# El Salvador



## Country report card - children

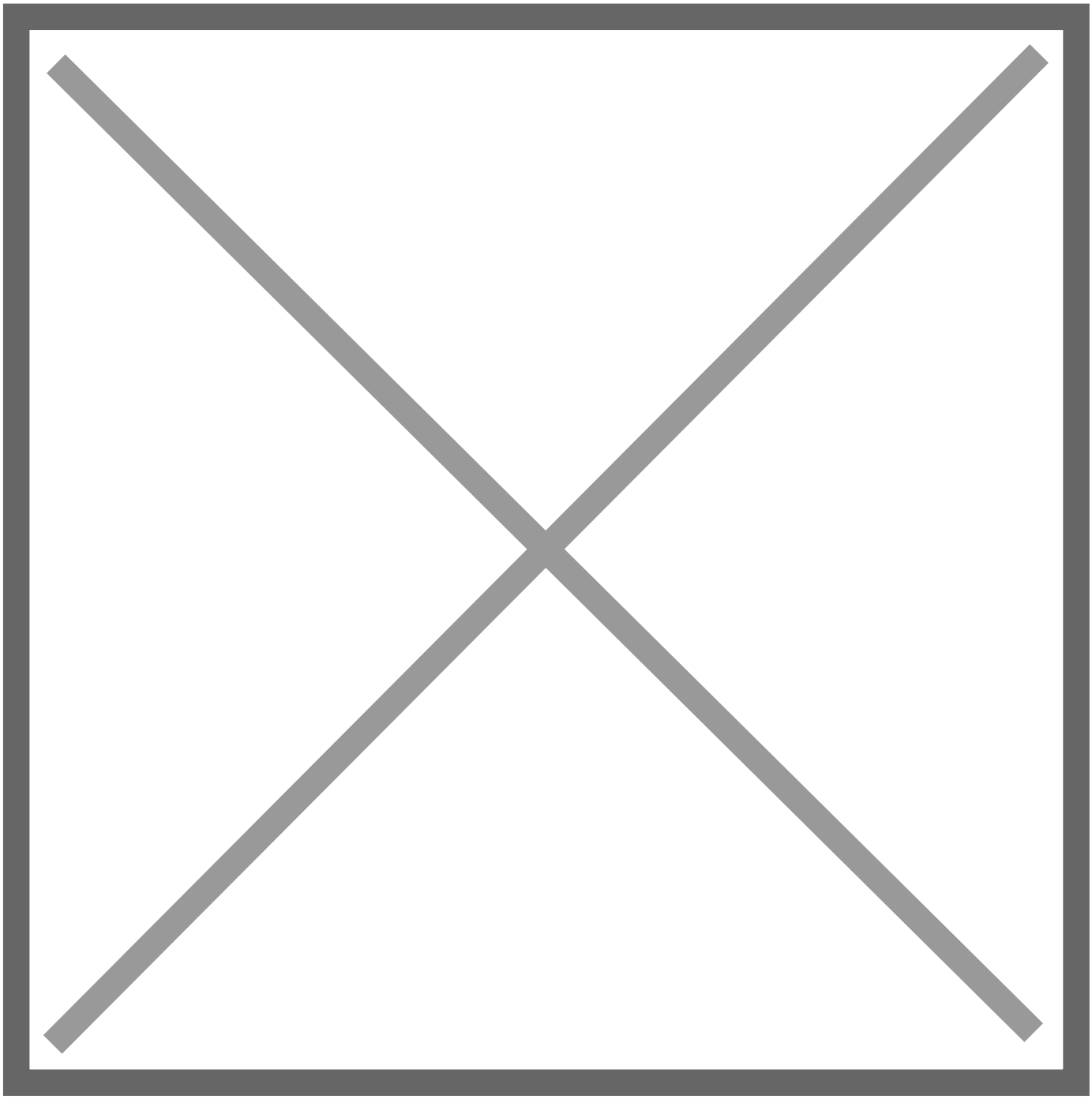
*This report card contains the latest data available on the Global Obesity Observatory on overweight and obesity for children, including adolescents (aged 5 to 18 years). Where available, data on common and relevant obesity drivers and comorbidities are also presented.*

*View the latest version of this report on the Global Obesity Observatory at https://data.worldobesity.org/country/el-salvador-61/.*

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## Obesity prevalence

## Children, 2015-2016

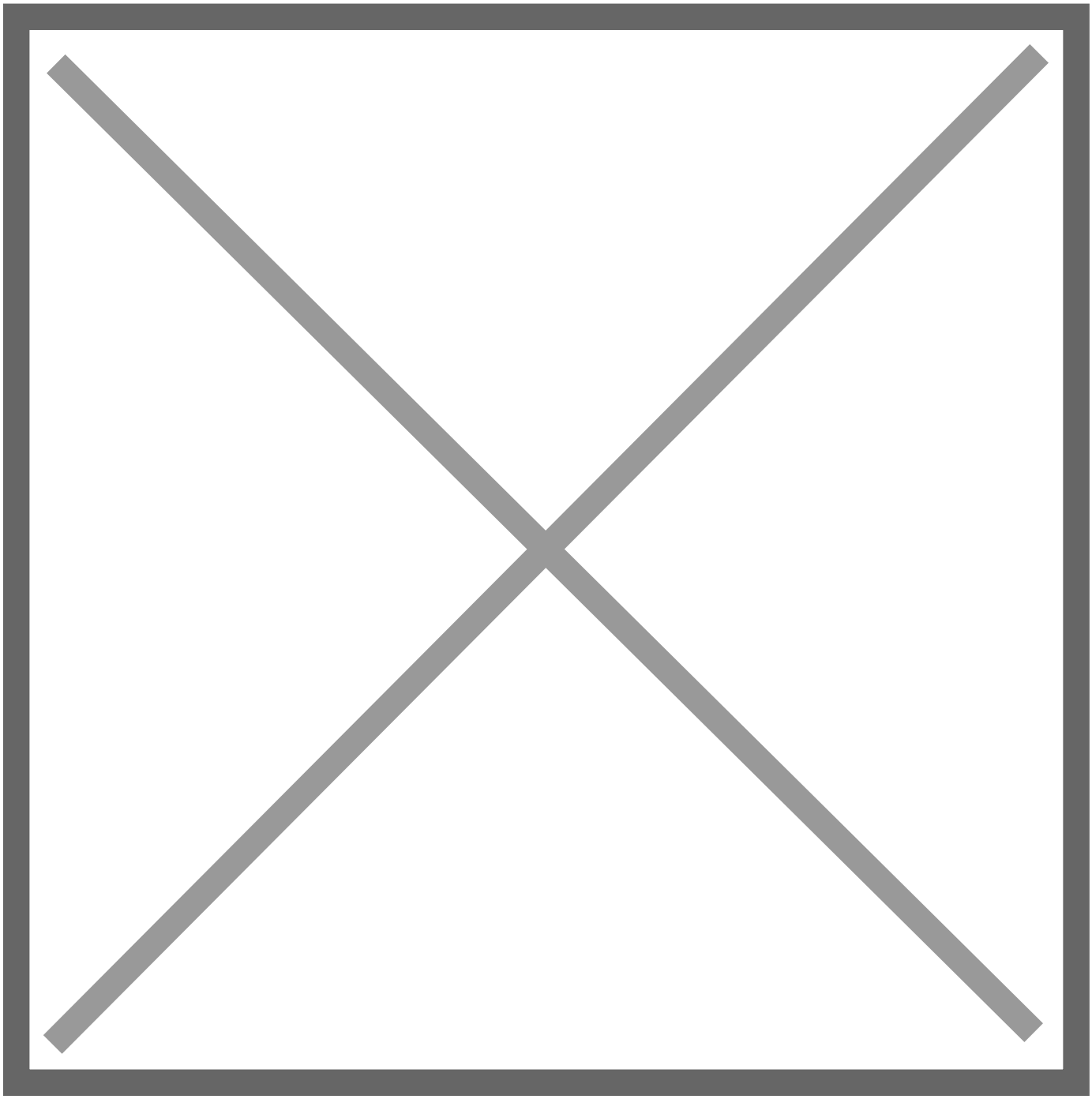


| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Measured |
| **Age:** | 6-10 |
| **Sample size:** | 111991 |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Pérez W, Melgar P, Garcés A, de Marquez AD, Merino G, Siu C. Overweight and obesity of school-age children in El Salvador according to two international systems: a population-based multilevel and spatial analysis. BMC Public Health. 2020 May 14;20(1):687. doi: 10.1186/s12889-020-08747-w. PMID: 32410611; PMCID: PMC7227092. |

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|---|---|
| **Cutoffs:** | IOTF |

