WORLD OBESITY

Myanmar

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/myanmar-148/.

Contents	Page

Obesity prevalence

Girls, 2017-2018

■ Overweight or obesity

Survey type:	Measured
Age:	10-14
Sample size:	918
Area covered:	National
References:	Myanmar Micronutrient and Food Consumption Survey (MMFCS) 2017-2018,Interim Report, National Nutrition Centre, Department of Public Health, Ministry of Health and Sports
Notes:	Small sample size
Cutoffs:	WHO

Overweight/obesity by education

Girls, 2015-2016

■ Overweight or obesity

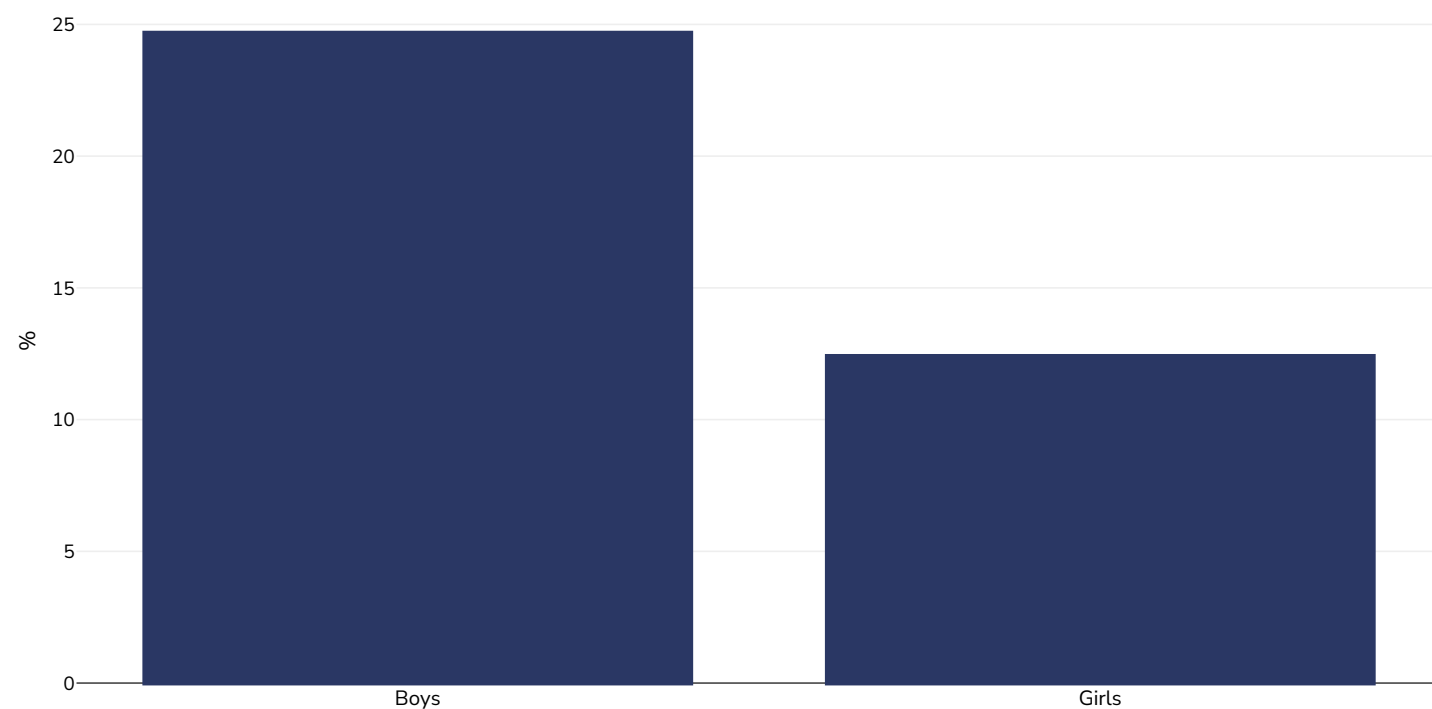| Survey type:	Measured
Age:	15-19
Sample size:	1451
Area covered:	National
References:	Benedict, Rukundo K., Allison Schmale, and Sorrel Namaste. 2018. Adolescent Nutrition 2000-2017: DHS Data on Adolescents Age 15-19. DHS Comparative Report No. 47. Rockville, Maryland, USA: ICF. Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS) and ICF. 2017. Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16. Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, and Rockville, Maryland USA: Ministry of Health and Sports and ICF
Definitions:	BMI for age: between +1 SD and +2 SD is overweight and greater than +2 SD is obesity
Cutoffs:	WHO 2007

