



Demographic Characteristics Associated with Past-Year Hallucinogen Use Amongst 2024 NSDUH Respondents



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Introduction

- Hallucinogen use has become a more visible part of substance use in the United States, with millions of adults reporting past-year use and growing public attention around substances like LSD, psilocybin, and other psychedelics.
- Prior research has shown that hallucinogen use differs across demographic groups, with patterns varying by sex, race/ethnicity, age, and other social characteristics.
- Even with that earlier research, there is still a need for updated work using recent national data to better understand how hallucinogen use is distributed across demographic groups in the U.S.
- This study focuses on whether sex and race/ethnicity are associated with past-year hallucinogen use among 2024 NSDUH respondents.

Methods

Sample

- Data came from the 2024 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), an annual, nationally representative survey of the civilian, noninstitutionalized U.S. population ages 12 and older.
- The analytic sample included 58,633 respondents with valid data.

Measures

- The main outcome variable was past-year hallucinogen use. Respondents who reported using hallucinogens one or more days in the past 12 months were coded as 1, and those who reported no past-year use were coded as 0.
- The main explanatory variables were sex and race/ethnicity. Both variables were treated as categorical in the analysis.
- Responses such as “don’t know,” refusal, blank responses, or logically assigned bad data were treated as missing and excluded from the analysis.

Research Questions

- Which demographic characteristics are associated with past-year hallucinogen use among 2024 NSDUH respondents?
- More specifically, how are sex and race/ethnicity related to past-year hallucinogen use?

Results

Bivariate

- A chi-square test showed a significant relationship between sex and past-year hallucinogen use ($p < .001$).
- About 4.84% of males reported past-year hallucinogen use, compared to 3.29% of females.
- This suggests that males were more likely than females to report hallucinogen use in the past year.

Multivariate

- A logistic regression was used to examine how sex and race/ethnicity were associated with past-year hallucinogen use.
- Females had lower odds of past-year hallucinogen use than males (OR = 0.66, $p < .001$), meaning females had about 34% lower odds of use than males.
- Compared to White respondents, Black (OR = 0.50, $p < .001$), Native American (OR = 0.64, $p = .010$), Asian (OR = 0.45, $p < .001$), and Hispanic (OR = 0.66, $p < .001$) respondents had lower odds of past-year hallucinogen use.
- Differences for Native Pacific Islander respondents (OR = 0.76, $p = .385$) and multiracial respondents (OR = 1.15, $p = .104$) were not statistically significant.

