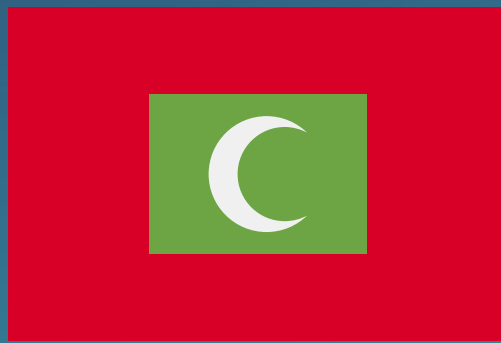




Maldives



Country report card - under-5s

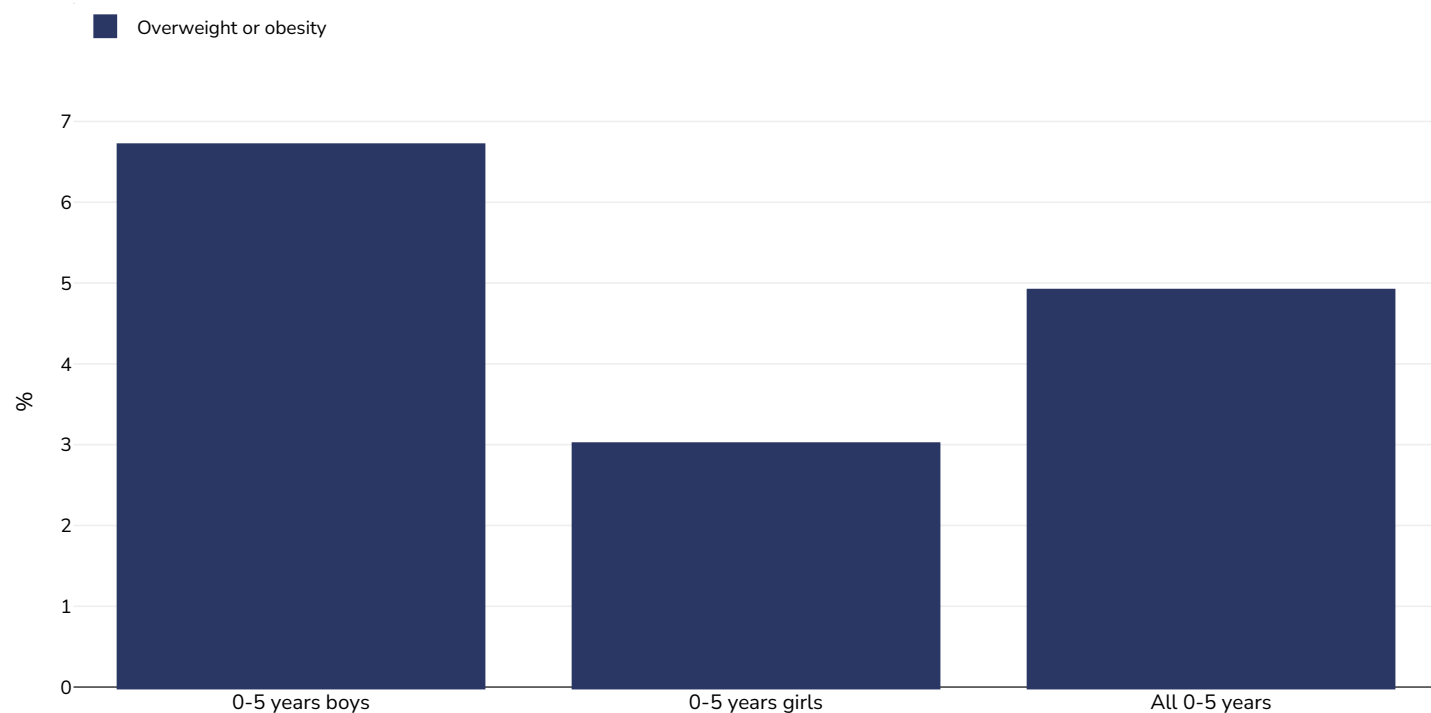
This report card contains the latest data available on the Global Obesity Observatory on overweight and obesity for children under 5. Where available, data on common and relevant obesity drivers and comorbidities are also presented.

