Report card
United Kingdom

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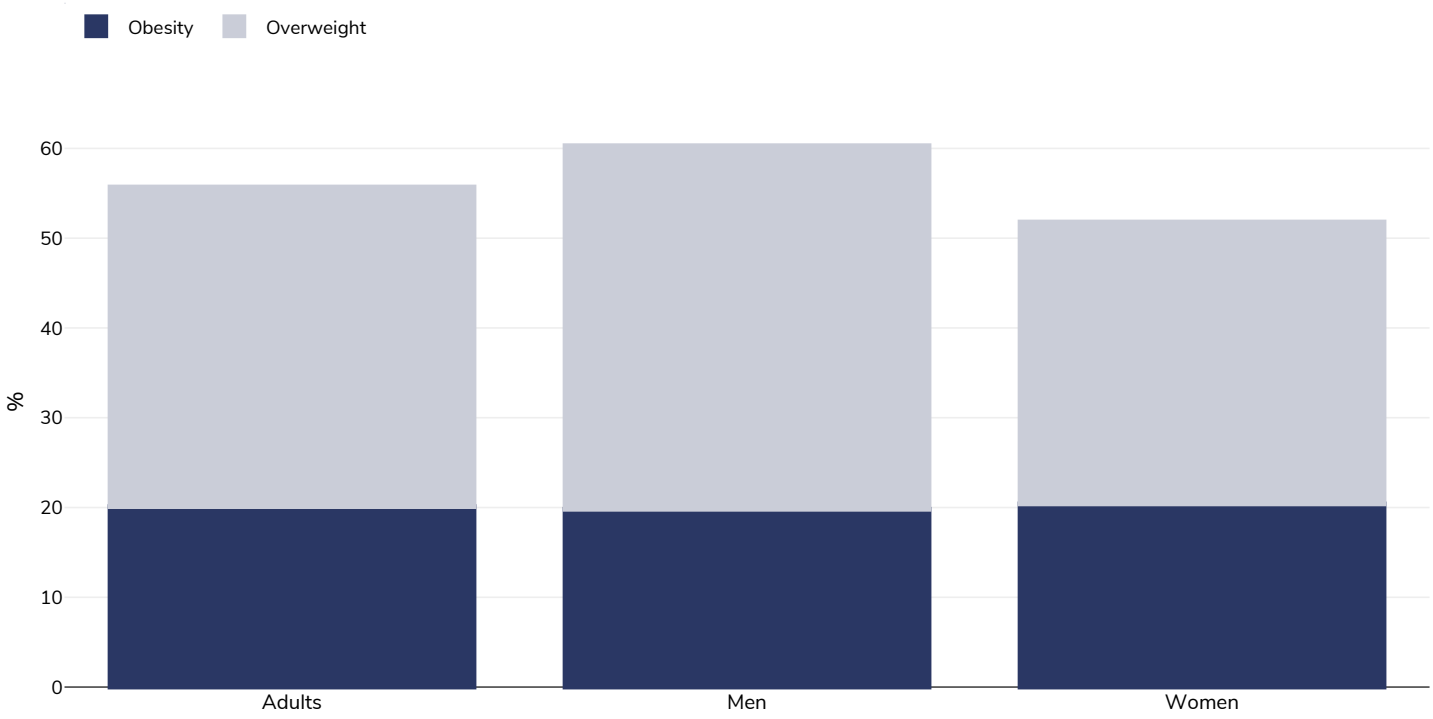
Obesity prevalence

Adults, 2014

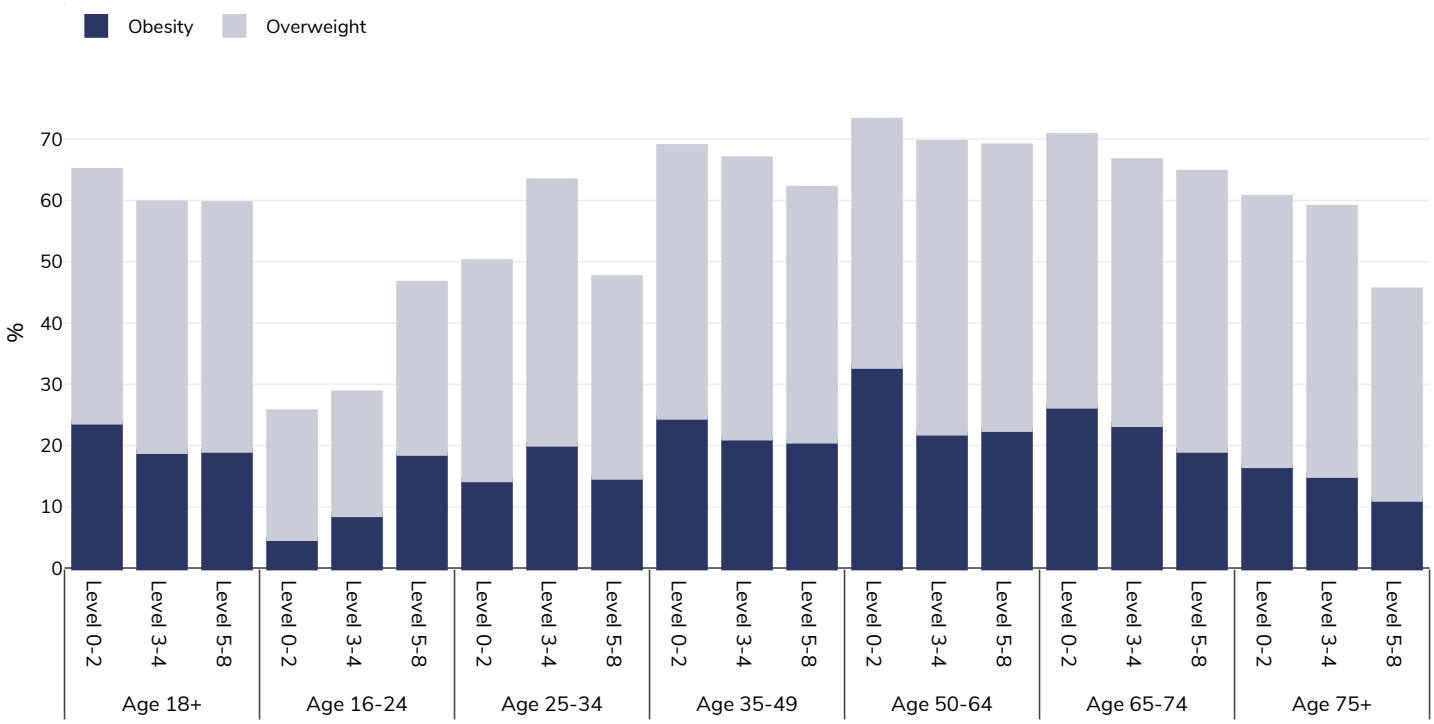


Survey type:	Self-reported
Age:	18+
Area covered:	National
References:	Eurostat Database:http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_ehis_bm1e&lang=en (last accessed 25.08.20)

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 age and education

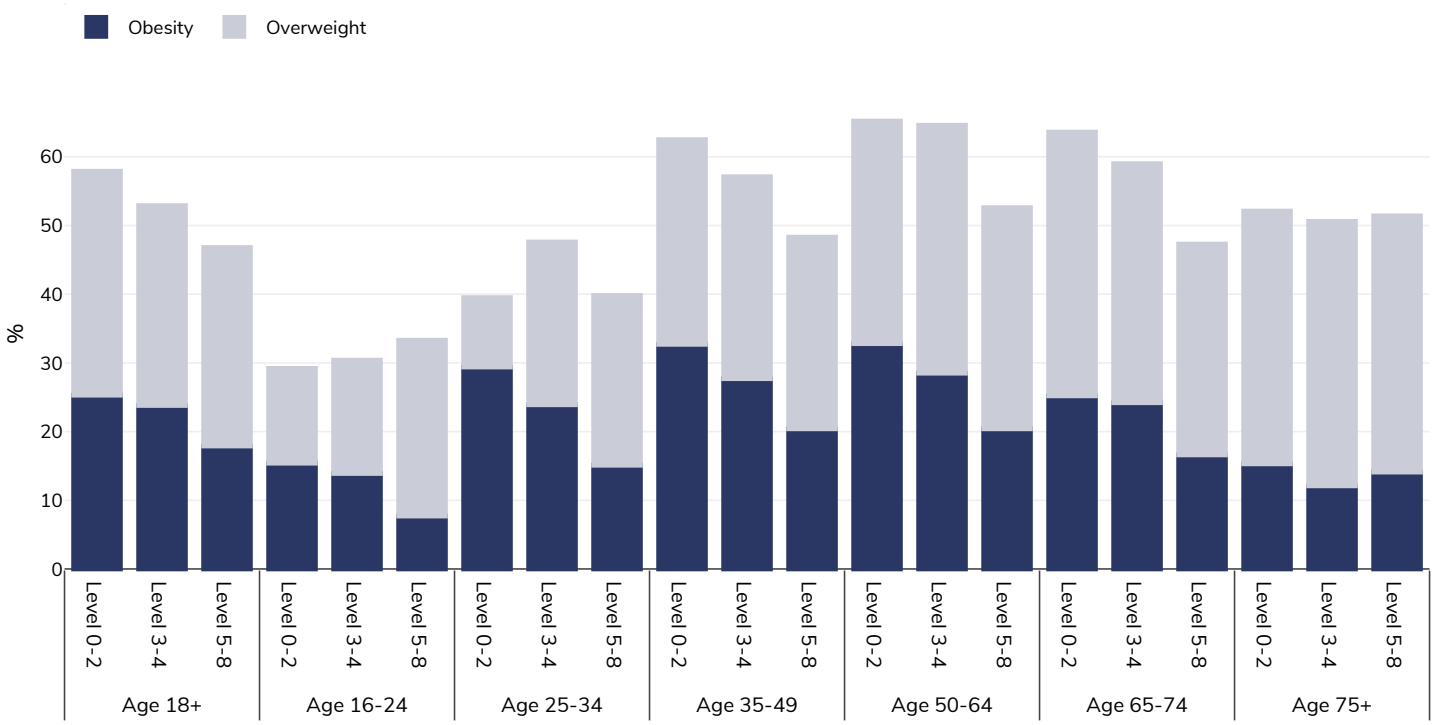
Men, 2017



Survey type:	Self-reported
Area covered:	National
References:	EUROSTAT Database http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=ilc_hch10&lang=en (last accessed 25.08.20)
Notes:	Some UK data considered to have low reliability, see EUROSTAT database for details

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

Women, 2017



Survey type:	Self-reported
Area covered:	National
References:	EUROSTAT Database http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=ilc_hch10&lang=en (last accessed 25.08.20)
Notes:	Some UK data considered to have low reliability, see EUROSTAT database for details

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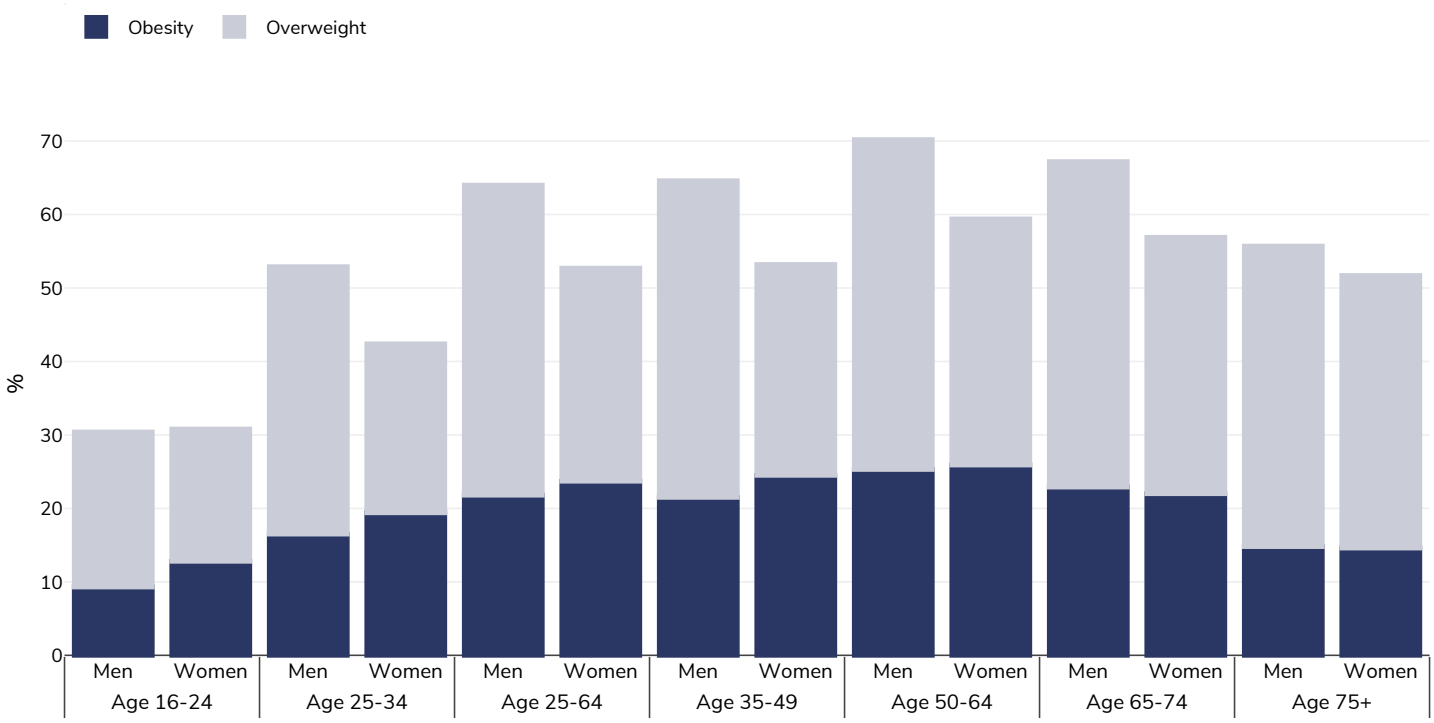
Overweight/obesity by age

Adults, 2017



Survey type:	Self-reported
Area covered:	National
References:	2017 - EUROSTAT Database http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=ilc_hch10&lang=en (last accessed 25.08.20)

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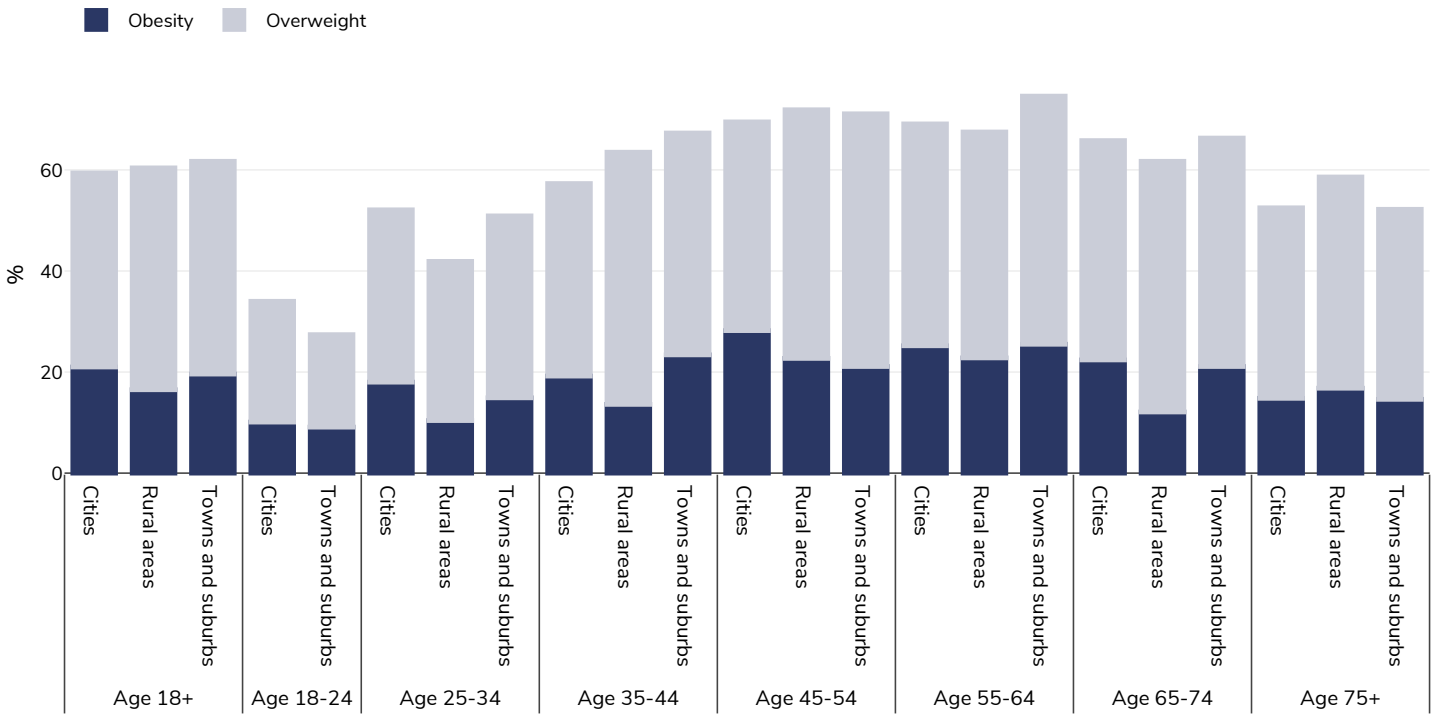
Overweight/obesity by age and region

