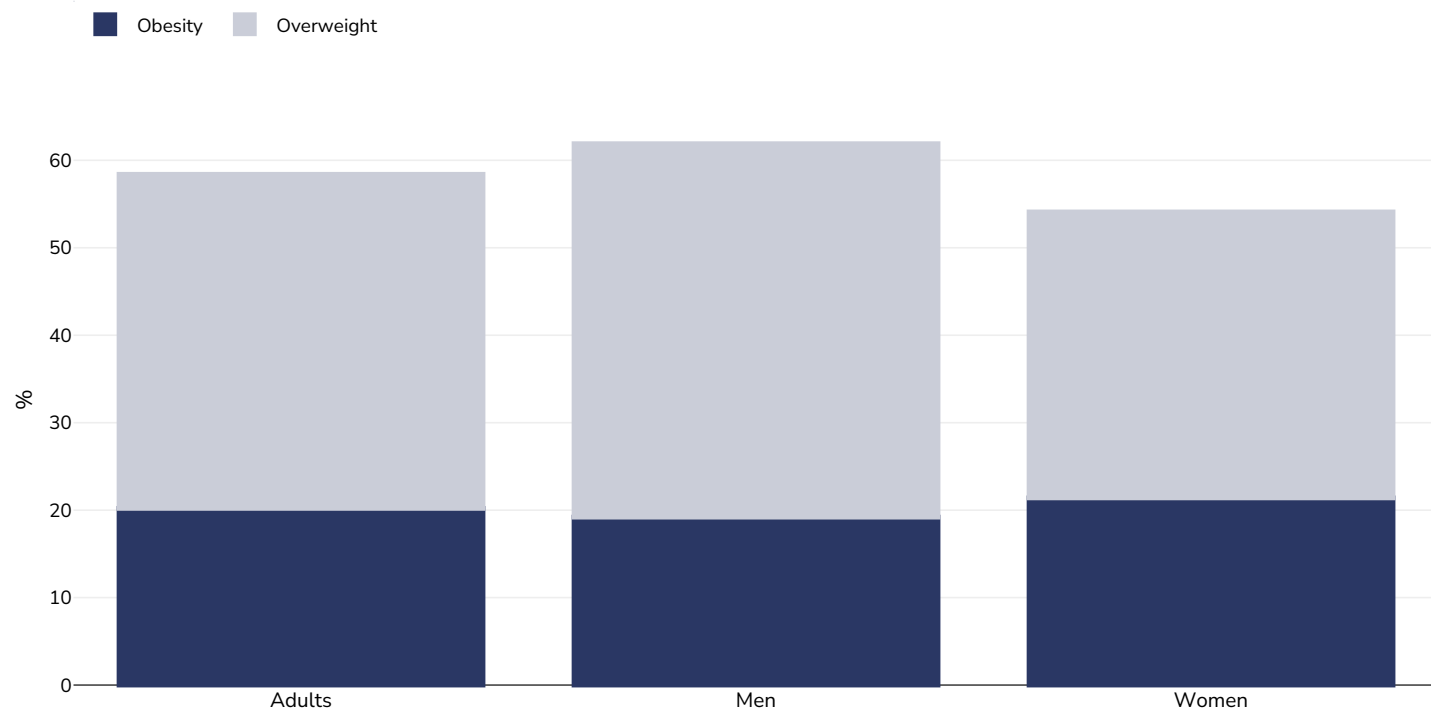


Report card Saudi Arabia

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Obesity prevalence

Adults, 2019



Survey type: Measured

Age: 18+

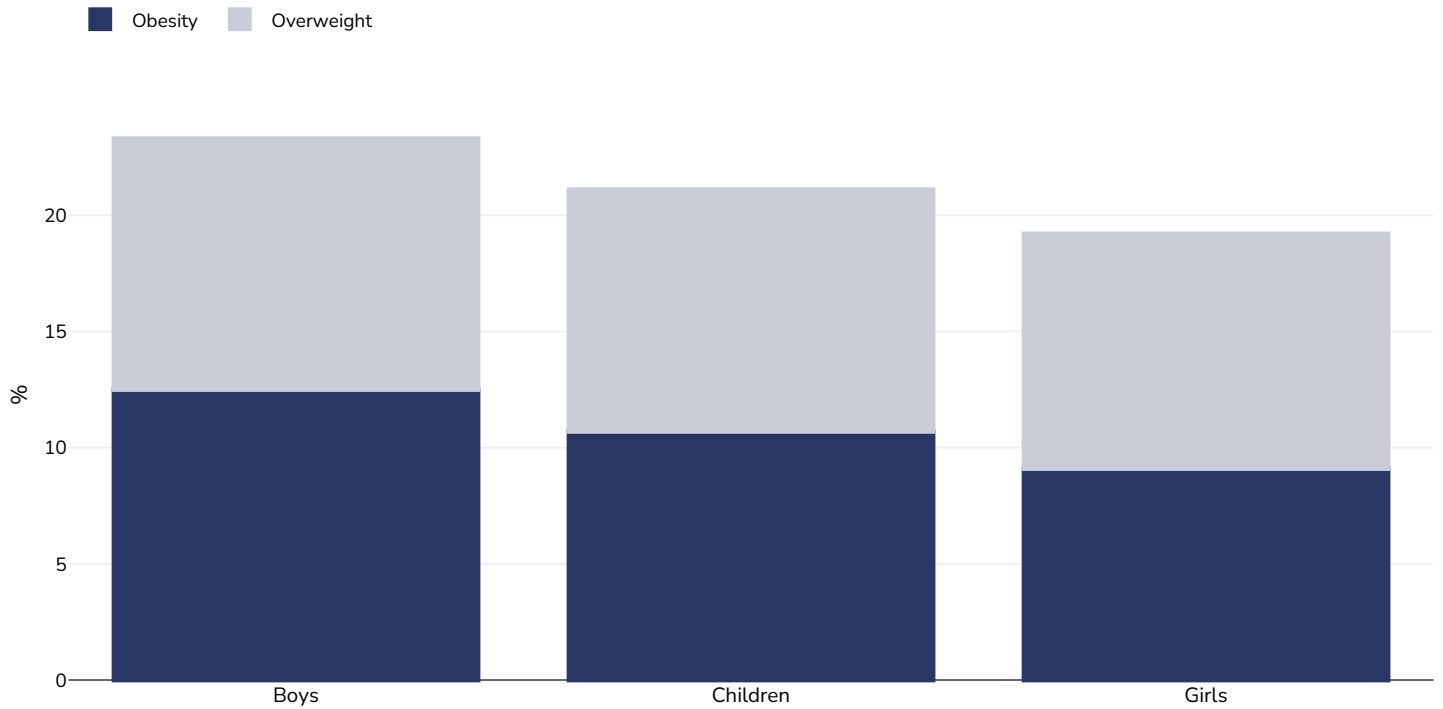
Sample size: 7890

Area covered: National

References: 2019 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia World Health Survey. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/Statistics/Population-Health-Indicators/Documents/World-Health-Survey-Saudi-Arabia.pdf> (Accessed 16.11.2021)

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

Children, 2020-2022



Survey type: Measured

Age: 6-19

Sample size: 1134317

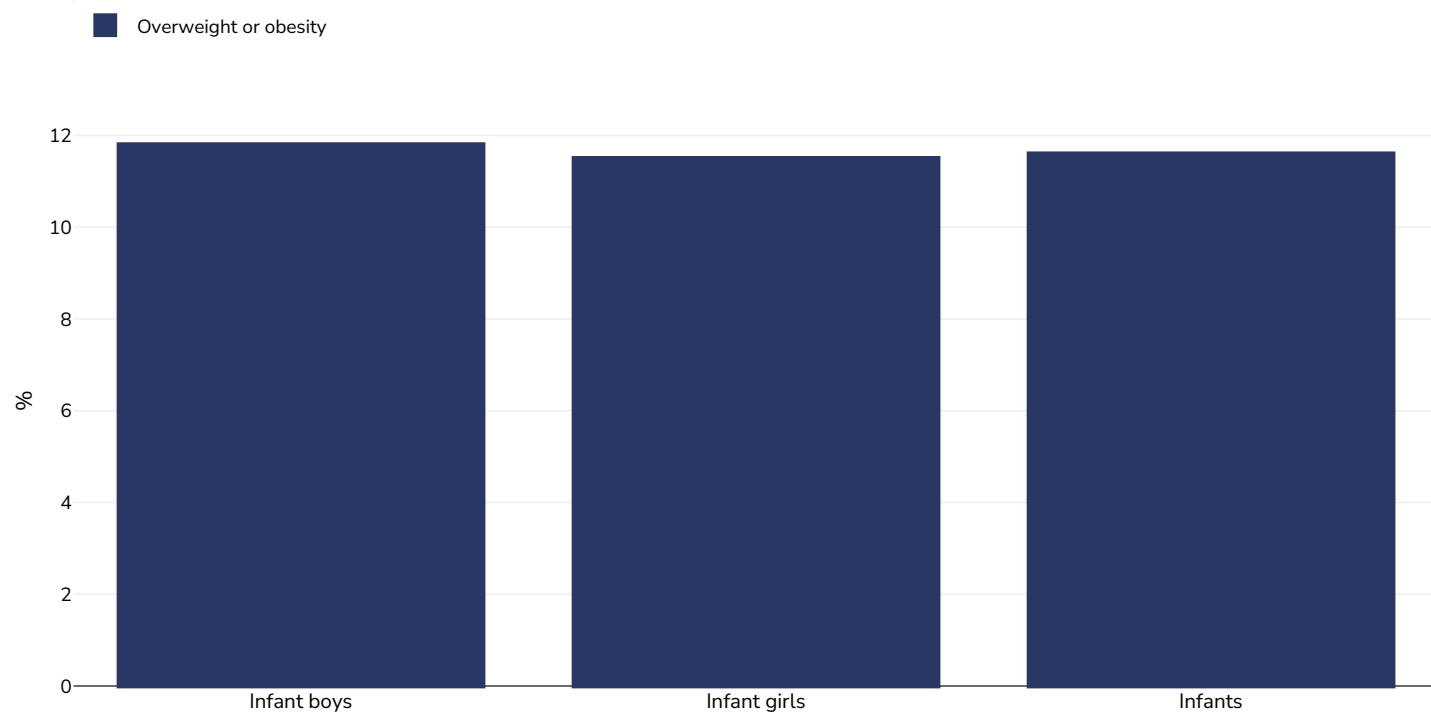
Area covered: National

References: Alhamed, A., Al-Zeer, A., Alsaawi, F., Alshaikh, A., Alzaher, A., Alkattan, A., Alrasheed, N., Sagor, K., Alsalem, E., Ibrahim, M. and Alfaleh, A., 2023. The shifting patterns of childhood obesity: Insights from national school screening data. Saudi Pharmaceutical Journal, p.101862.

Definitions: Growth Charts for Saudi Children and Adolescents. BMI data were plotted on Saudi's sex-specific percentile charts and categorized into four groups: underweight (less than the 5th percentile), normal weight (5th percentile to less than 85th percentile), overweight (85th to less than 95th percentile), obese (95th percentile or greater), and severe obesity (120% of the 95th percentile or greater)

Cutoffs: Other

Infants, 2020



Age: 0-5

Sample size: 2645

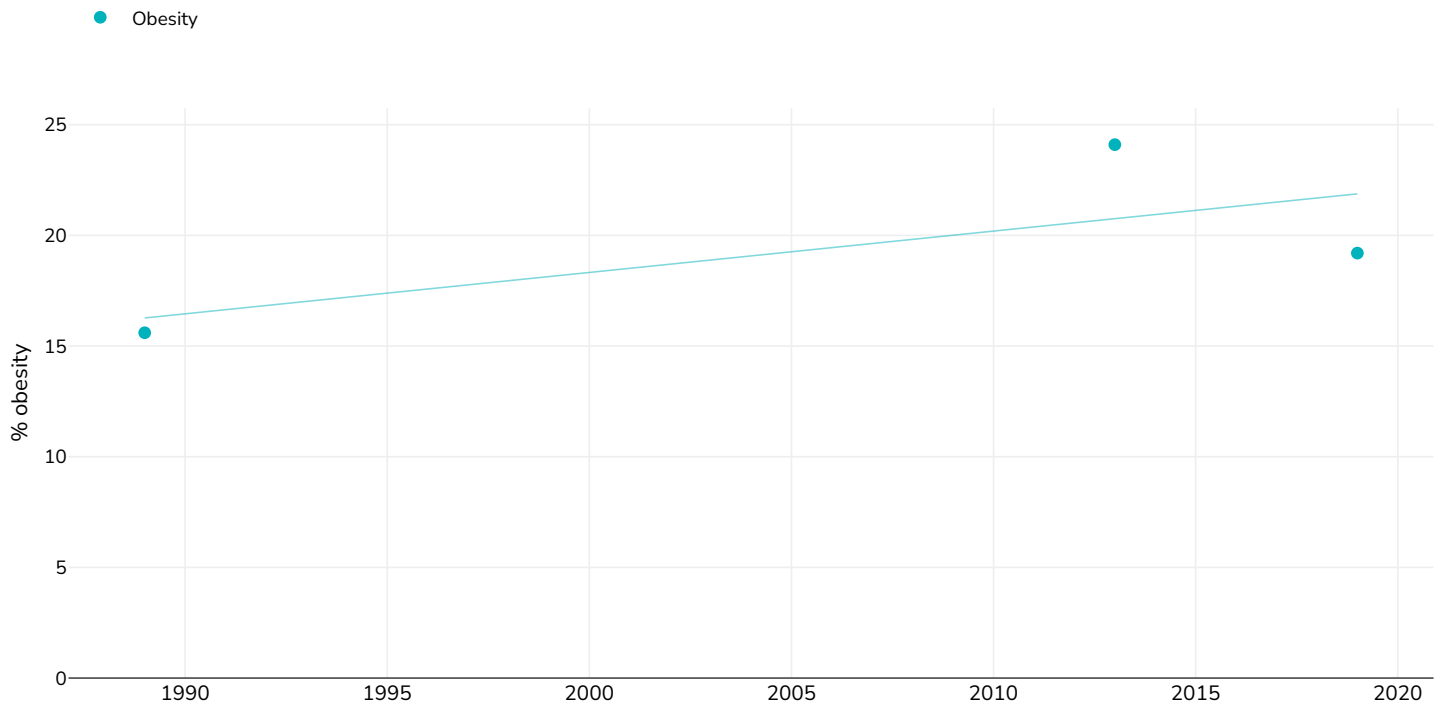
References: Surveillance: Saudi Arabia Nutrition Surveillance 2020

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

Obesity prevalence in Saudi Arabia adults, 1989-2019

Men



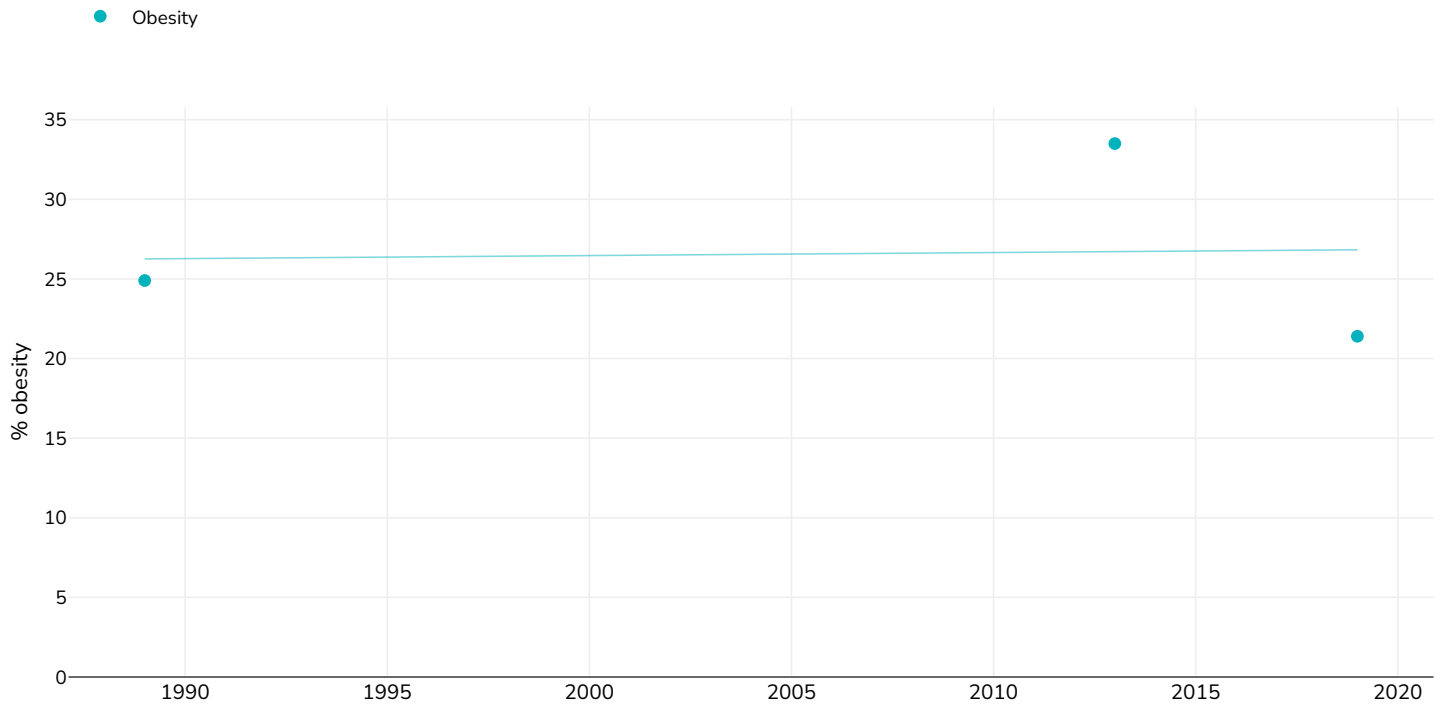
Survey
type:

Measured

References: 1989: Osman AK, Al-Nozha MM. Risk factors of coronary artery disease in different regions of Saudi Arabia. Eastern Mediterranean health Journal;6:465-474
2013: Saudi Health Interview Survey (SHIS)
2019: 2019 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia World Health Survey. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/Statistics/Population-Health-Indicators/Documents/World-Health-Survey-Saudi-Arabia.pdf> (Accessed 16.11.2021)

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.