View the latest version of this report on the Global Obesity Observatory at <https://data.worldobesity.org/country/maldives-131/>.

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Obesity prevalence

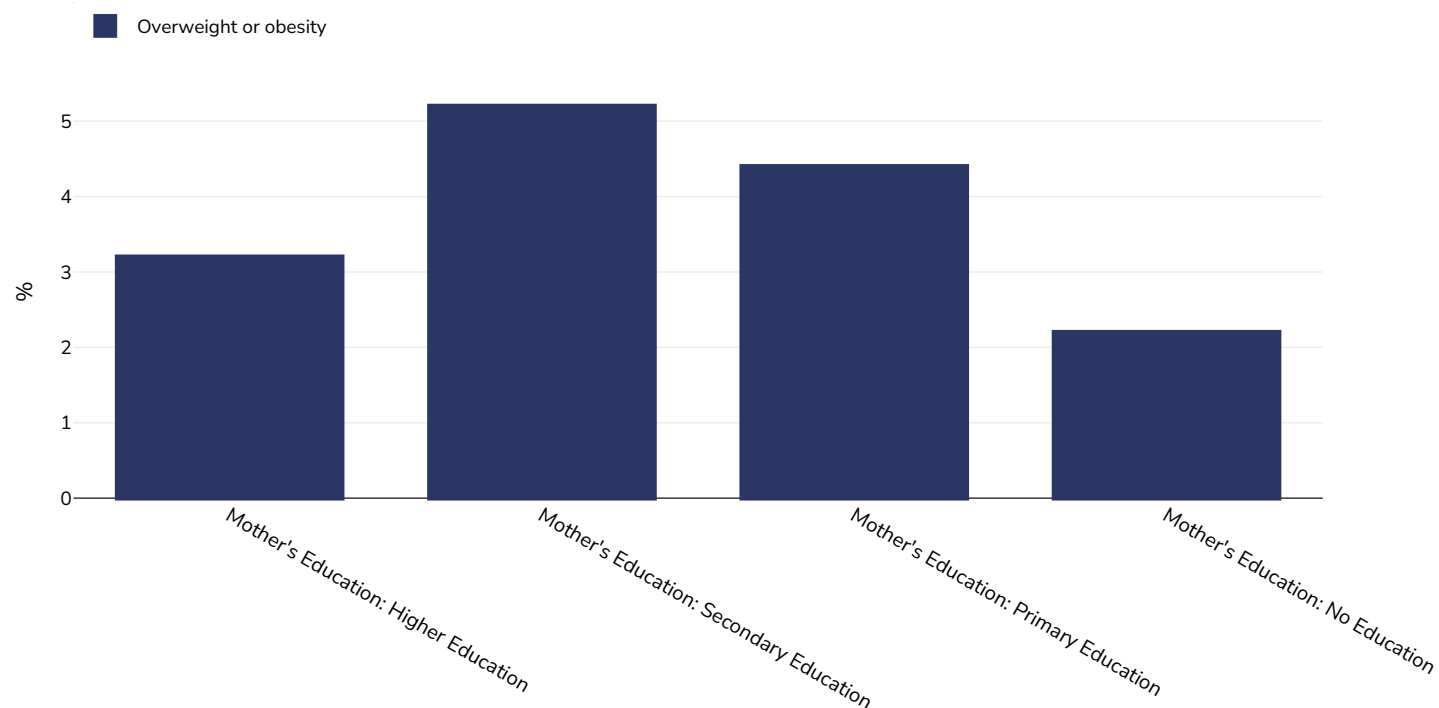
0-5 years, 2016-2017



Survey type:	Measured
Age:	0-5
Sample size:	2327
Area covered:	National
References:	Ministry of Health - MOH/Maldives and ICF. 2018. Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2016-17. Malé, Maldives, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: MOH and ICF.. https://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR349/FR349.pdf
Notes:	Infants.
Definitions:	Weight for height. Overweight = >2SD
Cutoffs:	Other