Overweight/obesity by age

Children, 2016

Legend: ■ Obesity ■ Overweight

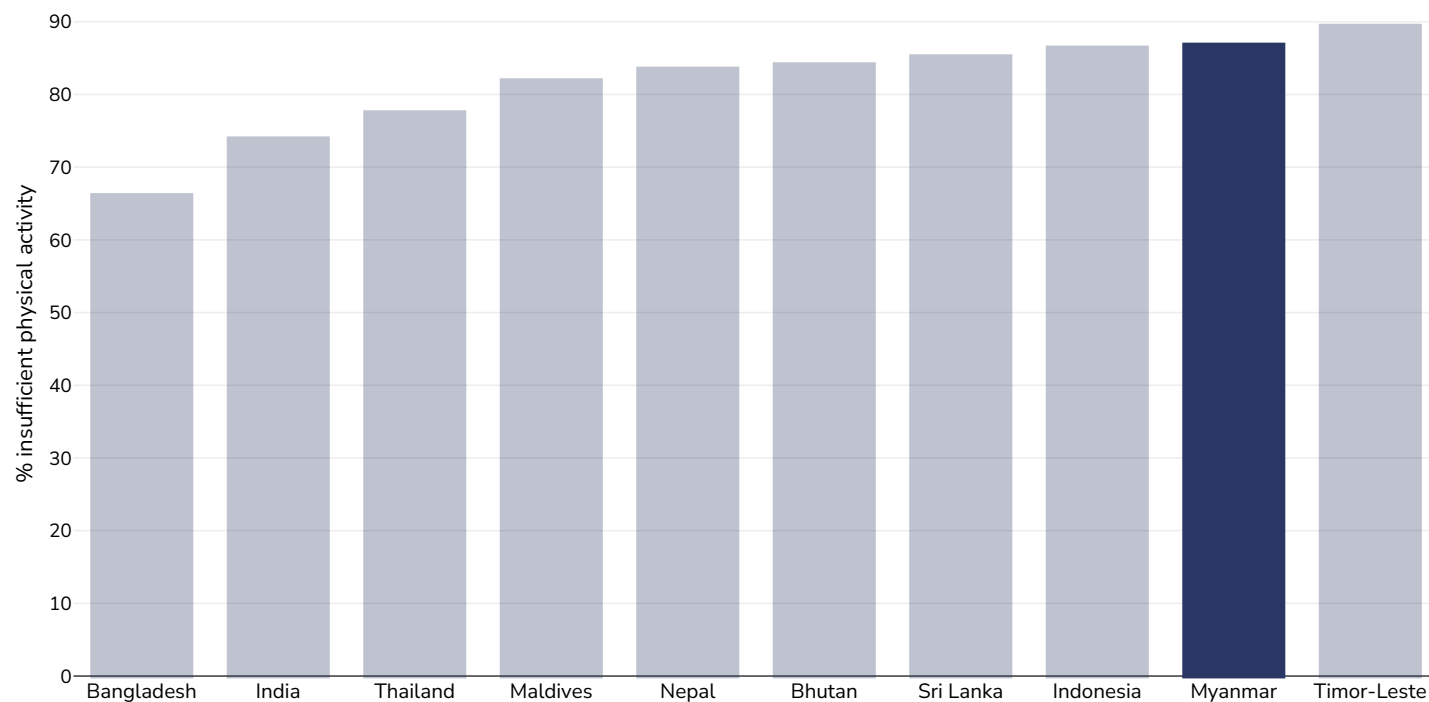| Survey type:	Measured
Sample size:	2838
Area covered:	National
References:	2016 GSHS Country Report Myanmar. Available at: https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/ncds/ncd-surveillance/data-reporting/myanmar/gshs/gshs-2016-myanmar-report.pdf?sfvrsn=d4b7816a_2&download=true
Cutoffs:	BMI-for-age (5-19 years old)