Women



Survey
type:

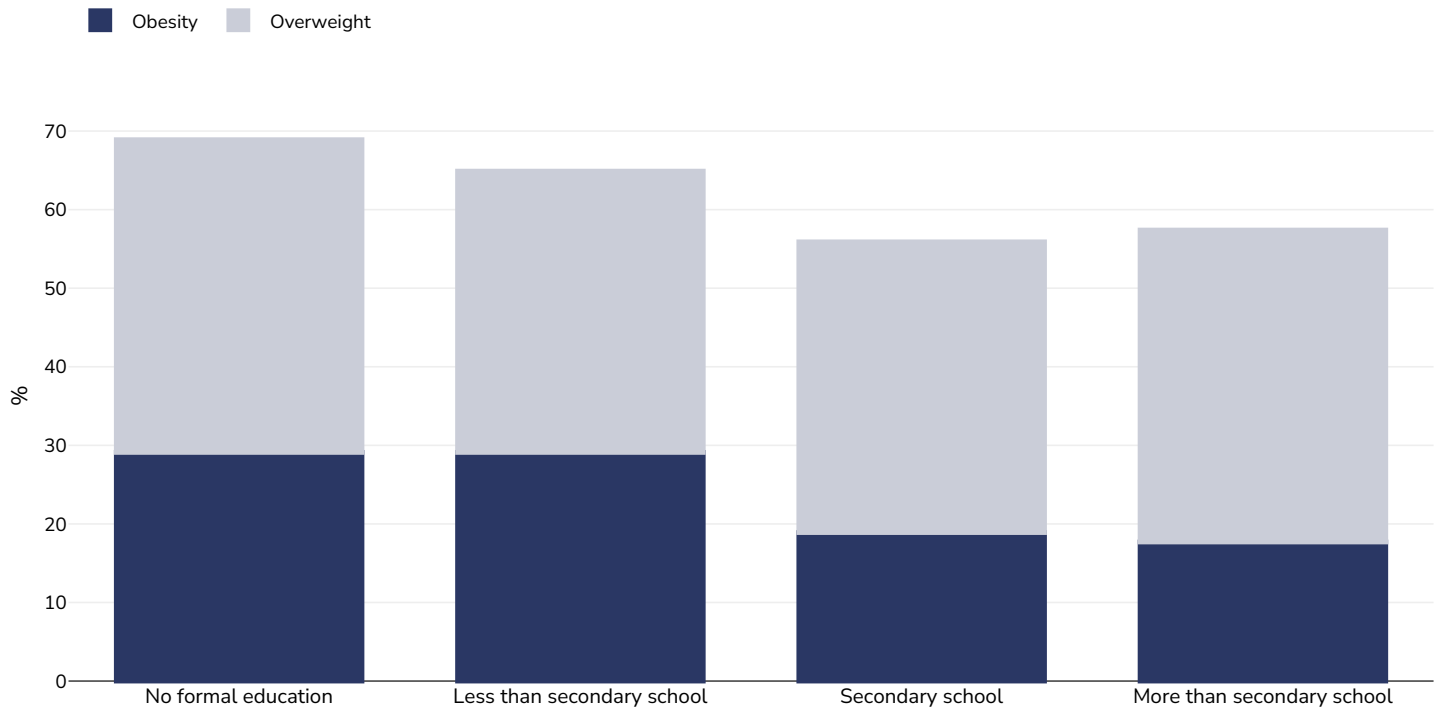
Measured

References: 1989: Osman AK, Al-Nozha MM. Risk factors of coronary artery disease in different regions of Saudi Arabia. Eastern Mediterranean health Journal;6:465-474
2013: Saudi Health Interview Survey (SHIS)
2019: 2019 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia World Health Survey. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/Statistics/Population-Health-Indicators/Documents/World-Health-Survey-Saudi-Arabia.pdf> (Accessed 16.11.2021)

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.

Overweight/obesity by education

Adults, 2019

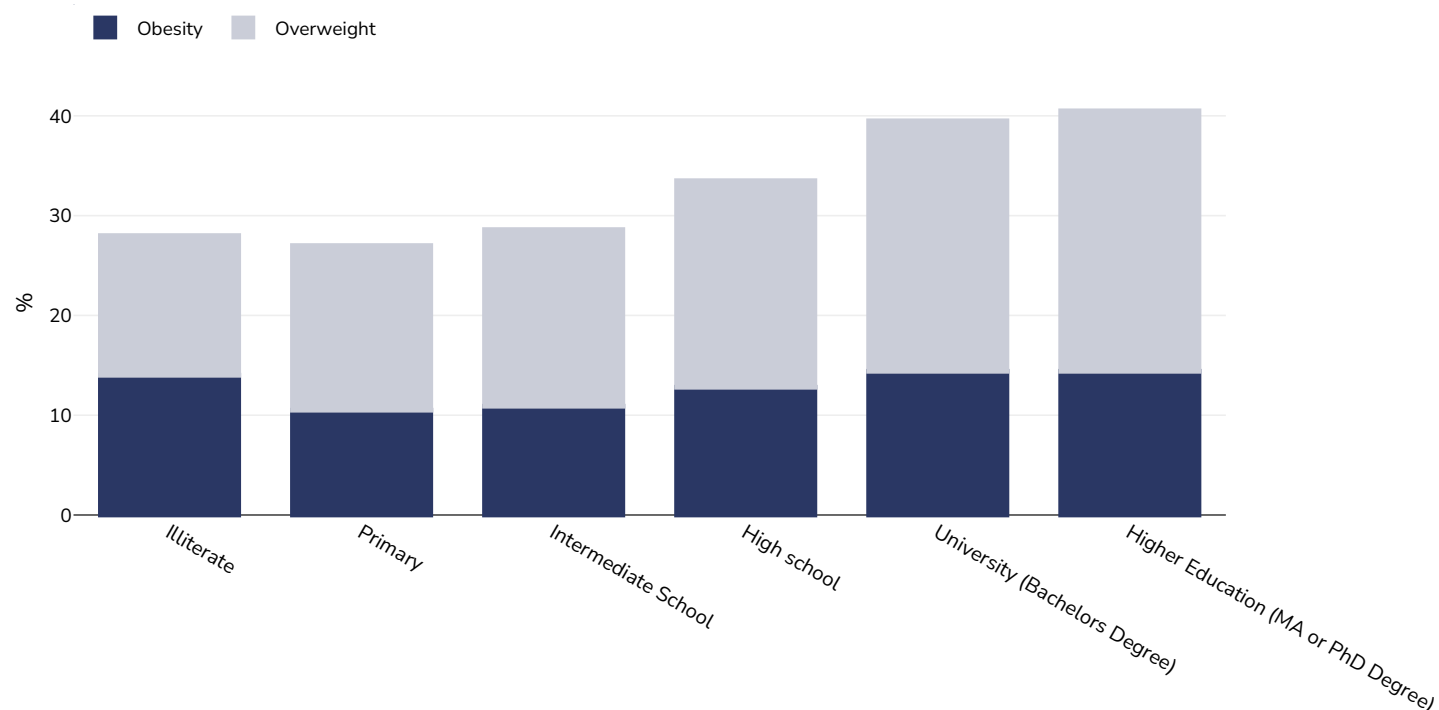


Survey type:	Measured
Age:	18+
Sample size:	7890
Area covered:	National

References: 2019 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia World Health Survey. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/Statistics/Population-Health-Indicators/Documents/World-Health-Survey-Saudi-Arabia.pdf> (Accessed 16.11.2021)

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

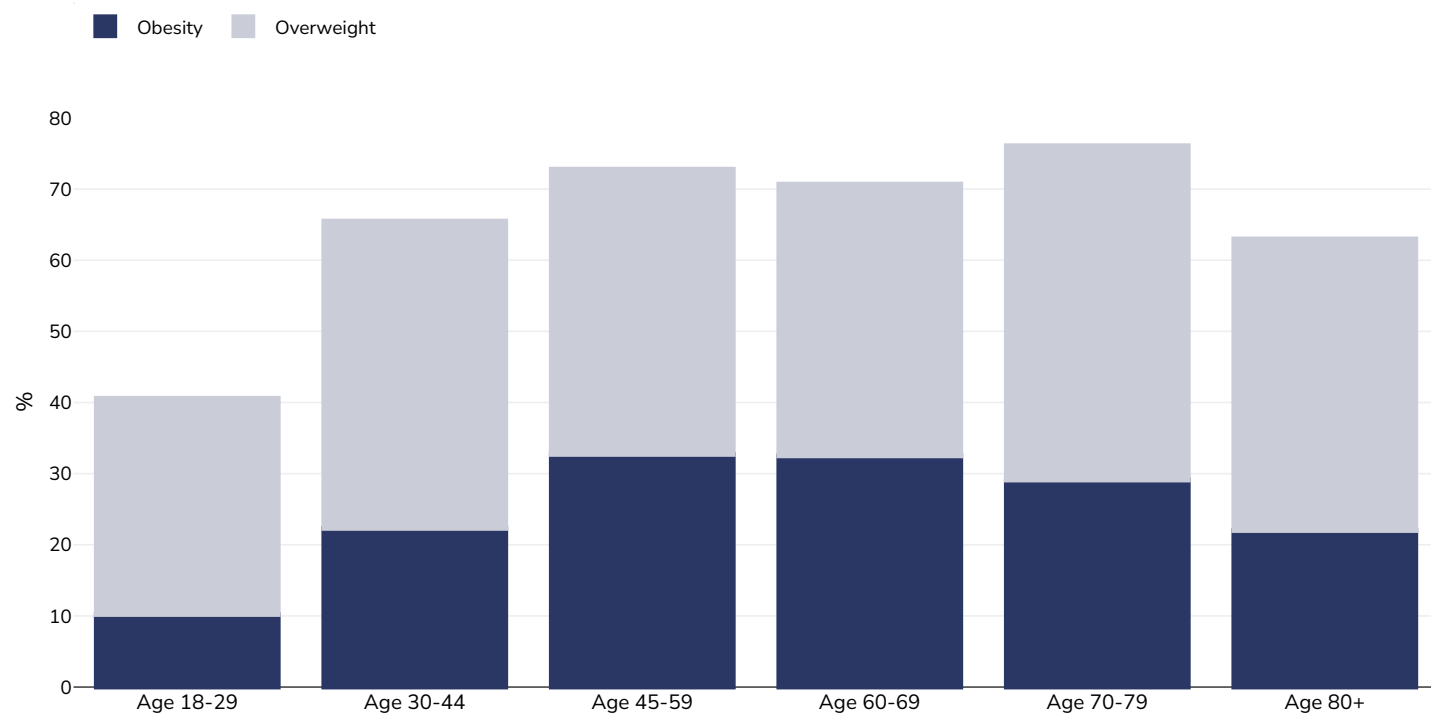
Children, 2006



Survey type:	Measured
Age:	6-16
Sample size:	1243
Area covered:	Riyadh
References:	Al Alwan & Al Fattani A, Longford N. The Effect of Parental Socioeconomic Class on Children's Body Mass Indices. Journal of Clinical Research in Pediatric Endocrinology. 2013;5(2):110-115. doi:10.4274/Jcrpe.898.
Notes:	Prevalence of overweight and obesity by Fathers Education Obesity and overweight were defined using the WHO 2007 growth standards.
Cutoffs:	WHO

Overweight/obesity by age

Adults, 2019



Survey type: Measured

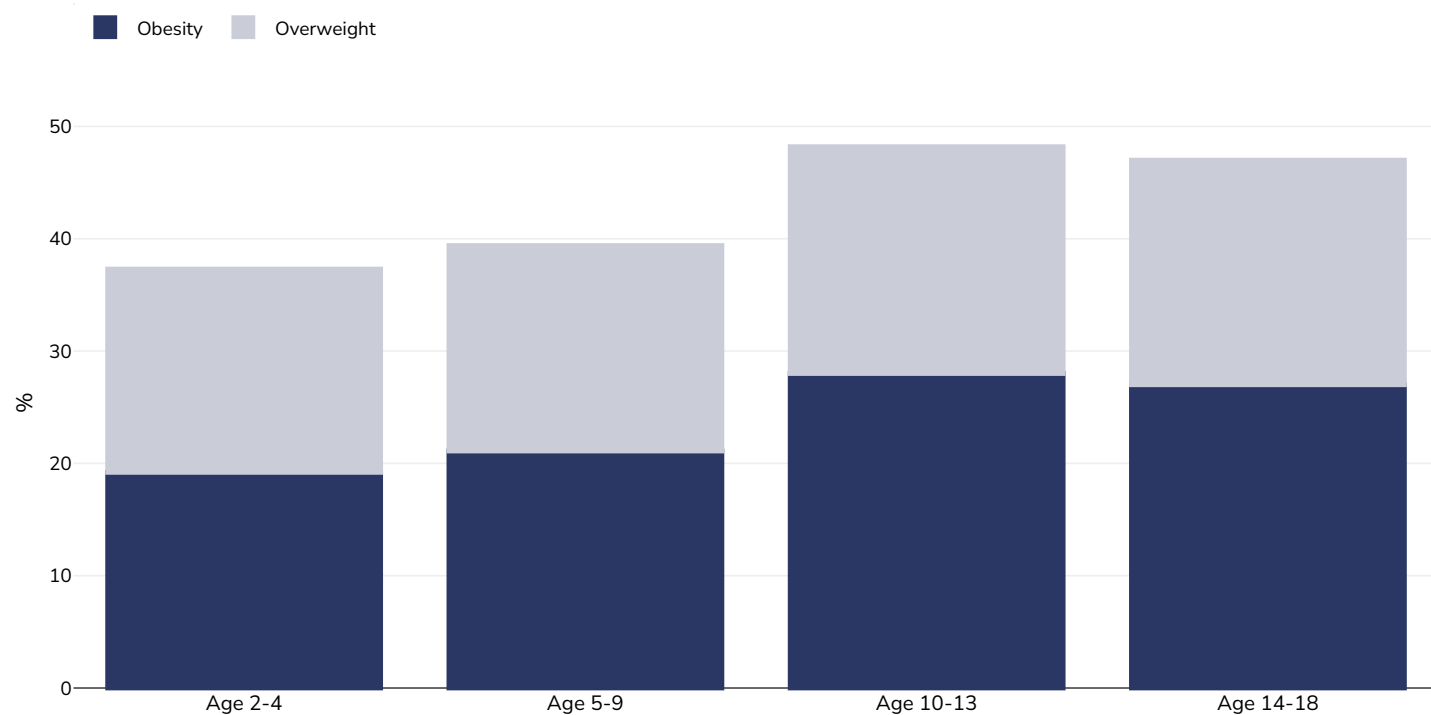
Sample size: 7890

Area covered: National

References: 2019 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia World Health Survey. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/Statistics/Population-Health-Indicators/Documents/World-Health-Survey-Saudi-Arabia.pdf> (Accessed 16.11.2021)

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

Children, 2006



Survey type: Measured

Sample size: 7056

Area covered: Eastern Province

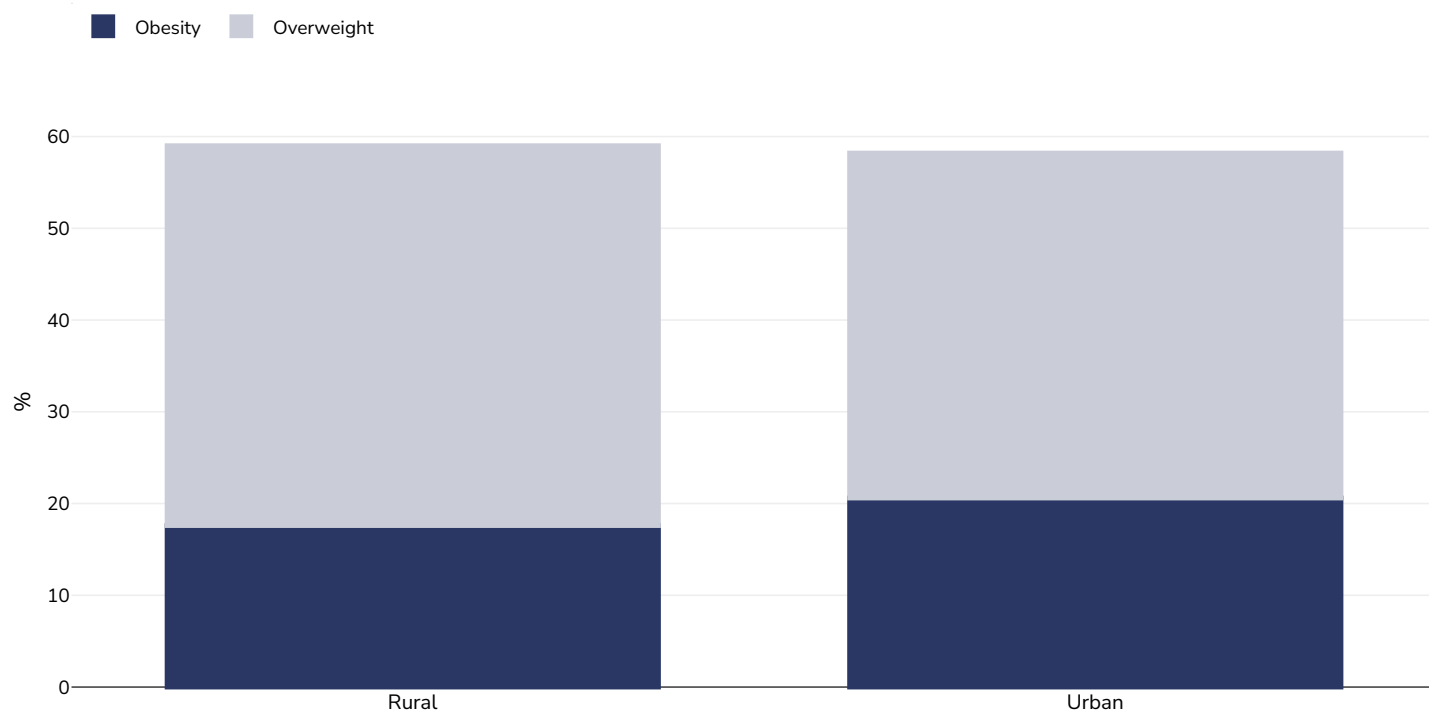
References: Al-Dossary SS, Sarkis PE, Hassan A, Ezz El Regal M, Fouda AE. Obesity in Saudi children: a dangerous reality. East Mediterr Health J. 2010 Sep;16(9):1003-8.

Notes: This study used the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 2000 growth charts to define BMI. The children were classified into 3 weight categories: normal weight (BMI < 85th percentile for age and sex), overweight (BMI between 85th–95th percentiles) and obese (BMI > 95th percentile).