Overweight/obesity by education

0-5 years, 2016-2017



Sample size: 2260

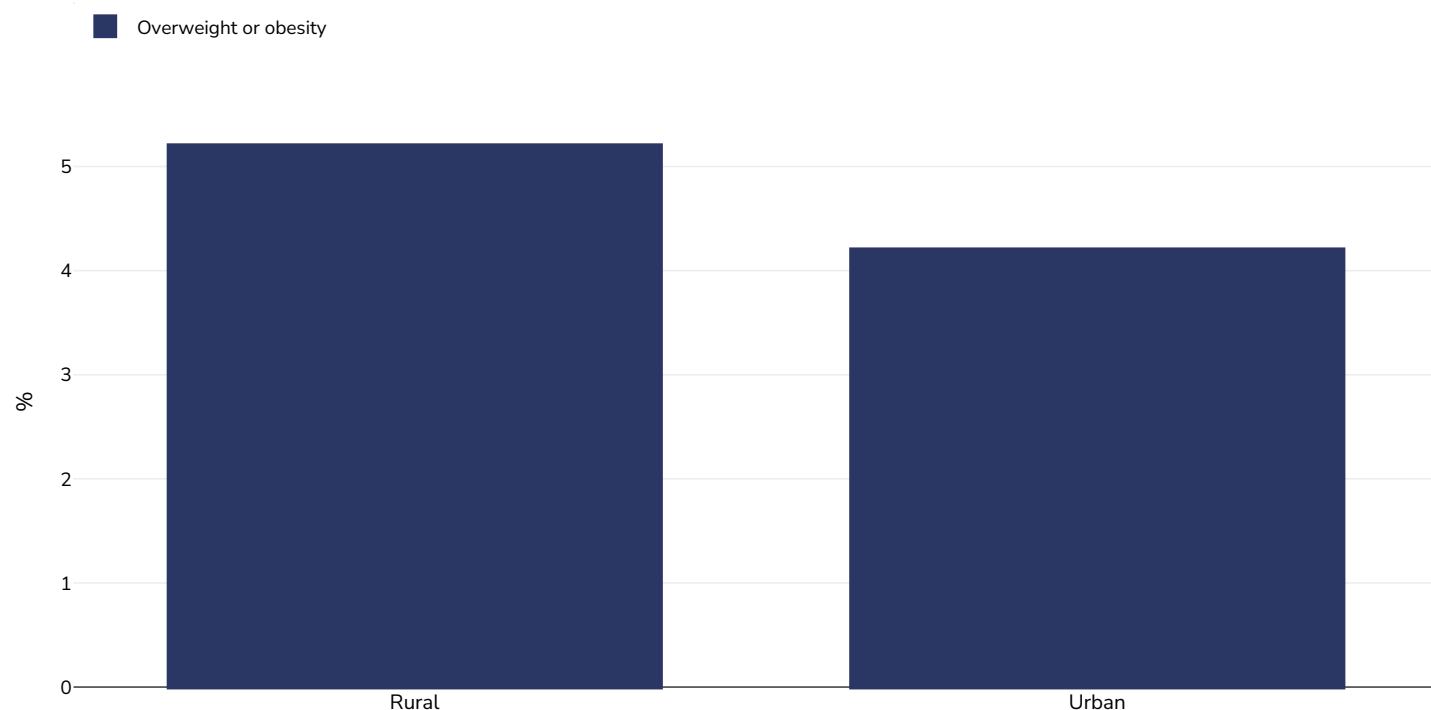
References: DHS: Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2016-17. Malé, Maldives, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: MOH and ICF

Notes: UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates Expanded Database: Overweight (Survey Estimates), May 2023, New York.
For more information about the methodology, please consult <https://data.unicef.org/resources/jme-2023-country-consultations/>
Percentage of children under 5 years of age falling above 2 standard deviations (moderate and severe) from the median weight-for-height of the reference population.