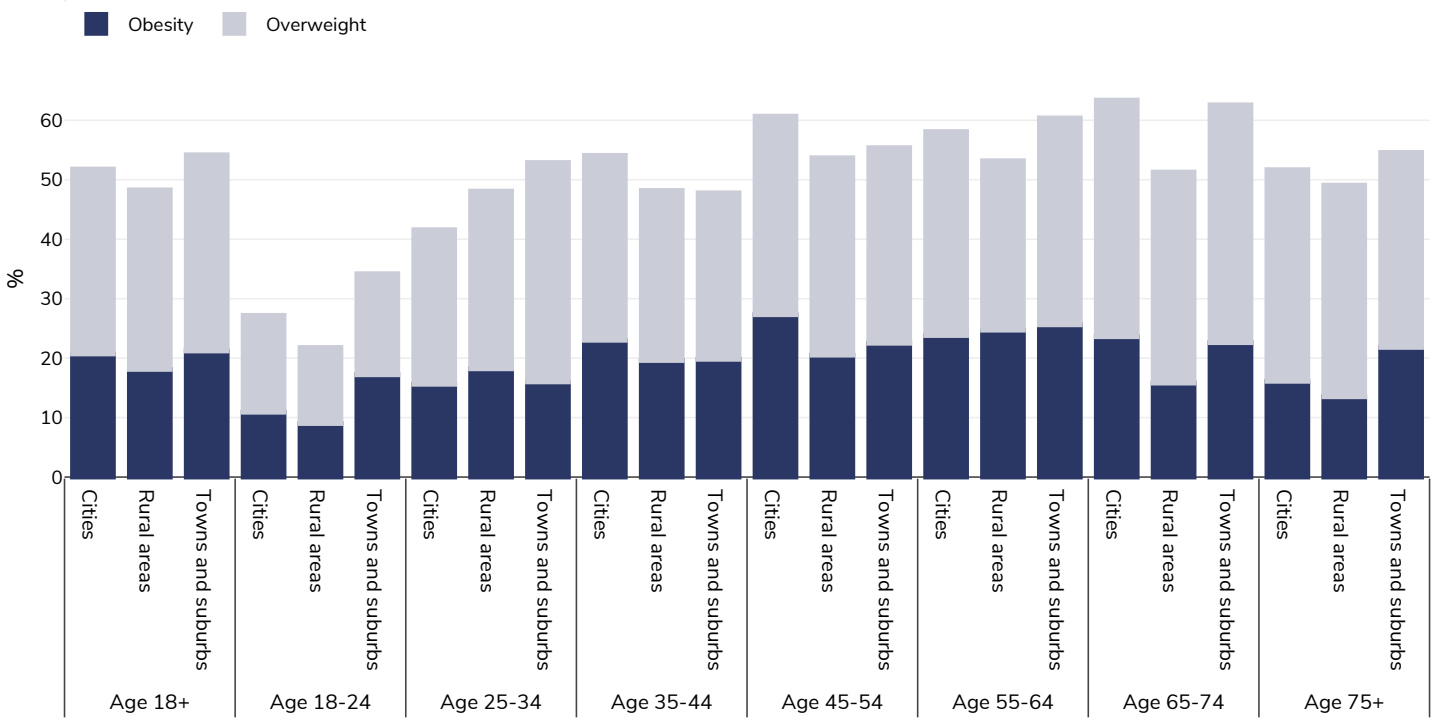
Men, 2014



Survey type:	Self-reported
Area covered:	National
References:	2014 Eurostat - Urbanisation - http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_ehis_bm1u&lang=en (last accessed 25.08.20)

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

Women, 2014

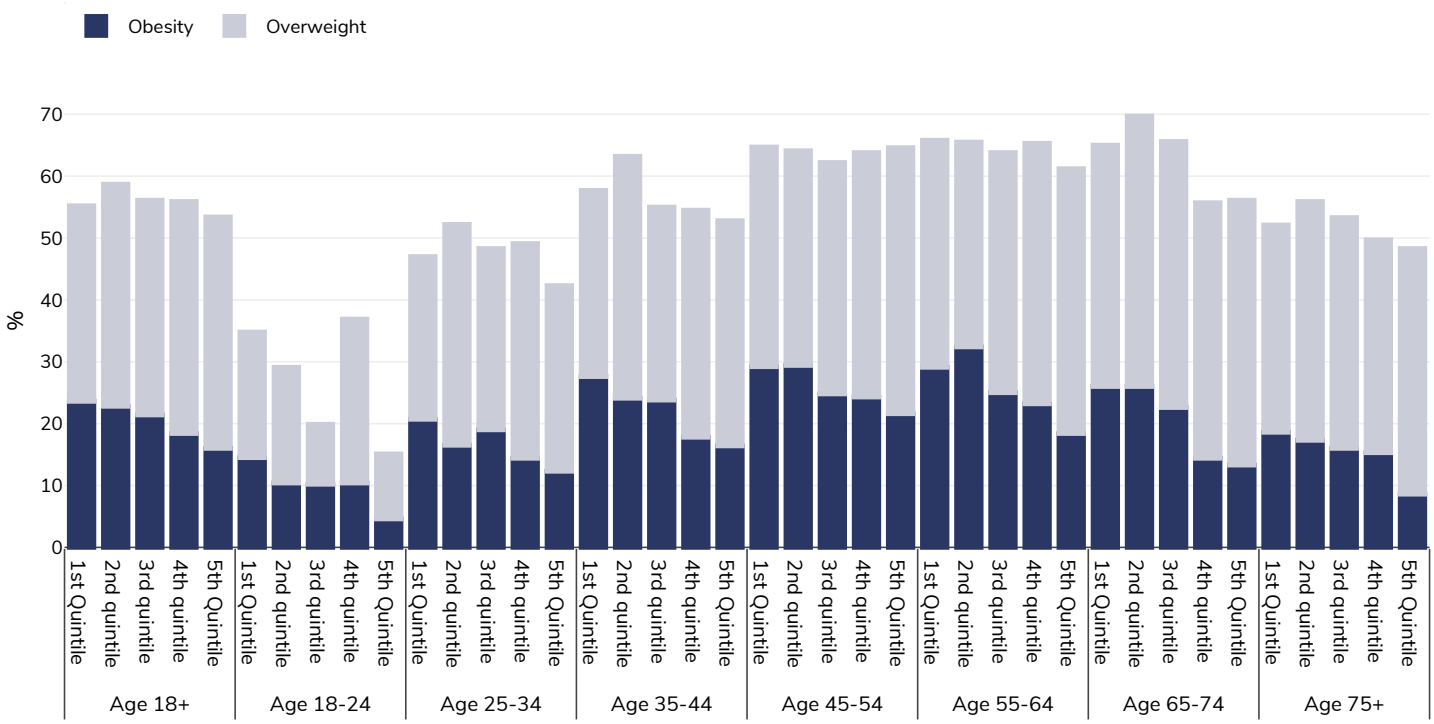


Survey type:	Self-reported
Area covered:	National
References:	2014 Eurostat - Urbanisation - http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_ehis_bm1u&lang=en (last accessed 25.08.20)

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 age and socio-economic group

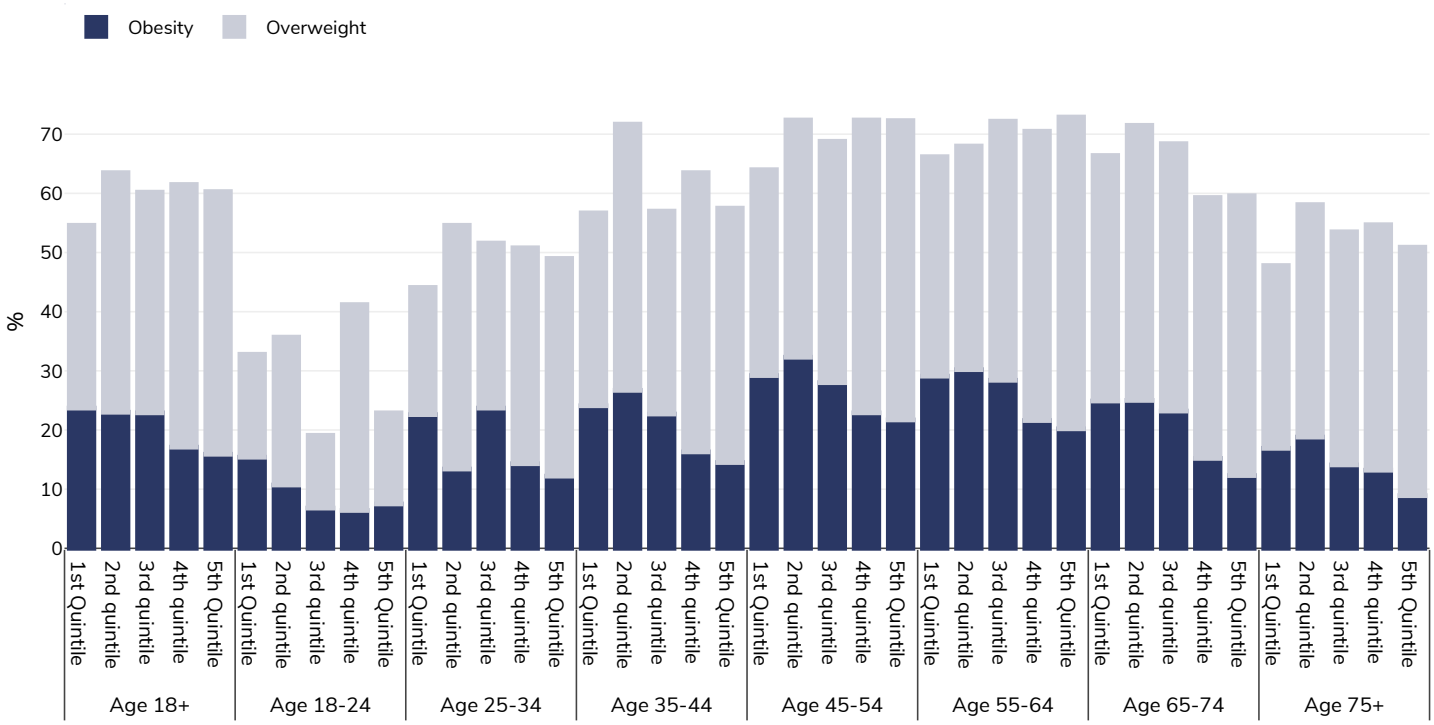
Adults, 2014



Survey type:	Self-reported
Area covered:	National
References:	2014 Eurostat - Socio economic - http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_ehis_bm1i&lang=en (last accessed 25.08.20)

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

Men, 2014



Survey type:	Self-reported
Area covered:	National
References:	2014 Eurostat - Socio economic - http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_ehis_bm1i&lang=en (last accessed 25.08.20)

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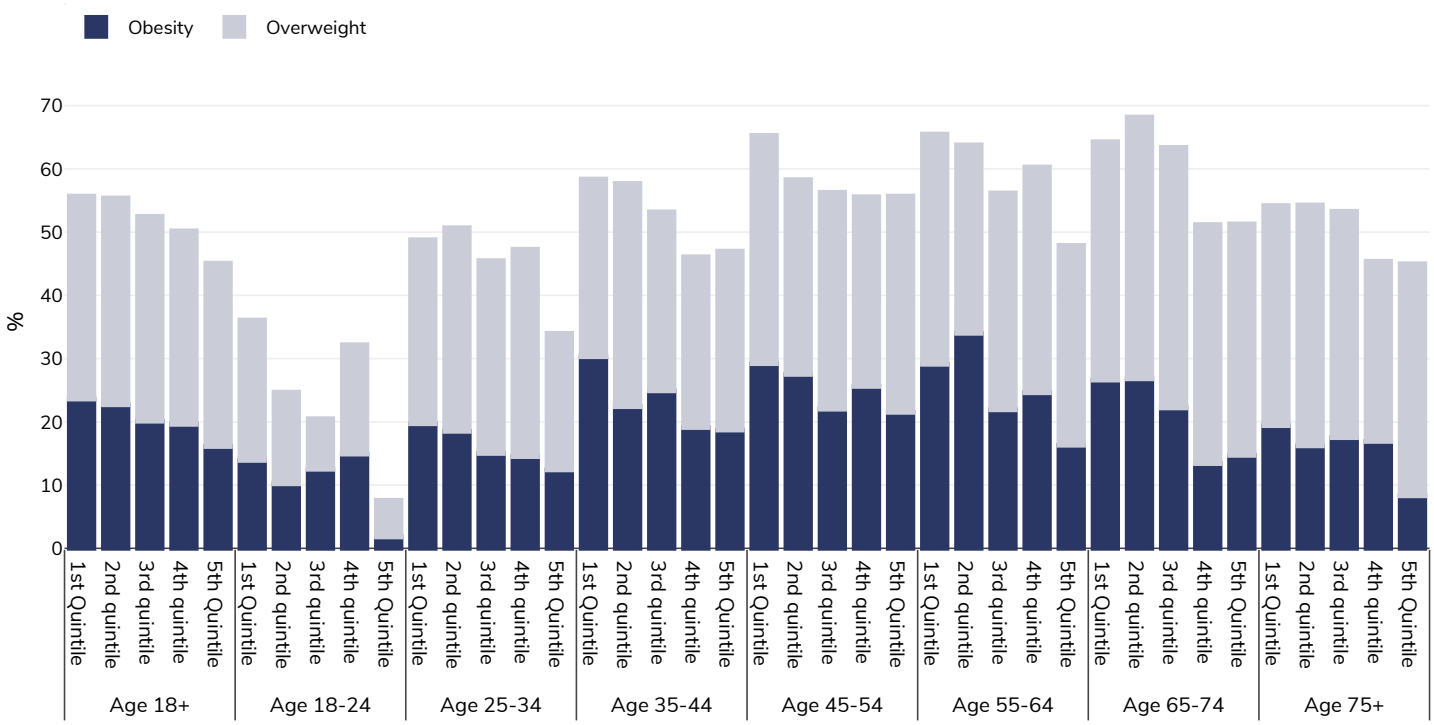
Women, 2014



Survey type:	Self-reported
Area covered:	National
References:	2014 Eurostat - Socio economic - http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=hlth_ehis_bm1i&lang=en (last accessed 25.08.20)

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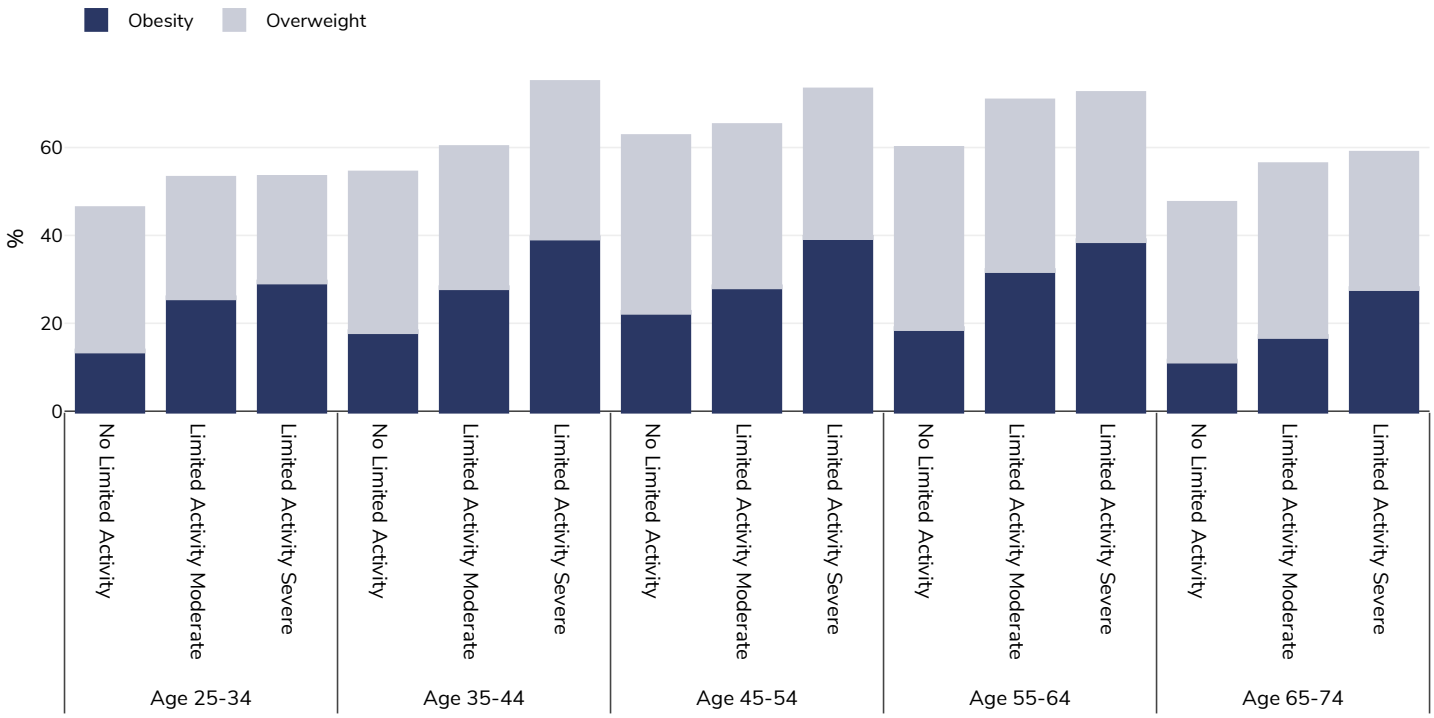
Overweight/obesity by age and limited activity

