

Serbia



Country report card - adults

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



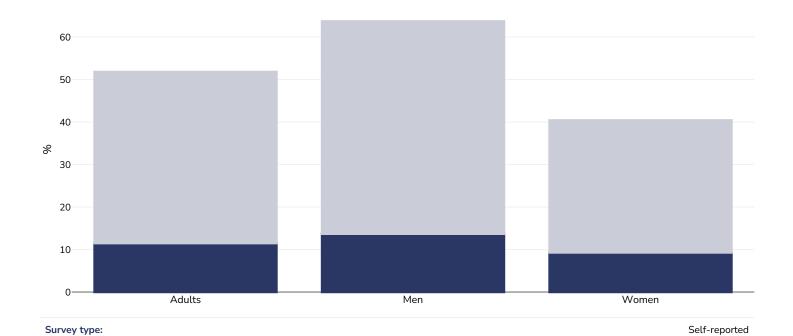
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Obesity prevalence

Adults, 2022





Age: 16+
Area covered: National
References: Eurostat 2022 Data. Available at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_hch10/default/table?lang=en (last accessed 19.03.25)

Notes:

EUROSTAT 2022 data derived from EU statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC) survey which includes adults aged 16+ years. This differs from most EUROSTAT data which is derived from the Health Interview Surveys, which includes adults aged 15+ years (though sometimes only data from adults aged 18+ reported)

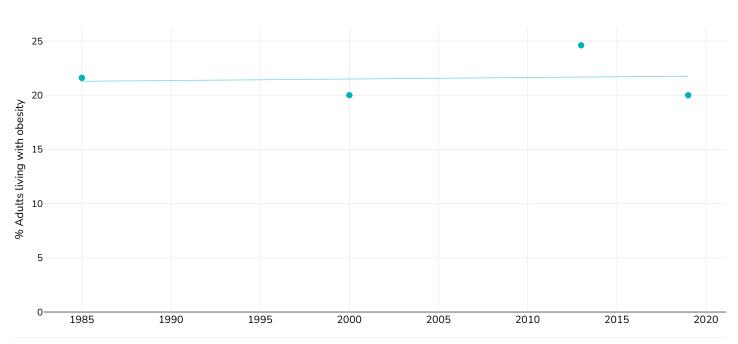
 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, \ overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, \ obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$



% Adults living with obesity in Serbia 1985-2013

Women

Obesity



Survey type: Measured

References:

1985: WHO Infobase accessed 3rd May 2006. Data from 1985 CINDI study

2000: Health status and health needs in Serbia. Expert team of the Institute of Public Health of Serbia. 2002. Dr Ljiljana T. WHO

2013: Maksimović MŽ, Gudelj Rakić JM, Vlajinac HD, Vasiljević ND, Nikić MI, Marinković JM. Comparison of different anthropometric measures in the adult population in Serbia as indicators of obesity: data from the National Health

Survey 2013. Public Health Nutr. 2016 Feb 11:1-10.

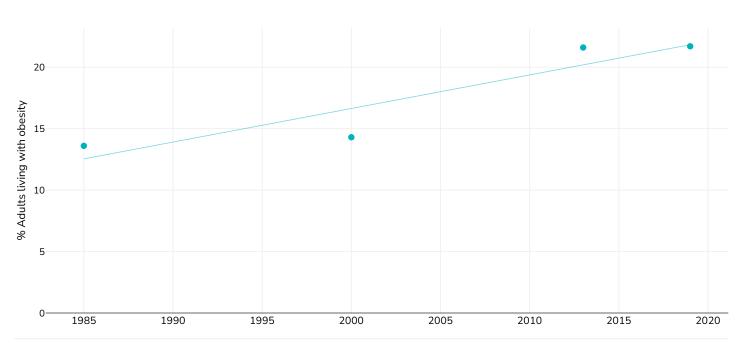
2019: Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Institute of Public Health of Serbia (2021). THE 2019 SERBIAN NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY. Available at https://publikacije.stat.gov.rs/G2021/pdfE/G20216003.pdf (last accessed 08.06.21)

 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$



Men

Obesity



Survey type: Measured

References:

1985: WHO Infobase accessed 3rd May 2006. Data from 1985 CINDI study

2000: Health status and health needs in Serbia. Expert team of the Institute of Public Health of Serbia. 2002. Dr Ljiljana T. WHO Infobase.

2013: Maksimović MŽ, Gudelj Rakić JM, Vlajinac HD, Vasiljević ND, Nikić MI, Marinković JM. Comparison of different anthropometric measures in the adult population in Serbia as indicators of obesity: data from the National Health Survey 2013. Public Health Nutr. 2016 Feb 11:1-10.

2019: Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Institute of Public Health of Serbia (2021). THE 2019 SERBIAN NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY. Available at https://publikacije.stat.gov.rs/G2021/pdfE/G20216003.pdf (last accessed 08.06.21)

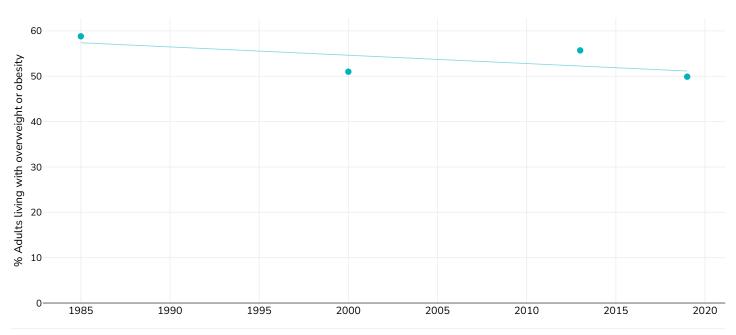
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% Adults living with overweight or obesity in Serbia 1985-2013

Women

Overweight or obesity



Survey type: Measured

References:

1985: WHO Infobase accessed 3rd May 2006. Data from 1985 CINDI study

2000: Health status and health needs in Serbia. Expert team of the Institute of Public Health of Serbia. 2002. Dr Ljiljana T. WHO

2013: Maksimović MŽ, Gudelj Rakić JM, Vlajinac HD, Vasiljević ND, Nikić MI, Marinković JM. Comparison of different anthropometric measures in the adult population in Serbia as indicators of obesity: data from the National Health Survey 2013. Public Health Nutr. 2016 Feb 11:1-10.

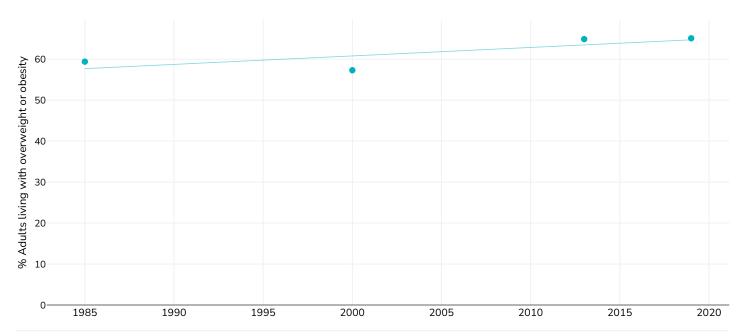
2019: Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Institute of Public Health of Serbia (2021). THE 2019 SERBIAN NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY. Available at https://publikacije.stat.gov.rs/G2021/pdfE/G20216003.pdf (last accessed 08.06.21)

 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, \ obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$



Men

Overweight or obesity



Survey type: Measured

References:

1985: WHO Infobase accessed 3rd May 2006. Data from 1985 CINDI study

2000: Health status and health needs in Serbia. Expert team of the Institute of Public Health of Serbia. 2002. Dr Ljiljana T. WHO Infobase.

2013: Maksimović MŽ, Gudelj Rakić JM, Vlajinac HD, Vasiljević ND, Nikić MI, Marinković JM. Comparison of different anthropometric measures in the adult population in Serbia as indicators of obesity: data from the National Health Survey 2013. Public Health Nutr. 2016 Feb 11:1-10.

