# Marshall Islands



## Country report card

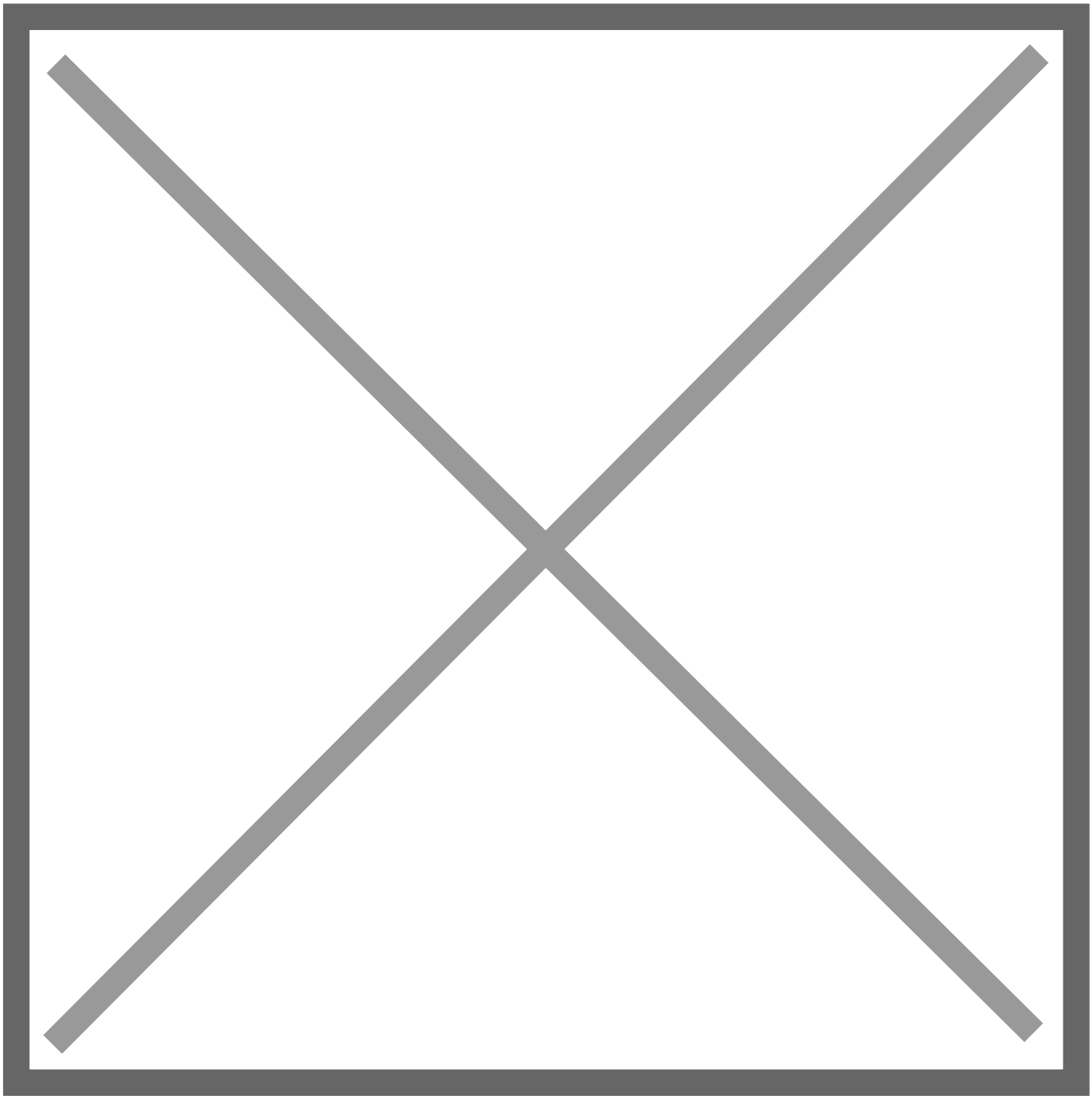
*This report card contains the latest data available on the Global Obesity Observatory on overweight and obesity . Where available, data on common and relevant obesity drivers and comorbidities are also presented.*

*View the latest version of this report on the Global Obesity Observatory at https://data.worldobesity.org/country/marshall-islands-134/.*

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## Obesity prevalence

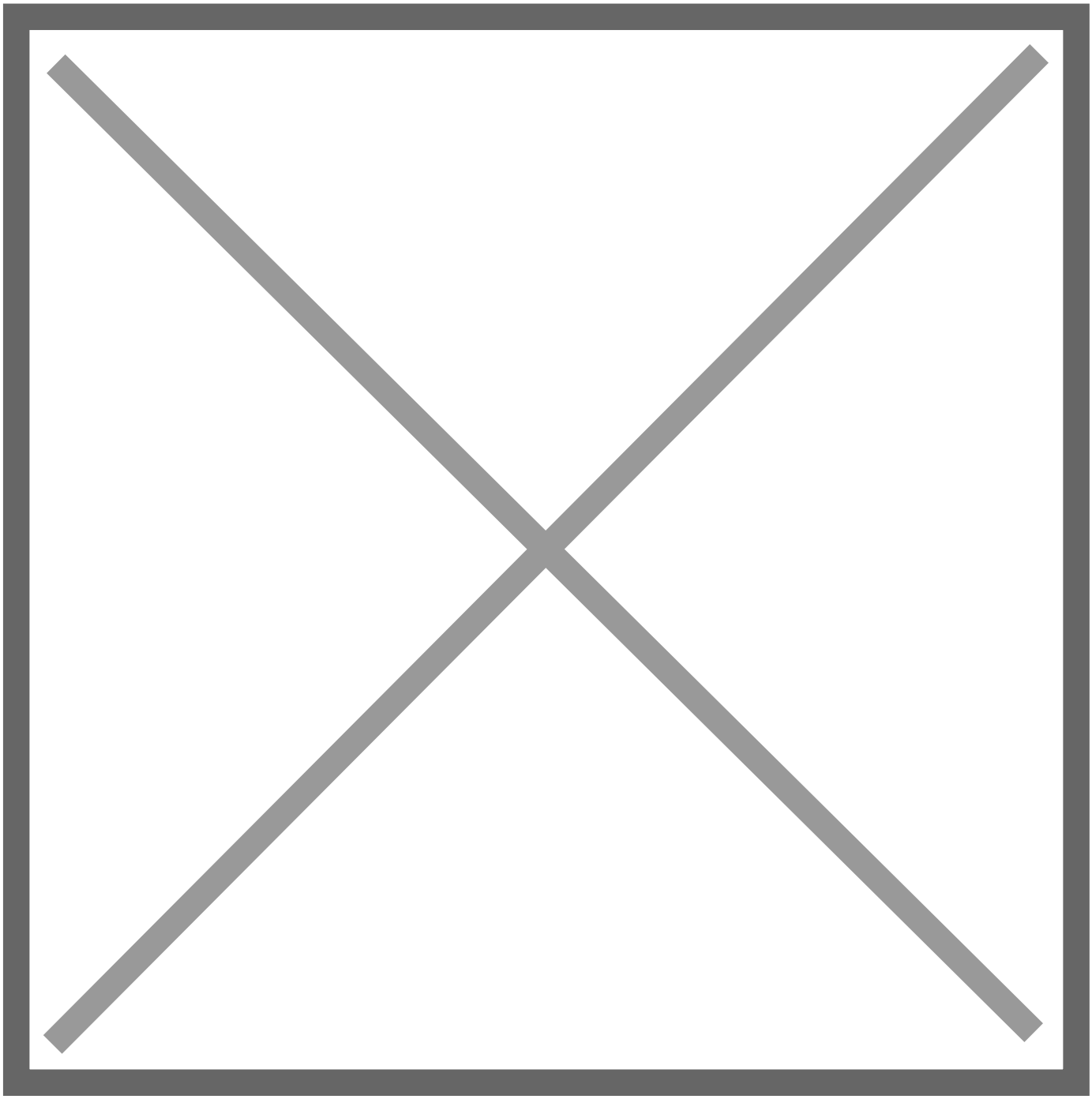
## Adults, 2023



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Measured |
| **Age:** | 18+ |
| **Sample size:** | 2,678 |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Republic of the Marshall Islands: Adult Hybrid Survey 2023. https://www.pihoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/RMI-2023-Hybrid-Survey-Report-FINAL_6Nov24.pdf [Last Accessed 26.08.25] |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Notes:** | Although all islands were not surveyed, the islands included contain 86% of the overall population of RMI. Islands included were Majuro, Kwajalein, Amo, Jaluit, Wotje and Kili. |
| | *Unless otherwise noted, overweight refers to a BMI between 25kg and 29.9kg/m², obesity refers to a BMI greater than 30kg/m².* |

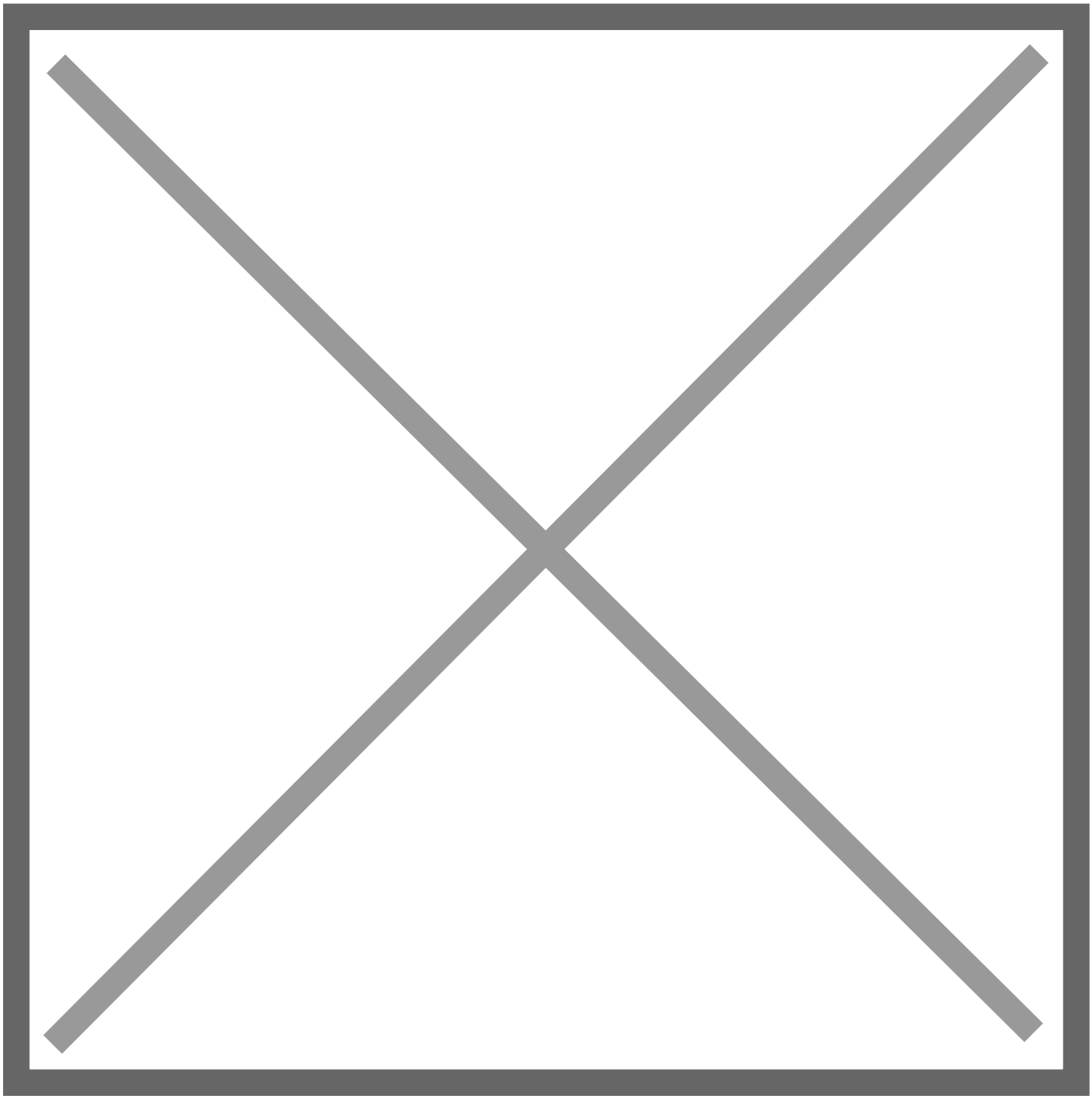
## Children, 2024



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Measured |
| **Age:** | 15-16 |
| **Sample size:** | 1243 |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Marshall Islands Rapid Youth Survey 2024. https://www.pihoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/2024-RMI-Rapid_Endorsed-14July25.pdf [Accessed 26.08.25] |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Notes:** | Data for all high school students, including those above age 17, available in report |
| **Definitions:** | CDC BMI percentiles were used to determine BMI categories for those students under 17 years old |
| **Cutoffs:** | CDC |

## 0-5 years, 2017

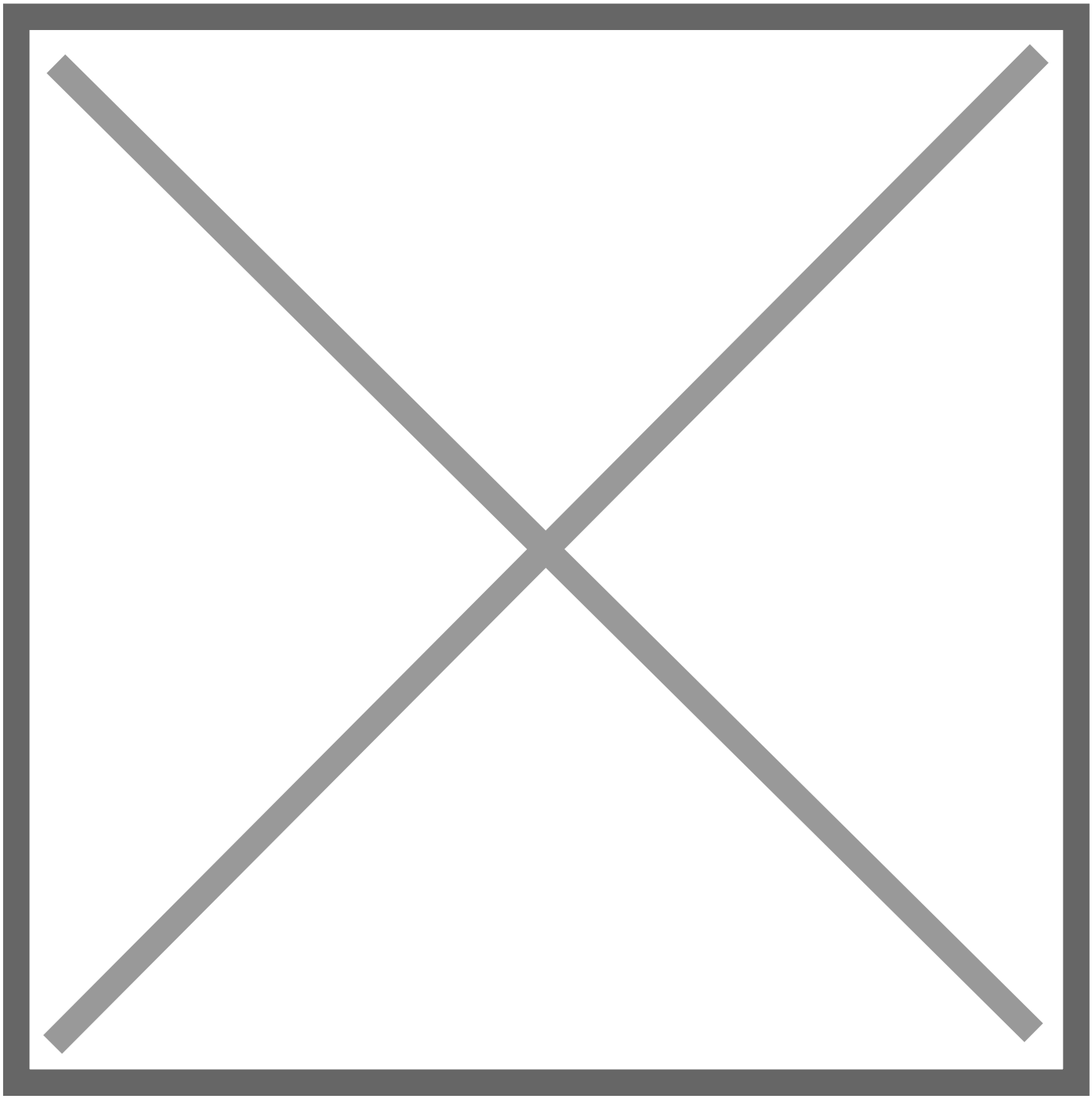


| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Measured |
| **Age:** | 0-5 |
| **Sample size:** | 873 |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | MICS-Style: Republic of the Marshall Islands Integrated Child Health and Nutrition Survey 2017, Final Report. Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands: RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services, RMI Economic, Policy Planning and Statistic Office, 2017 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Notes:** | UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates Expanded Database: Overweight (Survey Estimates), May 2023, New York.<br>For more information about the methodology, please consult https://data.unicef.org/resources/jme-2023-country-consultations/<br>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 education

## Adults, 2023

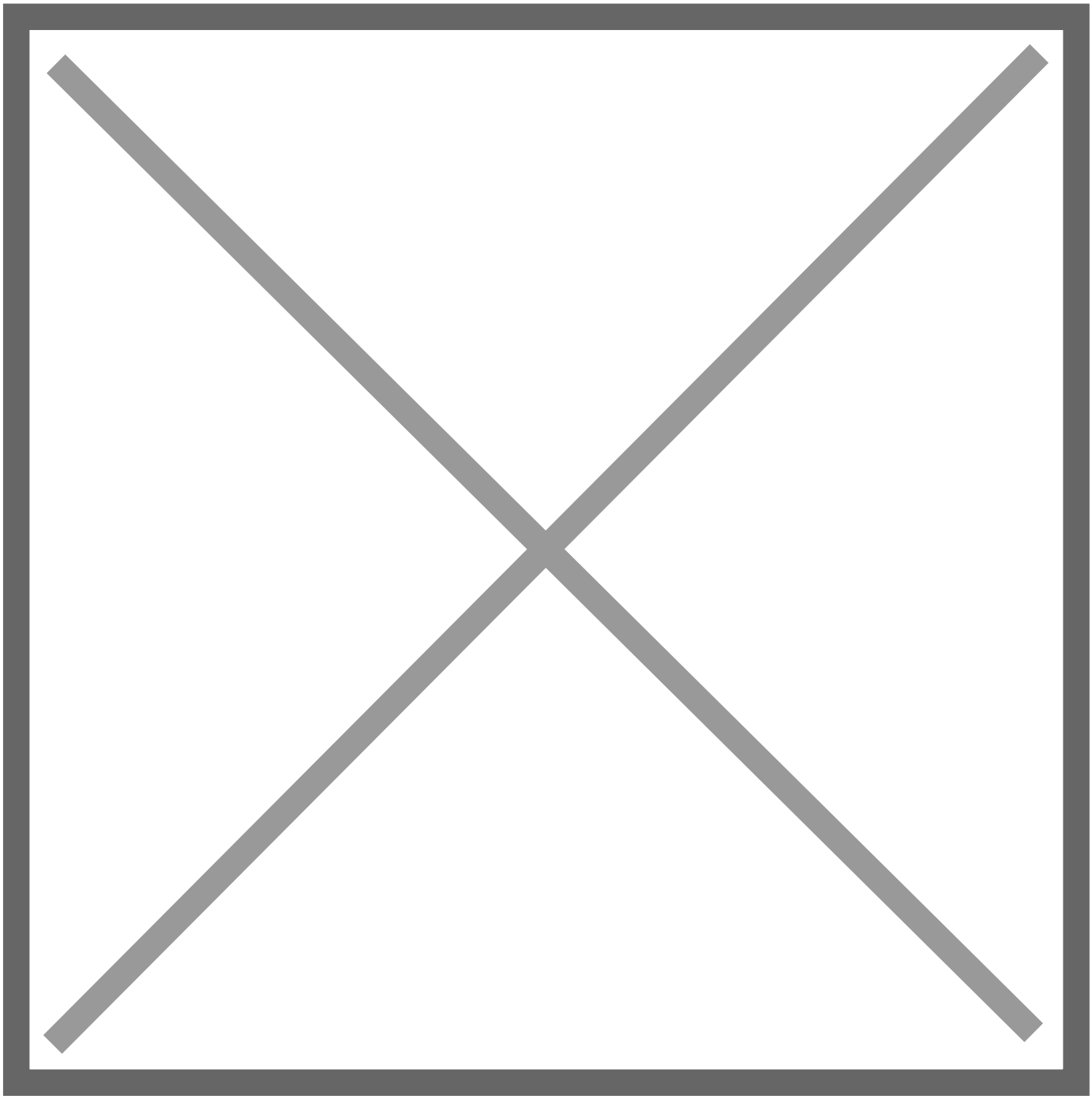


| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Measured |
| **Age:** | 18+ |
| **Sample size:** | 2,678 |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Republic of the Marshall Islands: Adult Hybrid Survey 2023. https://www.pihoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/RMI-2023-Hybrid-Survey-Report-FINAL_6Nov24.pdf [Last Accessed 26.08.25] |

**Notes:** Although all islands were not surveyed, the islands included contain 86% of the overall population of RMI. Islands included were Majuro, Kwajalein, Amo, Jaluit, Wotje and Kili.