Cutoffs: CDC

Overweight/obesity by region

Adults, 2019

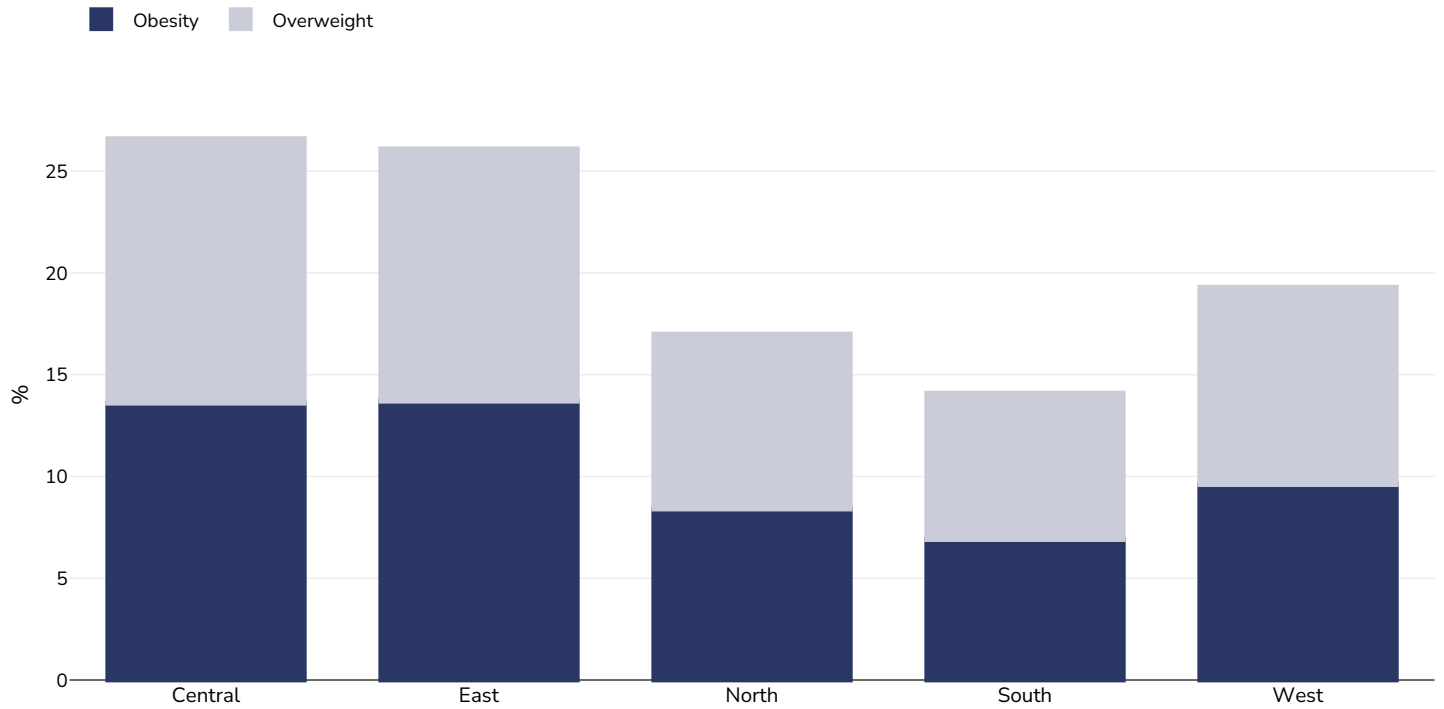


Survey type:	Measured
Age:	18+
Sample size:	7890
Area covered:	National

References: 2019 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia World Health Survey. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/Statistics/Population-Health-Indicators/Documents/World-Health-Survey-Saudi-Arabia.pdf> (Accessed 16.11.2021)

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

Children, 2020-2022



Survey type: Measured

Age: 6-19

Sample size: 1134317

Area covered: National

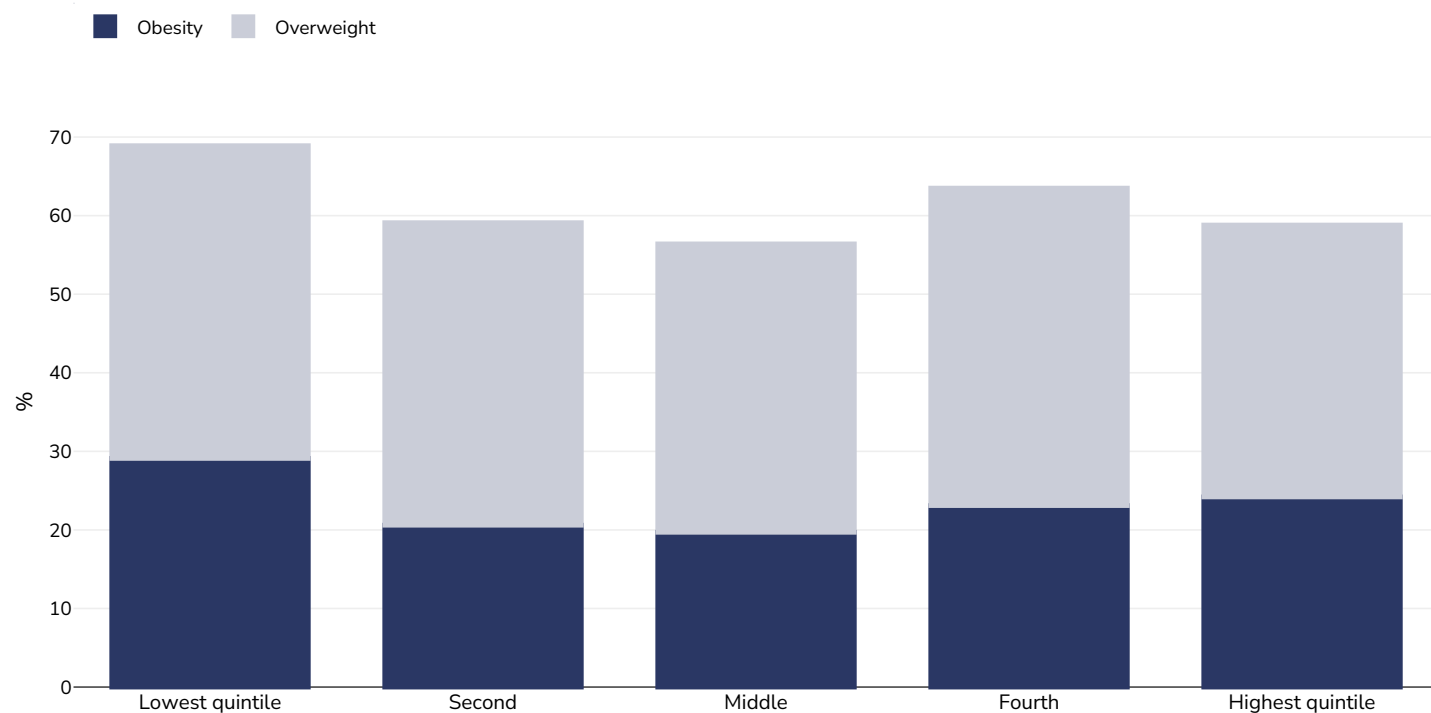
References: Alhamed, A., Al-Zeer, A., Alsaawi, F., Alshaikh, A., Alzahr, A., Alkattan, A., Alrasheed, N., Sagor, K., Alsalem, E., Ibrahim, M. and Alfaleh, A., 2023. The shifting patterns of childhood obesity: Insights from national school screening data. Saudi Pharmaceutical Journal, p.101862.

Definitions: Growth Charts for Saudi Children and Adolescents. BMI data were plotted on Saudi's sex-specific percentile charts and categorized into four groups: underweight (less than the 5th percentile), normal weight (5th percentile to less than 85th percentile), overweight (85th to less than 95th percentile), obese (95th percentile or greater), and severe obesity (120% of the 95th percentile or greater)

Cutoffs: Other

Overweight/obesity by socio-economic group

Adults, 2019



Survey type: Measured

Age: 18+

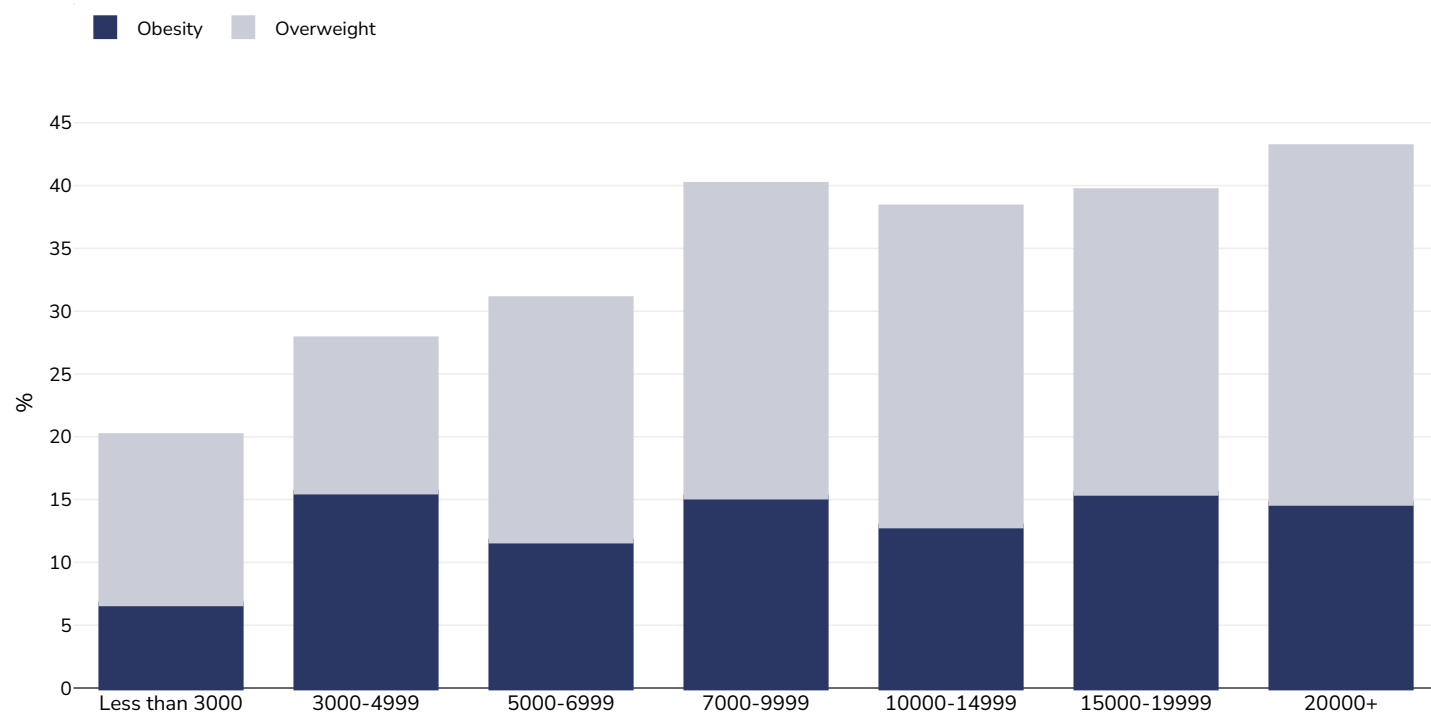
Sample size: 7890

Area covered: National

References: 2019 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia World Health Survey. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/Statistics/Population-Health-Indicators/Documents/World-Health-Survey-Saudi-Arabia.pdf> (Accessed 16.11.2021)

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

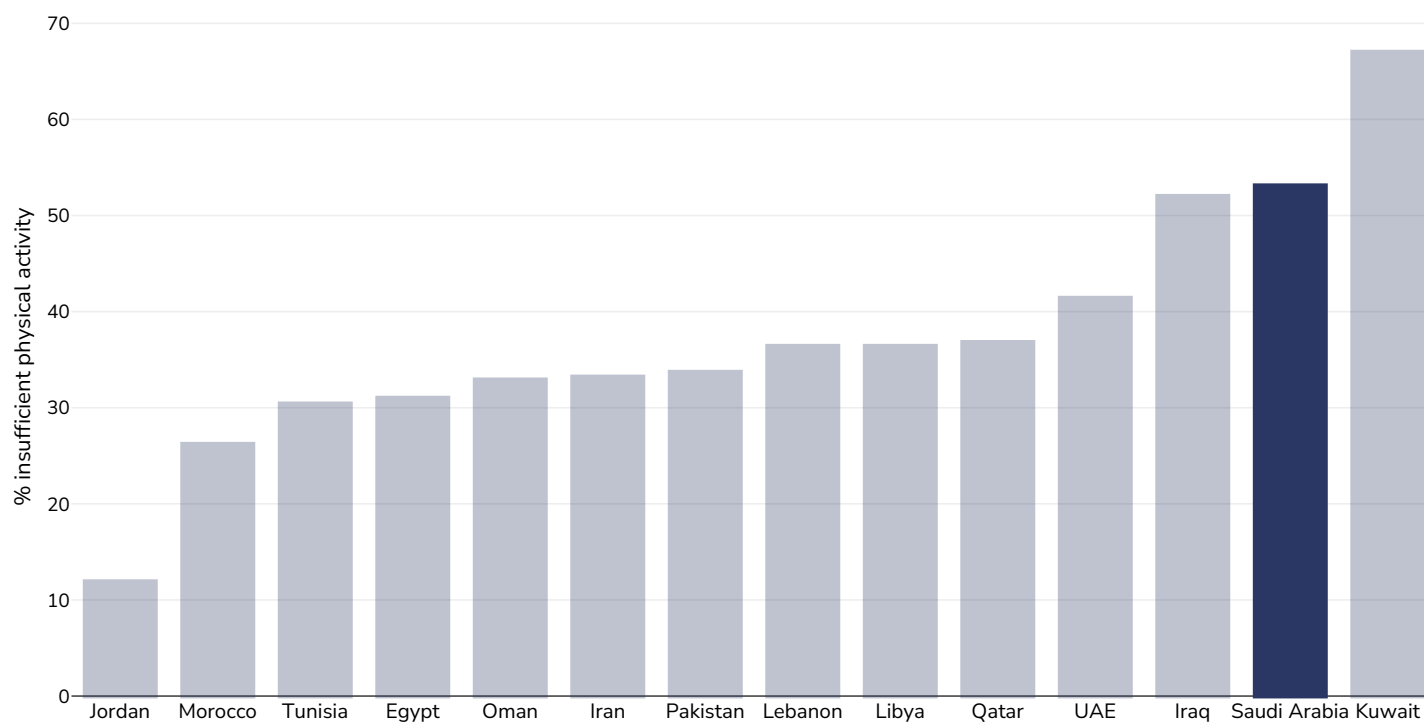
Children, 2006



Survey type:	Measured
Age:	6-16
Sample size:	1243
Area covered:	Riyadh
References:	Al Alwan & Al Fattani A, Longford N. The Effect of Parental Socioeconomic Class on Children's Body Mass Indices. <i>Journal of Clinical Research in Pediatric Endocrinology</i> . 2013;5(2):110-115. doi:10.4274/Jcrpe.898.
Notes:	Prevalence of overweight and obesity by Income (Saudi Riyal/Month). Obesity and overweight were defined using the WHO 2007 growth standards.
Cutoffs:	WHO