Adults, 2014



Survey type:	Self-reported
Area covered:	National
References:	Eurostat 2014 available at https://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do (last accessed 06.10.21)

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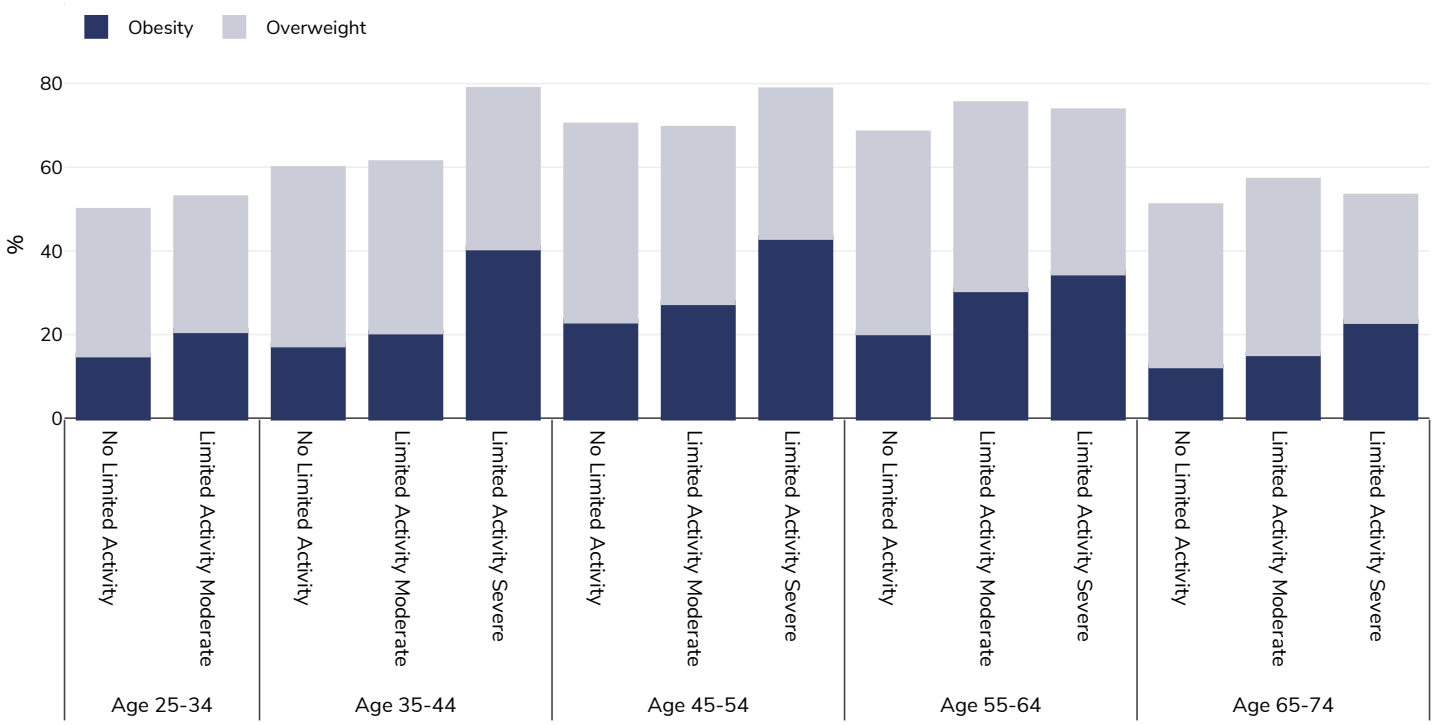
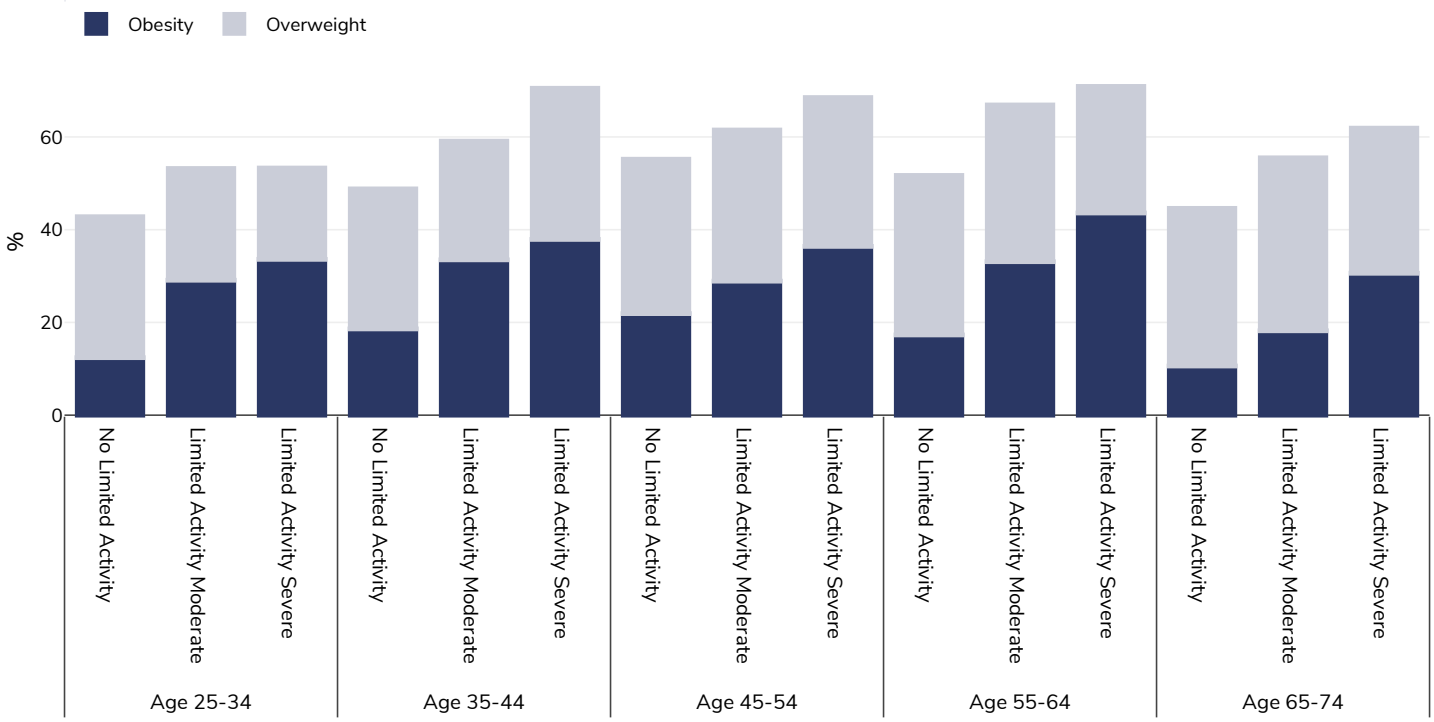
Men, 2014



Survey type:	Self-reported
Area covered:	National
References:	Eurostat 2014 available at https://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do (last accessed 06.10.21)

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

Women, 2014



Survey type:	Self-reported
Area covered:	National
References:	Eurostat 2014 available at https://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do (last accessed 06.10.21)

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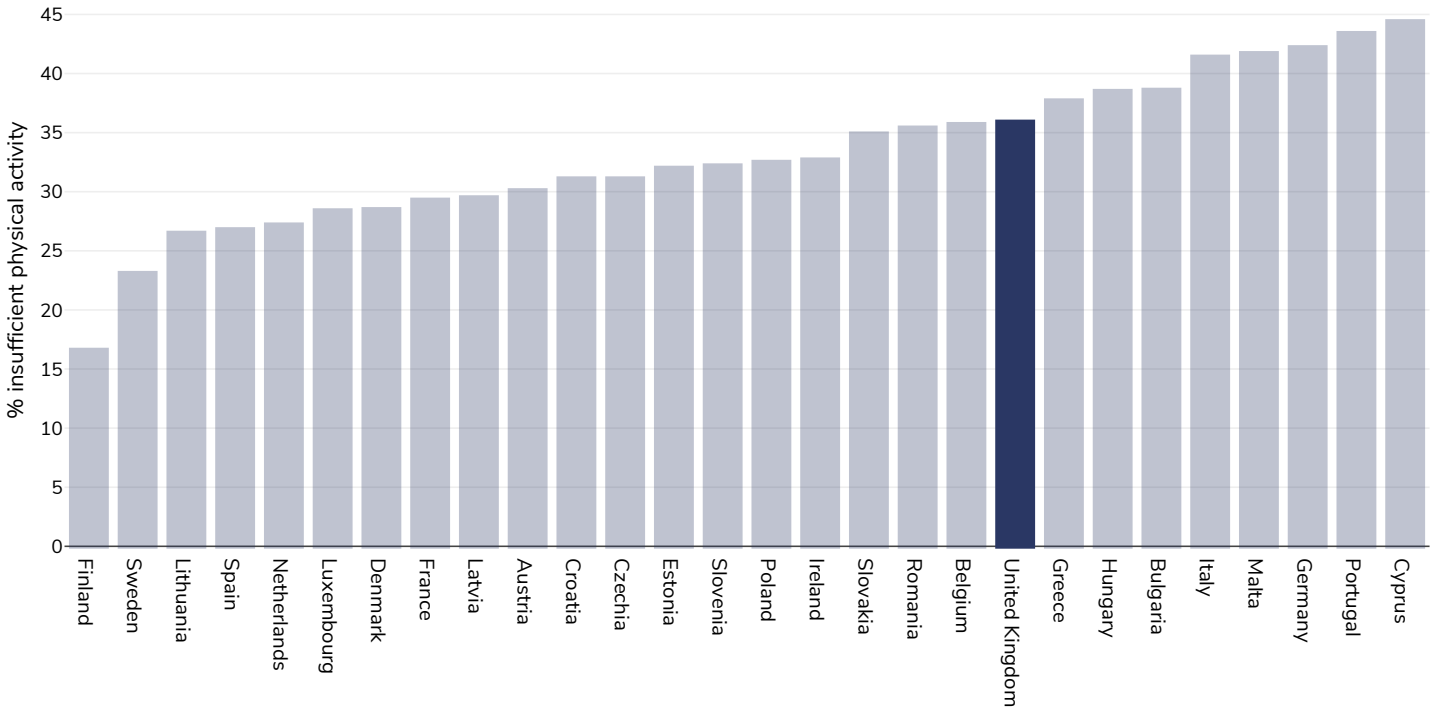
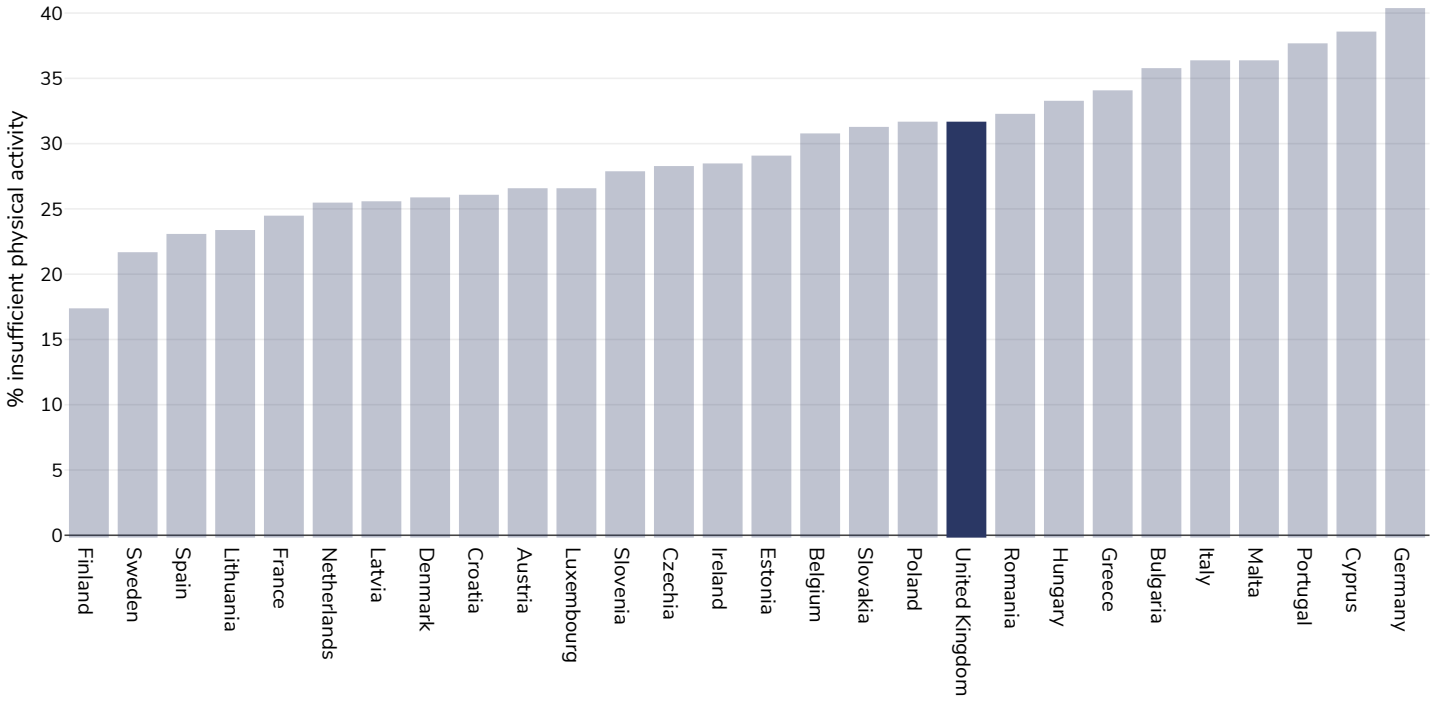
Insufficient physical activity

Adults, 2016



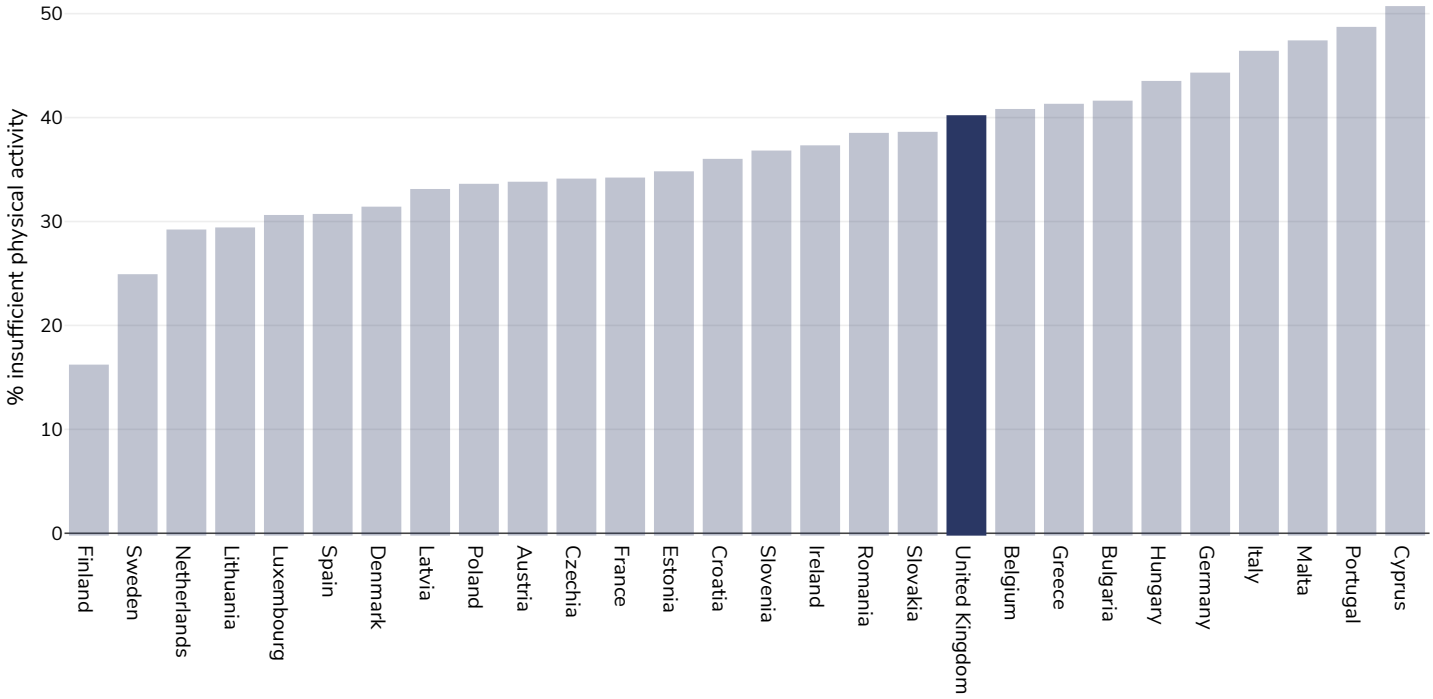
References: Guthold R, Stevens GA, Riley LM, Bull FC. Worldwide trends in insufficient physical activity from 2001 to 2016: a pooled analysis of 358 population-based surveys with 1.9 million participants. Lancet 2018 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(18)30357-7