Definitions: =>+2SD

Overweight/obesity by region

0-5 years, 2016-2017



Sample size: 2260

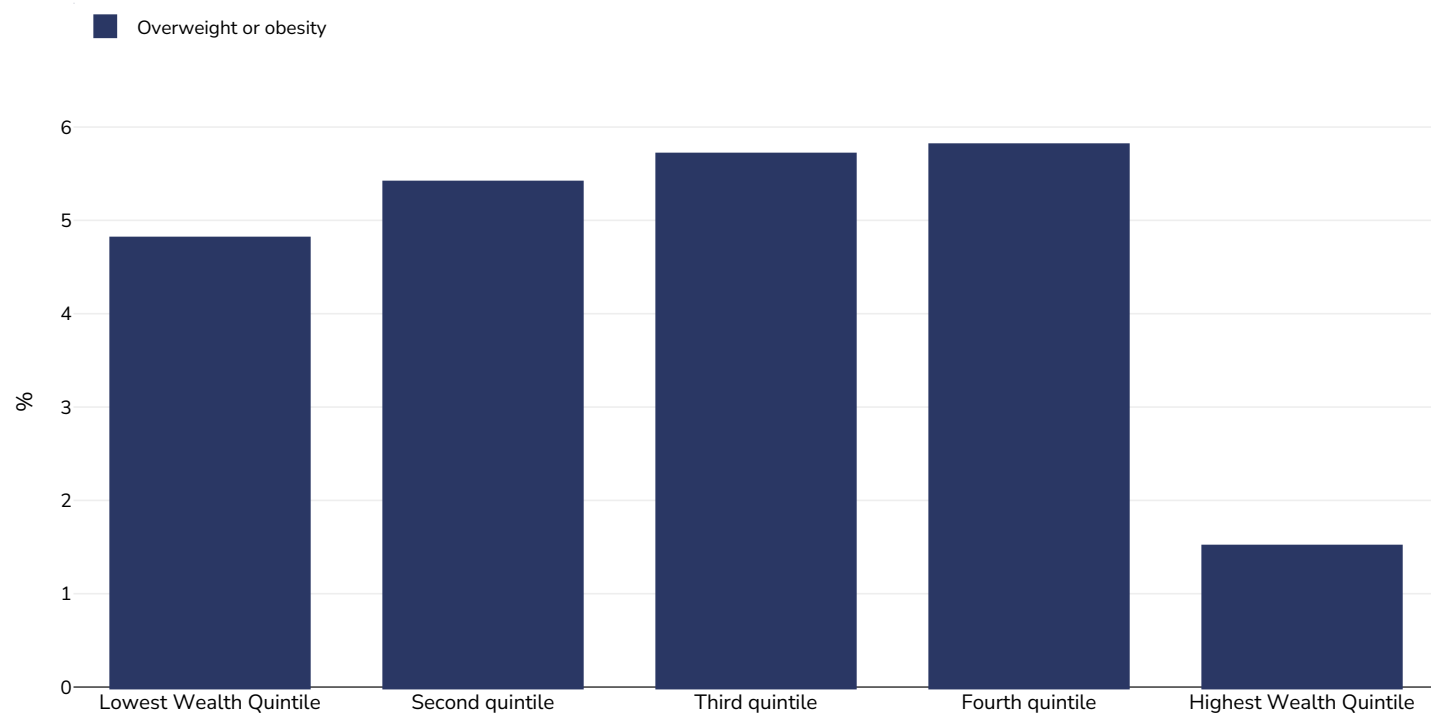
References: DHS: Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2016-17. Malé, Maldives, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: MOH and ICF

Notes: UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates Expanded Database: Overweight (Survey Estimates), May 2023, New York.
For more information about the methodology, please consult <https://data.unicef.org/resources/jme-2023-country-consultations/>
Percentage of children under 5 years of age falling above 2 standard deviations (moderate and severe) from the median weight-for-height of the reference population.

