



Lebanon



Country report card - children

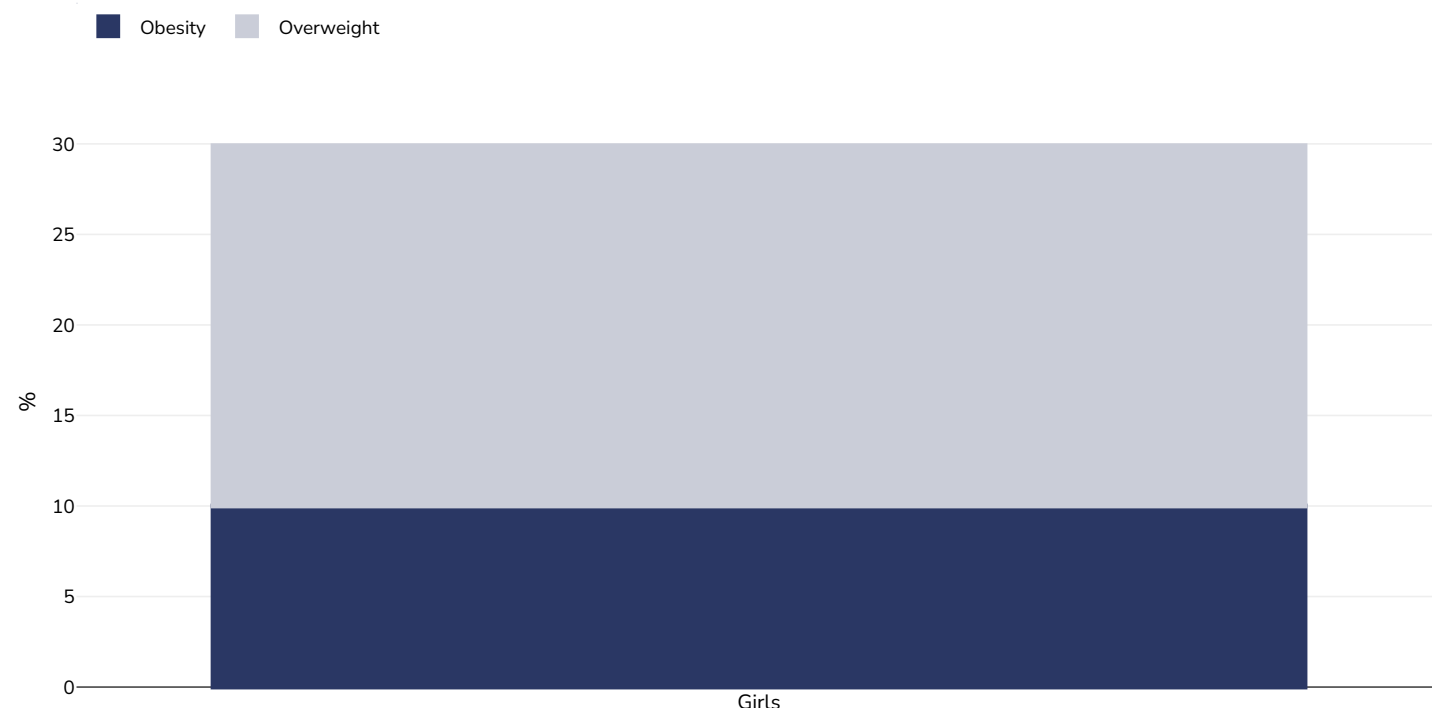
This report card contains the latest data available on the Global Obesity Observatory on overweight and obesity for children, including adolescents (aged 5 to 18 years). Where available, data on common and relevant obesity drivers and comorbidities are also presented.

View the latest version of this report on the Global Obesity Observatory at <https://data.worldobesity.org/country/lebanon-119/>.

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Obesity prevalence

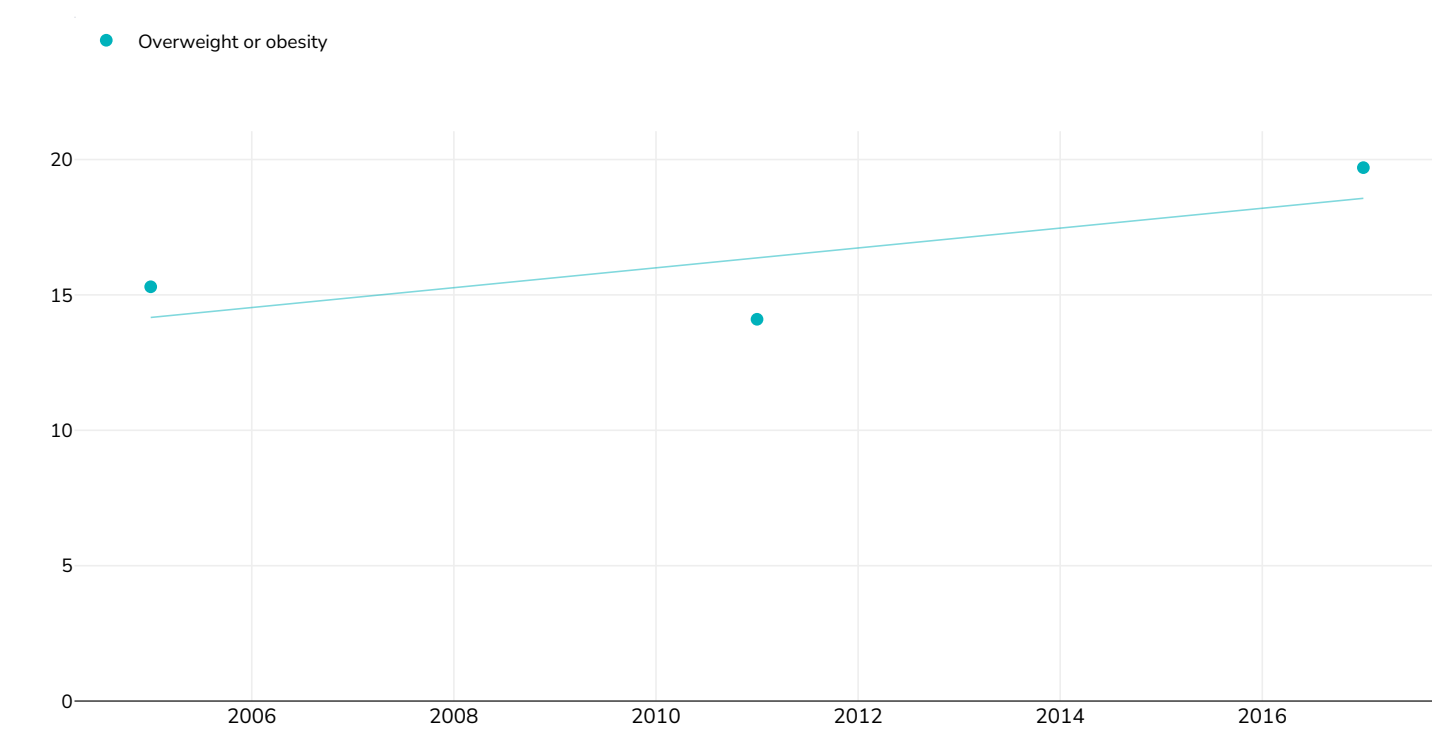
Girls, 2023



Survey type:	Measured
Age:	10-19
Sample size:	2128
Area covered:	National
References:	Ministry of Public Health, UNICEF-Lebanon, American University of Beirut, Mercy USA, World Food Programme, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and GroundWork. Integrated Micronutrient, Anthropometry and Child Development Survey 2023. Beirut, Lebanon; 2024.
Definitions:	Overweight was defined as a BMI-for-age z-score of greater than +1.0, while obesity was defined as a BMI-for-age z-score of greater than +2.0
Cutoffs:	WHO

Trends children 2005 2017 overweight or obesity

Girls



Survey type:

Self-reported

References:

2005: Global School-based Student Health Survey, Fact Sheet available at https://www.who.int/ncds/surveillance/gshs/2005_Lebanon_Fact_Sheet.pdf?ua=1 (last accessed 25.11.20)

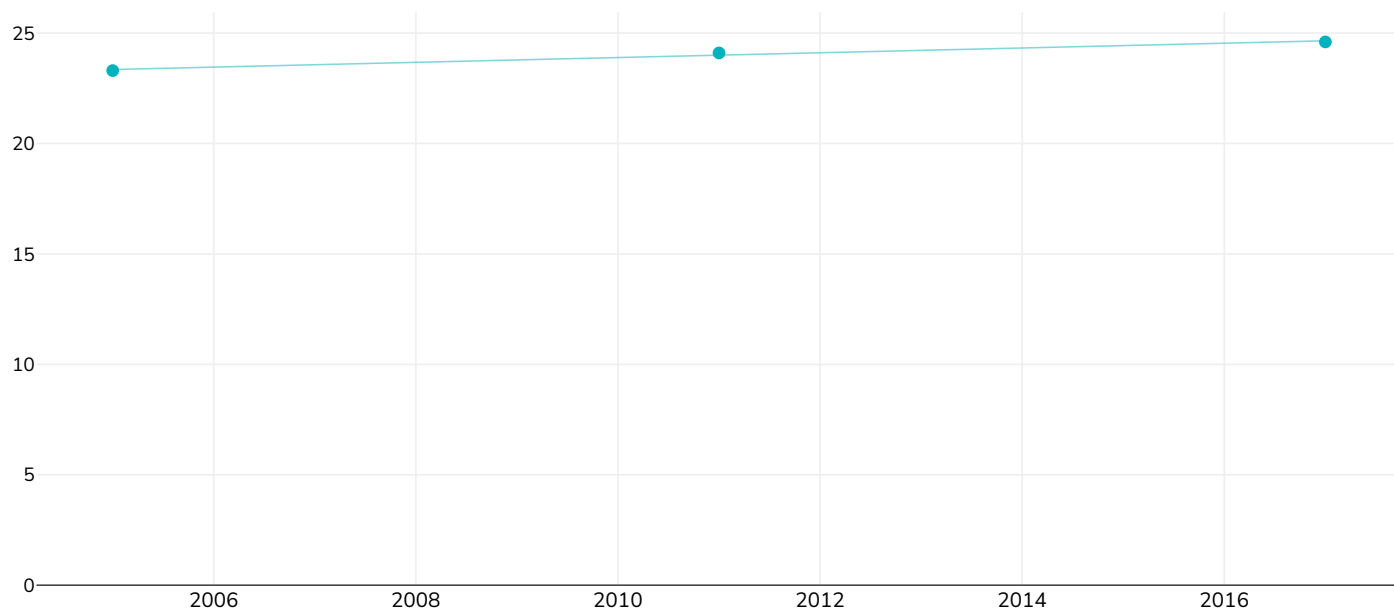
2011: Global School-based Student Health Survey, Fact Sheet available at https://www.who.int/ncds/surveillance/gshs/2011_GSHS_FS_Lebanon.pdf?ua=1

2017: Global School-based Student Health Survey (GSHS), available at https://www.who.int/ncds/surveillance/gshs/Lebanon_2017_GSHS_FS.pdf (last accessed 13.11.20)

Different methodologies may have been used to collect this data and so data from different surveys may not be strictly comparable. Please check with original data sources for methodologies used.