Men, 2016



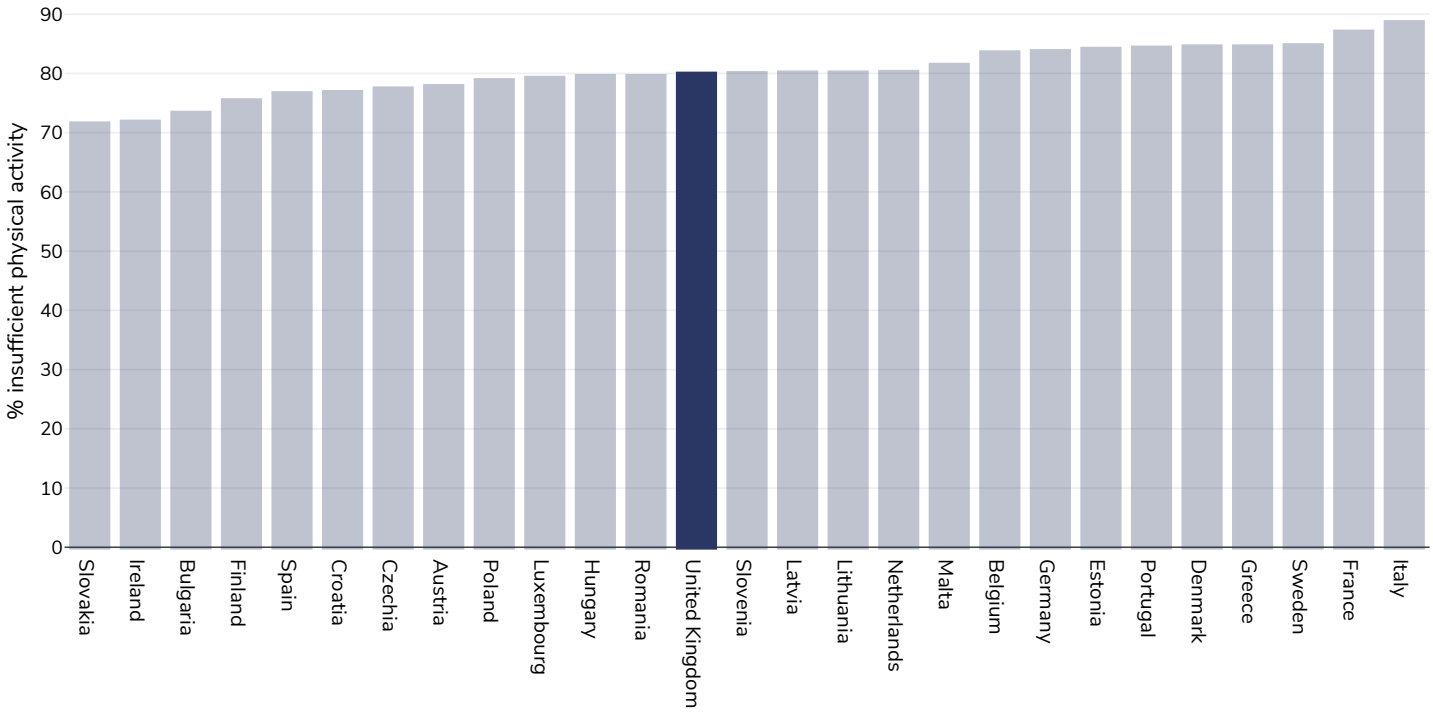
References: Guthold R, Stevens GA, Riley LM, Bull FC. Worldwide trends in insufficient physical activity from 2001 to 2016: a pooled analysis of 358 population-based surveys with 1.9 million participants. Lancet 2018 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(18)30357-7

Women, 2016



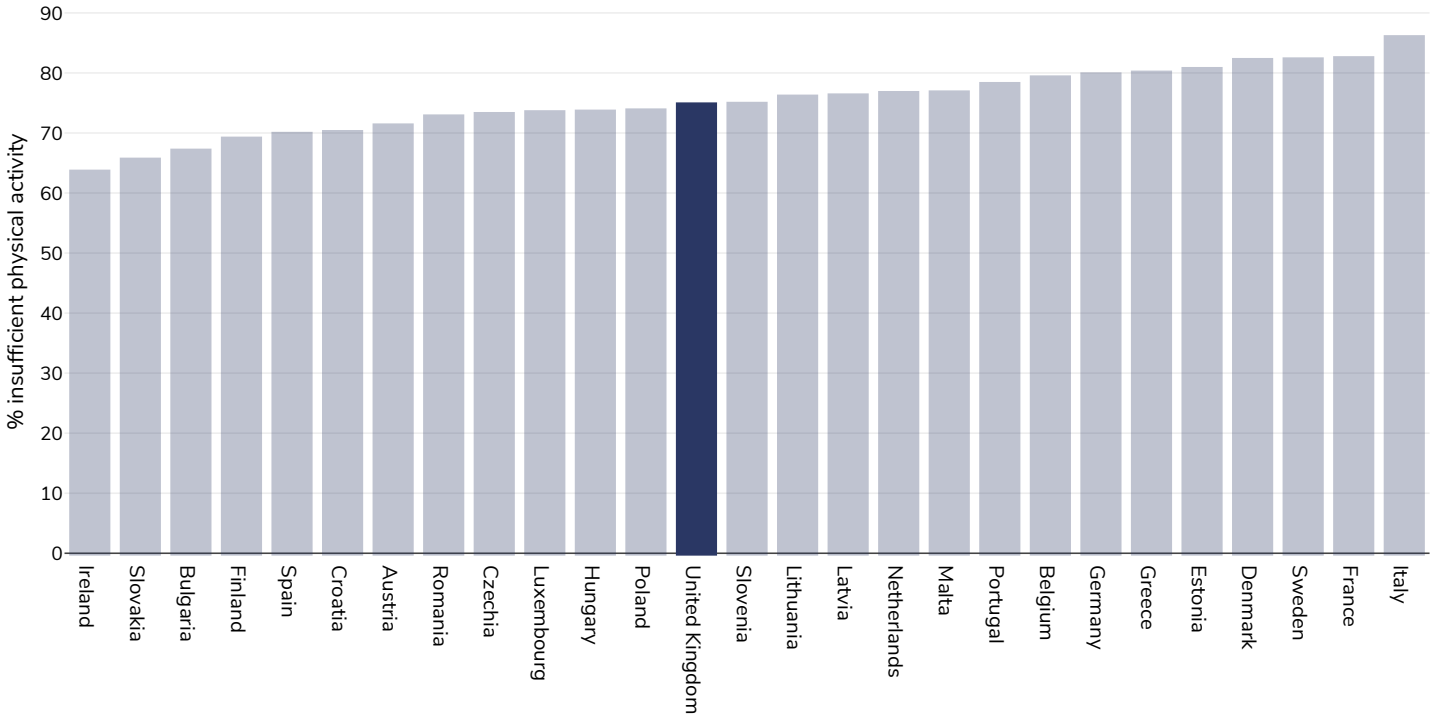
References: Guthold R, Stevens GA, Riley LM, Bull FC. Worldwide trends in insufficient physical activity from 2001 to 2016: a pooled analysis of 358 population-based surveys with 1.9 million participants. Lancet 2018 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(18)30357-7

Children, 2016



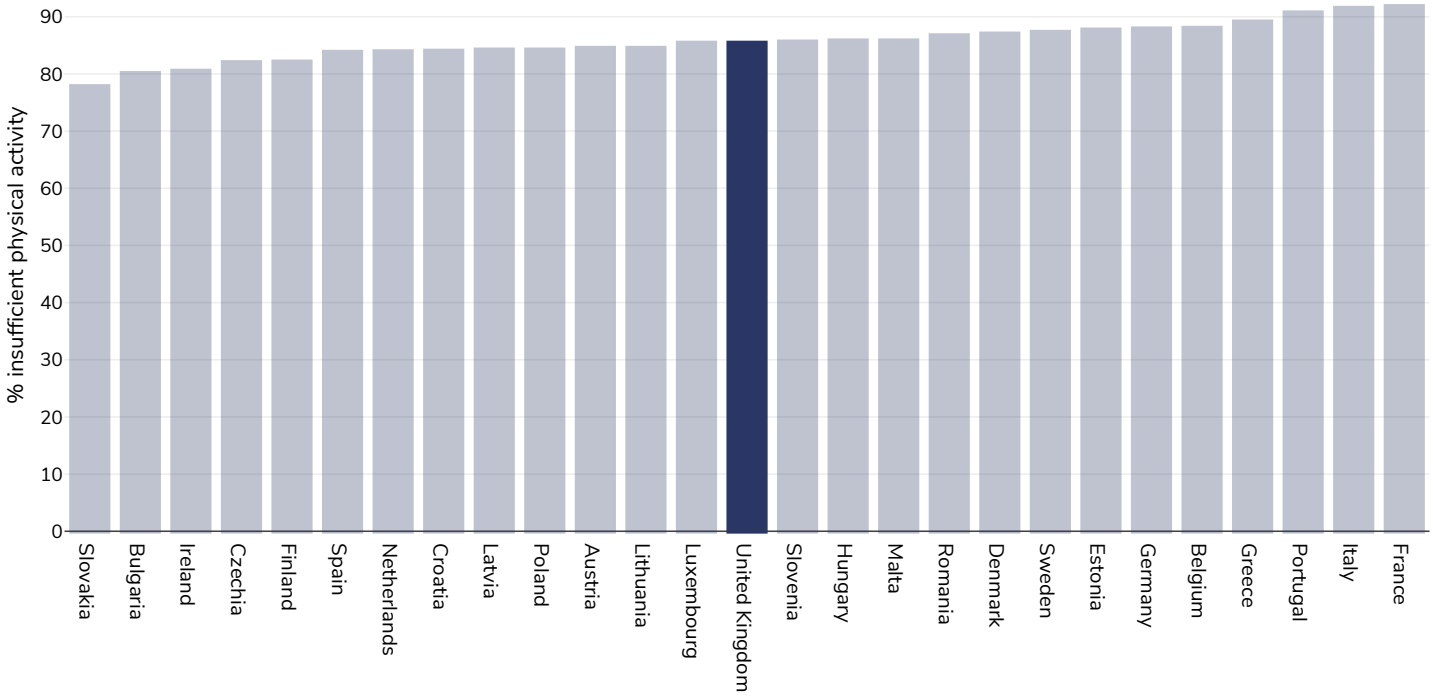
Survey type:	Self-reported
Age:	11-17
References:	Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, https://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A893ADO?lang=en (last accessed 16.03.21)
Notes:	% of school going adolescents not meeting WHO recommendations on Physical Activity for Health, 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)

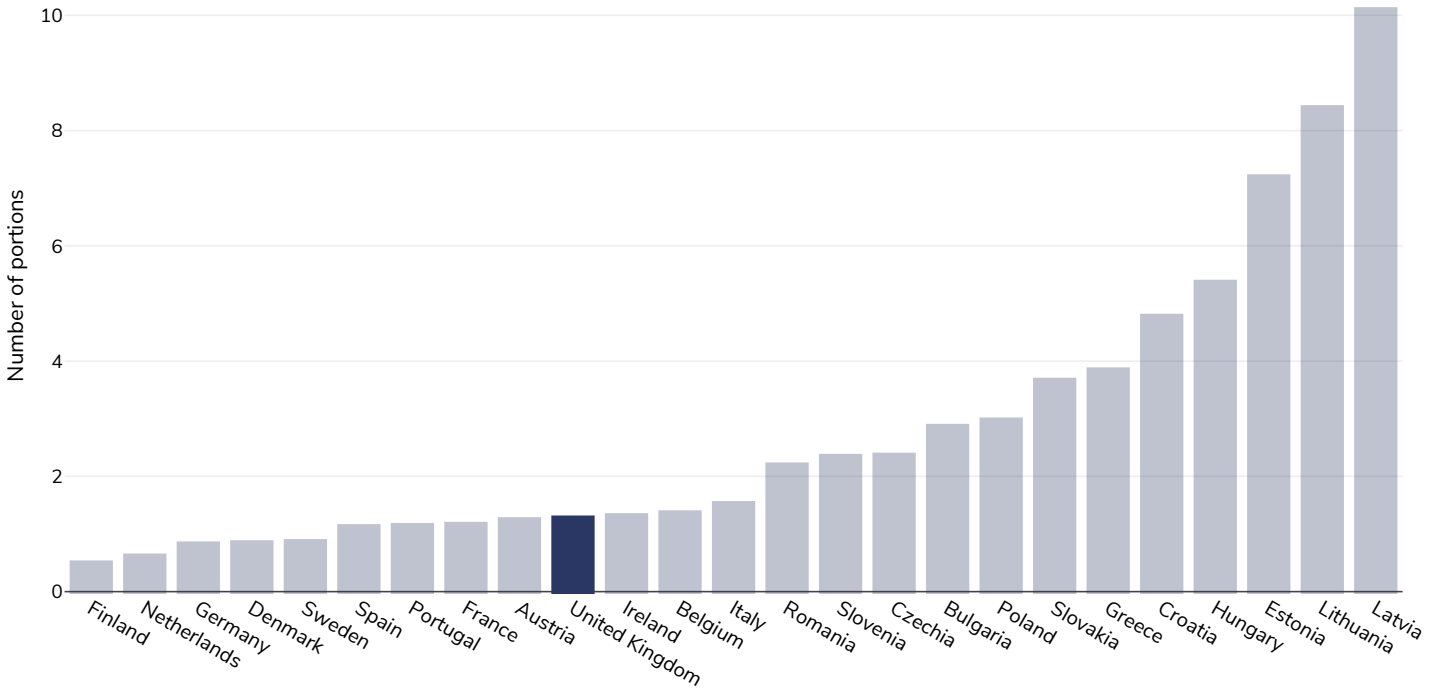
Girls, 2016



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)

Sugar consumption

Adults, 2016

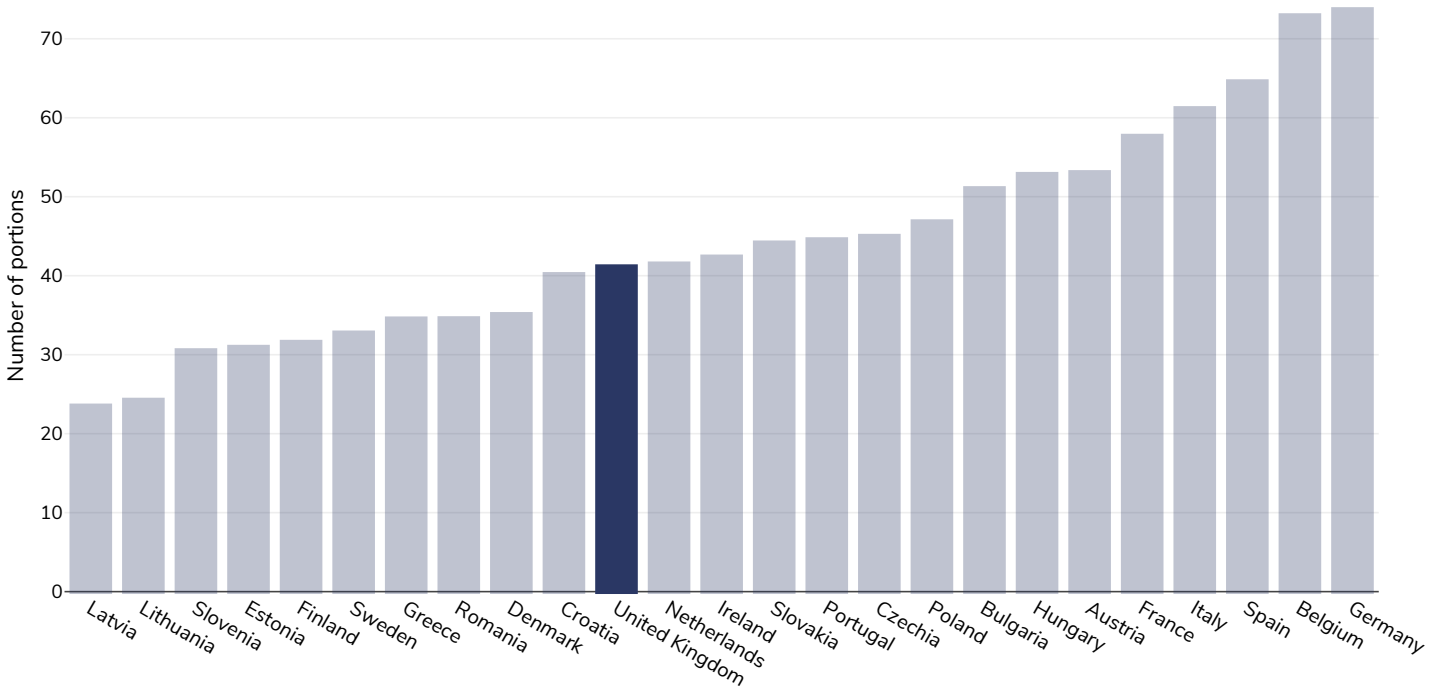


References: Source: Euromonitor International

Definitions: Sugar consumption (Number of 500g sugar portions/person/month)