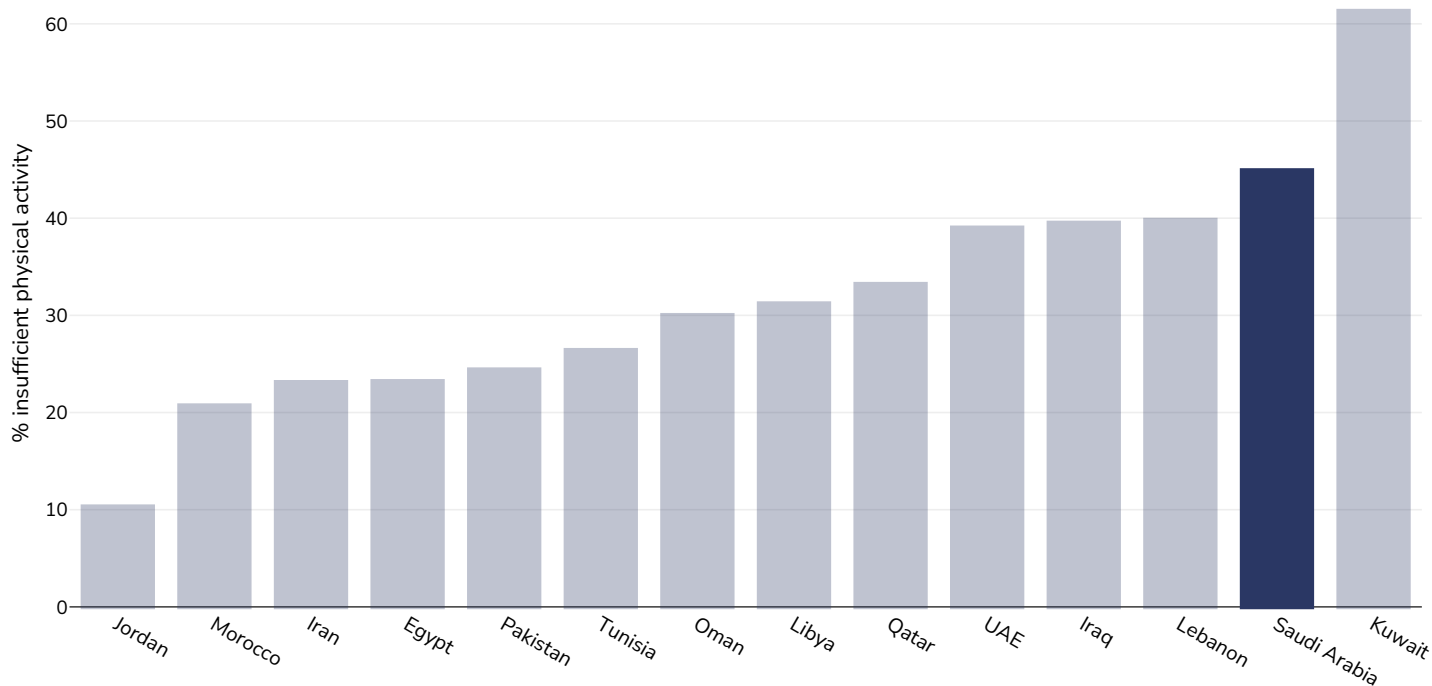
Insufficient physical activity

Adults, 2016



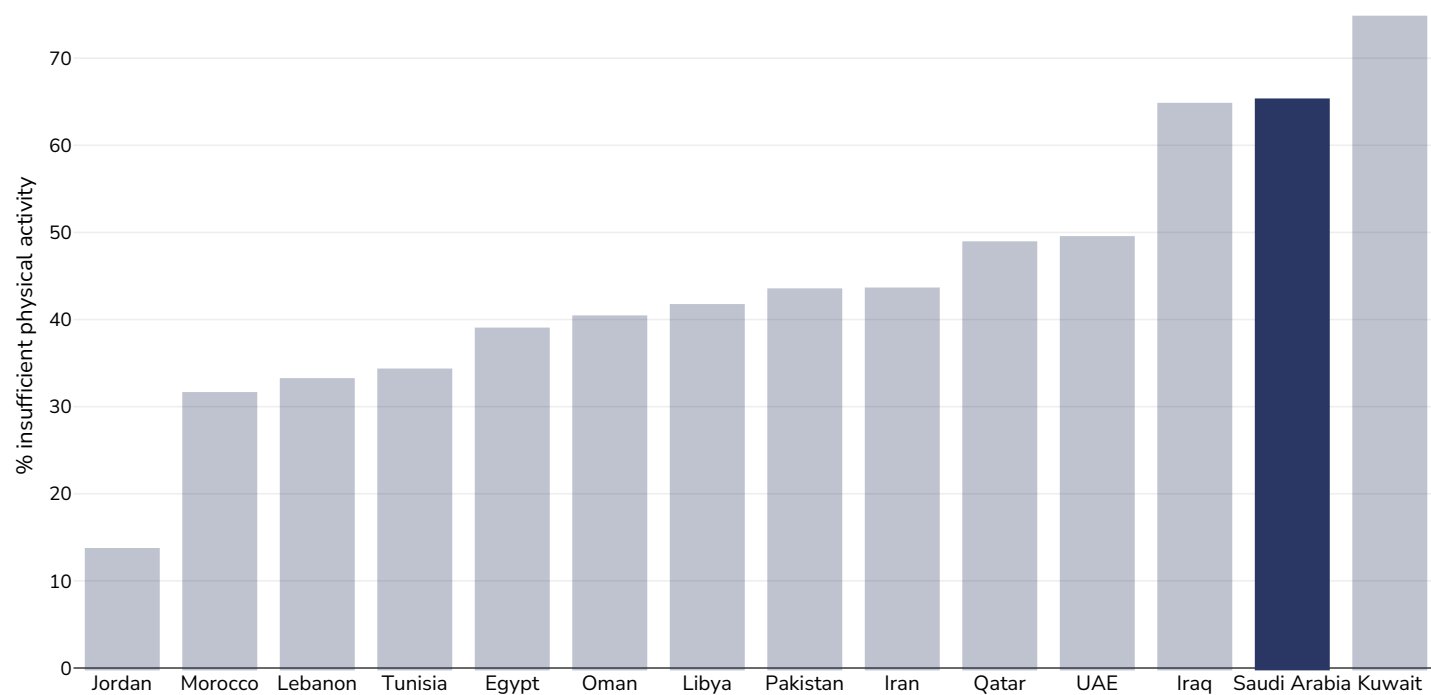
References: Guthold R, Stevens GA, Riley LM, Bull FC. Worldwide trends in insufficient physical activity from 2001 to 2016: a pooled analysis of 358 population-based surveys with 1.9 million participants. Lancet 2018 [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(18\)30357-7](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(18)30357-7)

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](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(18)30357-7)

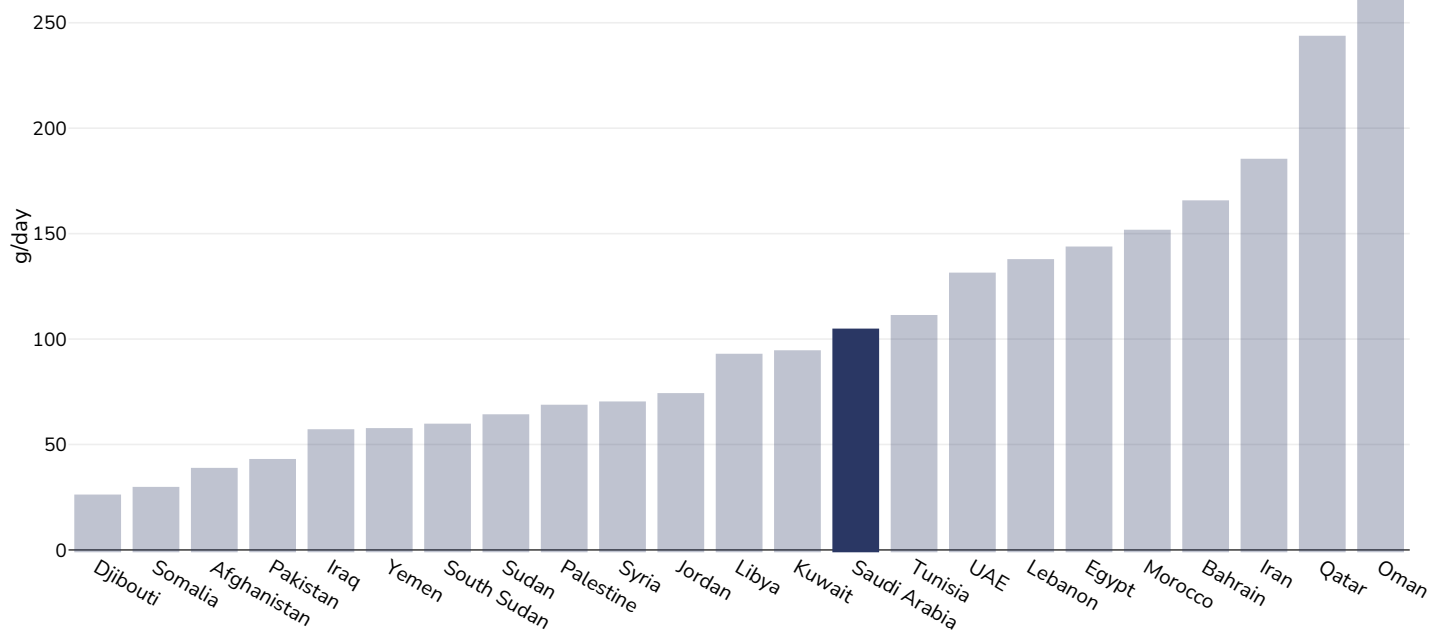
Women, 2016



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](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(18)30357-7)

Estimated per capita fruit intake

Adults, 2017



Survey type: Measured

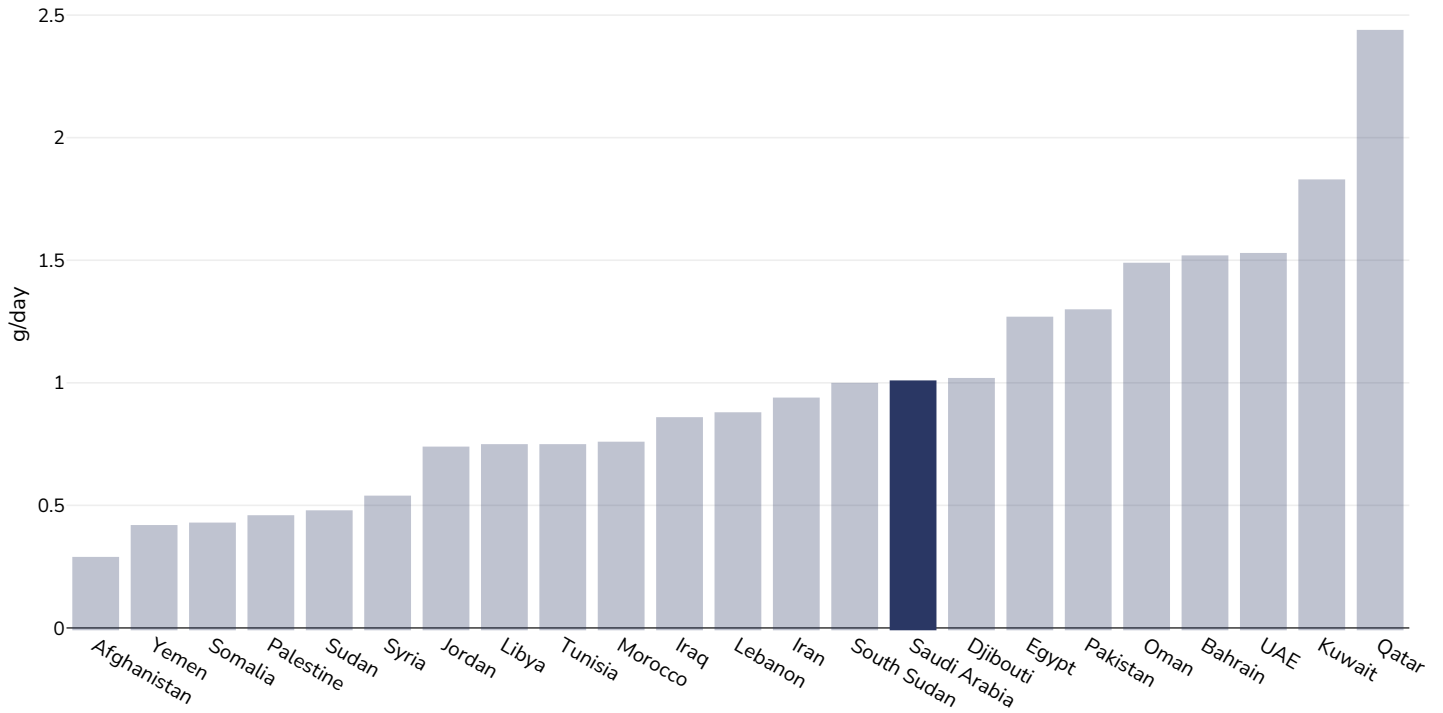
Age: 25+

References: Global Burden of Disease, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation <http://ghdx.healthdata.org/>

Definitions: Estimated per-capita fruit intake (g/day)

Estimated per-capita processed meat intake

Adults, 2017



Survey type:

Measured

Age:

25+

References:

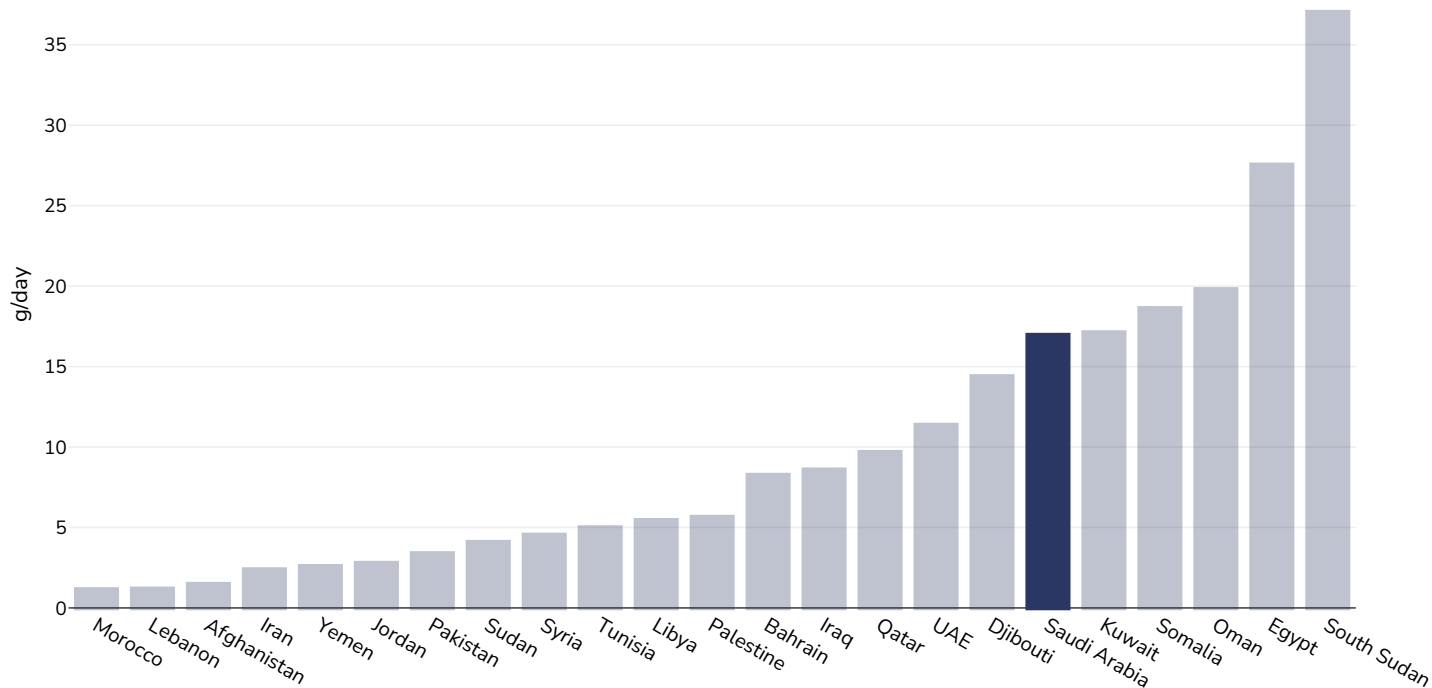
Global Burden of Disease, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation <http://ghdx.healthdata.org/>

Definitions:

Estimated per-capita processed meat intake (g per day)

Estimated per capita whole grains intake

Adults, 2017



Survey type: Measured

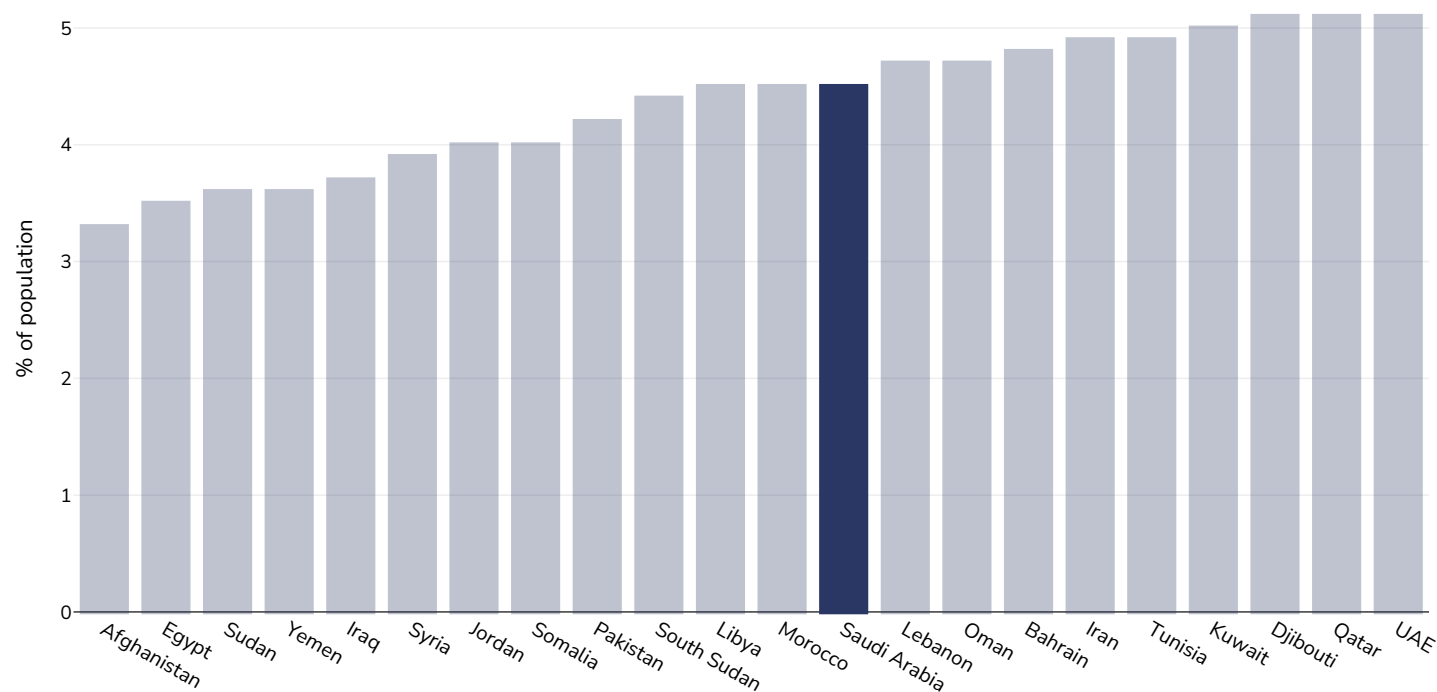
Age: 25+

References: Global Burden of Disease, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation <http://ghdx.healthdata.org/>

Definitions: Estimated per-capita whole grains intake (g/day)

Mental health - depression disorders

Adults, 2015

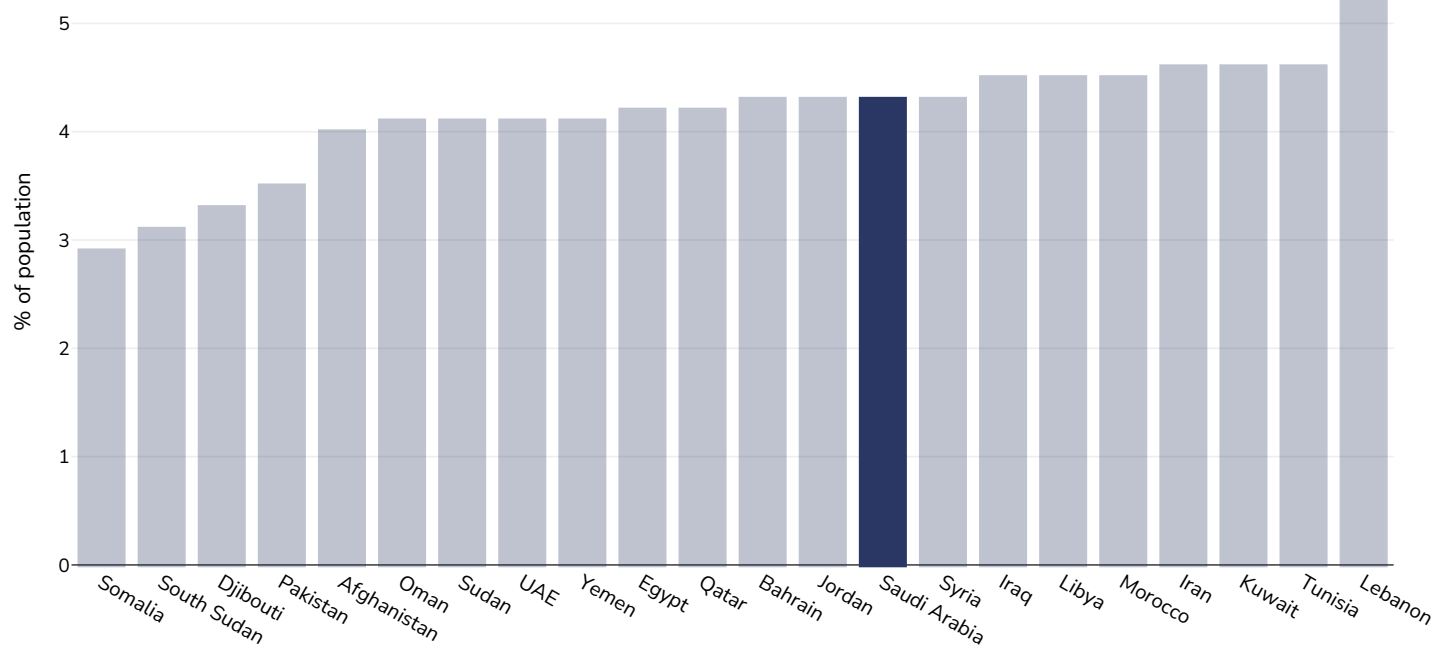


References: Prevalence data from Global Burden of Disease study 2015 (<http://ghdx.healthdata.org>) published in: Depression and Other Common Mental Disorders: Global Health Estimates. Geneva:World Health Organization; 2017. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

