

China



Country report card - adults

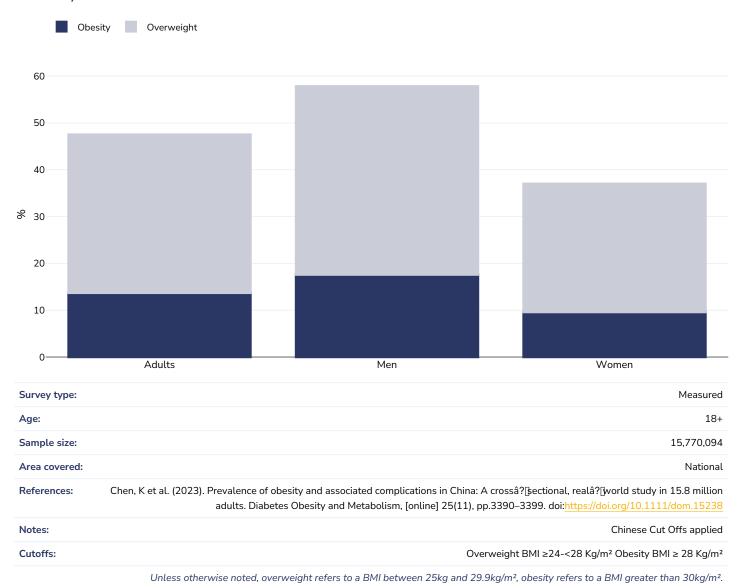
This report card contains the latest data available on the Global Obesity Observatory on overweight and obesity for adults. Where available, data on common and relevant obesity drivers and comorbidities are also presented.



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Obesity prevalence

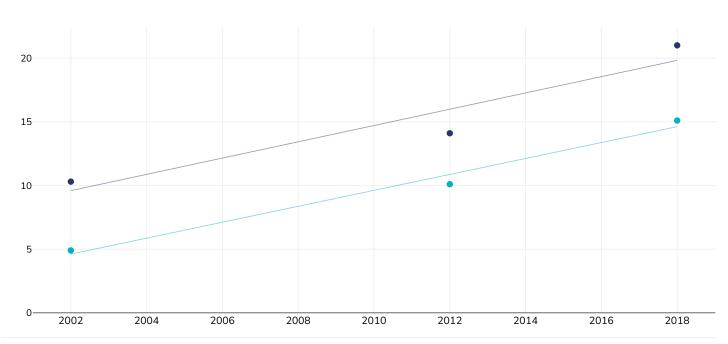




% Adults living with obesity, 2002-2019

Men





Survey type: Measured

References:

Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809

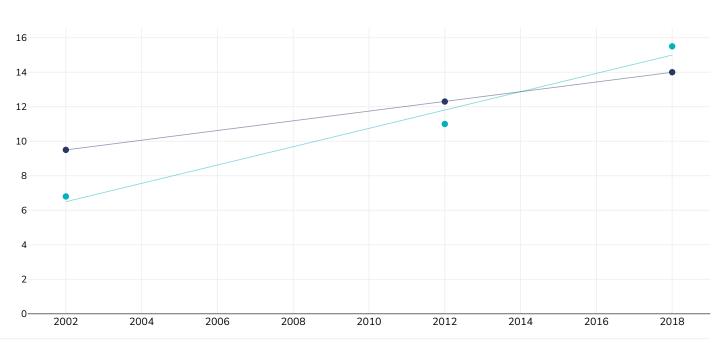
Definitions:

Overweight BMI ≥24-<28 Kg/m² Obesity BMI ≥ 28 Kg/m²



Women





Survey type: Measured

References:

Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809

Definitions:

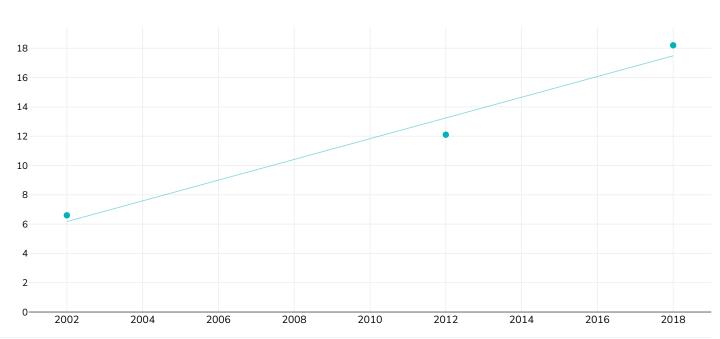
Overweight BMI ≥24-<28 Kg/m² Obesity BMI ≥ 28 Kg/m²



% Adults living with obesity, 2002-2019

Men

Obesity



References:

Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809

Definitions:

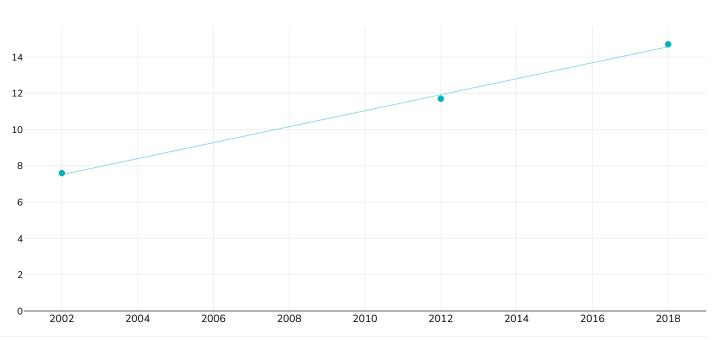
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Women

Obesity



References:

Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809

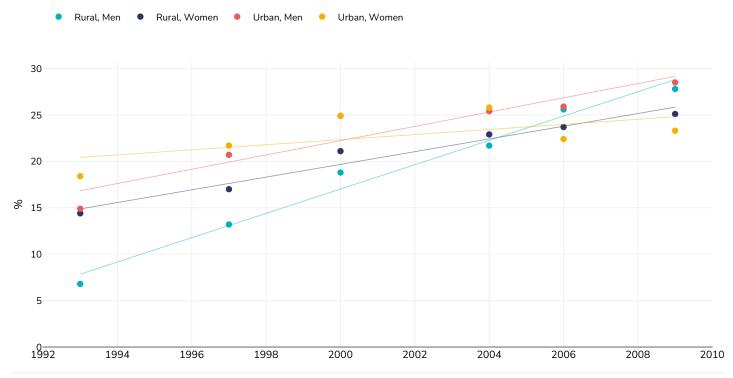
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 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$



% Adults living with overweight or obesity by urbanisation in China 1993-2009



Survey type: Measured

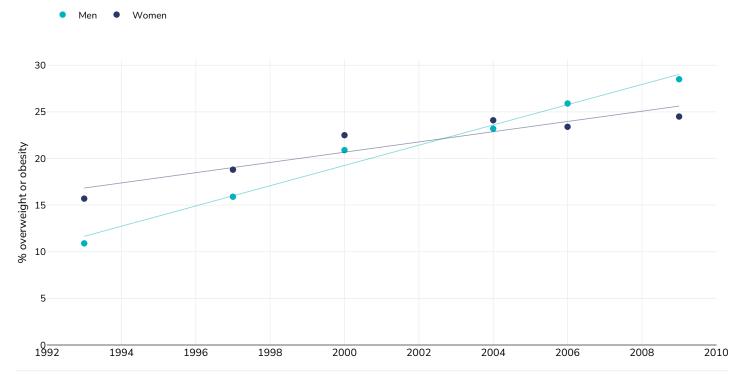
References:

Xi, B., Liang, Y., He, T., Reilly, K. H., Hu, Y., Wang, Q., Yan, Y. and Mi, J. (2012), Secular trends in the prevalence of general and abdominal obesity among Chinese adults, 1993-2009. Obesity Reviews, 13: 287-296. doi: 10.1111/j.1467-789X.2011.00944.x

Unless otherwise noted, overweight refers to a BMI between 25kg and 29.9kg/m², obesity refers to a BMI greater than 30kg/m².



% Adults living with overweight or obesity in China 1993-2009



Survey type: Measured

References:

Xi, B., Liang, Y., He, T., Reilly, K. H., Hu, Y., Wang, Q., Yan, Y. and Mi, J. (2012), Secular trends in the prevalence of general and abdominal obesity among Chinese adults, 1993-2009. Obesity Reviews, 13: 287-296. doi: 10.1111/j.1467-789X.2011.00944.x

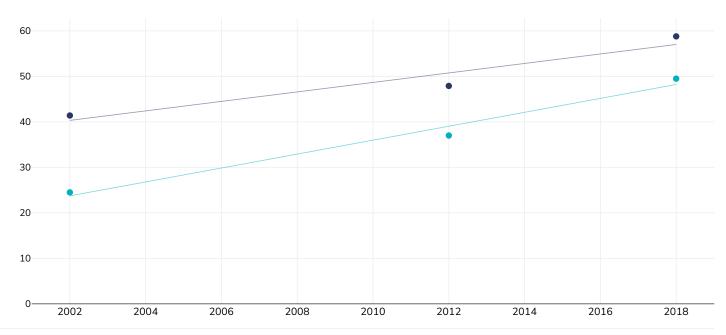
 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$



% Adults living with overweight or obesity, 2002-2019

Men

Overweight or obesity, Rural
 Overweight or obesity, Urban



Survey type: Measured

References:

Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809

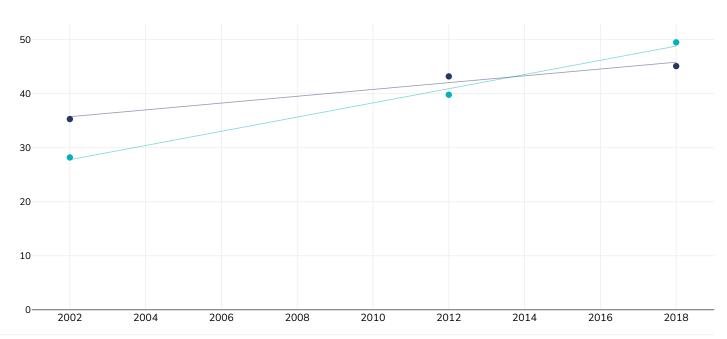
Definitions:

Overweight BMI ≥24-<28 Kg/m² Obesity BMI ≥ 28 Kg/m²



Women





Survey type: Measured

References:

Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809

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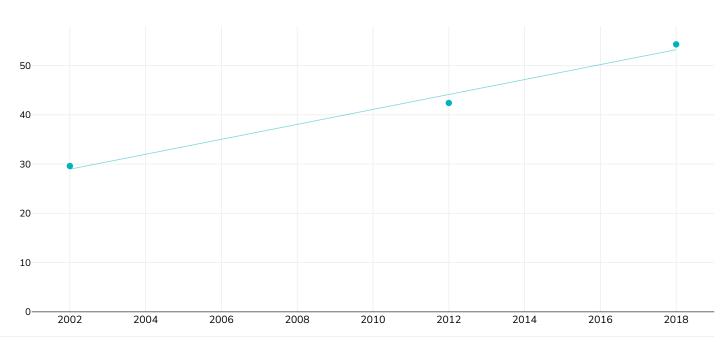
Overweight BMI ≥24-<28 Kg/m² Obesity BMI ≥ 28 Kg/m²



% Adults living with overweight or obesity, 2002-2019

Men

Overweight or obesity



References:

Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809

Definitions:

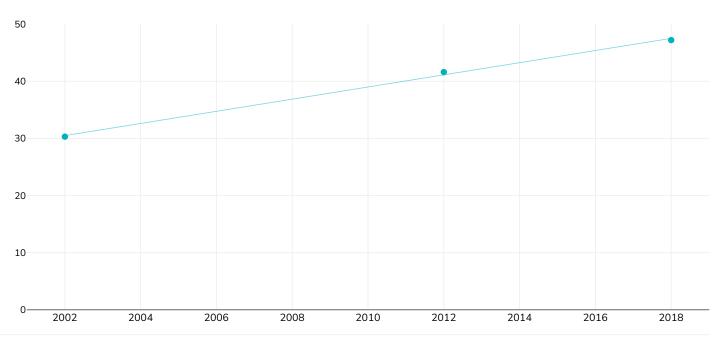
Overweight BMI ≥24-<28 Kg/m² Obesity BMI ≥ 28 Kg/m²

Unless otherwise noted, overweight refers to a BMI between 25kg and 29.9kg/m², obesity refers to a BMI greater than 30kg/m².



Women

Overweight or obesity



References:

Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809Wen Peng, Shiqi Chen and Xinguang Chen et al. Trends in major non-communicable diseases and related risk factors in China 2002–2019: an analysis of nationally representative survey data. The Lancet Regional Health: Western Pacific. 2023. Vol. 43. DOI: 10.1016/j.lanwpc.2023.100809

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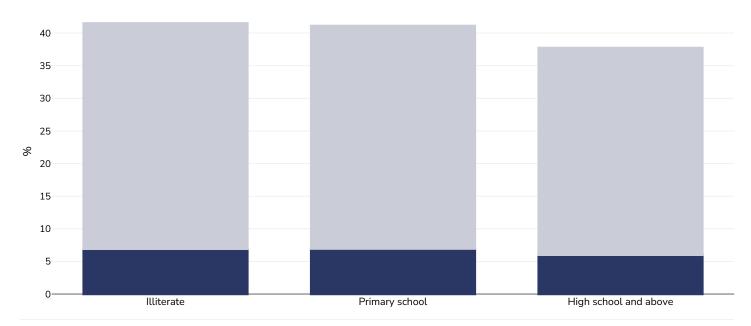
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Overweight/obesity by education

Adults, 2015





Survey type:	Measured
Age:	18-59
Sample size:	6602
Area covered:	National
References:	Huang, Q., Wang, L., Jiang, H., Wang, H., Zhang, B., Zhang, J., Jia, X. and Wang, Z., 2020. Intra-Individual Double Burden of Malnutrition among Adults in China: Evidence from the China Health and Nutrition Survey 2015. Nutrients, 12(9), p.2811.
Notes:	3699 men and 2903 women

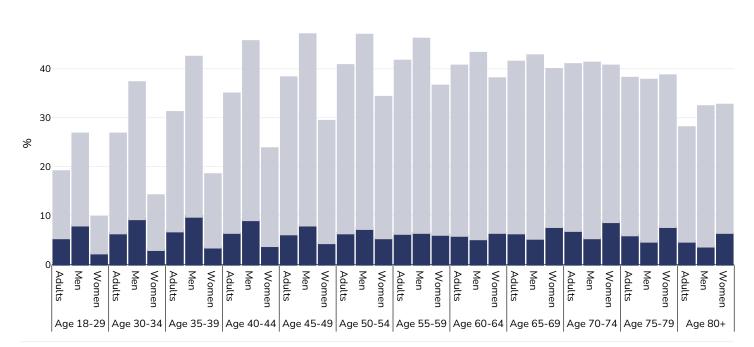
Unless otherwise noted, overweight refers to a BMI between 25kg and 29.9kg/m², obesity refers to a BMI greater than 30kg/m².



Overweight/obesity by age

Adults, 2019





Survey type: Measured

Sample size: 15,770,094

Area covered: National

References: Chen K. Shen 7. Gu W. Lyu 7. Qi X. Mu Y and Ning Y. (2023). Prevalence of obesity and associated complications in

Chen, K., Shen, Z., Gu, W., Lyu, Z., Qi, X., Mu, Y. and Ning, Y. (2023). Prevalence of obesity and associated complications in China: A crossâ?[sectional, realâ?[world study in 15.8 million adults. Diabetes Obesity and Metabolism, [online] 25(11), pp.3390–3399. doi:

 $\underline{https:/\!/doi.org/10.1111/\!dom.15238.}$

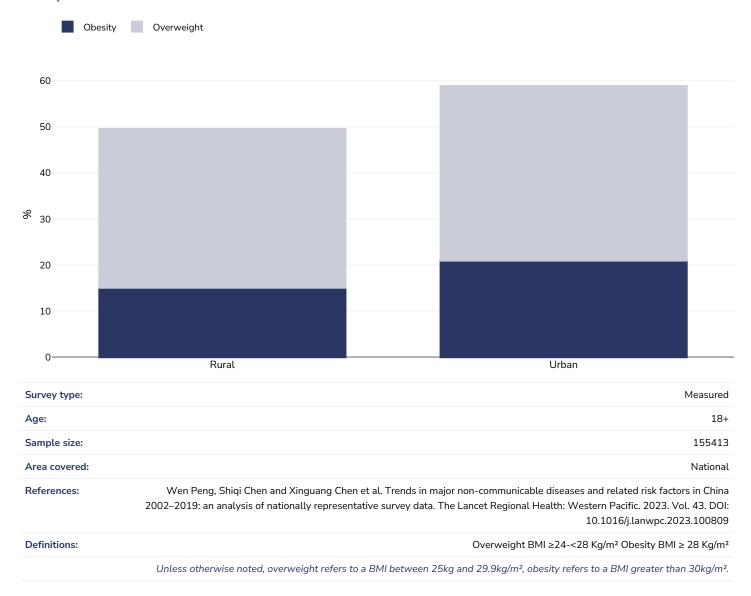
Notes: WHO Cutoffs shown to allow for international comparison. Study also reports data using Chinese cutoffs.

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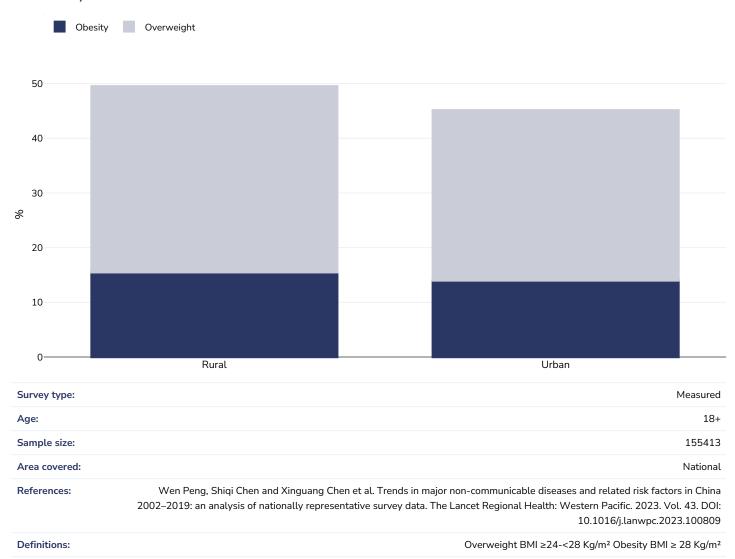
Overweight/obesity by region

Men, 2018-2019





Women, 2018-2019

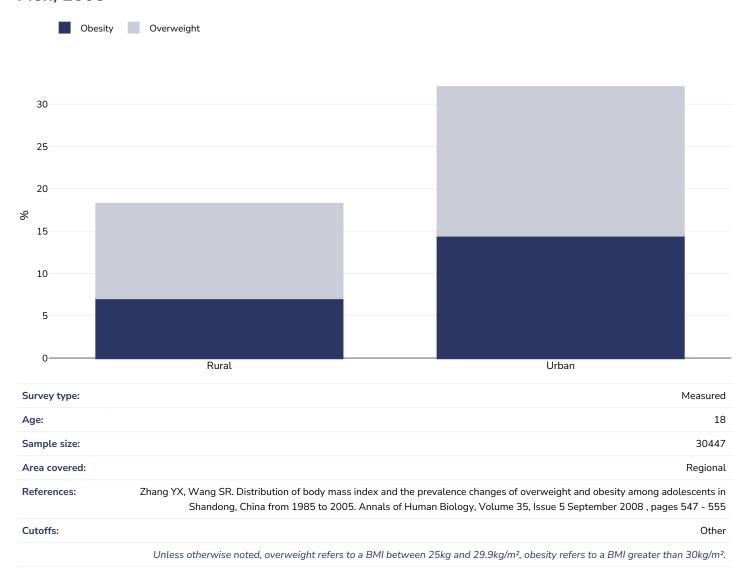


Unless otherwise noted, overweight refers to a BMI between 25kg and 29.9kg/m², obesity refers to a BMI greater than 30kg/m².



