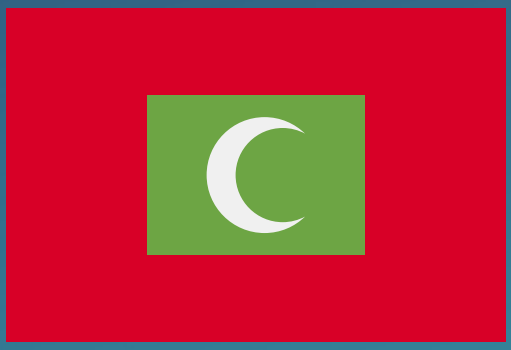
Maldives



Country report card - under-5s

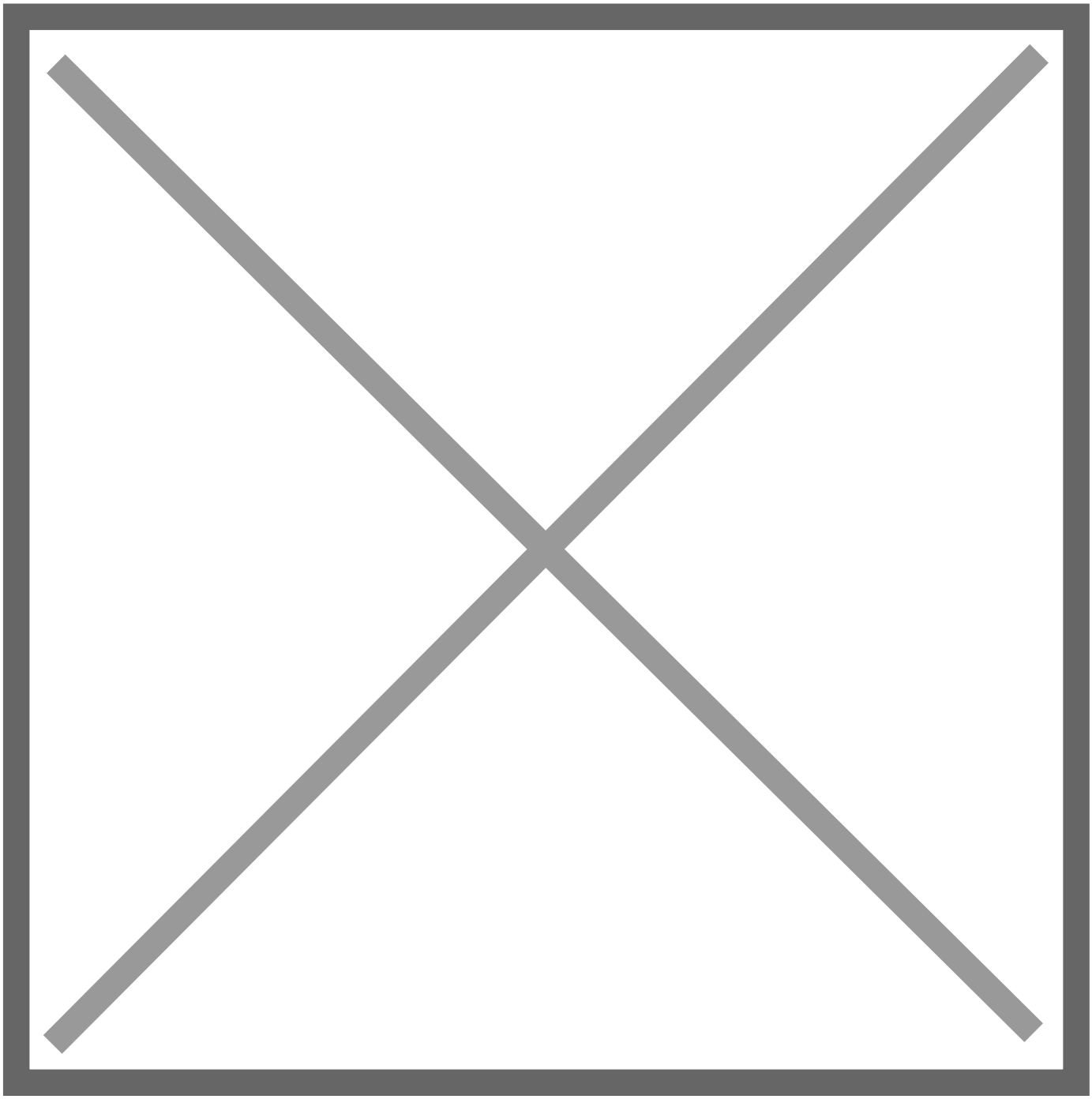
This report card contains the latest data available on the Global Obesity Observatory on overweight and obesity for children under 5. Where available, data on common and relevant obesity drivers and comorbidities are also presented.