Definitions: % of population with depression disorders

Mental health - anxiety disorders

Adults, 2015

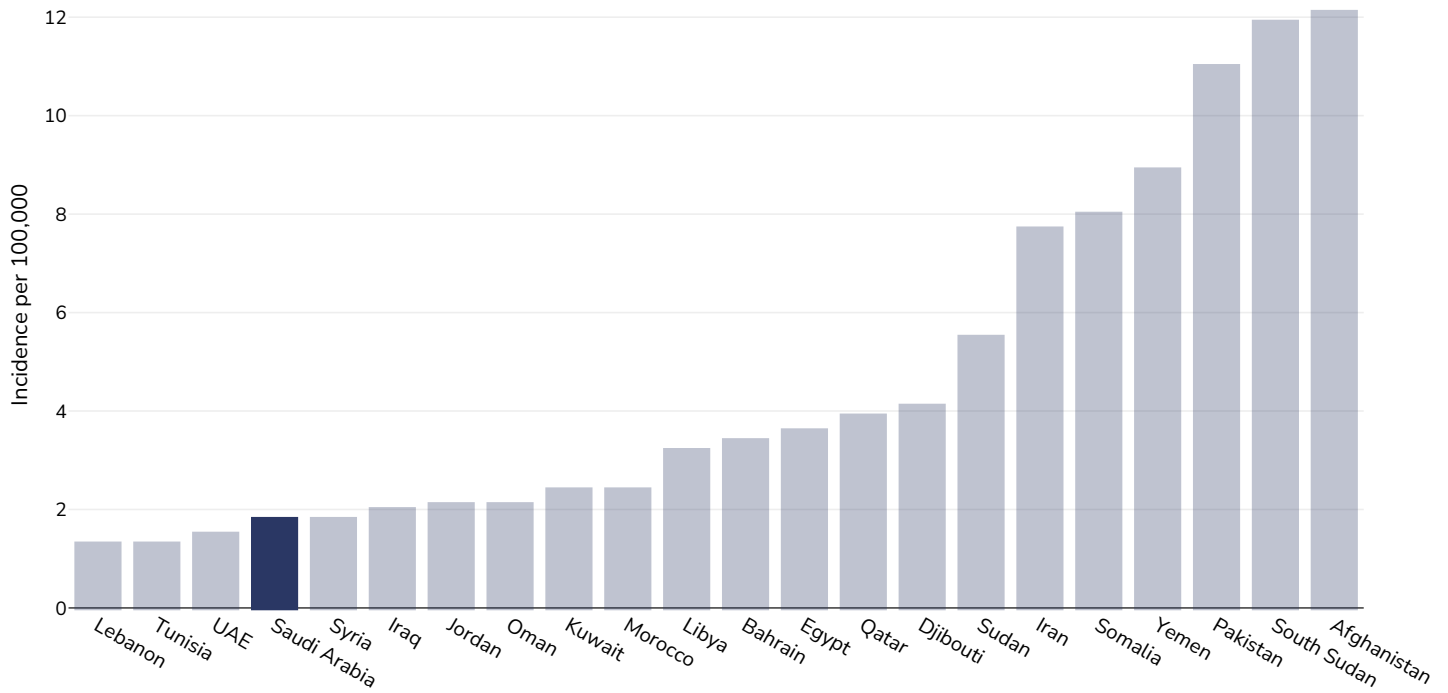


References: Prevalence data from Global Burden of Disease study 2015 (<http://ghdx.healthdata.org>) published in: Depression and Other Common Mental Disorders: Global Health Estimates. Geneva:World Health Organization; 2017. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

Definitions: % of population with anxiety disorders

Oesophageal cancer

Men, 2020



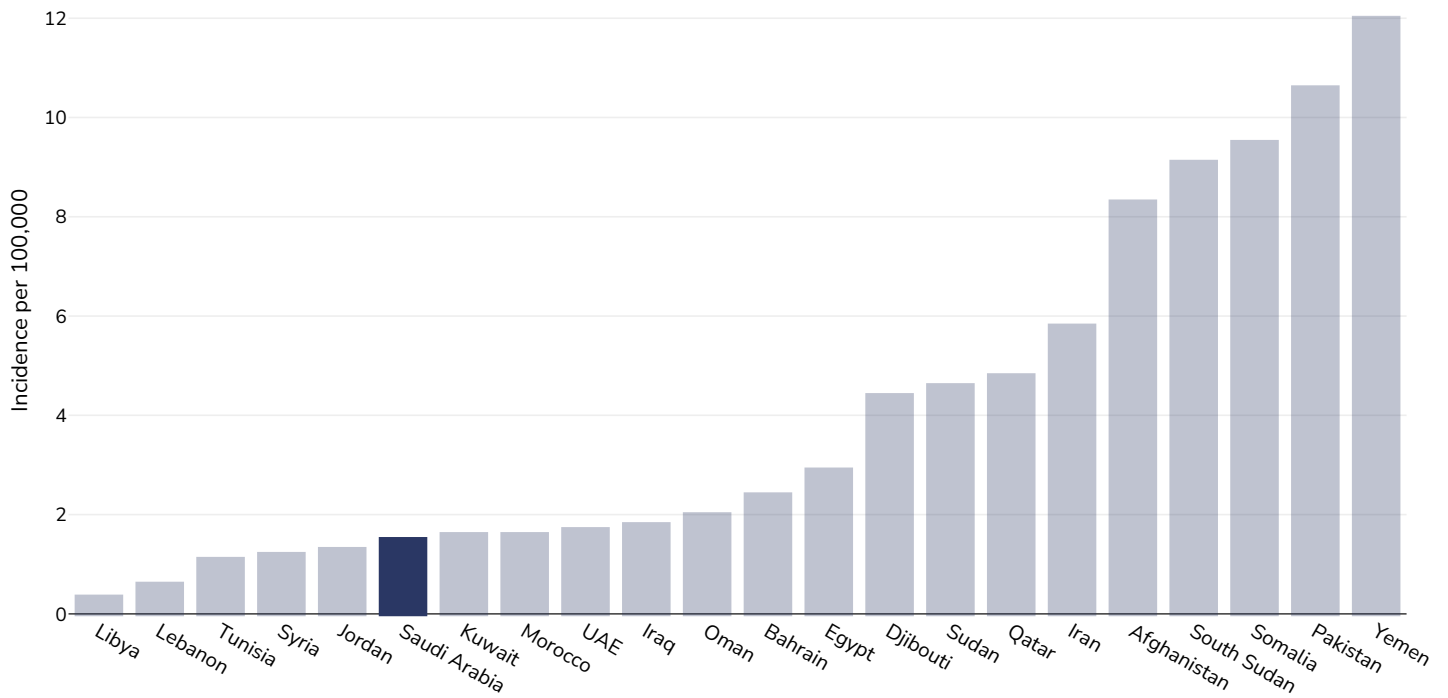
Age: 20+

Area covered: National

References: Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today>, accessed 10.01.2307

Definitions: Age-standardized incidence rates per 100 000

Women, 2020



Age: 20+

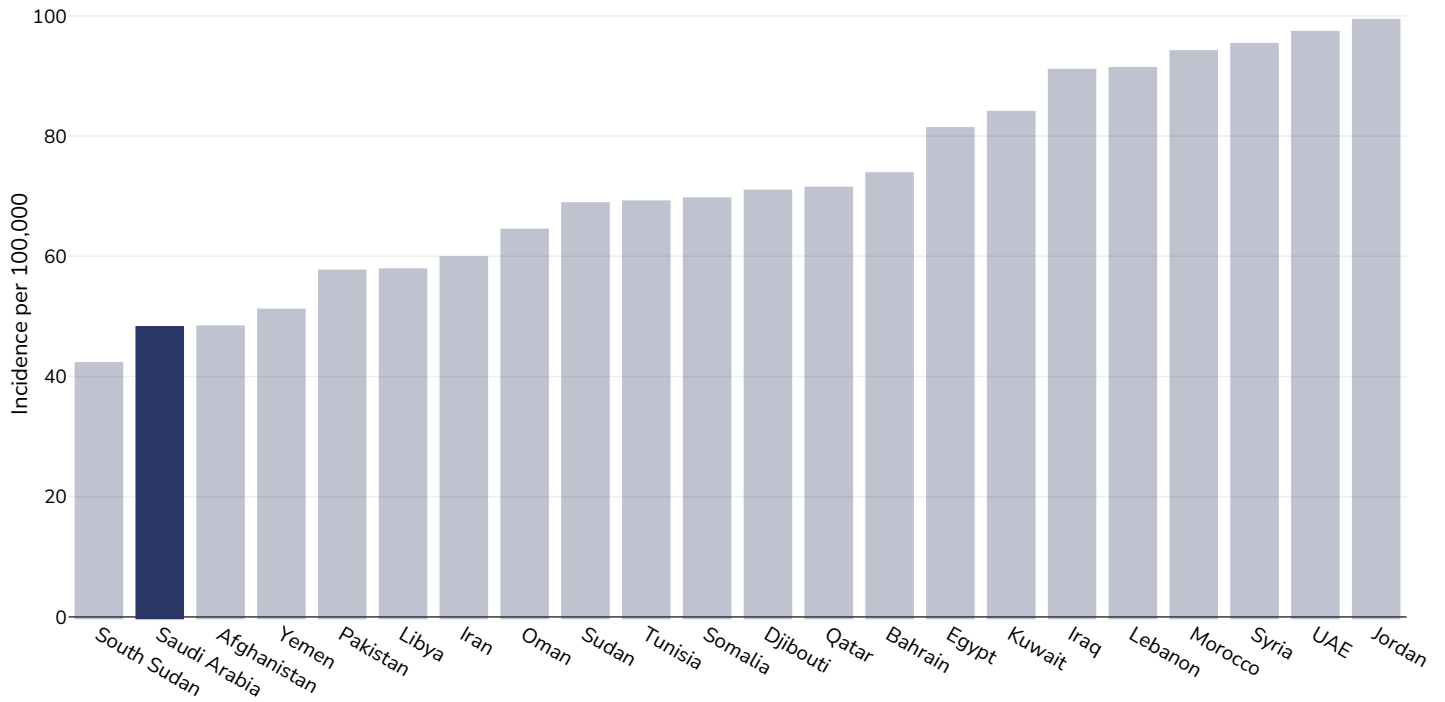
Area covered: National

References: Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today>, accessed 10.01.2307

Definitions: Age-standardized incidence rates per 100 000

Breast cancer

Women, 2020



Age: 20+

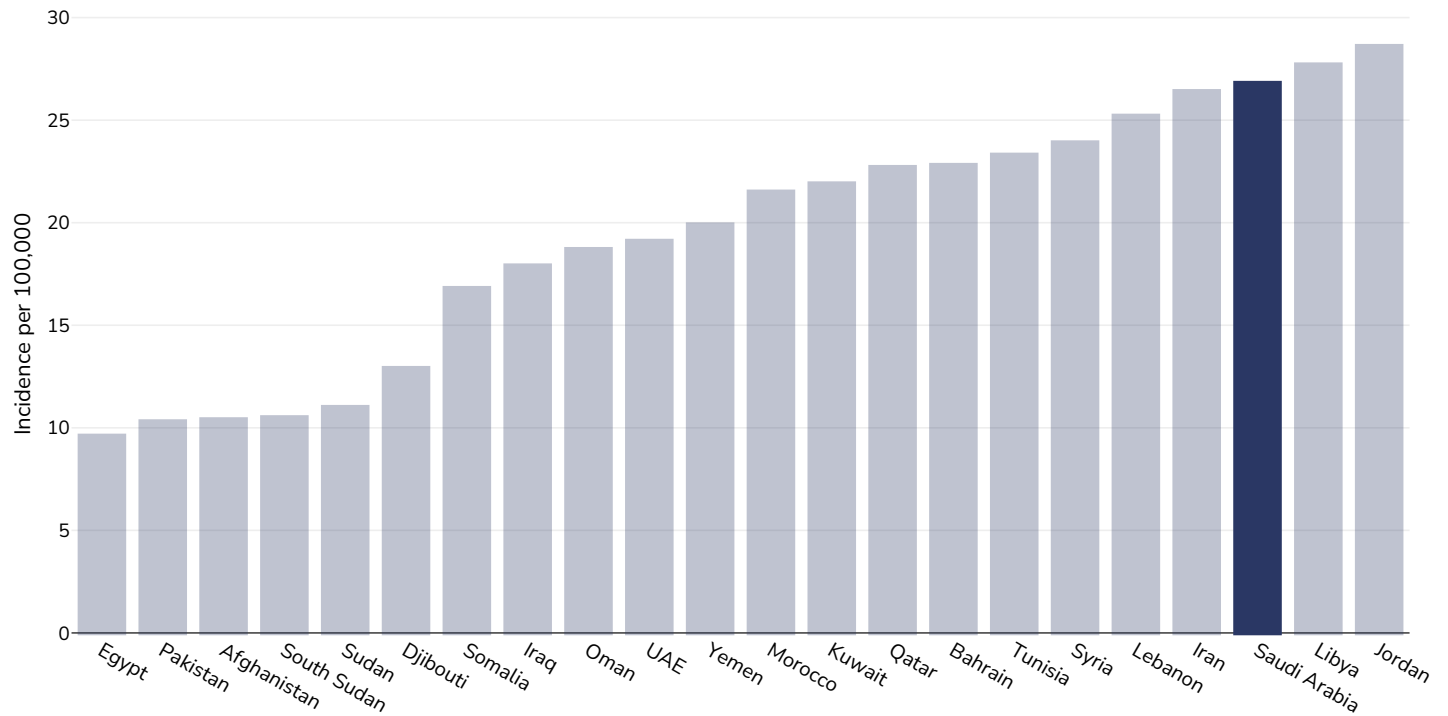
Area covered: National

References: Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today>, accessed 10.01.2307

Definitions: Age-standardized incidence rates per 100 000

Colorectal cancer

Men, 2020



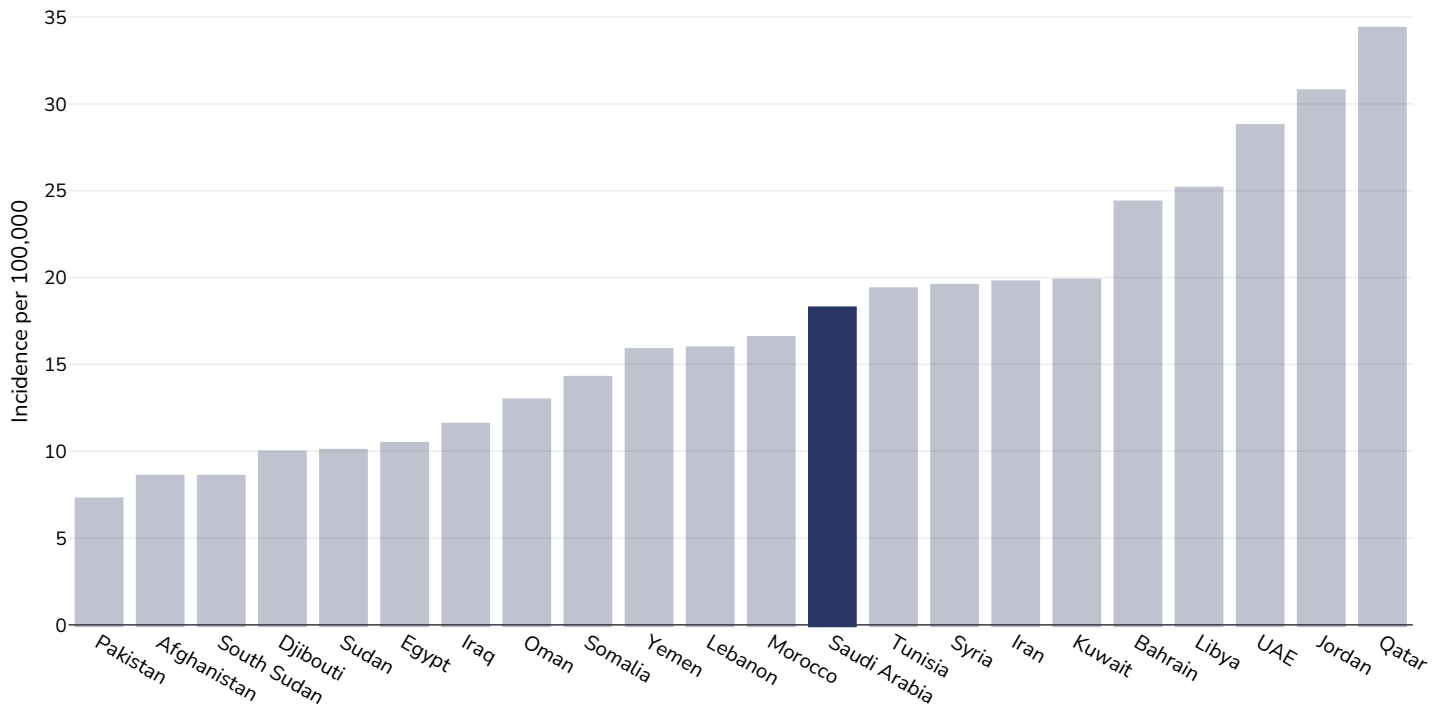
Age: 20+

Area covered: National

References: Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today>, accessed 10.01.2307