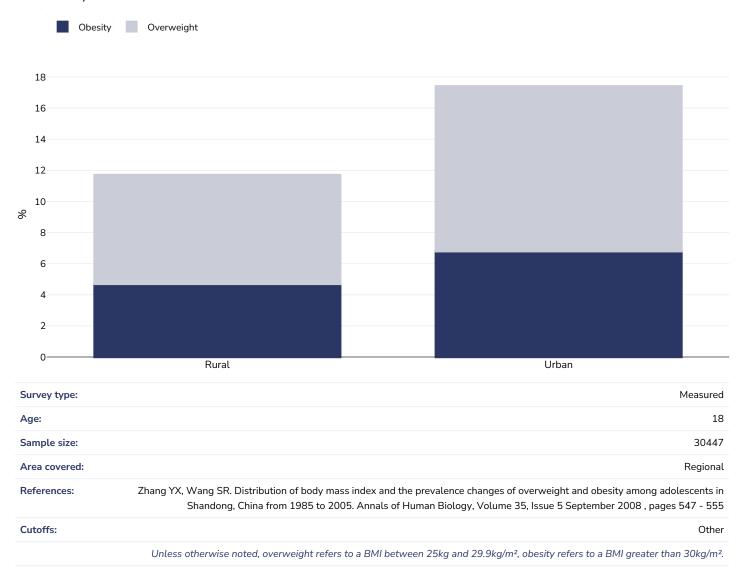
Overweight/obesity by age and region

Men, 2005





Women, 2005



Measured

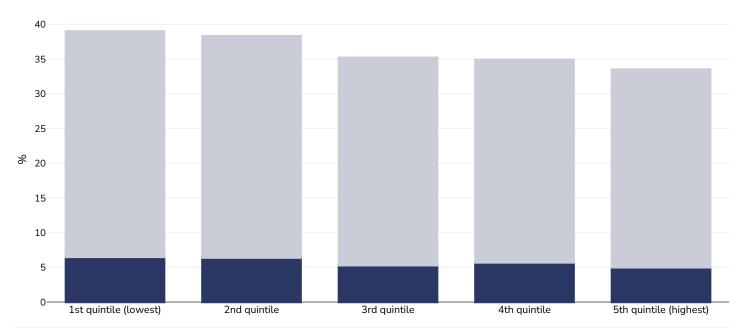


Overweight/obesity by socio-economic group

Adults, 2019

Survey type:





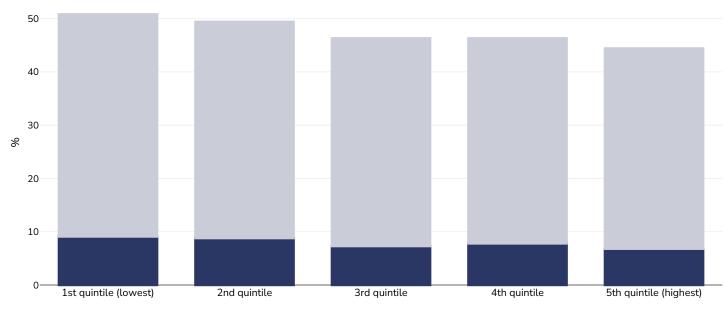
Age:	18+
Sample size:	15,770,094
Area covered:	National
References:	Chen, K. et al. 2023. Prevalence of obesity and associated complications in China: A crossâ?[sectional, realâ?[world study in 15.8 million adults. Diabetes Obesity and Metabolism, [online] 25(11), pp.3390–3399. doi: https://doi.org/10.1111/dom.15238.
Notes:	WHO Cutoffs shown to allow for international comparison. Study also reports data using Chinese cutoffs.
Definitions:	Cities in China were divided into quintiles according to the city's GDP per capita level in 2018 as follows: first quintile: CNY 15,119 to 40,817; second quintile: CNY 40,850 to 56,513; third quintile: CNY 56,636 to 75,572; fourth quintile: CNY 75,611 to 103,667; fifth quintile: CNY 103,757 to 200,022.

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Men, 2019





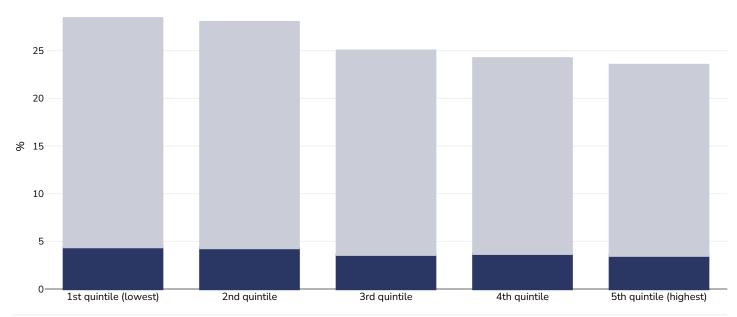
Survey type:	Measured
Age:	18+
Sample size:	15,770,094
Area covered:	National
References:	Chen, K. et al. 2023. Prevalence of obesity and associated complications in China: A crossâ?[sectional, realâ?[world study in 15.8 million adults. Diabetes Obesity and Metabolism, [online] 25(11), pp.3390–3399. doi: https://doi.org/10.1111/dom.15238.
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Women, 2019





Survey type:	Measured
Age:	18+
Sample size:	15,770,094
Area covered:	National
References:	Chen, K. et al. 2023. Prevalence of obesity and associated complications in China: A crossâ?[sectional, realâ?[world study in 15.8 million adults. Diabetes Obesity and Metabolism, [online] 25(11), pp.3390–3399. doi:https://doi.org/10.1111/dom.15238.
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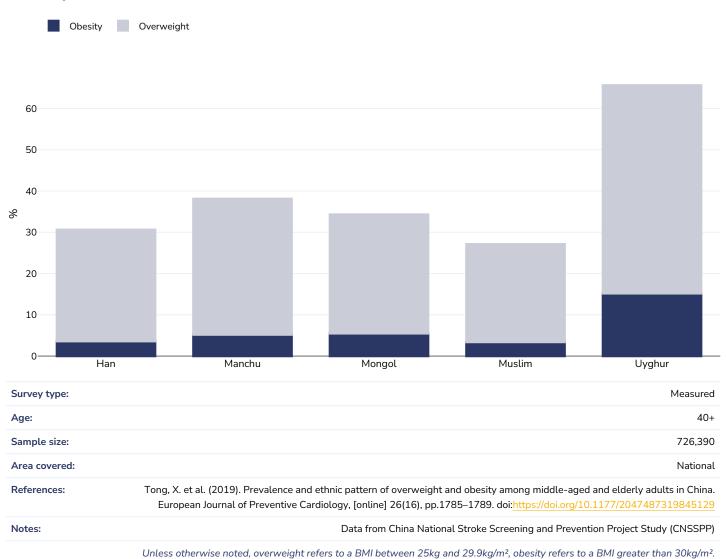
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Overweight/obesity by ethnicity

Ethnic groups are as defined by publication of origin and are not as defined by WOF. In some instances ethnicity is conflated with nationality and/or race.

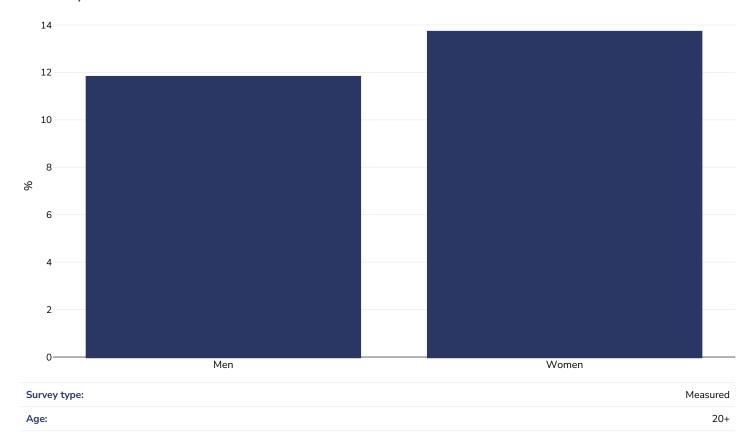
Adults, 2014-2015





Double burden of underweight & overweight

Adults, 2022



References:

NCD Risk Factor Collaboration (NCD-RisC). Worldwide trends in underweight and obesity from 1990 to 2022: a pooled analysis of 3663 population representative studies with 222 million children, adolescents, and adults. Lancet 2024; published online Feb 29. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(23)02750-2.

Notes:

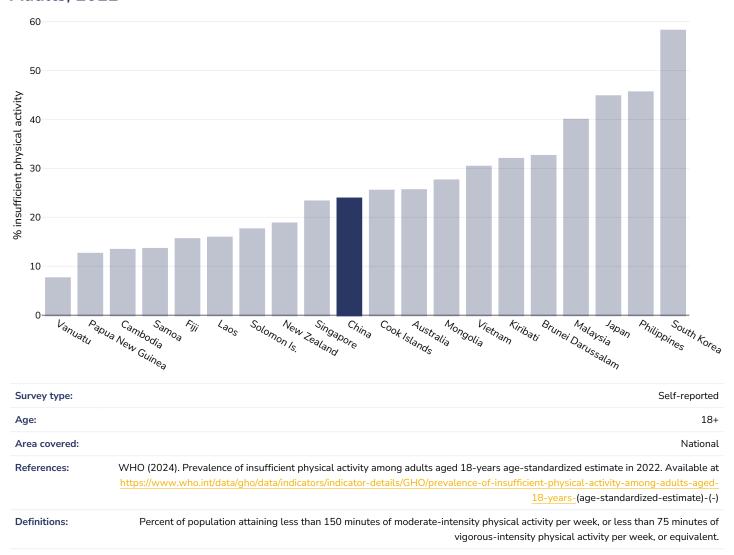
Age Standardised estimates

Definitions:

 $Combined\ prevalence\ of\ BMI<18.5\ kg/m^2\ and\ BMI>=30\ kg/m^2\ (double\ burden\ of\ underweight\ and\ obesity)$