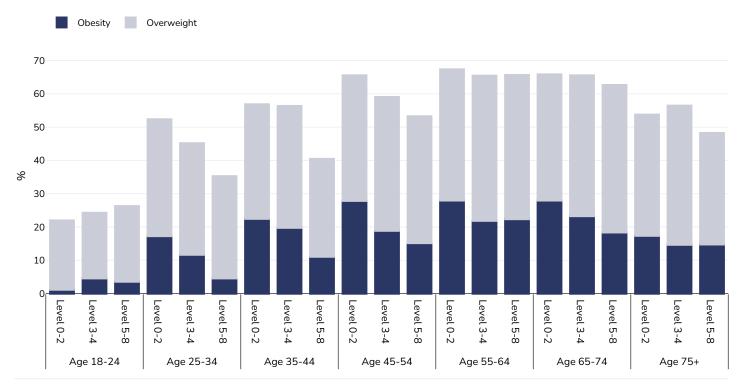
2019: Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Institute of Public Health of Serbia (2021). THE 2019 SERBIAN NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY. Available at https://publikacije.stat.gov.rs/G2021/pdfE/G20216003.pdf (last accessed 08.06.21)

 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, \ obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$



Overweight/obesity by age and education

Adults, 2019



Survey type:

Area covered:

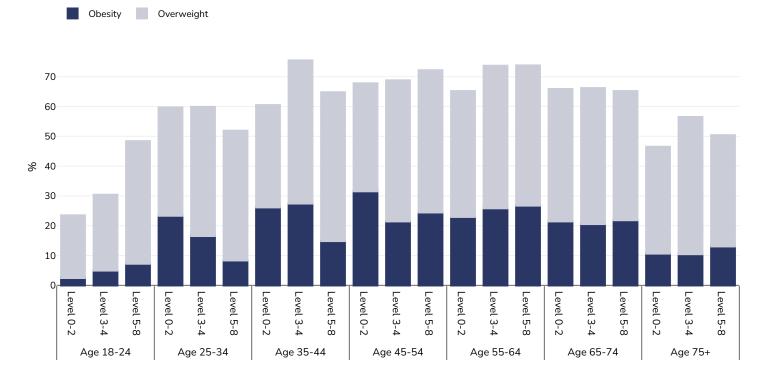
References:

Eurostat 2019. Available at https://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_ehis_bm1e&lang=en (last accessed 09.08.21).

 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$



Men, 2019



Survey type: Self-reported

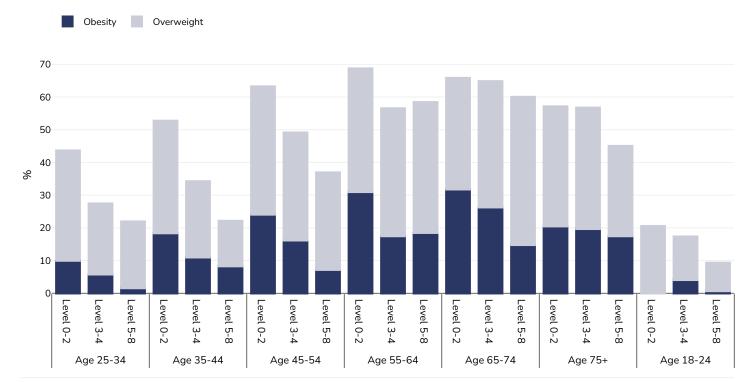
Area covered: National

References:

Eurostat 2019. Available at https://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_ehis_bm1e&lang=en (last accessed 09.08.21).

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





Survey type: Self-reported

Area covered: National

References:

Eurostat 2019. Available at https://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_ehis_bm1e&lang=en (last accessed 09.08.21).

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

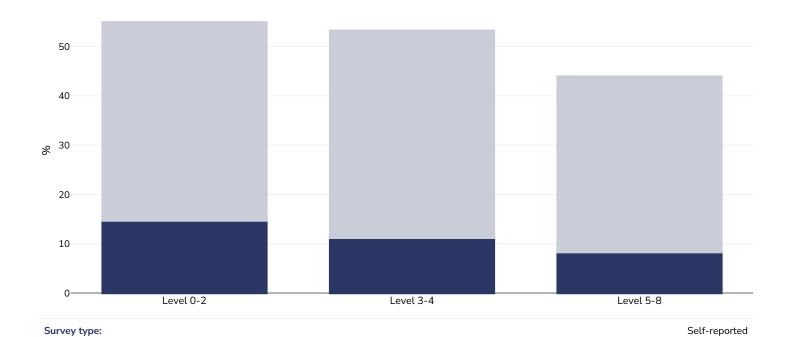


Overweight/obesity by education

Adults, 2022

Notes:





Age: 16+
Area covered: National
References: Eurostat 2022 Data. Available at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_hch10/default/table?lang=en (last accessed 19.03.25)

EUROSTAT 2022 data derived from EU statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC) survey which includes adults aged 16+ years. This differs from most EUROSTAT data which is derived from the Health Interview Surveys, which includes adults aged 15+ years (though sometimes only data from adults aged 18+ reported)

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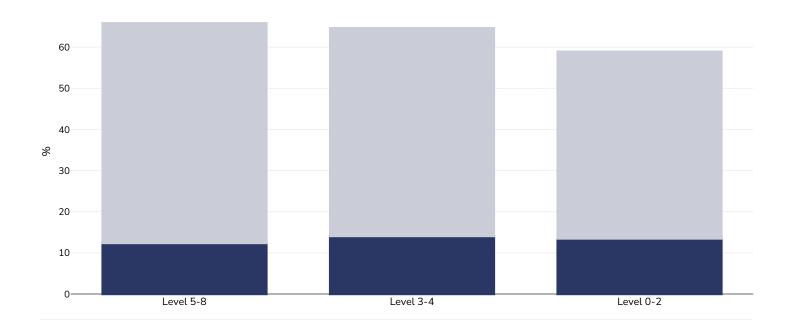
Self-reported



Men, 2022

Survey type:





Age:

Area covered:

References:

Eurostat 2022 Data. Available at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_hch10/default/table?lang=en (last accessed 19.03.25)

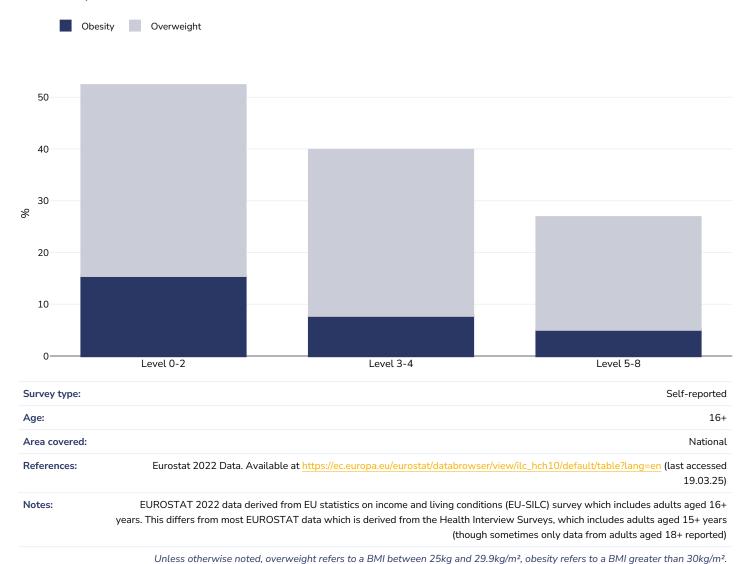
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EUROSTAT 2022 data derived from EU statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC) survey which includes adults aged 16+

EUROSTAT 2022 data derived from EU statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC) survey which includes adults aged 16+ years. This differs from most EUROSTAT data which is derived from the Health Interview Surveys, which includes adults aged 15+ years (though sometimes only data from adults aged 18+ reported)

 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$



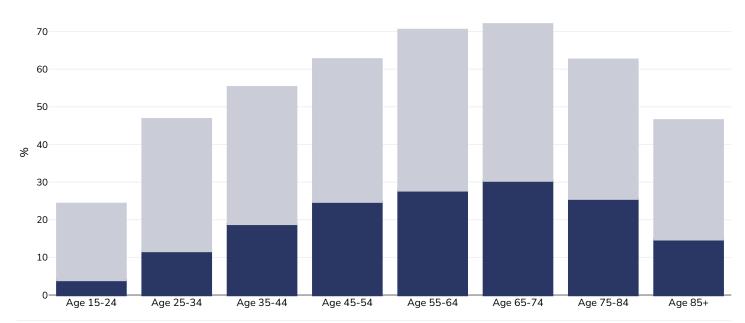




Overweight/obesity by age

Adults, 2019





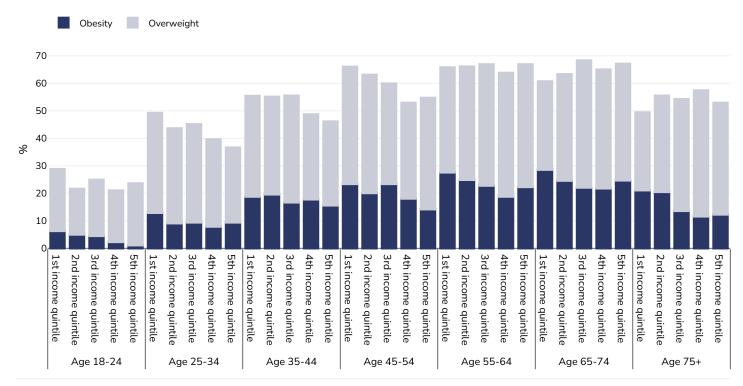
Survey type:	Measured
Sample size:	11474
Area covered:	National
References:	Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Institute of Public Health of Serbia (2021). THE 2019 SERBIAN NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY. Available at https://publikacije.stat.gov.rs/G2021/pdfE/G20216003.pdf (last accessed 08.06.21)
Notes:	Anthropometric measurements taken

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Overweight/obesity by age and socio-economic group

Adults, 2019



Survey type:

Area covered:

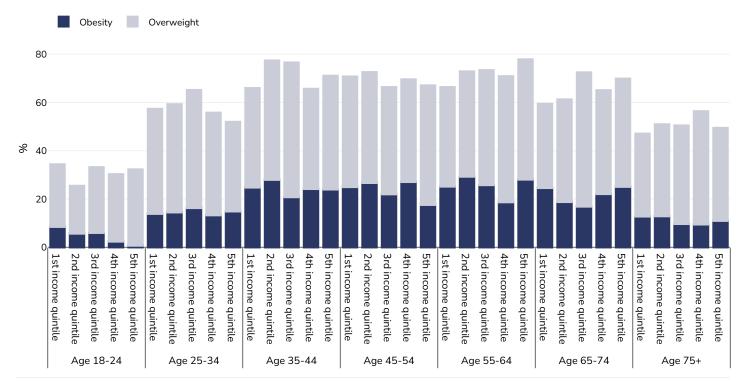
References:

Eurostat 2019. Available at https://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_ehis_bm1i&lang=en (last accessed 09.08.21).