Boys and girls

● Overweight or obesity



Survey type:

Self-reported

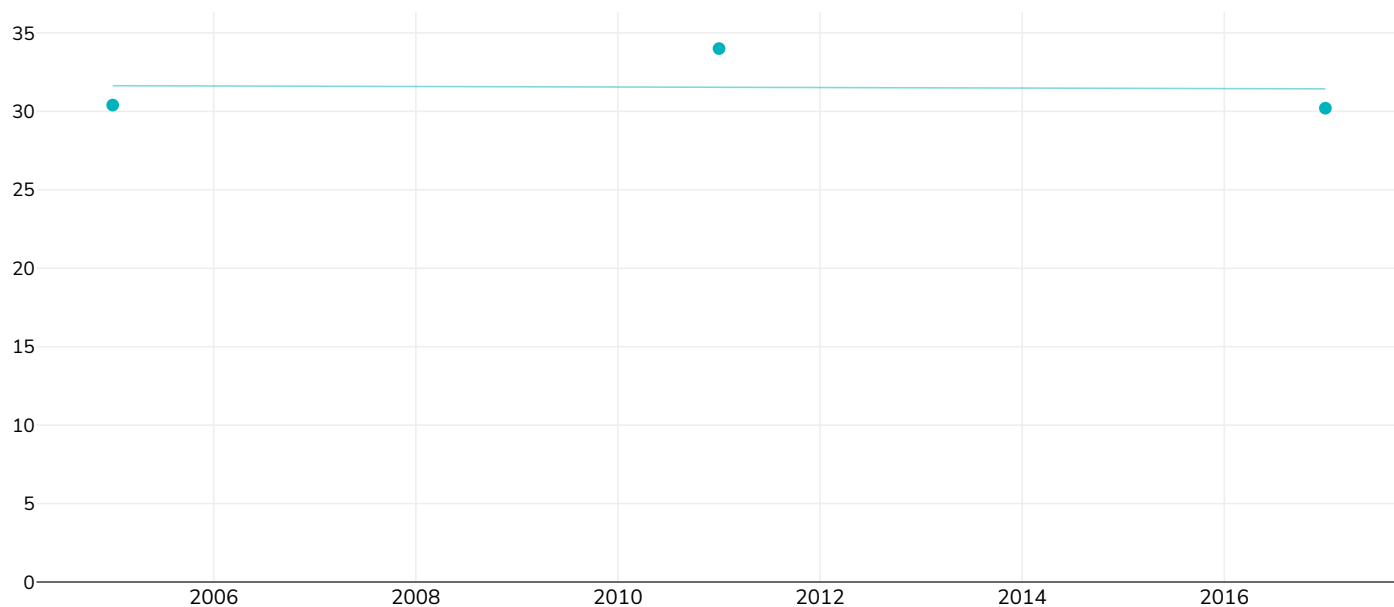
References:

2005: Global School-based Student Health Survey, Fact Sheet available at https://www.who.int/ncds/surveillance/gshs/2005_Lebanon_Fact_Sheet.pdf?ua=1 (last accessed 25.11.20)
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Boys

● Overweight or obesity



Survey type:

Self-reported

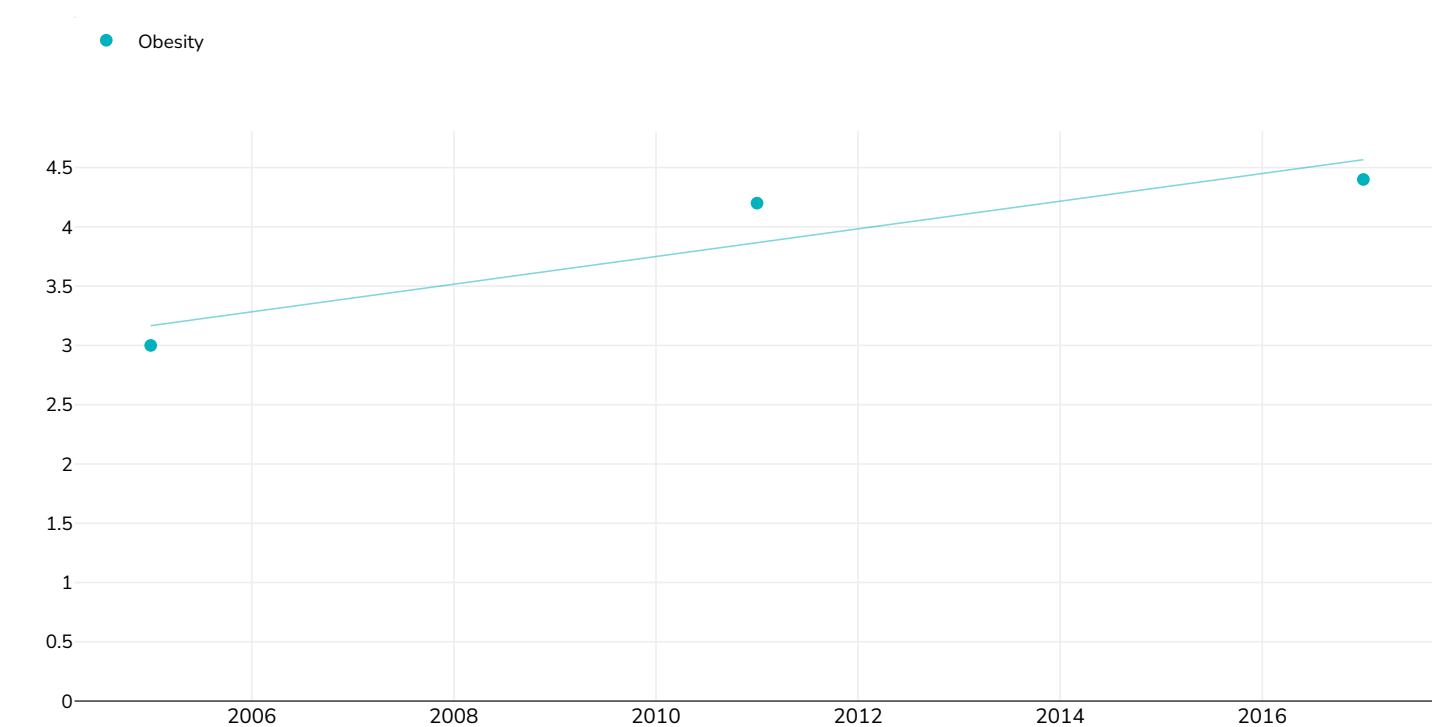
References:

2005: Global School-based Student Health Survey, Fact Sheet available at https://www.who.int/ncds/surveillance/gshs/2005_Lebanon_Fact_Sheet.pdf?ua=1 (last accessed 25.11.20)
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Trends obesity children 2005 2017

Girls



Survey type:

Self-reported

References:

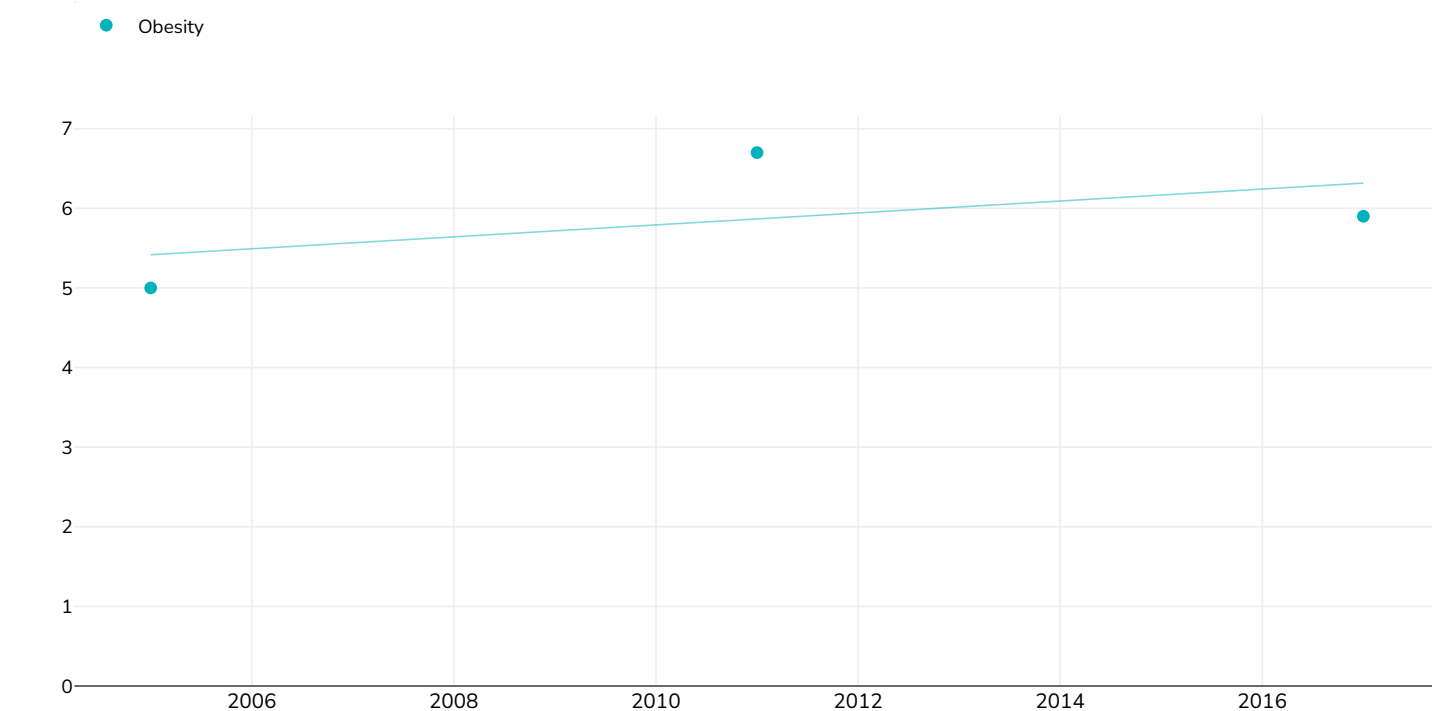
2005: Global School-based Student Health Survey, Fact Sheet available at https://www.who.int/ncds/surveillance/gshs/2005_Lebanon_Fact_Sheet.pdf?ua=1 (last accessed 25.11.20)