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

## 0-5 years, 2017

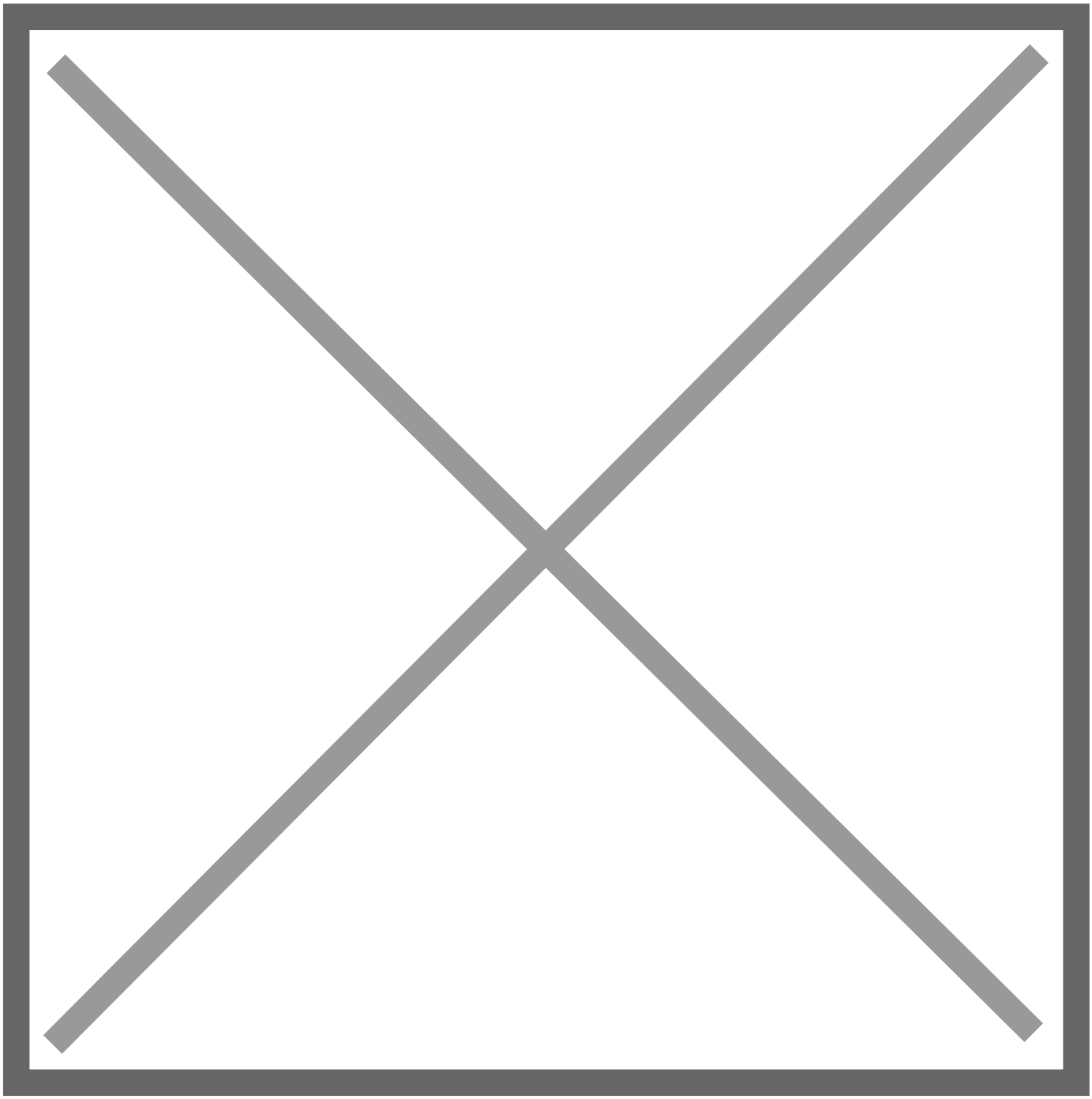


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|---|---|
| **Sample size:** | 873 |
| **References:** | MICS-Style: Republic of the Marshall Islands Integrated Child Health and Nutrition Survey 2017, Final Report. Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands: RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services, RMI Economic, Policy Planning and Statistic Office, 2017 |
| **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 age

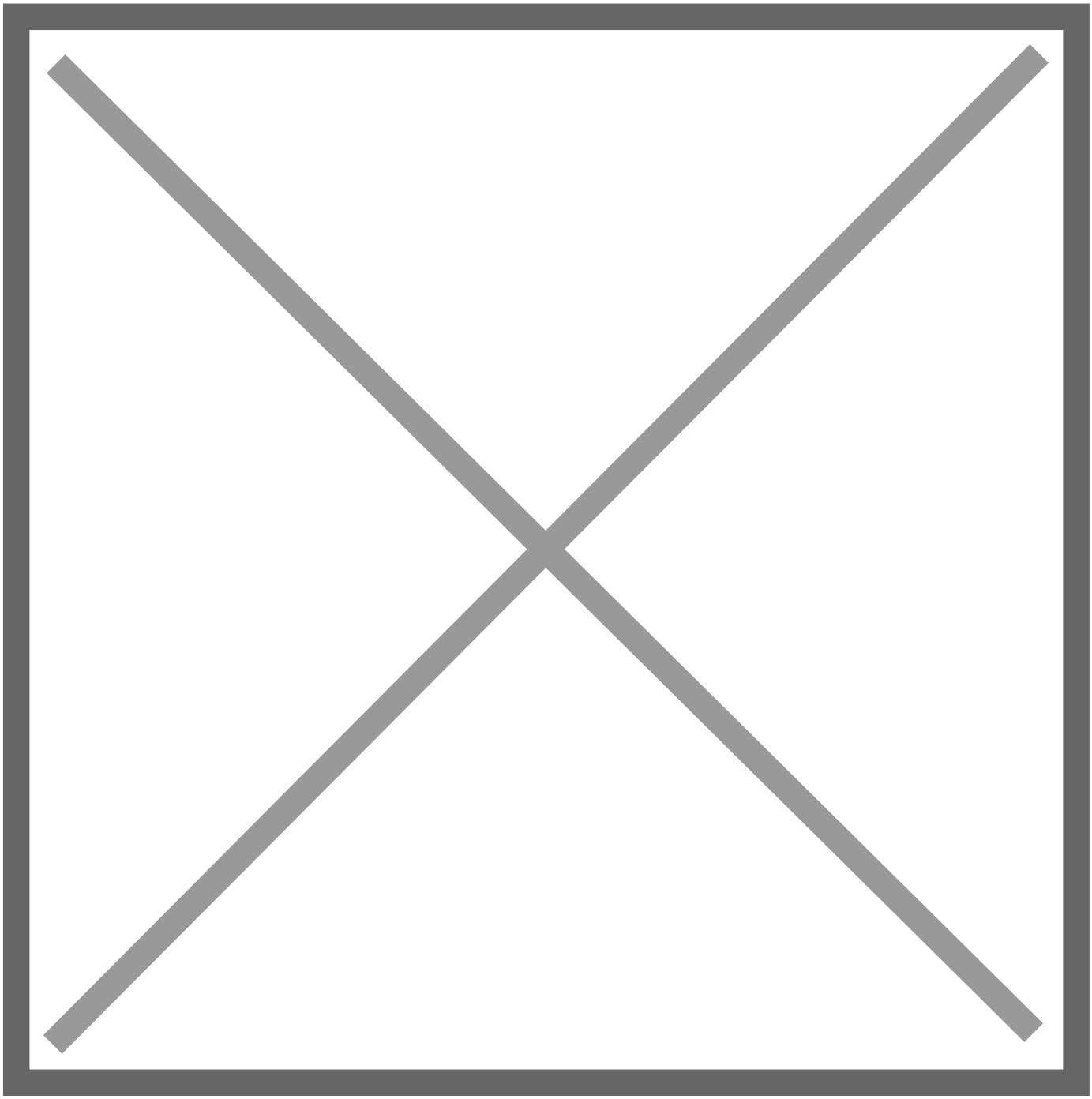
## Adults, 2023



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Measured |
| **Sample size:** | 2,678 |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Republic of the Marshall Islands: Adult Hybrid Survey 2023. https://www.pihoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/RMI-2023-Hybrid-Survey-Report-FINAL_6Nov24.pdf [Last Accessed 26.08.25] |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Notes:** | Although all islands were not surveyed, the islands included contain 86% of the overall population of RMI. Islands included were Majuro, Kwajalein, Amo, Jaluit, Wotje and Kili. |
| | *Unless otherwise noted, overweight refers to a BMI between 25kg and 29.9kg/m², obesity refers to a BMI greater than 30kg/m².* |

## Children, 2017-2018

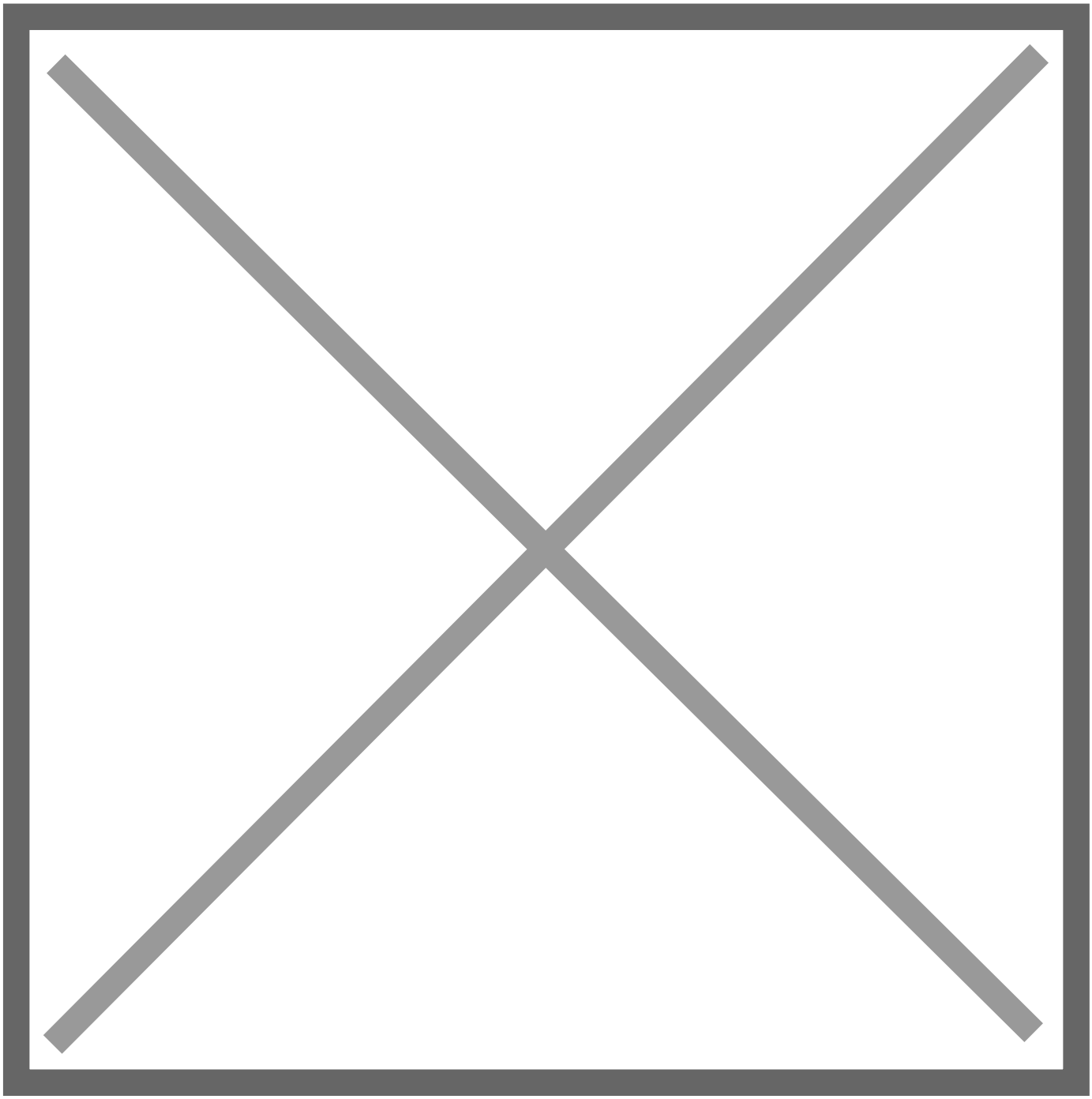


| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Measured |
| **Sample size:** | 3271 |
| **Area covered:** | Subnational |
| **References:** | Passmore, E. and Smith, T., 2019. Dual Burden of Stunting and Obesity Among Elementary School Children on Majuro, Republic of Marshall Islands. Hawai'i Journal of Health & Social Welfare, 78(8), p.262. |
| **Notes:** | CDC Cut-offs |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Cutoffs:** | CDC |

## Overweight/obesity by region

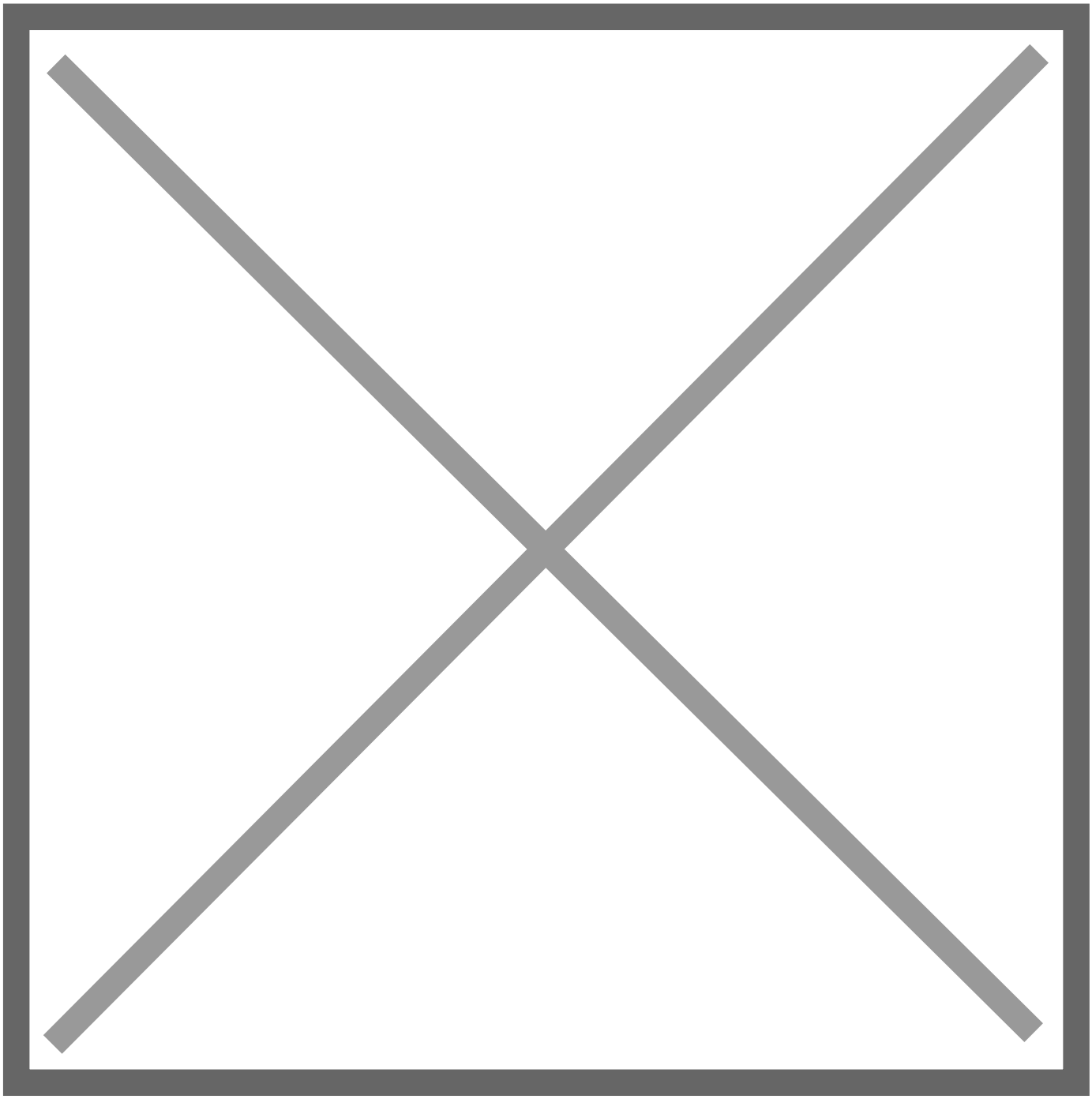
## Adults, 2023



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Measured |
| **Age:** | 18+ |
| **Sample size:** | 2,678 |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Republic of the Marshall Islands: Adult Hybrid Survey 2023. https://www.pihoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/RMI-2023-Hybrid-Survey-Report-FINAL_6Nov24.pdf [Last Accessed 26.08.25] |