Estimated per capita sugar sweetened beverages intake

Adults, 2016

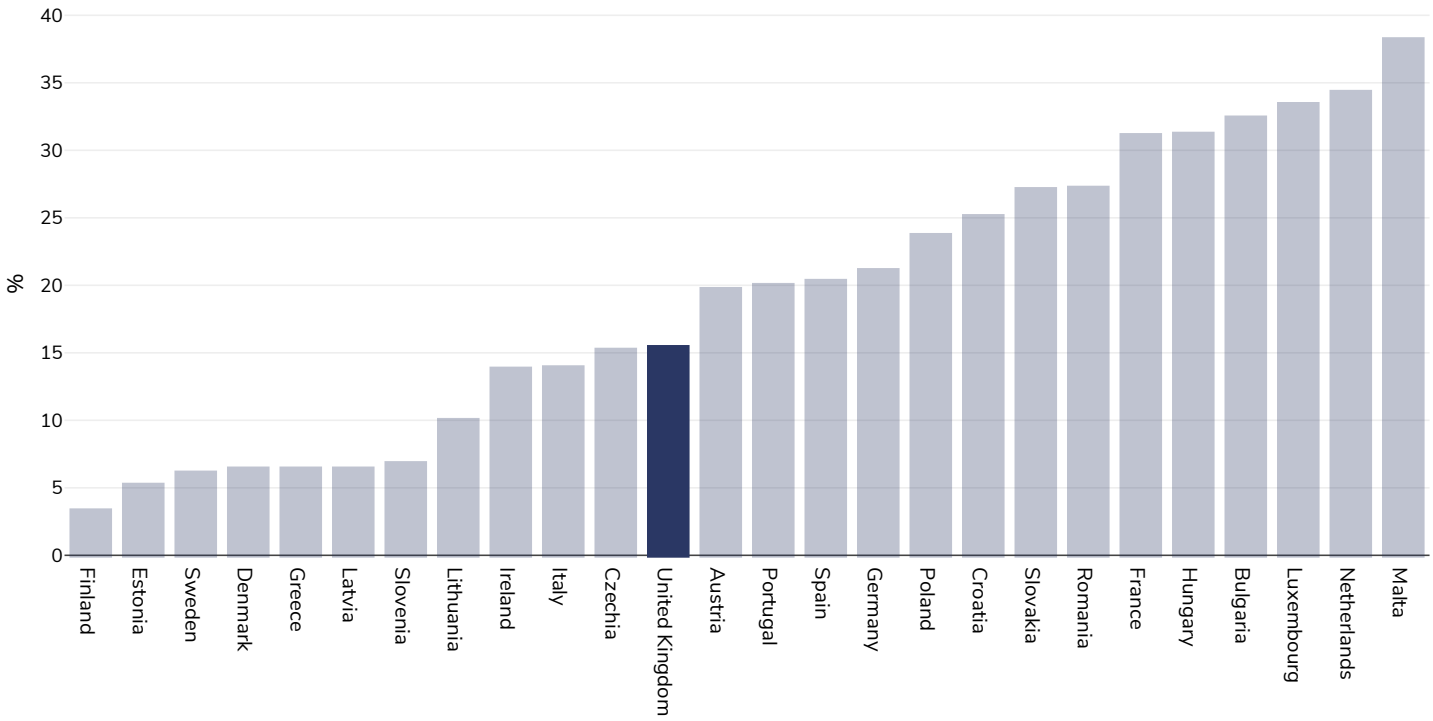


References:

Source: Euromonitor International

Prevalence of at least daily carbonated soft drink consumption

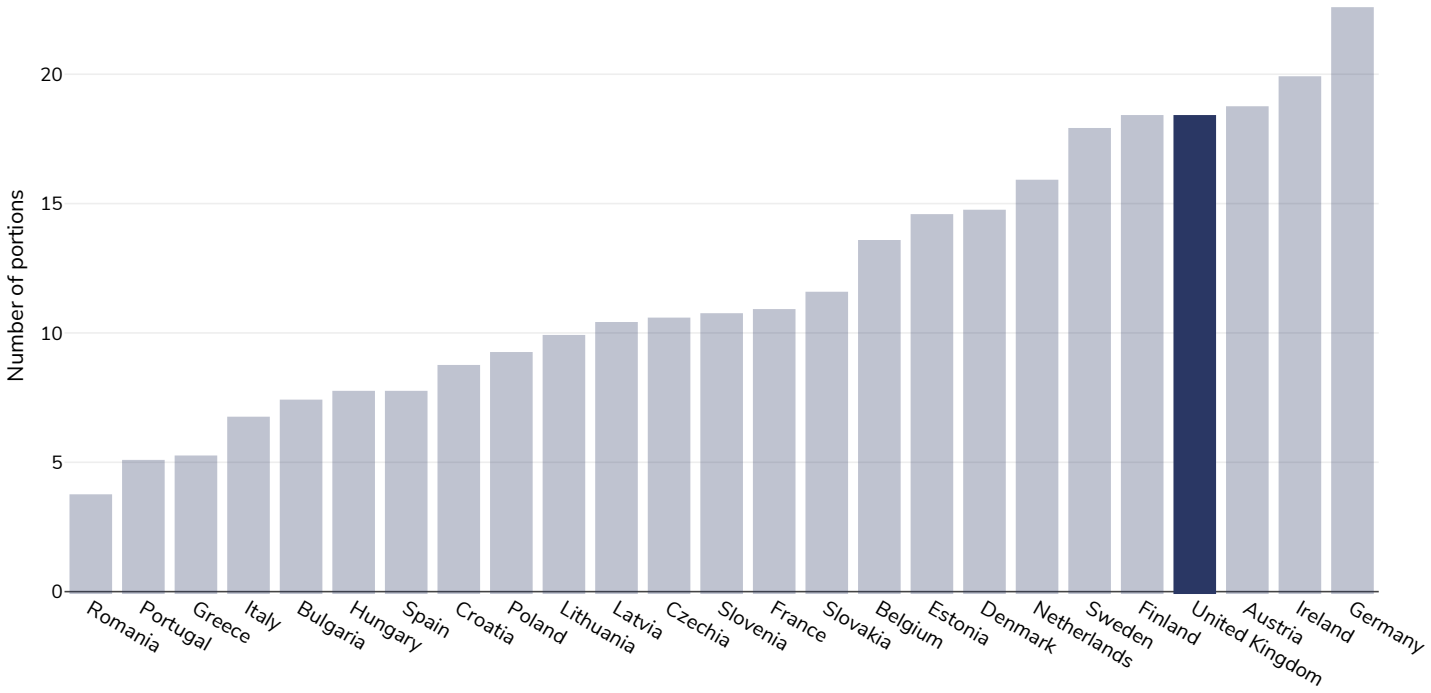
Children, 2014



Survey type:	Measured
References:	World Health Organization. (2017). Adolescent obesity and related behaviours: Trends and inequalities in the who european region, 2002-2014: observations from the Health Behavior in School-aged Children (HBSC) WHO collaborative cross-national study (J. Inchley, D. Currie, J. Jewel, J. Breda, & V. Barnekow, Eds.). World Health Organization. Sourced from Food Systems Dashboard http://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org
Notes:	15-year-old adolescents
Definitions:	Prevalence of at least daily carbonated soft drink consumption (% of at least daily carbonated soft drink consumption)

Prevalence of confectionery consumption

Adults, 2016

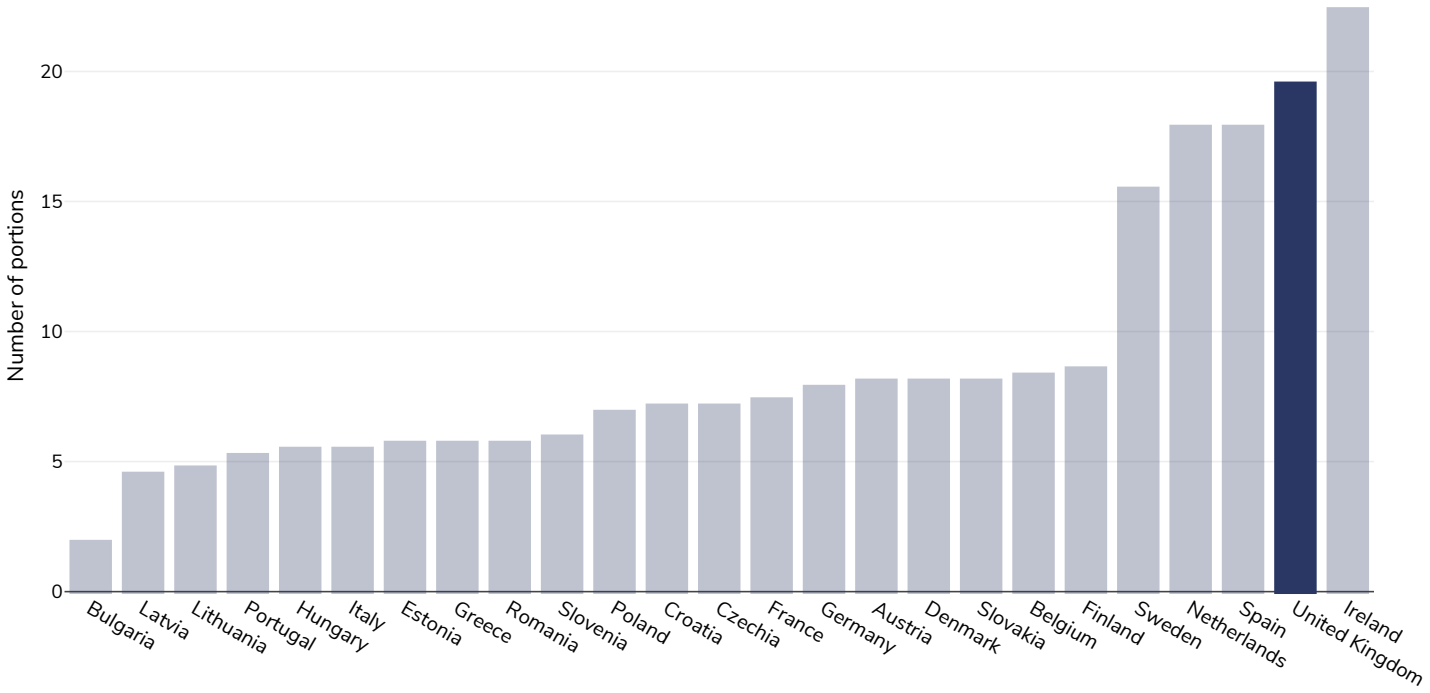


References: Source: Euromonitor International

Definitions: Prevalence of confectionery consumption (Number of 50g confectionery portions/person/month)

Prevalence of sweet/savoury snack consumption

Adults, 2016

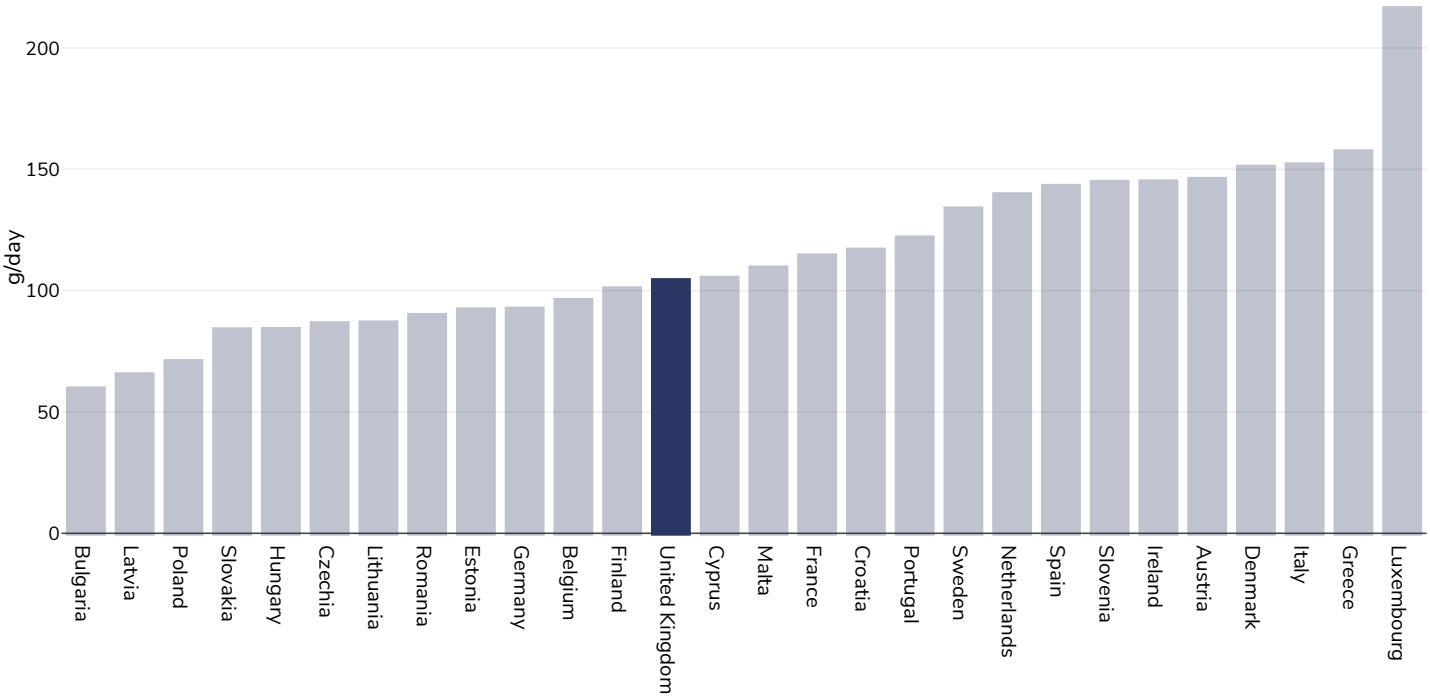


References: Source: Euromonitor International

Definitions: Prevalence of sweet/savoury snack consumption (Number of 35g sweet/savoury snack portions/person/month)

Estimated per capita fruit intake

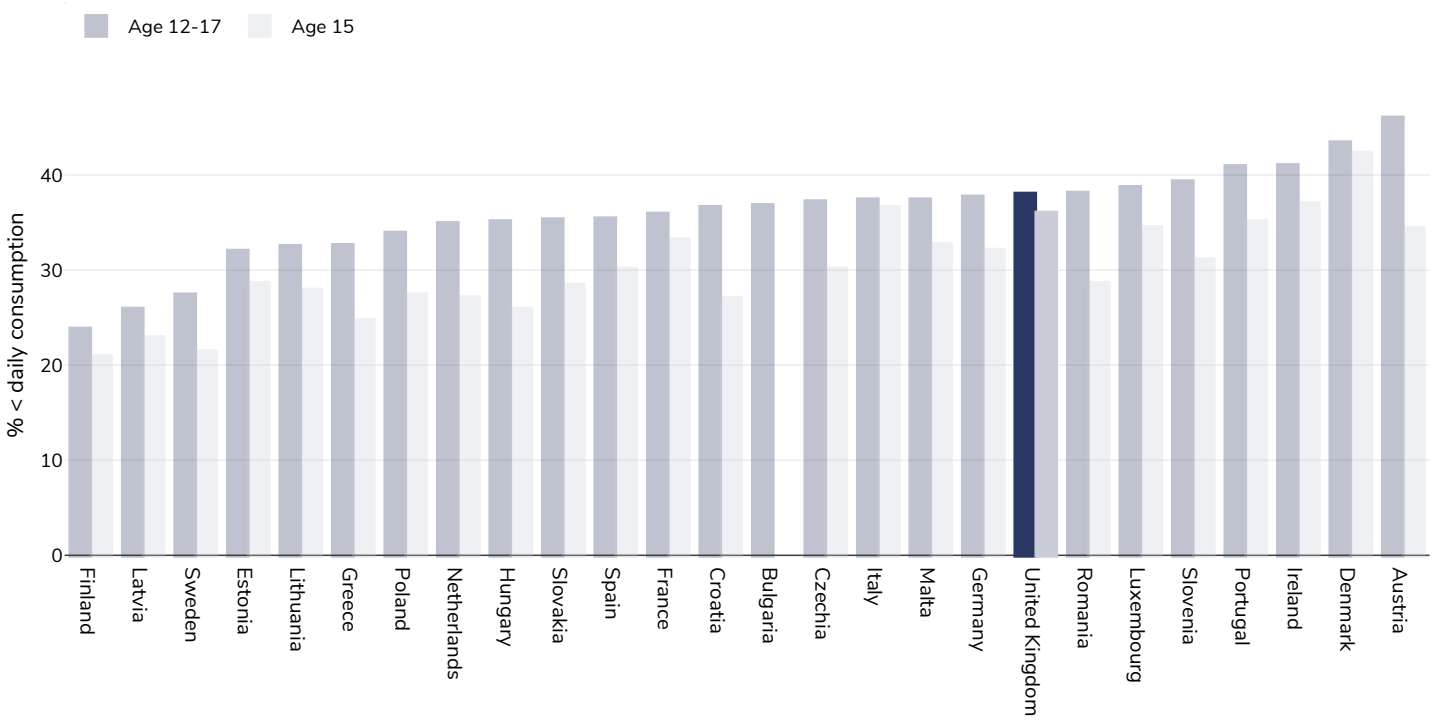
Adults, 2017



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)