## Overweight/obesity by age

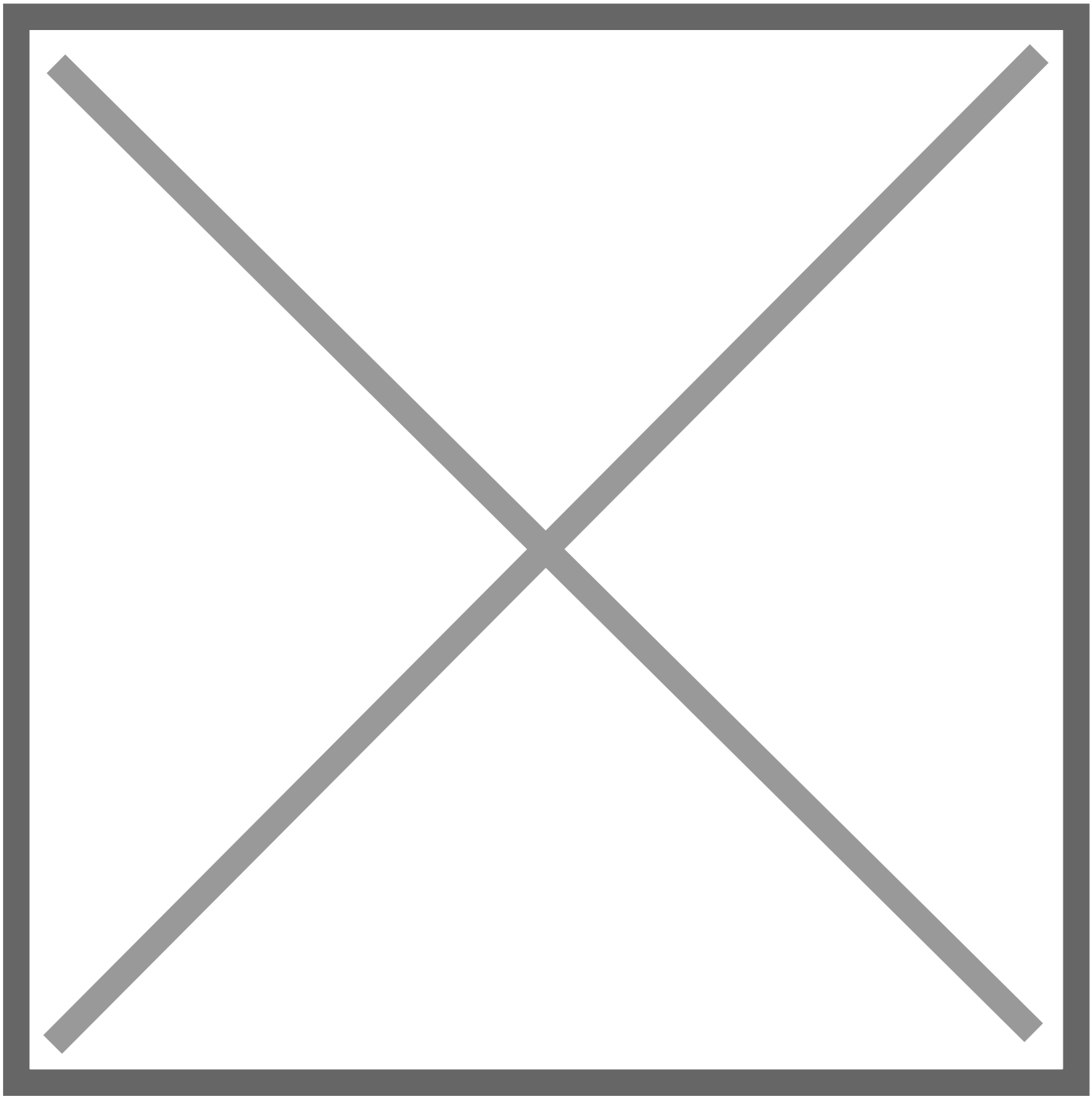
## Children, 2015-2016



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Self-reported |
| **References:** | Pérez W, Melgar P, Garcés A, de Marquez AD, Merino G, Siu C. Overweight and obesity of school-age children in El Salvador according to two international systems: a population-based multilevel and spatial analysis. BMC Public Health. 2020 May 14;20(1):687. doi: 10.1186/s12889-020-08747-w. PMID: 32410611; PMCID: PMC7227092. |
| **Cutoffs:** | IOTF |

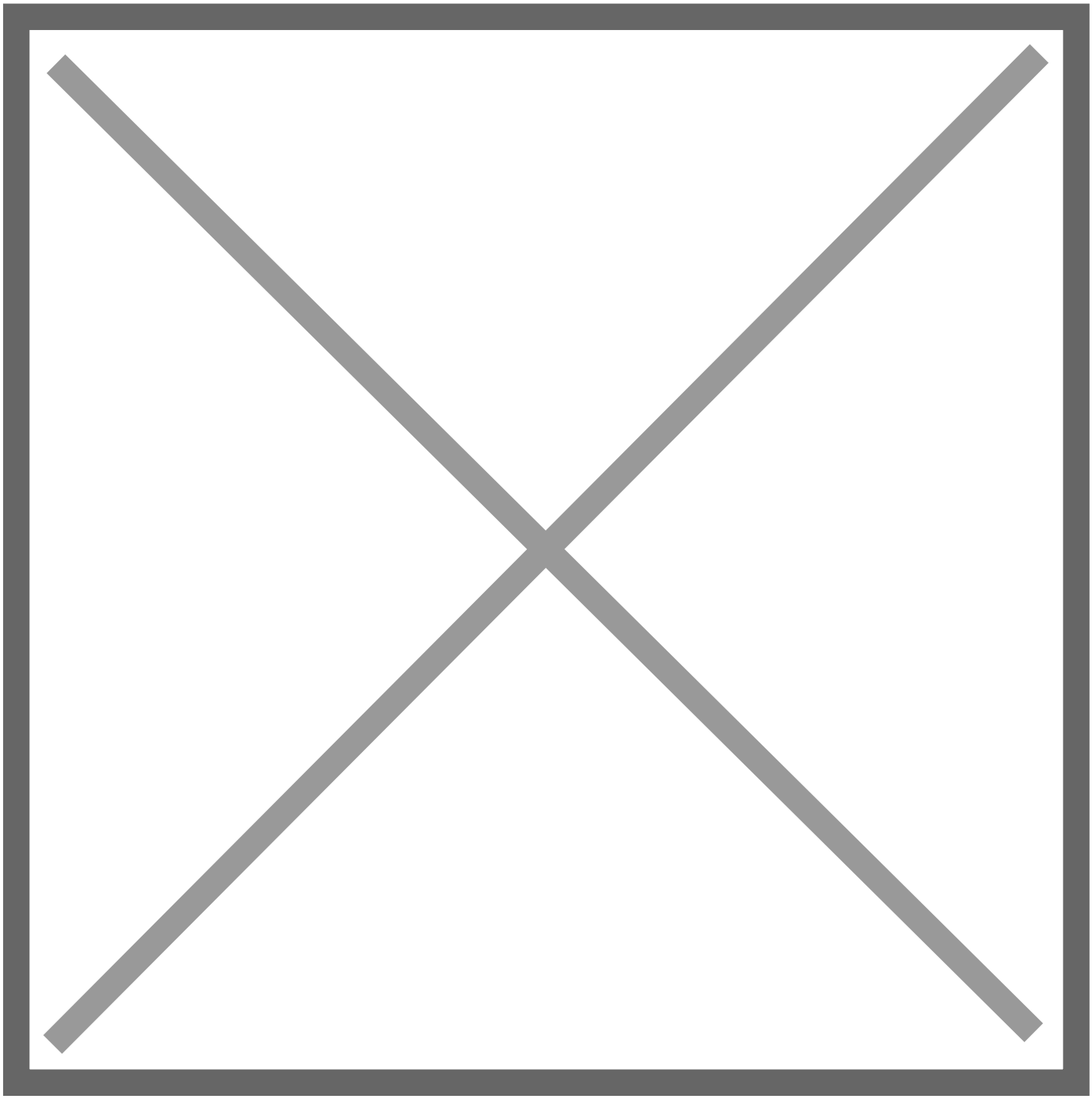
## Overweight/obesity by region

## Boys, 2015-2016



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Self-reported |
| **Age:** | 6-10 |
| **References:** | Pérez W, Melgar P, Garcés A, de Marquez AD, Merino G, Siu C. Overweight and obesity of school-age children in El Salvador according to two international systems: a population-based multilevel and spatial analysis. BMC Public Health. 2020 May 14;20(1):687. doi: 10.1186/s12889-020-08747-w. PMID: 32410611; PMCID: PMC7227092. |
| **Cutoffs:** | IOTF |

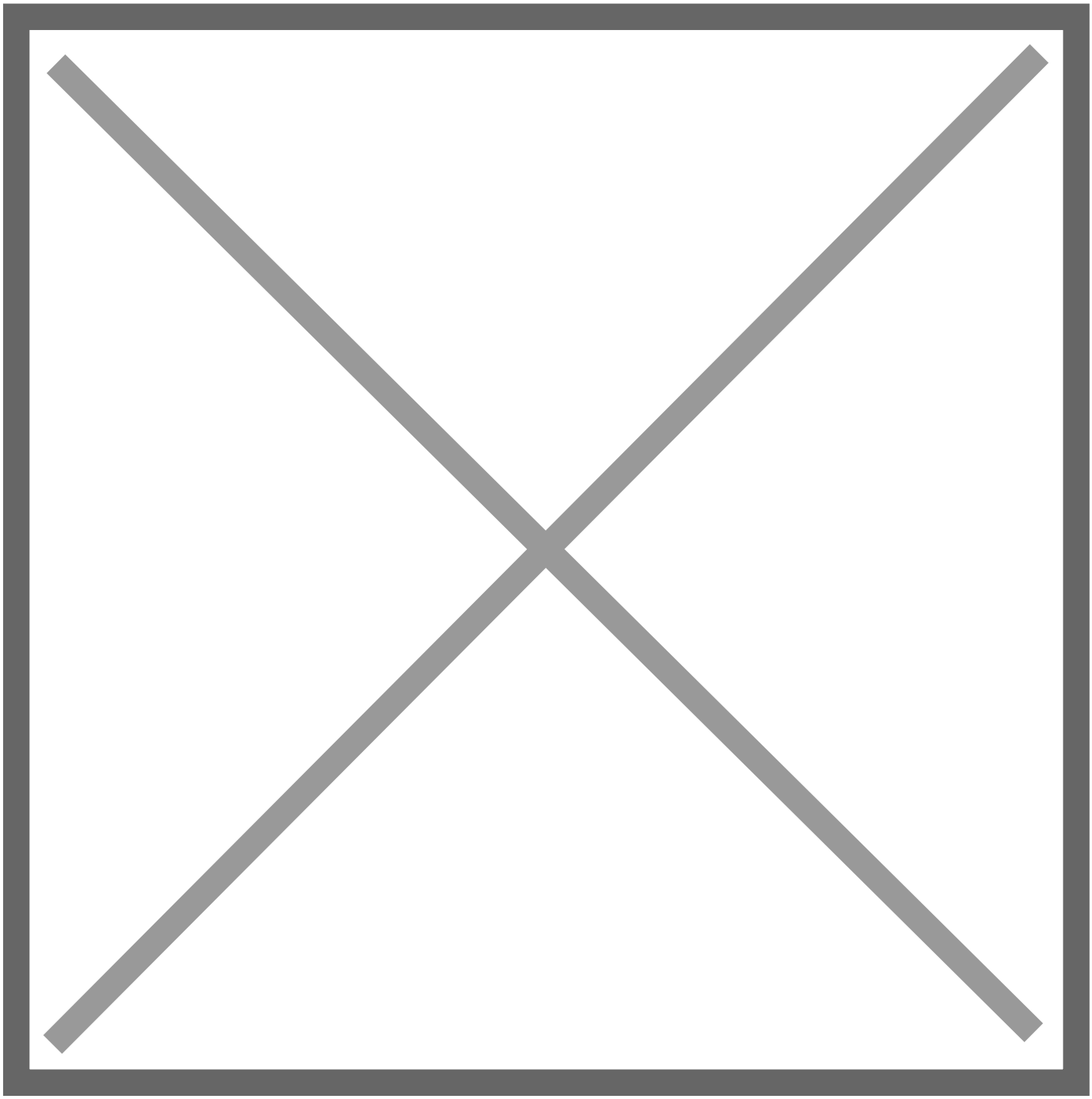
## Girls, 2015-2016



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Self-reported |
| **Age:** | 6-10 |
| **References:** | Pérez W, Melgar P, Garcés A, de Marquez AD, Merino G, Siu C. Overweight and obesity of school-age children in El Salvador according to two international systems: a population-based multilevel and spatial analysis. BMC Public Health. 2020 May 14;20(1):687. doi: 10.1186/s12889-020-08747-w. PMID: 32410611; PMCID: PMC7227092. |
| **Cutoffs:** | IOTF |