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

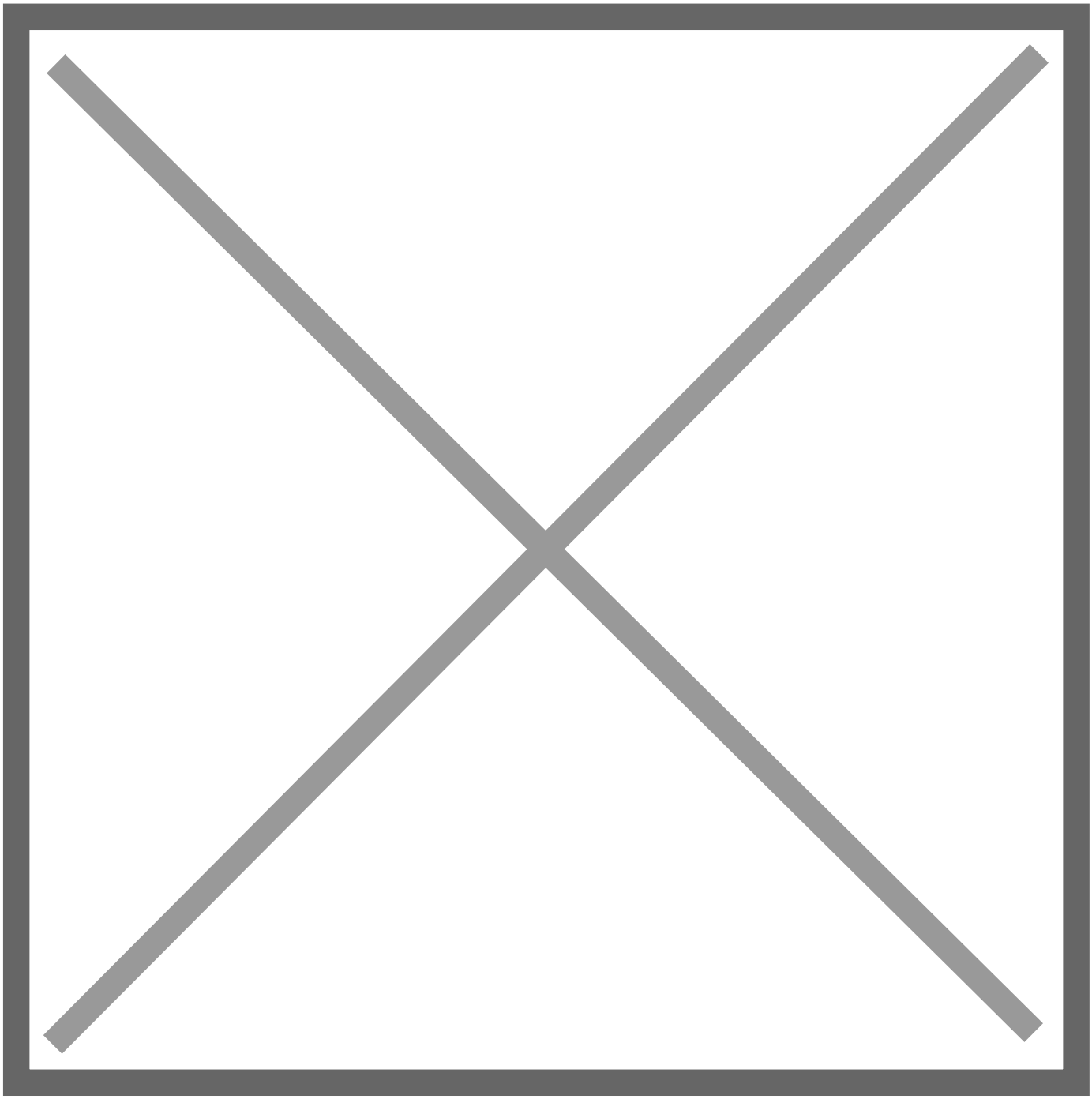


Survey type:	Measured
Age:	0-5
Sample size:	2327
Area covered:	National
References:	Ministry of Health - MOH/Maldives and ICF. 2018. Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2016-17. Malé, Maldives, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: MOH and ICF.. https://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR349/FR349.pdf