Definitions: Age-standardized incidence rates per 100 000

Women, 2020



Age: 20+

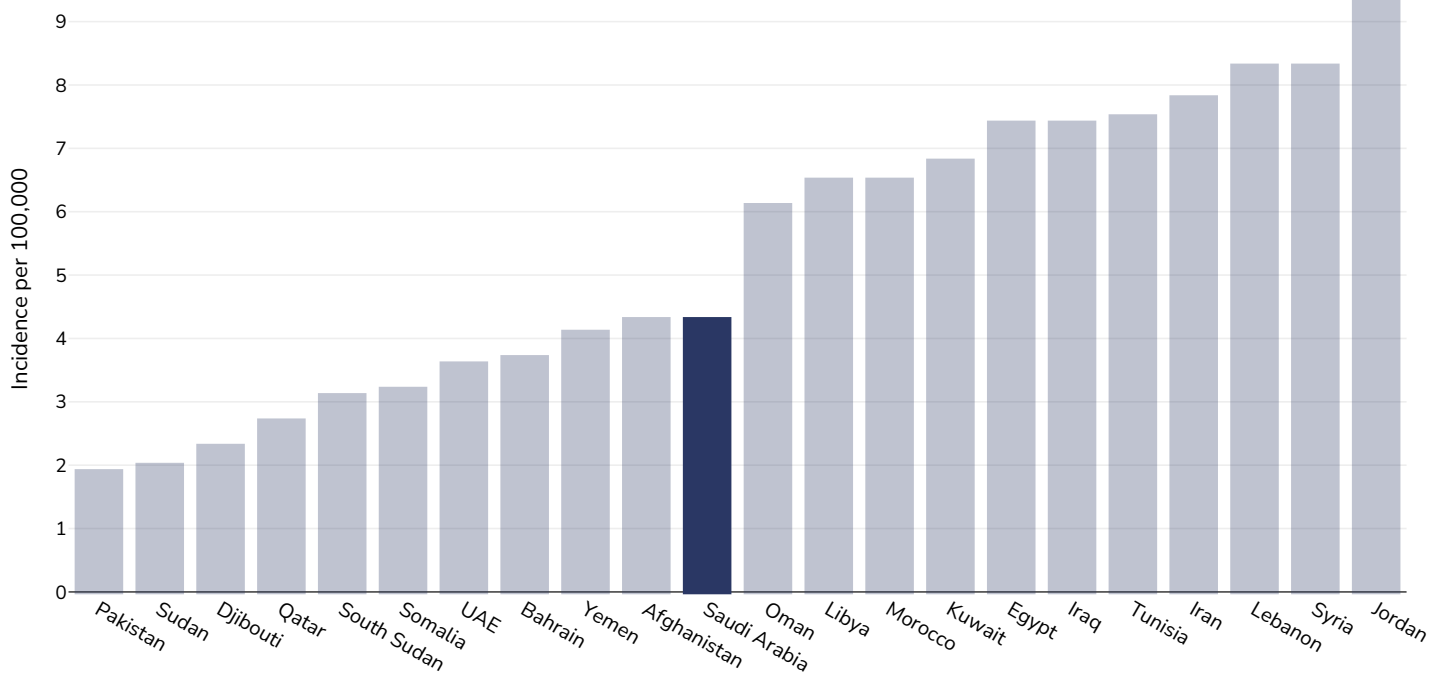
Area covered: National

References: Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today>, accessed 10.01.2307

Definitions: Age-standardized incidence rates per 100 000

Pancreatic cancer

Men, 2020



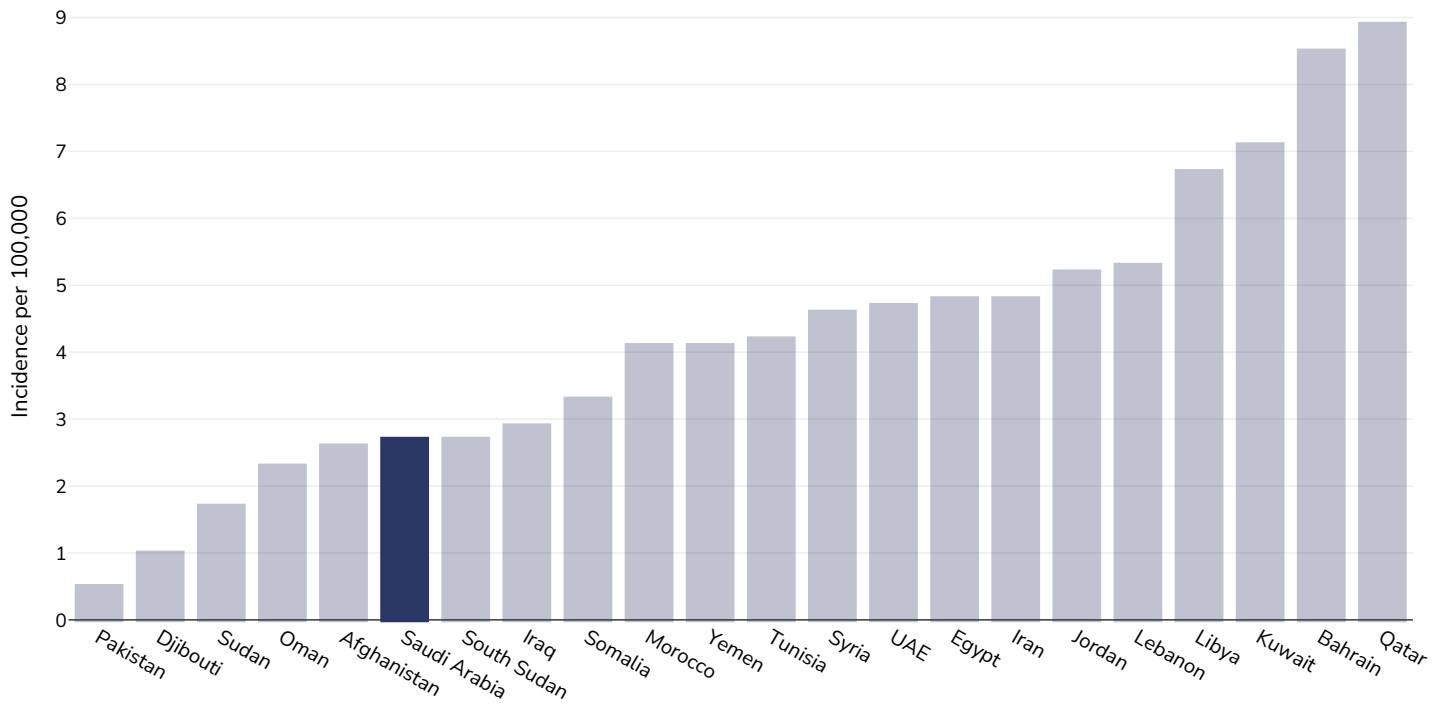
Age: 20+

Area covered: National

References: Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today>, accessed 10.01.2307

Definitions: Age-standardized incidence rates per 100 000

Women, 2020



Age: 20+

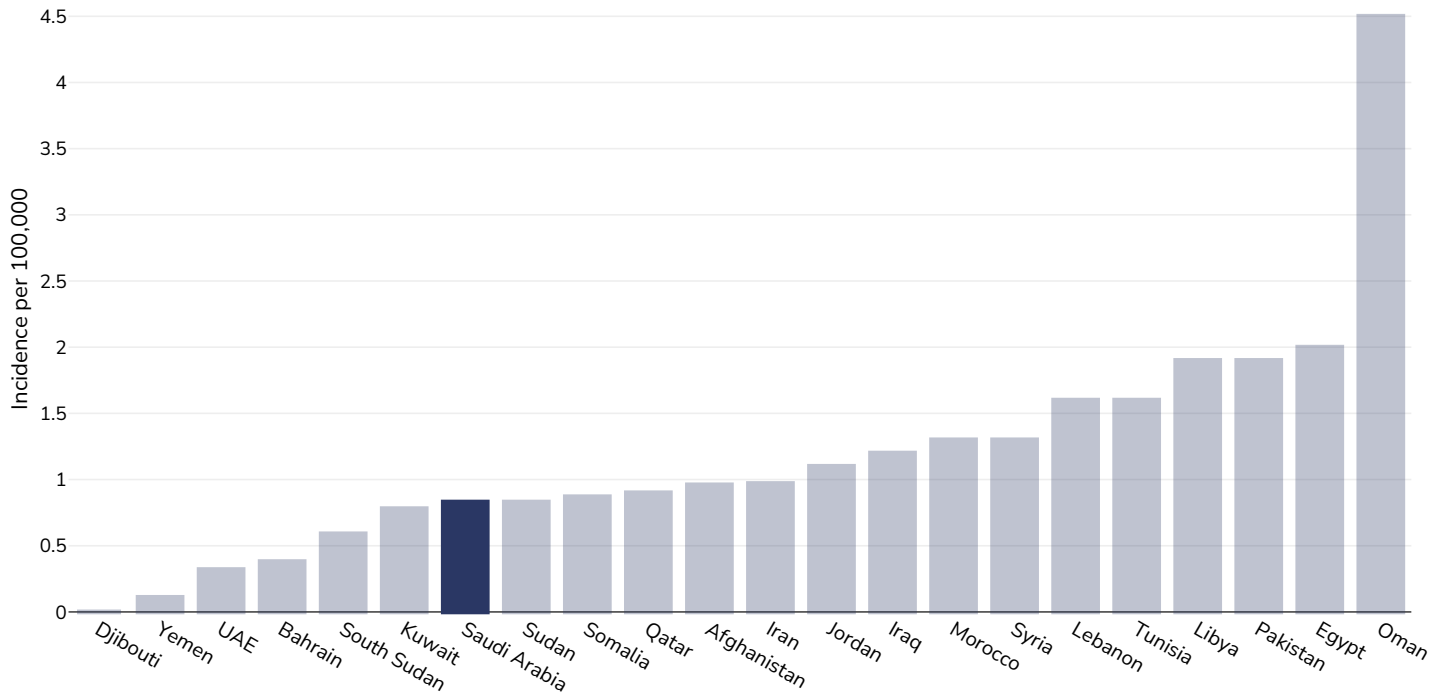
Area covered: National

References: Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today>, accessed 10.01.2307

Definitions: Age-standardized incidence rates per 100 000

Gallbladder cancer

Men, 2020



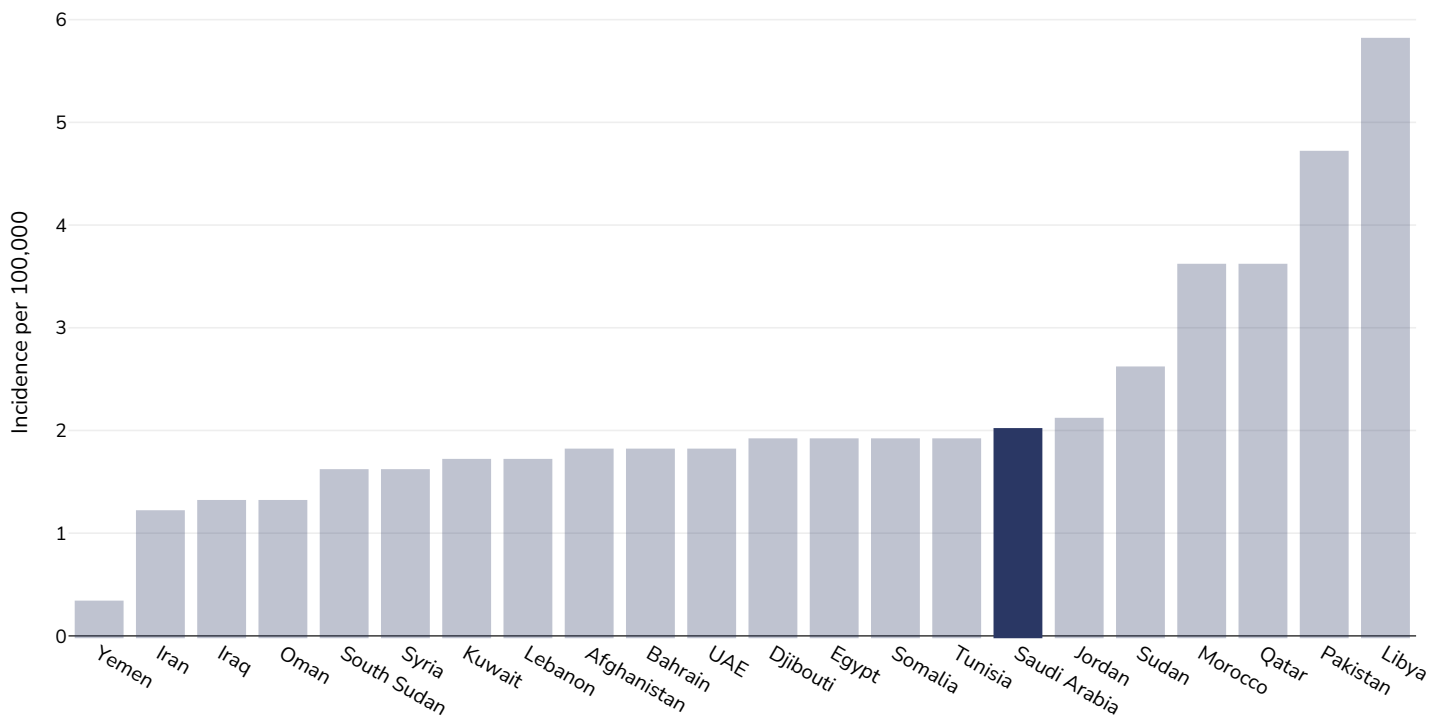
Age: 20+

Area covered: National

References: Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today>, accessed 10.01.2307

Definitions: Age-standardized incidence rates per 100 000

Women, 2020



Age: 20+

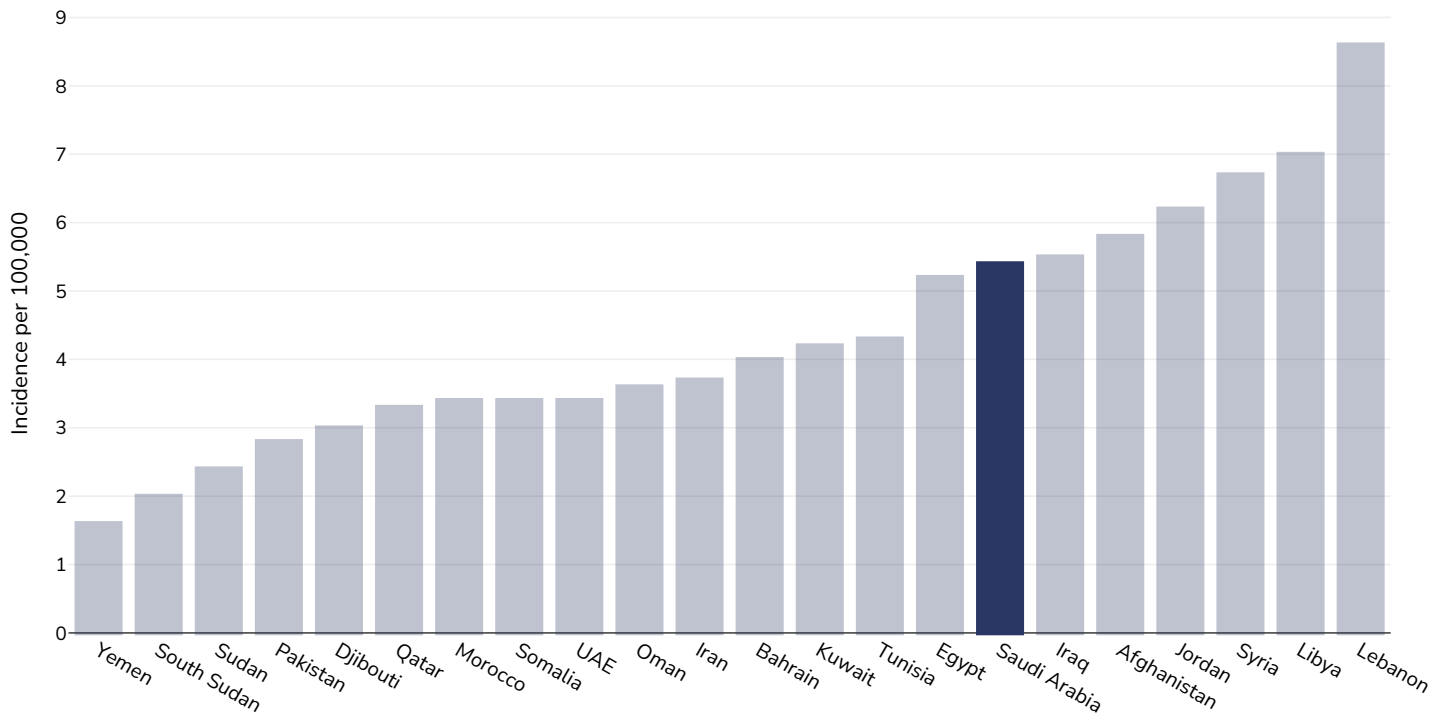
Area covered: National

References: Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today>, accessed 10.01.2307

Definitions: Age-standardized incidence rates per 100 000

Kidney cancer

Men, 2020



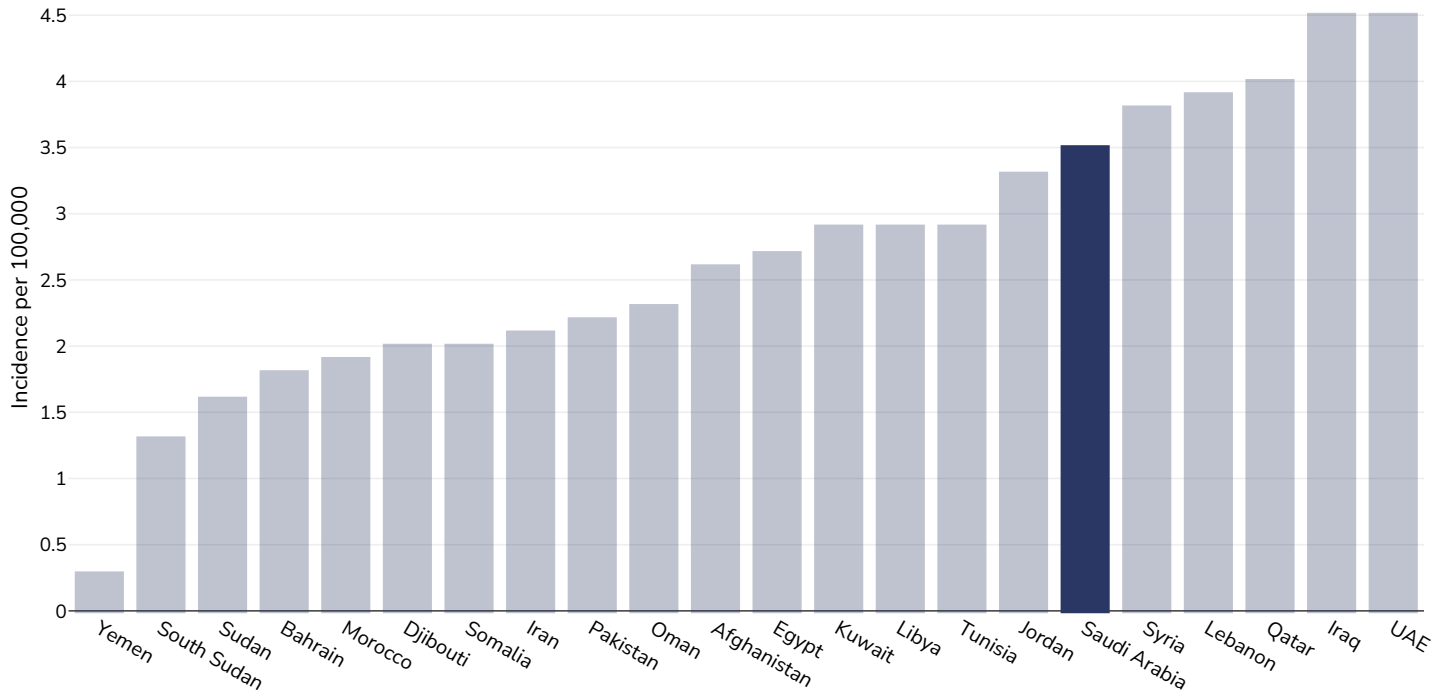
Age: 20+

Area covered: National

References: Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today>, accessed 10.01.2307