## Double burden of underweight & obesity

## Children, 2022

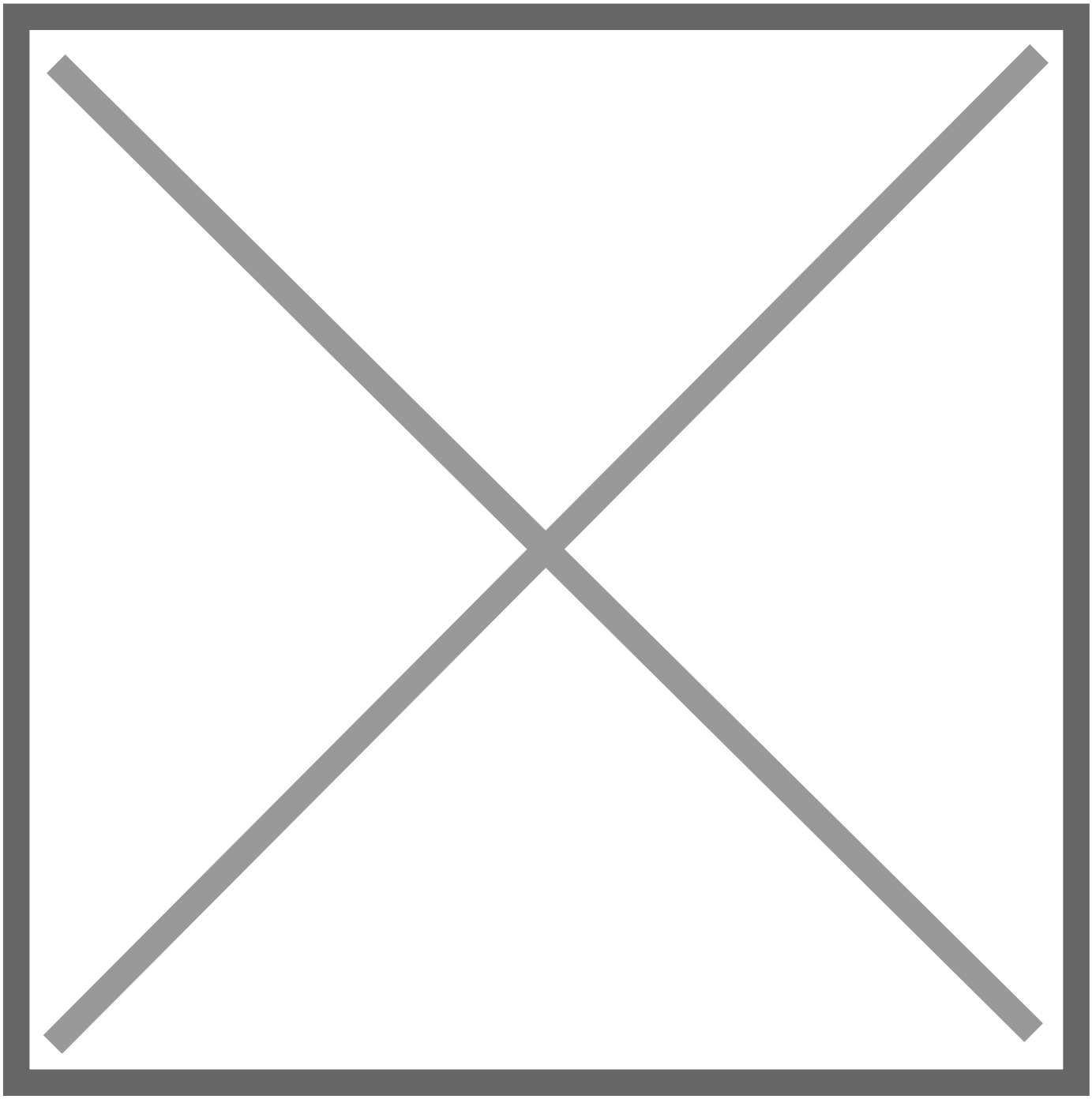


| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Measured |
| **Age:** | 5-19 |
| **References:** | NCD Risk Factor Collaboration (NCD-RisC). Worldwide trends in underweight and obesity from 1990 to 2022: a pooled analysis of 3663 population representative studies with 222 million children, adolescents, and adults. 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 < -2SD and BMI > 2SD (double burden of thinness and obesity) |
| **Cutoffs:** | BMI < -2SD and BMI > 2SD |

## Insufficient physical activity

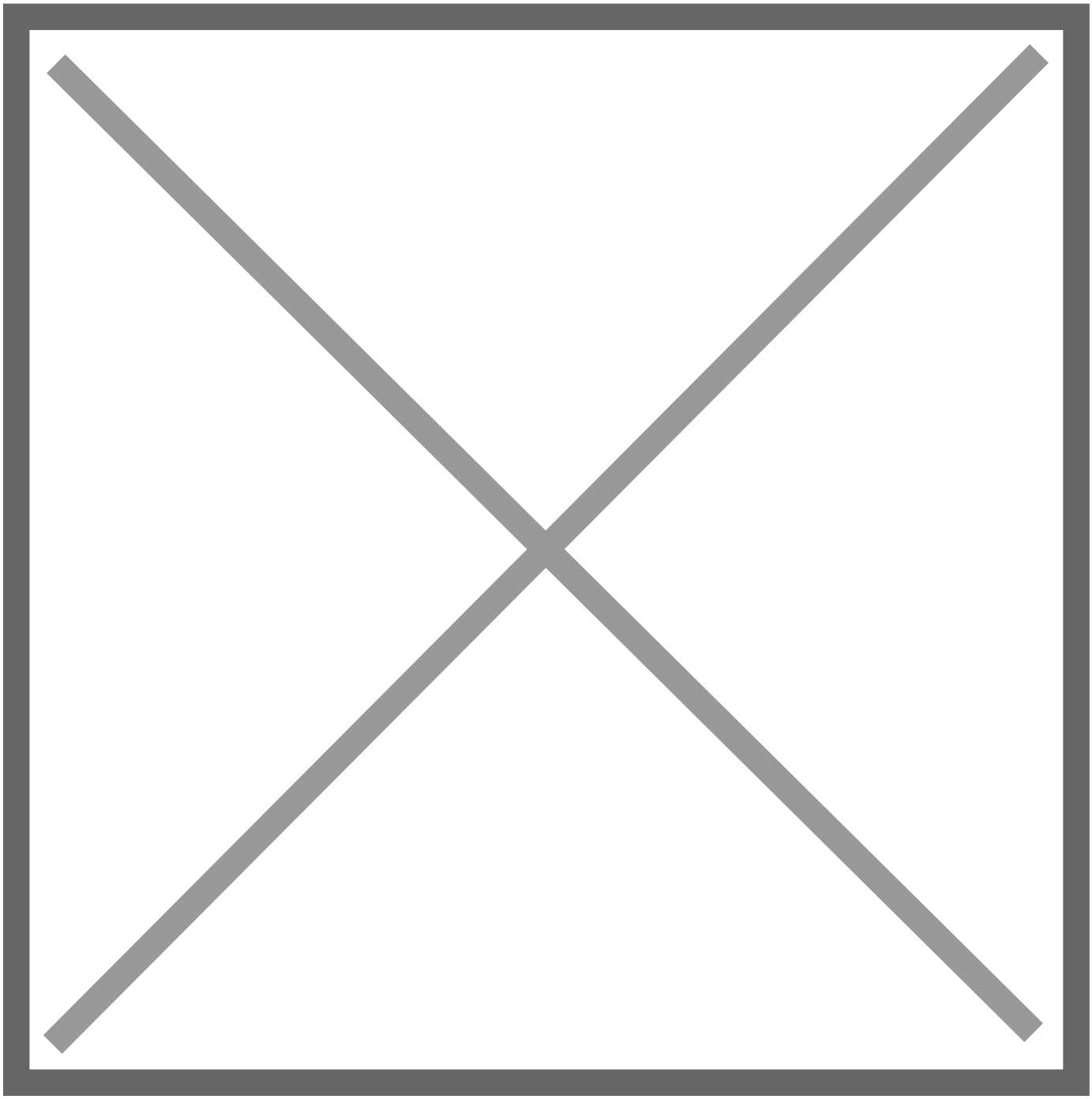
## Children, 2016



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Self-reported |
| **Age:** | 11-17 |
| **References:** | Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, https://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A893ADO?lang=en (last accessed 16.03.21) |
| **Notes:** | % of school going adolescents not meeting WHO recommendations on Physical Activity for Health, i.e. doing less than 60 minutes of moderate- to vigorous-intensity physical activity daily. |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Definitions:** | % Adolescents insufficiently active (age standardised estimate) |

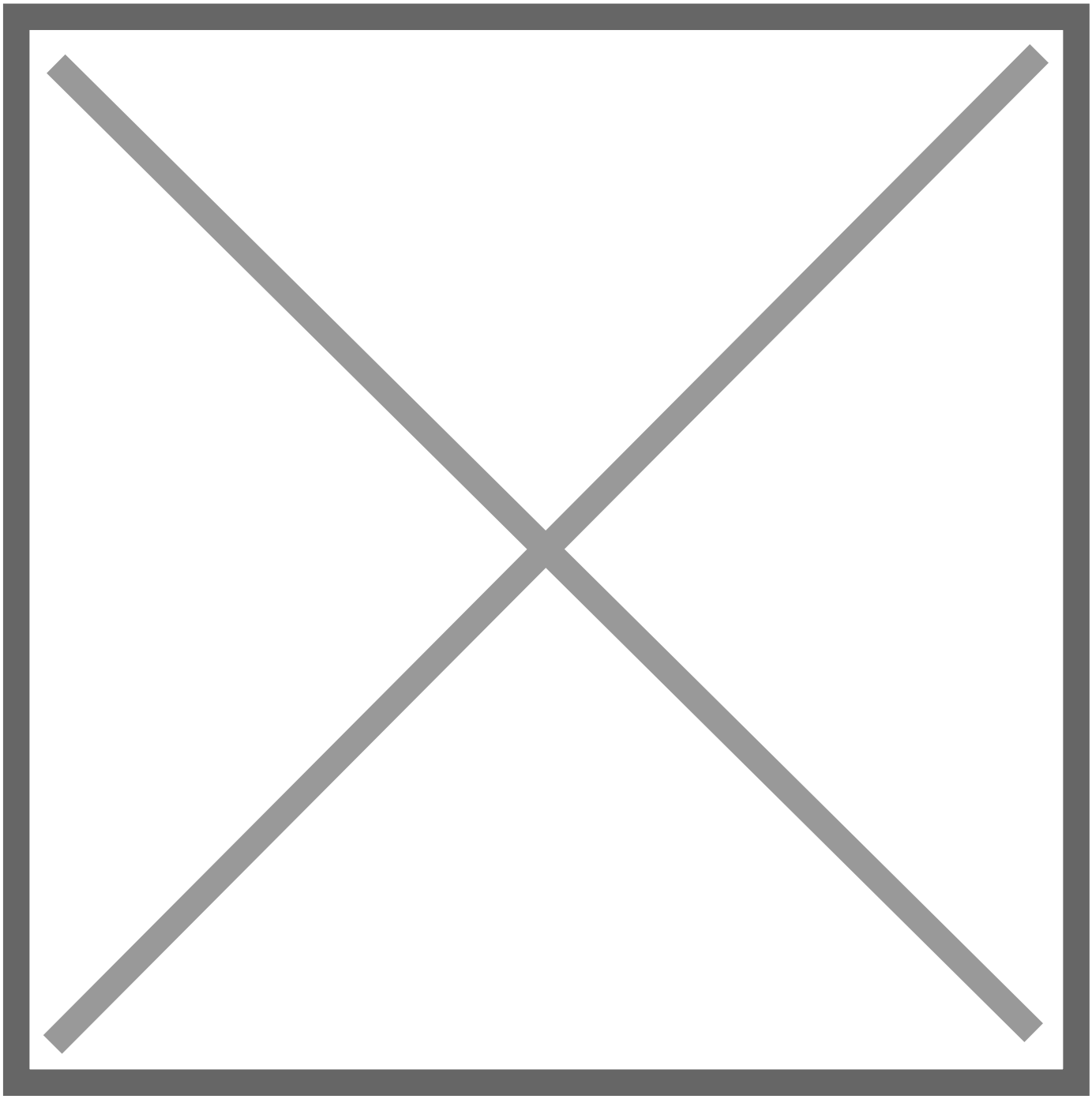
## Boys, 2016



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Self-reported |
| **Age:** | 11-17 |
| **References:** | Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, https://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A893ADO?lang=en (last accessed 16.03.21) |
| **Notes:** | % of school going adolescents not meeting WHO recommendations on Physical Activity for Health, i.e. doing less than 60 minutes of moderate- to vigorous-intensity physical activity daily. |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Definitions:** | % Adolescents insufficiently active (age standardised estimate) |