Notes:	Infants.
Definitions:	Weight for height. Overweight = >2SD
Cutoffs:	Other

Overweight/obesity by education

0-5 years, 2016-2017

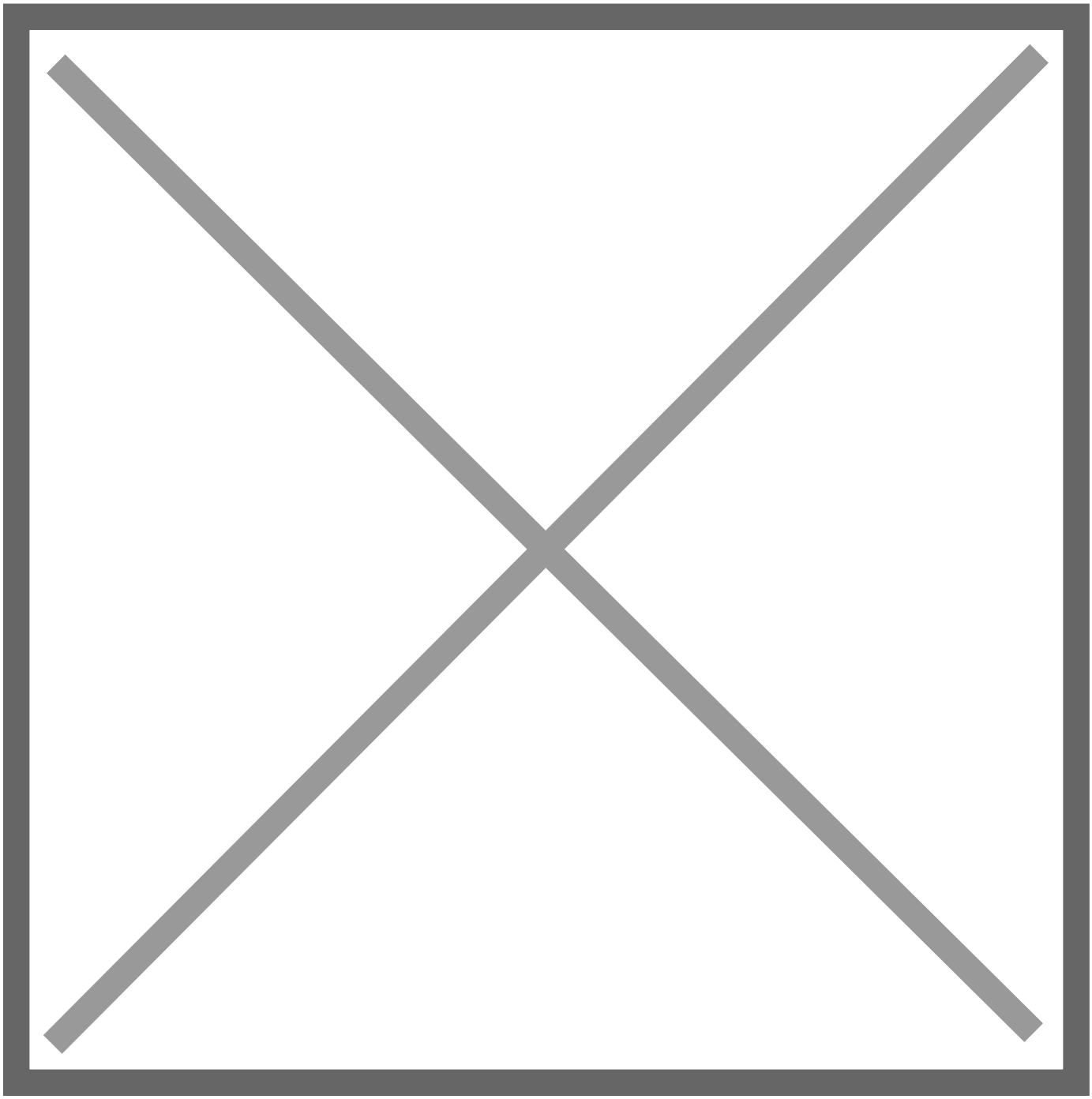


Sample size:	2260
References:	DHS: Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2016-17. Malé, Maldives, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: MOH and ICF
Notes:	UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates Expanded Database: Overweight (Survey Estimates), May 2023, New York. For more information about 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