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
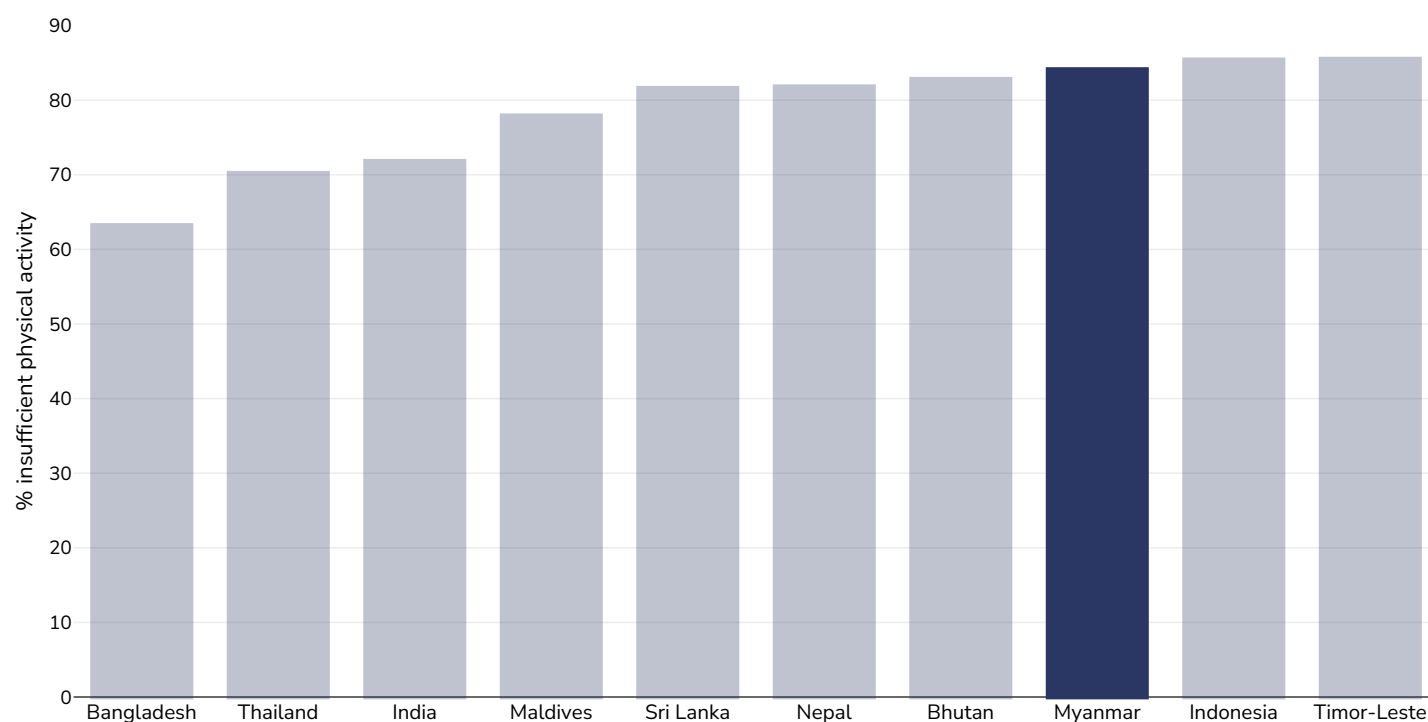
Children, 2016

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)