## Girls, 2016

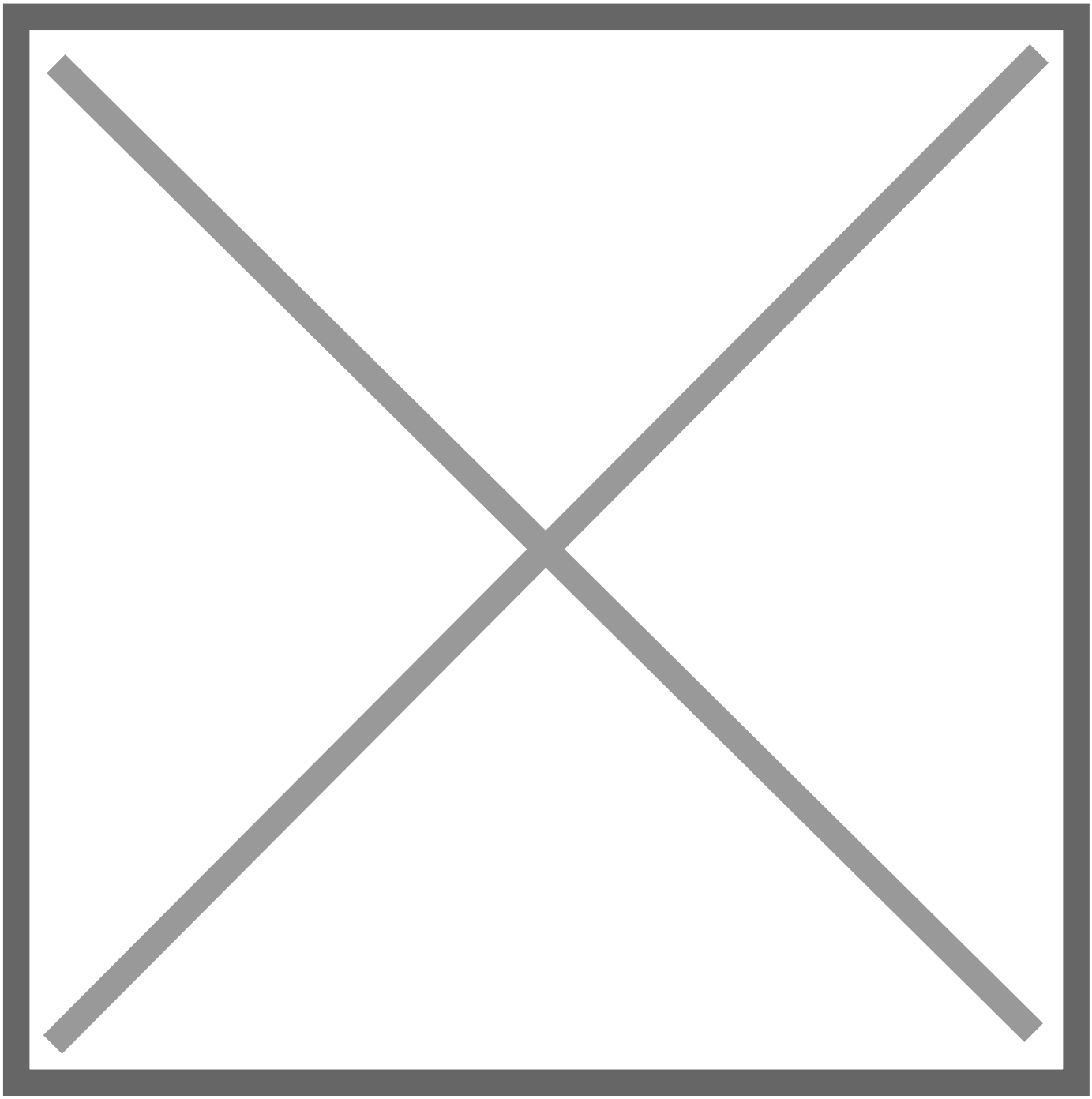


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| **Survey type:** | Self-reported |
| **Age:** | 11-17 |
| **References:** | Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, https://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A893ADO?lang=en (last accessed 16.03.21) |
| **Notes:** | % of school going adolescents not meeting WHO recommendations on Physical Activity for Health, i.e. doing less than 60 minutes of moderate- to vigorous-intensity physical activity daily. |

| Definitions: | % Adolescents insufficiently active (age standardised estimate) |
|---|---|

## Average daily frequency of carbonated soft drink consumption

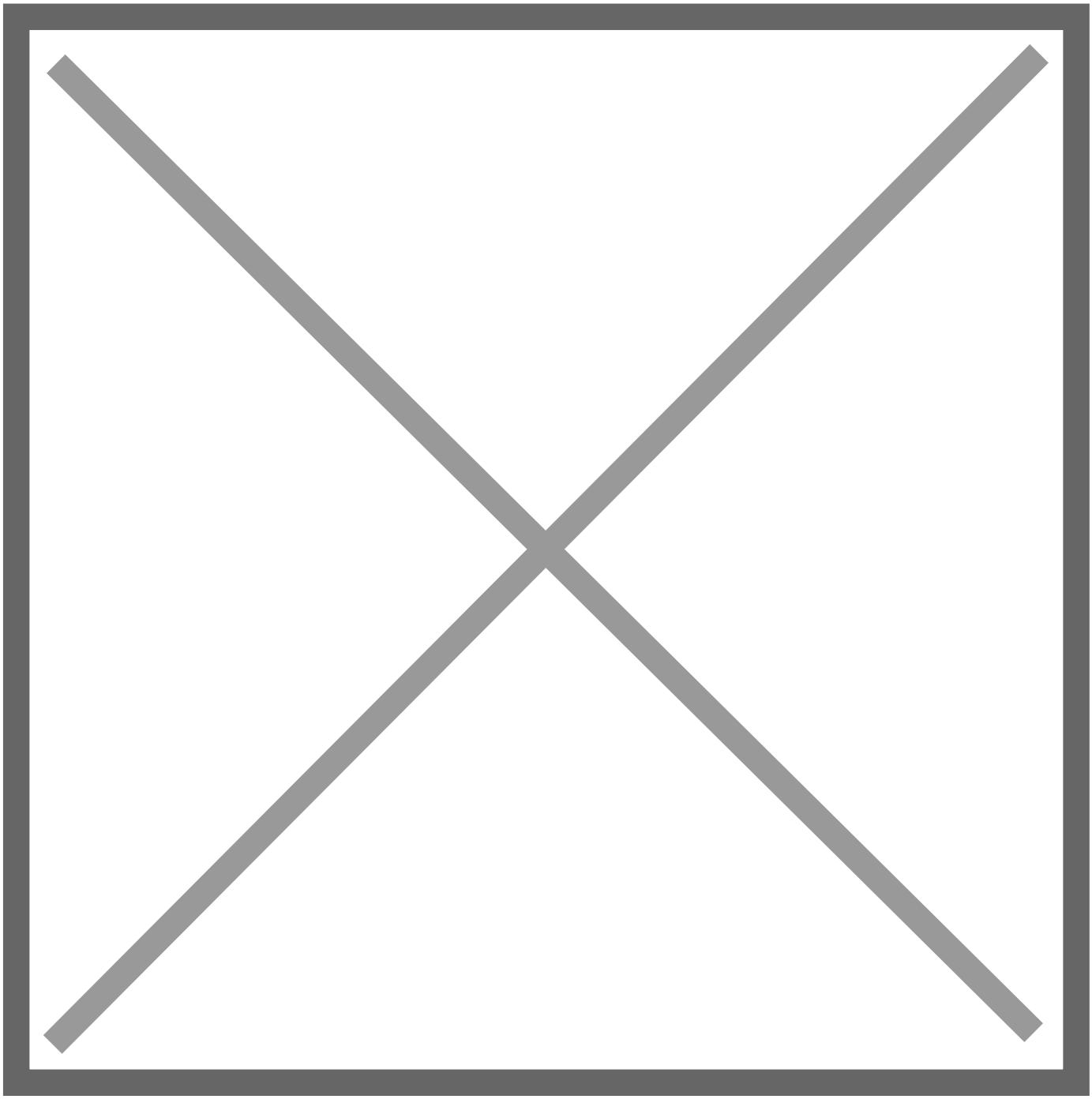
## Children, 2009-2015



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Measured |
| **Age:** | 12-17 |
| **References:** | Beal et al. (2019). Global Patterns of Adolescent Fruit, Vegetable, Carbonated Soft Drink, and Fast-food consumption: A meta-analysis of global school-based student health surveys. Food and Nutrition Bulletin. https://doi.org/10.1177/0379572119848287 sourced from Food Systems Dashboard http://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org/food-system |