 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$



Men, 2019



Survey type: Self-reported

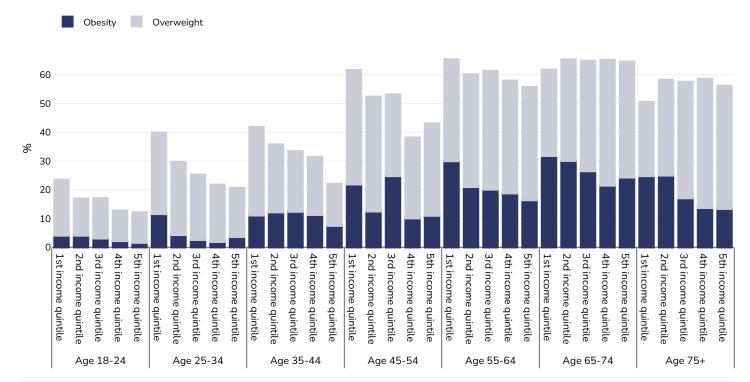
Area covered: National

References:

Eurostat 2019. Available at https://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_ehis_bm1i&lang=en (last accessed 09.08.21).

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





Survey type: Self-reported

Area covered: National

References:

Eurostat 2019. Available at https://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_ehis_bm1i&lang=en (last accessed 09.08.21).

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

Prevalence of overweight and obesity by income.

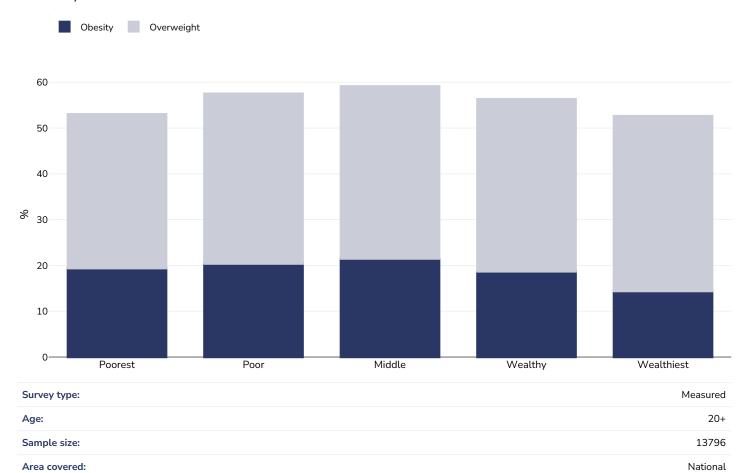


Overweight/obesity by socio-economic group

Adults, 2006

References:

Notes:

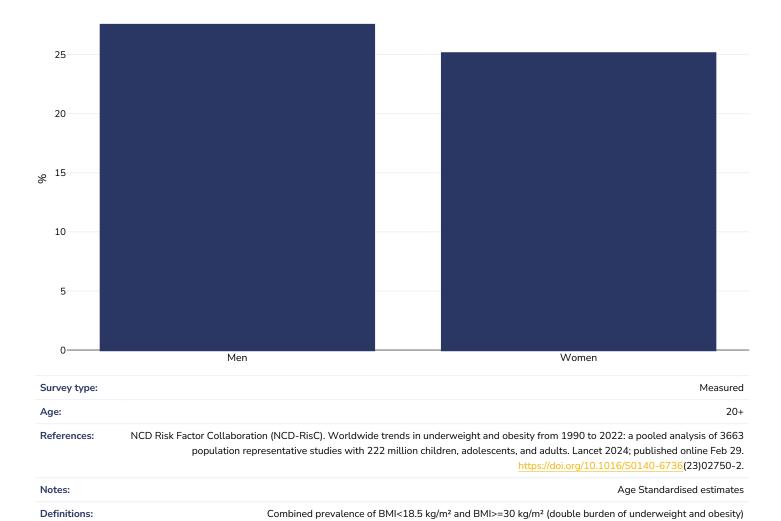


Unless otherwise noted, overweight refers to a BMI between 25kg and 29.9kg/m², obesity refers to a BMI greater than 30kg/m².

Grujic, V. et al. (2010) 'Overweight and obesity among adults in Serbia: Results from the National Health Survey', Eat Weight Disord,

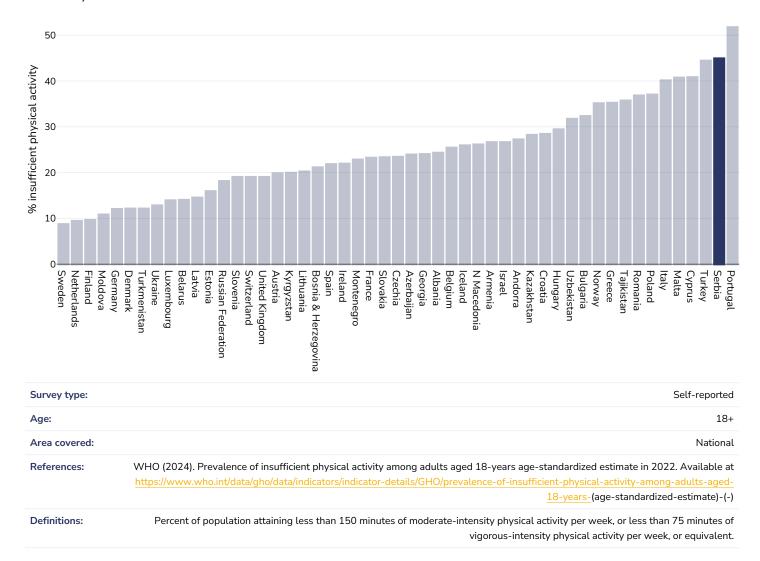


Double burden of underweight & overweight



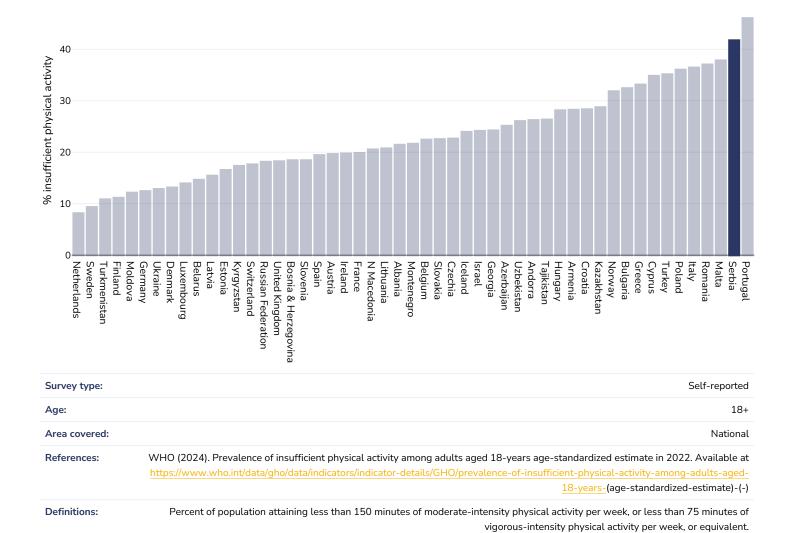


Insufficient physical activity



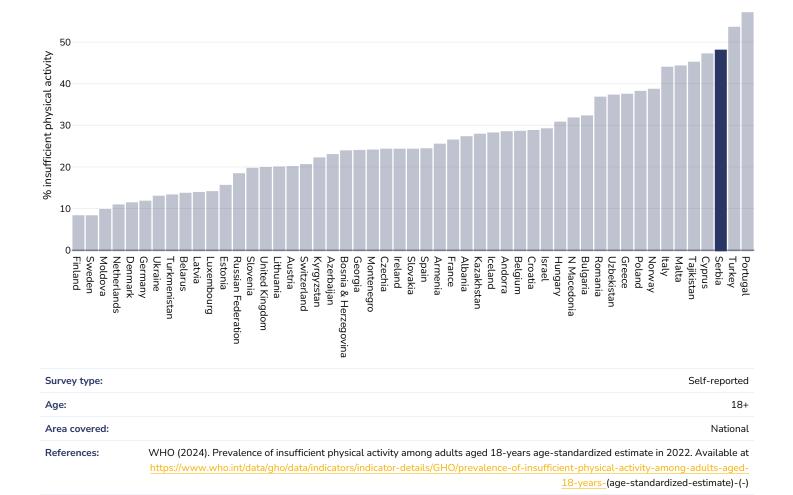


Men, 2022





Definitions:

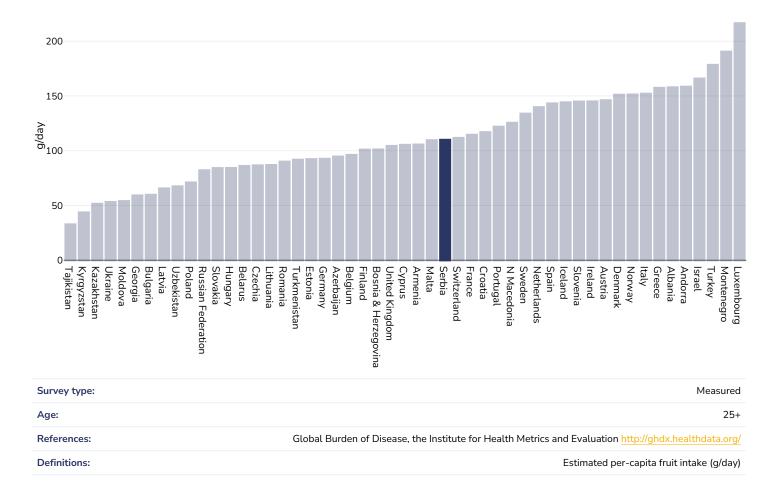


Percent of population attaining less than 150 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity per week, or less than 75 minutes of

vigorous-intensity physical activity per week, or equivalent.

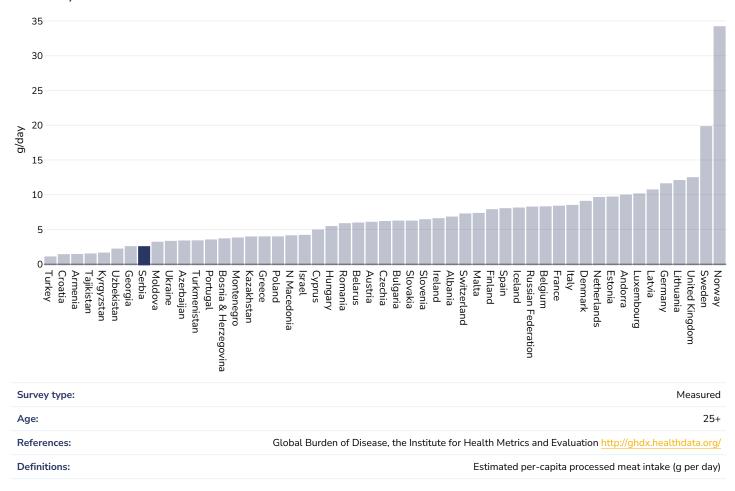


Estimated per capita fruit intake



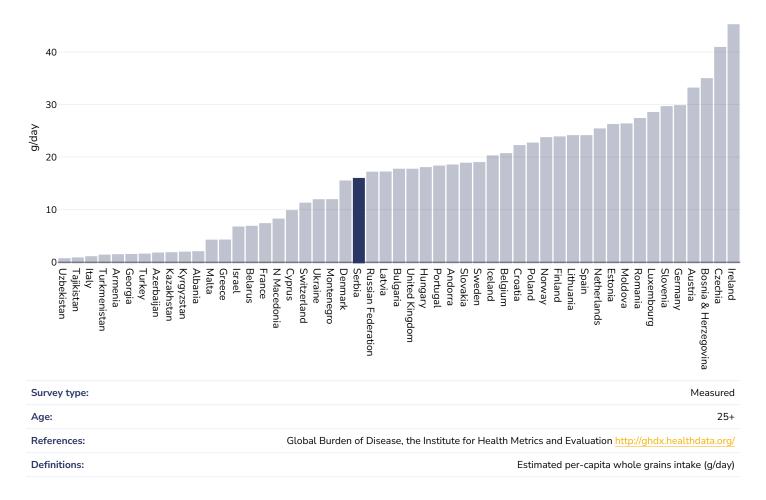


Estimated per-capita processed meat intake



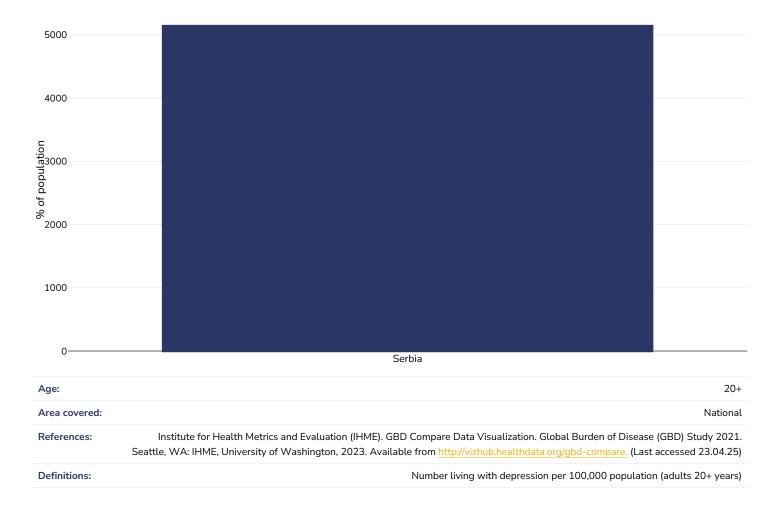


Estimated per capita whole grains intake



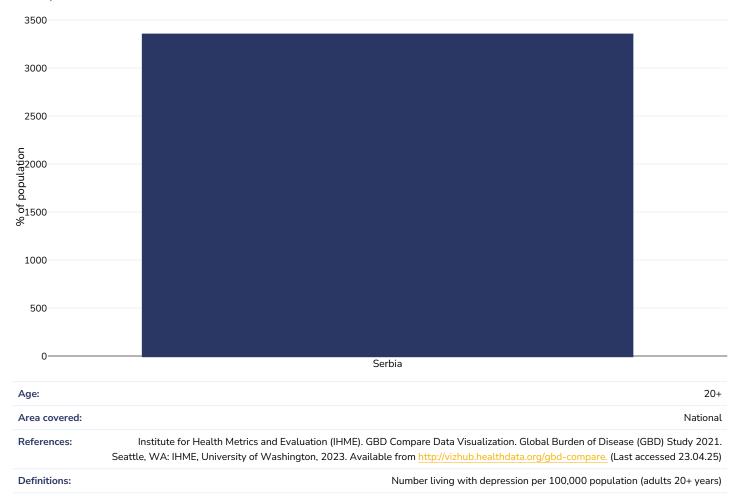


Mental health - depression disorders





Men, 2021

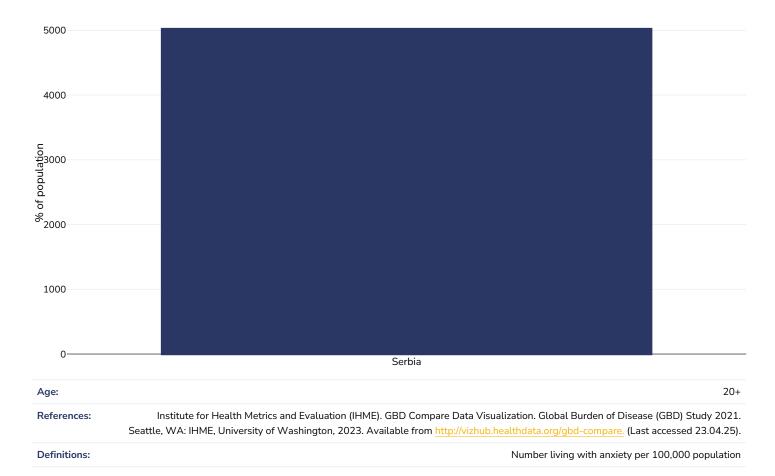






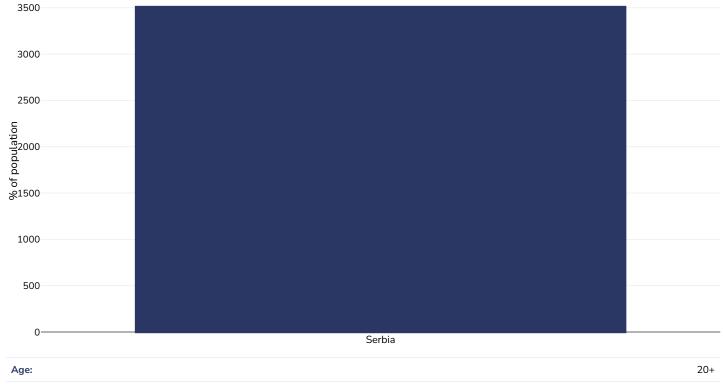


Mental health - anxiety disorders





Men, 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).