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

## 0-5 years, 2017

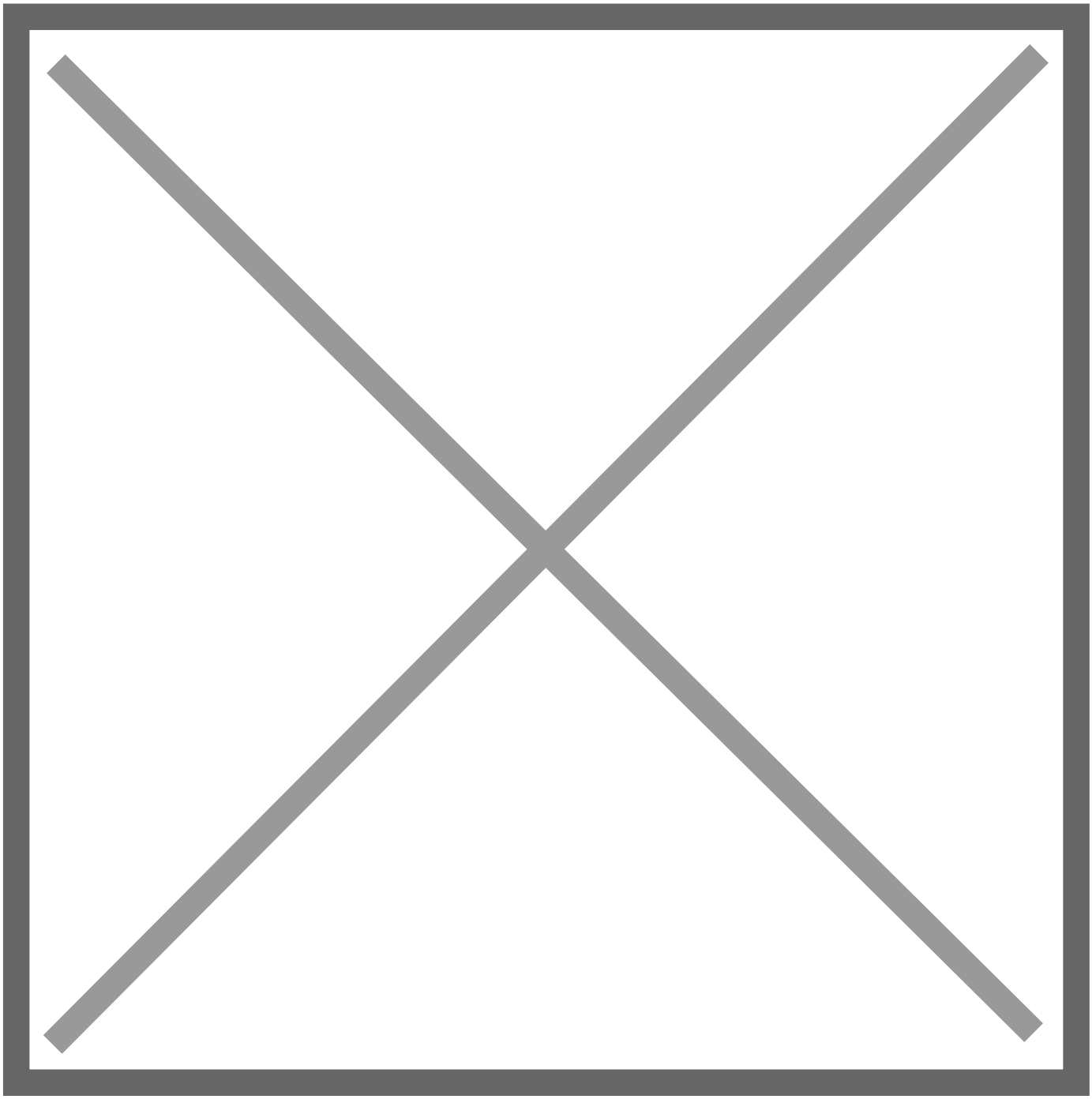


| | |
|---|---|
| **Sample size:** | 873 |
| **References:** | MICS-Style: Republic of the Marshall Islands Integrated Child Health and Nutrition Survey 2017, Final Report. Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands: RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services, RMI Economic, Policy Planning and Statistic Office, 2017 |
| **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, 2017

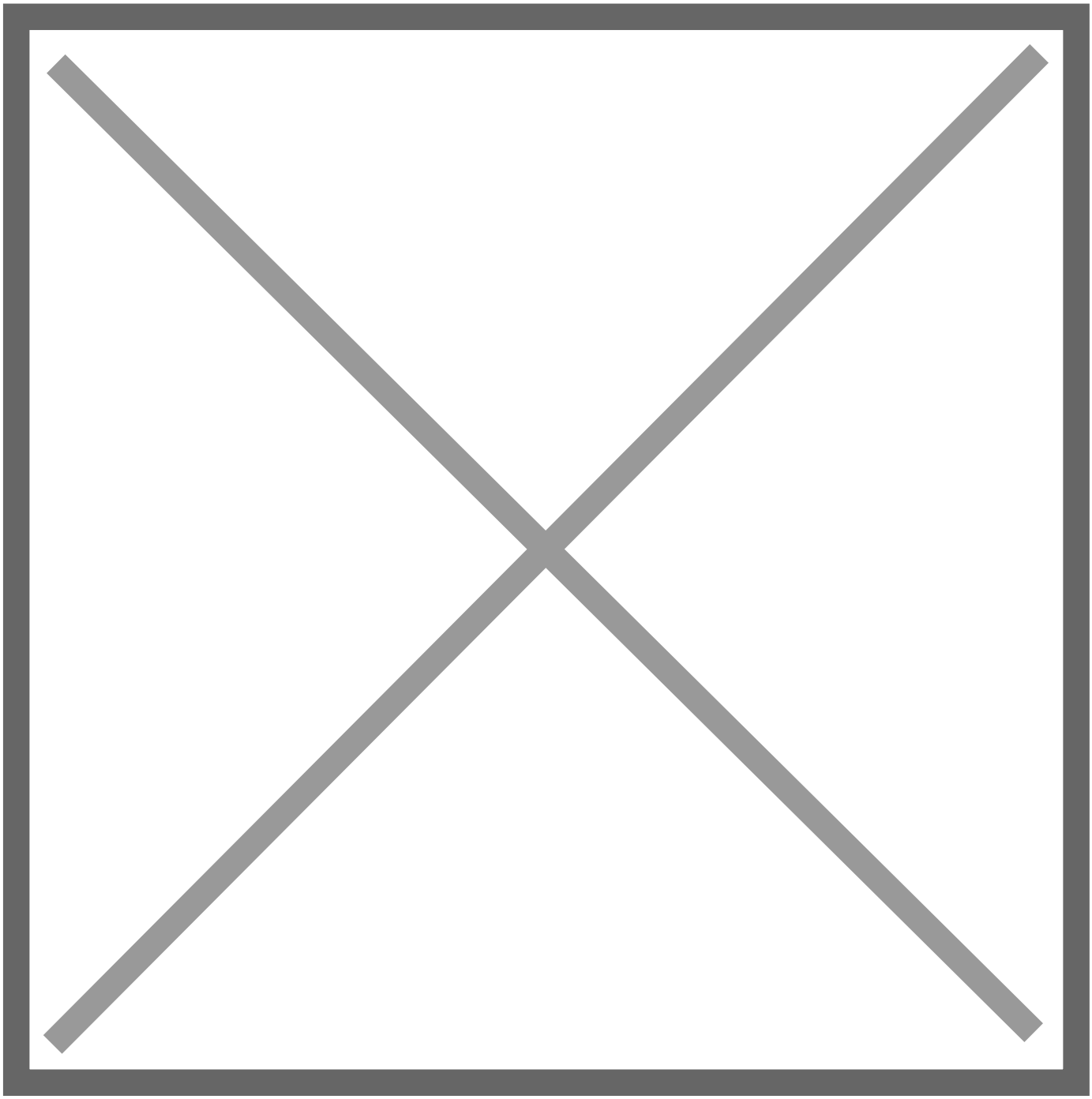


| | |
|---|---|
| **Sample size:** | 873 |
| **References:** | MICS-Style: Republic of the Marshall Islands Integrated Child Health and Nutrition Survey 2017, Final Report. Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands: RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services, RMI Economic, Policy Planning and Statistic Office, 2017 |
| **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

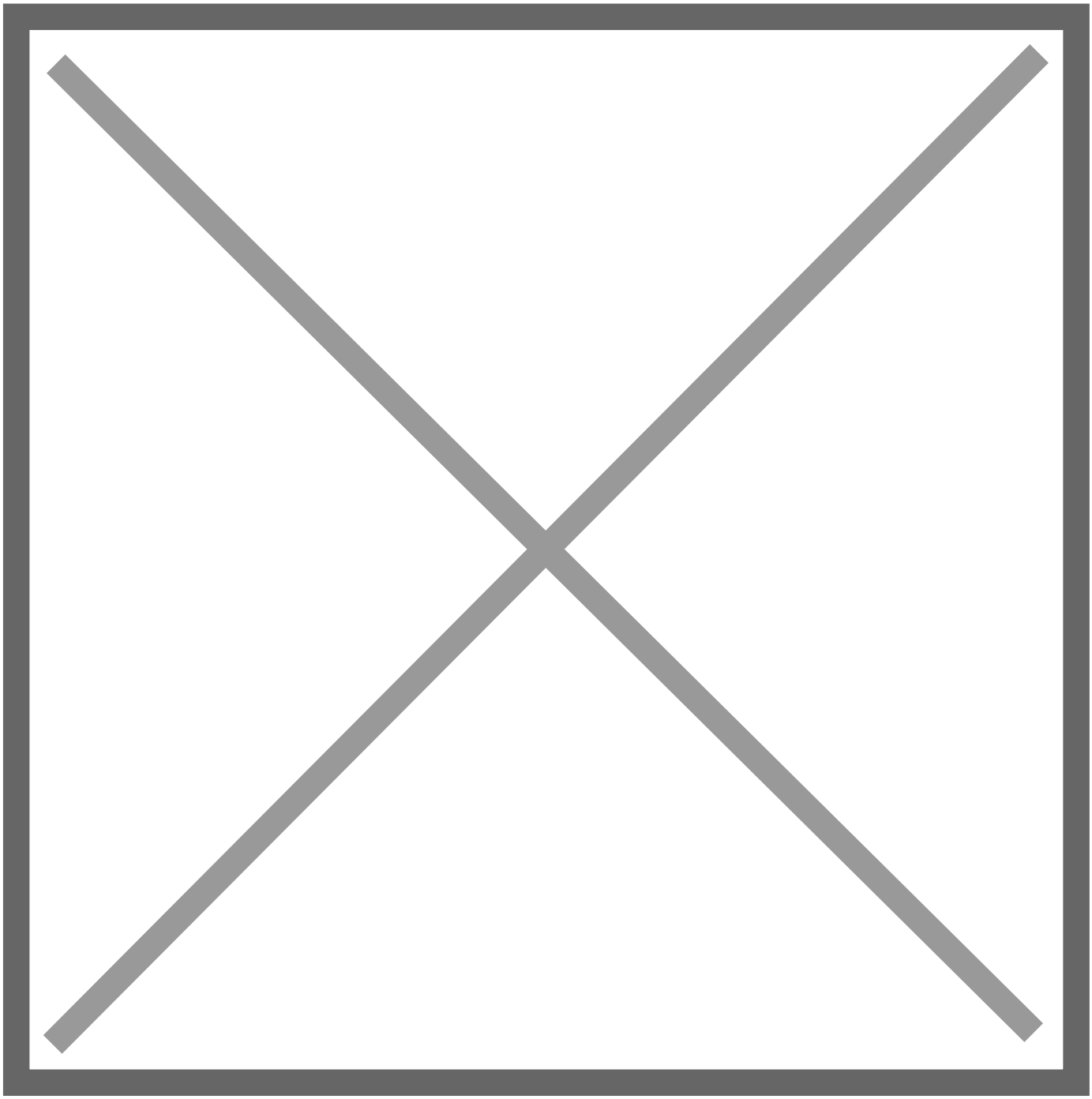
## Adults, 2022



| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Measured |
| **Age:** | 20+ |
| **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/m² and BMI>=30 kg/m² (double burden of underweight and obesity) |

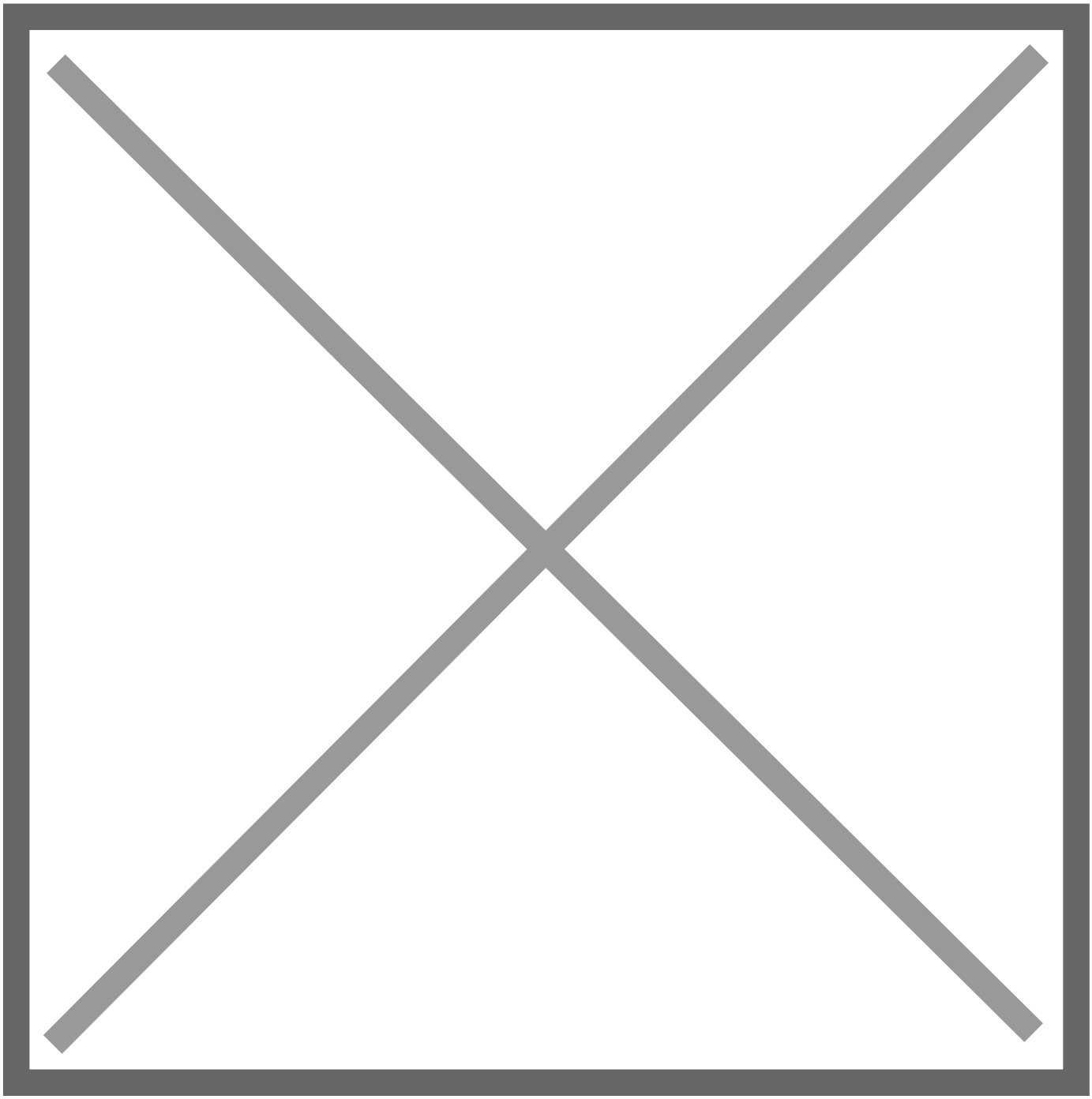
## Children, 2022



| | |
|---|---|
| **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 |

## 0-5 years, 2017

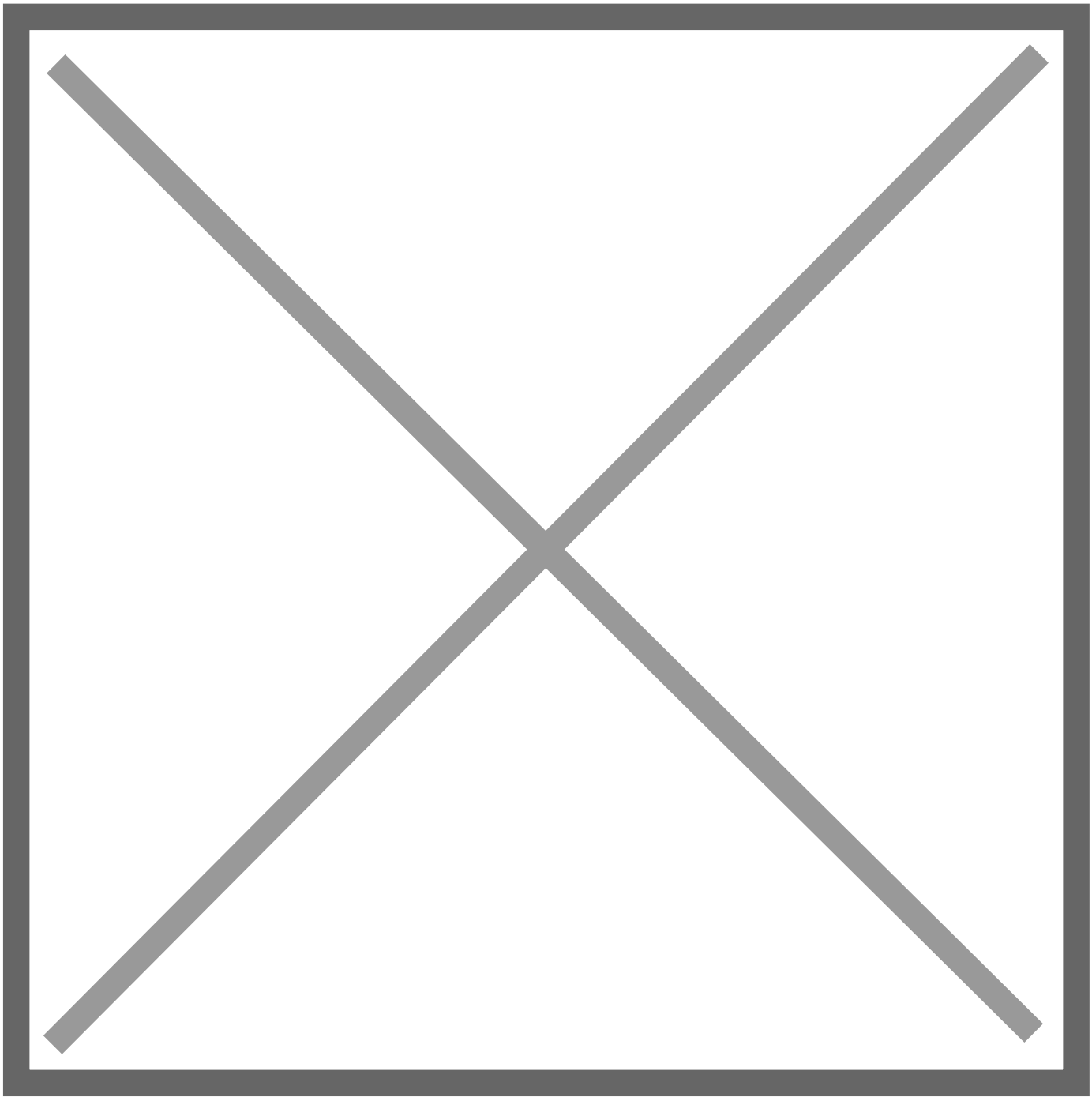


| | |
|---|---|
| **Survey type:** | Measured |
| **Age:** | 0-5 |
| **References:** | United Nations Children's Fund, Division of Data, Analysis, Planning and Monitoring (2025). Global UNICEF Global Databases: Overlapping Stunting, Wasting and Overweight (Survey Estimates), 2025, New York. For more information, visit: https://data.unicef.org/topic/nutrition/malnutrition/ [Accessed 06.08.25] |
| **Notes:** | Republic of the Marshall Islands Integrated Child Health and Nutrition Survey 2017, Final Report. Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands: RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services, RMI Economic, Policy Planning and Statistic Office, 2017 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **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 |

