

The situation of noncommunicable diseases in the Pacific

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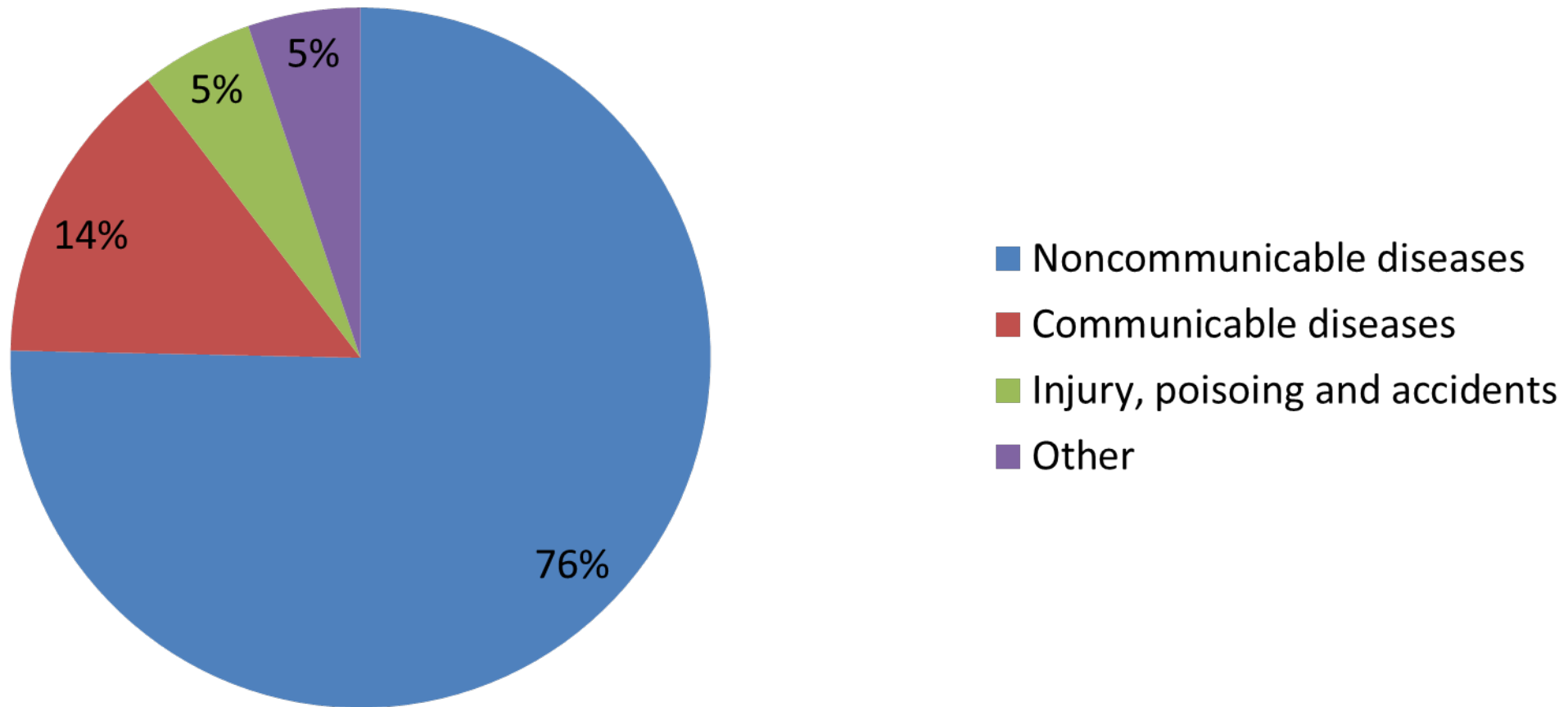
Bremen, Germany 9-11 September 2014

