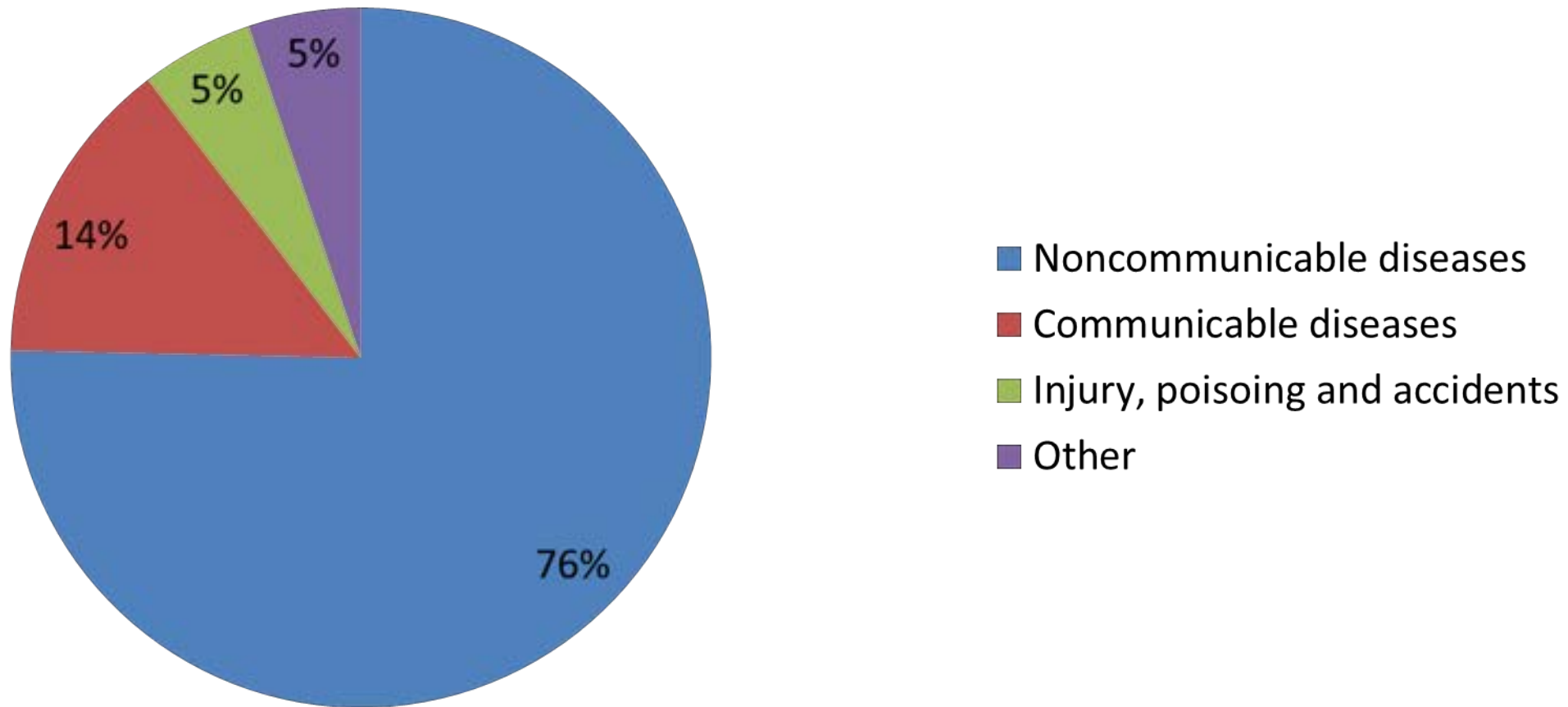




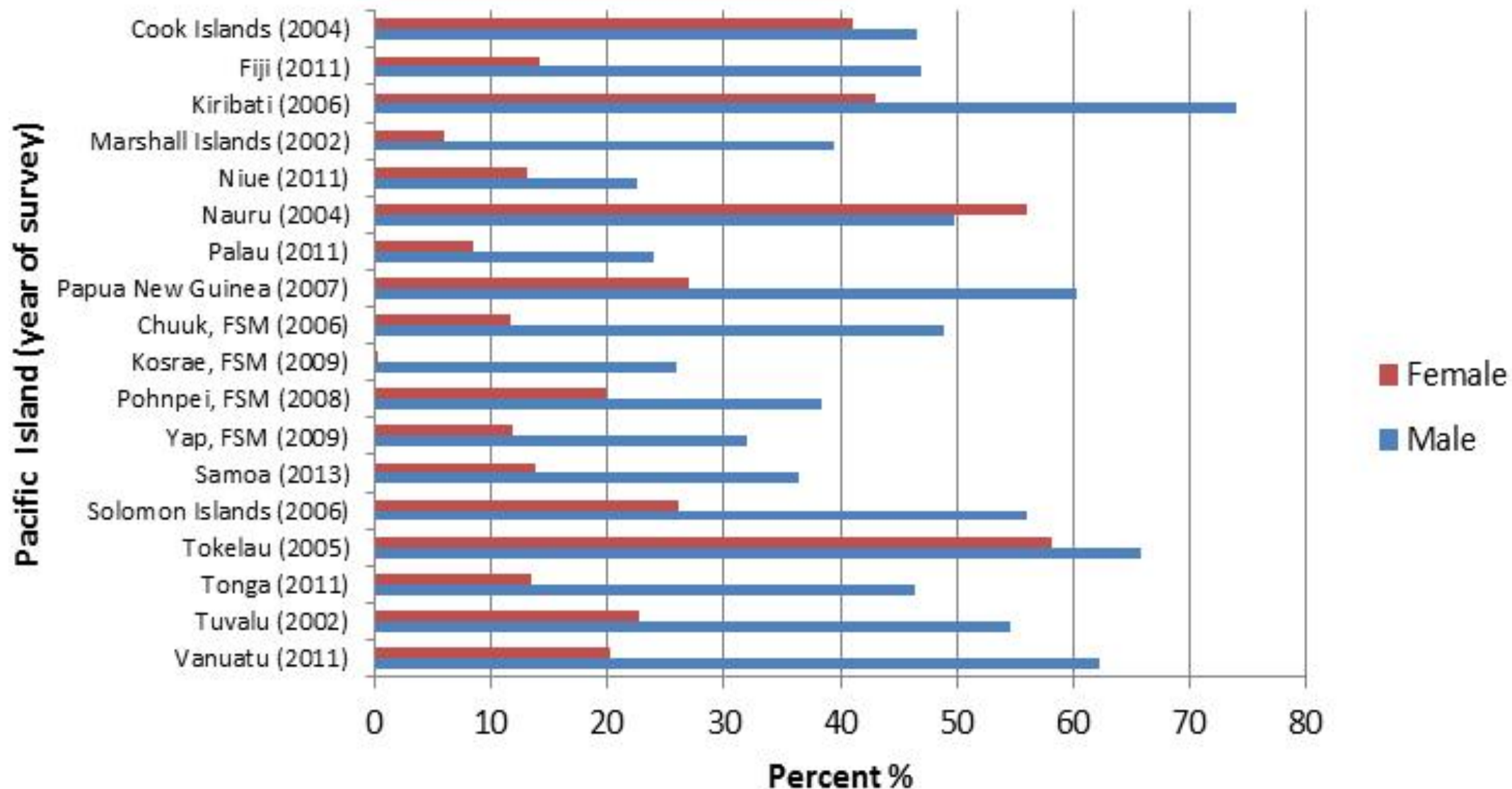




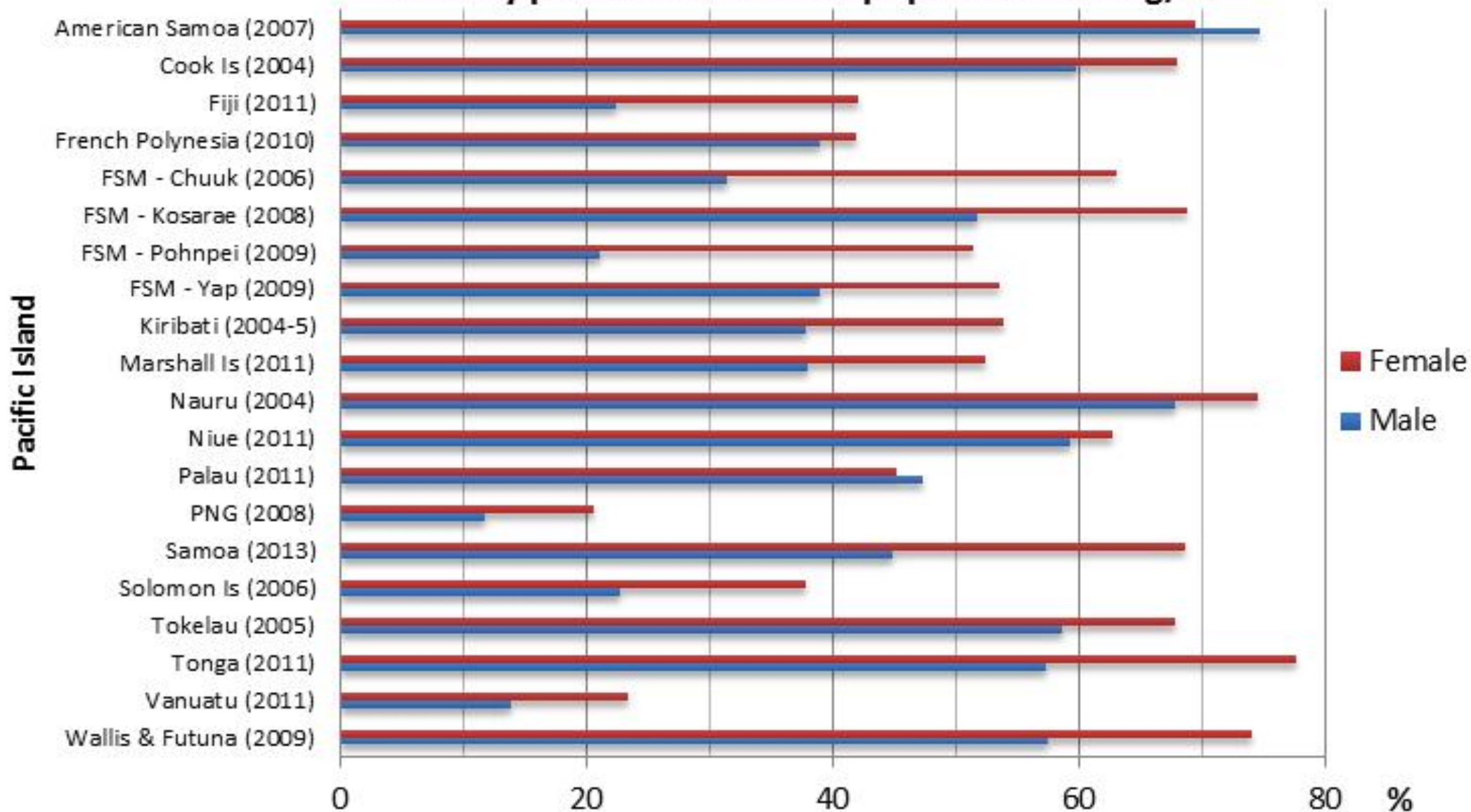