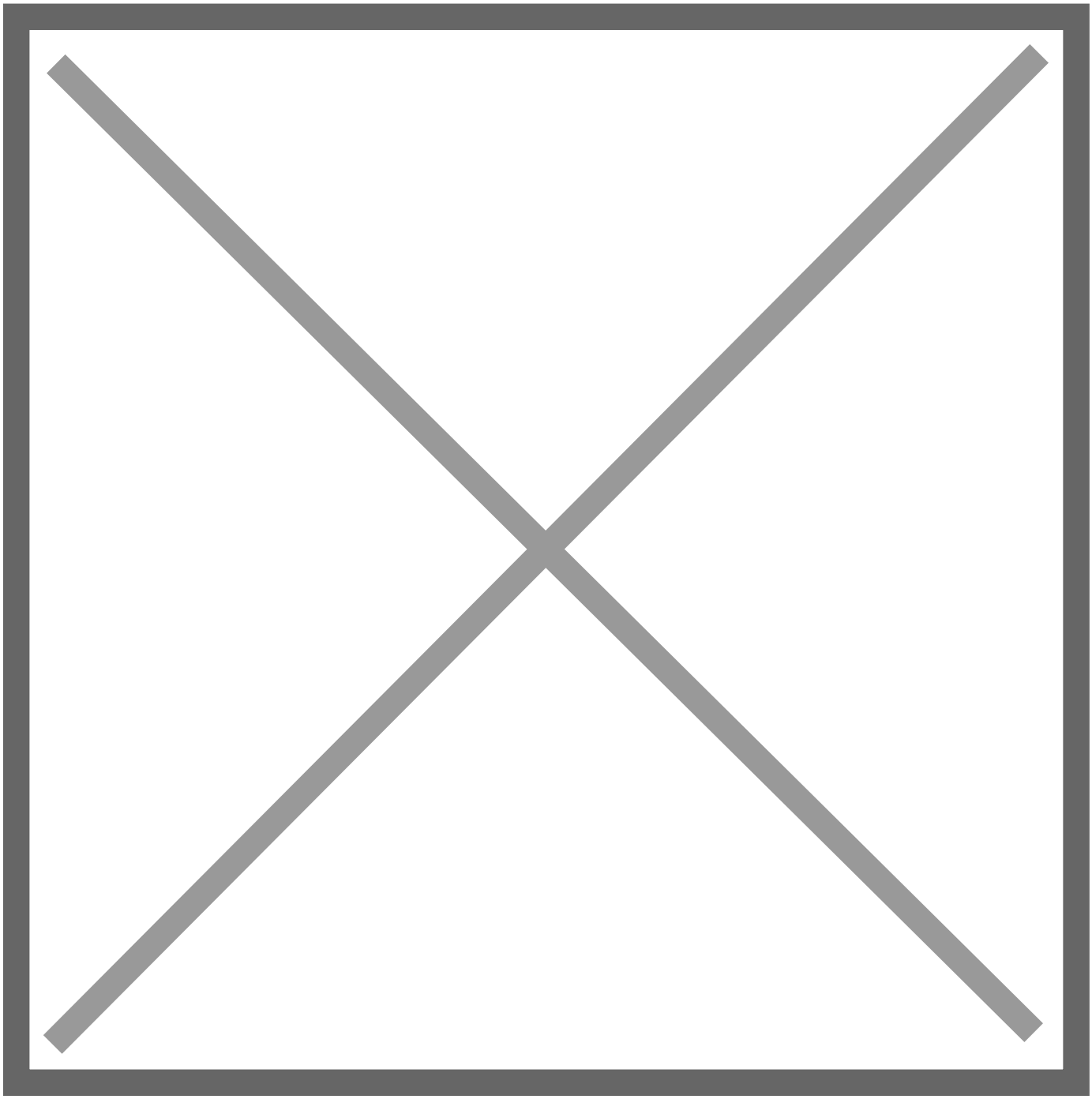
# Insufficient physical activity

## Adults, 2016



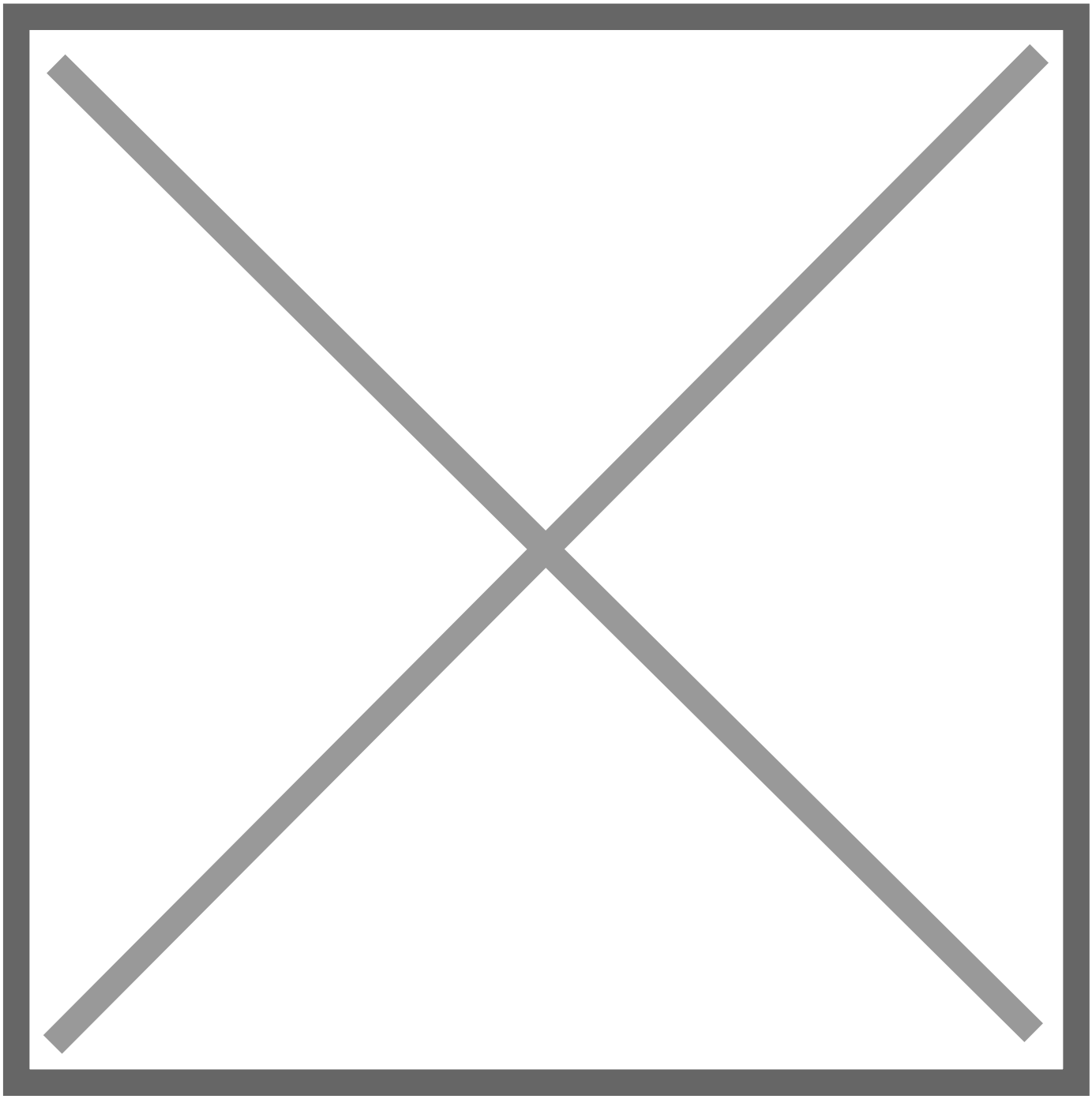
**References:** Guthold R, Stevens GA, Riley LM, Bull FC. Worldwide trends in insufficient physical activity from 2001 to 2016: a pooled analysis of 358 population-based surveys with 1.9 million participants. Lancet 2018 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(18)30357-7

## Men, 2016



**References:** Guthold R, Stevens GA, Riley LM, Bull FC. Worldwide trends in insufficient physical activity from 2001 to 2016: a pooled analysis of 358 population-based surveys with 1.9 million participants. Lancet 2018 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(18)30357-7

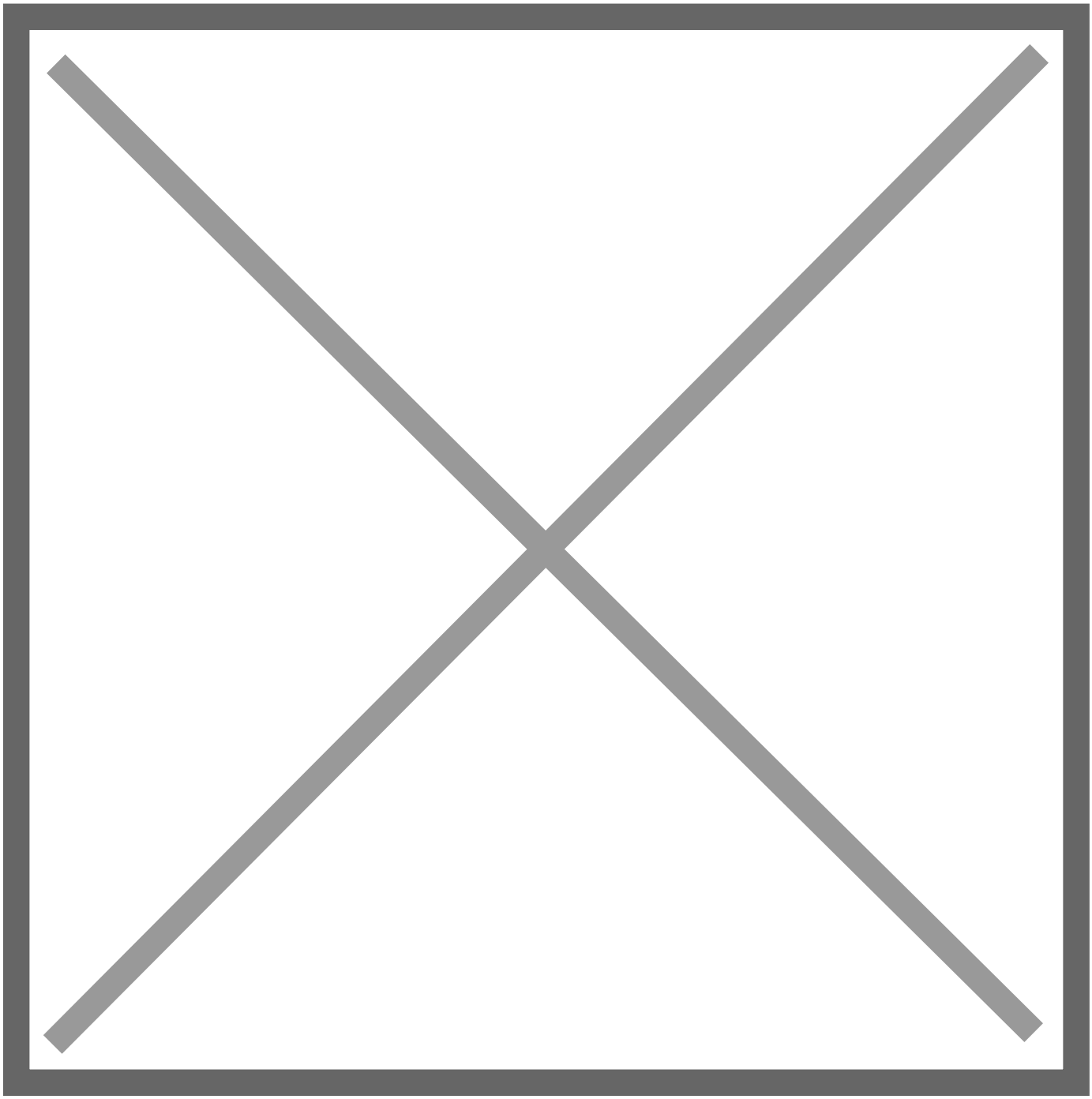
## Women, 2016



**References:** Guthold R, Stevens GA, Riley LM, Bull FC. Worldwide trends in insufficient physical activity from 2001 to 2016: a pooled analysis of 358 population-based surveys with 1.9 million participants. Lancet 2018 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(18)30357-7

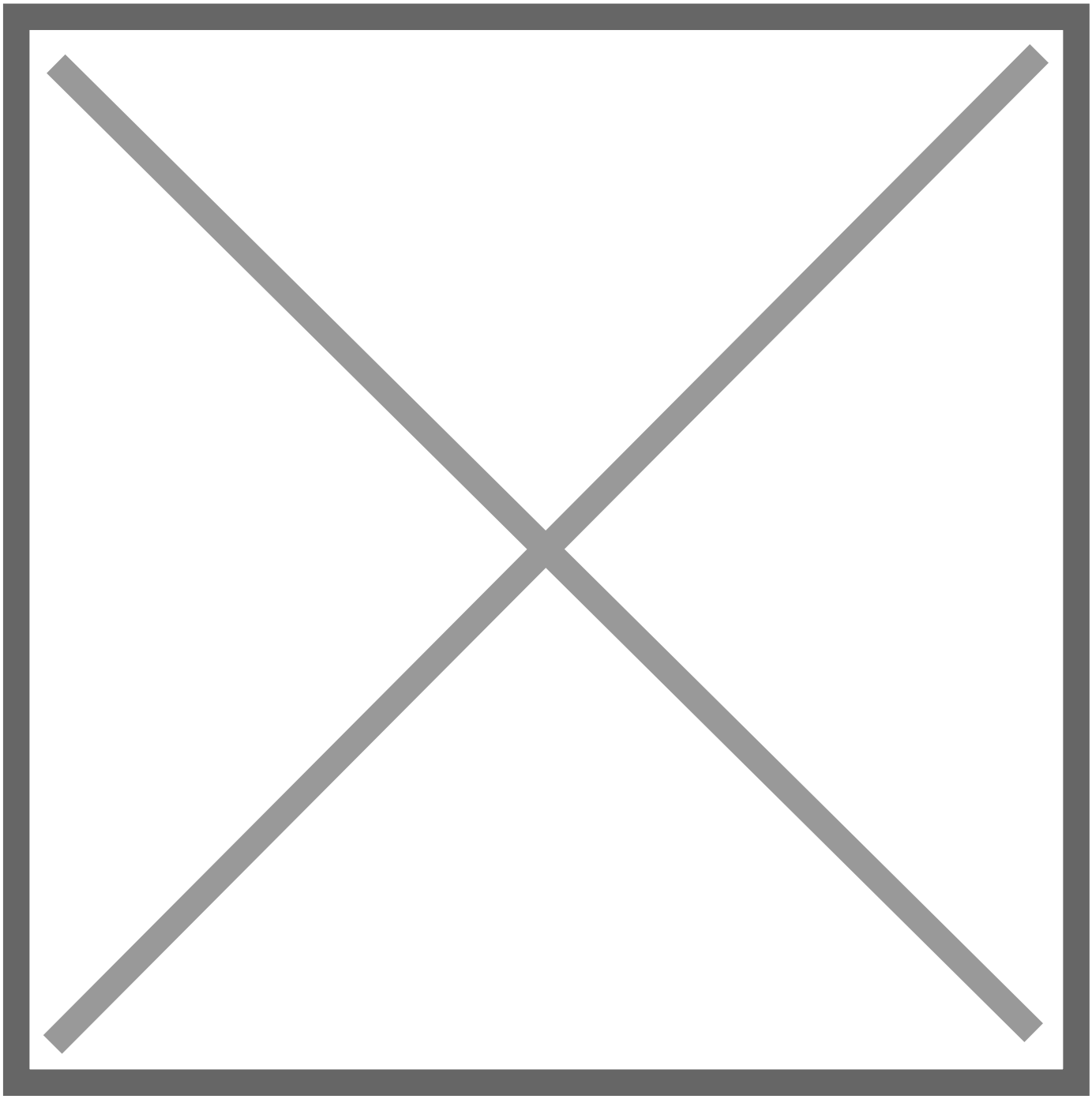
## Mental health - depression disorders

## Adults, 2023



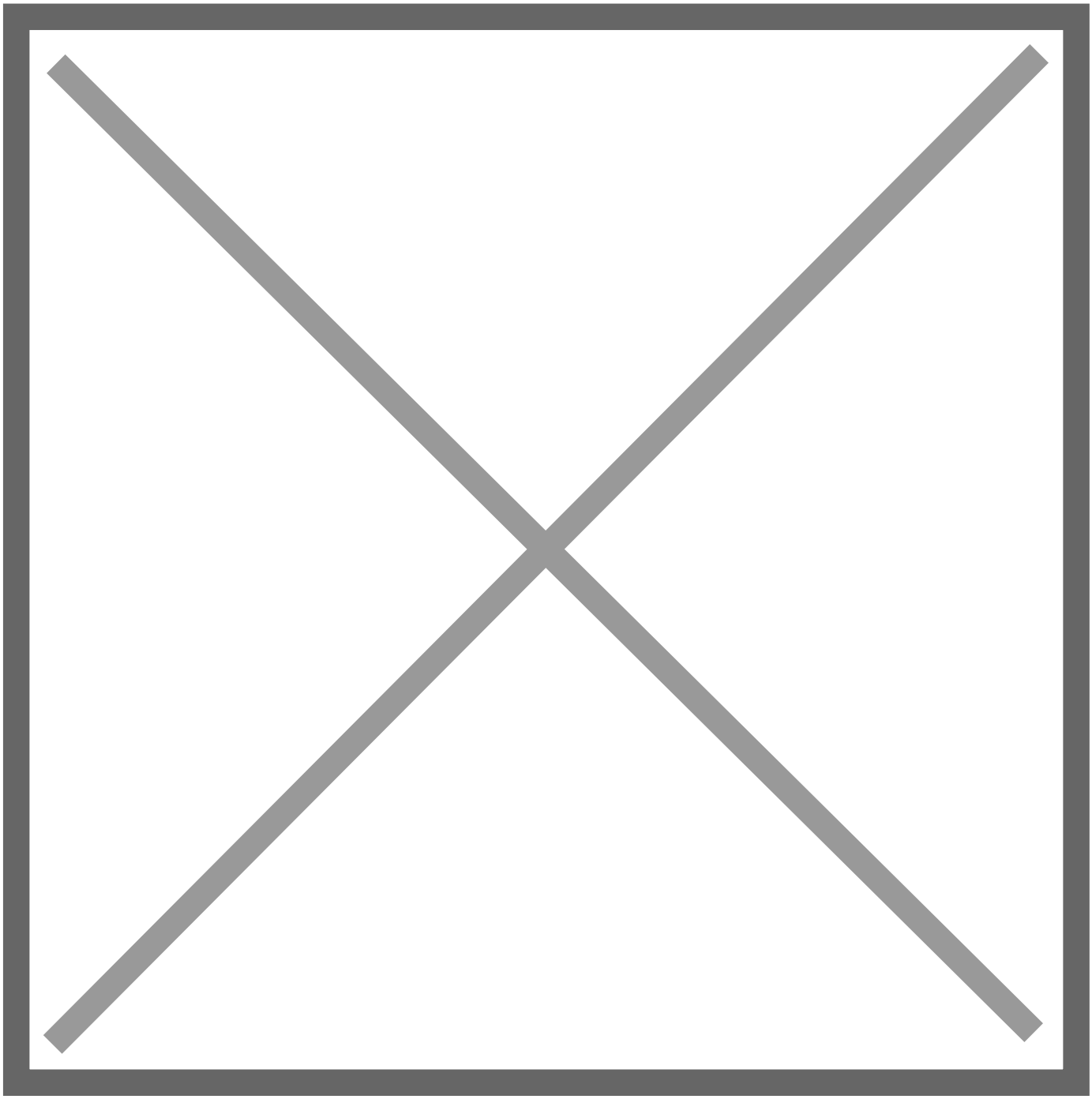
| | |
|---|---|
| **Age:** | 20+ |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2025. Available from https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/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