Definitions: Age-standardized incidence rates per 100 000

Women, 2020



Age: 20+

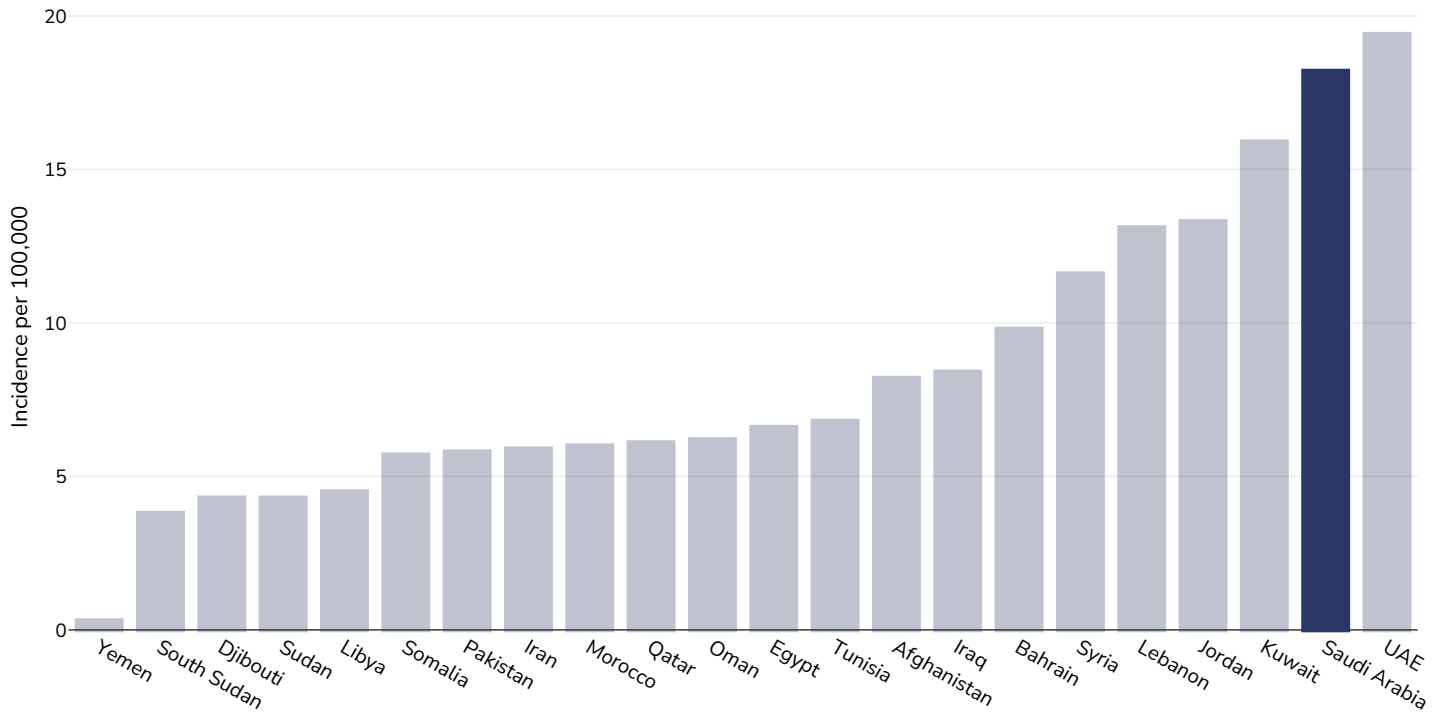
Area covered: National

References: Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today>, accessed 10.01.2307

Definitions: Age-standardized incidence rates per 100 000

Cancer of the uterus

Women, 2020



Age: 20+

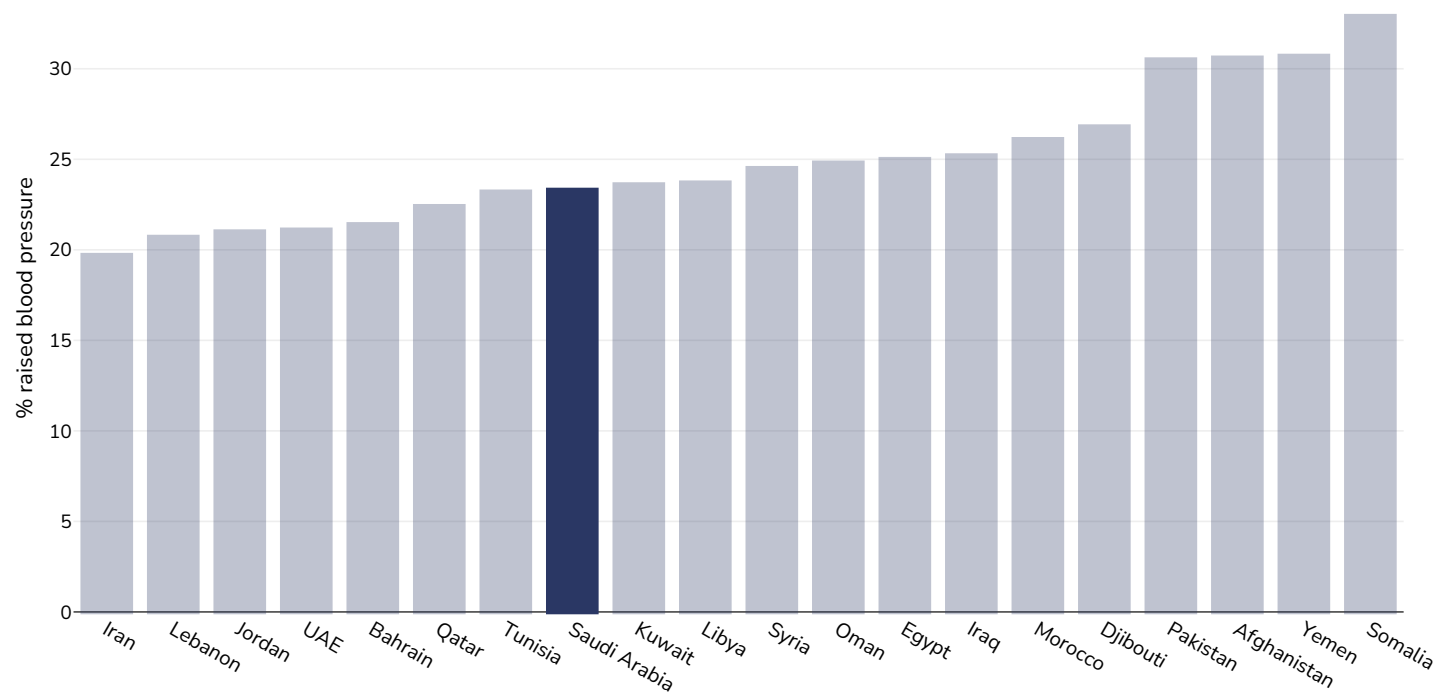
Area covered: National

References: Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: <https://gco.iarc.fr/today>, accessed 10.01.2307

Definitions: Age-standardized incidence rates per 100 000

Raised blood pressure

Adults, 2015



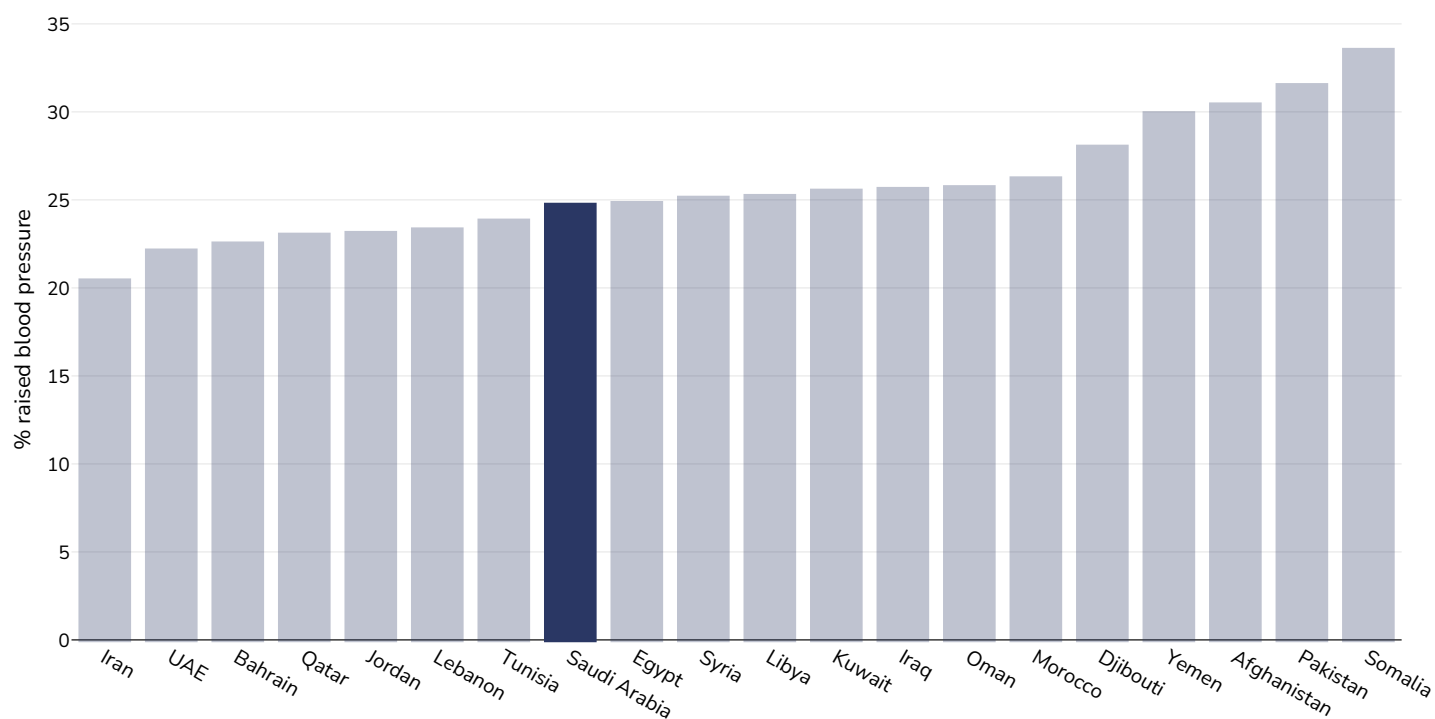
References:

Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation,
<http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A875?lang=en>

Definitions:

Age Standardised estimated % Raised blood pressure 2015 (SBP \geq 140 OR DBP \geq 90).

Men, 2015



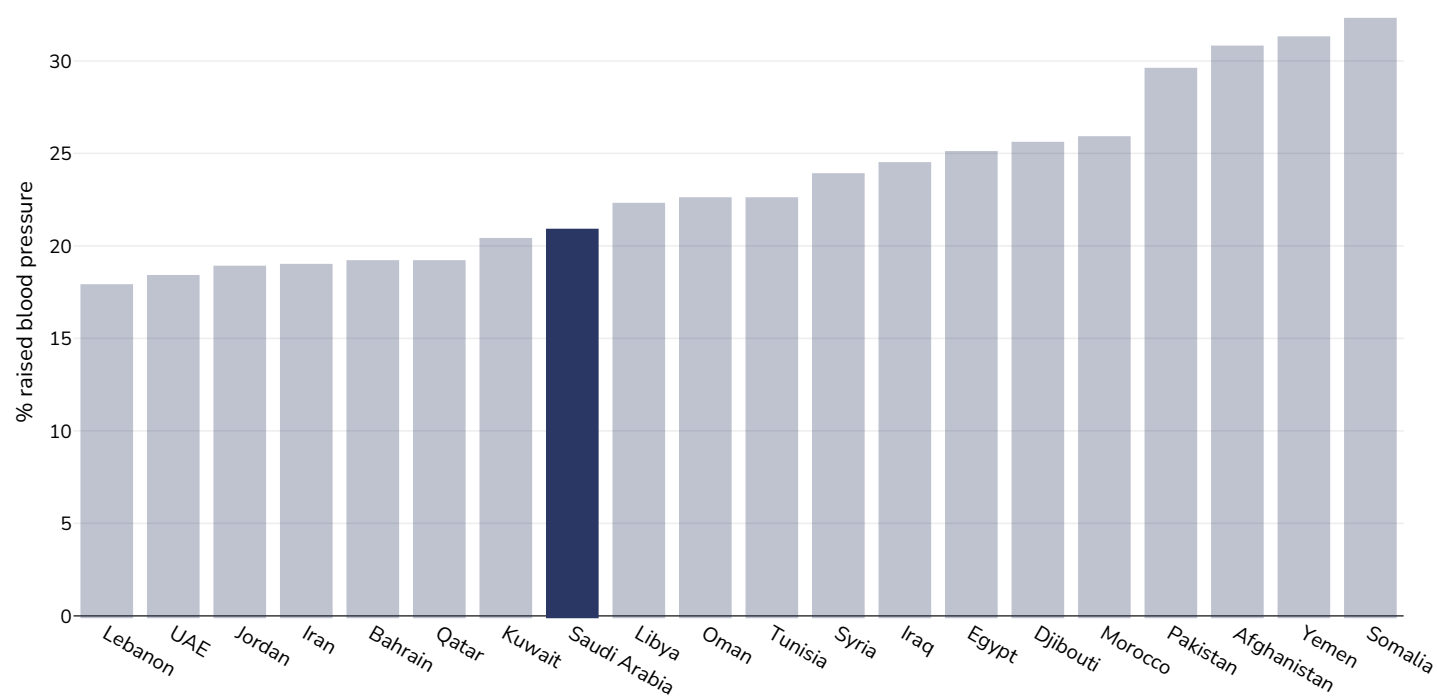
References:

Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation,
<http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A875?lang=en>

Definitions:

Age Standardised estimated % Raised blood pressure 2015 (SBP \geq 140 OR DBP \geq 90).

Women, 2015



References:

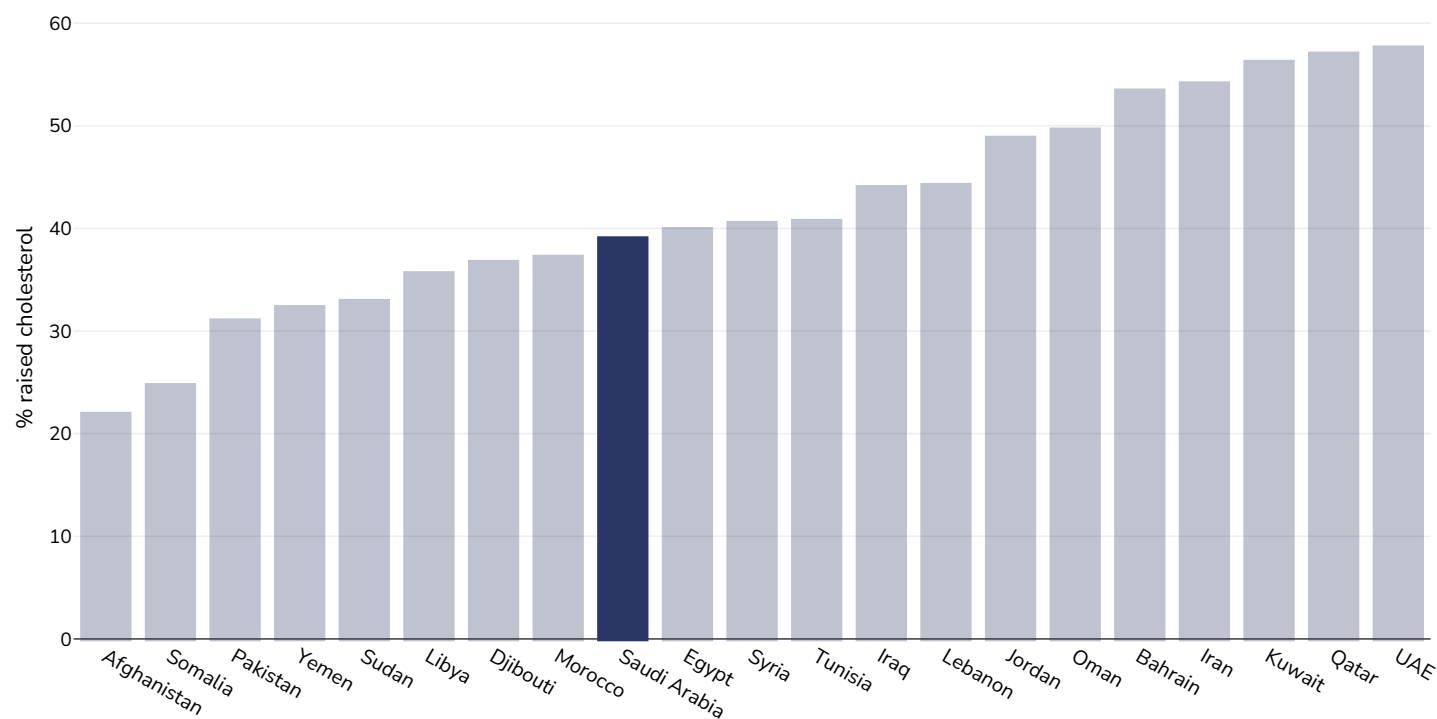
Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation,
<http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A875?lang=en>

Definitions:

Age Standardised estimated % Raised blood pressure 2015 (SBP \geq 140 OR DBP \geq 90).