## Prevalence of less than daily fruit consumption

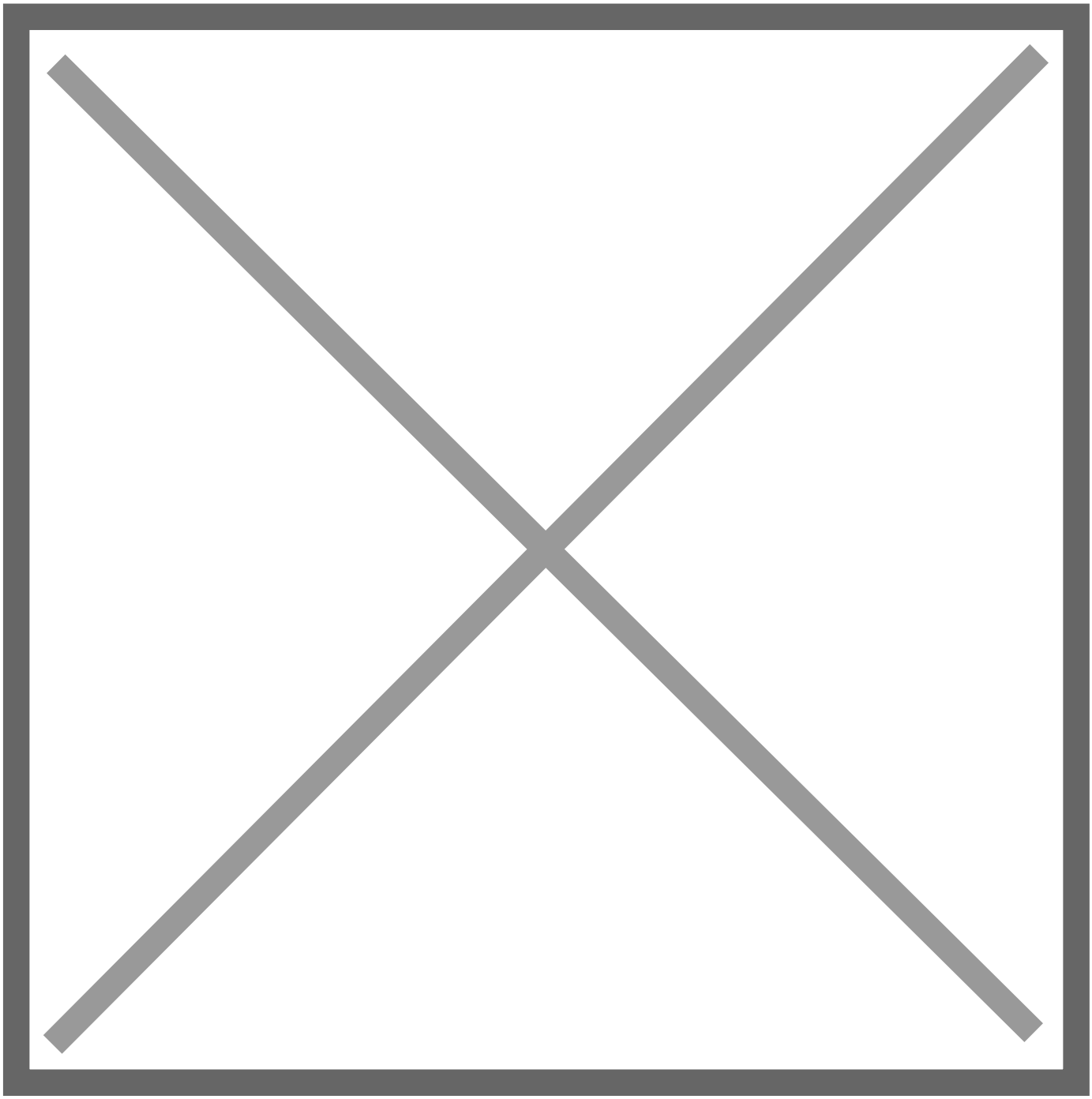
## Boys, 2013-2014



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Self-reported |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Global School-based Student Health Surveys. Beal et al (2019). Global Patterns of Adolescent Fruit, Vegetable, Carbonated Soft Drink, and Fast-food consumption: A meta-analysis of global school-based student health surveys. Food and Nutrition Bulletin. https://doi.org/10.1177/0379572119848287. Sourced from Food Systems Dashboard http://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org/food-system |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Definitions:** | Prevalence of less-than-daily fruit consumption (% less-than-daily fruit consumption) |

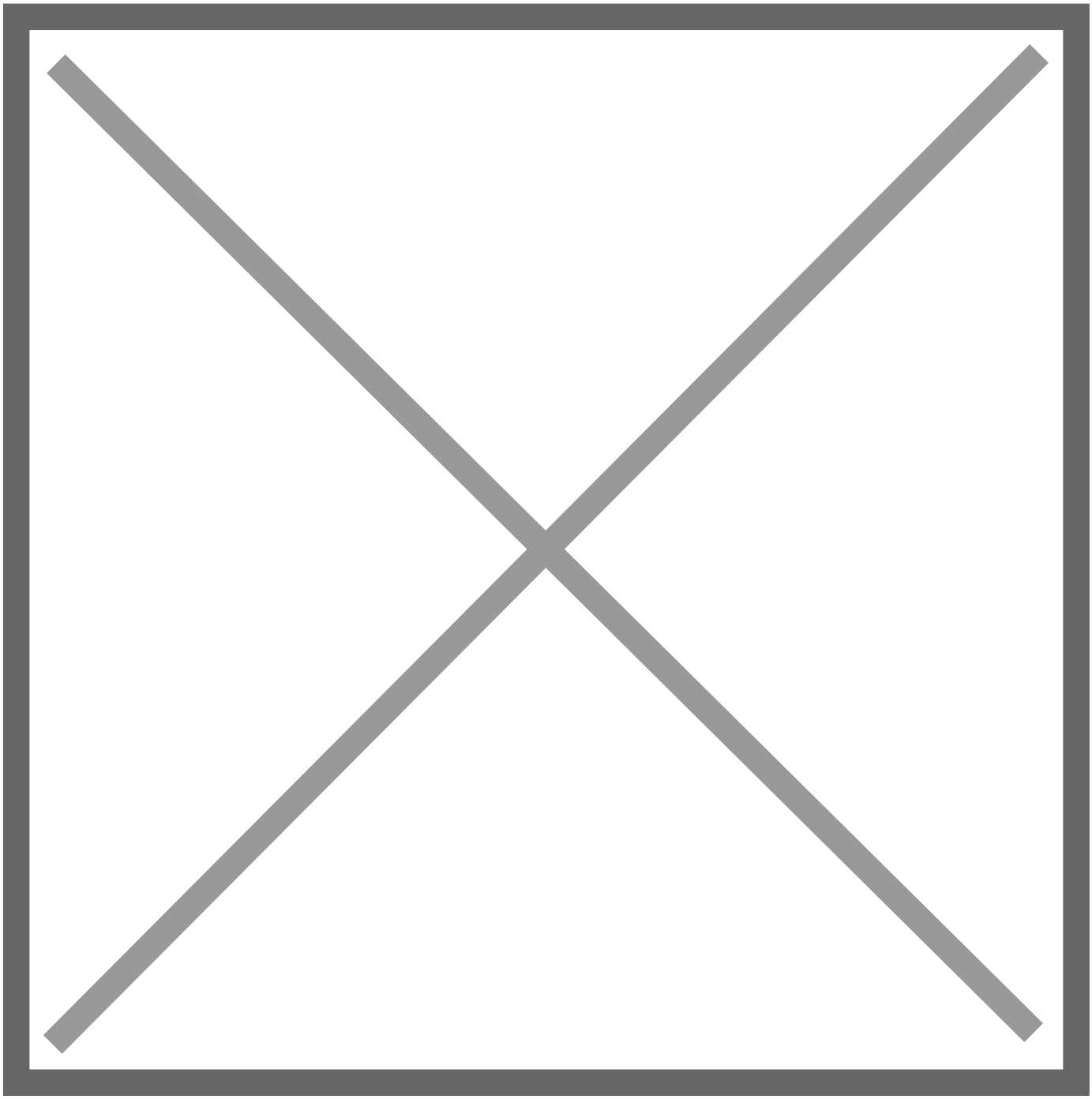
## Girls, 2013-2014



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Self-reported |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Global School-based Student Health Surveys. Beal et al (2019). Global Patterns of Adolescent Fruit, Vegetable, Carbonated Soft Drink, and Fast-food consumption: A meta-analysis of global school-based student health surveys. Food and Nutrition Bulletin. https://doi.org/10.1177/0379572119848287. Sourced from Food Systems Dashboard http://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org/food-system |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Definitions:** | Prevalence of less-than-daily fruit consumption (% less-than-daily fruit consumption) |

## Children, 2013-2014

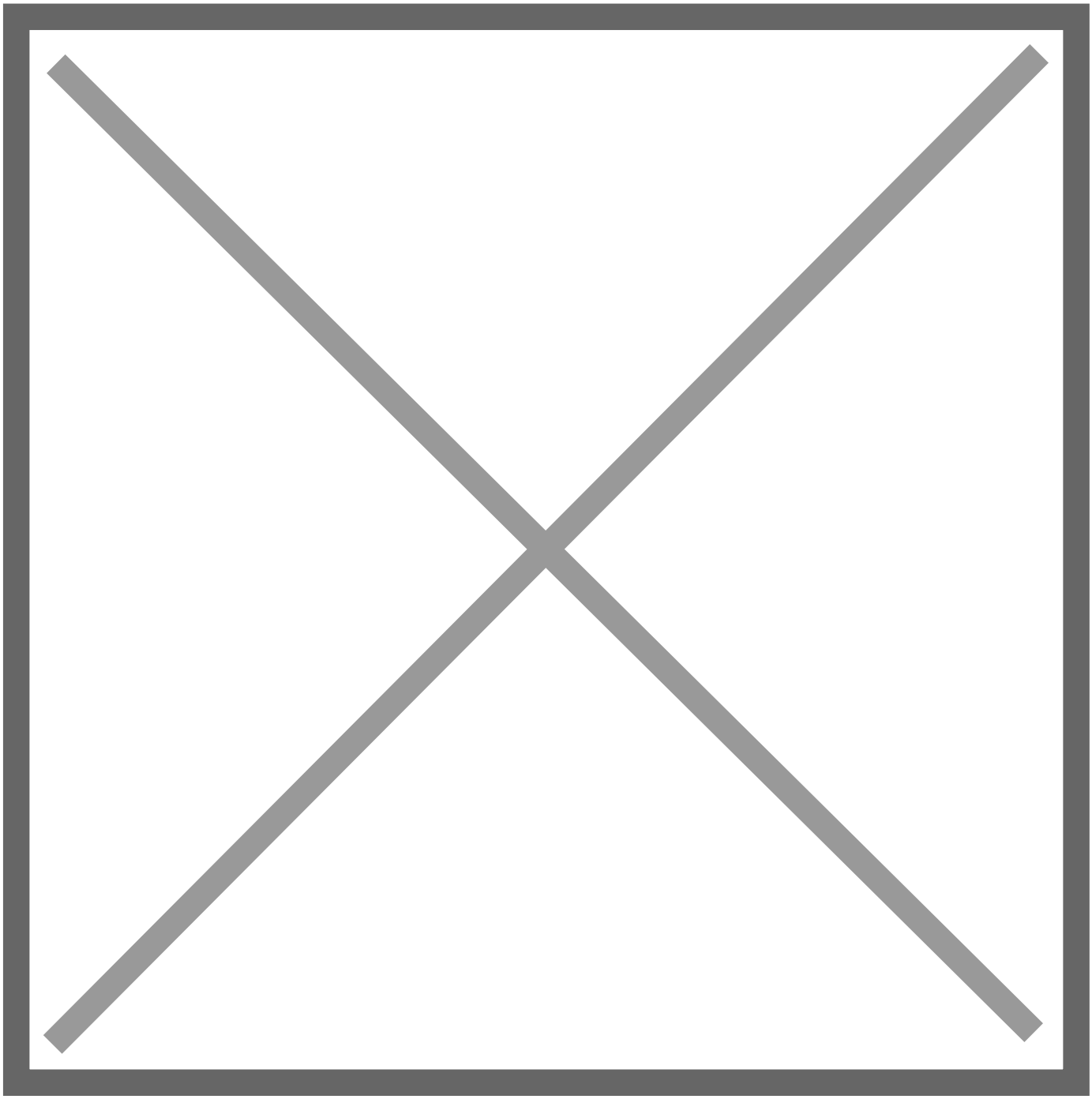


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|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Self-reported |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Global School-based Student Health Surveys. Beal et al (2019). Global Patterns of Adolescent Fruit, Vegetable, Carbonated Soft Drink, and Fast-food consumption: A meta-analysis of global school-based student health surveys. Food and Nutrition Bulletin. https://doi.org/10.1177/0379572119848287. Sourced from Food Systems Dashboard http://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org/food-system |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Definitions:** | Prevalence of less-than-daily fruit consumption (% less-than-daily fruit consumption) |