NCD crisis in the Pacific

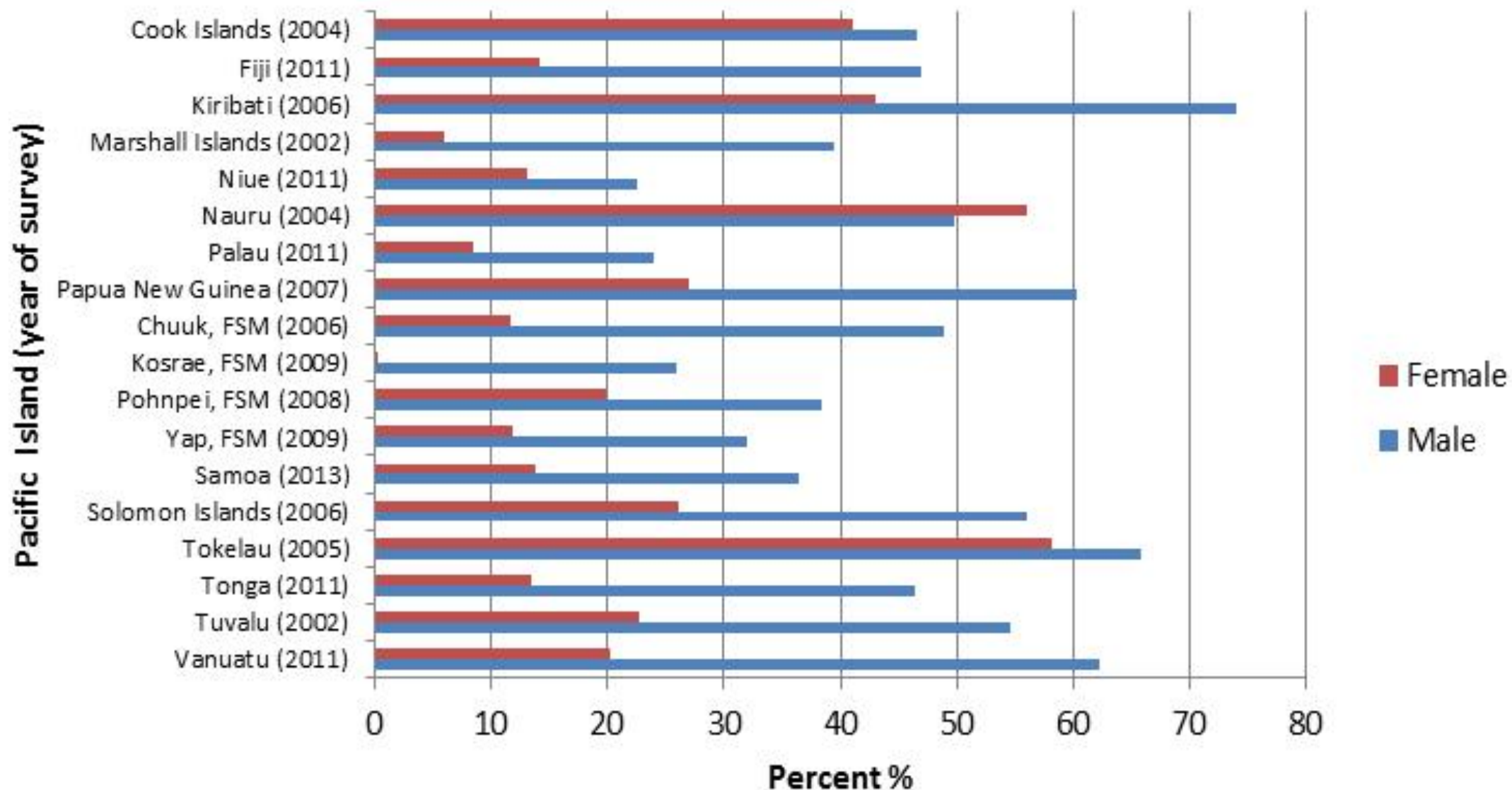