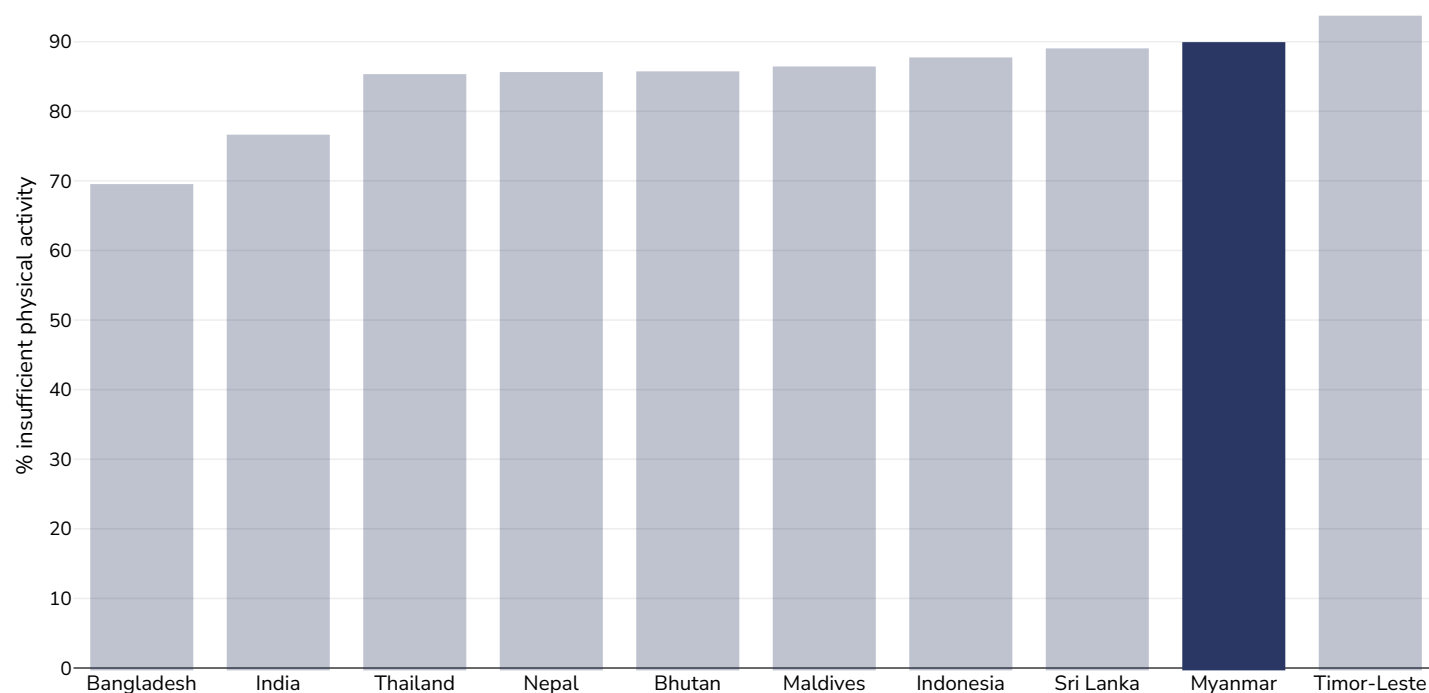# Girls, 2016

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)