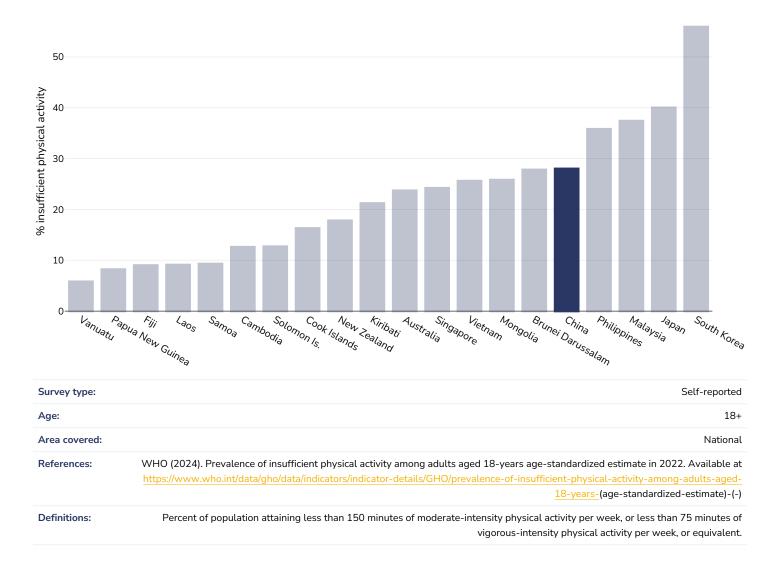


Insufficient physical activity



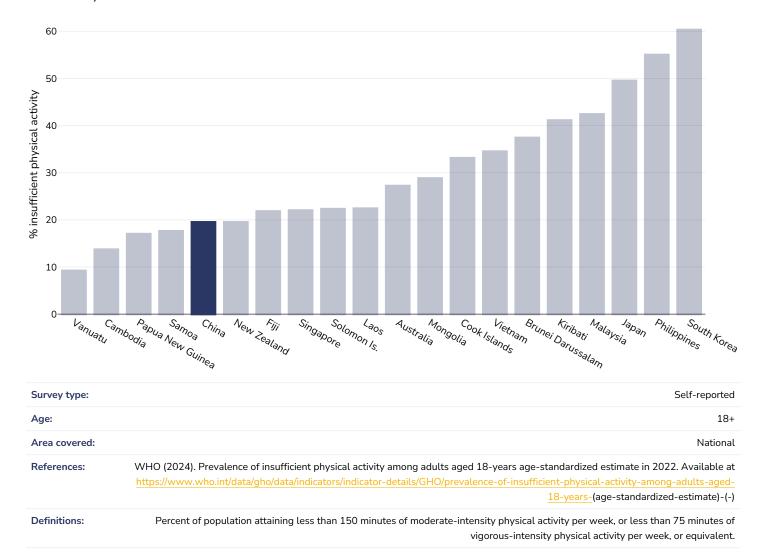


Men, 2022



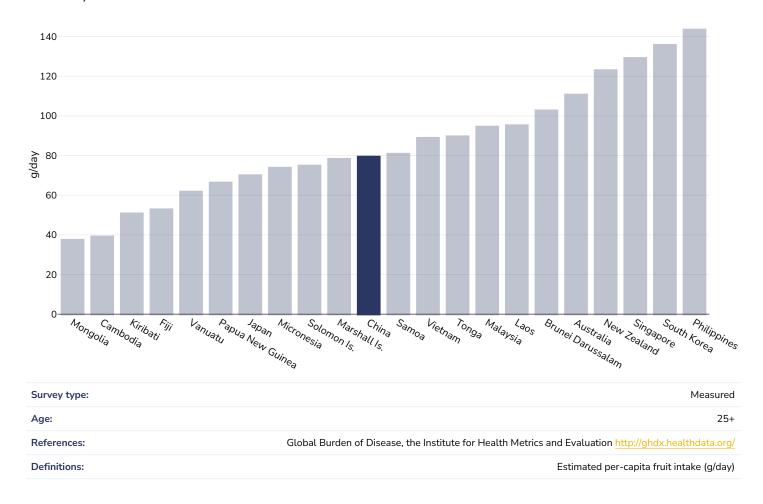


Women, 2022



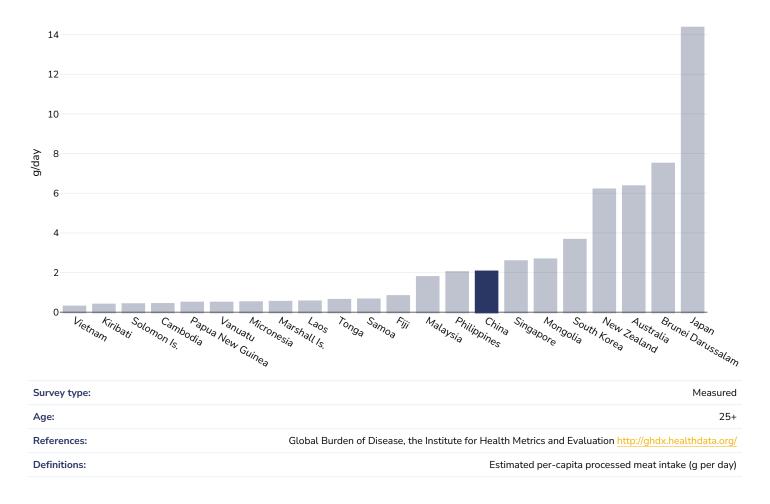


Estimated per capita fruit intake



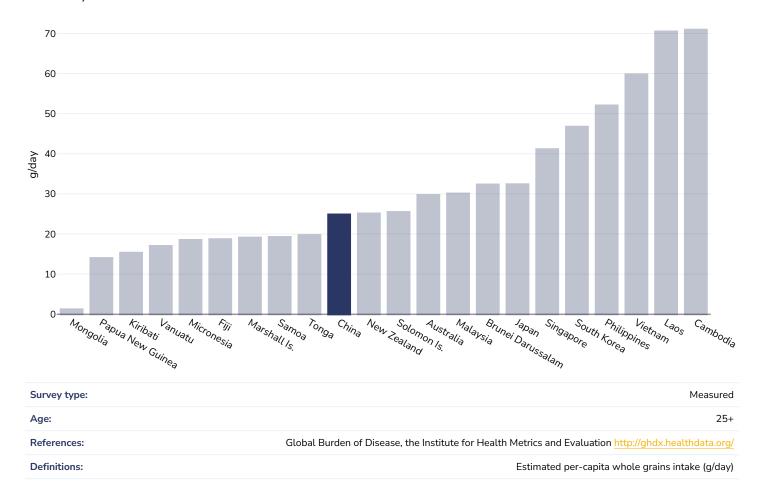


Estimated per-capita processed meat intake



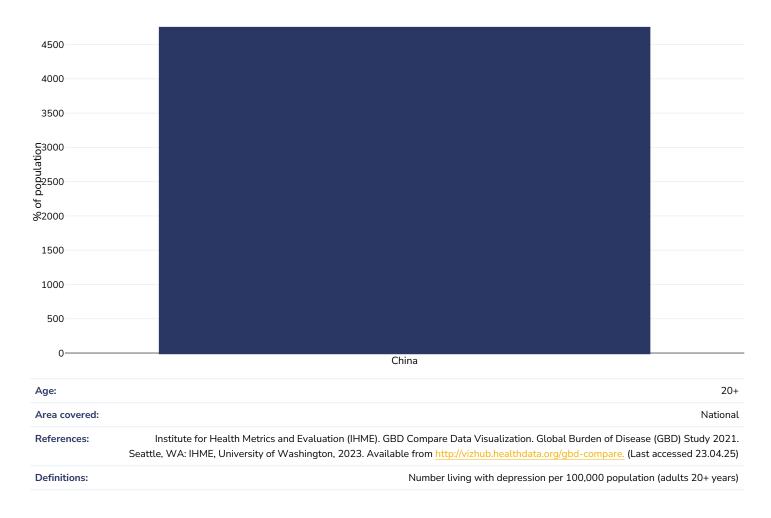


Estimated per capita whole grains intake



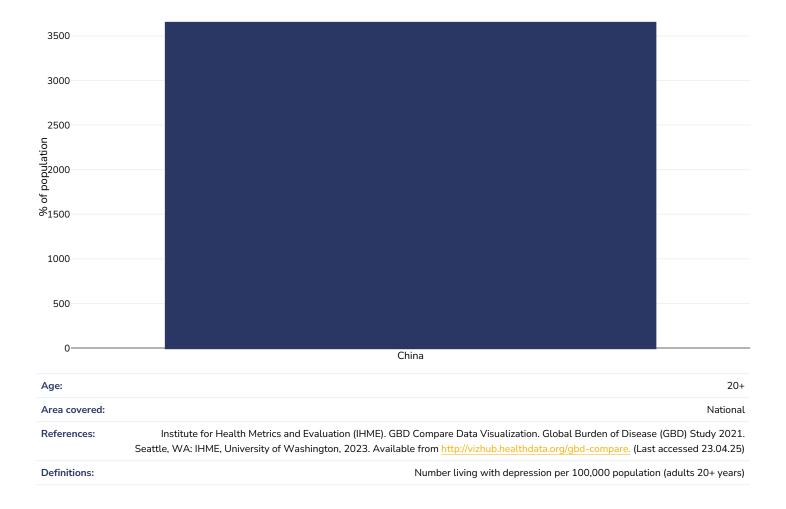


Mental health - depression disorders



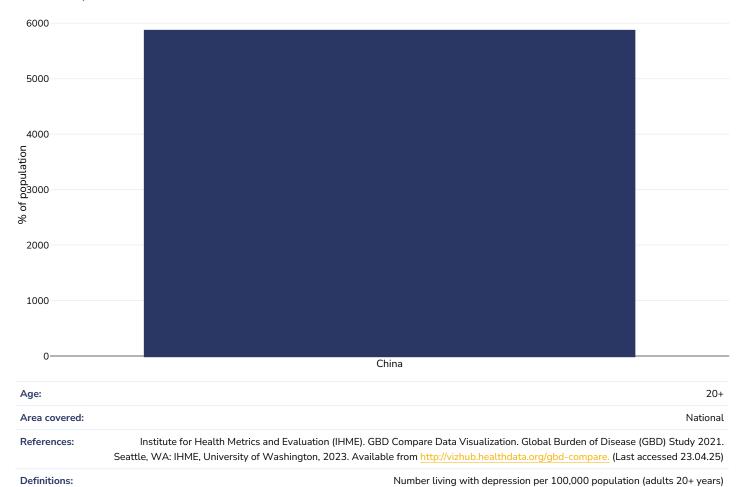


Men, 2021



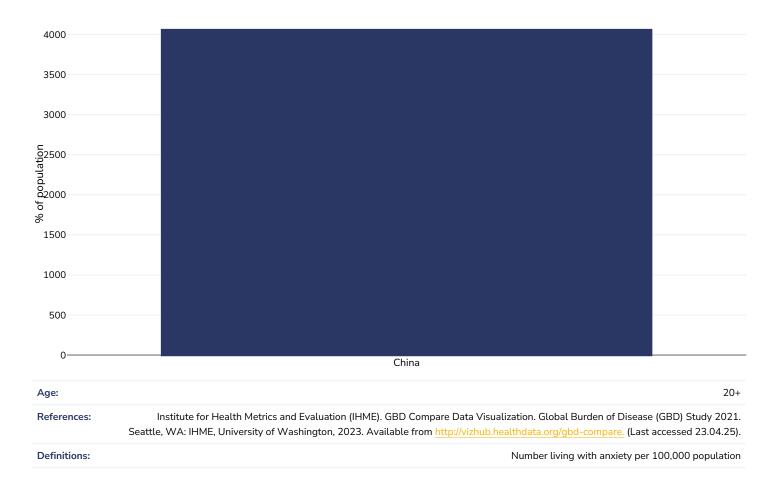


Women, 2021



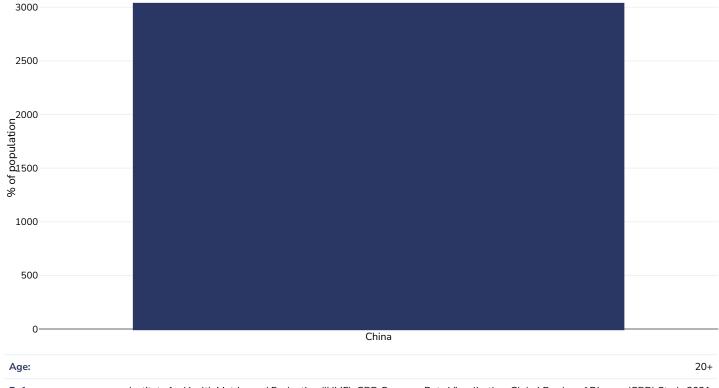


Mental health - anxiety disorders





Men, 2021



References:

Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2021. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2023. Available from http://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare. (Last accessed 23.04.25).

Definitions:

Number living with anxiety per 100,000 population



Women, 2021



References:

Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2021. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2023. Available from http://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare. (Last accessed 23.04.25).

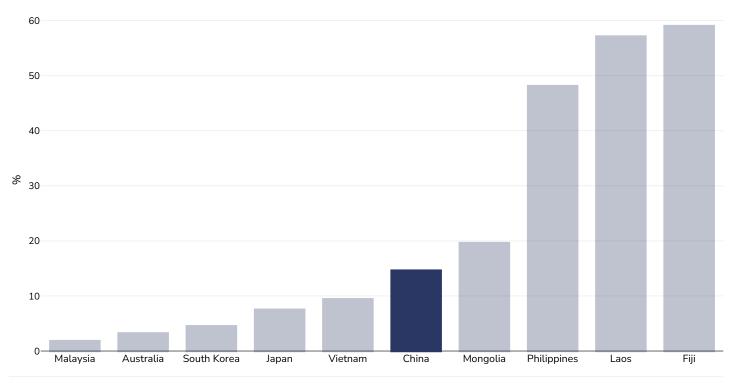
Definitions:

Number living with anxiety per 100,000 population



Percent of population who cannot afford a healthy diet

Adults, 2022



Area covered: National

References:

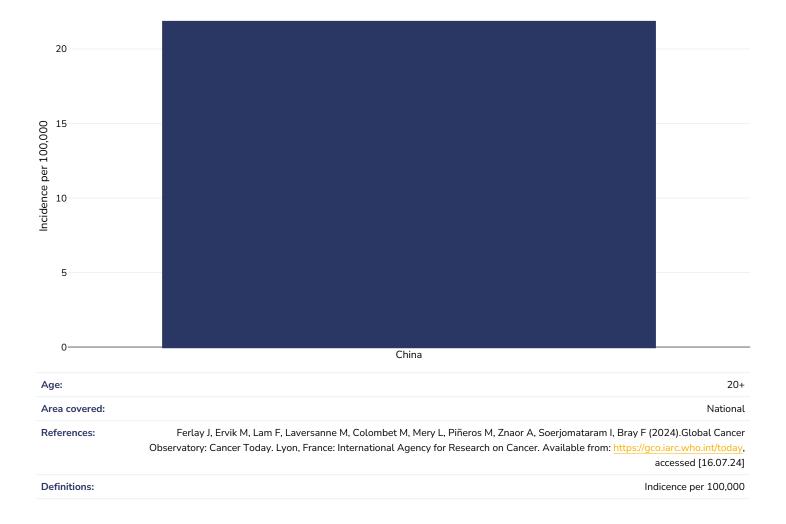
The Food Systems Dashboard. The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), The Columbia Climate School, and Cornell University

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. 2024. Geneva, Switzerland. https://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org. DOI:

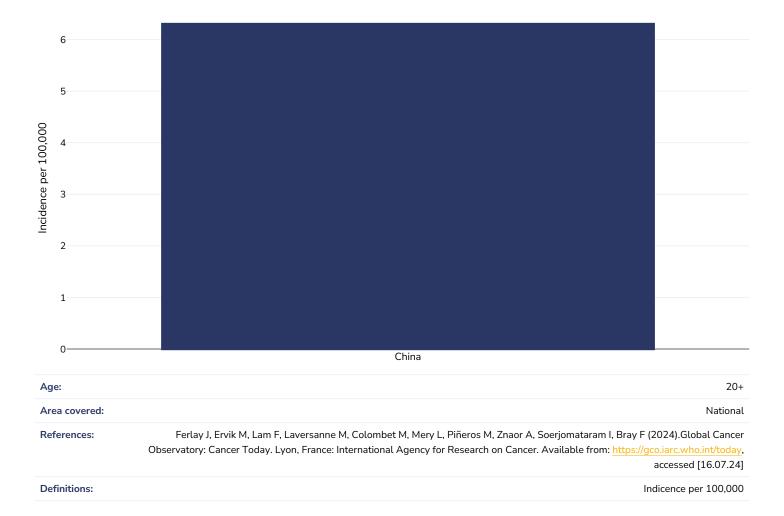
https://doi.org/10.36072/db.



Oesophageal cancer





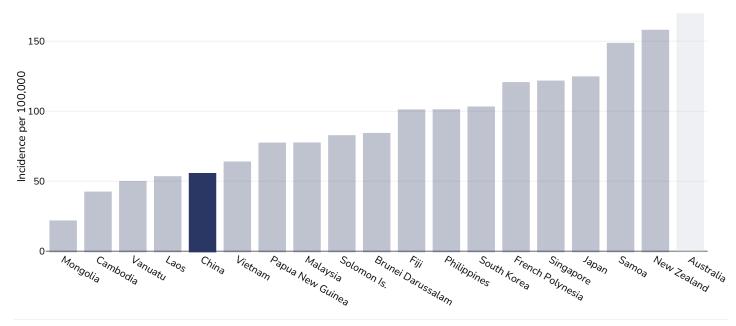




Breast cancer

Women, 2022





Area covered: National

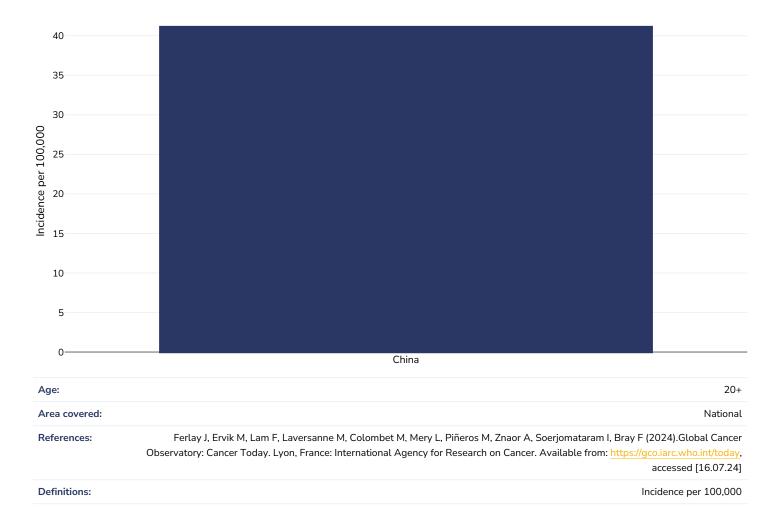
References:

Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today, accessed [16.07.24]