Definitions: =>+2SD

Overweight/obesity by socio-economic group

0-5 years, 2016-2017



Sample size: 2260

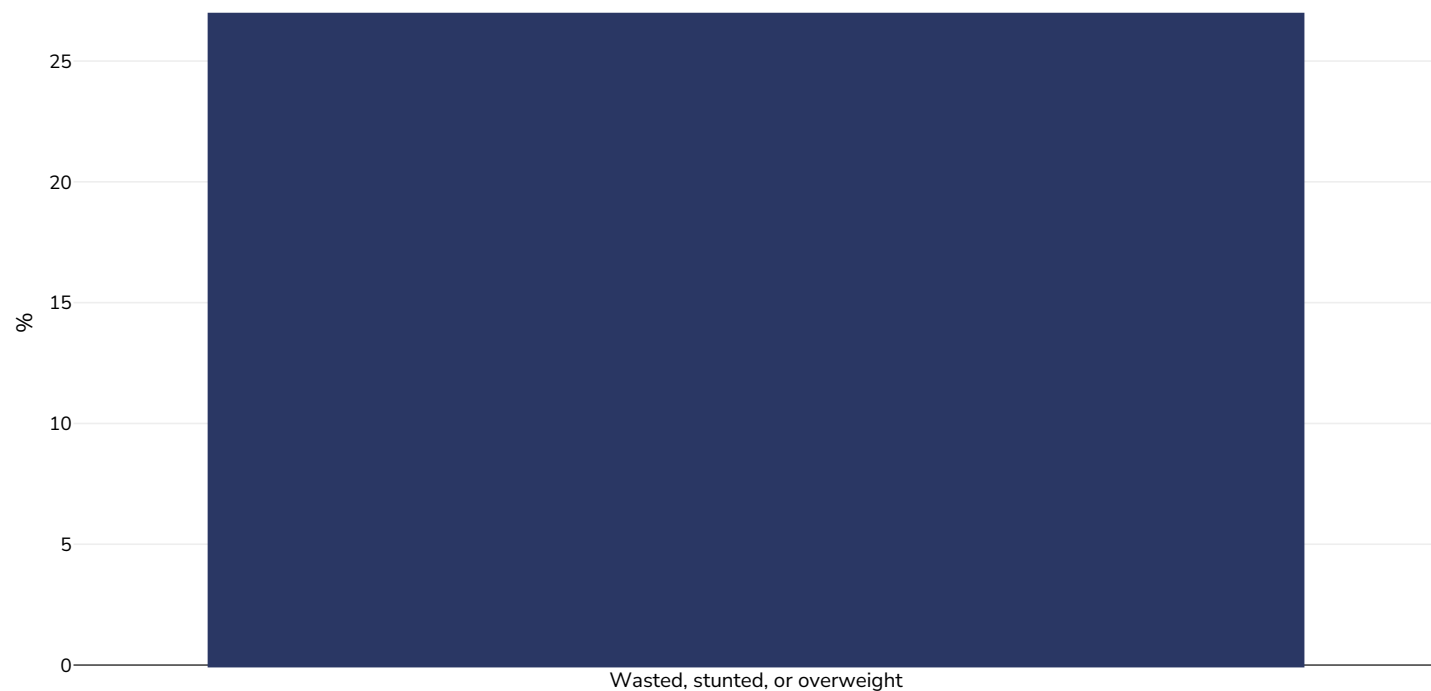
References: DHS: Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2016-17. Malé, Maldives, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: MOH and ICF

Notes: UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates Expanded Database: Overweight (Survey Estimates), May 2023, New York.
For more information about the methodology, please consult <https://data.unicef.org/resources/jme-2023-country-consultations/>
Percentage of children under 5 years of age falling above 2 standard deviations (moderate and severe) from the median weight-for-height of the reference population.