Raised cholesterol

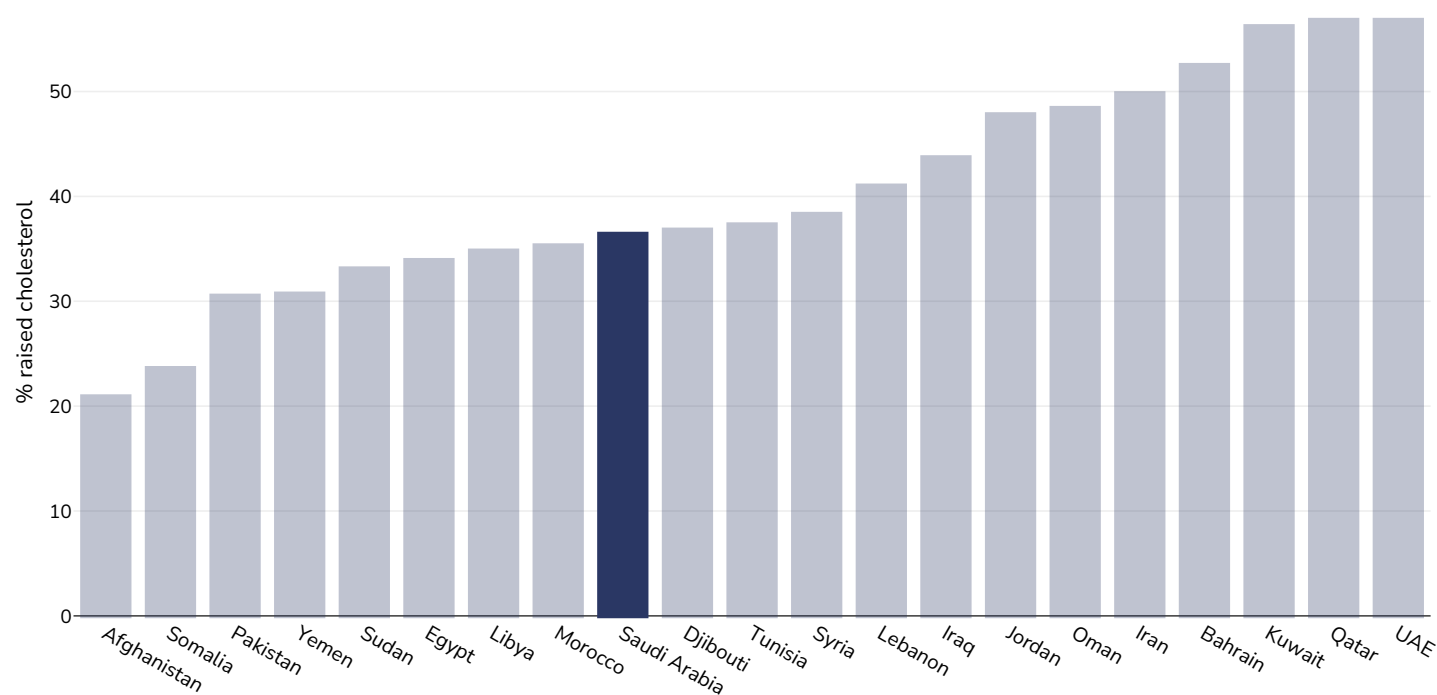
Adults, 2008



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).

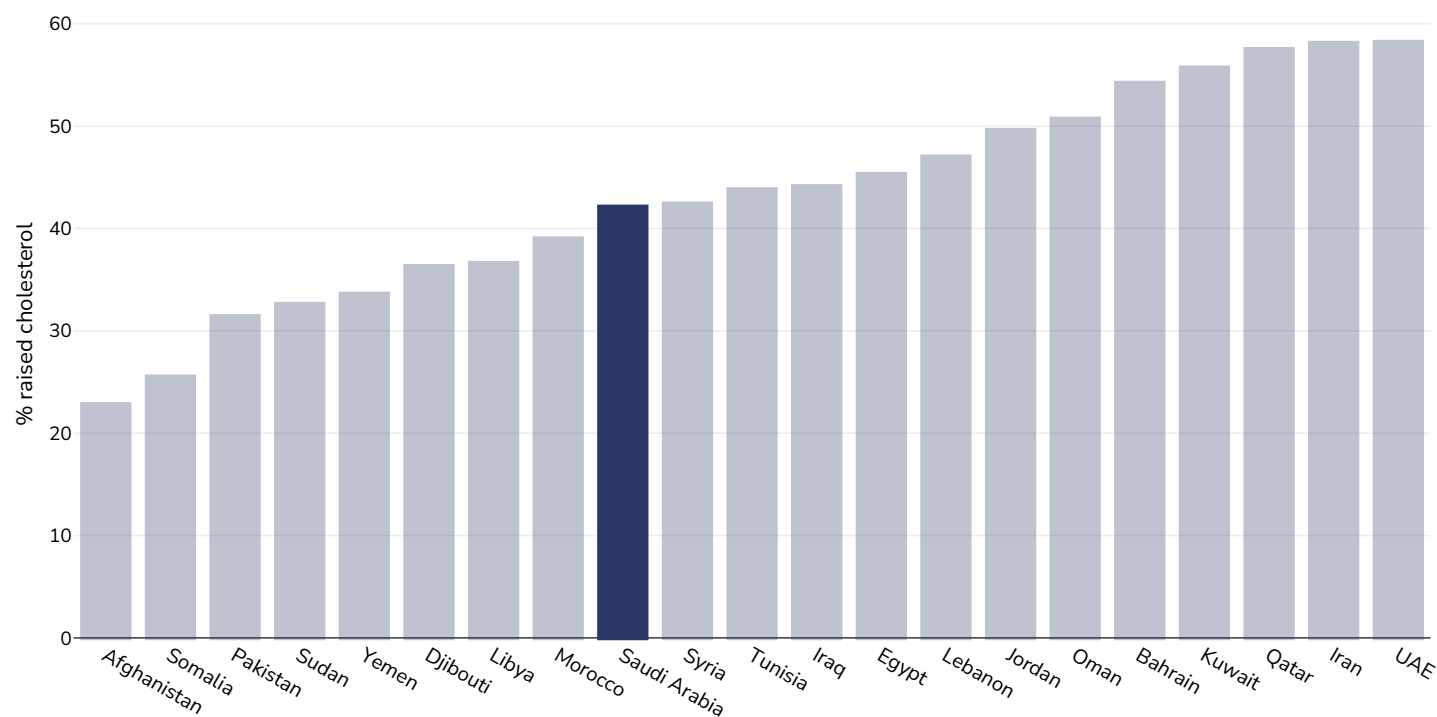
Men, 2008



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

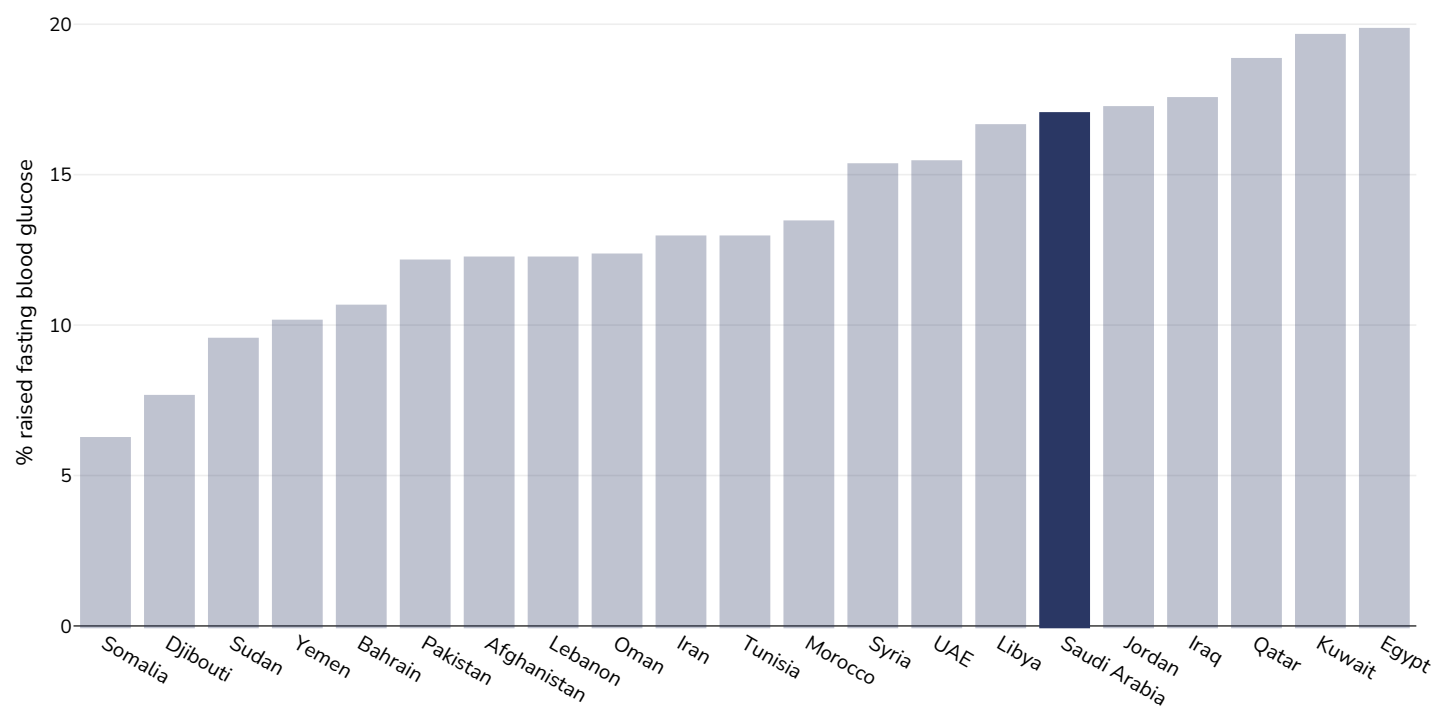


References: Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A885>

Definitions: % Raised total cholesterol (≥ 5.0 mmol/L) (age-standardized estimate).

Raised fasting blood glucose

Men, 2014



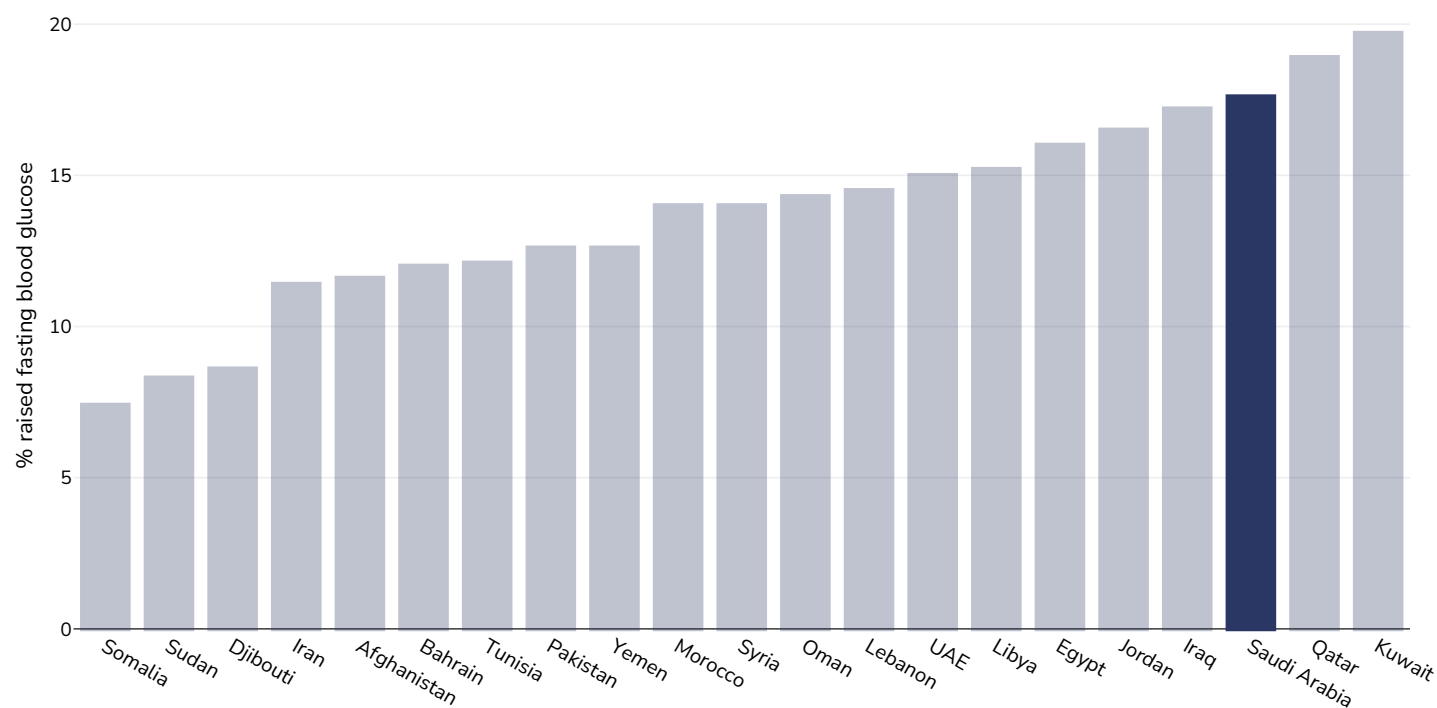
References:

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:

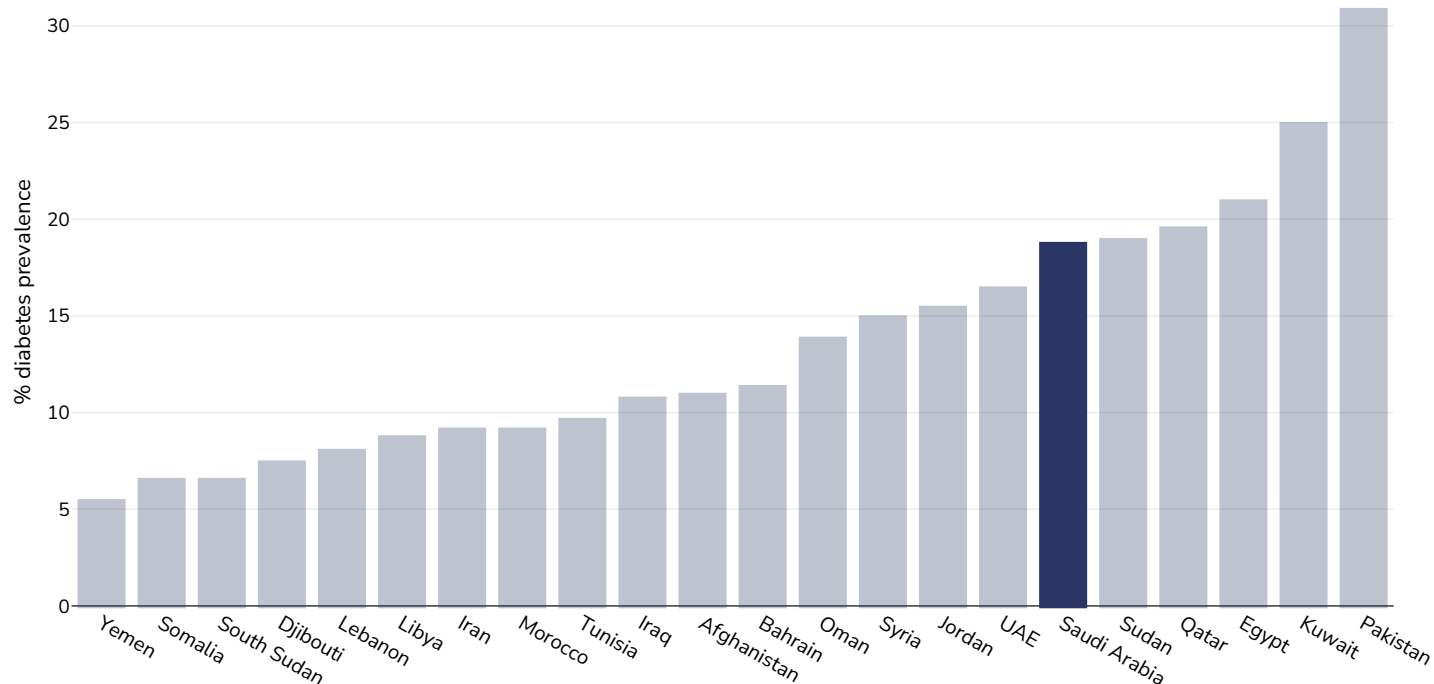
Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation,
<http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A869?lang=en>

Definitions:

Age Standardised % raised fasting blood glucose (≥ 7.0 mmol/L or on medication).

Diabetes prevalence

Adults, 2021



Age: 20-79

Area covered: National

References: Reproduced with kind permission International Diabetes Federation. IDF Diabetes Atlas, 10th edn. Brussels, Belgium:International Diabetes Federation, 2021. <http://www.diabetesatlas.org>






Definitions: Age-adjusted comparative prevalence of diabetes, %

Contextual factors

Disclaimer: These contextual factors should be interpreted with care. Results are updated as regularly as possible and use very specific criteria. The criteria used and full definitions are available for download at the bottom of this page.



Labelling

Is there mandatory nutrition labelling?	
Front-of-package labelling?	
Back-of-pack nutrition declaration?	
Color coding?	
Warning label?	



Regulation and marketing

Are there fiscal policies on unhealthy products?	✓
Tax on unhealthy foods?	✗
Tax on unhealthy drinks?	✓
Are there fiscal policies on healthy products?	✗
Subsidy on fruits?	✗
Subsidy on vegetables?	✗
Subsidy on other healthy products?	✗
Mandatory limit or ban of trans fat (all settings)?	✓
Mandatory limit of trans fats in place (all settings)?	✓
Ban on trans-fats or phos in place (all settings)?	✓
Are there any mandatory policies/marketing restrictions on the promotion of unhealthy food/drinks to children?	✗
Mandatory restriction on broadcast media?	✗
Mandatory restriction on non-broadcast media?	✗
Voluntary policies/marketing restrictions on the promotion of unhealthy food/drinks to children?	✓ _v
Are there mandatory standards for food in schools?	✗
Are there any mandatory nutrient limits in any manufactured food products?	✓
Nutrition standards for public sector procurement?	✗



Political will and support

National obesity strategy or nutrition and physical activity national strategy?	✓
National obesity strategy?	✓
National childhood obesity strategy?	✗
Comprehensive nutrition strategy?	✓
Comprehensive physical activity strategy?	✓
Evidence-based dietary guidelines and/or RDAs?	✓
National target(s) on reducing obesity?	✓
Guidelines/policy on obesity treatment?	✓
Promotion of breastfeeding?	✓



Monitoring and surveillance

Monitoring of the prevalence and incidence for the main obesity-related NCDs and risk factors?	✓
Within 5 years?	✗



Governance and resource

Multi-sectoral national co-ordination mechanism for obesity or nutrition (including obesity)?	✗
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Key

✓ Present

✓_v Present
(voluntary)

✓ Incoming

✗ Absent

? Unknown

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