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Boys and girls



Survey type:

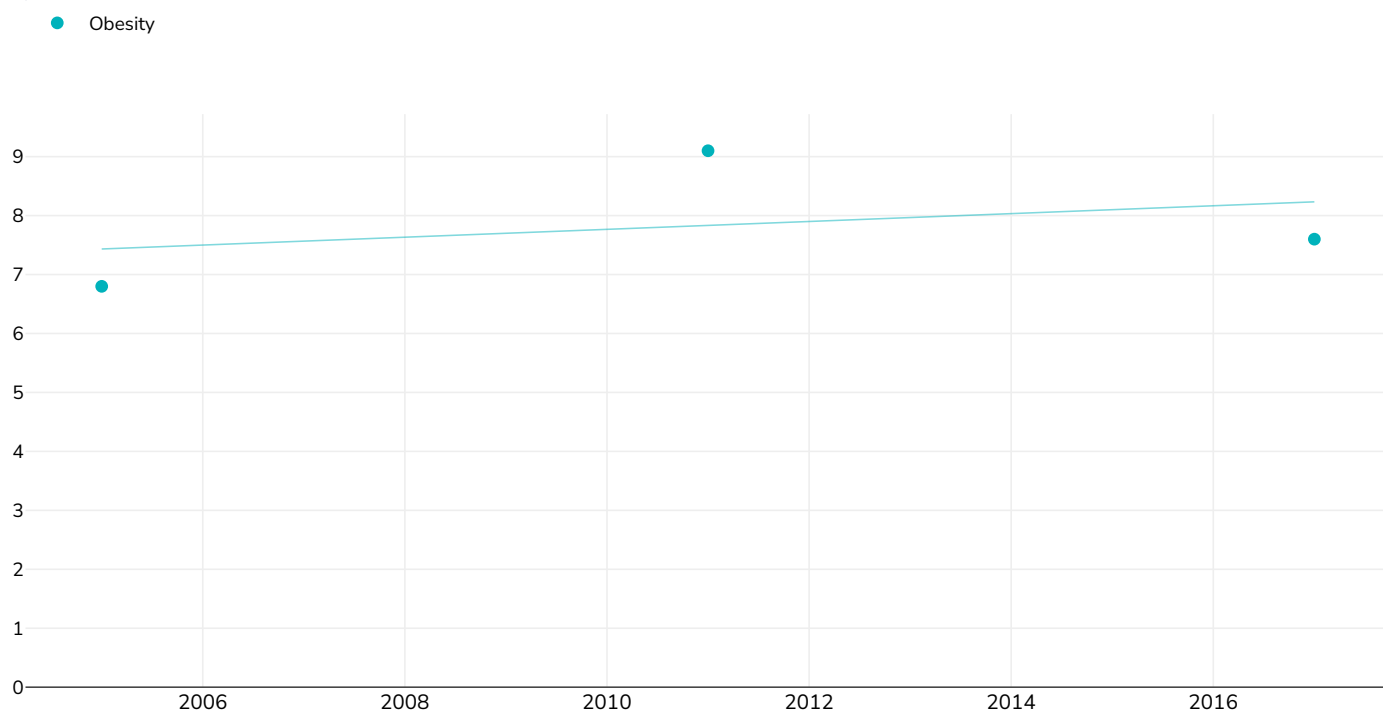
Self-reported

References:

2005: Global School-based Student Health Survey, Fact Sheet available at https://www.who.int/ncds/surveillance/gshs/2005_Lebanon_Fact_Sheet.pdf?ua=1 (last accessed 25.11.20)
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Boys



Survey type:

Self-reported

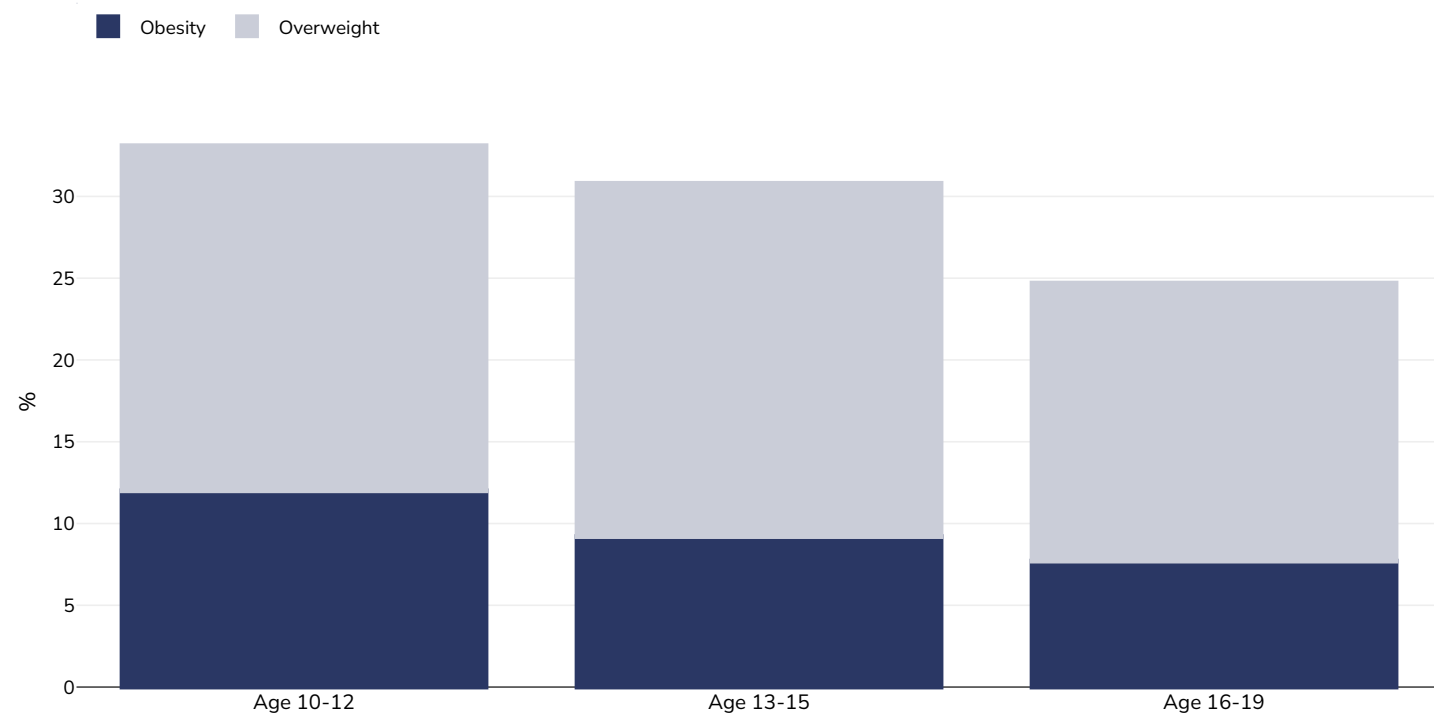
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2005: Global School-based Student Health Survey, Fact Sheet available at https://www.who.int/ncds/surveillance/gshs/2005_Lebanon_Fact_Sheet.pdf?ua=1 (last accessed 25.11.20)
 2011: Global School-based Student Health Survey, Fact Sheet available at https://www.who.int/ncds/surveillance/gshs/2011_GSHS_FS_Lebanon.pdf?ua=1
 2017: Global School-based Student Health Survey (GSHS), available at https://www.who.int/ncds/surveillance/gshs/Lebanon_2017_GSHS_FS.pdf (last accessed 13.11.20)