Definitions: =>+2SD

Double burden of underweight & overweight

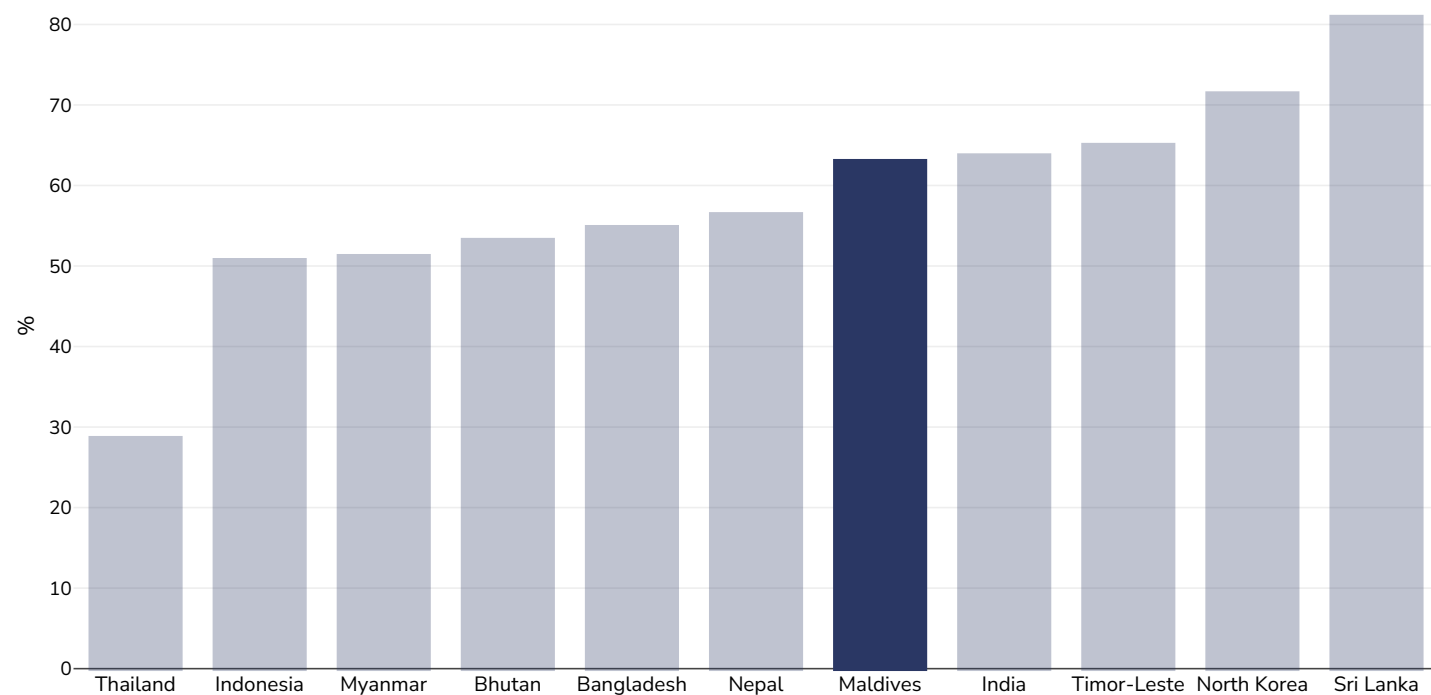
0-5 years, 2016-2017



Survey type:	Measured
Age:	0-5
References:	United Nations Children's Fund, Division of Data, Analysis, Planning and Monitoring (2025). Global UNICEF Global Databases: Overlapping Stunting, Wasting and Overweight (Survey Estimates), 2025, New York. For more information, visit: https://data.unicef.org/topic/nutrition/malnutrition/ [Accessed 06.08.25]
Notes:	Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2016-17. Malé, Maldives, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: MOH and ICF
Definitions:	Combined percentage of children under 5 years of age who are either wasted, stunted, or overweight (falling below -2 standard deviations from the median weight-for-height, falling below -2 standard deviations from the median height for age, or falling at or above +2 standard deviations from the median weight-for-height of the reference population)
Cutoffs:	WHZ <-2, HAZ <-2 and WHZ >+2

% Infants exclusively breastfed 0-5 months

0-5 years, 2015-2022



References: Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2016-17. Malé, Maldives, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: MOH and ICF

Notes: Full details are available. Original citation United Nations Children's Fund, Division of Data, Analysis, Planning and Monitoring (2023).
Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding: Exclusive breastfeeding, New York, October 2023.

PDF created on August 19, 2025