## Men, 2023



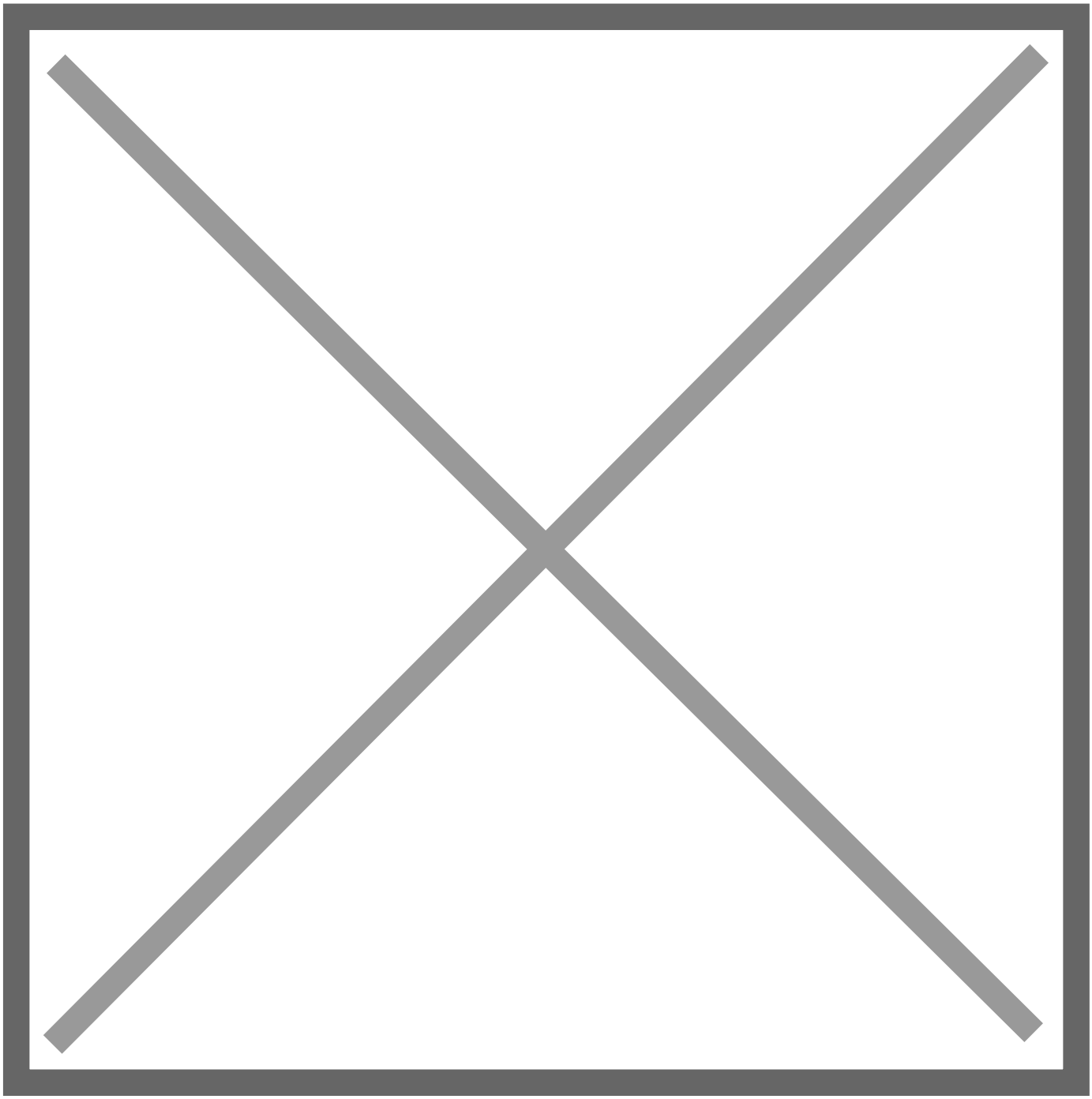
| | |
|---|---|
| **Age:** | 20+ |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2025. Available from https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/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

## Women, 2023



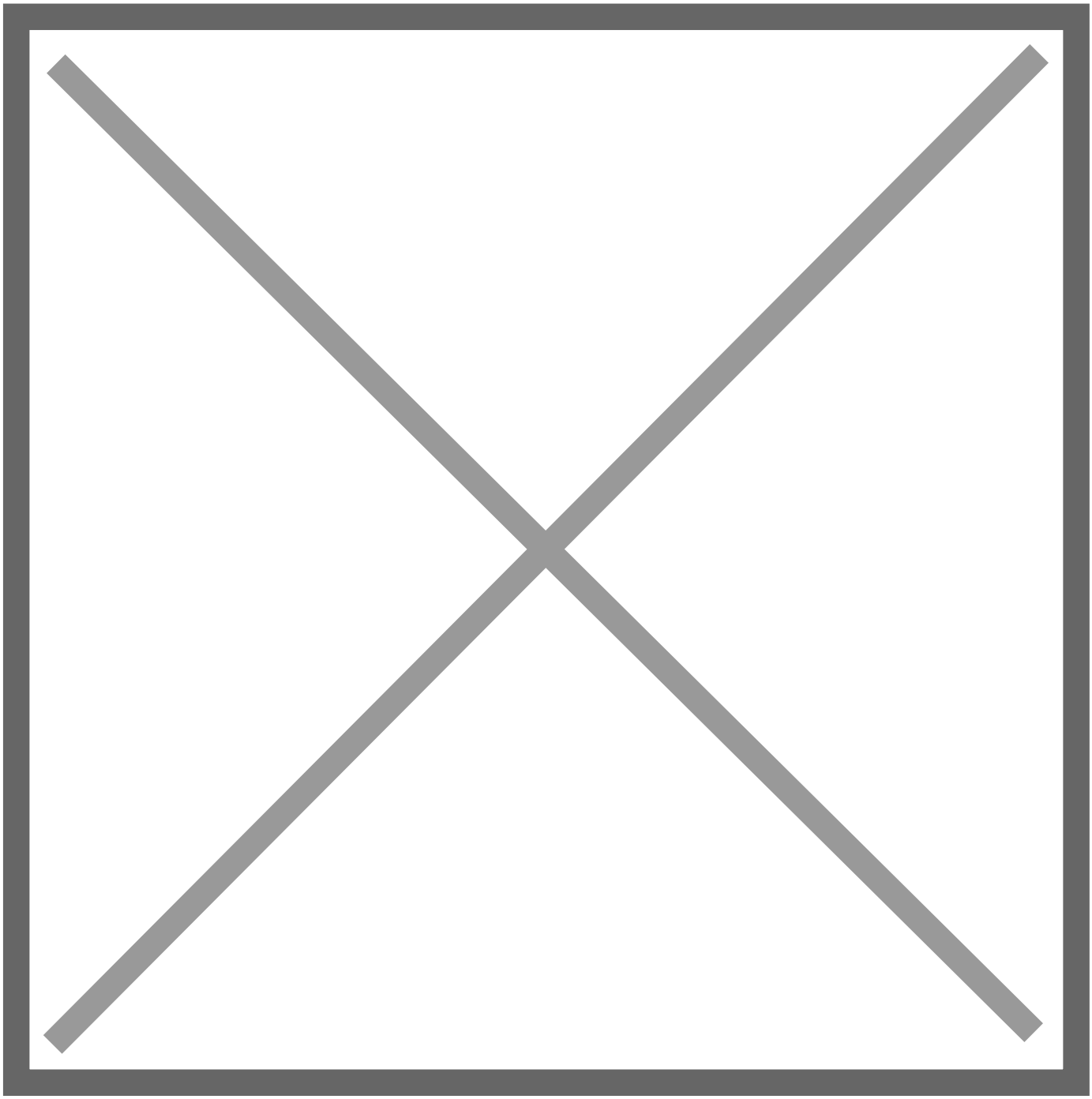
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| **Age:** | 20+ |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2025.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

## Children, 2023



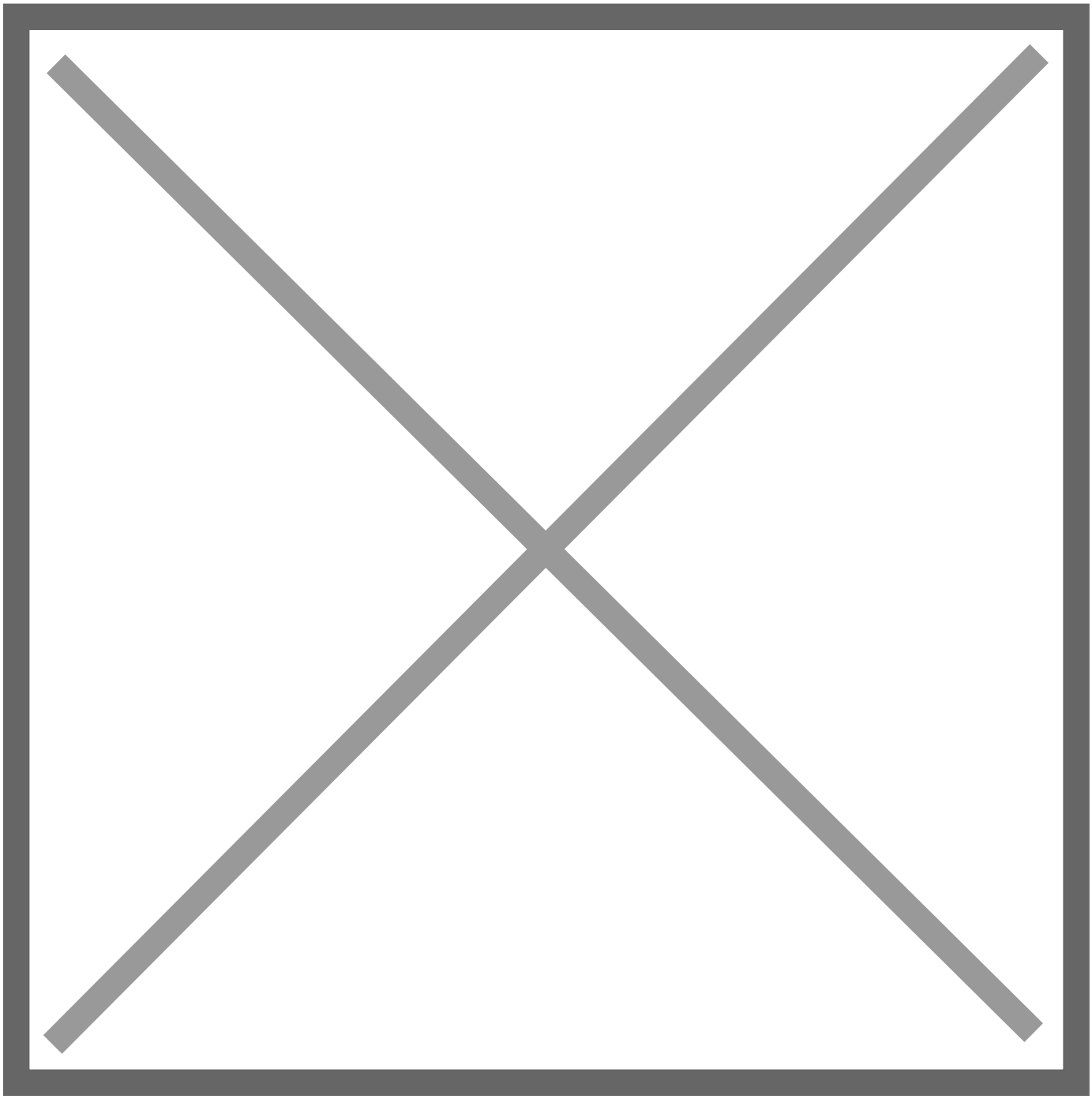
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|---|---|
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2025. Available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

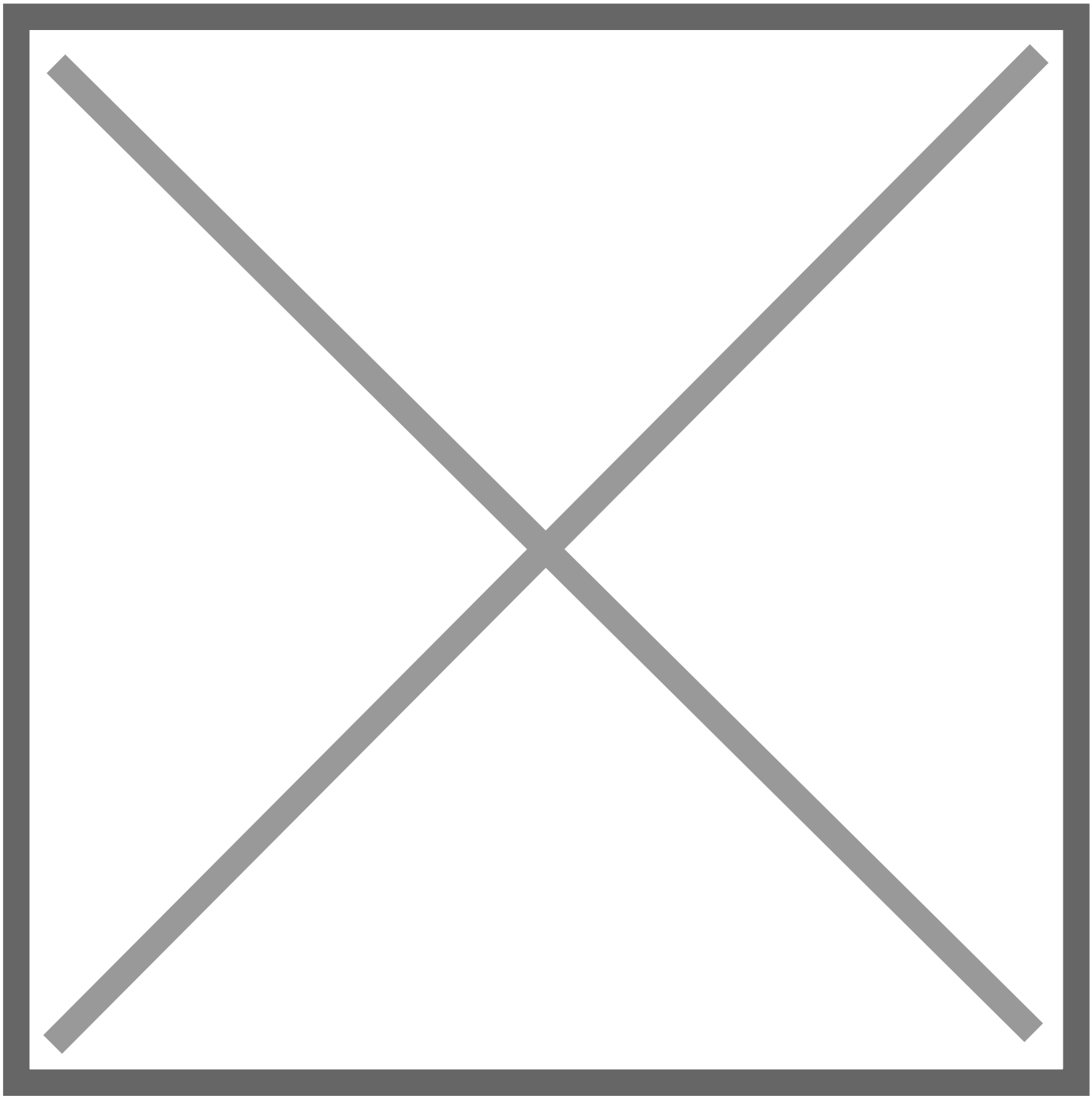
## Girls, 2023



| | |
|---|---|
| **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 depressive disorders per 100,000 population (under 20 years of age) |