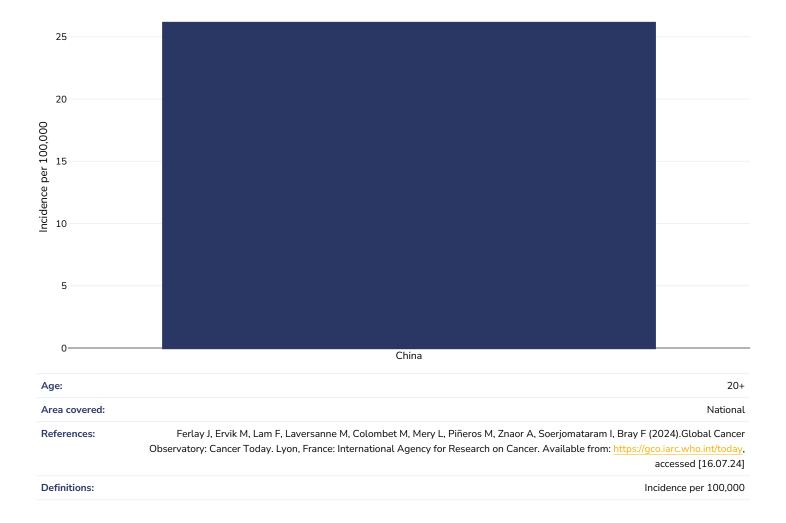
Definitions: Incidence per 100,000



Colorectal cancer

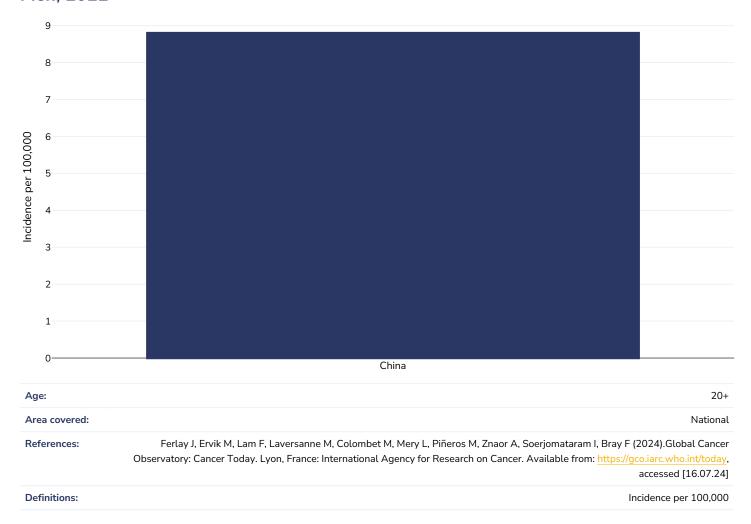




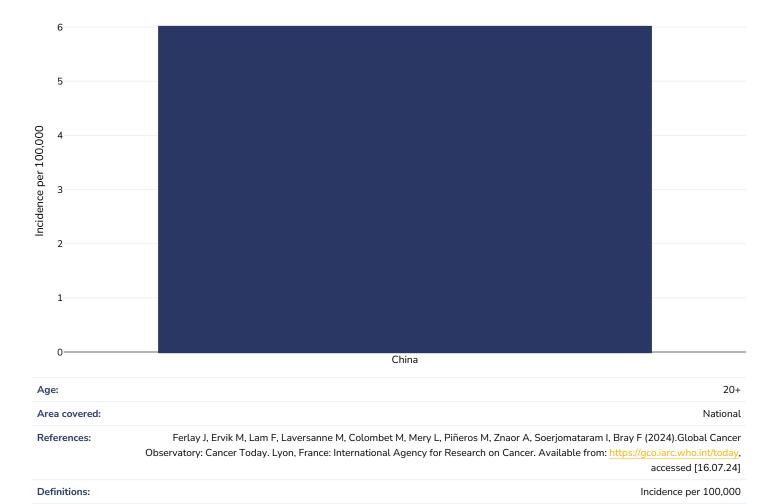




Pancreatic cancer

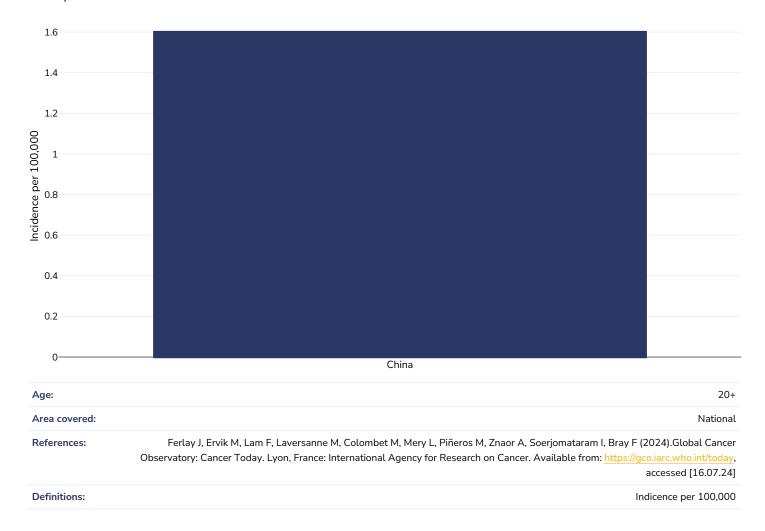








Gallbladder cancer

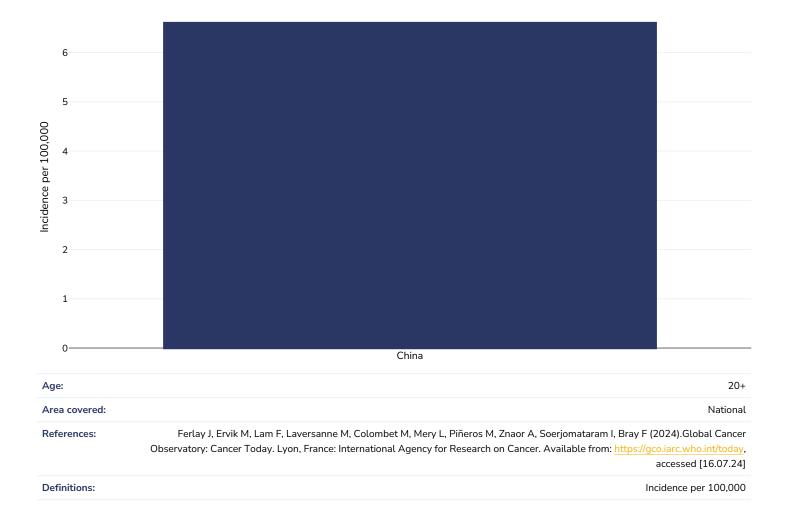




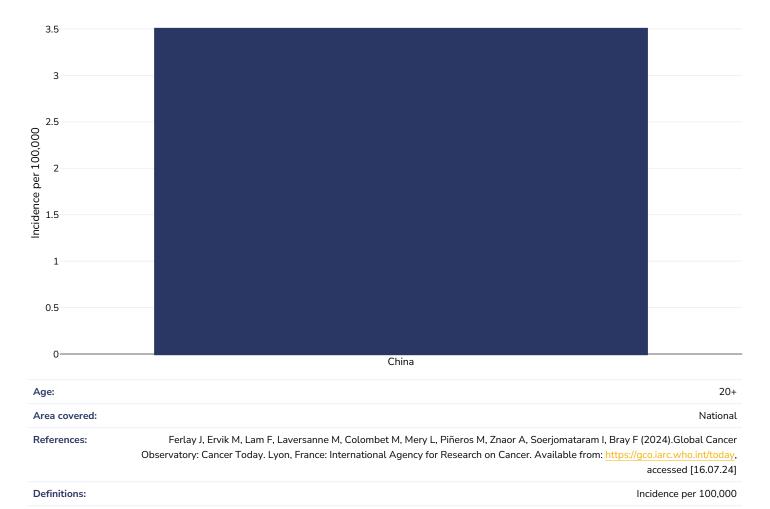




Kidney cancer

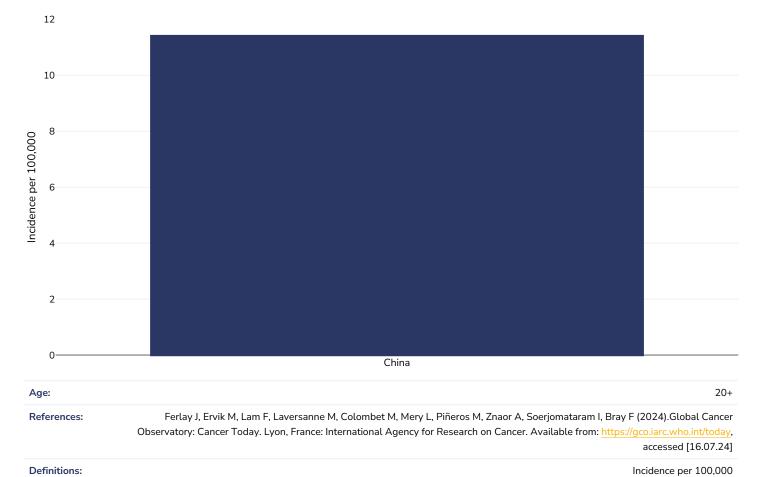








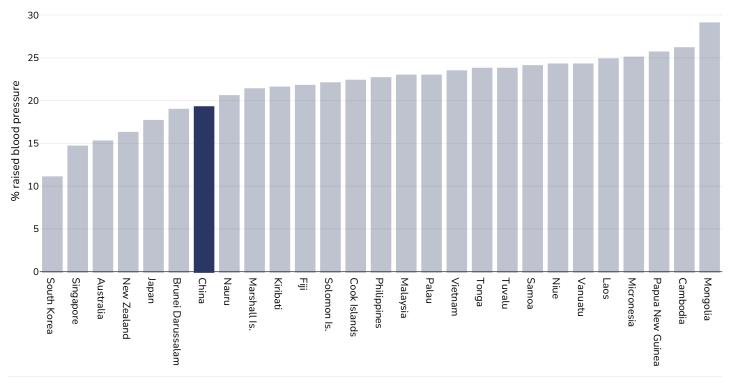
Cancer of the uterus





Raised blood pressure

Adults, 2015



References:

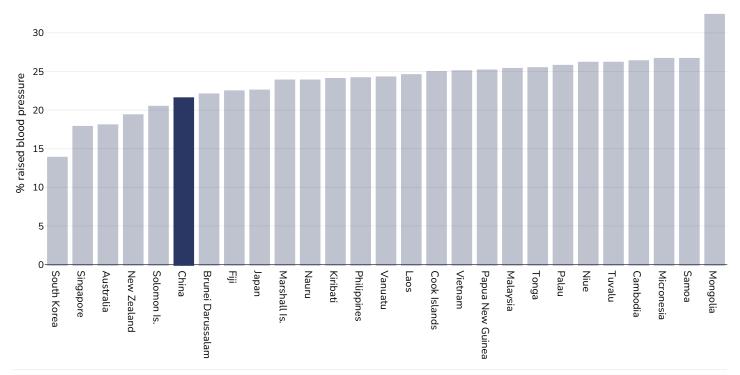
Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A875?lang=en

Definitions:

Age Standardised estimated % Raised blood pressure 2015 (SBP>=140 OR DBP>=90).