Prevalence of less than daily fruit consumption

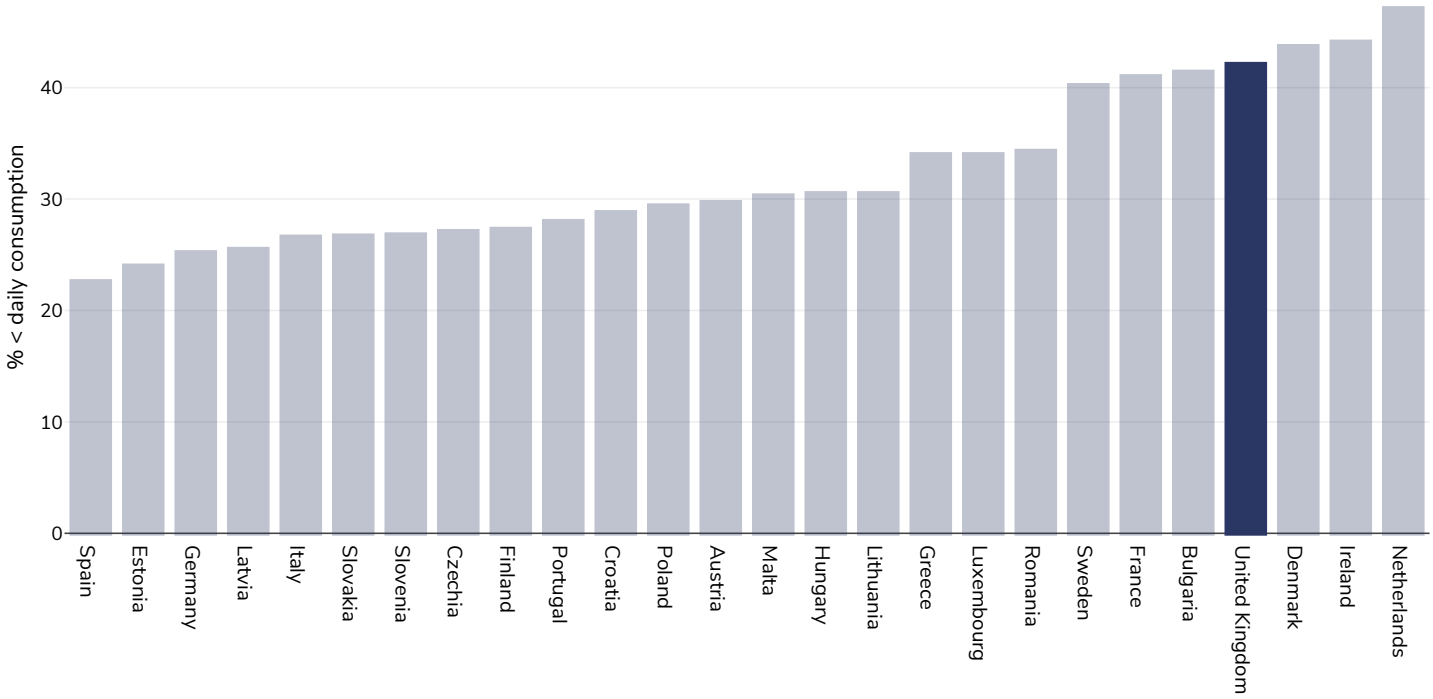
Children, 2014



Survey type:	Measured
References:	Global School-based Student Health Surveys. Beal et al (2019). Global Patterns of Adolescent Fruit, Vegetable, Carbonated Soft Drink, and Fast-food consumption: A meta-analysis of global school-based student health surveys. Food and Nutrition Bulletin. https://doi.org/10.1177/0379572119848287. Sourced from Food Systems Dashboard http://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org/food-system
Definitions:	Prevalence of less-than-daily fruit consumption (% less-than-daily fruit consumption)

Prevalence of less than daily vegetable consumption

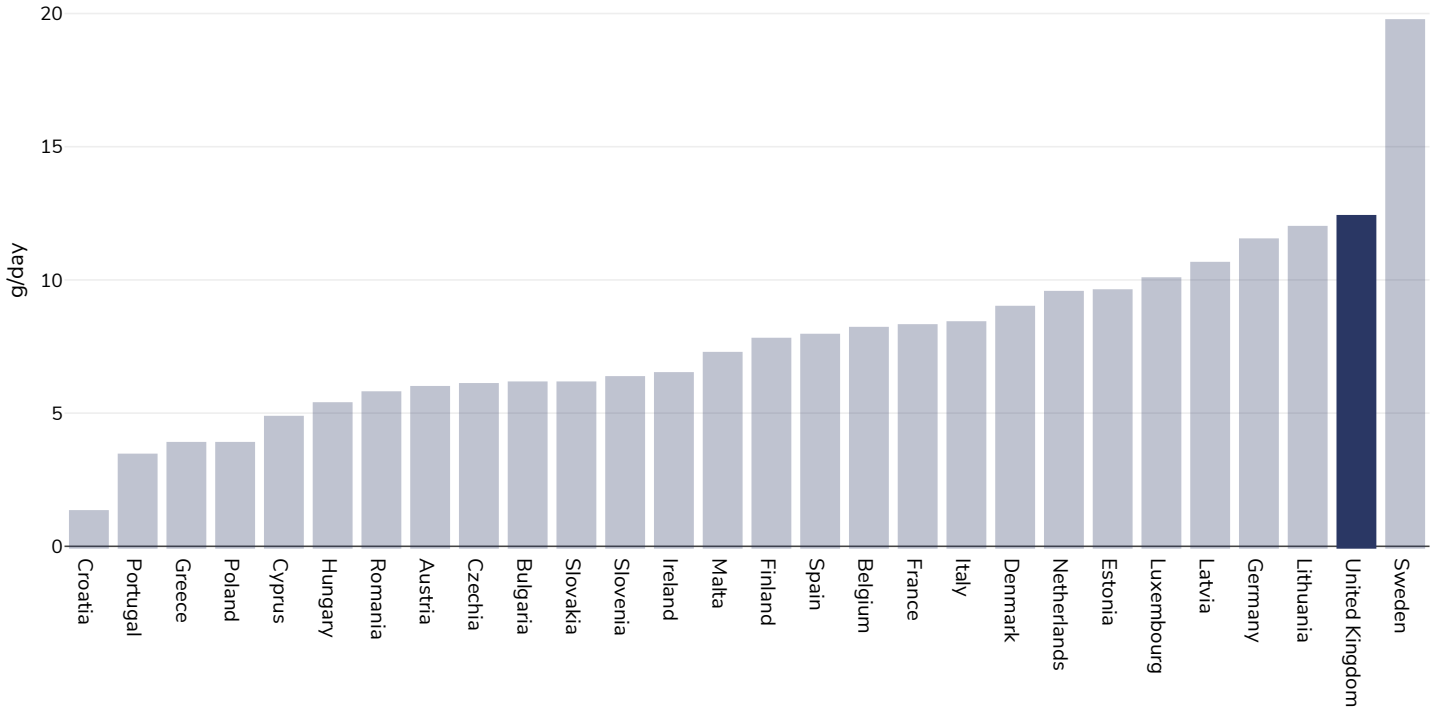
Children, 2014



Survey type:	Measured
Age:	12-17
References:	Beal et al. (2019). Global Patterns of Adolescent Fruit, Vegetable, Carbonated Soft Drink, and Fast-food consumption: A meta-analysis of global school-based student health surveys. Food and Nutrition Bulletin. https://doi.org/10.1177/0379572119848287 sourced from Food Systems Dashboard http://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org/food-system
Definitions:	Prevalence of less-than-daily vegetable consumption (% less-than-daily vegetable consumption)