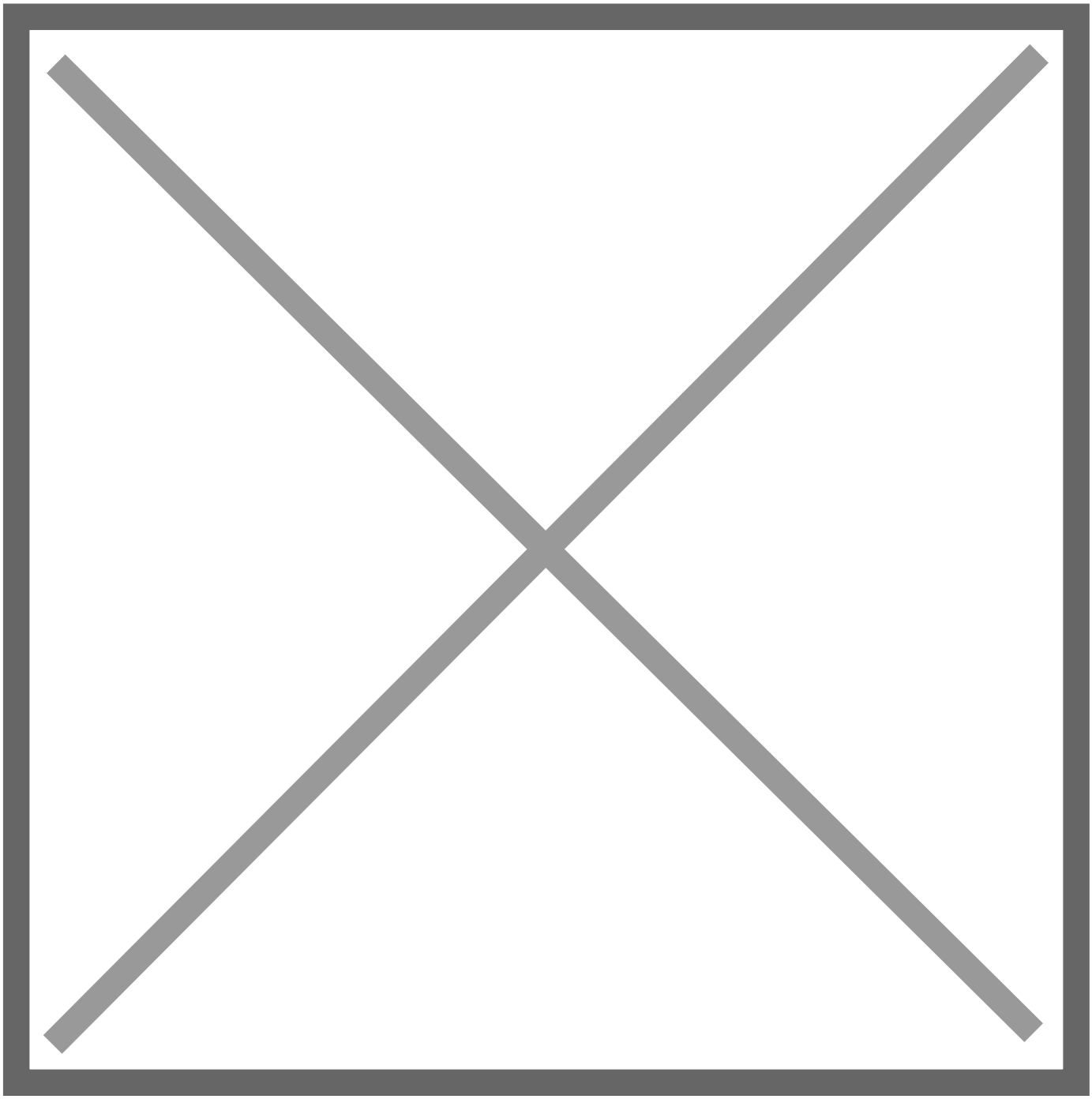
## Mental health - anxiety disorders

## Adults, 2023



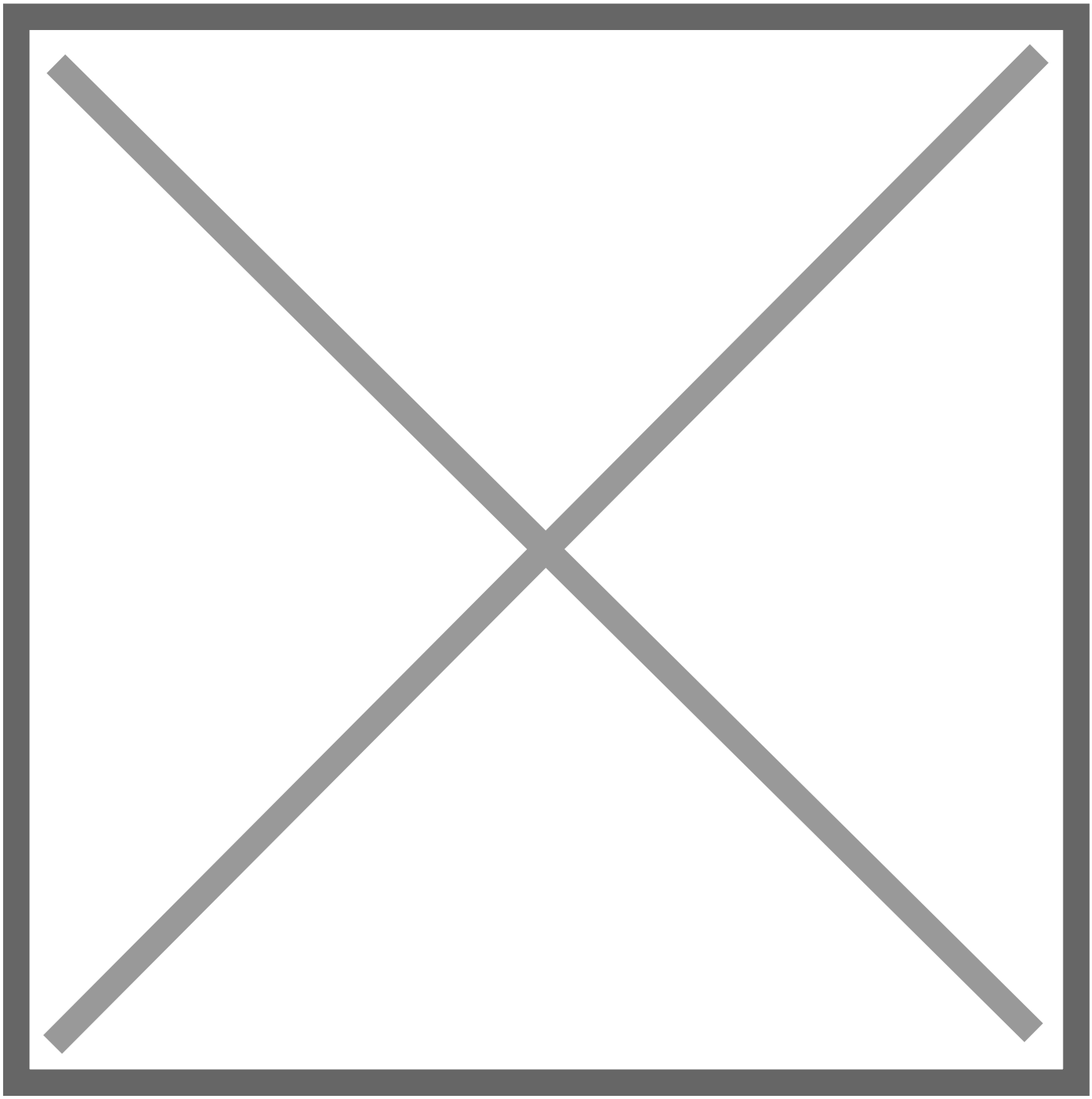
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|---|---|
| **Age:** | 20+ |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington,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

## Men, 2023



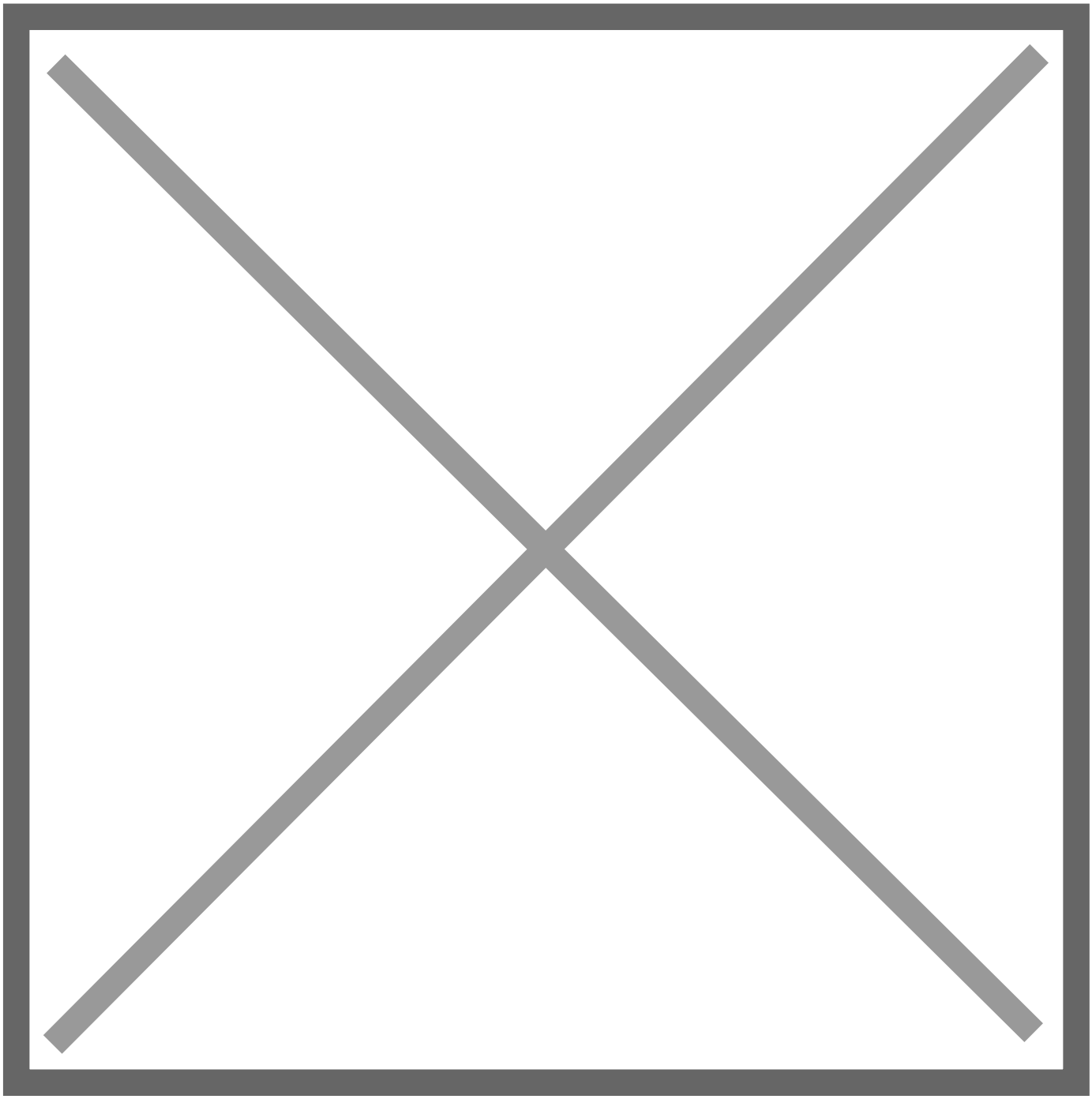
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|---|---|
| **Age:** | 20+ |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington,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

## Women, 2023



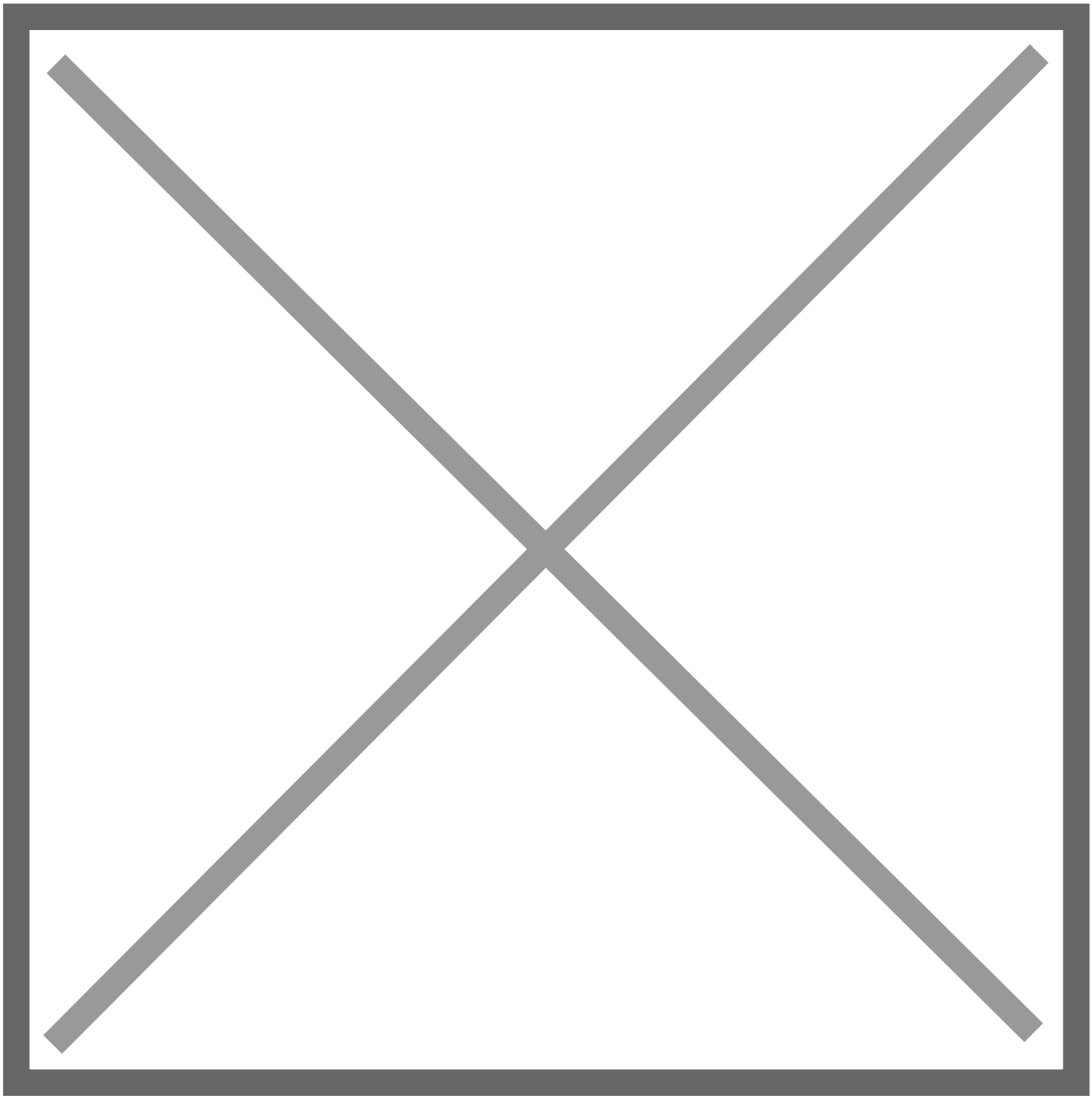
| | |
|---|---|
| **Age:** | 20+ |
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2025. Available from https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/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

## Children, 2023



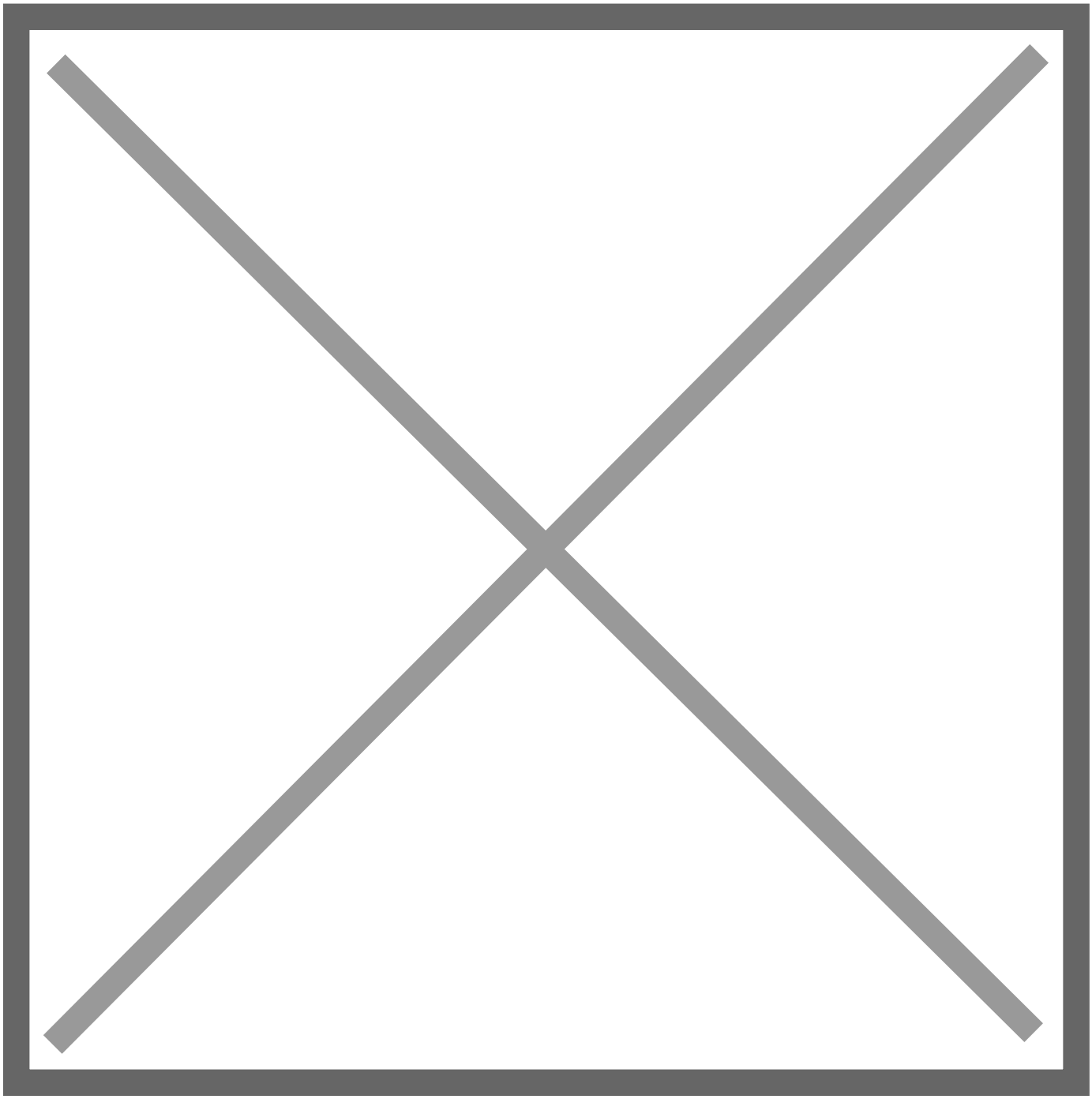
| | |
|---|---|
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2025. Available from https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/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