Definitions:

Number living with anxiety per 100,000 population





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).

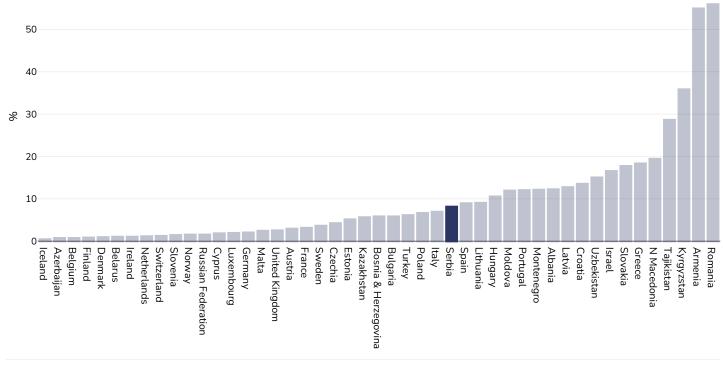
Definitions:

Number living with anxiety per 100,000 population



Percent of population who cannot afford a healthy diet

Adults, 2022



Area covered: National

References:

The Food Systems Dashboard. The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), The Columbia Climate School, and Cornell University

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. 2024. Geneva, Switzerland. https://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org. DOI:

https://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org. DOI:

https://doi.org/10.36072/db.

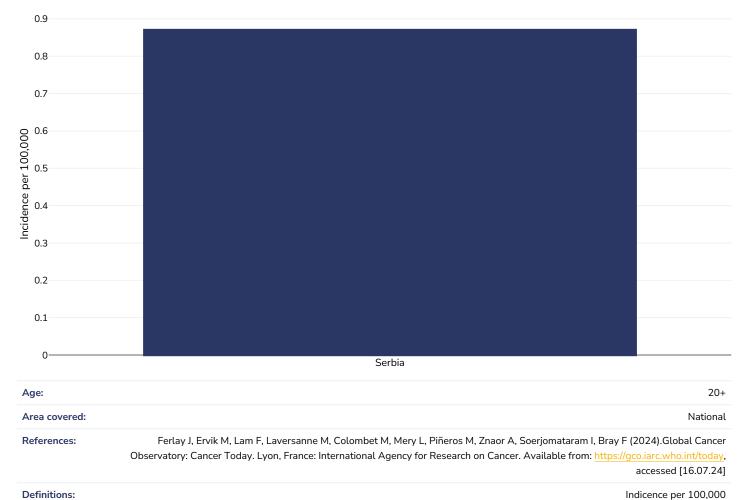


Oesophageal cancer

Men, 2022



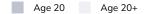


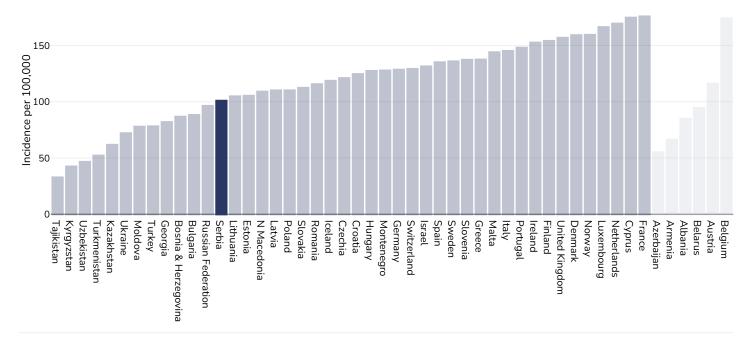




Breast cancer

Women, 2022





Area covered: National

References:

Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today, accessed [16.07.24]