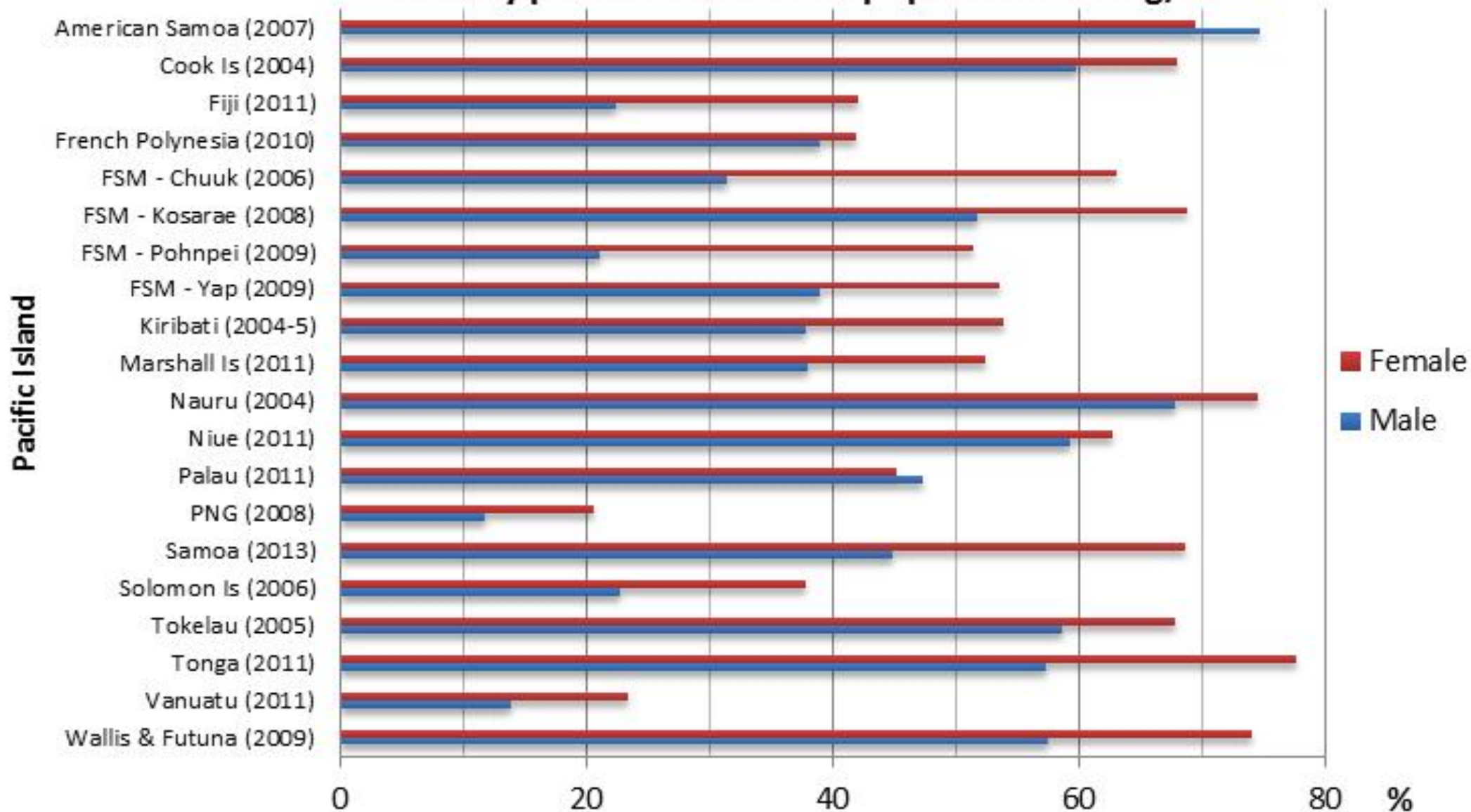
Causes of death in the Pacific



