COVID Death Demographics by Ethnicity

New Jersey tabulates death by ethnic groups on the COVID Dashboard. By themselves they are not that revealing.

	Deaths
White	53.3%
Hisp	19.4%
Black	18.5%
Asian	5.4%
Other	3.4%

It's when you compare them to the population demographics you begin to learn something. If all things were equal, we'd expect the % population to equal the % of deaths. It does not.

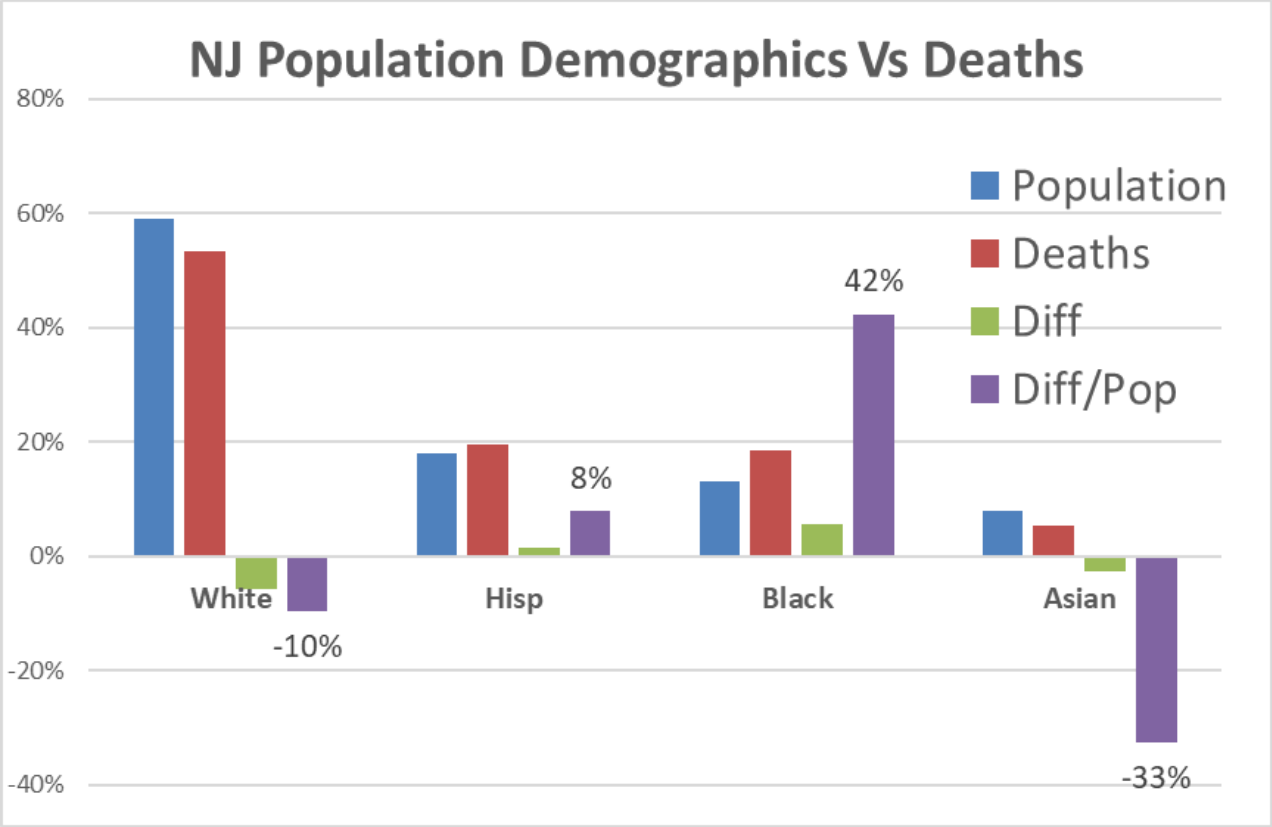
	Population	Deaths	Difference
White	59%	53.3%	-6%
Hisp	18%	19.4%	1%
Black	13%	18.5%	6%
Asian	8%	5.4%	-3%
Other	2%	3.4%	1.4%

Death amongst Whites is 6% lower than expected. Hispanic slightly higher, Blacks higher and Asian lower. Other is higher. If you've been reading my posts you know the next question is, "Is it statistically significant?" Here's a first, I don't know how to the calculate the statistics on this and neither do a couple of smart people I asked.

One suggested I compare the % difference to the % population of each. That's when the answer pops out. I divided the difference by the population, and I get the following table.

	Population	Deaths	Diff	Diff/Pop
White	59%	53.3%	-6%	-10%
Hisp	18%	19.4%	1%	8%
Black	13%	18.5%	6%	42%
Asian	8%	5.4%	-3%	-33%
Other	2%	3.4%	1.4%	70%

Here's a case where you don't need statistics to tell. Death amongst African Americans is 42% higher than you'd expect. The lower Asian death is likely largely due to the relatively small percentage of the population. The same for the "Other" group. A small number thing. Here's the plot. I left "Other" off for clarity.



The Diff/Pop is comparing the size of the green bar to the size of the blue bar. It's saying, all things being equal death amongst Blacks from COVID is 42% higher in NJ than we'd expect. I have no data for Franklin (though I've asked) but I've no reason to think it is any different.