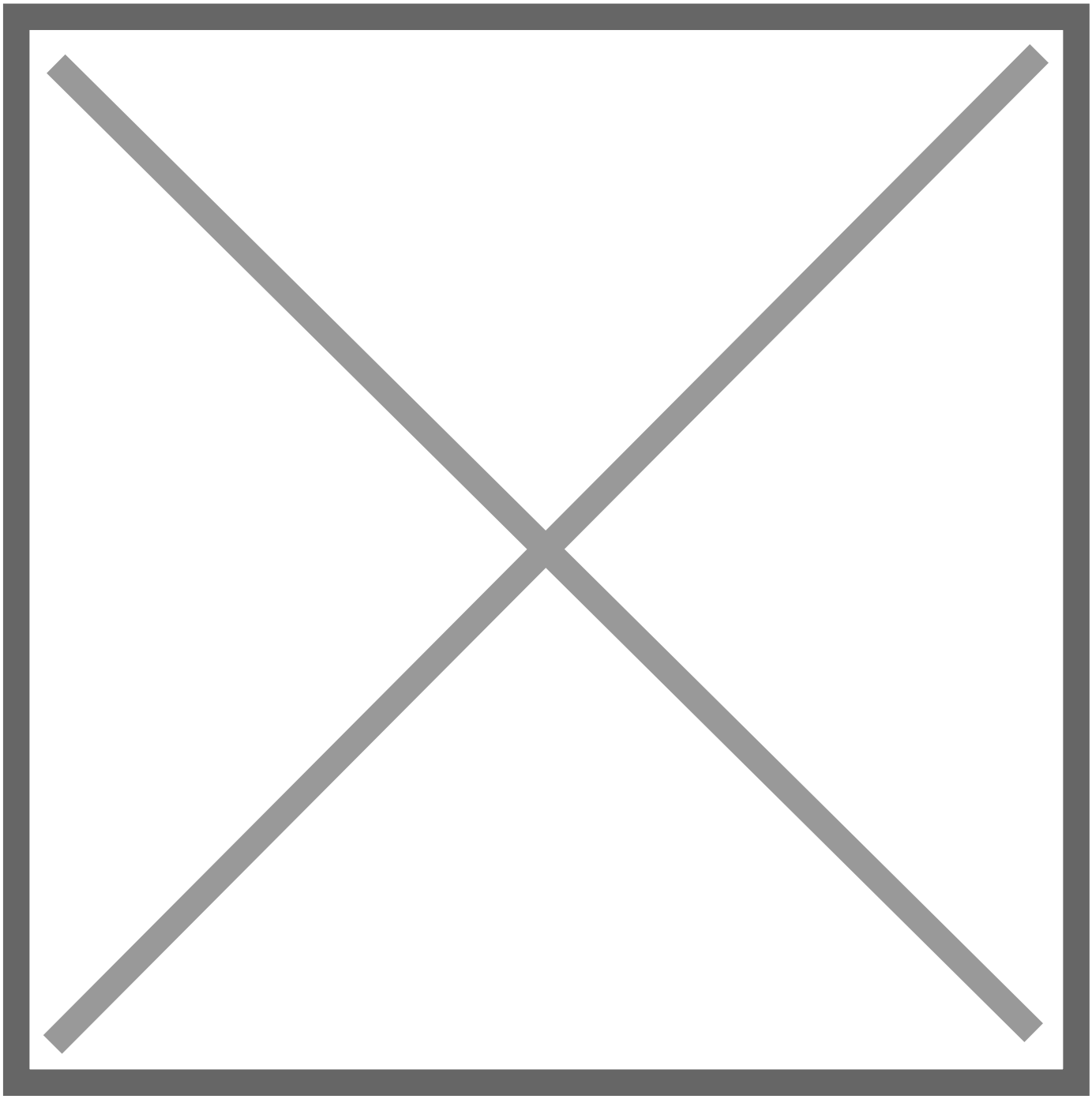


Sample size:	2260
References:	DHS: Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2016-17. Malé, Maldives, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: MOH and ICF
Notes:	UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates Expanded Database: Overweight (Survey Estimates), May 2023, New York. For more information about 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