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Overweight/obesity by age

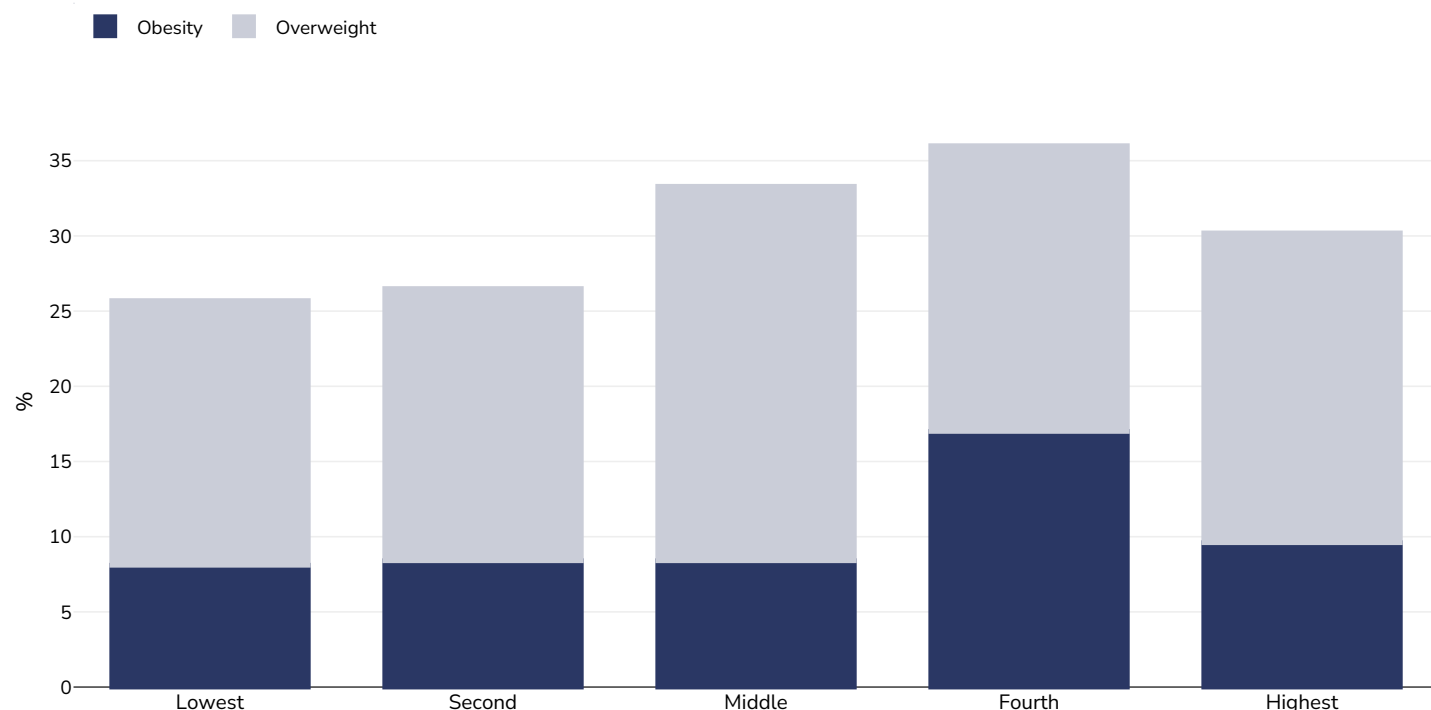
Children, 2023



Survey type:	Measured
Sample size:	2128
Area covered:	National
References:	Ministry of Public Health, UNICEF-Lebanon, American University of Beirut, Mercy USA, World Food Programme, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and GroundWork. Integrated Micronutrient, Anthropometry and Child Development Survey 2023. Beirut, Lebanon; 2024.
Definitions:	Overweight was defined as a BMI-for-age z-score of greater than +1.0, while obesity was defined as a BMI-for-age z-score of greater than +2.0
Cutoffs:	WHO

Overweight/obesity by socio-economic group

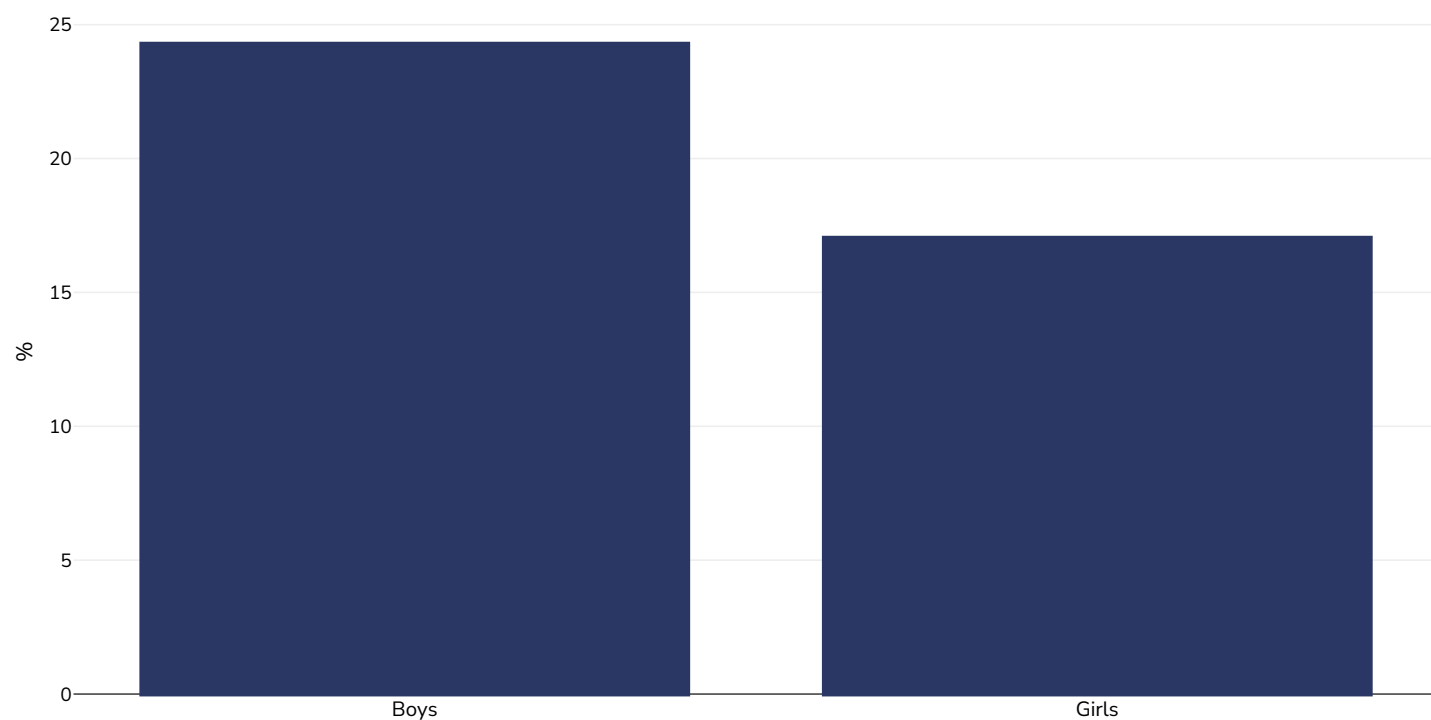
Girls, 2023



Survey type:	Measured
Age:	10-19
Sample size:	2128
Area covered:	National
References:	Ministry of Public Health, UNICEF-Lebanon, American University of Beirut, Mercy USA, World Food Programme, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and GroundWork. Integrated Micronutrient, Anthropometry and Child Development Survey 2023. Beirut, Lebanon; 2024.
Definitions:	Overweight was defined as a BMI-for-age z-score of greater than +1.0, while obesity was defined as a BMI-for-age z-score of greater than +2.0
Cutoffs:	WHO