Definitions: Incidence per 100,000

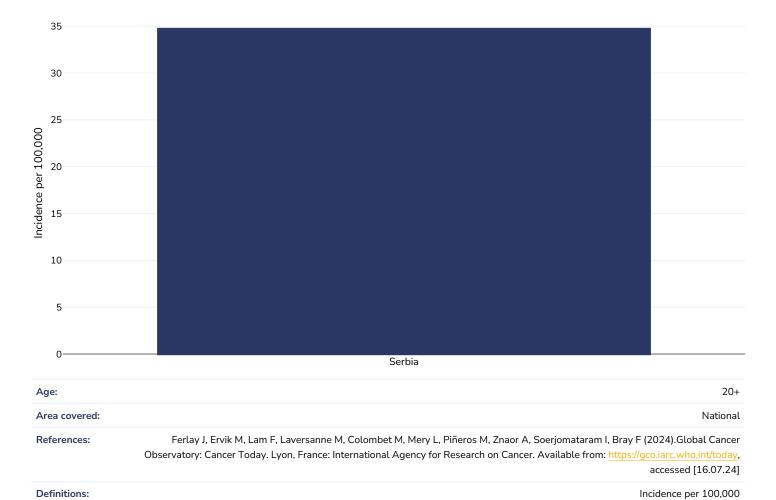


Colorectal cancer

Men, 2022



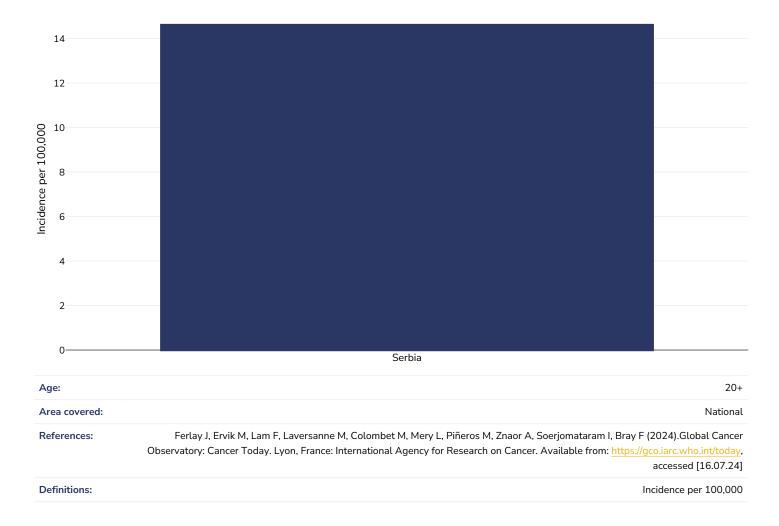




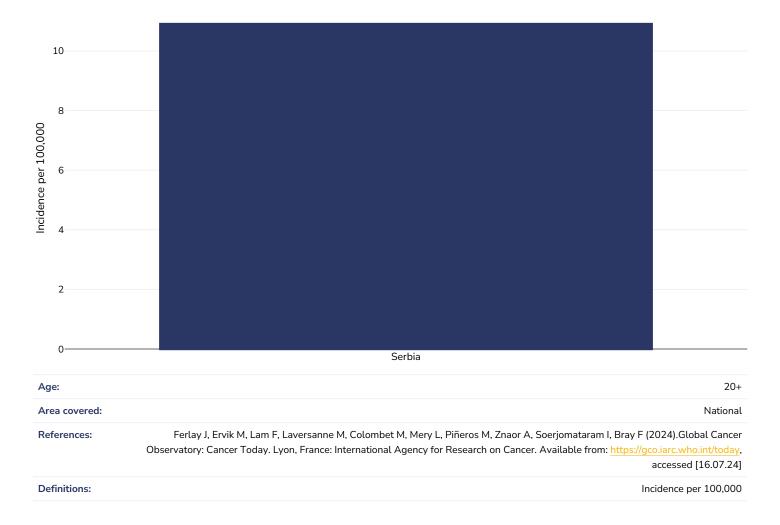


Pancreatic cancer

Men, 2022



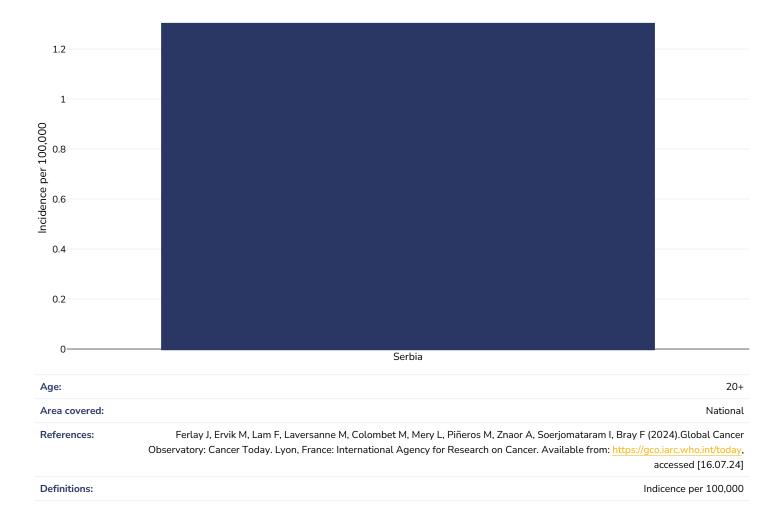






Gallbladder cancer

Men, 2022



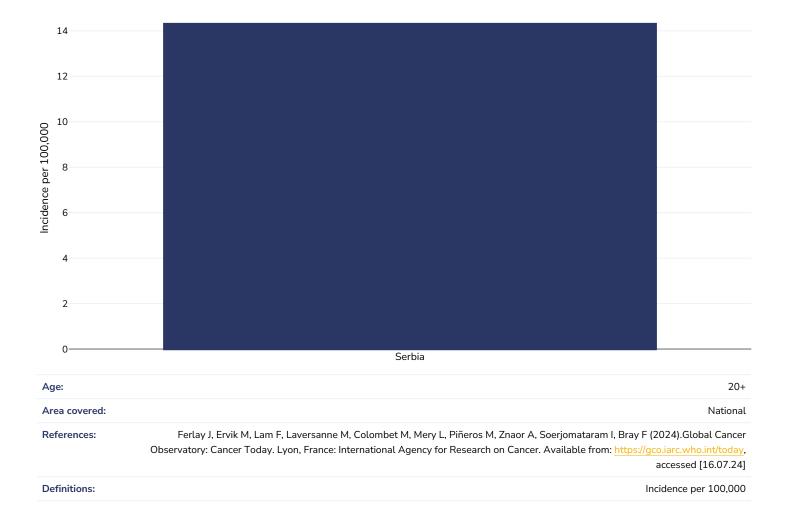




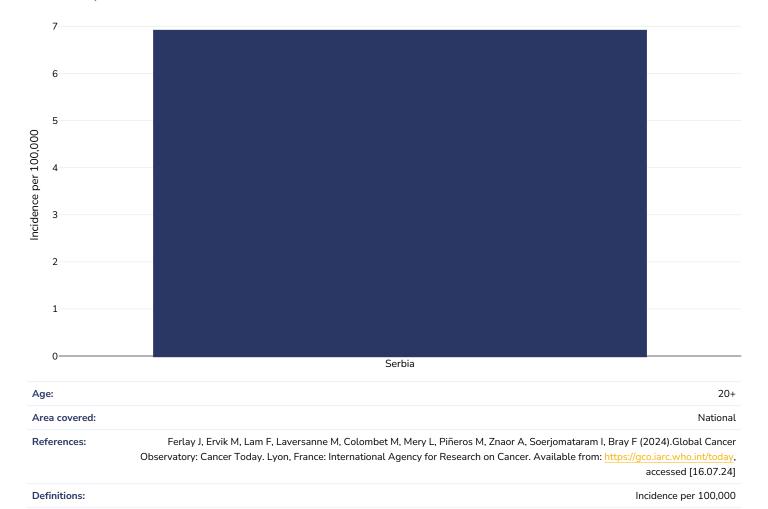


Kidney cancer

Men, 2022



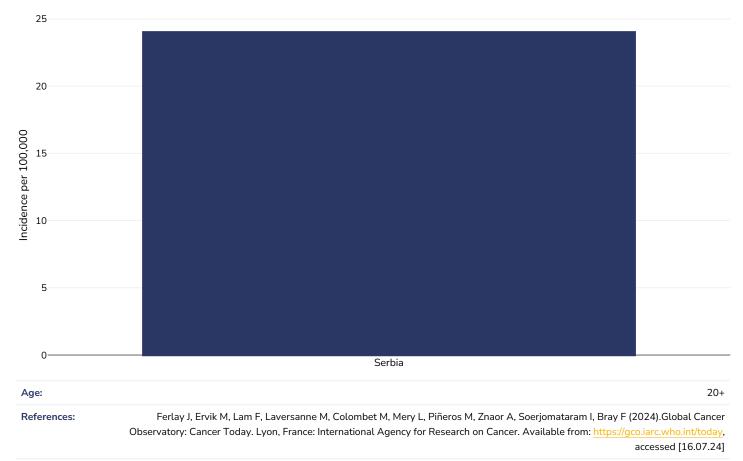






Cancer of the uterus

Women, 2022

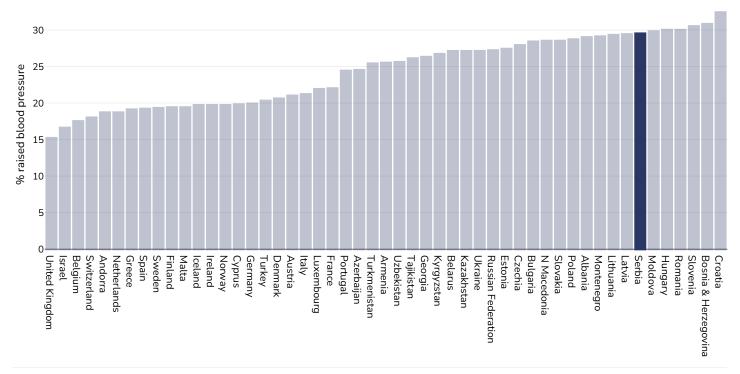


Definitions: Incidence per 100,000



Raised blood pressure

Adults, 2015



References:

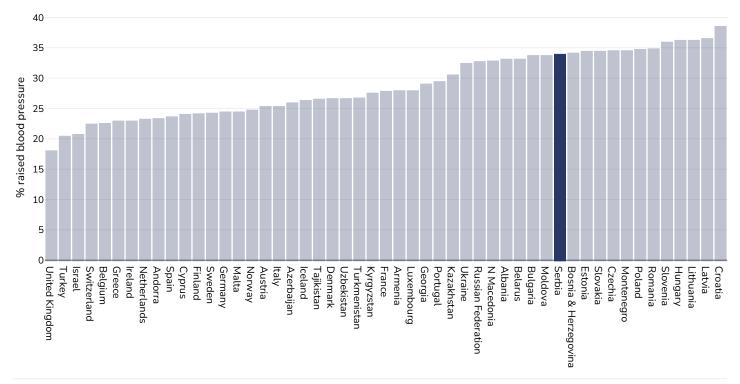
Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A875?lang=en

Definitions:

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



Men, 2015



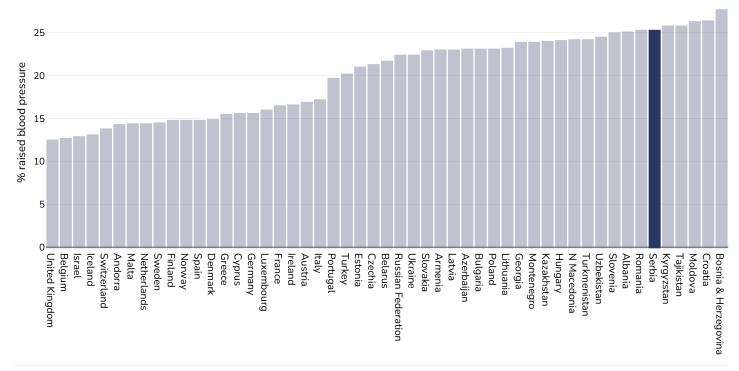
References:

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>=140 OR DBP>=90).





References:

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

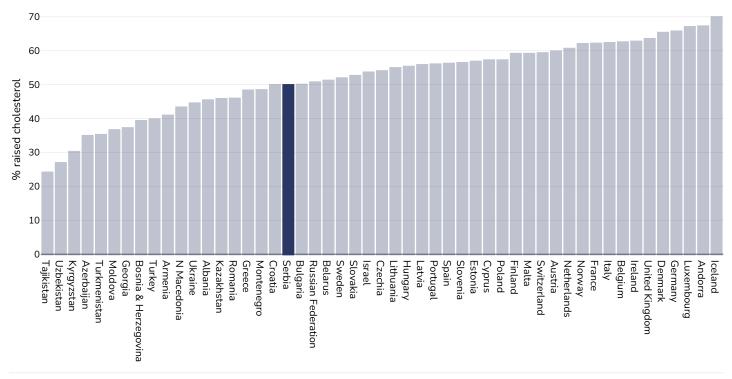
Definitions:

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



Raised cholesterol

Adults, 2008



References:

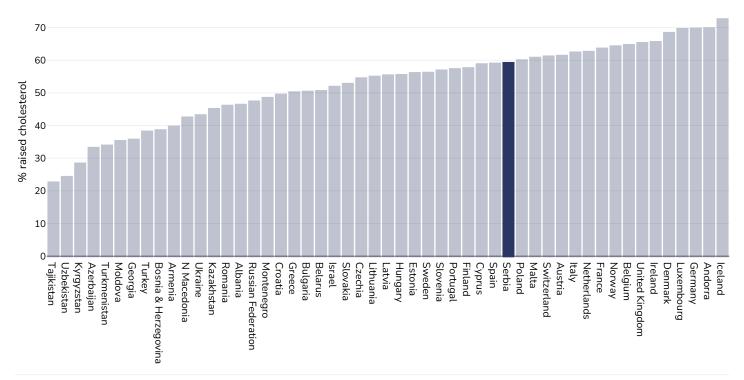
Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A885

Definitions:

% Raised total cholesterol (>= 5.0 mmol/L) (age-standardized estimate).