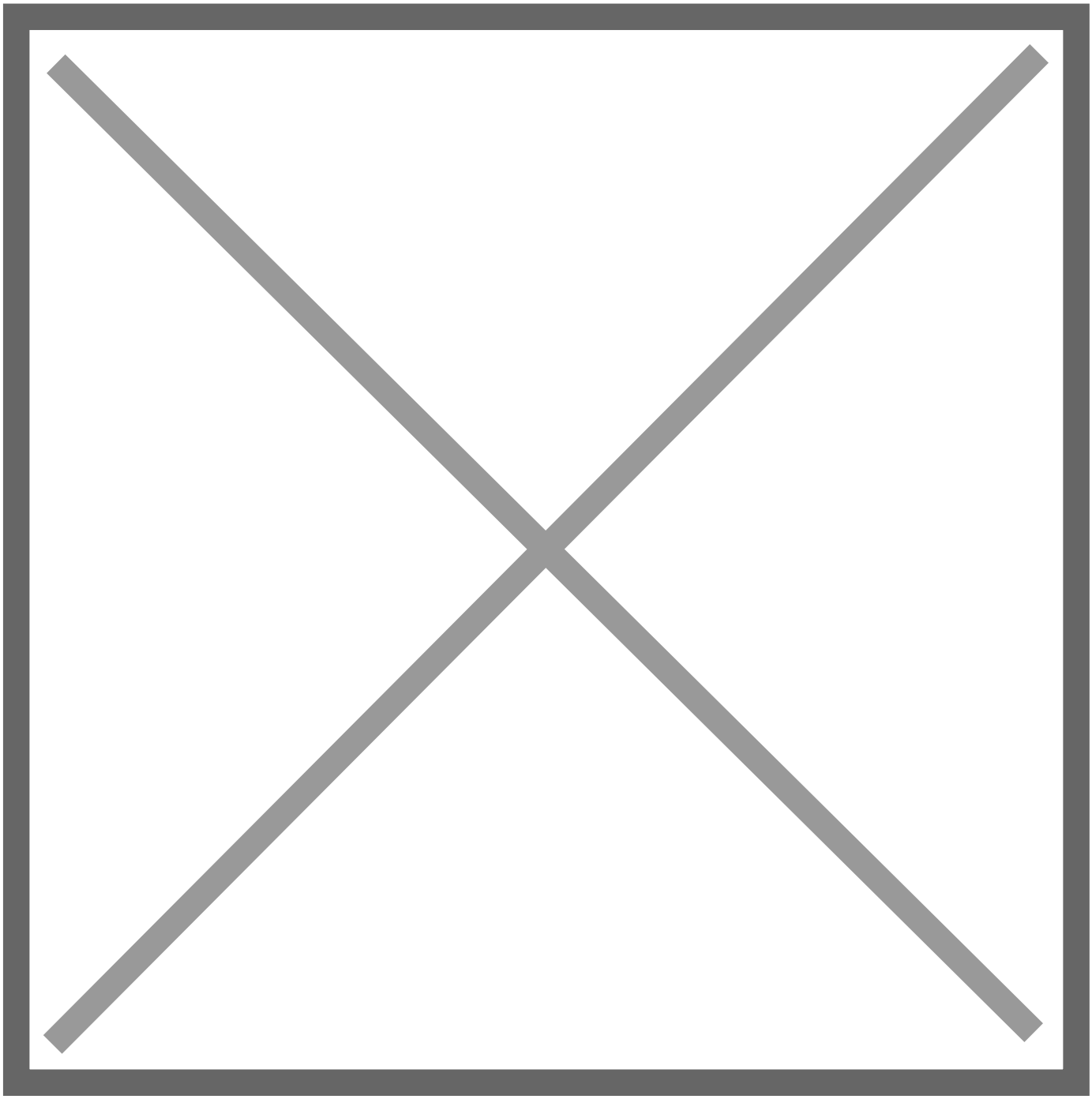


Sample size:	2260
References:	DHS: Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2016-17. Malé, Maldives, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: MOH and ICF
Notes:	UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates Expanded Database: Overweight (Survey Estimates), May 2023, New York. For more information about 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 & obesity