Mental health - depression disorders

Children, 2021
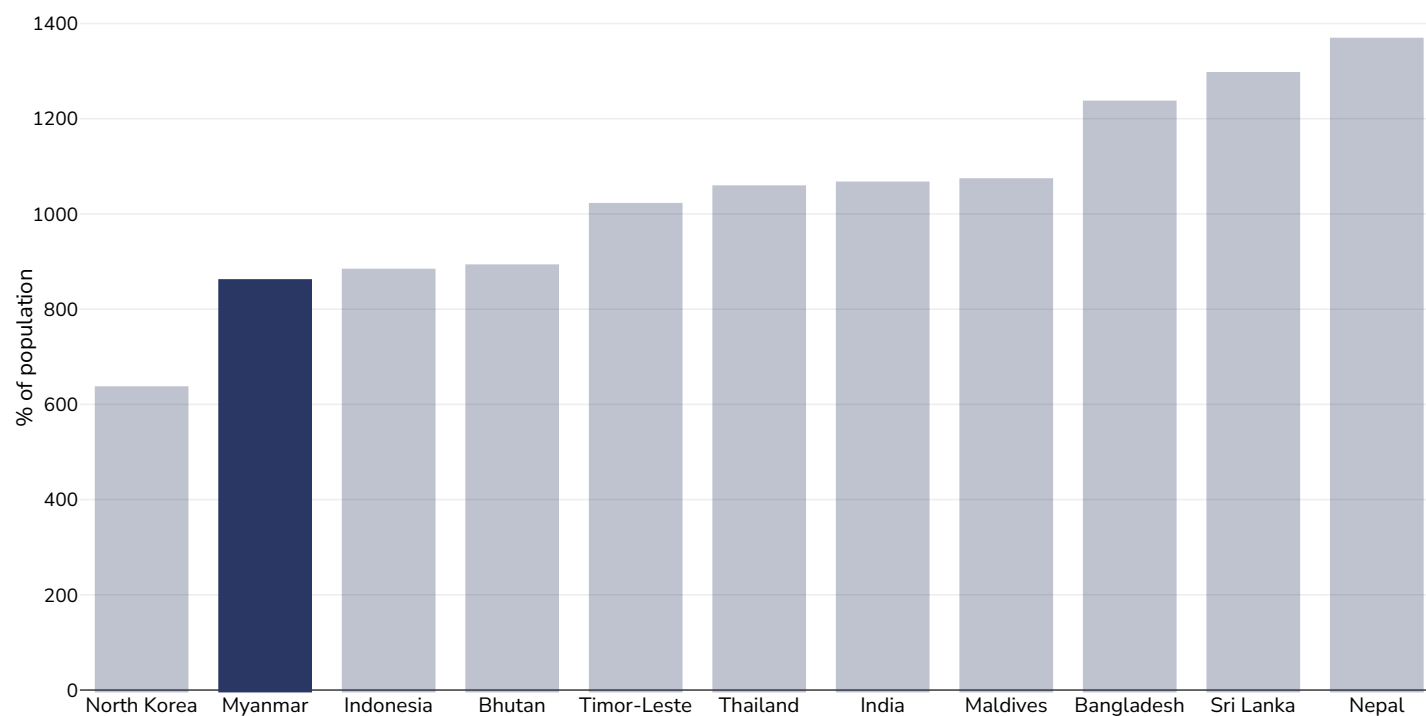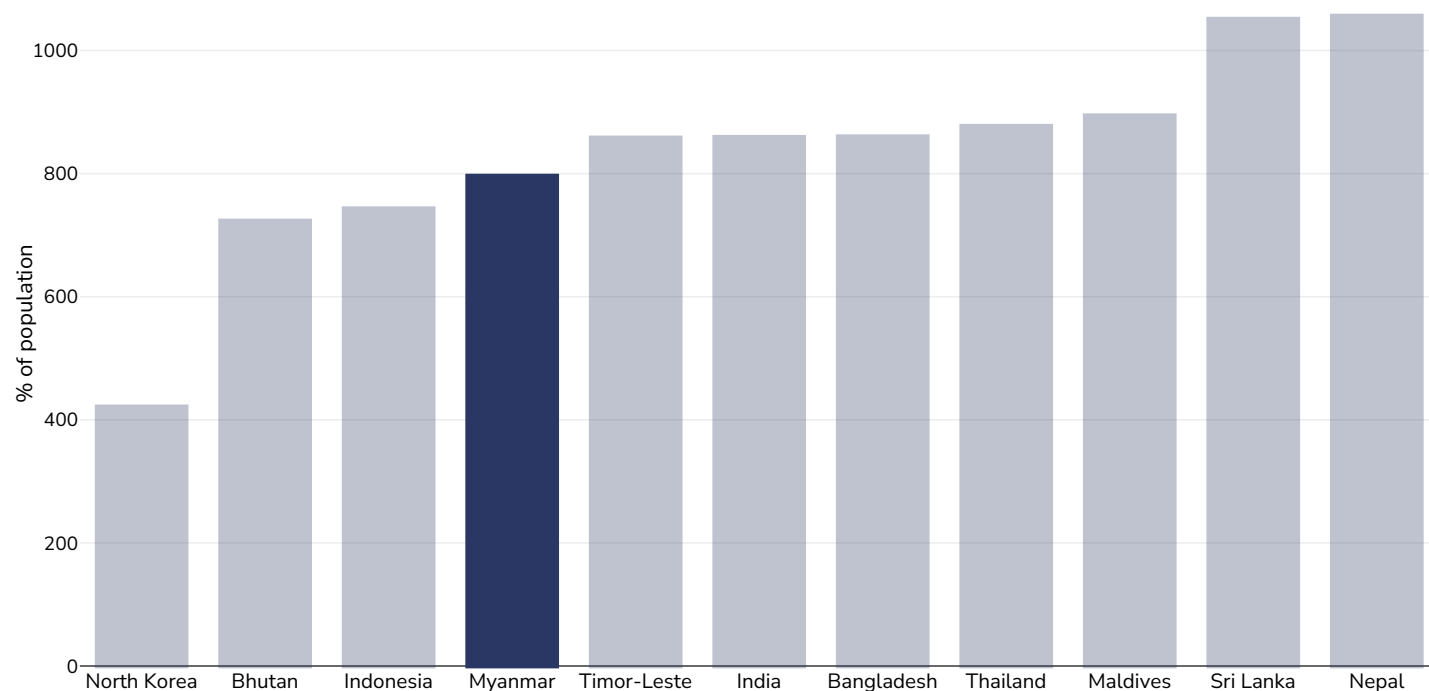