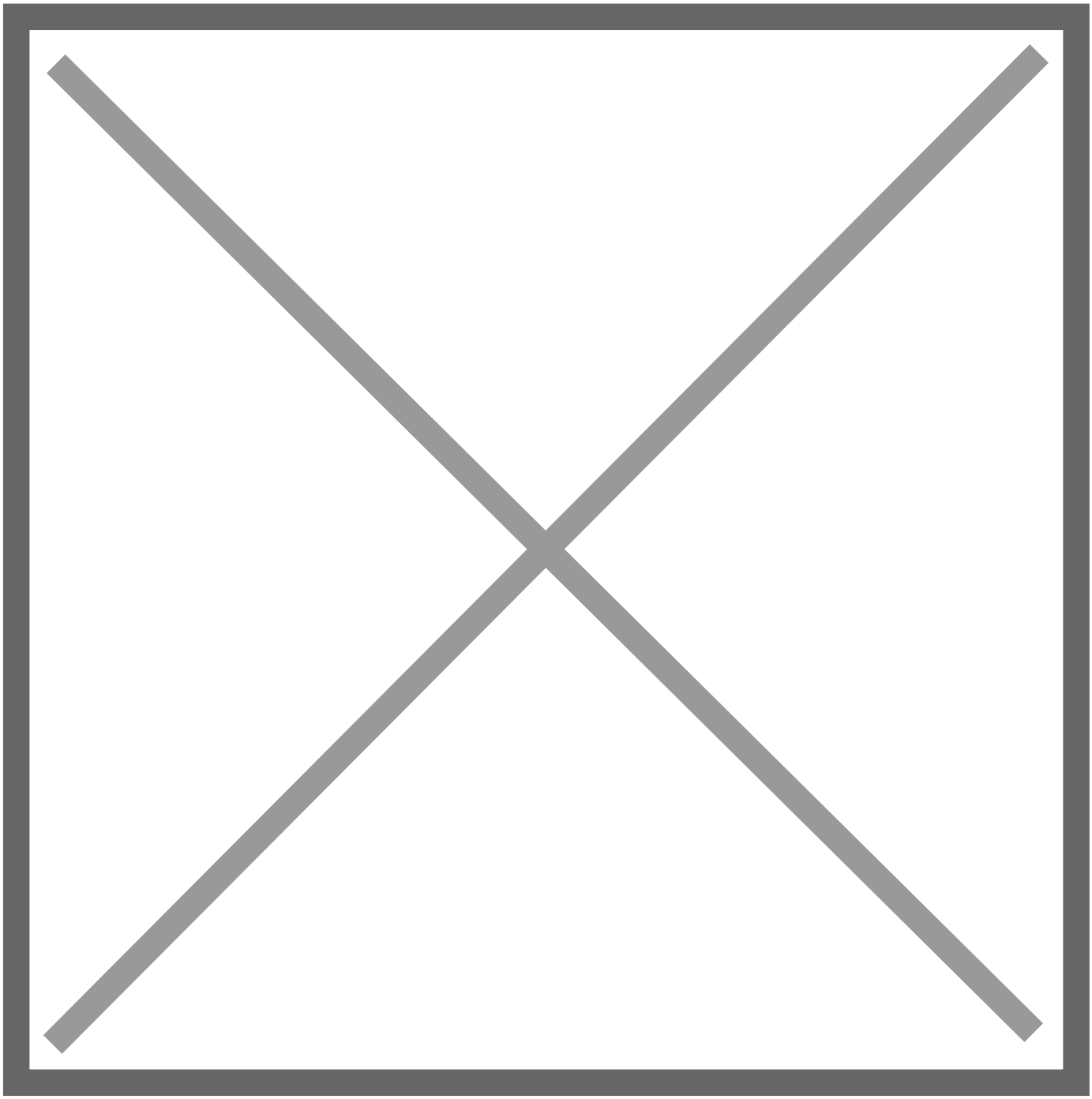
## Prevalence of less than daily vegetable consumption

## Boys, 2013-2014



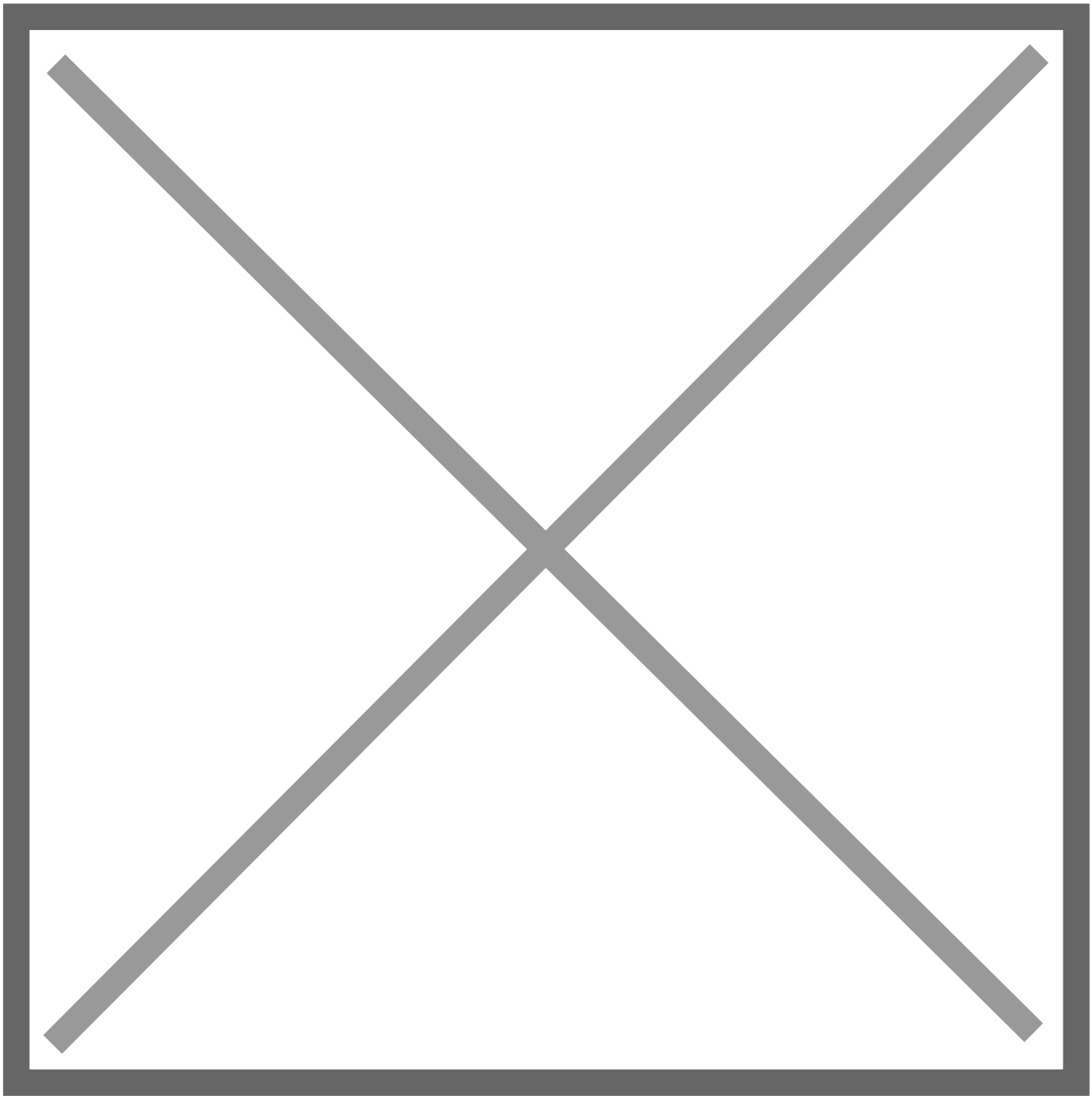
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|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Self-reported |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Beal et al. (2019). Global Patterns of Adolescent Fruit, Vegetable, Carbonated Soft Drink, and Fast-food consumption: A meta-analysis of global school-based student health surveys. Food and Nutrition Bulletin. https://doi.org/10.1177/0379572119848287 sourced from Food Systems Dashboard http://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org/food-system |
| **Definitions:** | Prevalence of less-than-daily vegetable consumption (% less-than-daily vegetable consumption) |

## Girls, 2013-2014



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Self-reported |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Beal et al. (2019). Global Patterns of Adolescent Fruit, Vegetable, Carbonated Soft Drink, and Fast-food consumption: A meta-analysis of global school-based student health surveys. Food and Nutrition Bulletin. https://doi.org/10.1177/0379572119848287 sourced from Food Systems Dashboard http://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org/food-system |
| **Definitions:** | Prevalence of less-than-daily vegetable consumption (% less-than-daily vegetable consumption) |