# Causes of death in the Pacific



## Current adult smoking prevalence, various years

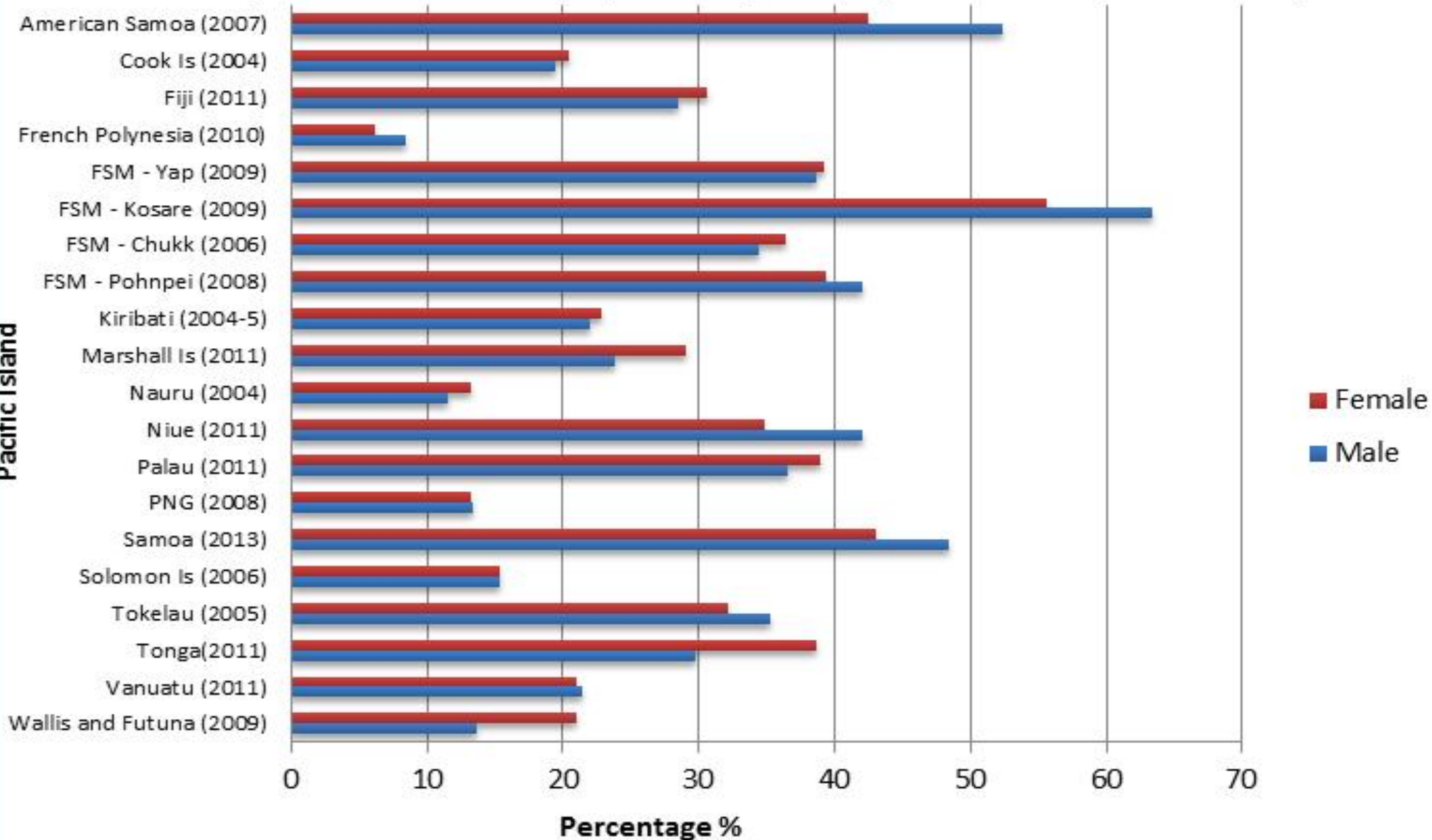


## Obesity prevalence of adult population $\geq 30\text{kg/m}^2$