Men, 2008



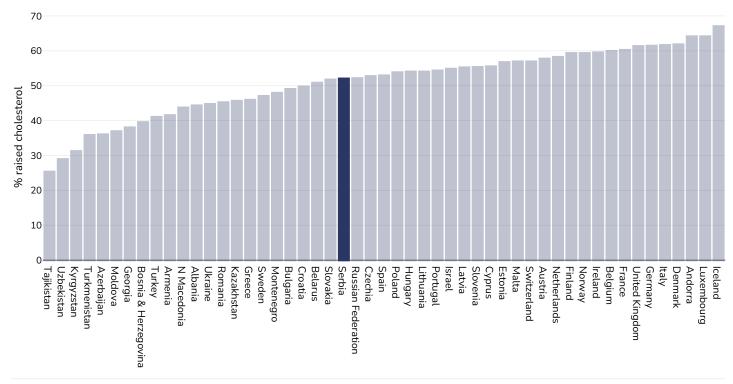
References:

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).





References:

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

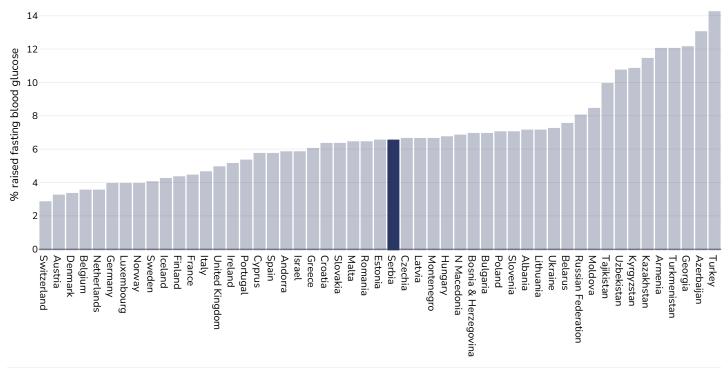
Definitions:

% Raised total cholesterol (>= 5.0 mmol/L) (age-standardized estimate).



Raised fasting blood glucose

Men, 2014



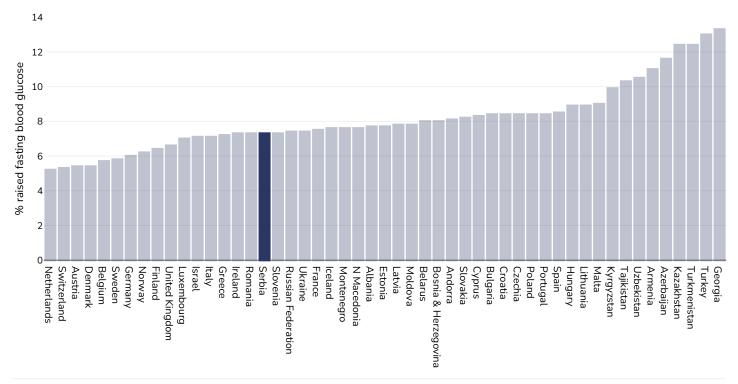
References:

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 mmoVL or on medication).





References:

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

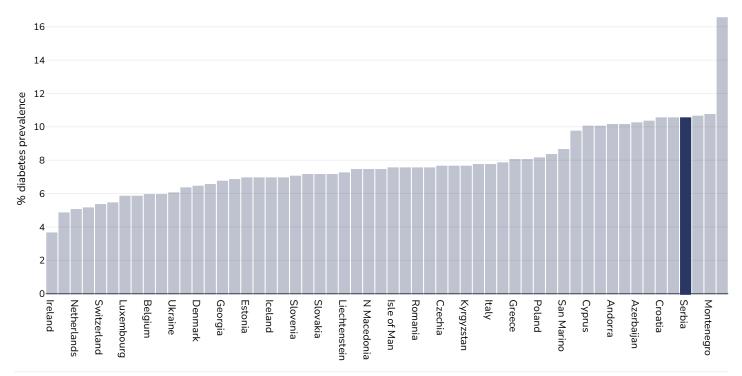
Definitions:

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



Diabetes prevalence

Adults, 2024



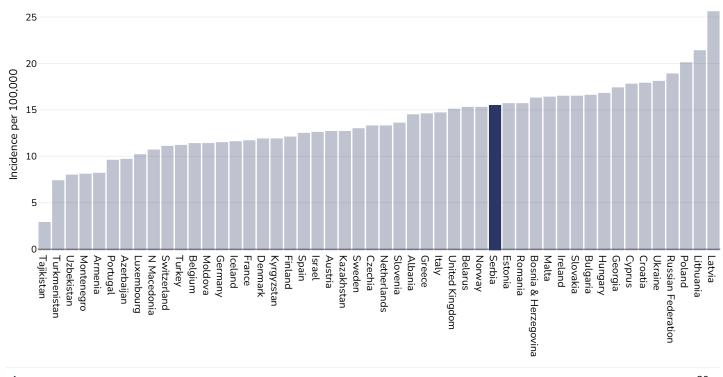
References:

Reproduced with kind permission International Diabetes Federation. IDF Diabetes Atlas, 11th edn. Brussels, Belgium:International Diabetes Federation, 2025. http://www.diabetesatlas.org



Ovarian Cancer

Women, 2022



Age: 20+

References:

Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today, accessed [16.07.24]

Definitions: Incidence per 100,000



Leukemia

Men, 2022											
4											
3											
2											
1											
0											
⁻¹ 1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6				
Age:							20+				
Area covered:							National				
References:	Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024).Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today , accessed [16.07.24]										
Definitions:						Incidence pe	r 100,000				
	Unless ot	herwise noted, overw	reight refers to a BMI	between 25kg and 29	0.9kg/m², obesity refers	to a BMI greater thar	30kg/m².				

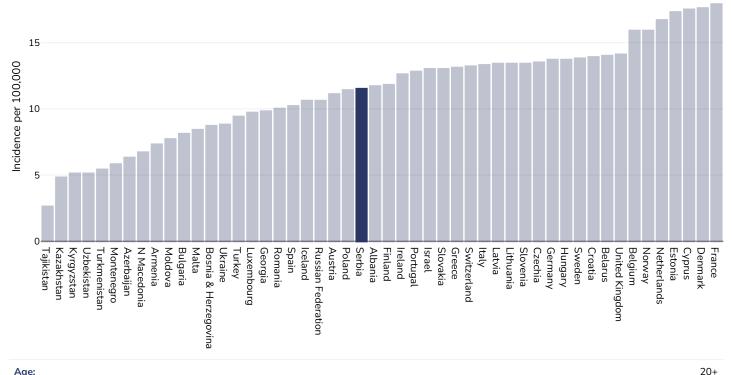


Women, 20	022										
4											
3											
2											
1											
0———											
⁻¹ 1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6				
Age:							20+				
Area covered:							National				
References:	Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024).Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today , accessed [16.07.24]										
Definitions:						Incidence pe	er 100,000				
	Unless oth	erwise noted, overw	reight refers to a BMI l	petween 25kg and 29	.9kg/m², obesity refers	s to a BMI greater than	n 30kg/m².				



Leukemia

Men, 2022



Age:

Area covered: National

References:

Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today, accessed [16.07.24]

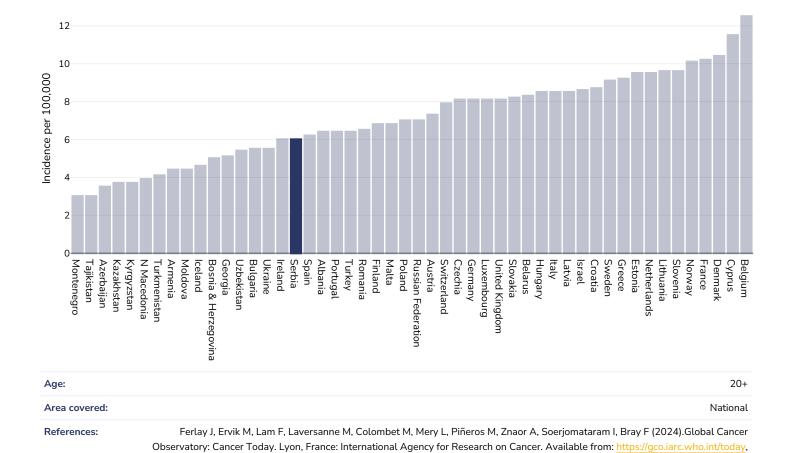
Definitions: Incidence per 100,000

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

accessed [16.07.24]



Women, 2022



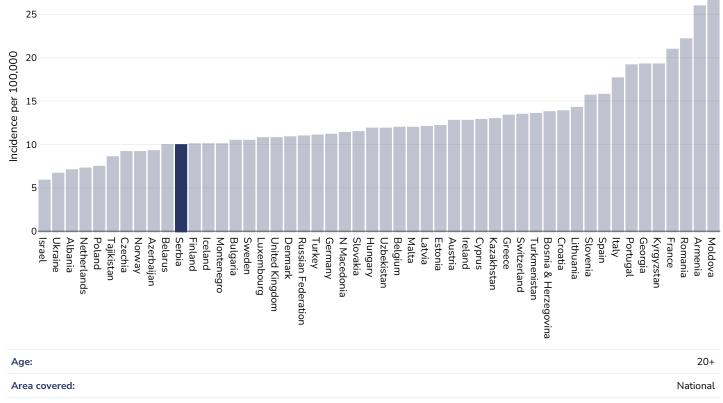
Definitions: Incidence per 100,000

 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, \ obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$