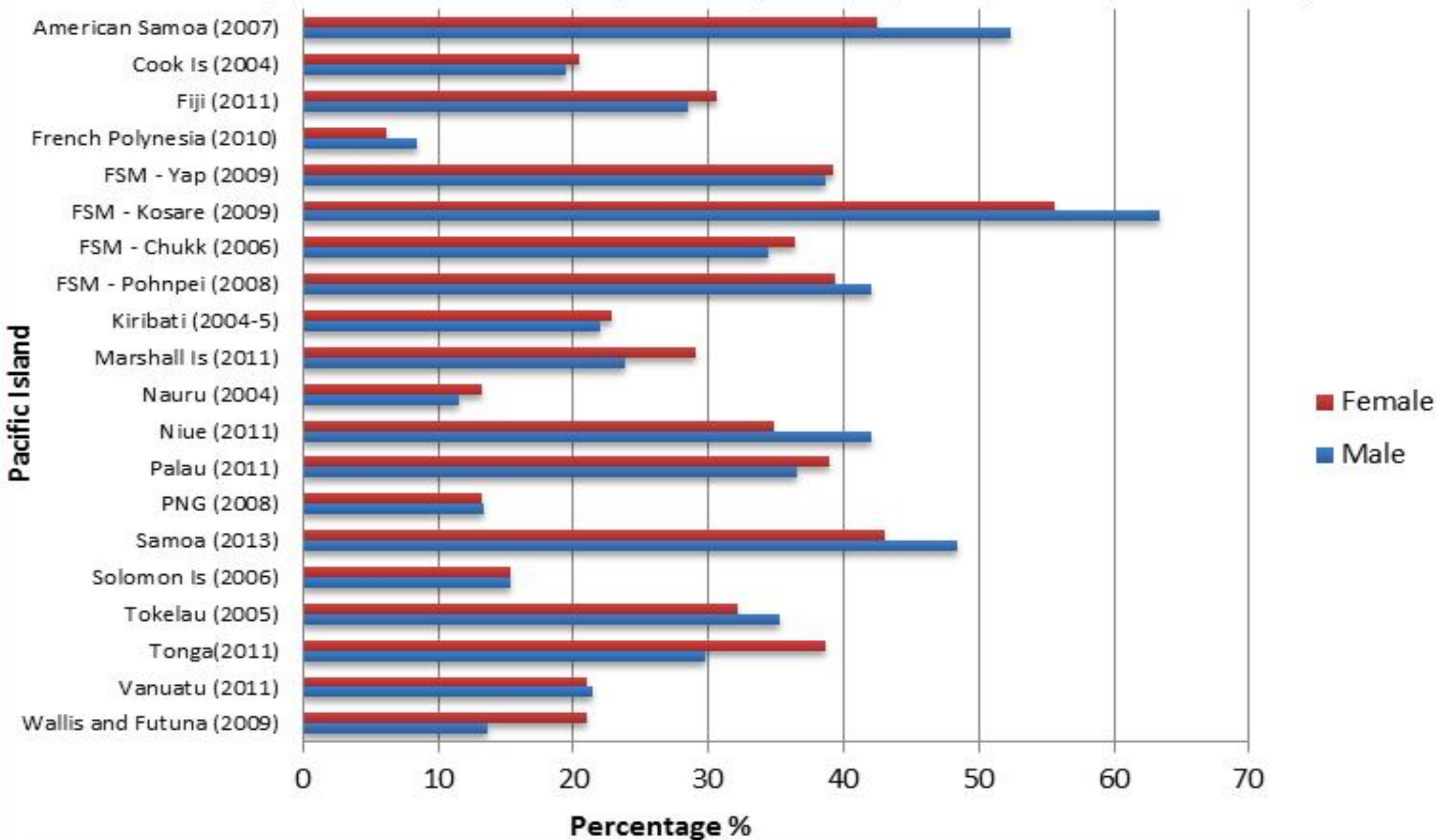
Current adult smoking prevalence, various years