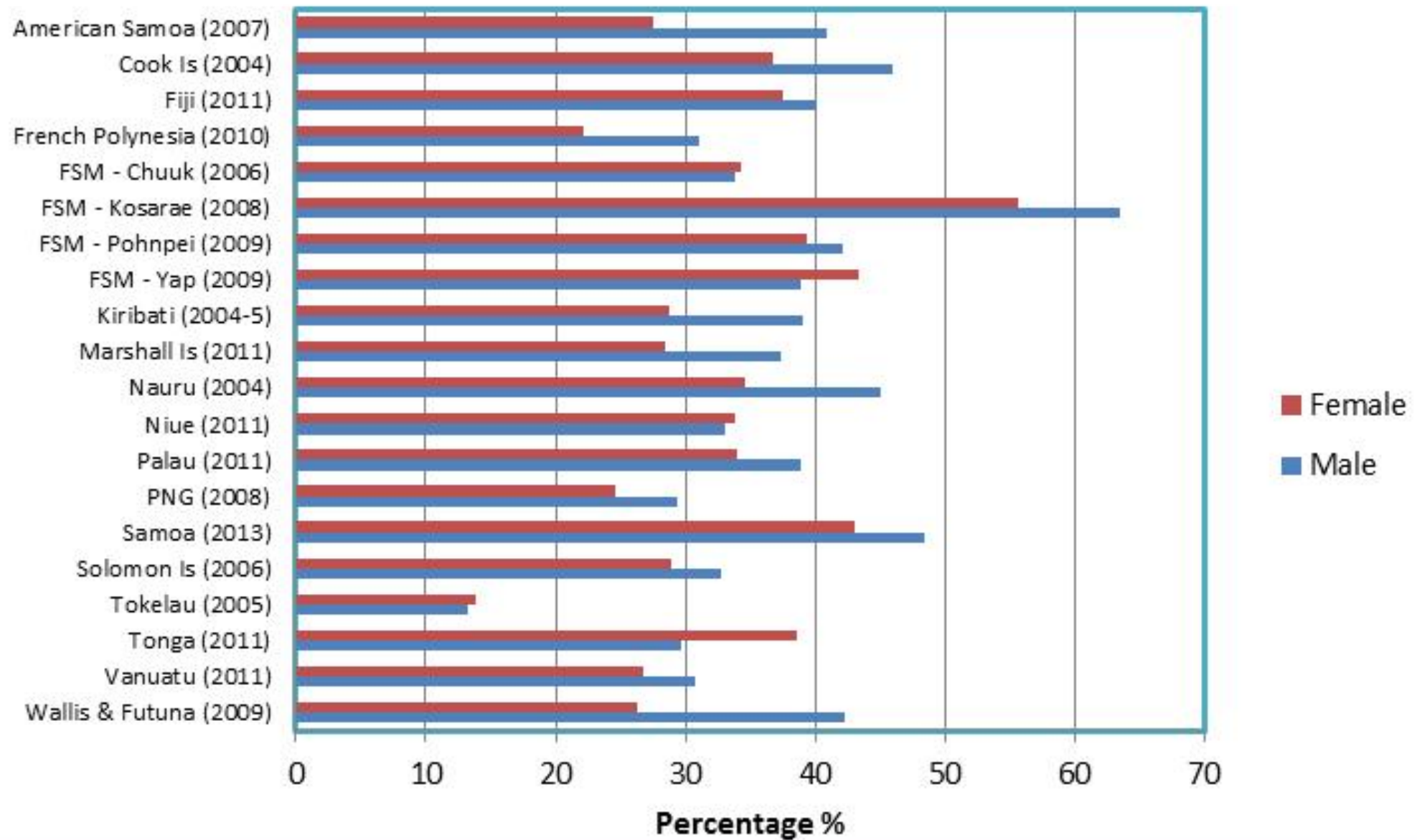
## Diabetes prevalence of adult population (STEPS - year of survey in brackets)