Double burden of underweight & overweight

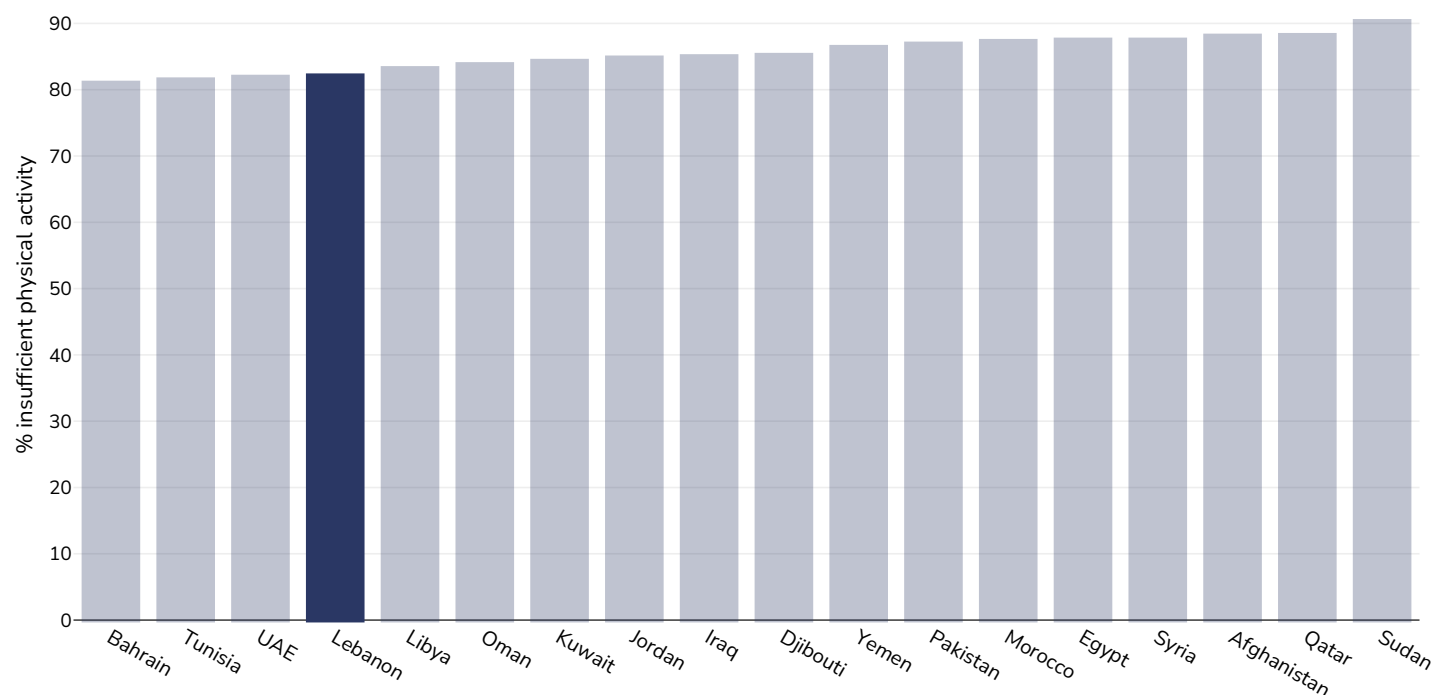
Children, 2022



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

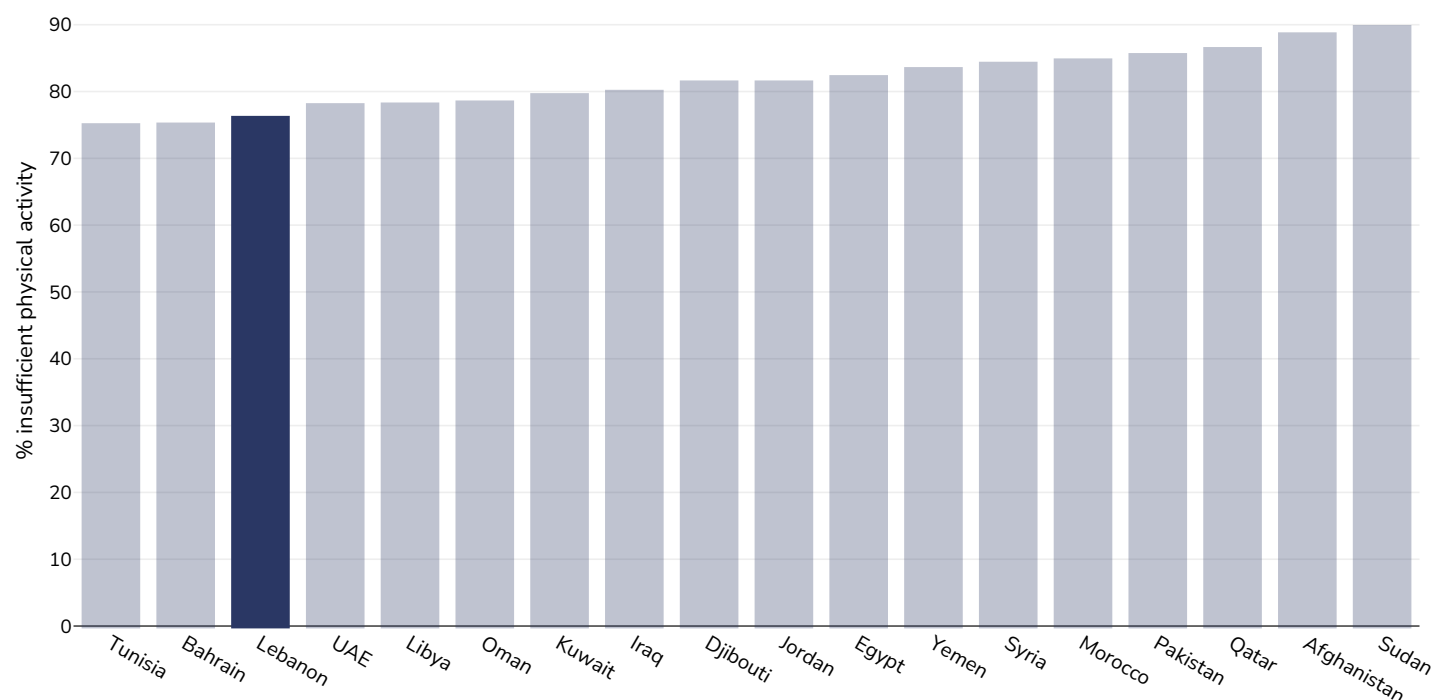
Age: 11-17

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

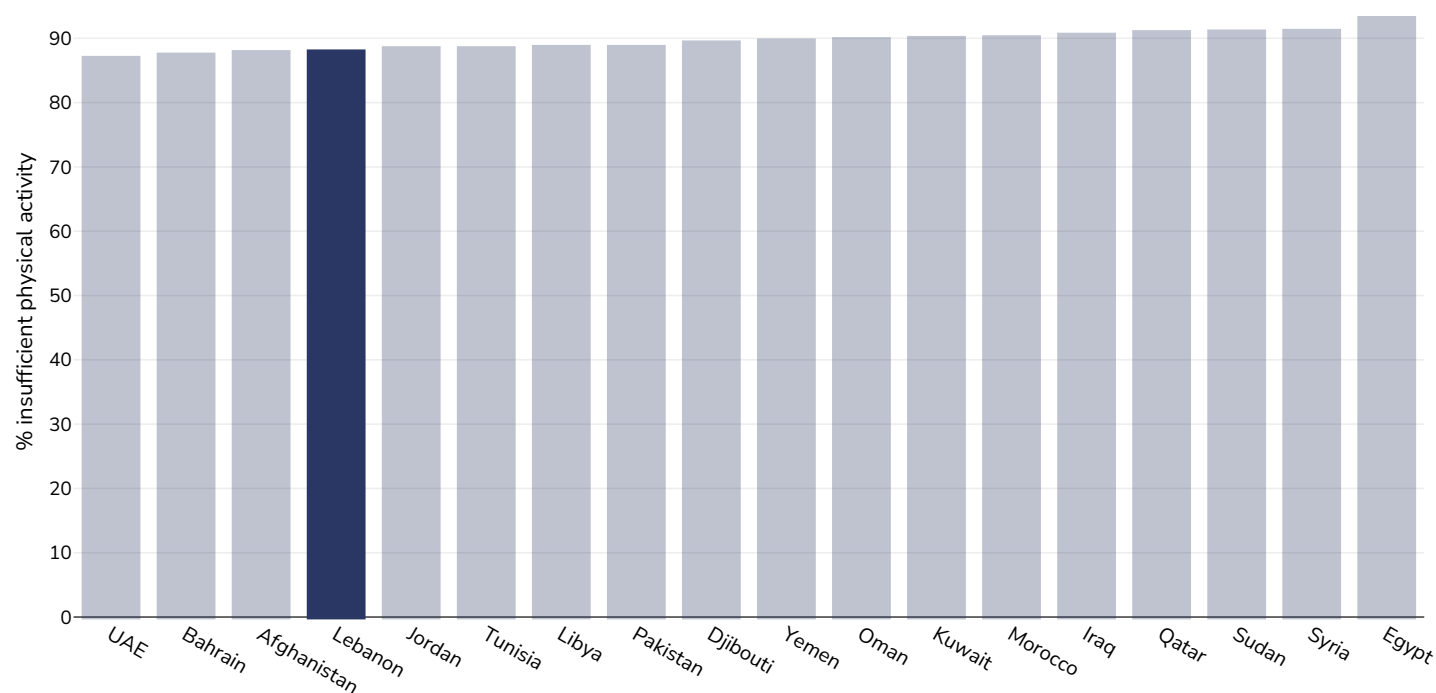
Age: 11-17

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



Survey type: Self-reported

Age: 11-17

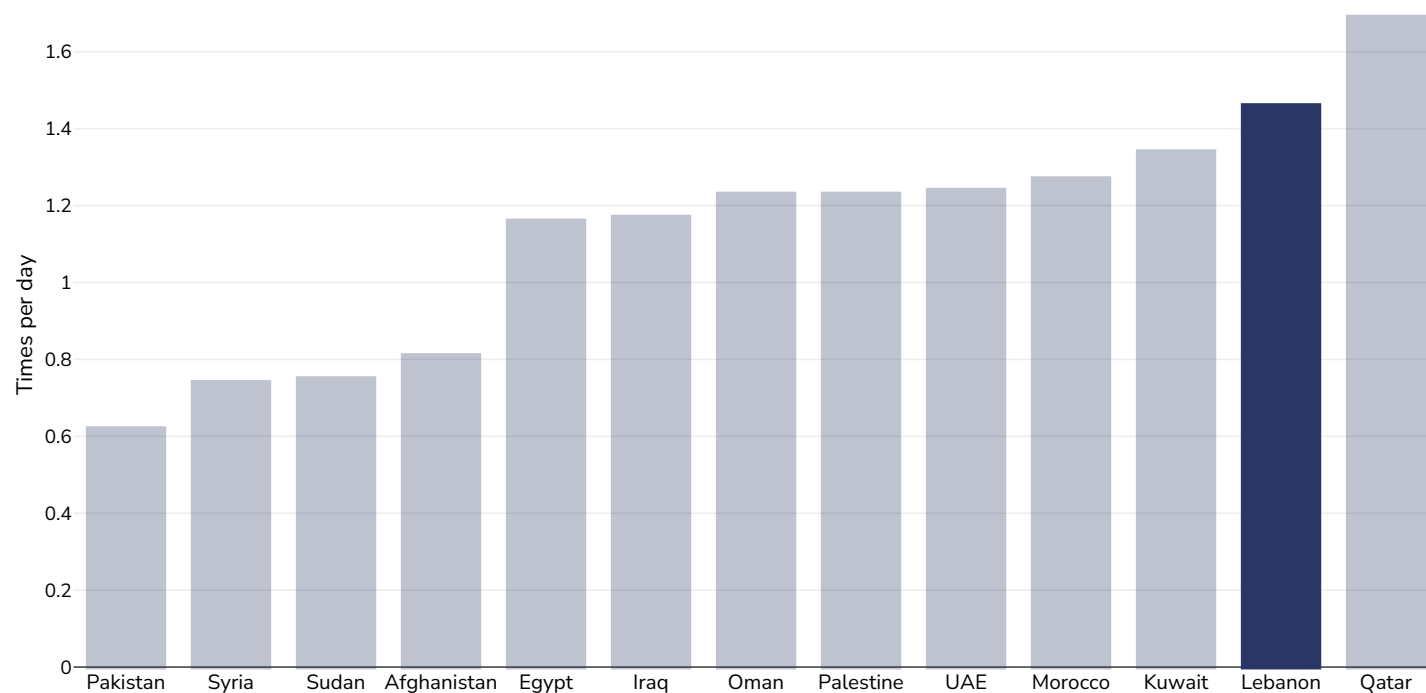
References: Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, <https://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A893ADO?lang=en> (last accessed 16.03.21)

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:

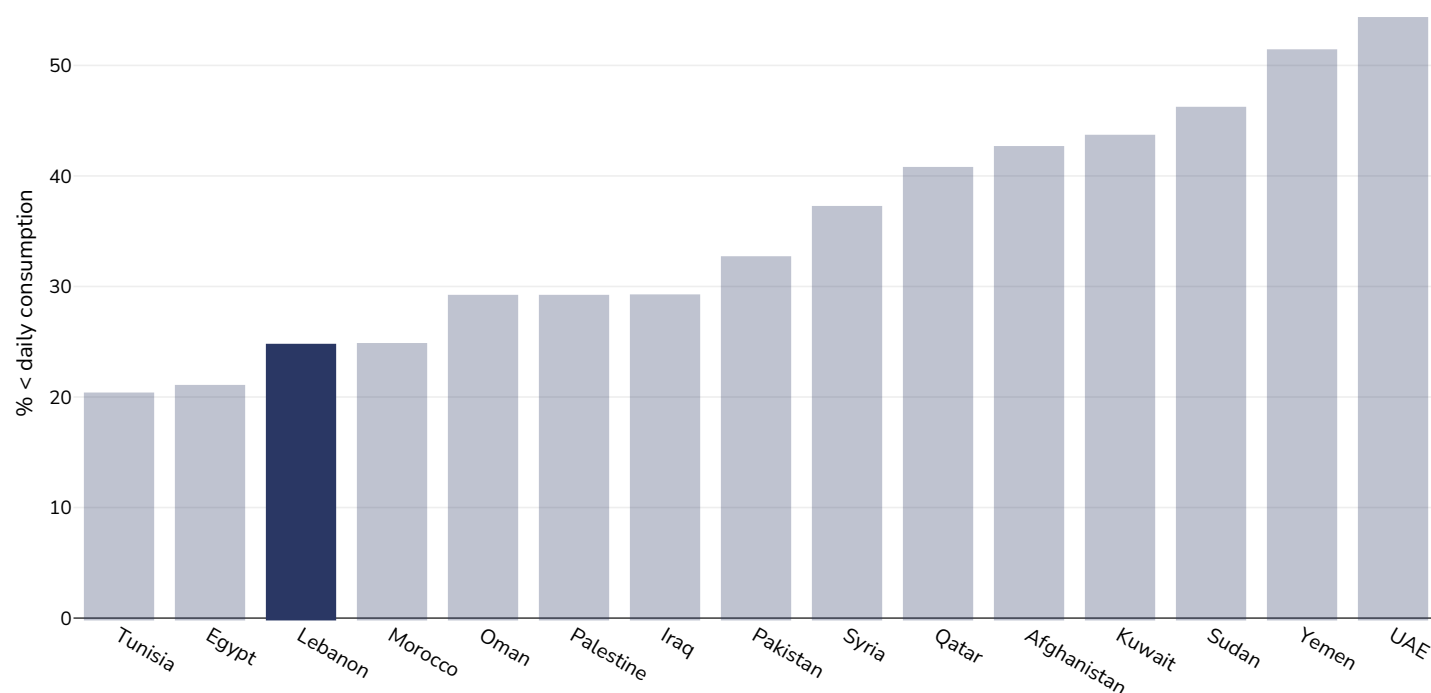
12-17

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

Children, 2008-2015



Survey type: Measured

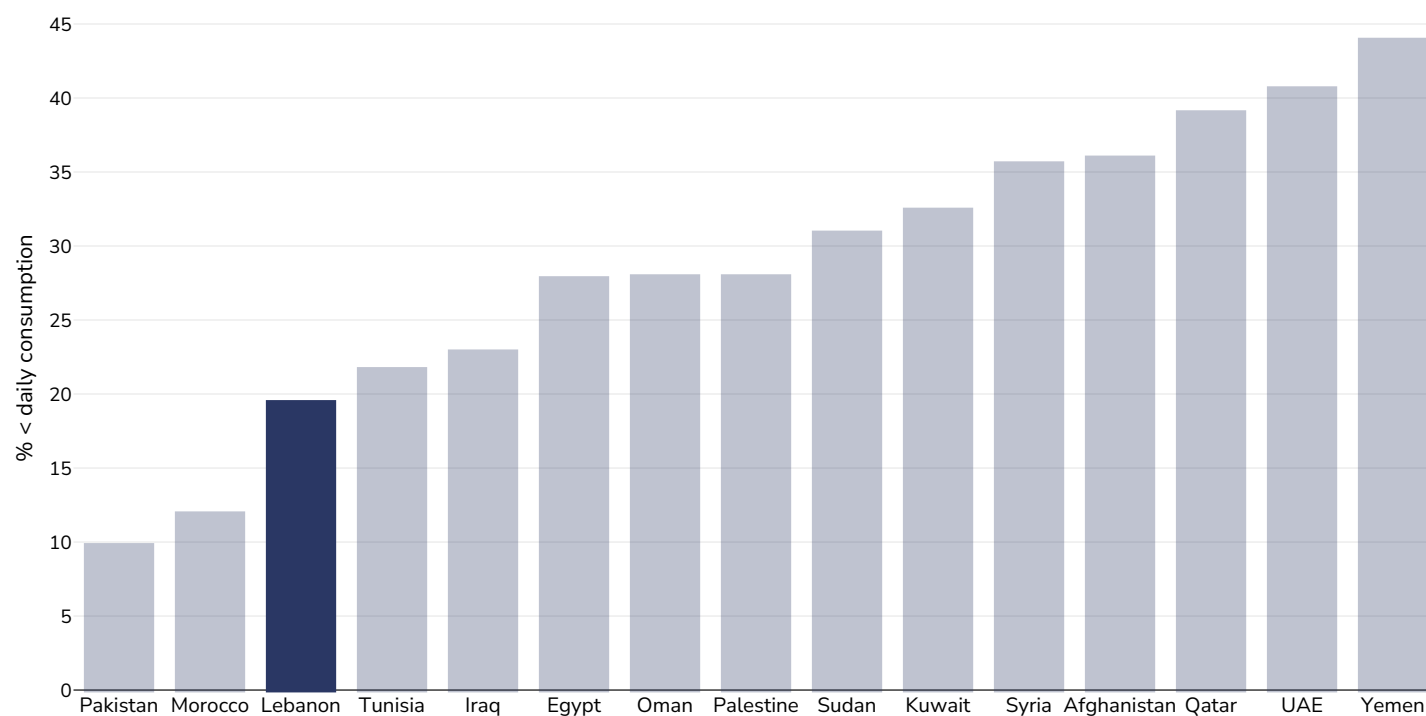
Age: 12-17

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

Children, 2008-2015



Survey type: Measured

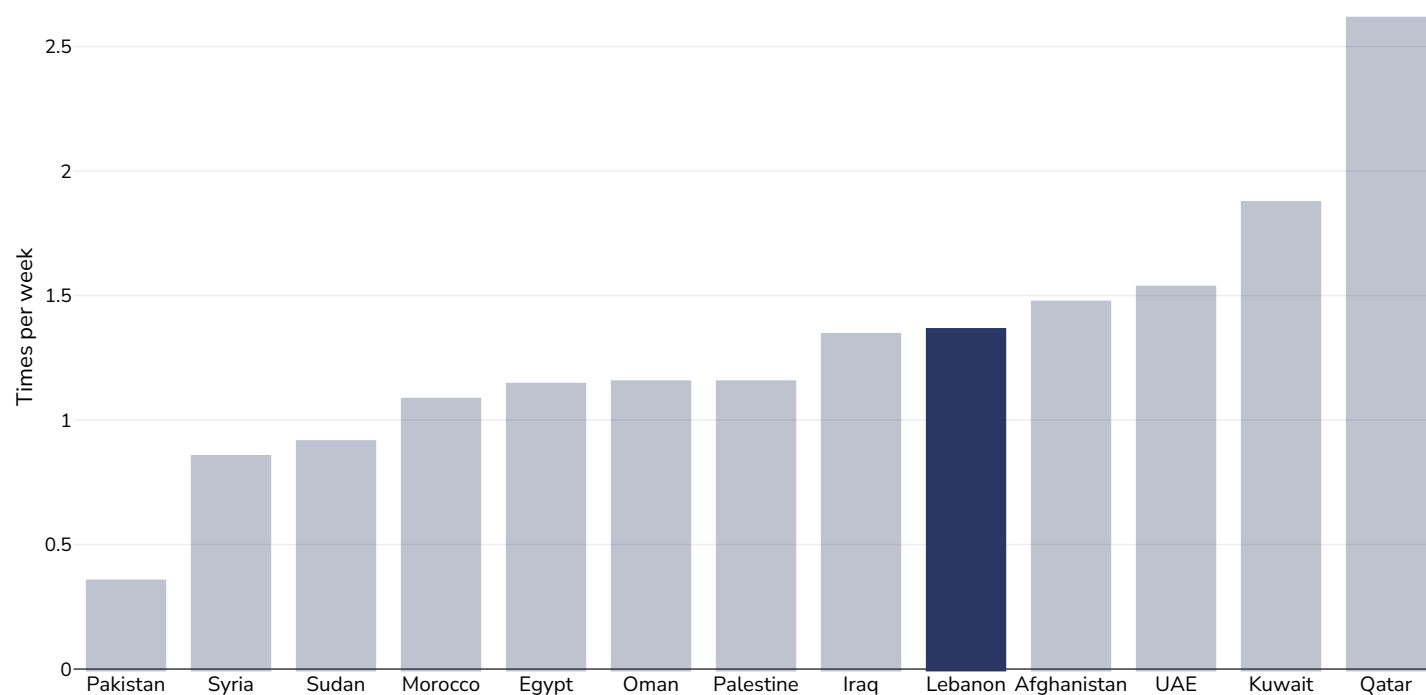
Age: 12-17

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>

Definitions: Prevalence of less-than-daily vegetable consumption (% less-than-daily vegetable consumption)

Average weekly frequency of fast food consumption

Children, 2009-2015



Age:

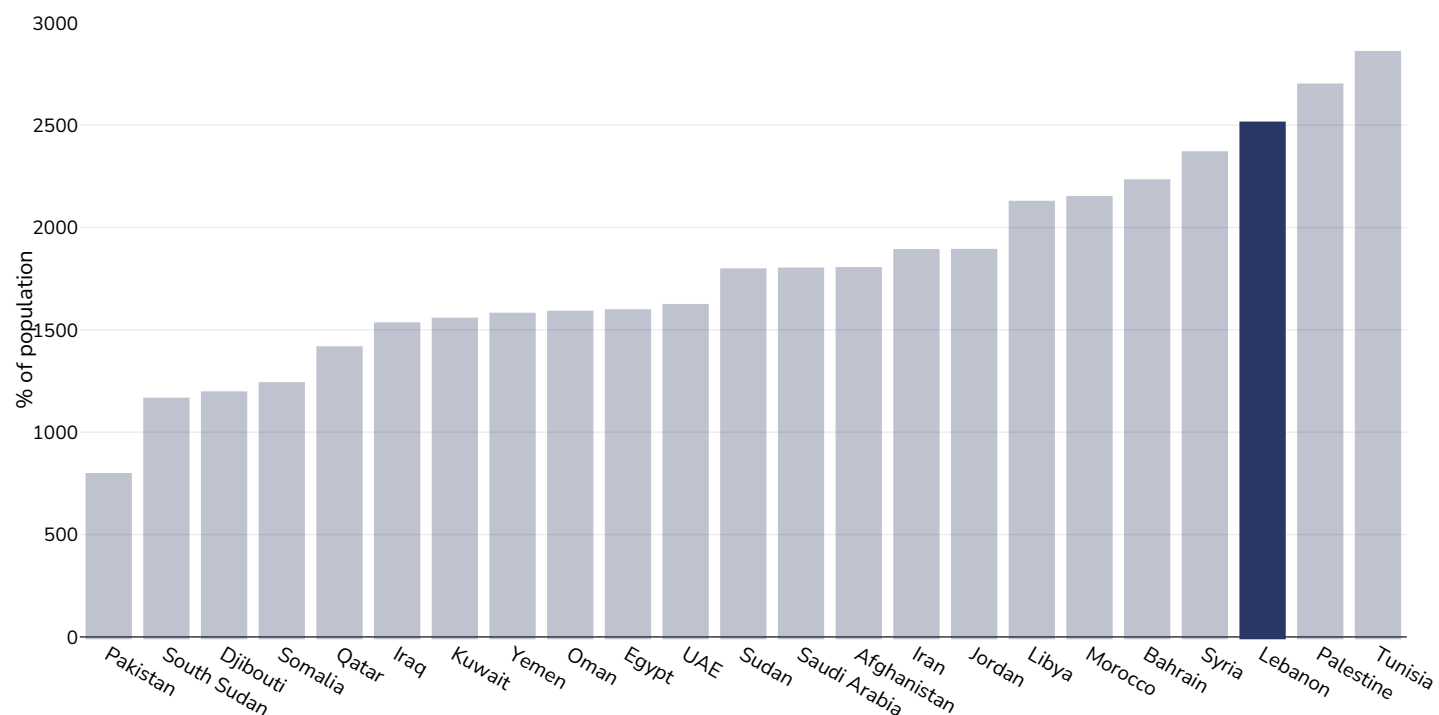
12-17

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>

Mental health - depression disorders

Children, 2021



Area covered:

National

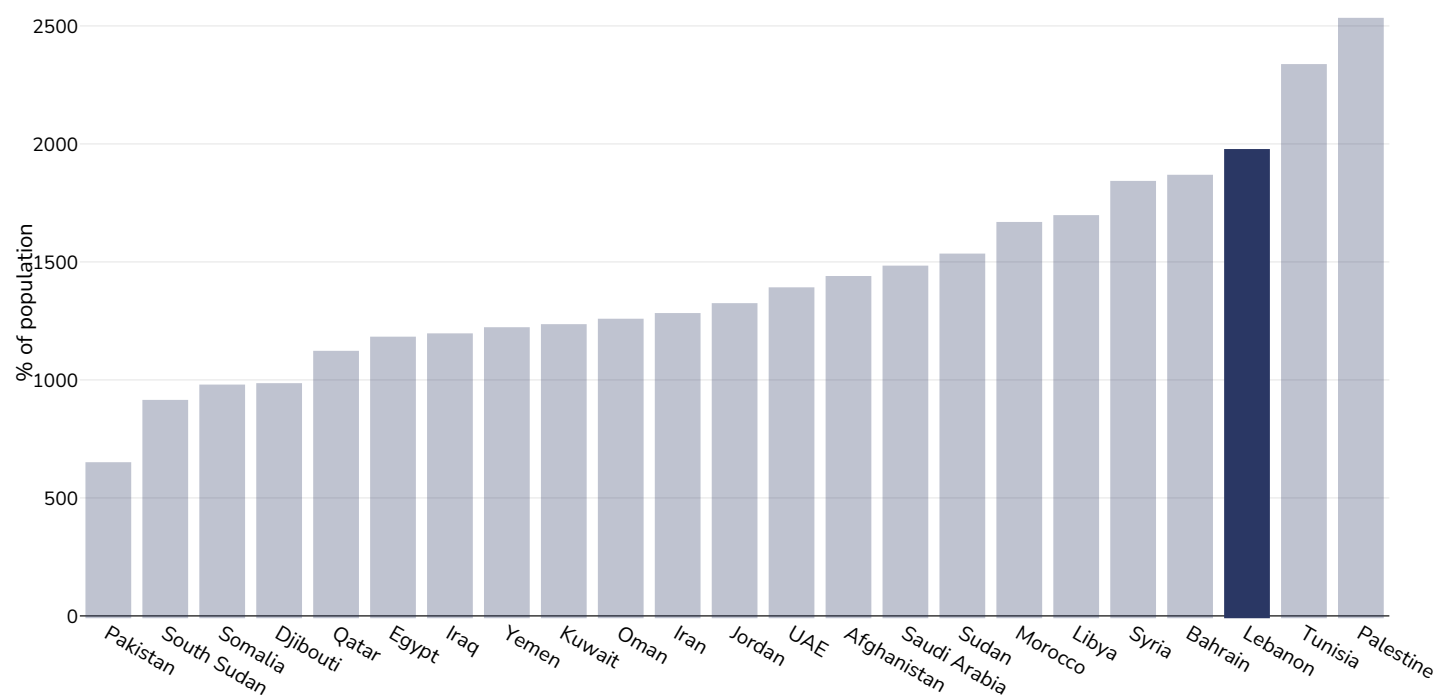
References:

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 depressive disorder per 100,000 population (Under 20 years of age)

Boys, 2021



Area covered:

National

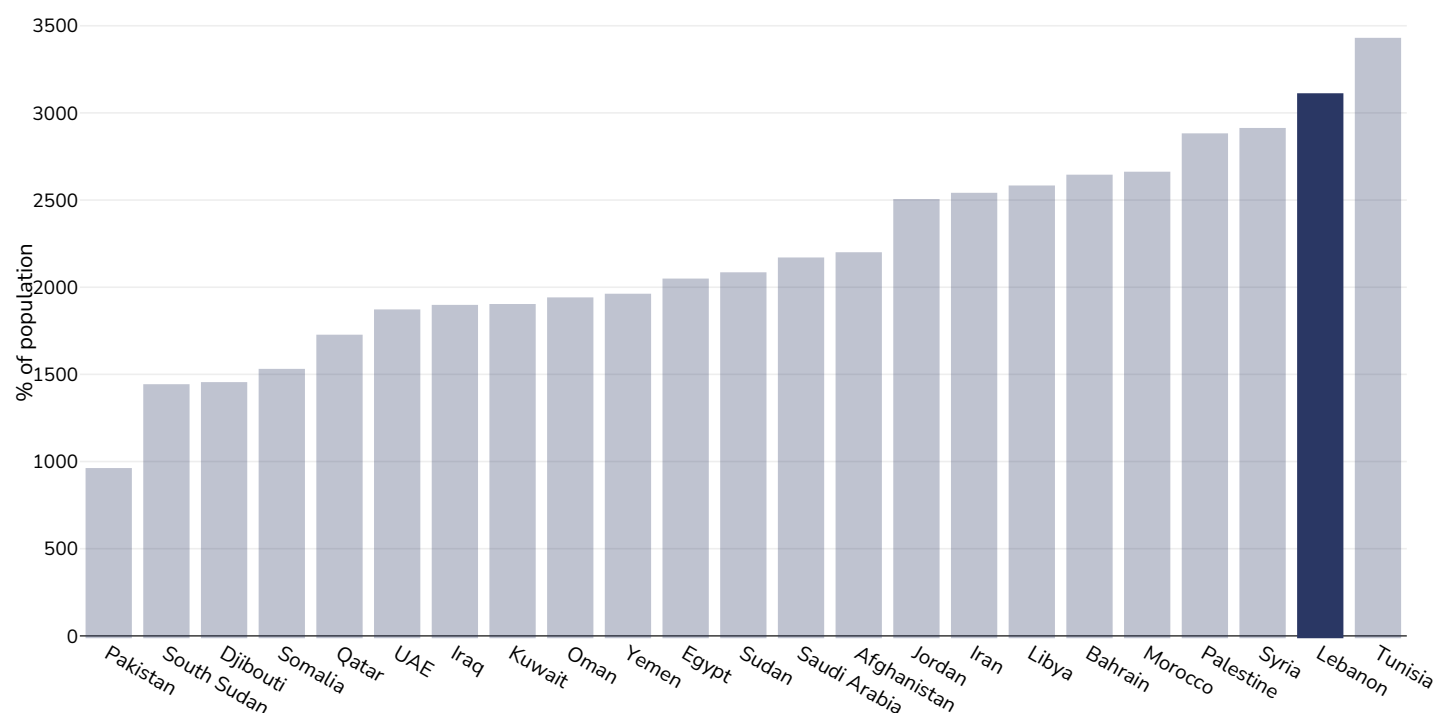
References:

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 depressive disorder per 100,000 population (Under 20 years of age)

Girls, 2021



Area covered:

National

References:

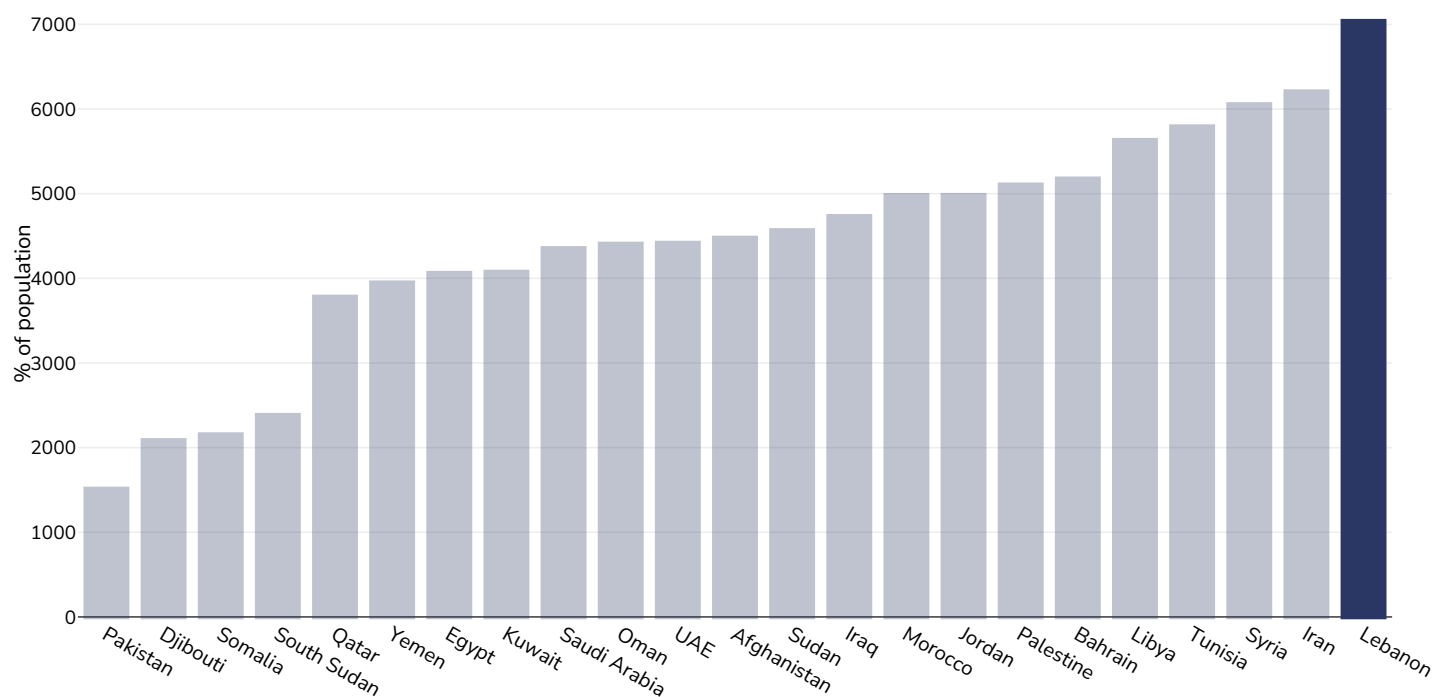
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Definitions:

Number living with depressive disorder per 100,000 population (Under 20 years of age)

Mental health - anxiety disorders

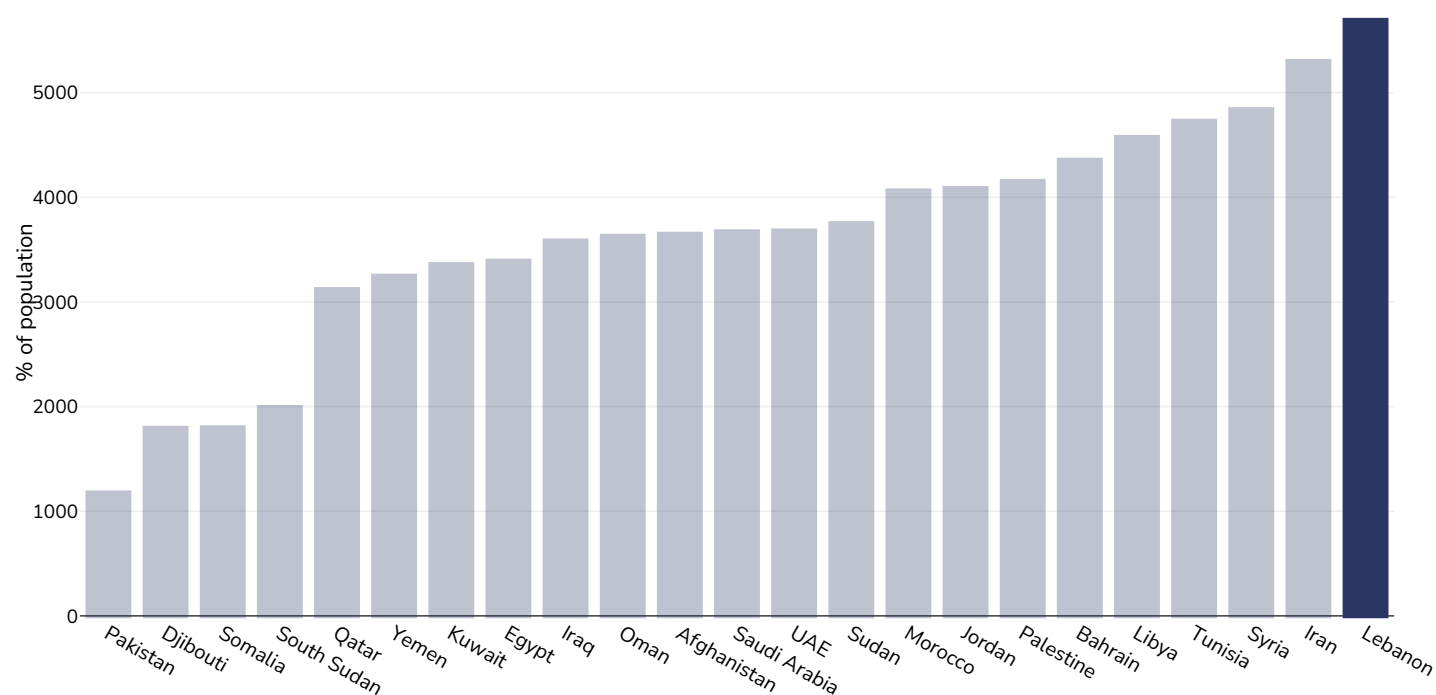
Children, 2021



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)

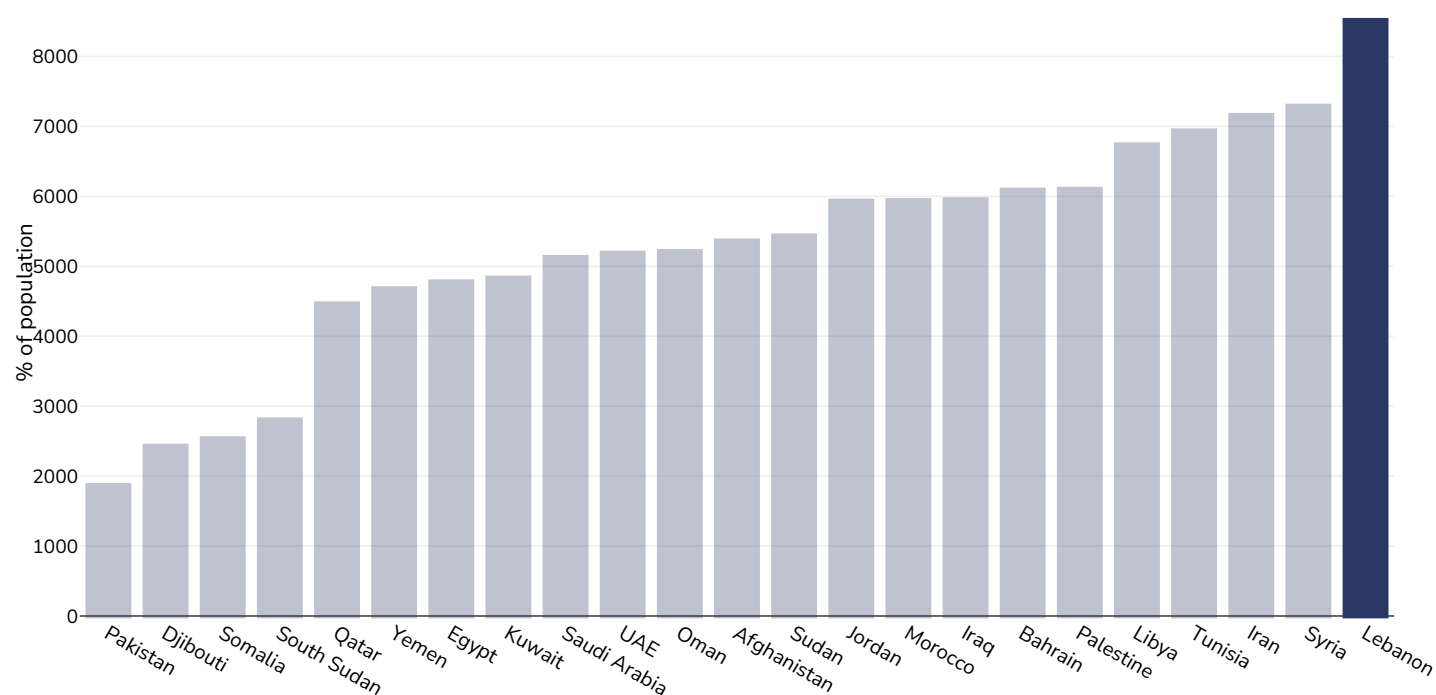
Boys, 2021



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)

Girls, 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)

PDF created on June 17, 2025