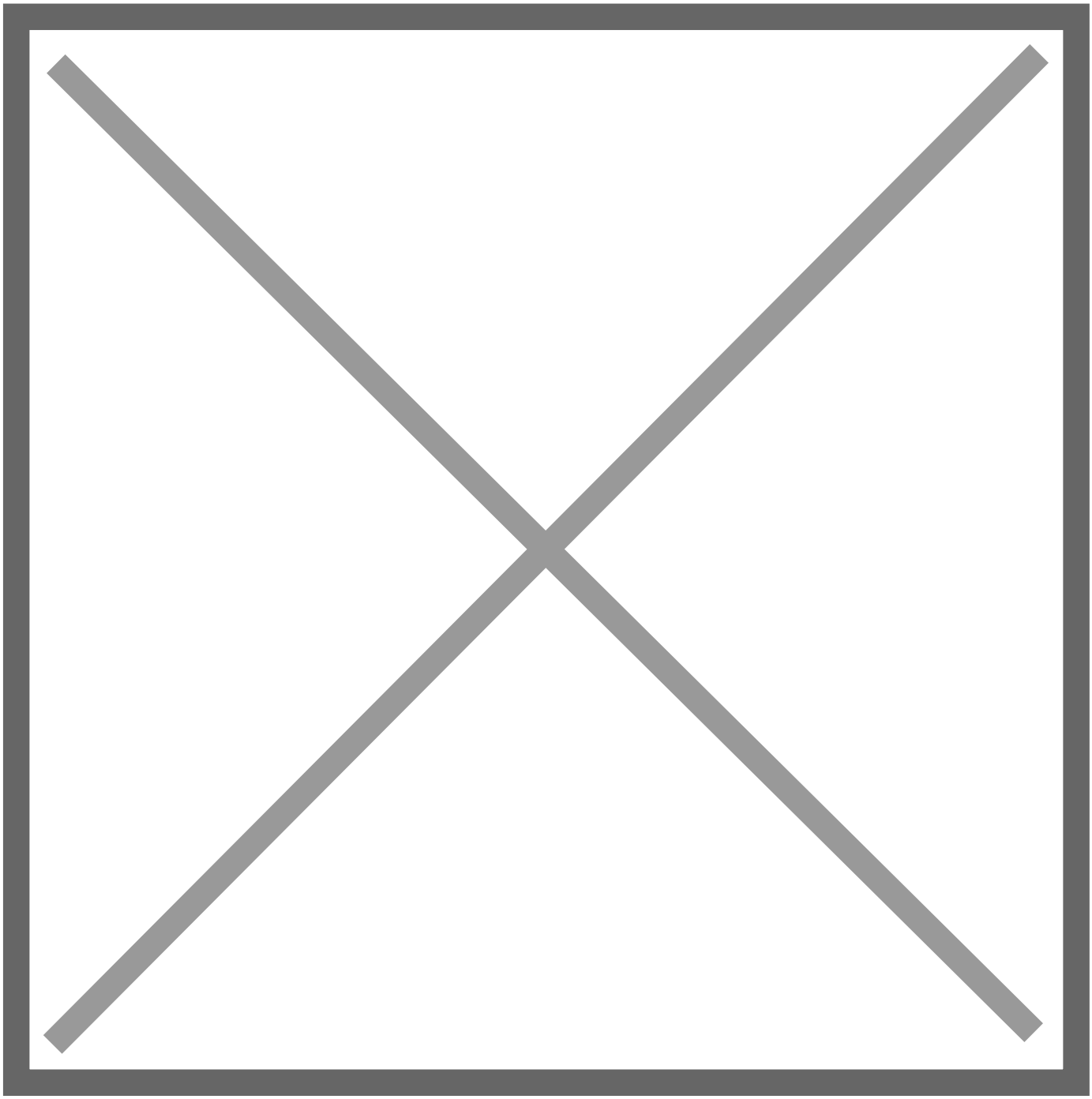
## Girls, 2023



| | |
|---|---|
| **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) |

## % Infants exclusively breastfed 0-5 months

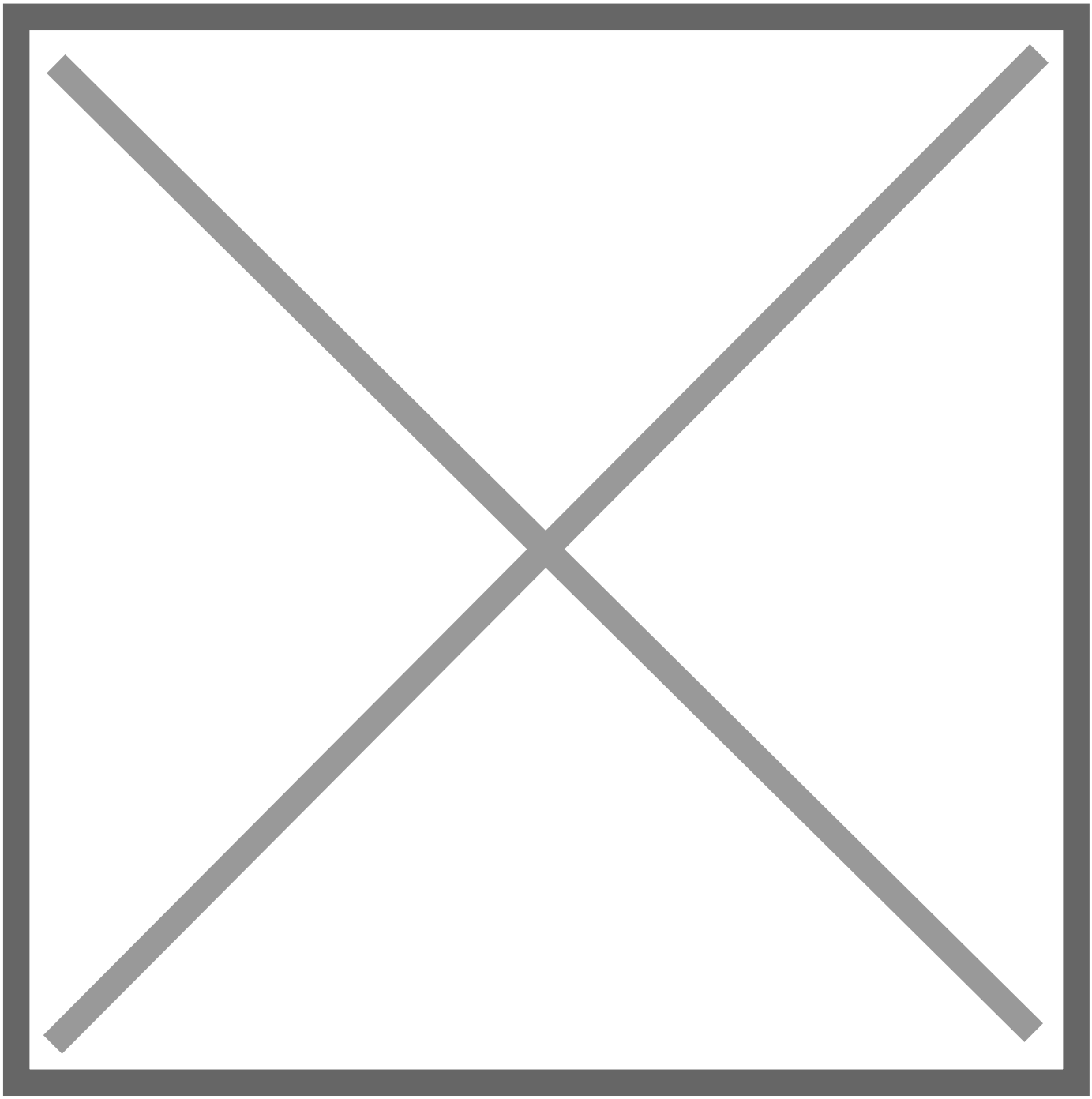
## 0-5 years, 2015-2023



| | |
|---|---|
| **Area covered:** | National |
| **References:** | Republic of the Marshall Islands Integrated Child Health and Nutrition Survey 2017, Final Report. Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands: RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services, RMI Economic, Policy Planning and Statistic Office, 2017 |
| **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. |

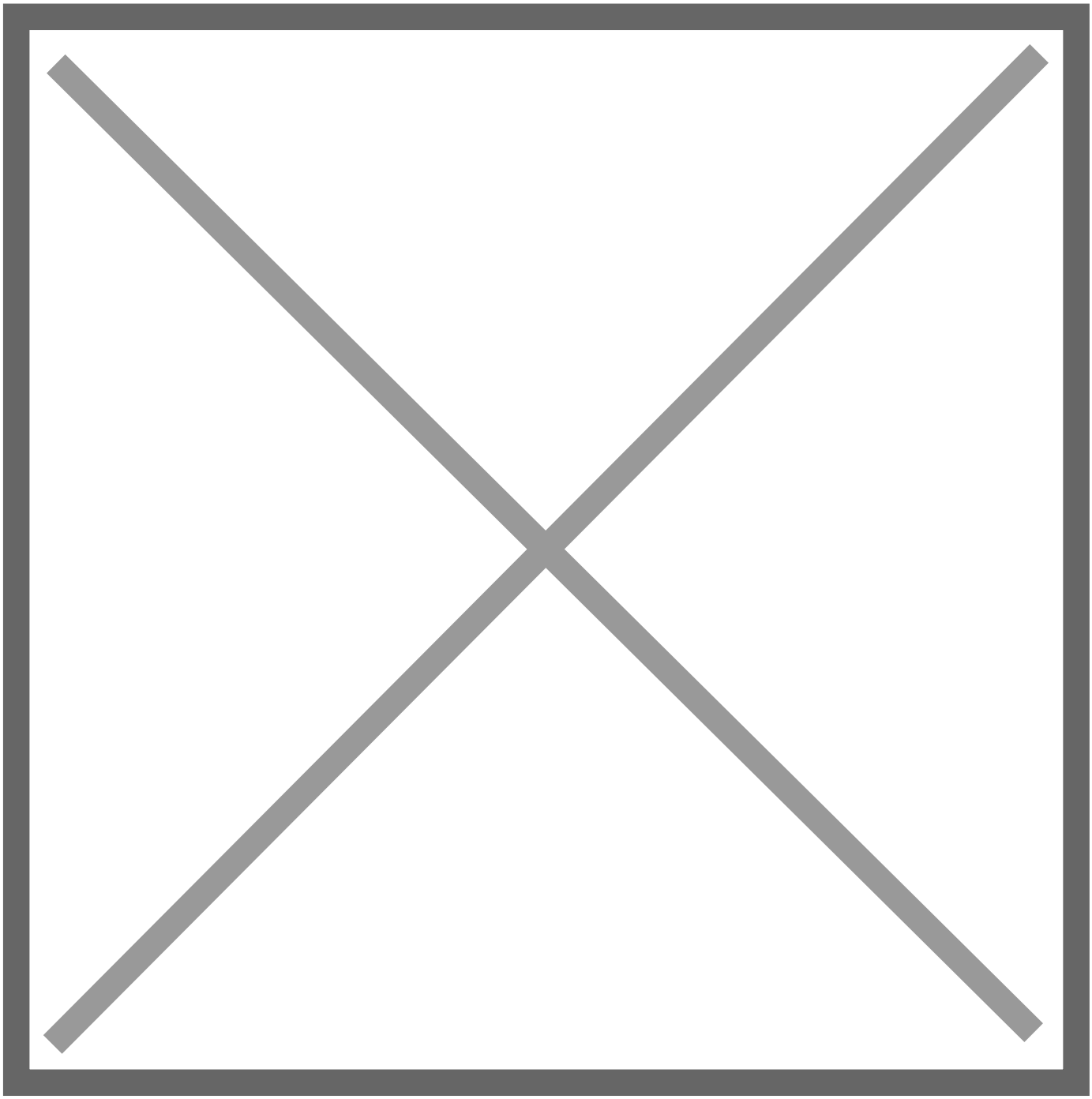
## Raised blood pressure

## Adults, 2019



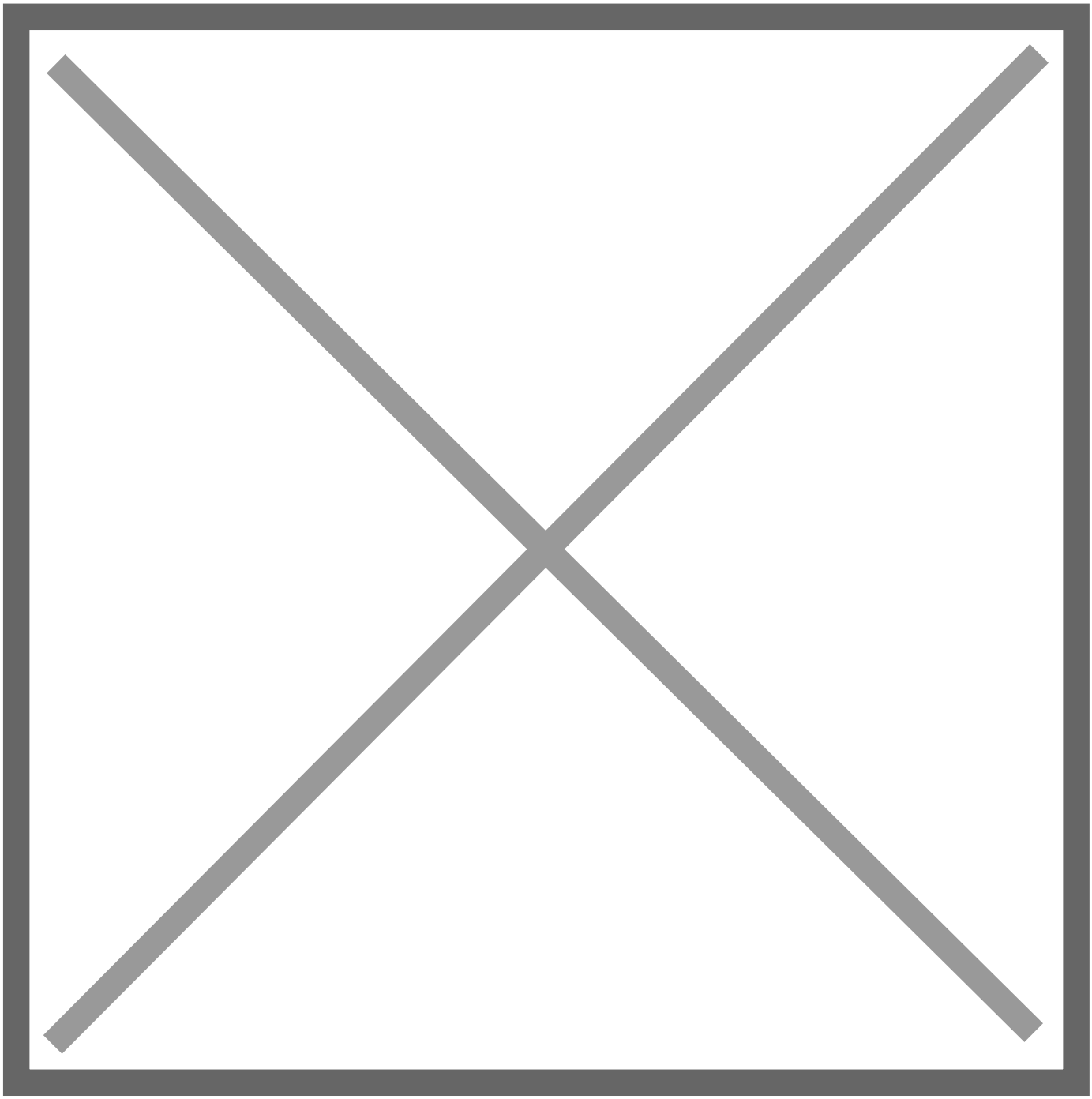
| | |
|---|---|
| **Age:** | 30-79 |
| **References:** | World Health Organization. 2024. Hypertension: raised blood pressure (uncontrolled hypertension) among adults aged 30-79 years (%). Global Health Observatory. https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/prevalence-raised-blood-pressure-among-adults-30-79-years [Accessed 16.03.26] |
| **Definitions:** | Prevalence of raised blood pressure (defined as having systolic blood pressure ≥140 mmHg or diastolic blood pressure ≥90 mmHg) among adults aged 30-79. |

## Men, 2019



| | |
|---|---|
| **Age:** | 30-79 |
| **References:** | World Health Organization. 2024. Hypertension: raised blood pressure (uncontrolled hypertension) among adults aged 30-79 years (%). Global Health Observatory. https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/prevalence-raised-blood-pressure-among-adults-30-79-years [Accessed 16.03.26] |
| **Definitions:** | Prevalence of raised blood pressure (defined as having systolic blood pressure ≥140 mmHg or diastolic blood pressure ≥90 mmHg) among adults aged 30-79. |

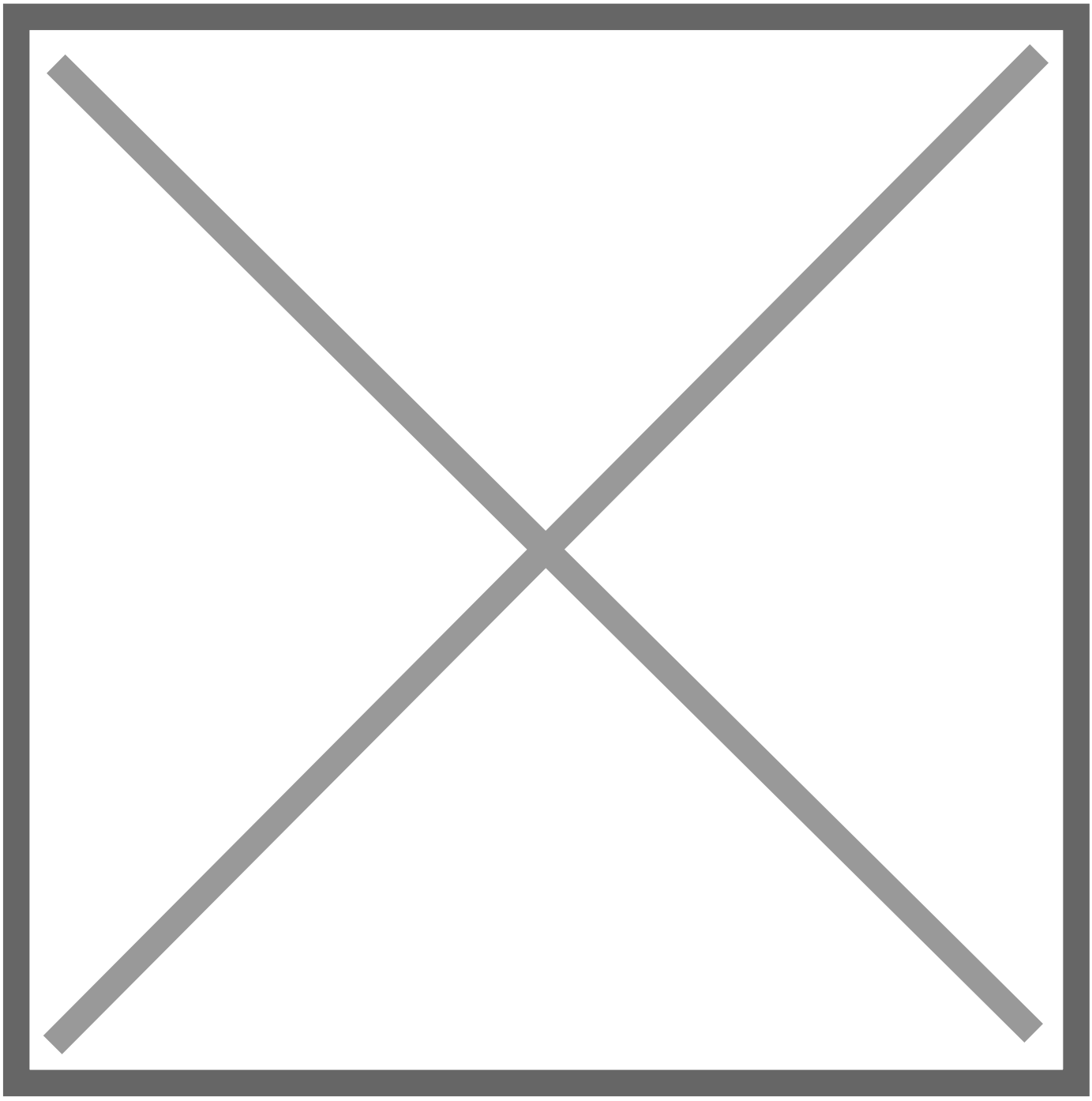
## Women, 2019



| | |
|---|---|
| **Age:** | 30-79 |
| **References:** | World Health Organization. 2024. Hypertension: raised blood pressure (uncontrolled hypertension) among adults aged 30-79 years (%). Global Health Observatory. https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/prevalence-raised-blood-pressure-among-adults-30-79-years [Accessed 16.03.26] |
| **Definitions:** | Prevalence of raised blood pressure (defined as having systolic blood pressure ≥140 mmHg or diastolic blood pressure ≥90 mmHg) among adults aged 30-79. |