Estimated per-capita processed meat intake

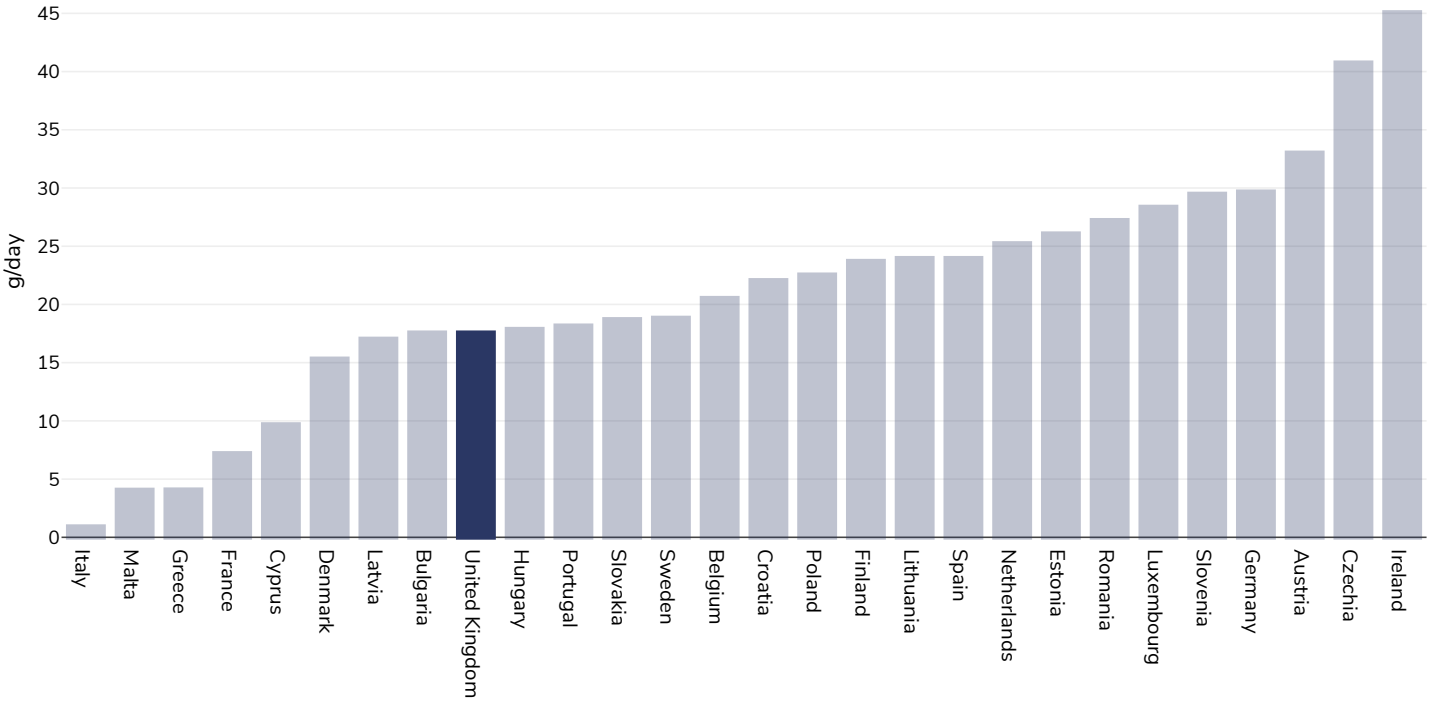
Adults, 2017



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

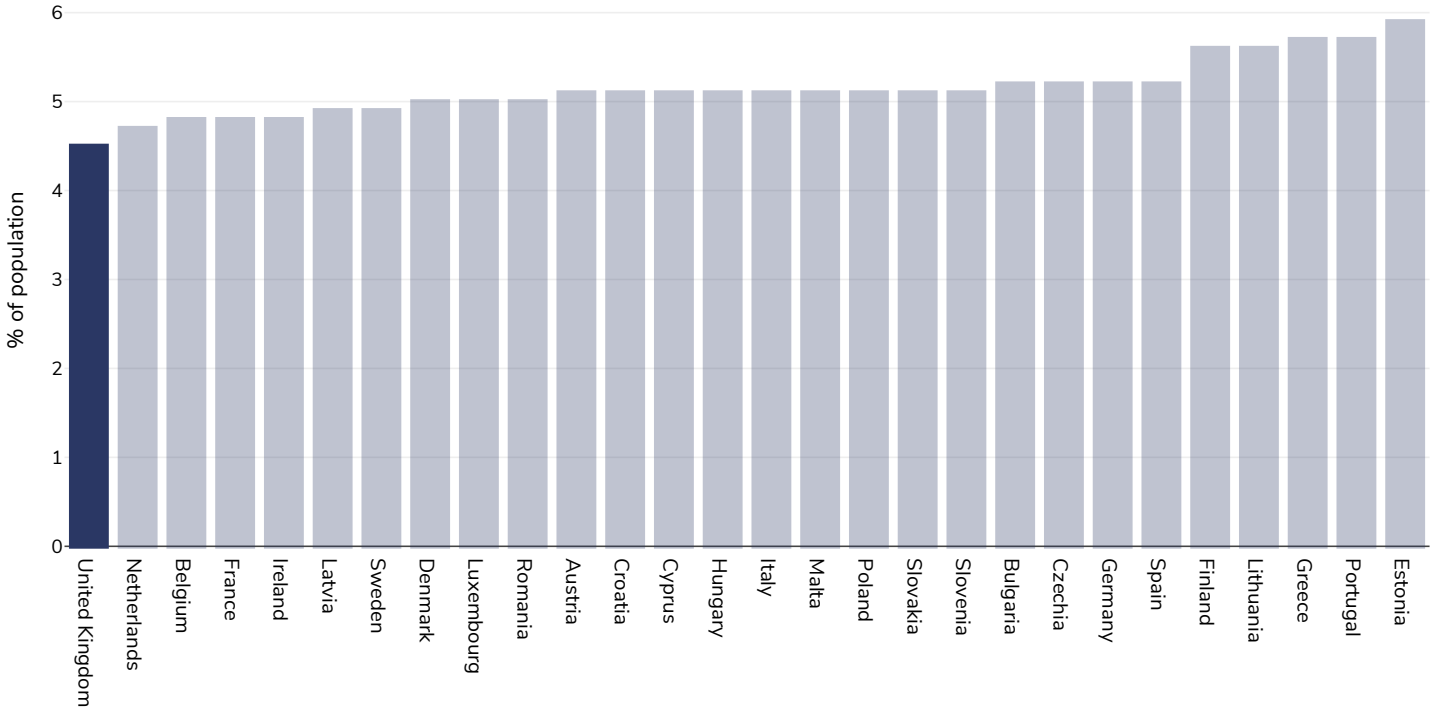
Adults, 2017



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

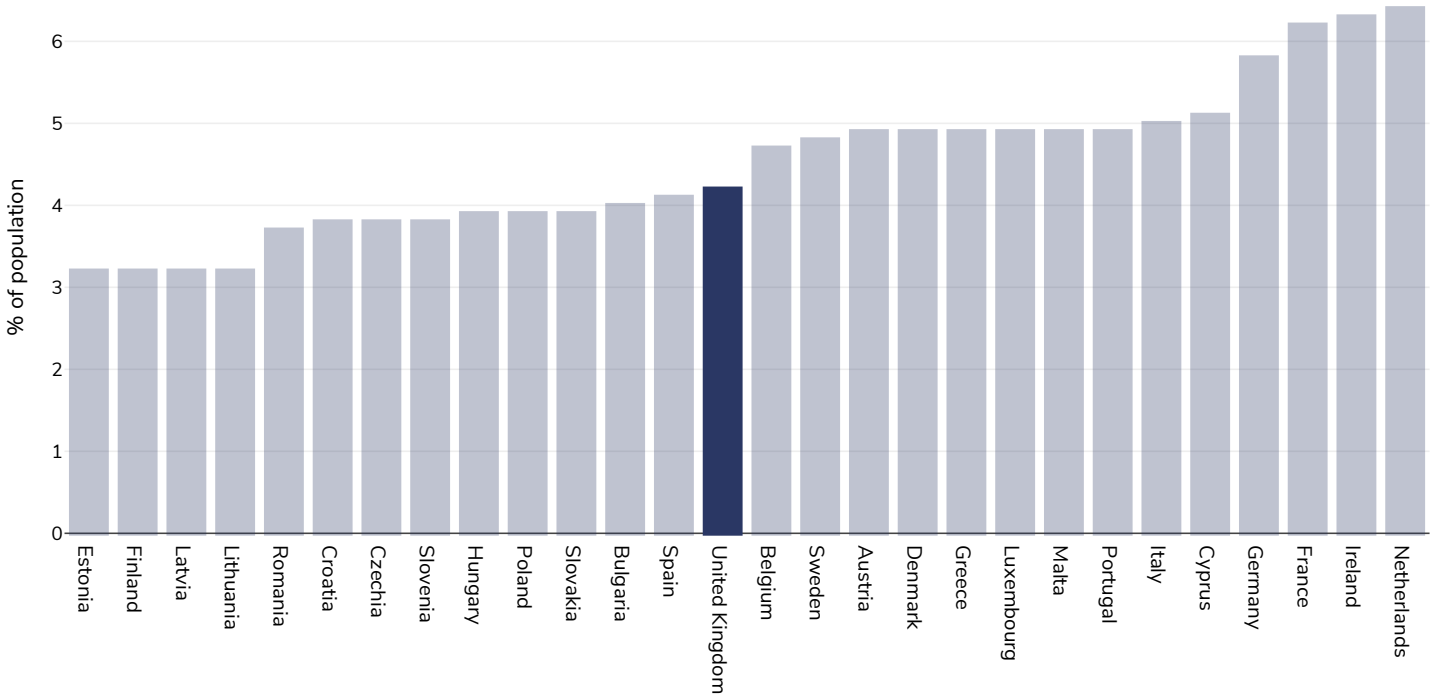
Adults, 2015



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

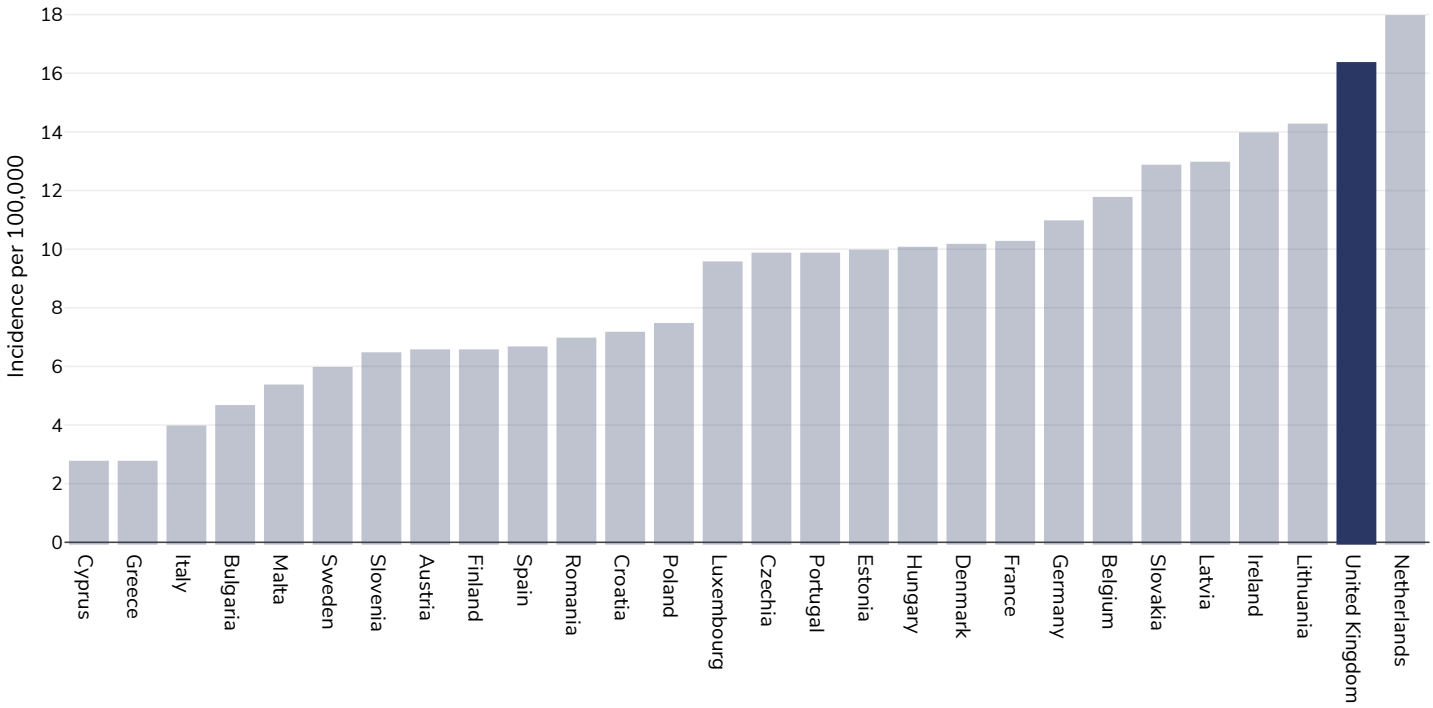
Adults, 2015



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

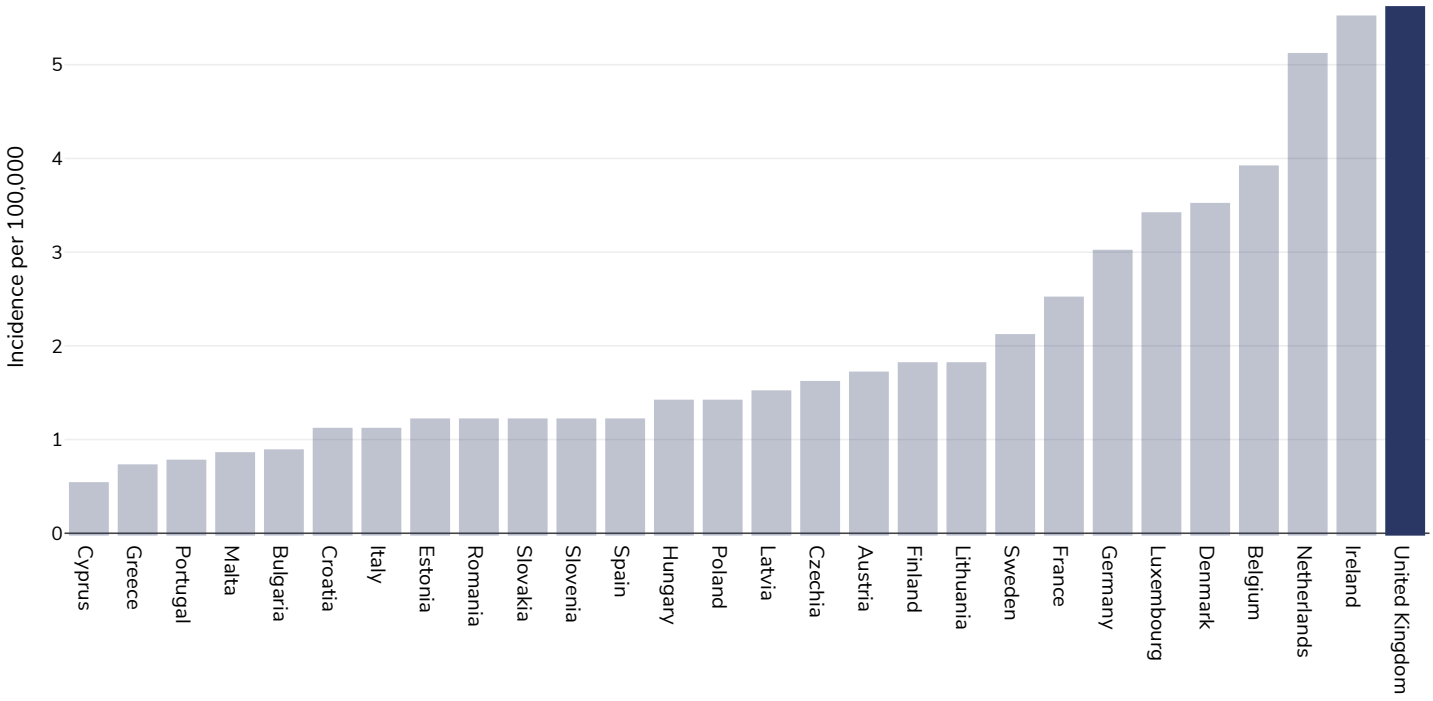
Oesophageal cancer

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 10.01.2371
Definitions:	Age-standardized indicence rates per 100 000

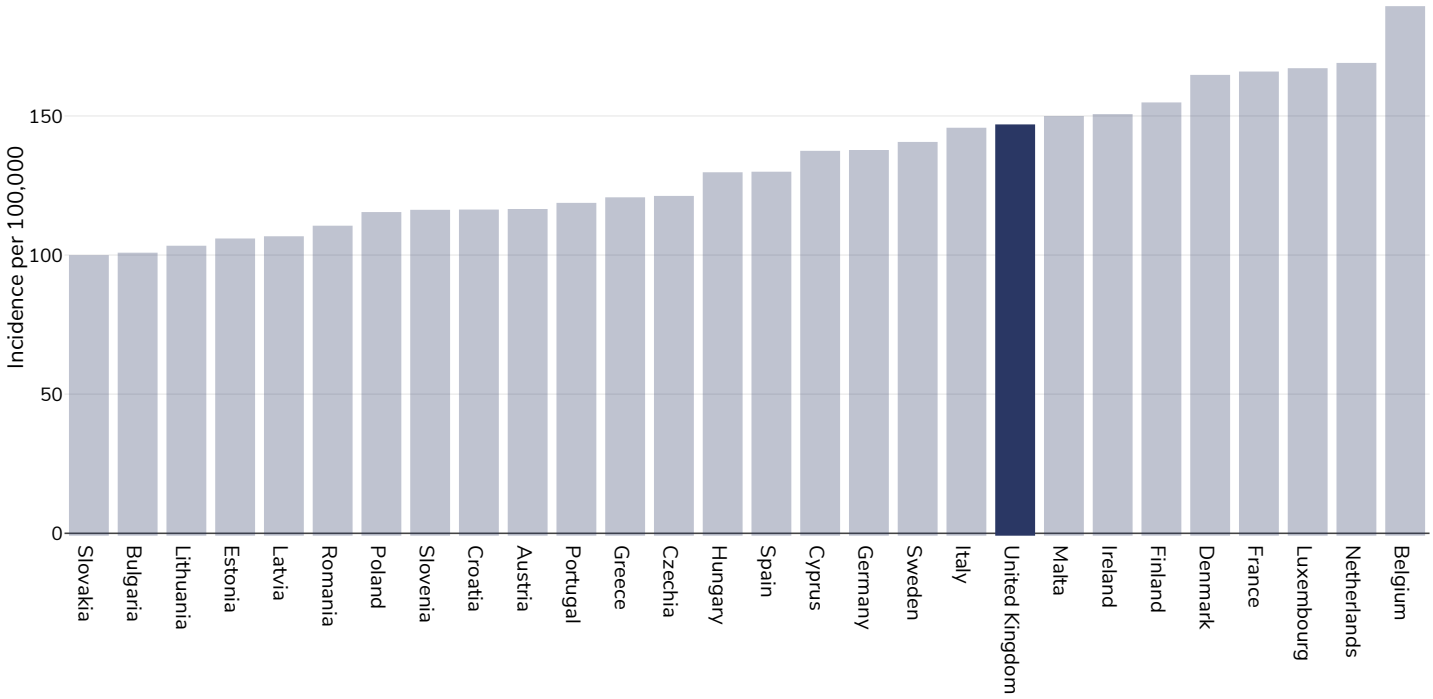
Women, 2020



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 10.01.2371
Definitions:	Age-standardized indicence rates per 100 000

Breast cancer

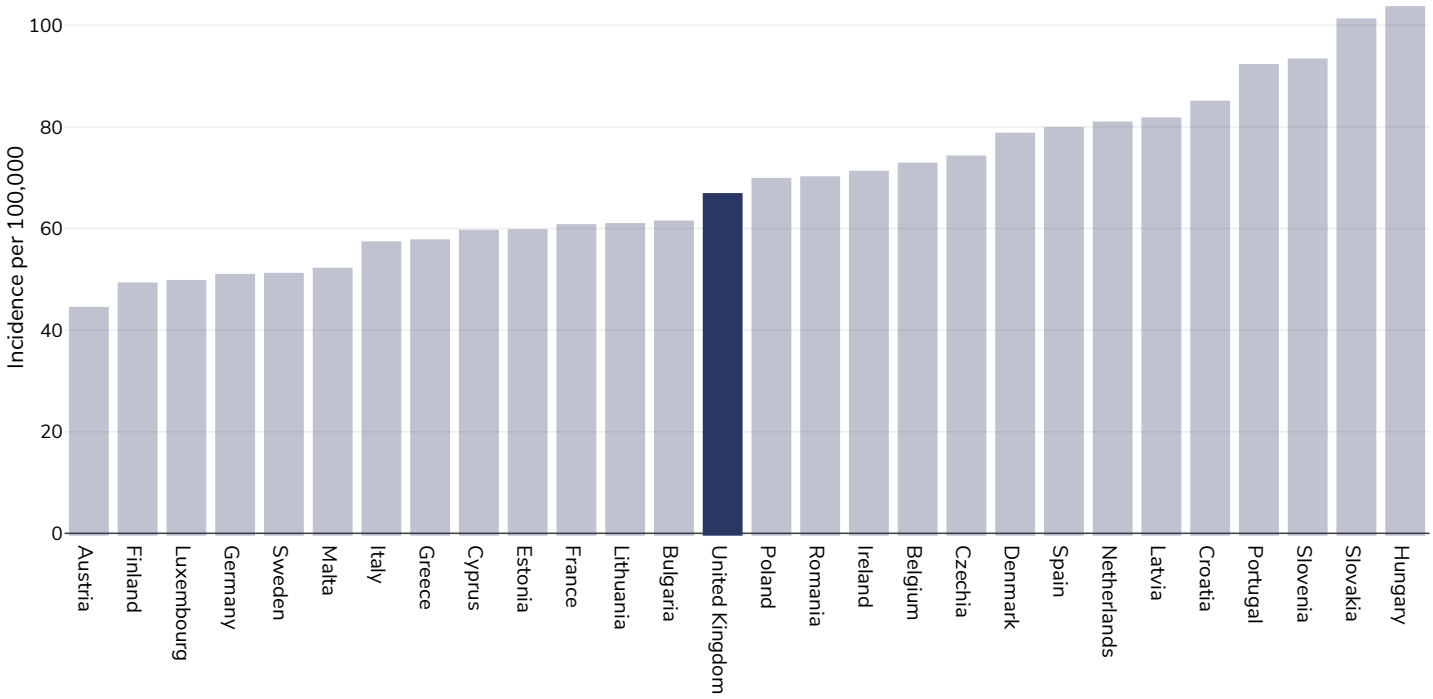
Women, 2020



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 10.01.2371
Definitions:	Age-standardized indicence rates per 100 000

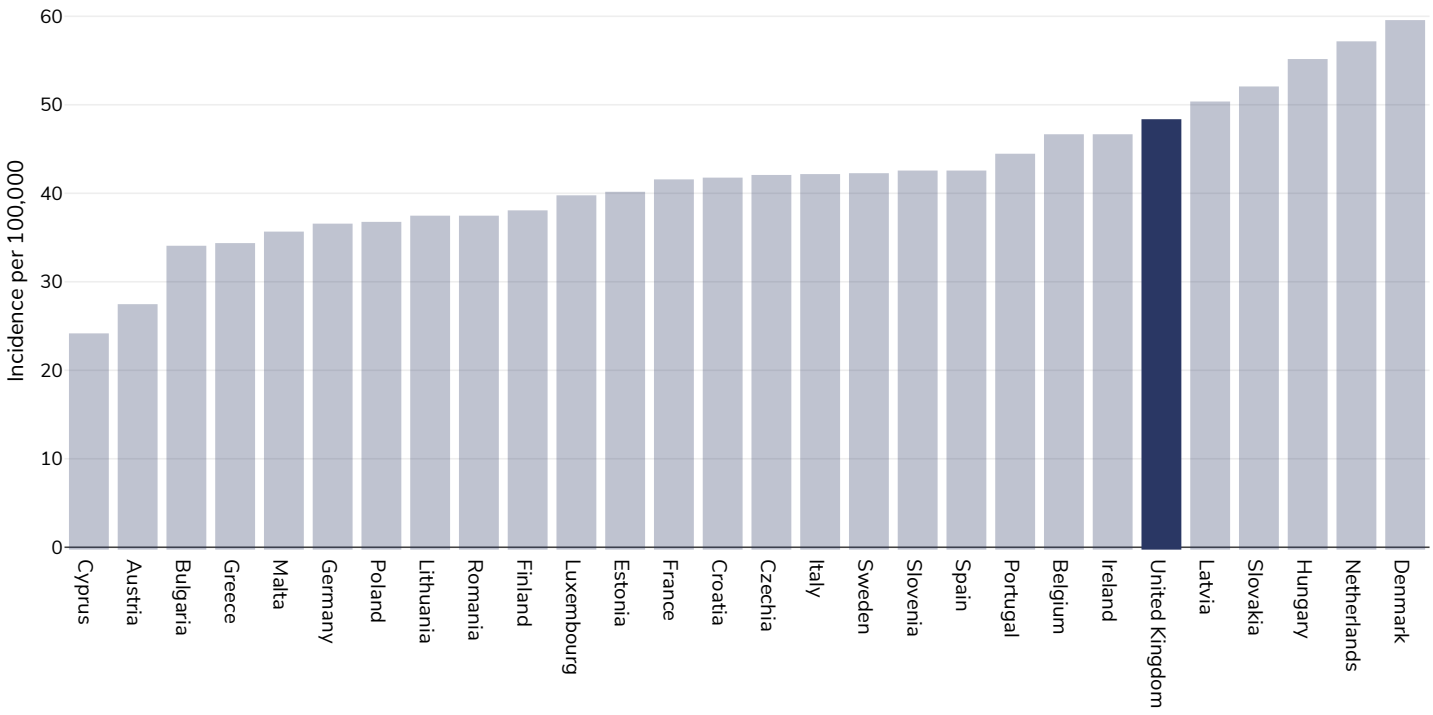
Colorectal cancer

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 10.01.2371
Definitions:	Age-standardized indicence rates per 100 000