Pacific Island



# Raised blood pressure (SBP $\geq$ 140 and/or DBP $\geq$ 90 mmHg or currently on medication for raised BP)

Pacific Island



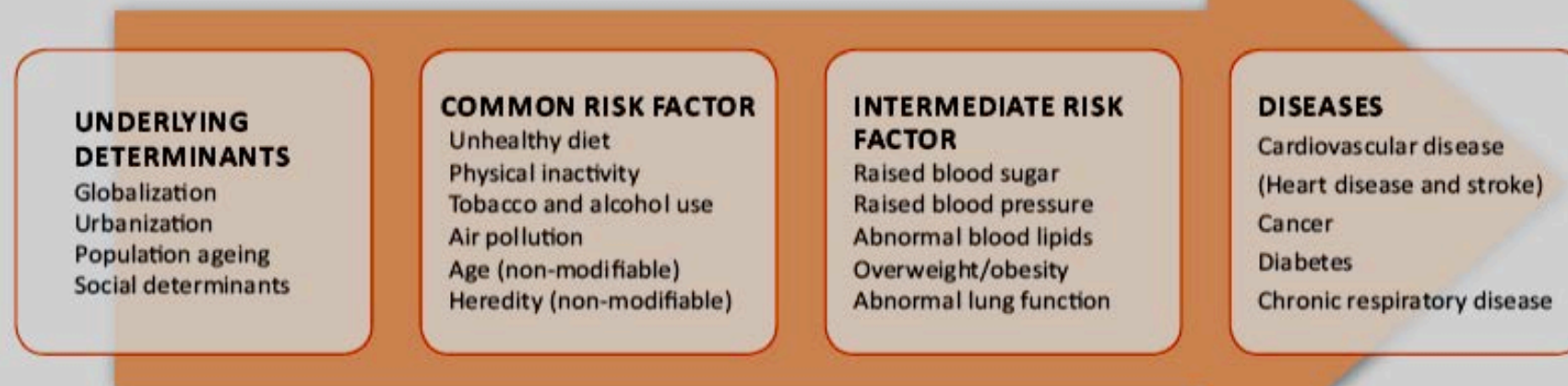


# Consequences of NCD crisis

- 1 in 10 Diabetes Mellitus patients have an amputation
  - ~1 per day in Fiji
  - Kiribati the highest amputation rates in the world
- Diabetes retinopathy is the leading cause of adult blindness
  - Total blindness at 30yrs
- Weak economies can't cope with the burden
  - Serious macro and micro-economic challenges
- Great social and human costs
  - Children don't go to school
  - Women leave work



**Figure 1. The causation pathway for chronic diseases**



Source: Adapted from *Preventing Chronic Disease: a Vital Investment*. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2005.

## Environment

- Policy & legislation
- Built Environment
- Partnership

## Lifestyle

- Behavioural
- Communication
- Built environment

## Clinical

- Screening
- Treatment
- Acute & chronic care

## Advocacy and Surveillance

**Whole of govt**

**Health System**



# The way forward is clear

- Tobacco free Pacific 2025
  - Legislation and enforcement (FCTC compliance)
  - Tobacco taxation
- Double-burden malnutrition
  - Salt reduction
  - Obesity prevention
  - Tackle micronutrient deficiency and anaemia
- Package of Essential NCD interventions (PEN)
  - Strengthening primary health care to better address NCD crisis
- NCD monitoring and surveillance across age groups



# Key challenges

- Turn high-level political commitment into action on the ground
- Develop effective multisectoral approaches
- Build appropriate in-country institutional and human resource capacity to take action
- Establish effective monitoring and surveillance mechanisms
- Mobilize resources





# Thank you



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