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



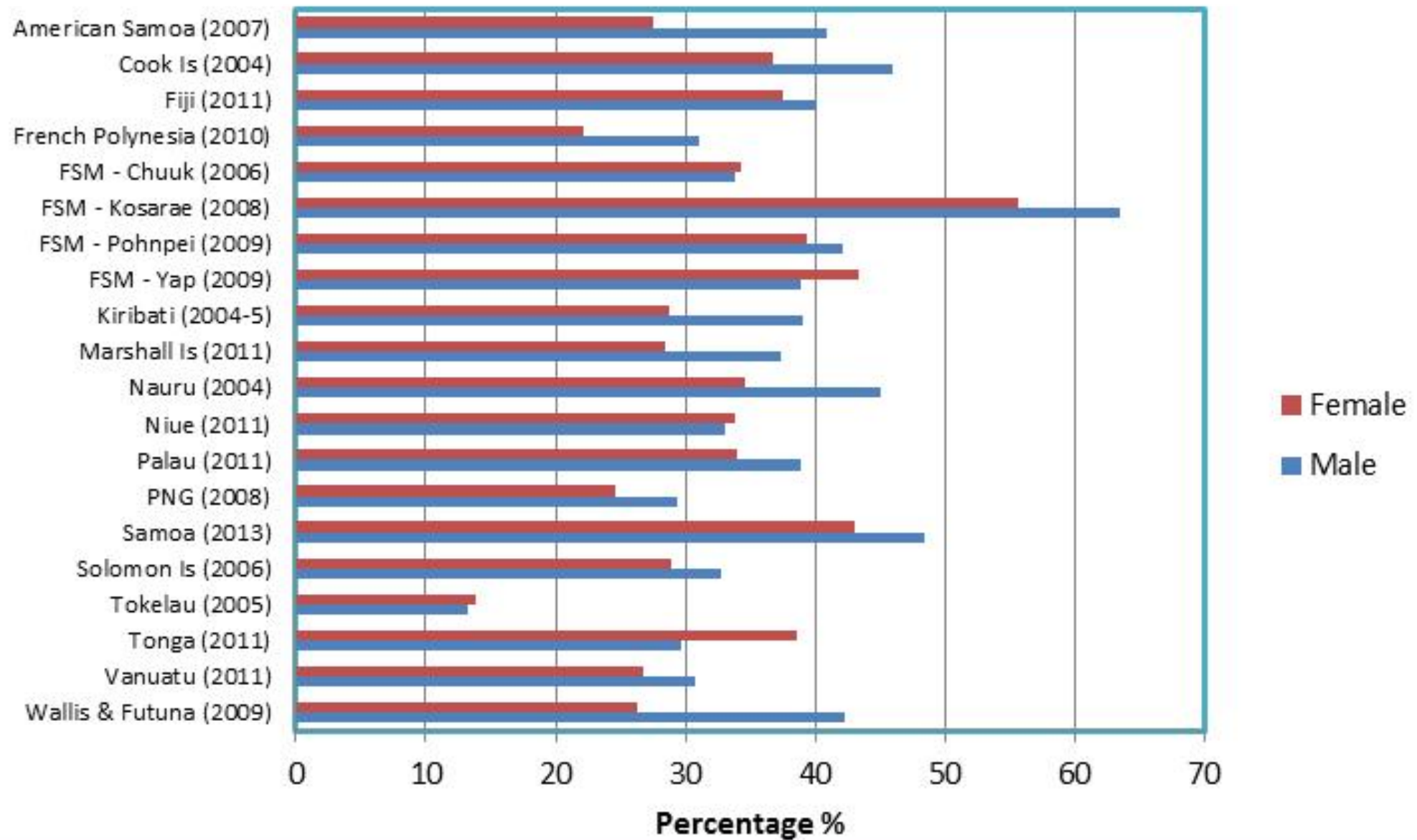
Diabetes prevalence of adult population (STEPS - year of survey in brackets)



Raised blood pressure

(SBP \geq 140 and/or DBP \geq 90 mmHg or currently on medication for raised BP)

Pacific Island

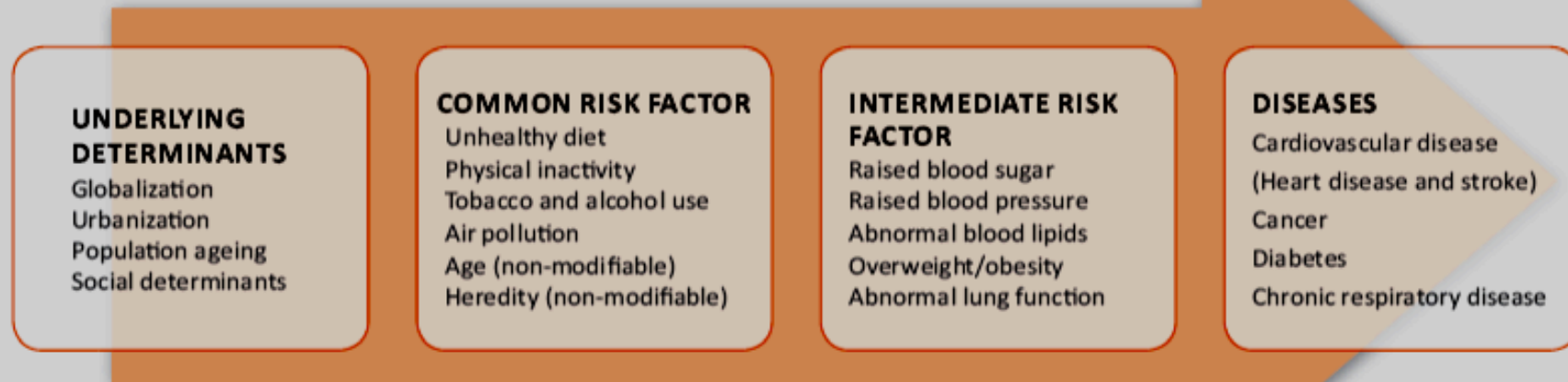


Consequences of NCD crisis

- 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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