Area covered:	National

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

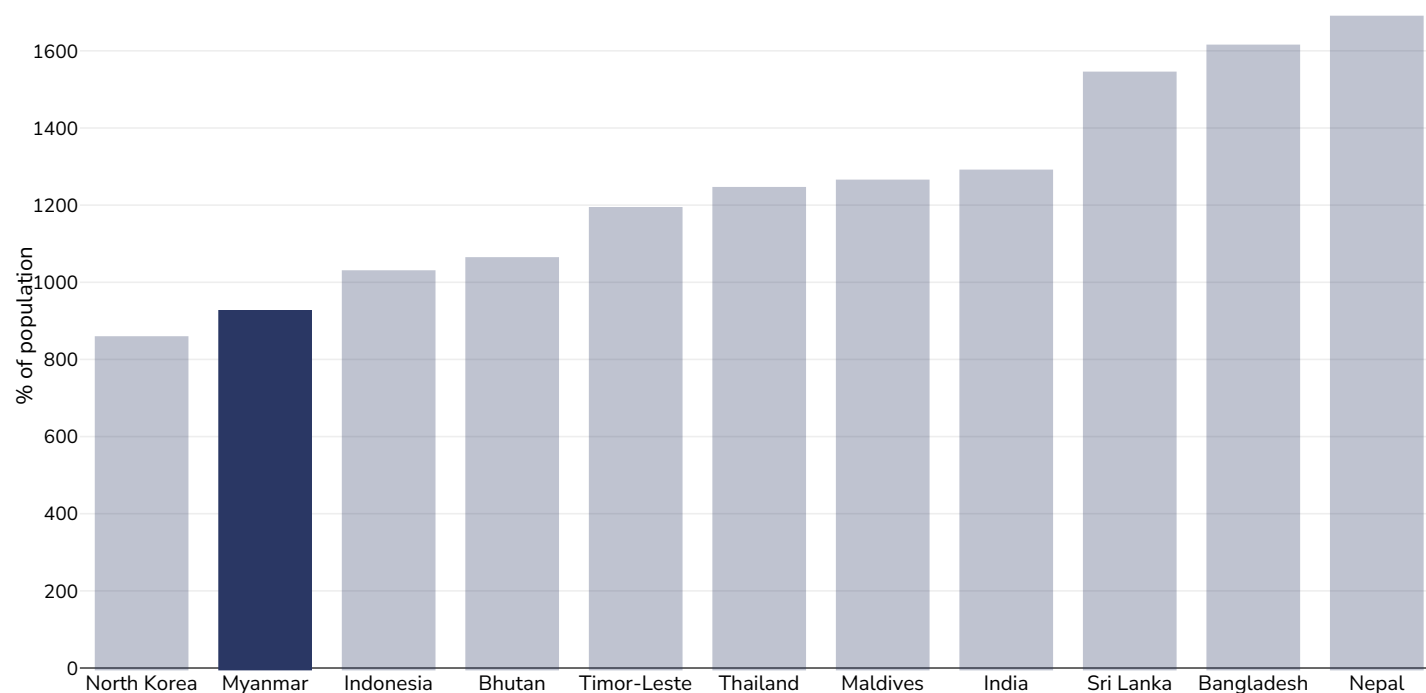| Area covered:	National
References:	Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2021. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2023. Available from http://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare. (Last accessed 23.04.25)
Definitions:	Number living with depressive disorder per 100,000 population (Under 20 years of age)

Girls, 2021

y-axis: % of population
x-axis (left to right): North Korea, Myanmar, Indonesia, Bhutan, Timor-Leste, Thailand, Maldives, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal

