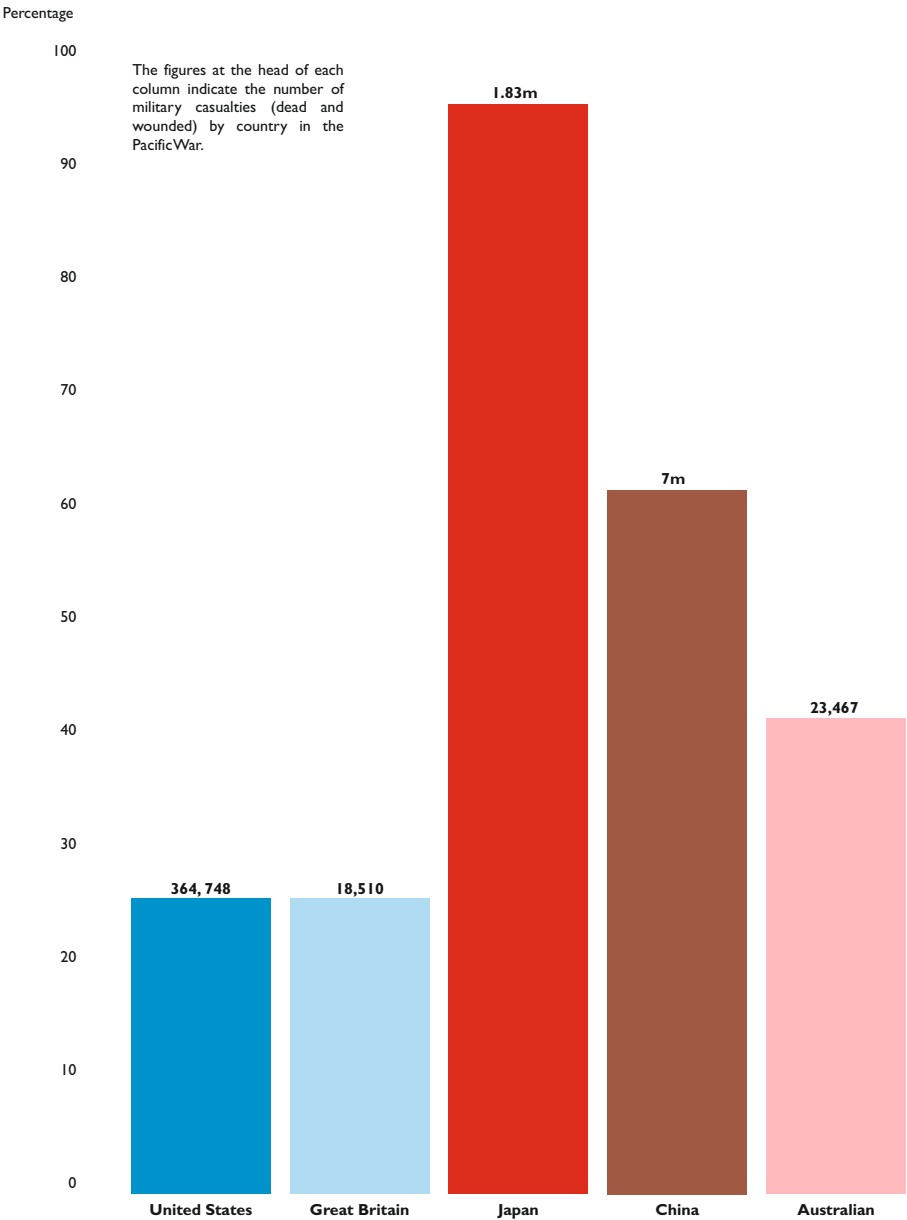


Ratio of Dead as a Percentage of Casualties in the Pacific War

Chart: E.2



The significant disparity in the kill ratio as a percentage of casualties reflects both a cultural difference between Japan and the west and also a logistical difference. Japan developed a death cult in the 1930s which made the government and society largely indifferent to the fate of individual combatants. Secondly Japan's armed forces failed to develop logistical capability to either feed its troops or care for them when they were wounded. Even China, with a GDP per capita less than 20% of Japan performed better with regard to casualties. The relatively high Australia death rates compared to the other Anglo-Saxon countries probably reflects the jungle conditions in which they fought where the provision of medical care for logistical reasons was very difficult particularly in the first full year of the war when Australian military participation was at its peak.

n.b. Casualties not including prisoners of war