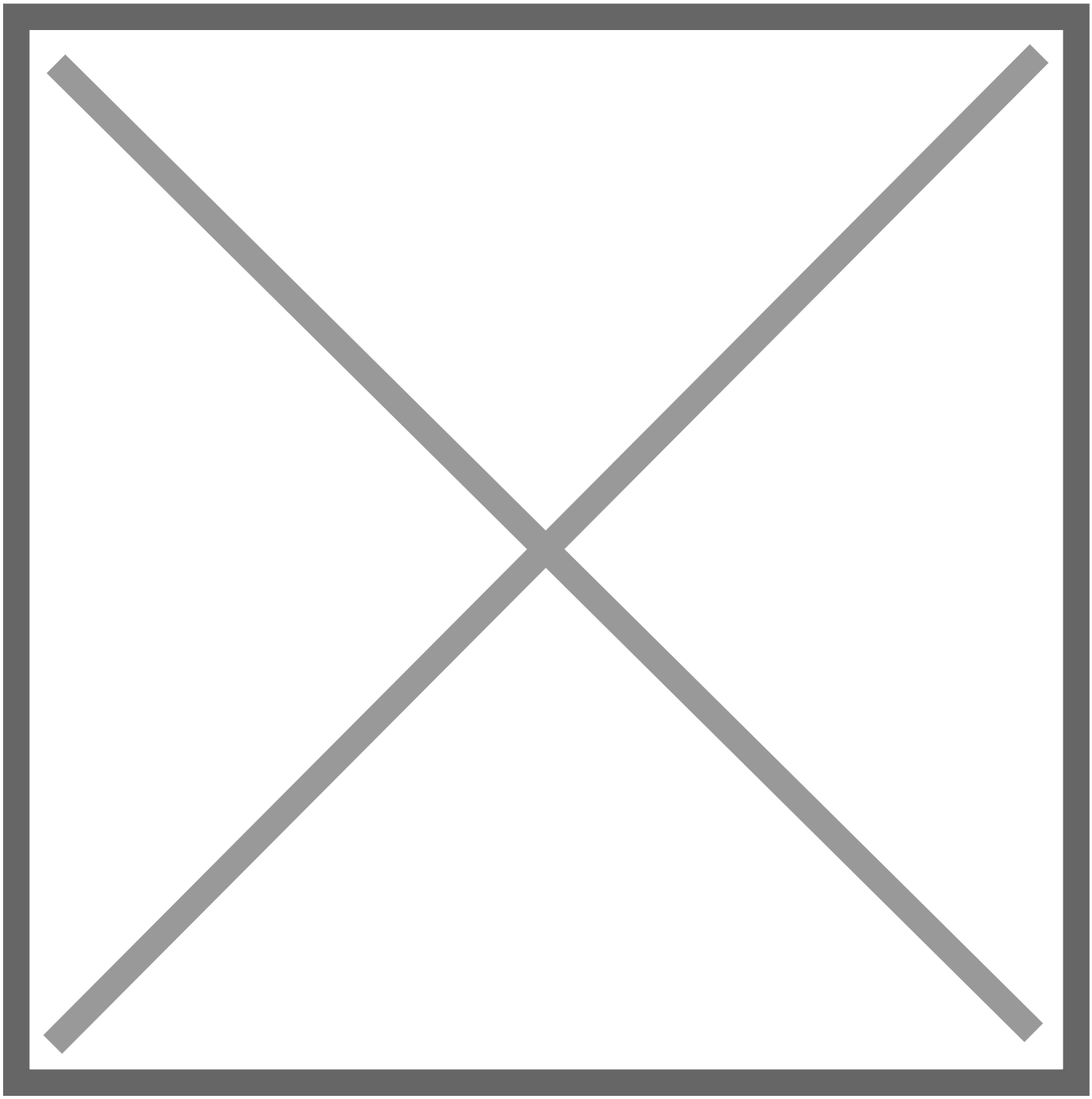
# Raised cholesterol

## Adults, 2008



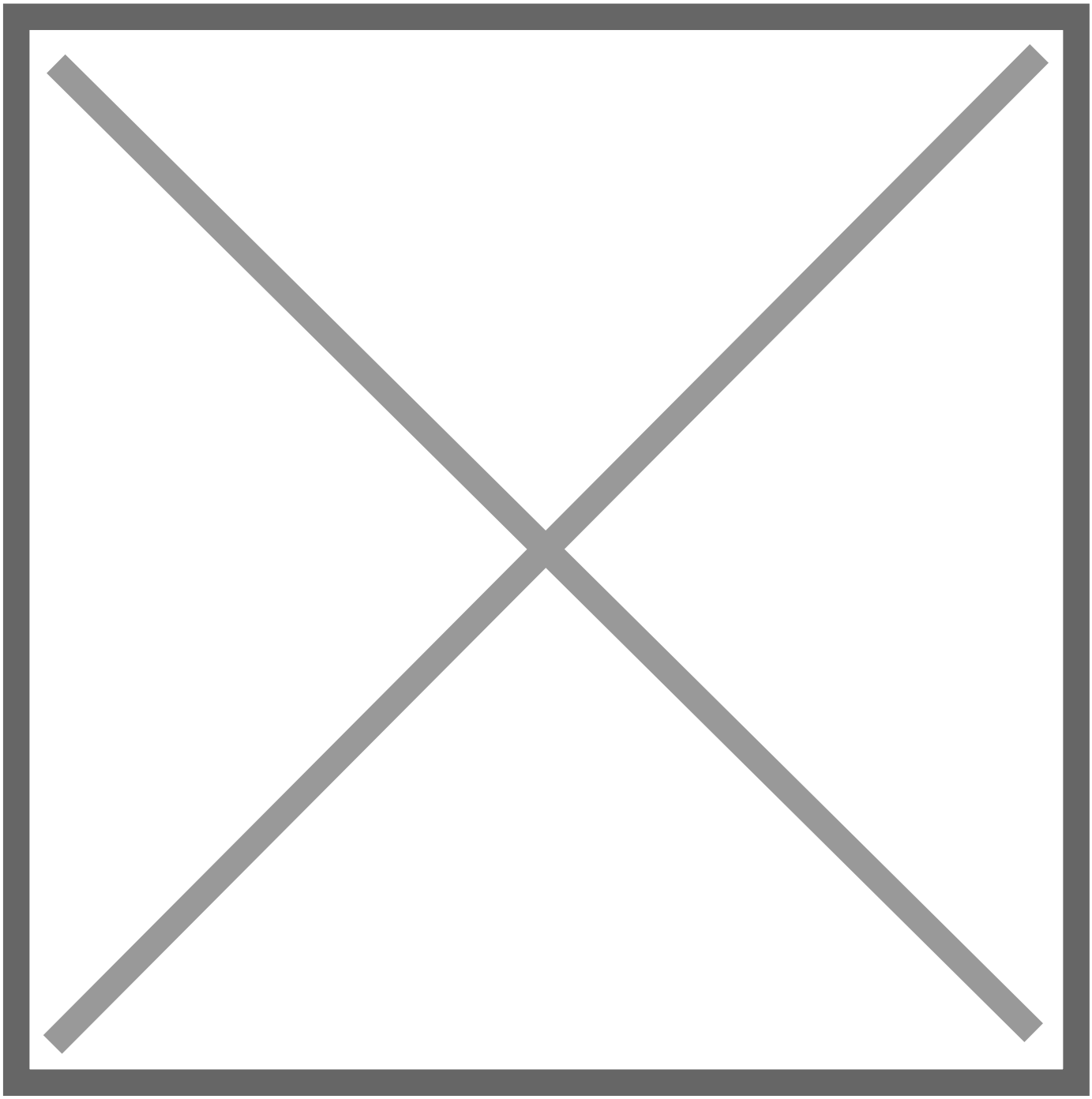
| | |
|---|---|
| **References:** | Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A885 |
| **Definitions:** | % Raised total cholesterol (>= 5.0 mmol/L) (age-standardized estimate). |

## 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). |

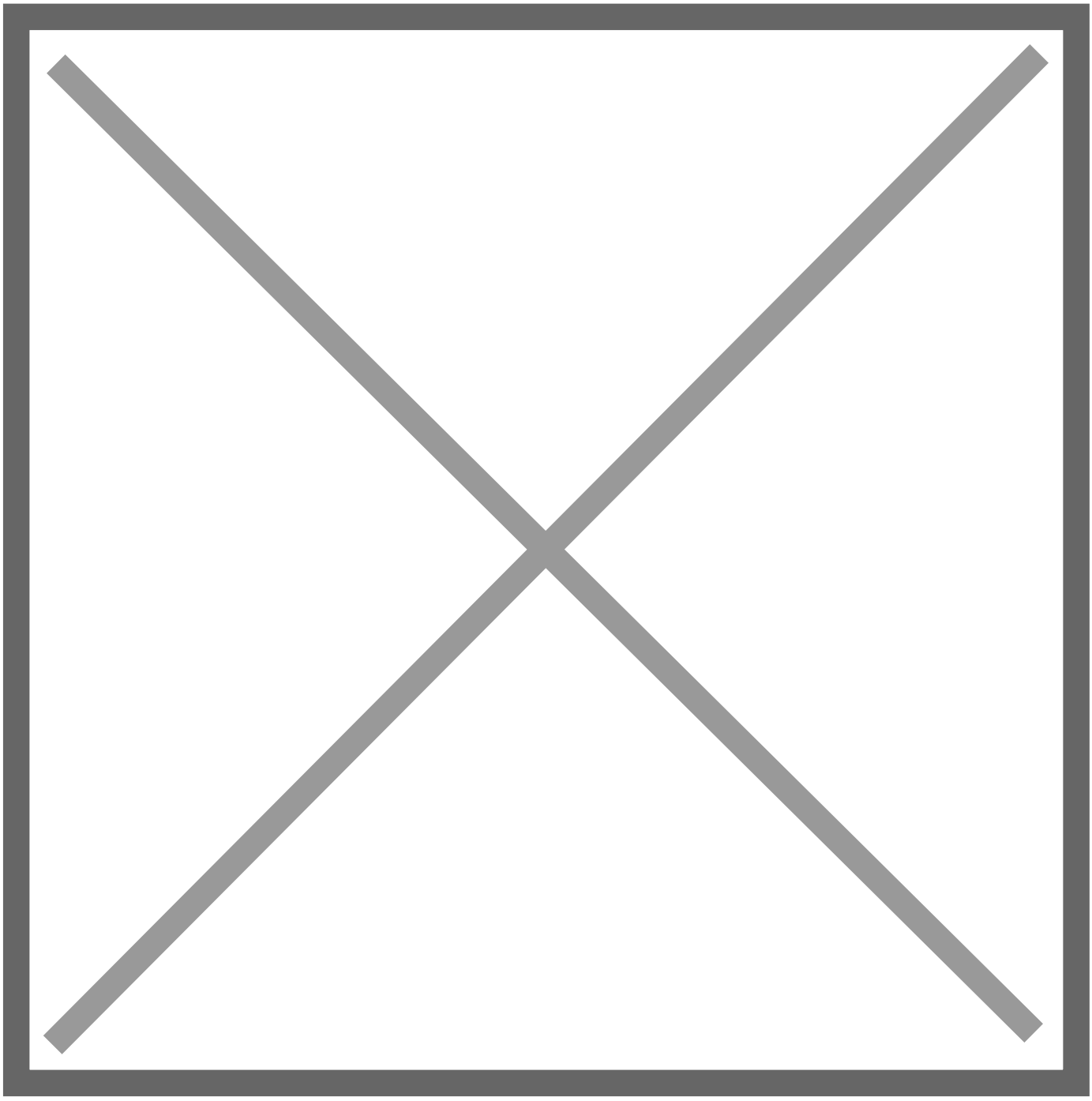
## Women, 2008



| | |
|---|---|
| **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). |

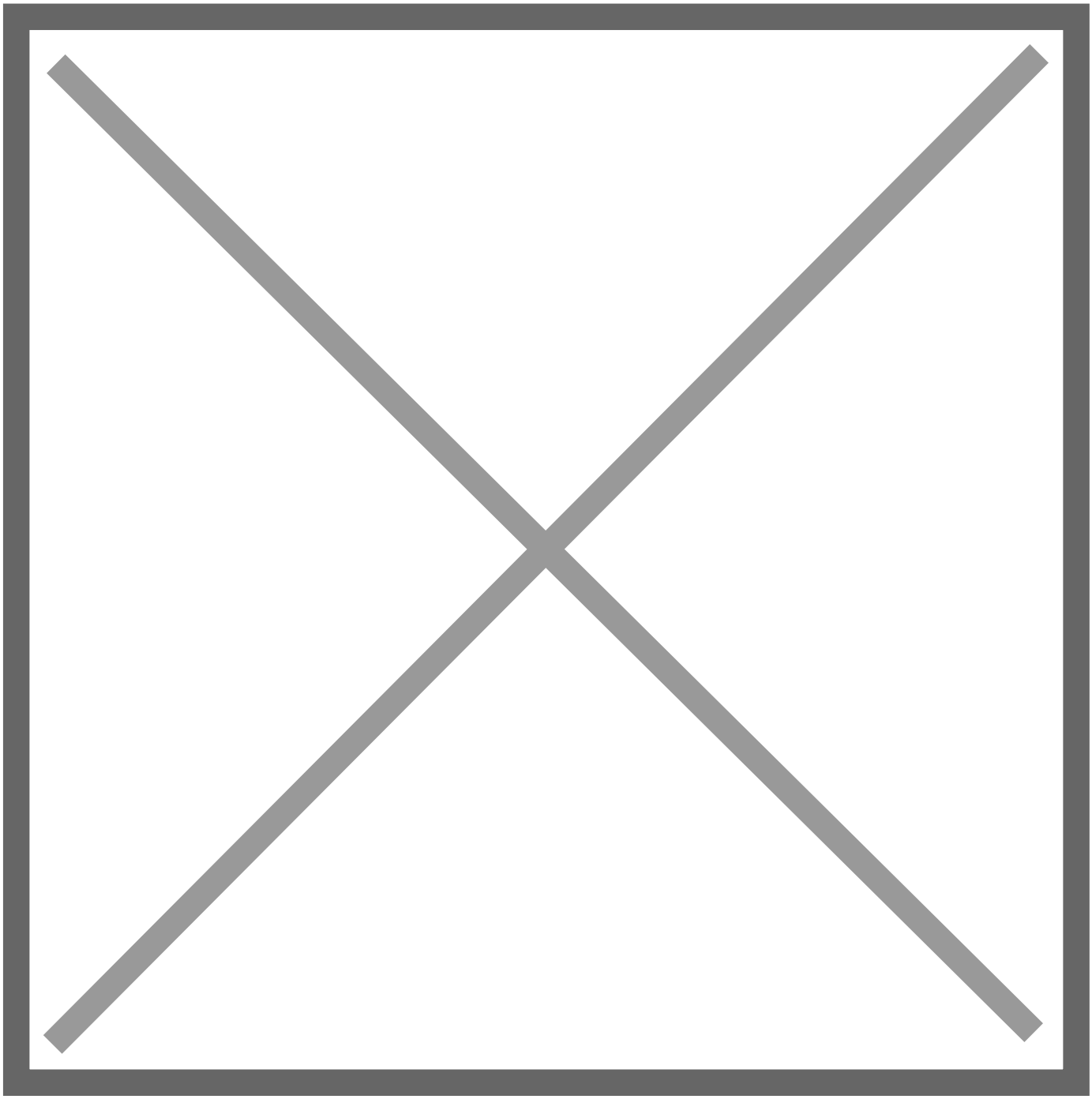
# Raised fasting blood glucose

## 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 mmol/L or on medication). |

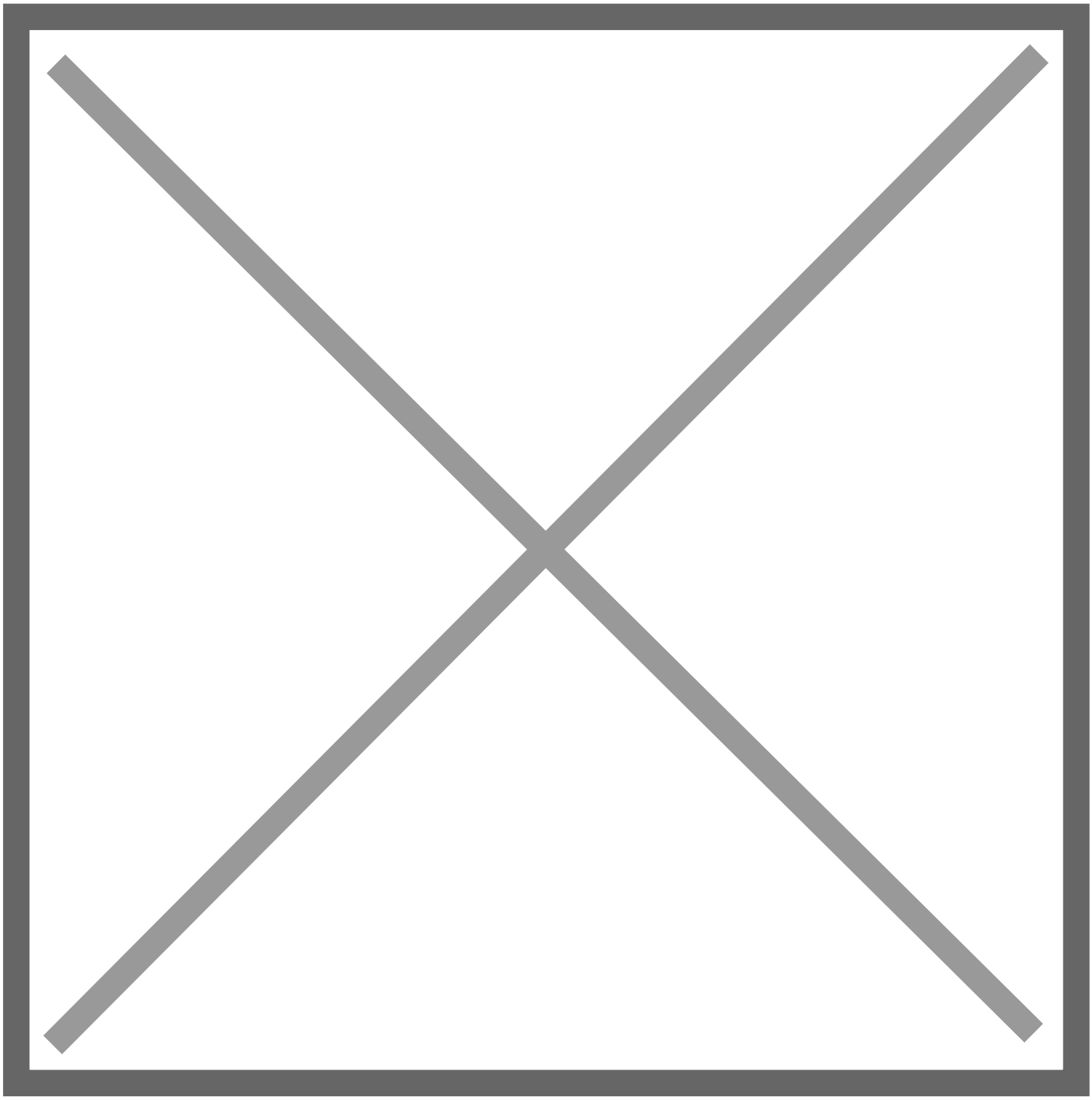
## Women, 2014



| | |
|---|---|
| **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 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

*PDF created on August 21, 2026*