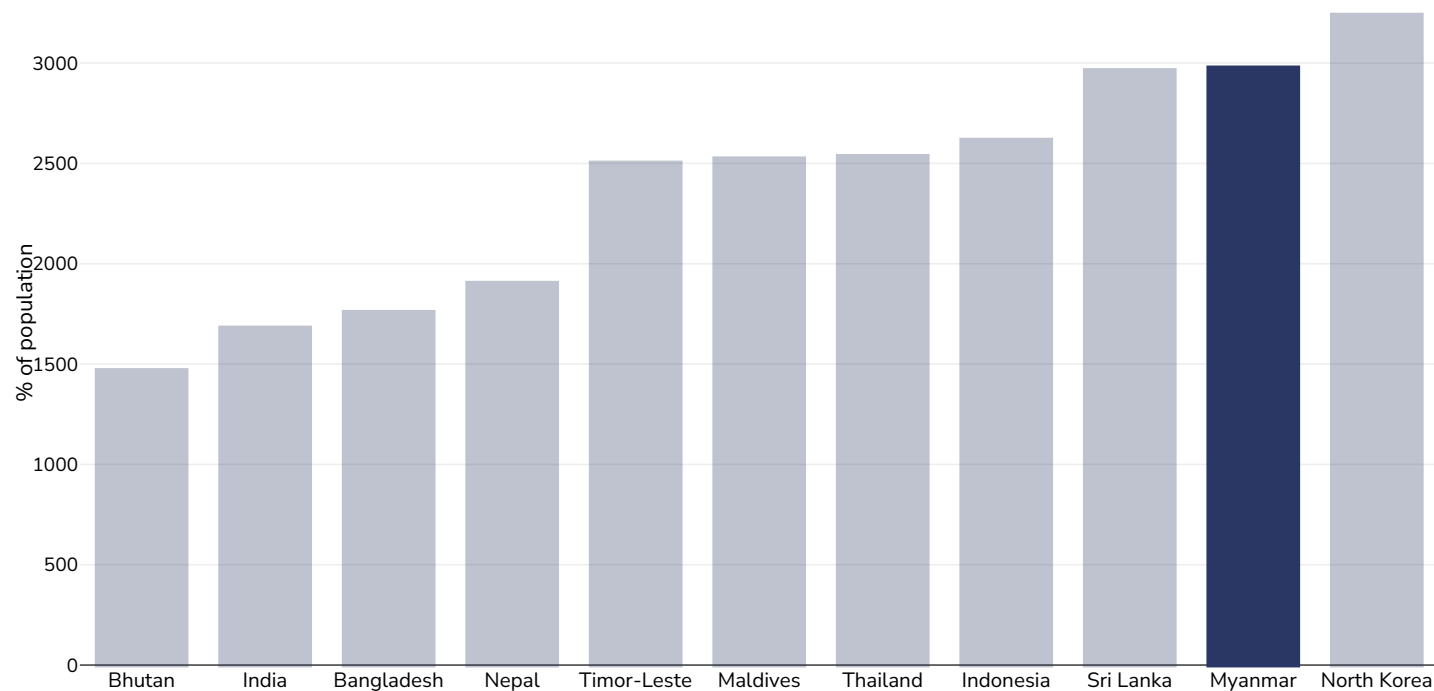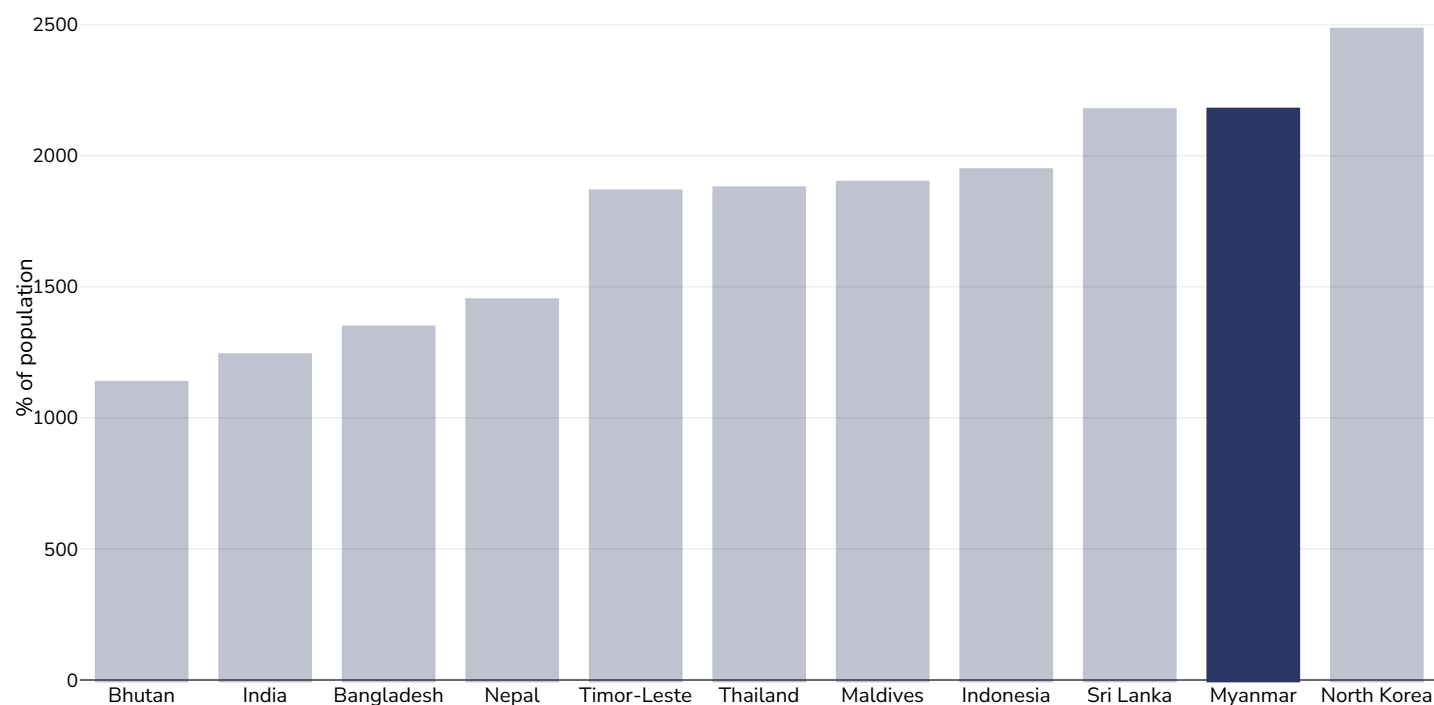| Area covered:	National
References:	Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2021. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2023. Available from http://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare. (Last accessed 23.04.25)
Definitions:	Number living with depressive disorder per 100,000 population (Under 20 years of age)