Liver and intrahepatic bile duct Cancer

Men, 2022

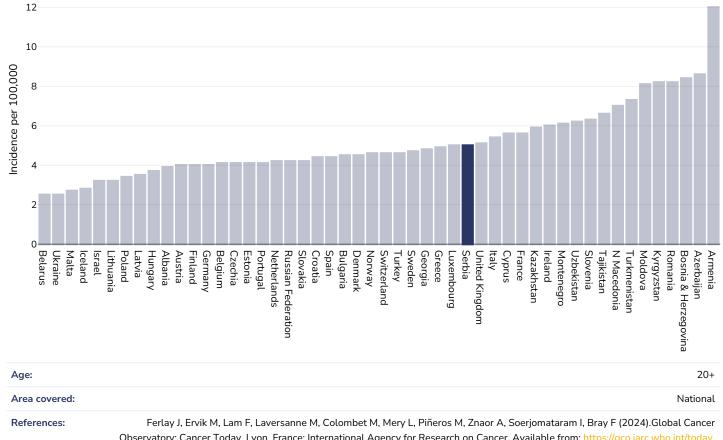


References:

Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today, accessed [16.07.24]

Definitions: Incidence per 100,000





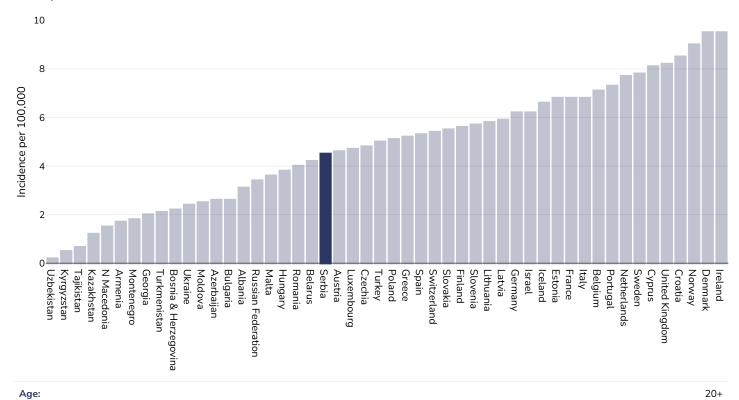
Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today, accessed [16.07.24]

Definitions: Incidence per 100,000



Multiple Myeloma

Men, 2022



Area covered:

Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today, accessed [16.07.24]

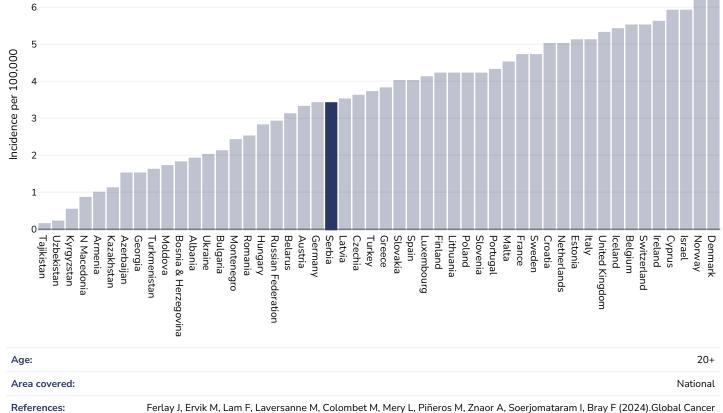
Unless otherwise noted, overweight refers to a BMI between 25kg and 29.9kg/m², obesity refers to a BMI greater than 30kg/m².

National

Definitions:

Indicence per 100,000





Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today, accessed [16.07.24]

Definitions: Indicence per 100,000

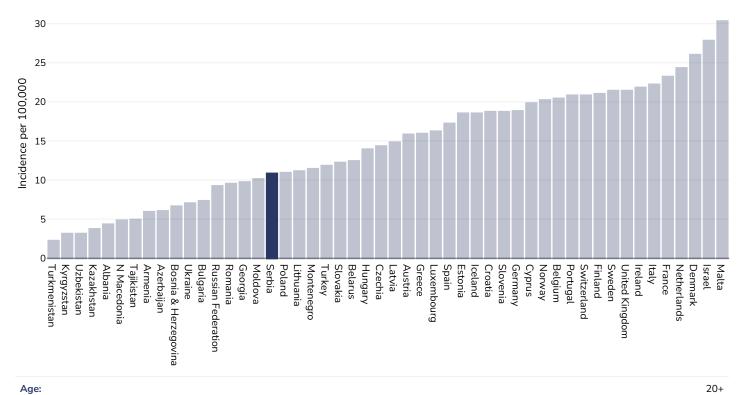
 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, \ obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$

National



Non Hodgkin Lymphoma

Men, 2022



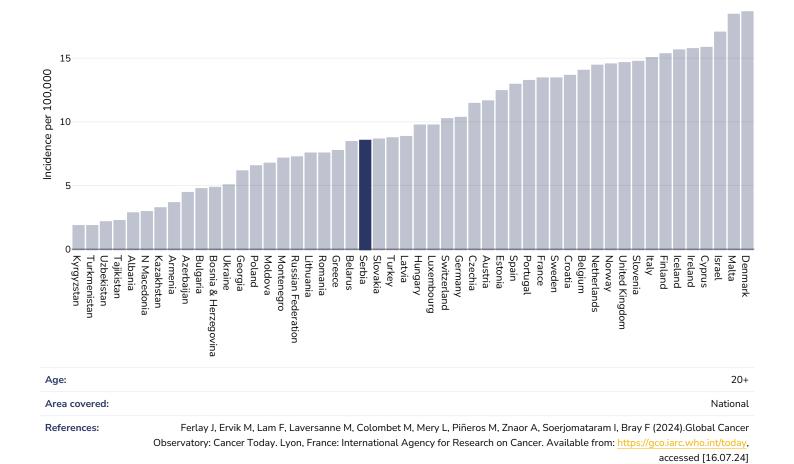
Area covered: References:

Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today, accessed [16.07.24]

Definitions: Incidence per 100,000

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





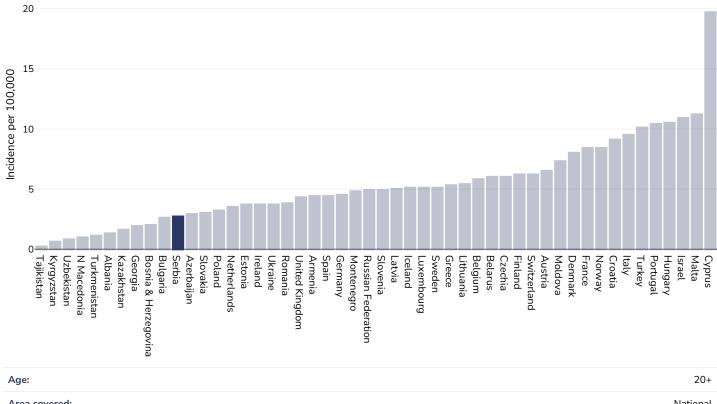
Definitions: Incidence per 100,000

 $Unless \ otherwise \ noted, \ overweight \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ between \ 25kg \ and \ 29.9kg/m^2, \ obesity \ refers \ to \ a \ BMI \ greater \ than \ 30kg/m^2.$



Thyroid Cancer

Men, 2022



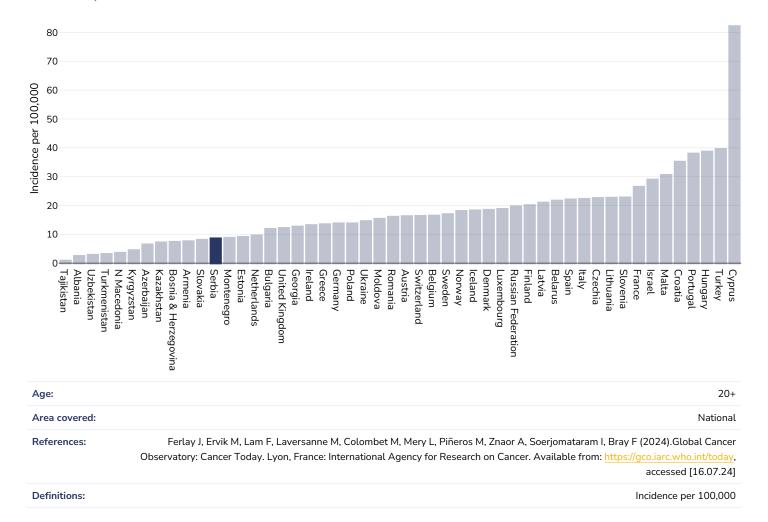
Area covered: National

References:

Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Laversanne M, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2024). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.who.int/today, accessed [16.07.24]

Definitions: Incidence per 100,000





PDF created on June 25, 2025