Men, 2015



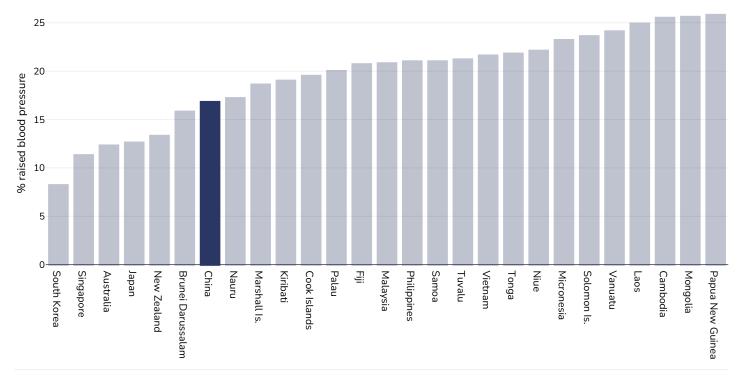
References:

Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A875?lang=en

Definitions:

Age Standardised estimated % Raised blood pressure 2015 (SBP>=140 OR DBP>=90).





References:

Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A875?lang=en

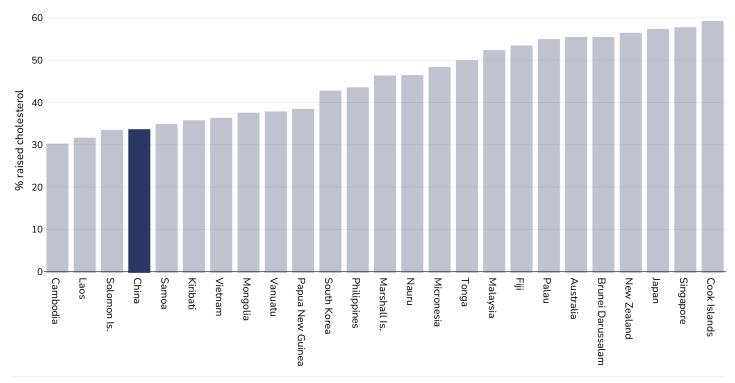
Definitions:

Age Standardised estimated % Raised blood pressure 2015 (SBP>=140 OR DBP>=90).



Raised cholesterol

Adults, 2008



References:

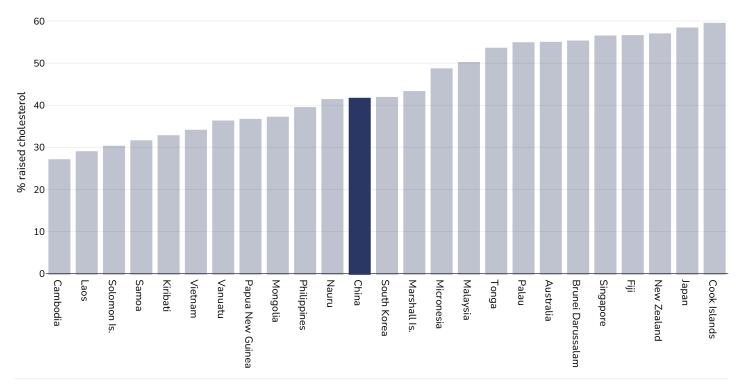
Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A885

Definitions:

% Raised total cholesterol (>= 5.0 mmol/L) (age-standardized estimate).



Men, 2008



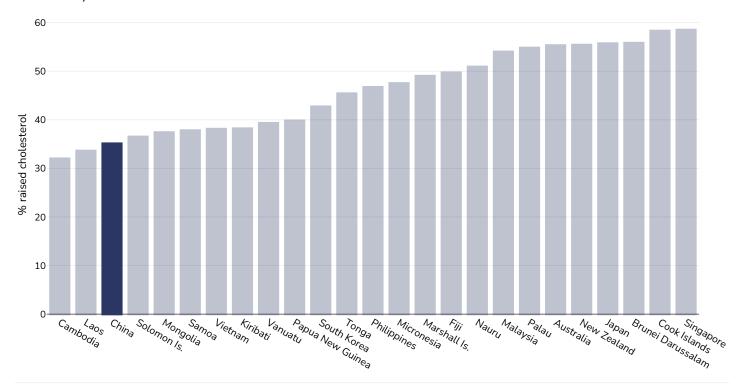
References:

Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A885

Definitions:

% Raised total cholesterol (>= 5.0 mmol/L) (age-standardized estimate).





References:

 ${\sf Global\ Health\ Observatory\ data\ repository,\ World\ Health\ Organisation,\ } \underline{{\sf http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.} A885}$

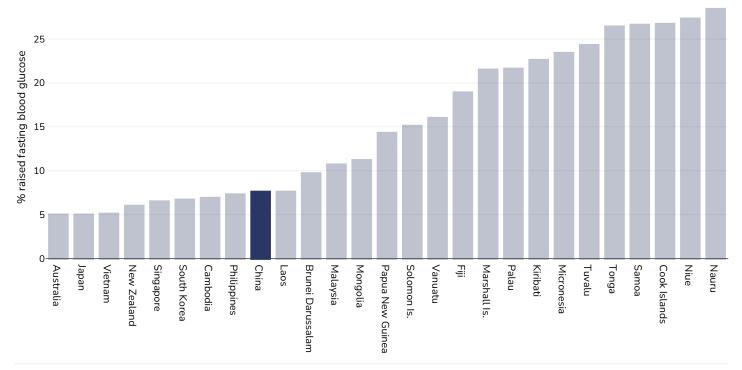
Definitions:

% Raised total cholesterol (>= 5.0 mmol/L) (age-standardized estimate).



Raised fasting blood glucose

Men, 2014



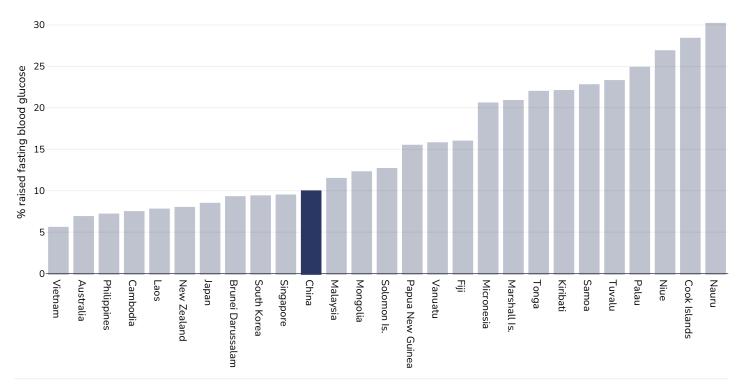
References:

Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A869?lang=en

Definitions:

Age Standardised % raised fasting blood glucose (>= 7.0 mmoVL or on medication).





References:

Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A869?lang=en

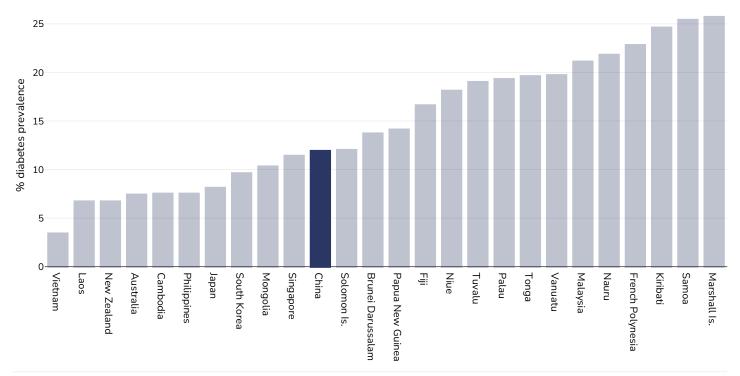
Definitions:

Age Standardised % raised fasting blood glucose (>= 7.0 mmol/L or on medication).



Diabetes prevalence

Adults, 2024



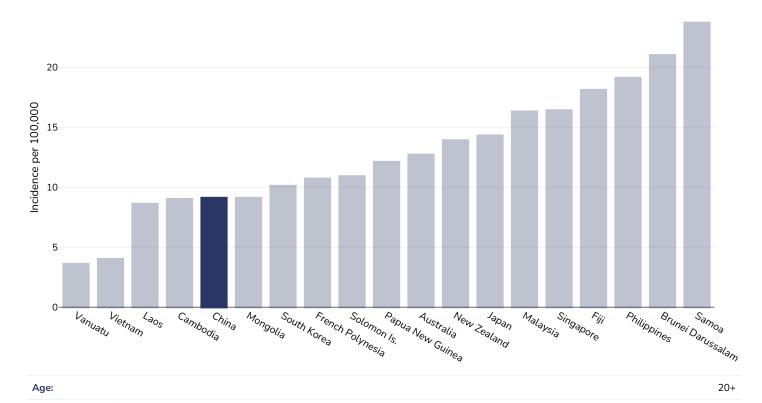
References:

Reproduced with kind permission International Diabetes Federation. IDF Diabetes Atlas, 11th edn. Brussels, Belgium:International Diabetes Federation, 2025. http://www.diabetesatlas.org



Ovarian Cancer

Women, 2022



References:

Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today, accessed [16.07.24]

Definitions: Incidence per 100,000



Leukemia

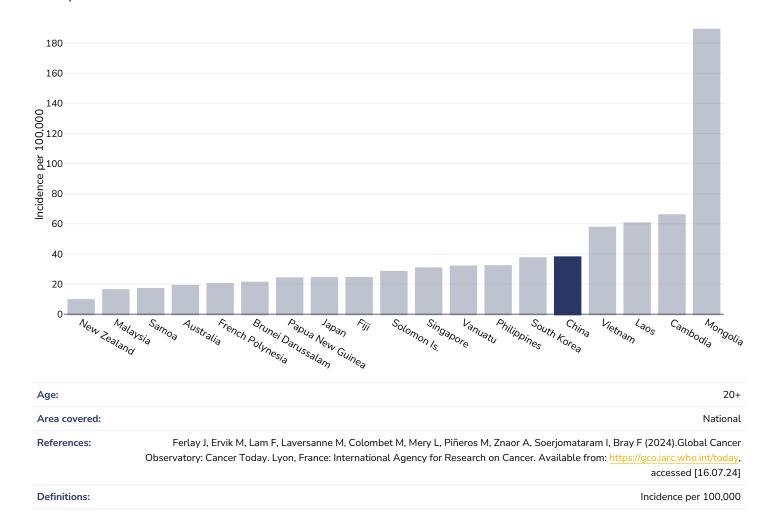
Men, 2022											
4											
3											
2											
1											
0											
- <u>1</u>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6				
Age:							20+				
Area covered:							National				
References:	Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024).Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today , accessed [16.07.24]										
Definitions:						Incidence pe	r 100,000				
	Unless ot	herwise noted, overw	veight refers to a BMI	between 25kg and 29.	.9kg/m², obesity refers	s to a BMI greater than	30kg/m².				