0-5 years, 2016-2017

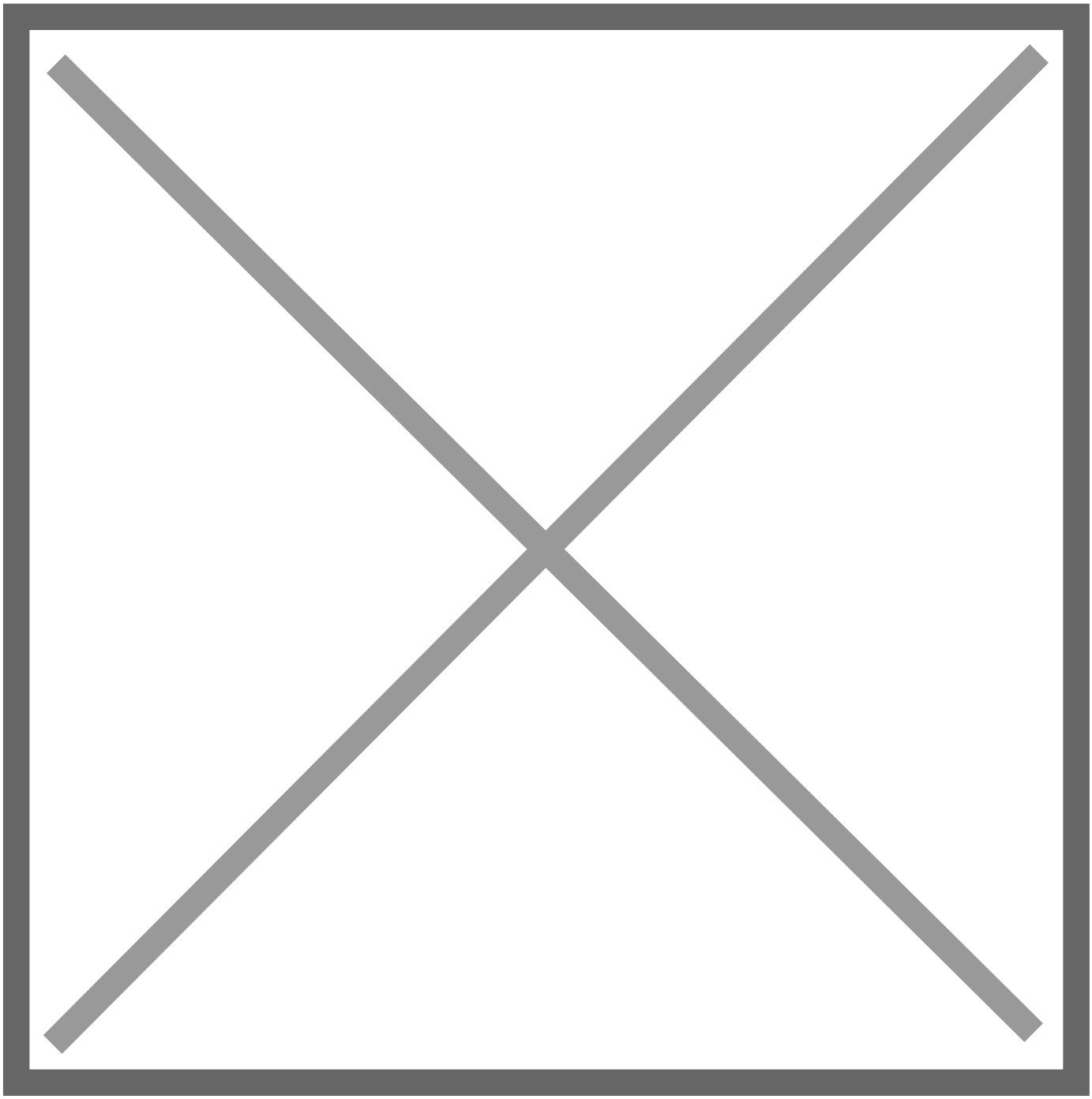


Survey type:	Measured
Age:	0-5
References:	United Nations Children's Fund, Division of Data, Analysis, Planning and Monitoring (2025). Global UNICEF Global Databases: Overlapping Stunting, Wasting and Overweight (Survey Estimates), 2025, New York. For more information, visit: https://data.unicef.org/topic/nutrition/malnutrition/ [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, 2015-2023



Area covered:	National
References:	Maldives Demographic and Health Survey 2016-17. Malé, Maldives, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: MOH and ICF
Notes:	Full details available at source: United Nations Children's Fund, Division of Data, Analysis, Planning and Monitoring (2025). Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding: Exclusive breastfeeding, New York, November 2025.
Definitions:	Infants 0-5 months of age who received only breast milk during the previous day. The definition allows for medicines, vitamins and oral re-hydration solution to have been given. These infants would not have received water-based liquids, milk based-liquids or food.

PDF created on November 4, 2026