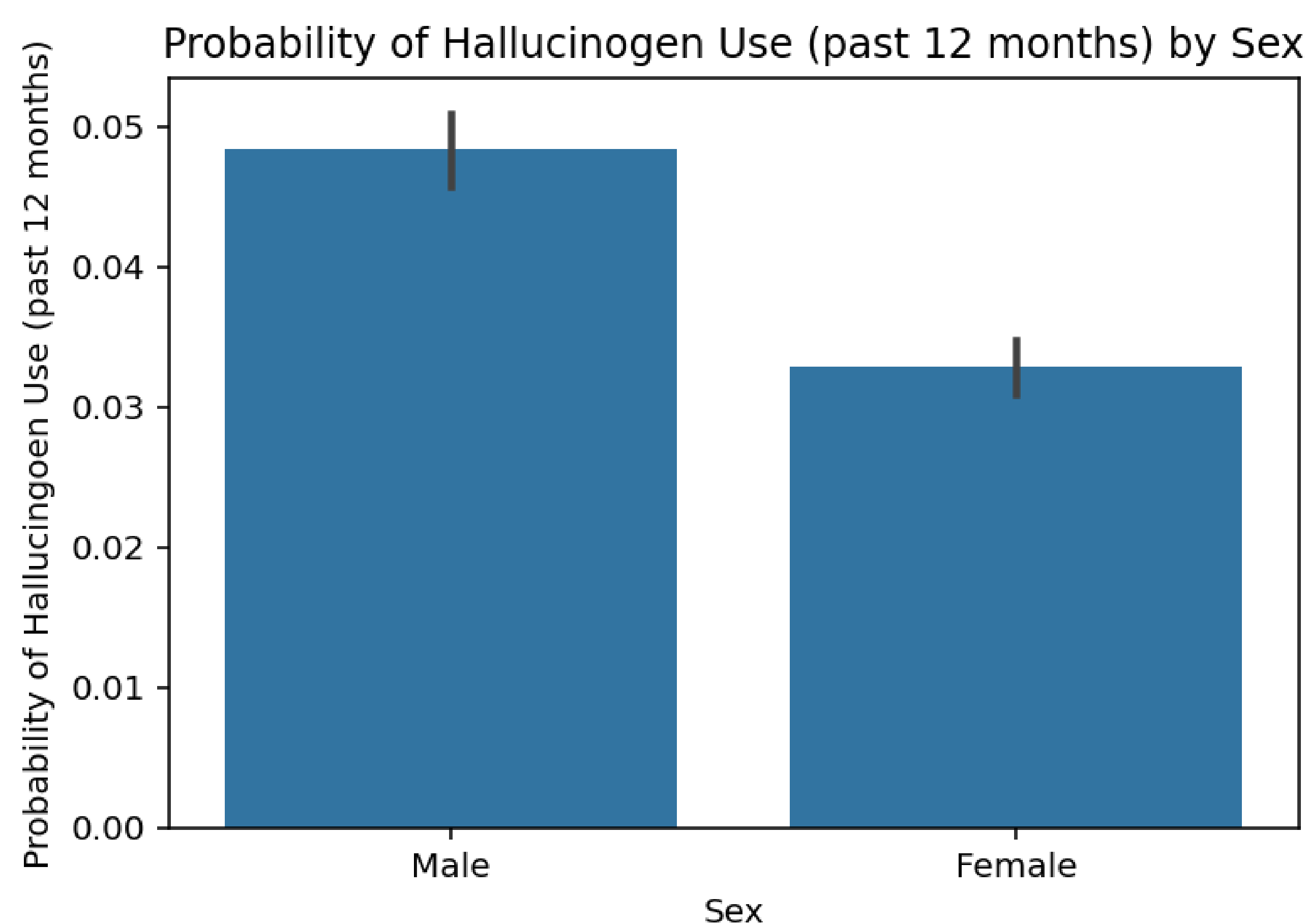


Figure 1. Past-Year Hallucinogen Use by Sex

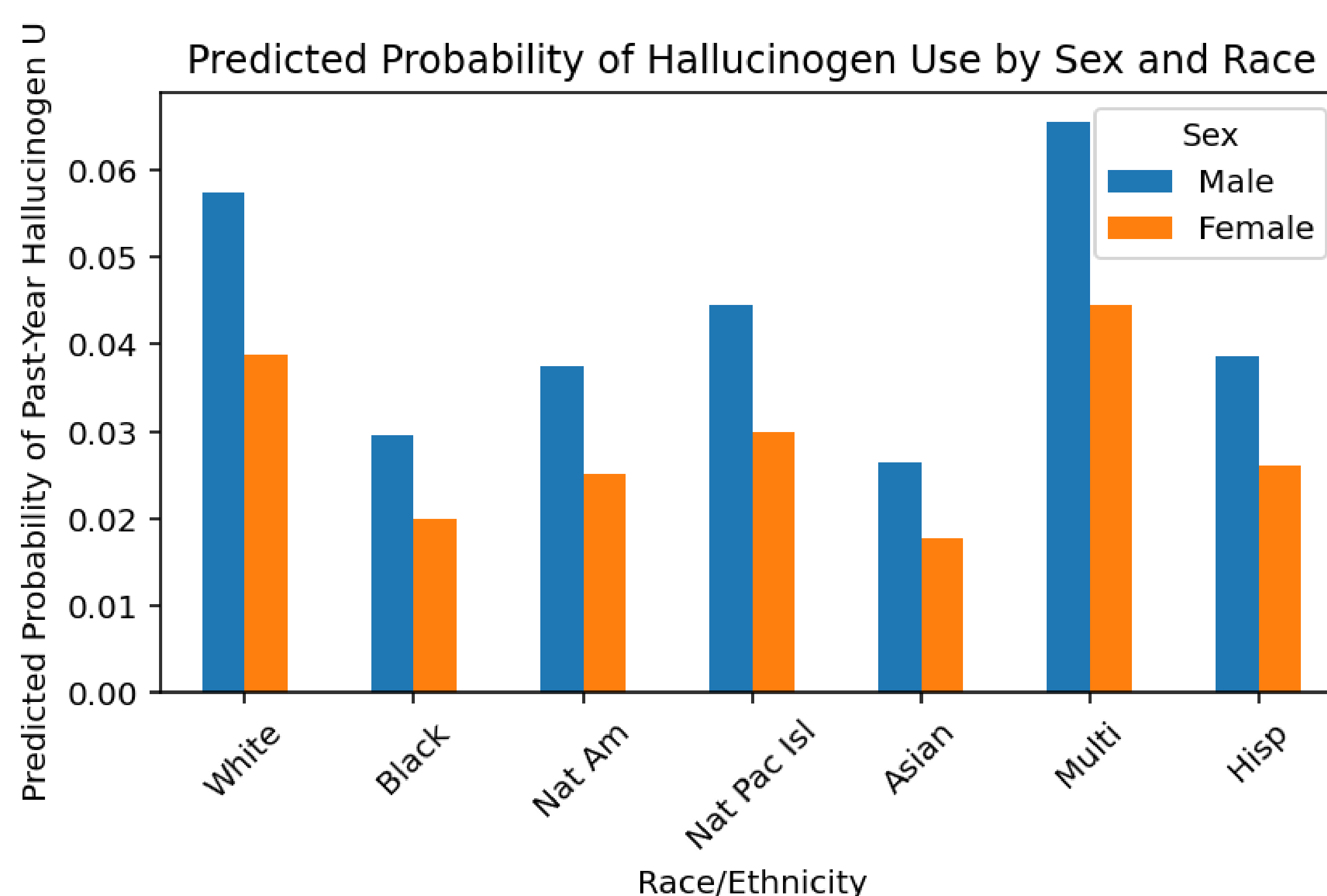


Figure 2: Predicted Probability of Past-Year Hallucinogen Use by Sex and Race/Ethnicity

Discussion

- The results showed that past-year hallucinogen use differed by sex and race/ethnicity, with males generally reporting higher use than females and several racial/ethnic groups showing lower odds of use than White respondents.
- These findings help show that hallucinogen use is not evenly distributed across demographic groups and may be useful for understanding broader patterns of substance use in the United States.
- This information could help guide future public health education or prevention efforts by showing which groups may be more or less likely to report recent use.
- Future research could include other variables like age, education, and income to give a more complete picture of what factors are associated with past-year hallucinogen use.