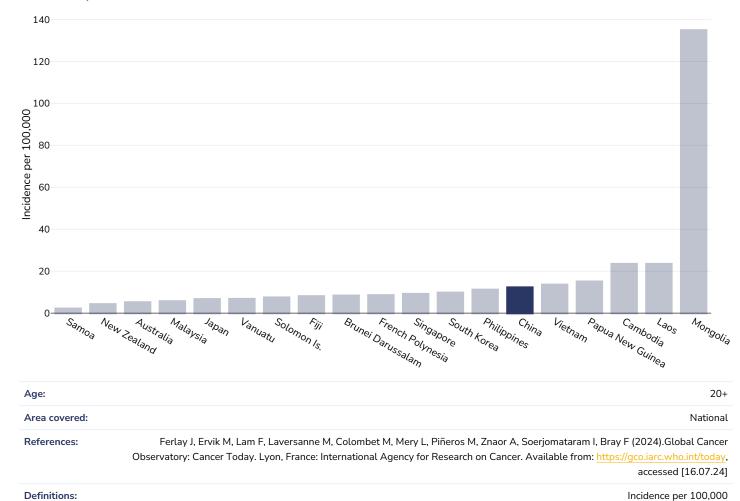
Women, 20	022						
4							
3							
2							
1							
0							
⁻¹ 1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Age:							20+
Area covered:							National
References:					'naor A, Soerjomatarar n Cancer. Available fron	m: https://gco.iarc.who	
Definitions:						Incidence pe	er 100,000
	Unless oth	nerwise noted, overw	veight refers to a BMI	between 25kg and 29	0.9kg/m², obesity refers	s to a BMI greater than	1 30kg/m².



Liver and intrahepatic bile duct Cancer



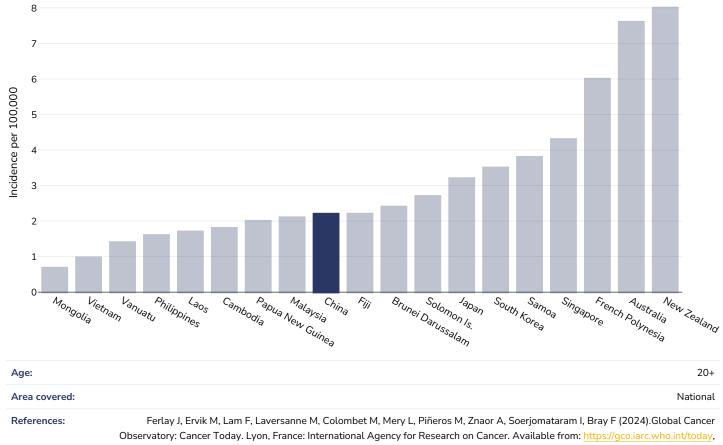






Multiple Myeloma

Men, 2022



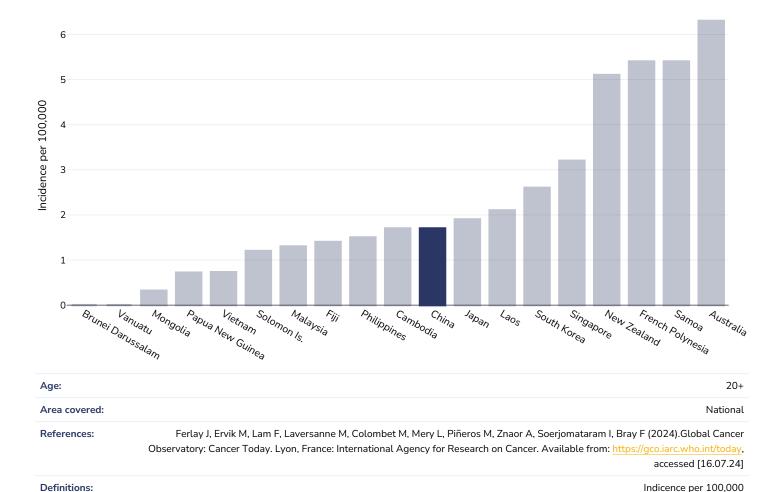
accessed [16.07.24]

Definitions:

Indicence per 100,000

Unless otherwise noted, overweight refers to a BMI between 25kg and 29.9kg/m², obesity refers to a BMI greater than 30kg/m².



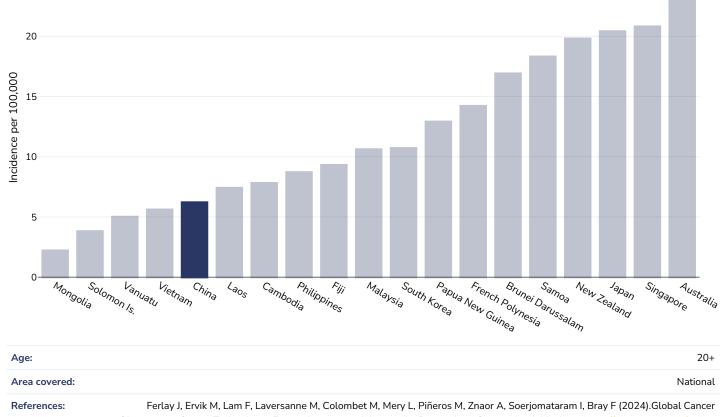


 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, \ obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$



Non Hodgkin Lymphoma

Men, 2022



Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today,

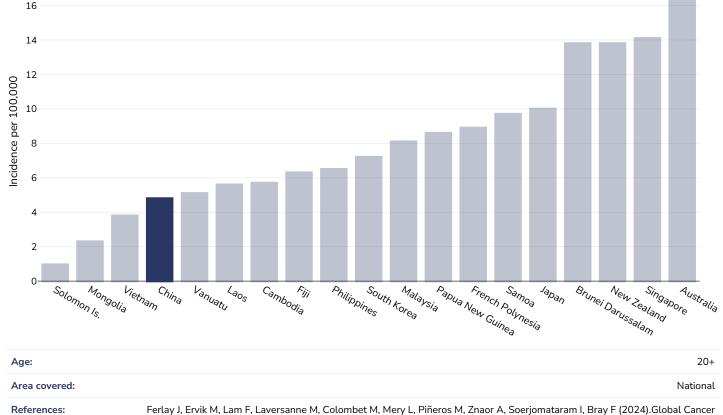
accessed [16.07.24]

Definitions:

Incidence per 100,000

Unless otherwise noted, overweight refers to a BMI between 25kg and 29.9kg/m², obesity refers to a BMI greater than 30kg/m².





Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024).Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today,

accessed [16.07.24]

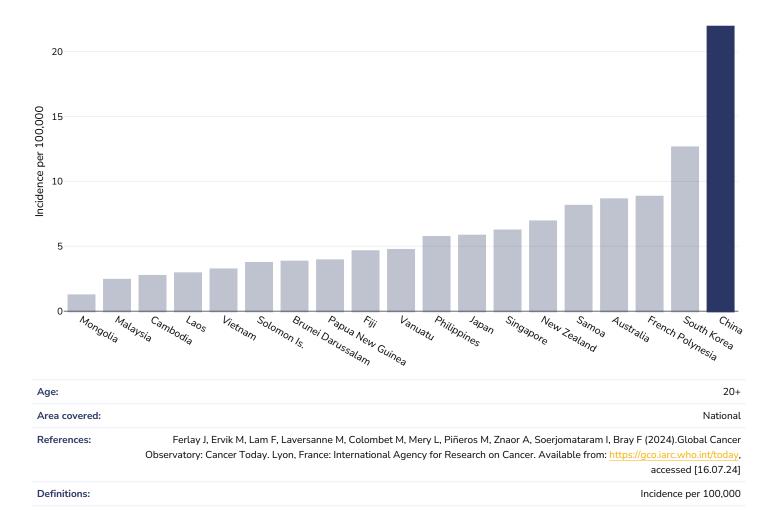
Definitions:

Incidence per 100,000

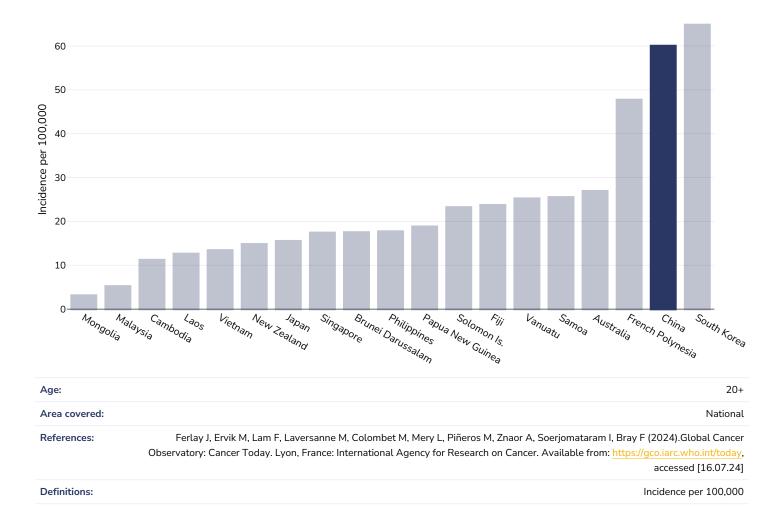
Unless otherwise noted, overweight refers to a BMI between 25kg and 29.9kg/m², obesity refers to a BMI greater than 30kg/m².



Thyroid Cancer







PDF created on June 17, 2025