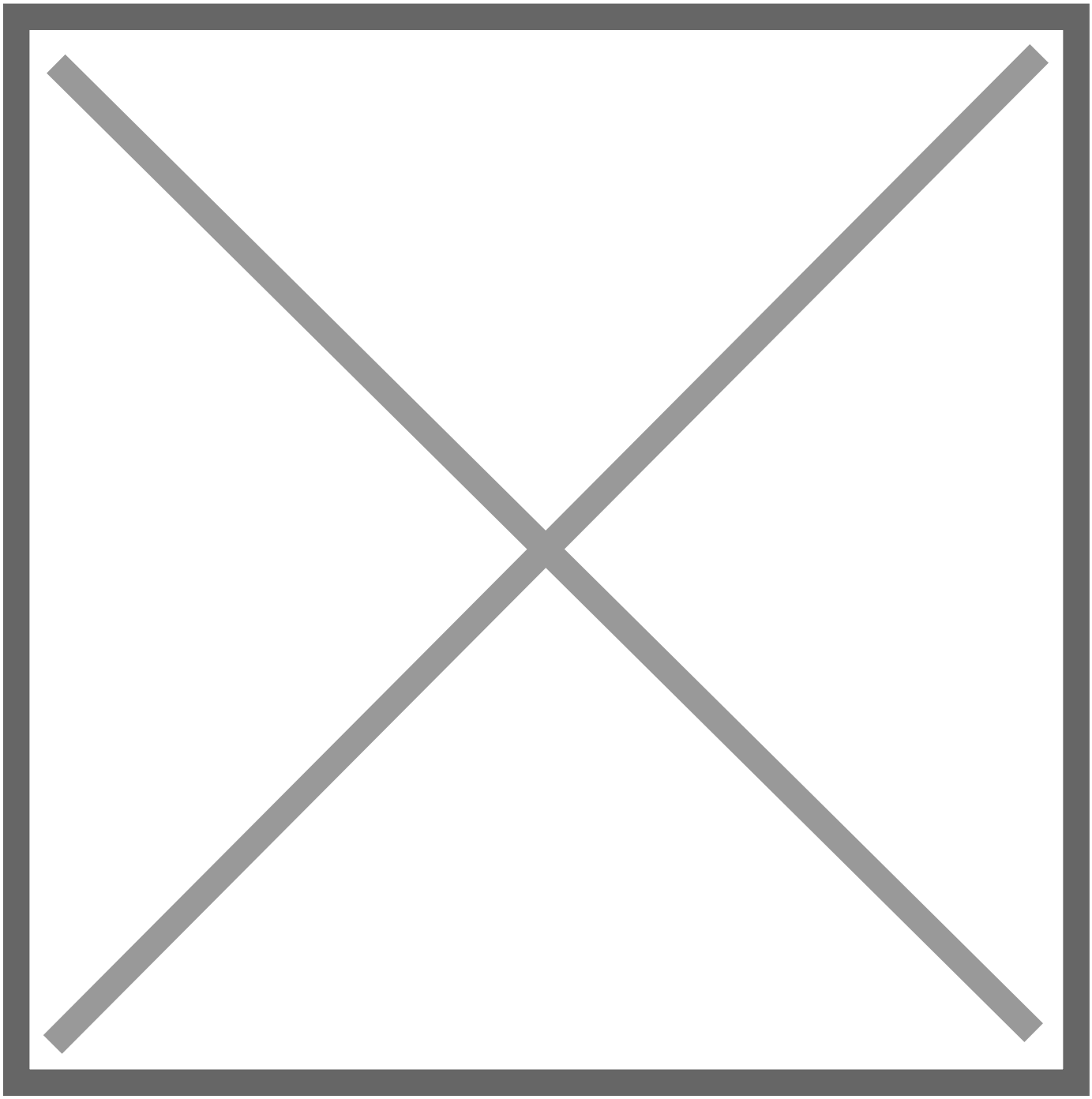
## Children, 2013-2014



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Self-reported |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Beal et al. (2019). Global Patterns of Adolescent Fruit, Vegetable, Carbonated Soft Drink, and Fast-food consumption: A meta-analysis of global school-based student health surveys. Food and Nutrition Bulletin. https://doi.org/10.1177/0379572119848287 sourced from Food Systems Dashboard http://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org/food-system |
| **Definitions:** | Prevalence of less-than-daily vegetable consumption (% less-than-daily vegetable consumption) |

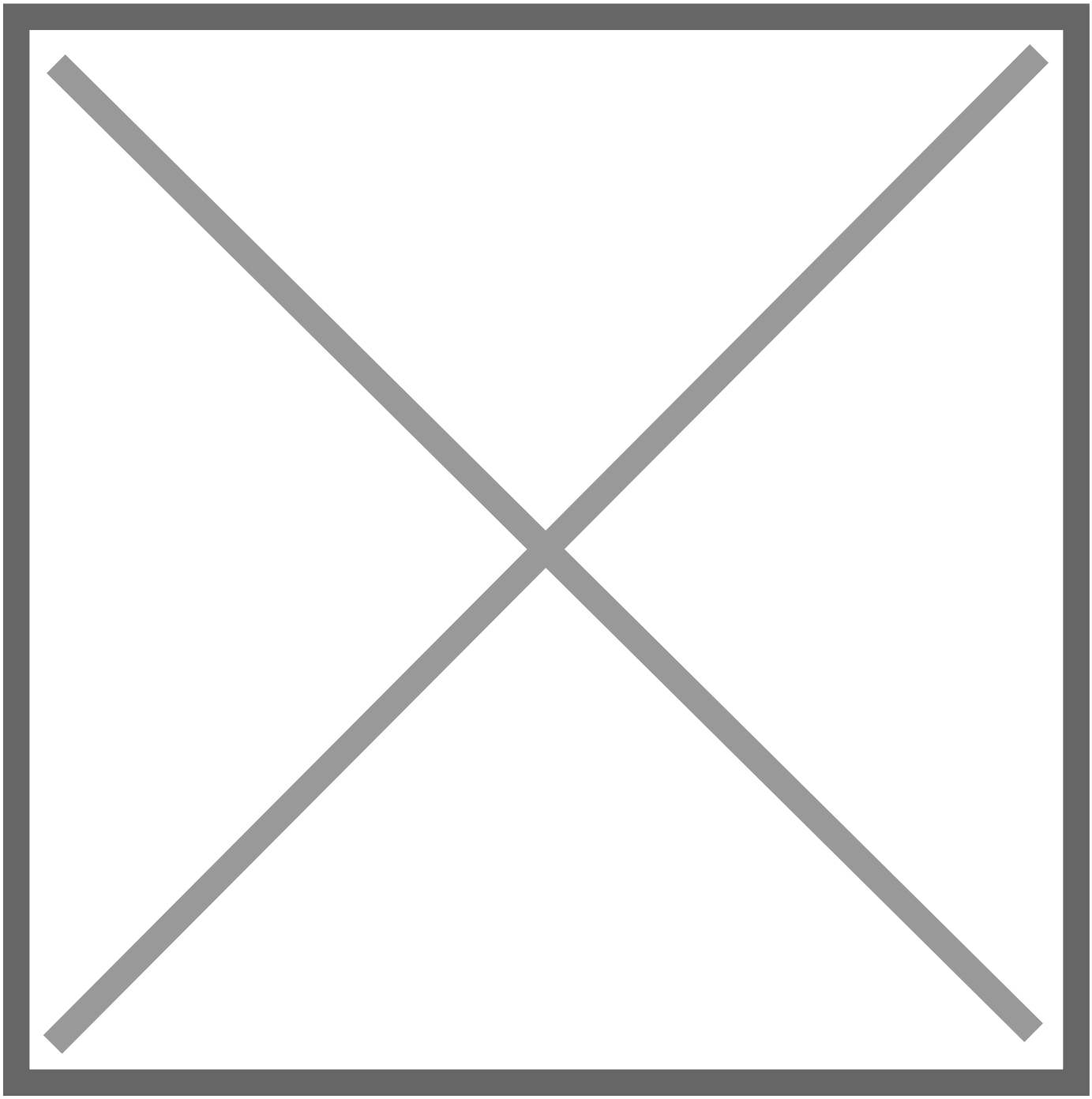
## Mental health - depression disorders

## Children, 2023



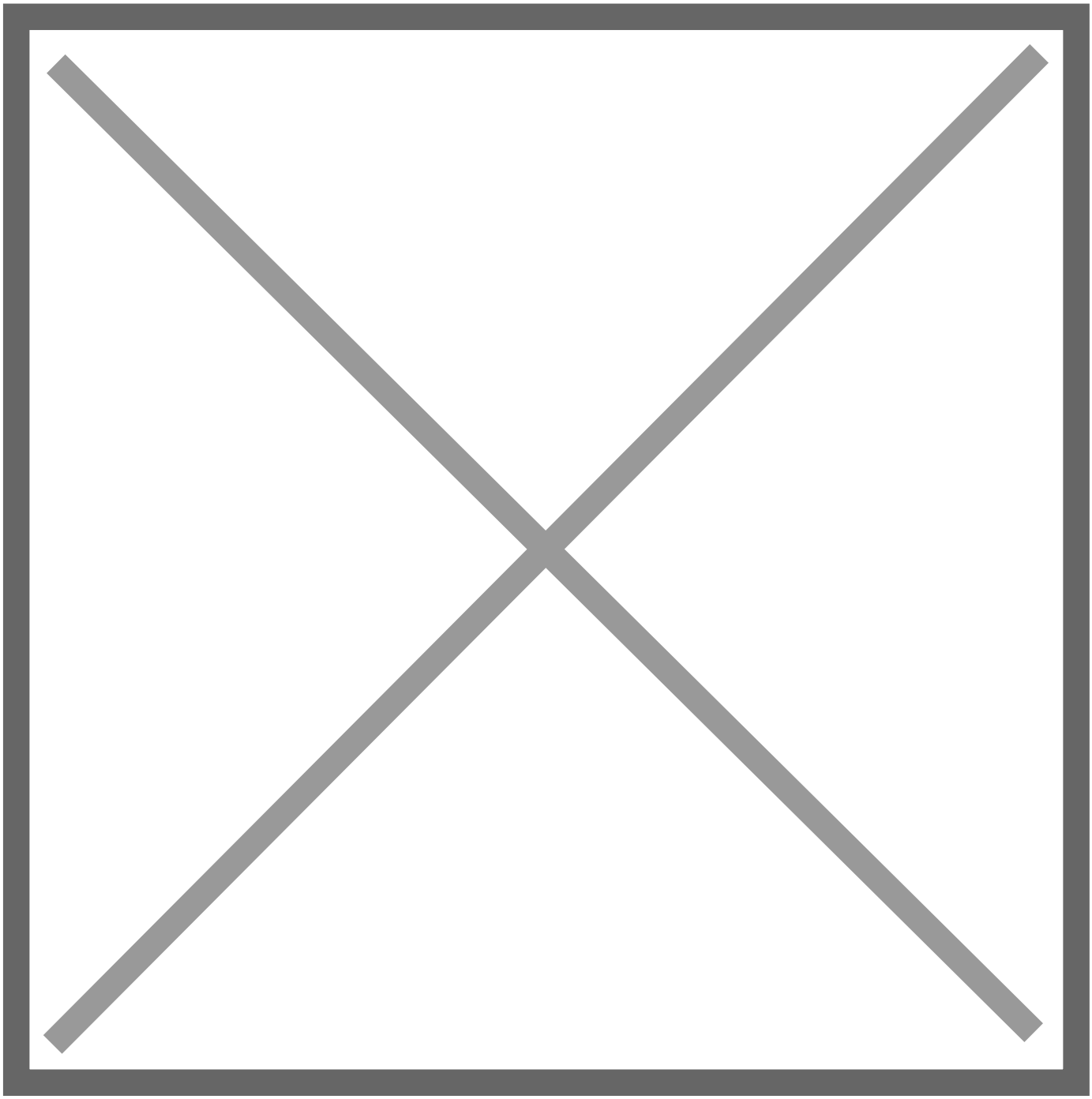
| | |
|---|---|
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2025. Available from https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/ [Accessed 17.03.26] |
| **Definitions:** | Estimated number living with depressive disorders per 100,000 population (under 20 years of age) |