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

% of population

2500, 2000, 1500, 1000, 500, 0

Bhutan, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Timor-Leste, Thailand, Maldives, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, North Korea
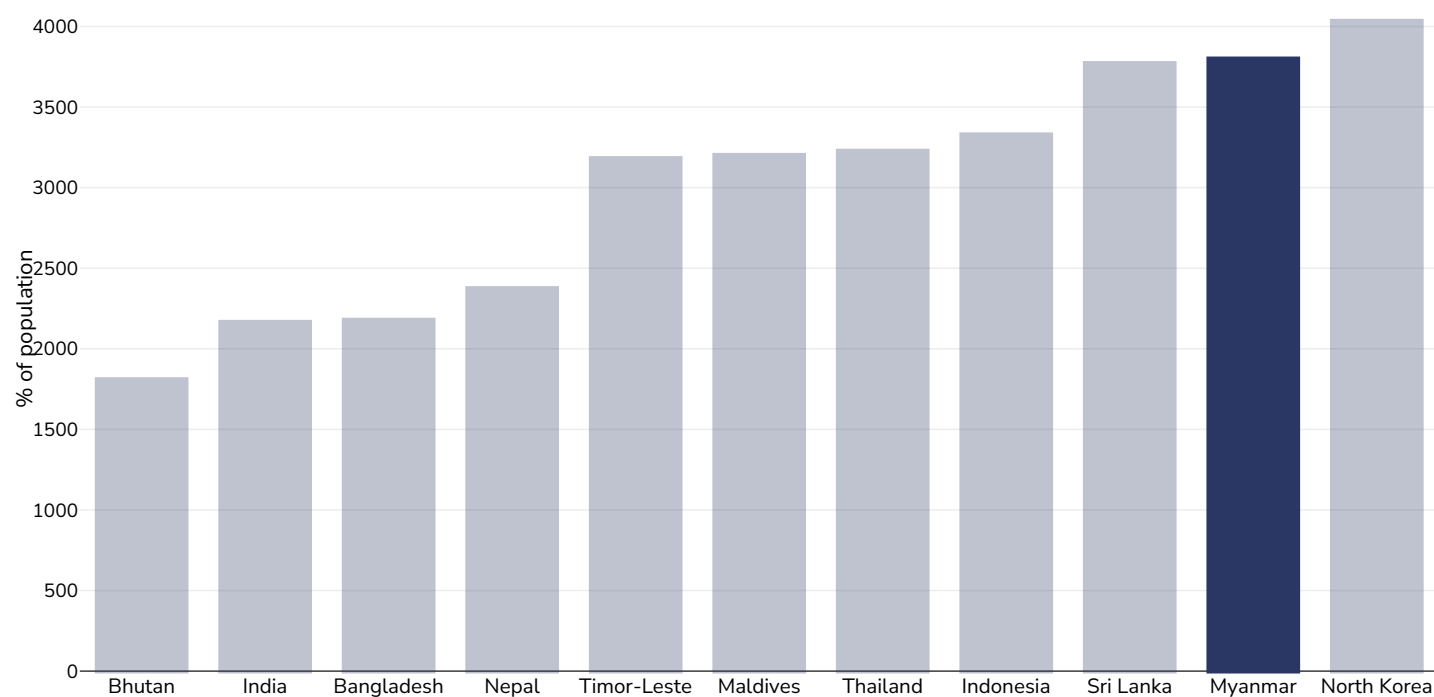
References: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). GBD Compare Data Visualization. Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2021. Seattle, WA: IHME, University of Washington, 2023. Available from http://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare. (Last accessed 23.04.25)

Girls, 2021

% of population

4000, 3500, 3000, 2500, 2000, 1500, 1000, 500, 0

Bhutan, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Timor-Leste, Maldives, Thailand, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, North Korea

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)