## Boys, 2023



| | |
|---|---|
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2025. Available from https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/ [Accessed 17.03.26] |
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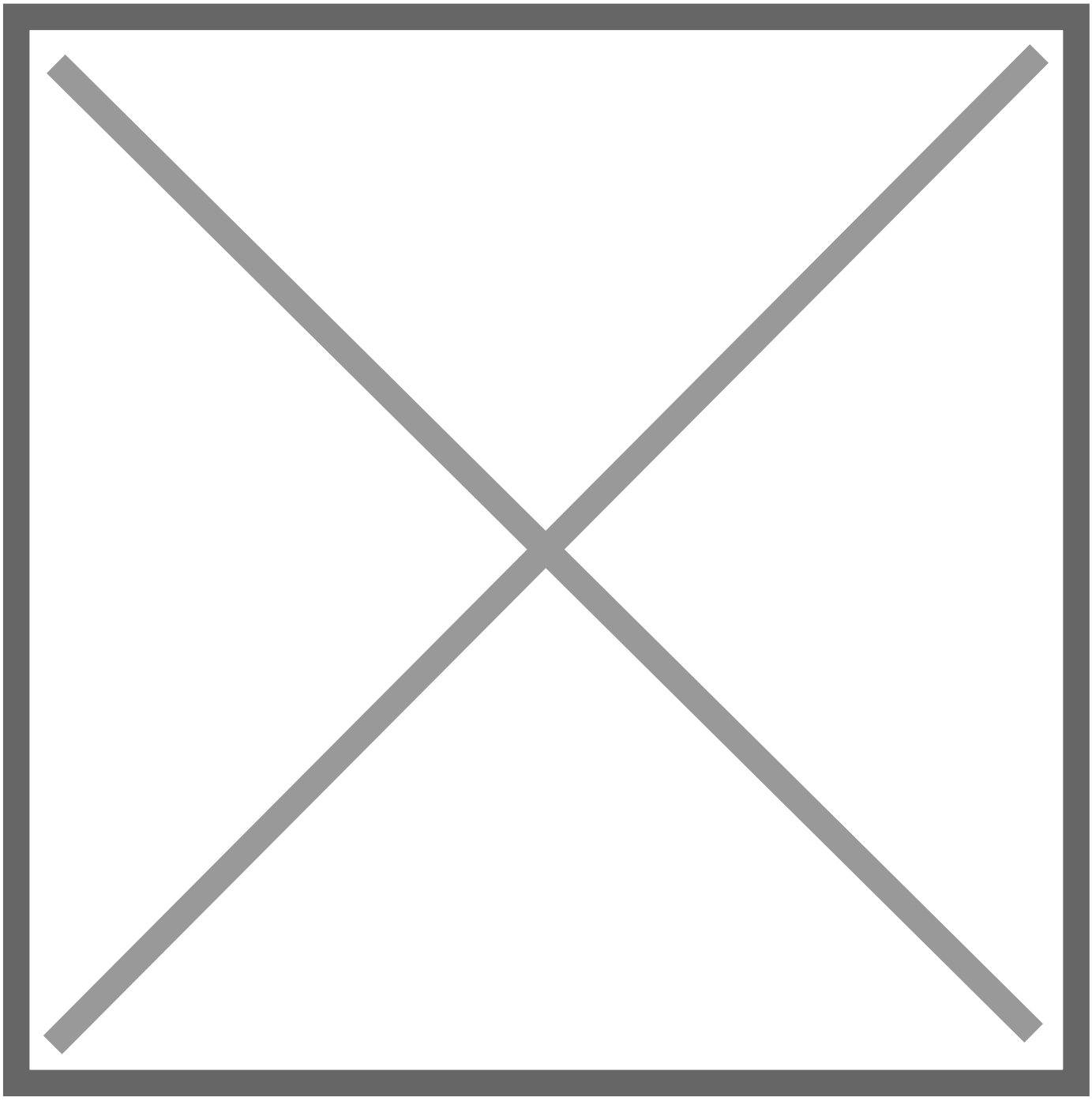
## Girls, 2023



| | |
|---|---|
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2025. Available from https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/ [Accessed 17.03.26] |
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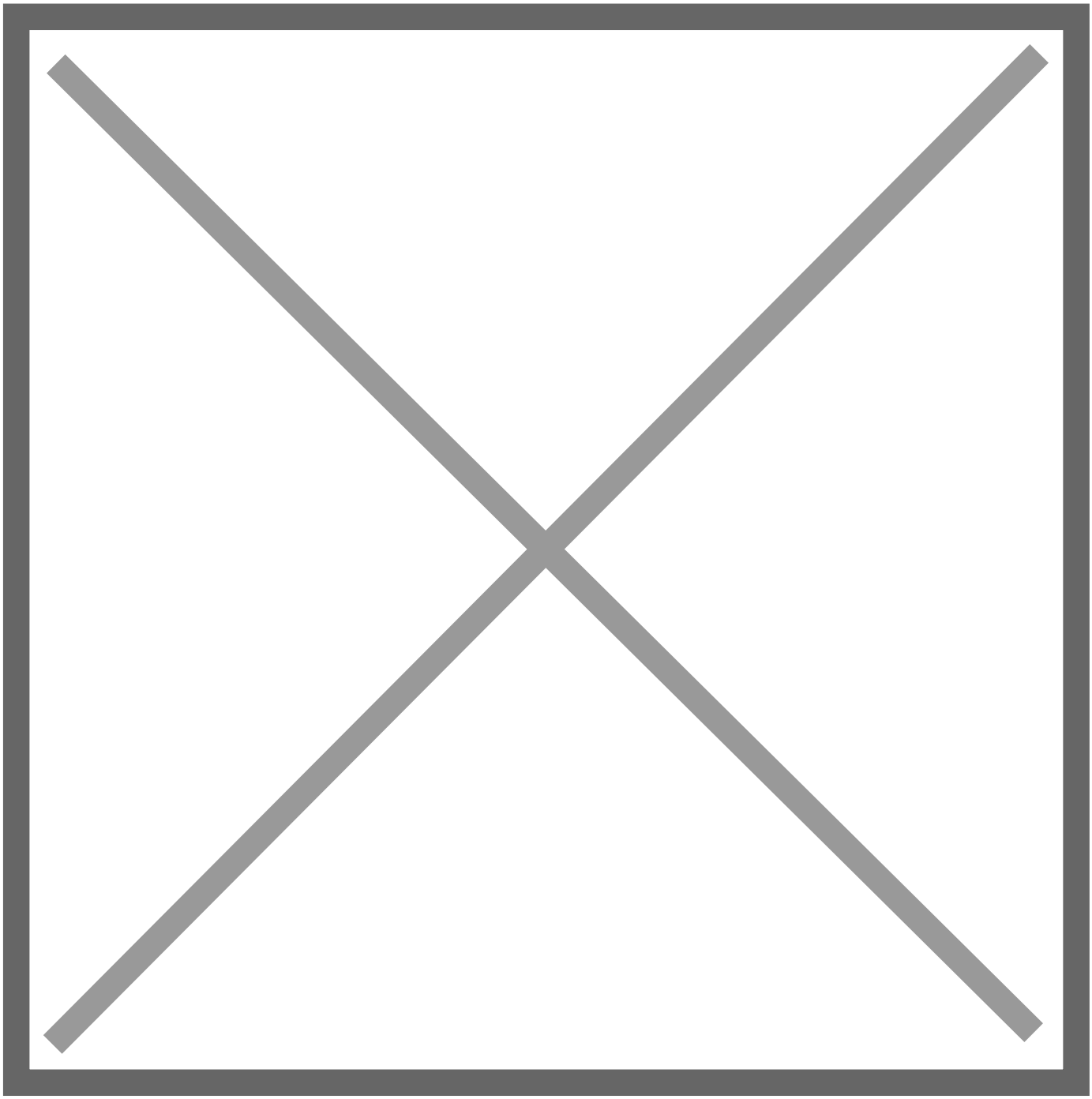
# Mental health - anxiety disorders

## Children, 2023



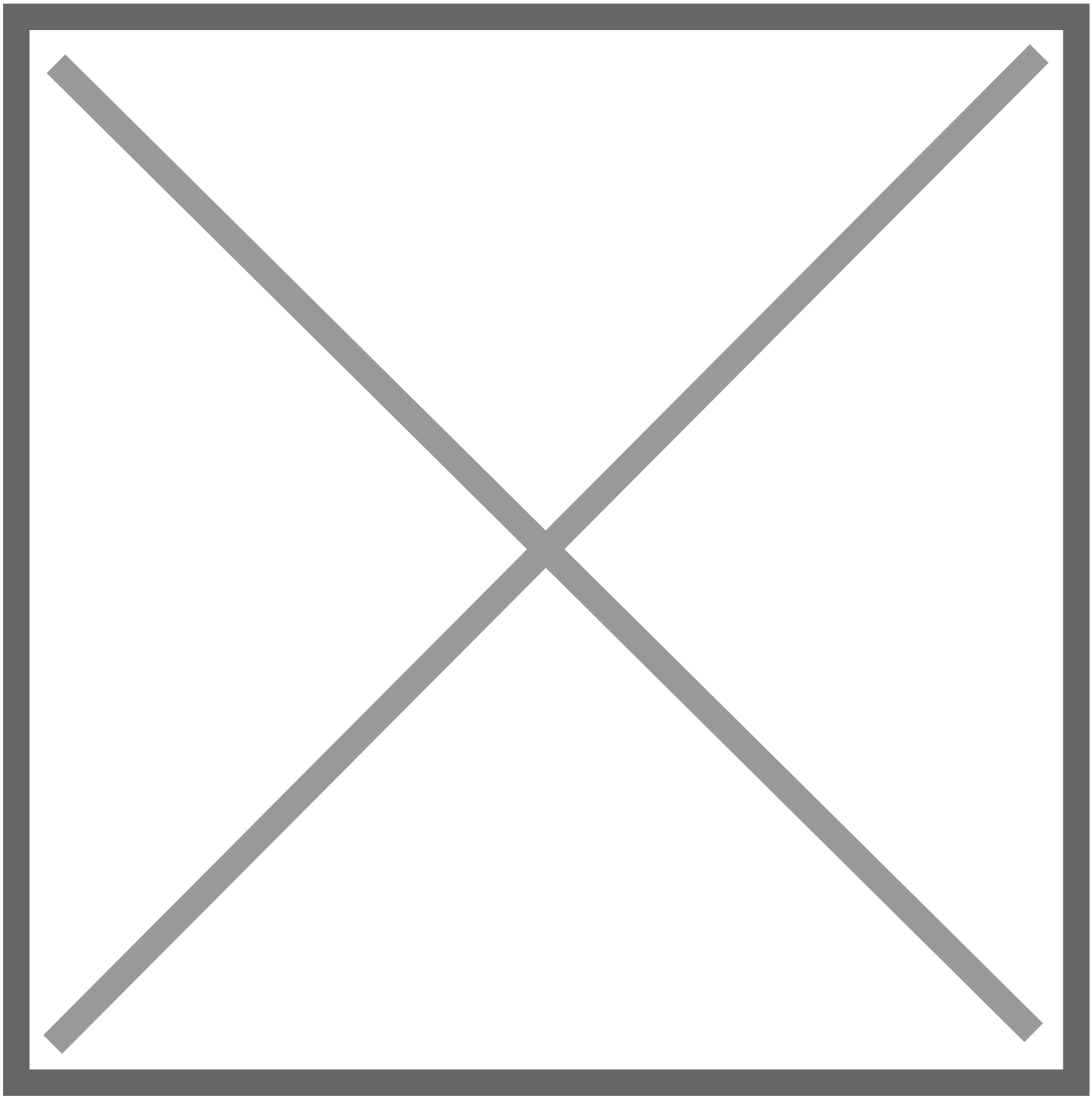
| | |
|---|---|
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2025. Available from https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/ [Accessed 17.03.26] |
| **Definitions:** | Estimated number living with anxiety disorders per 100,000 population (under 20 years of age) |

## Boys, 2023



| | |
|---|---|
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2025. Available from https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/ [Accessed 17.03.26] |
| **Definitions:** | Estimated number living with anxiety disorders per 100,000 population (under 20 years of age) |

## Girls, 2023



| | |
|---|---|
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2025. Available from https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/ [Accessed 17.03.26] |
| **Definitions:** | Estimated number living with anxiety disorders per 100,000 population (under 20 years of age) |

*PDF created on August 21, 2026*