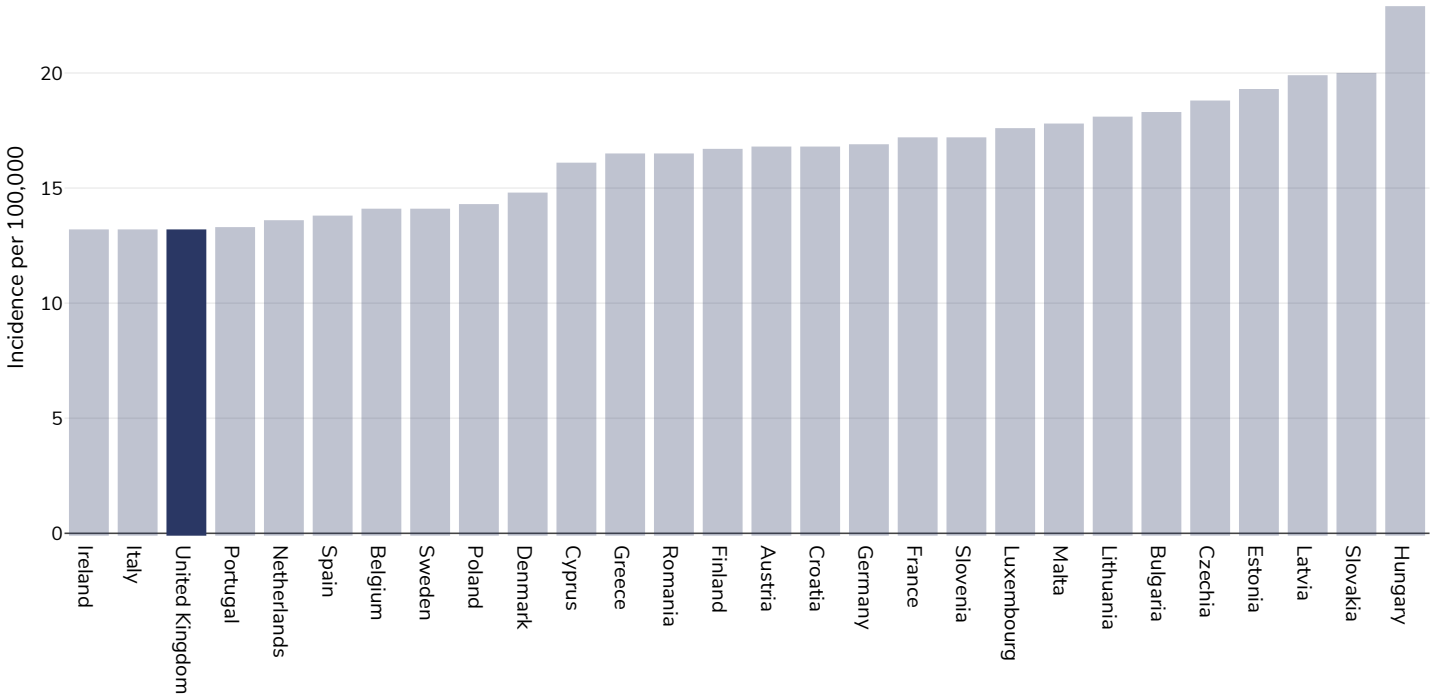
Women, 2020



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 10.01.2371
Definitions:	Age-standardized indicence rates per 100 000

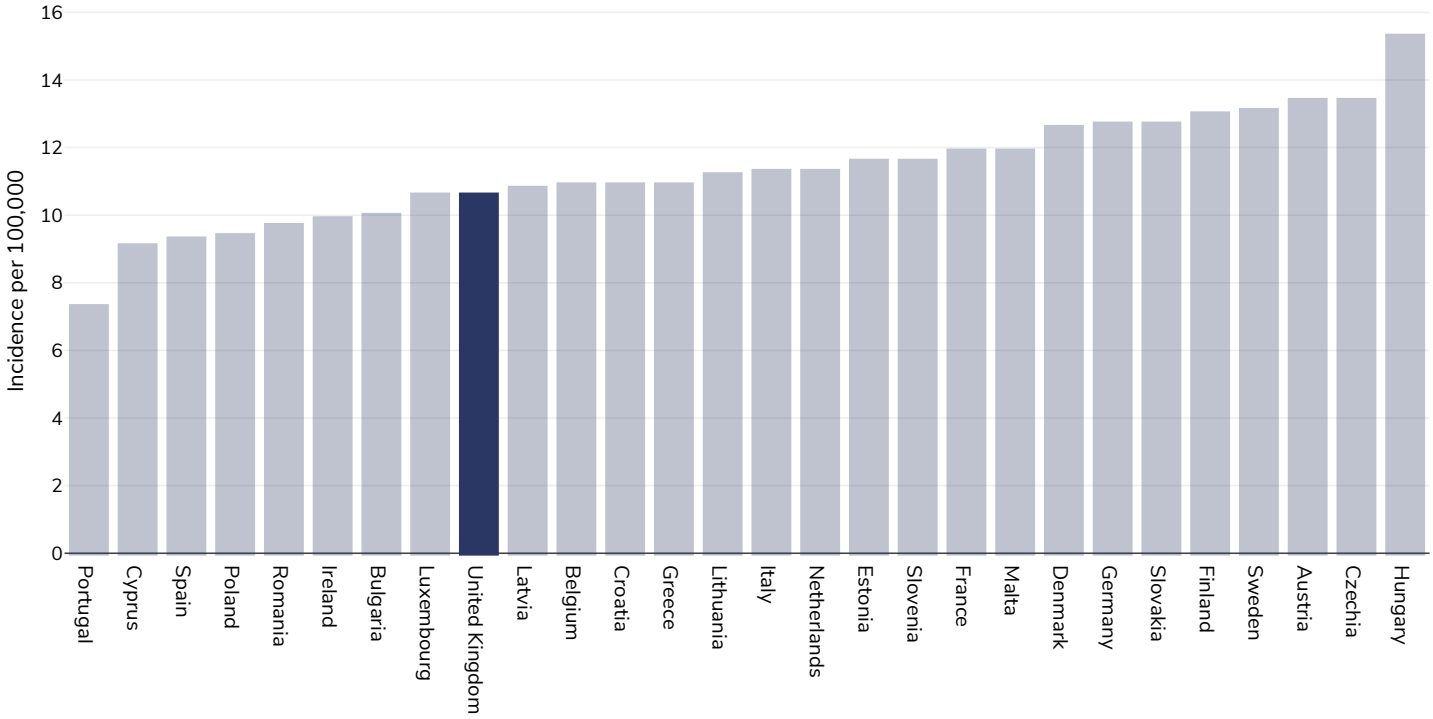
Pancreatic cancer

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 10.01.2371
Definitions:	Age-standardized indicence rates per 100 000

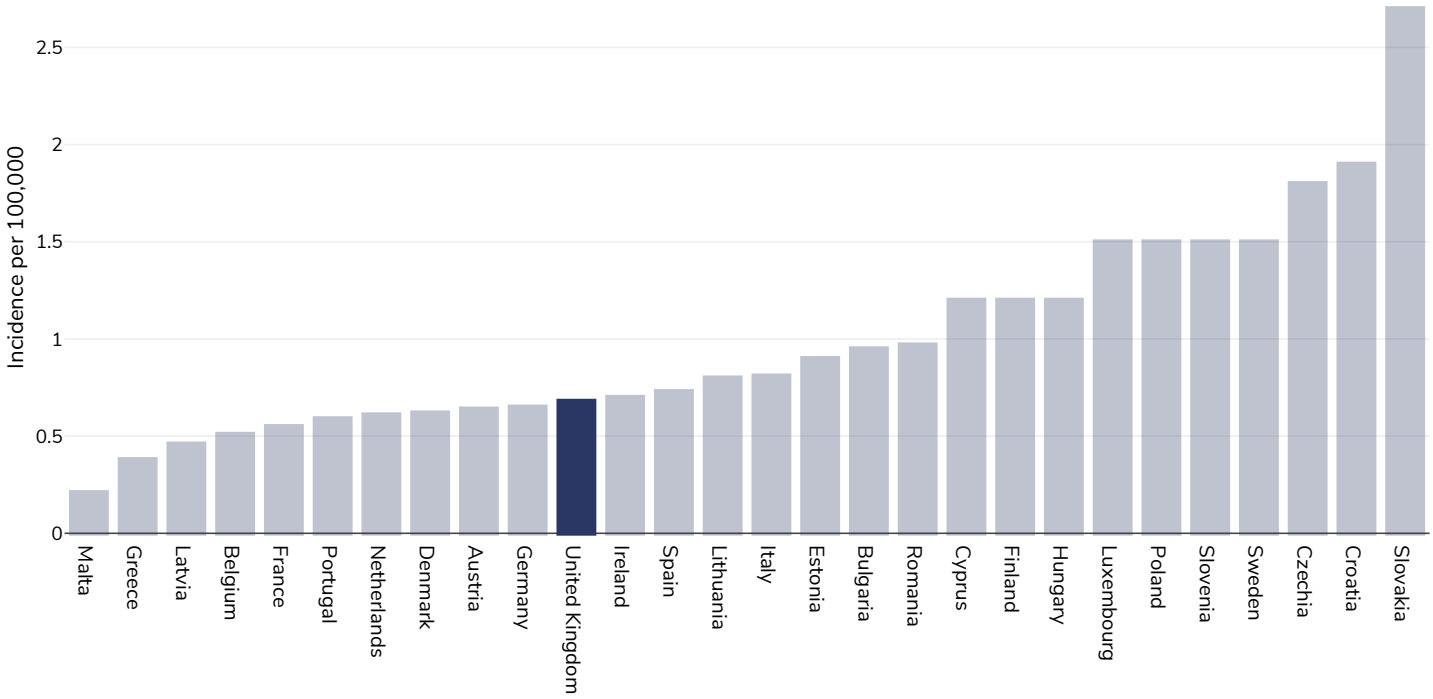
Women, 2020



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 10.01.2371
Definitions:	Age-standardized indicence rates per 100 000

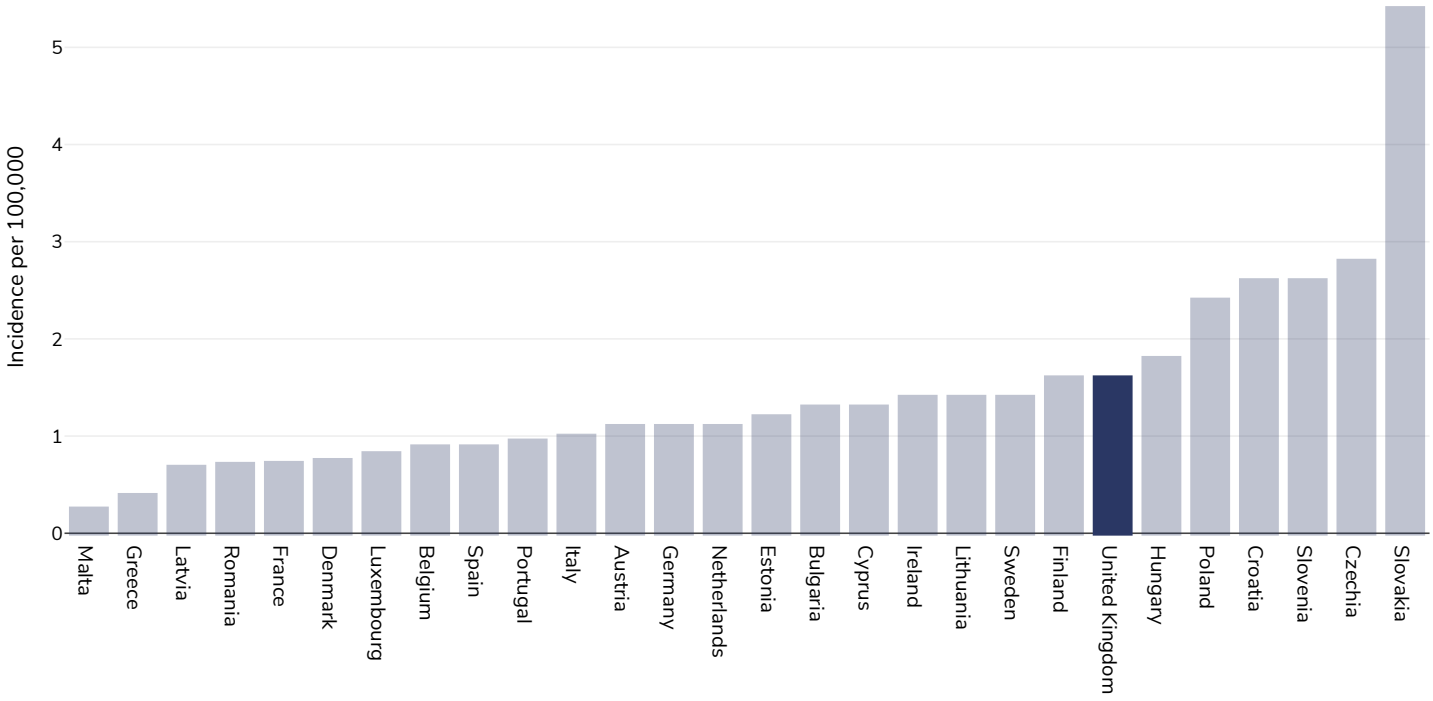
Gallbladder cancer

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 10.01.2371
Definitions:	Age-standardized indicence rates per 100 000

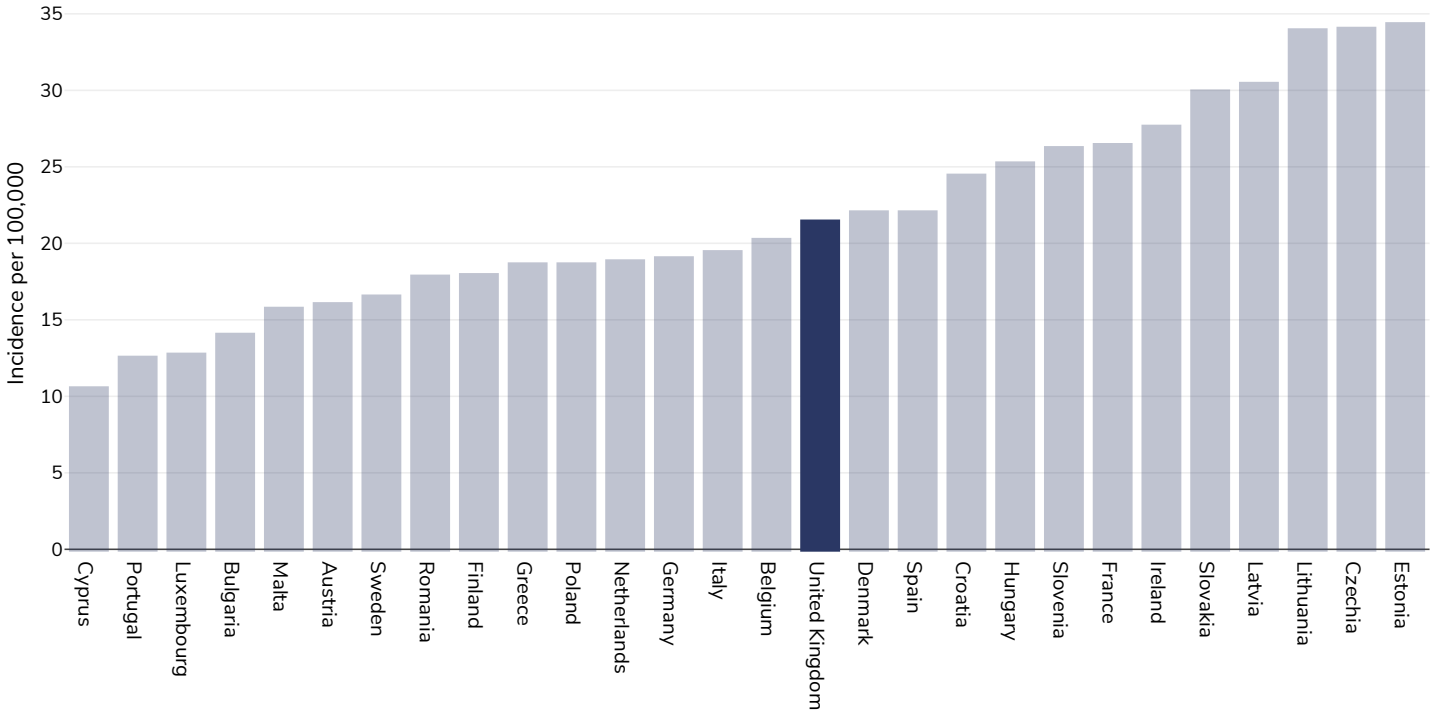
Women, 2020



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 10.01.2371
Definitions:	Age-standardized indicence rates per 100 000

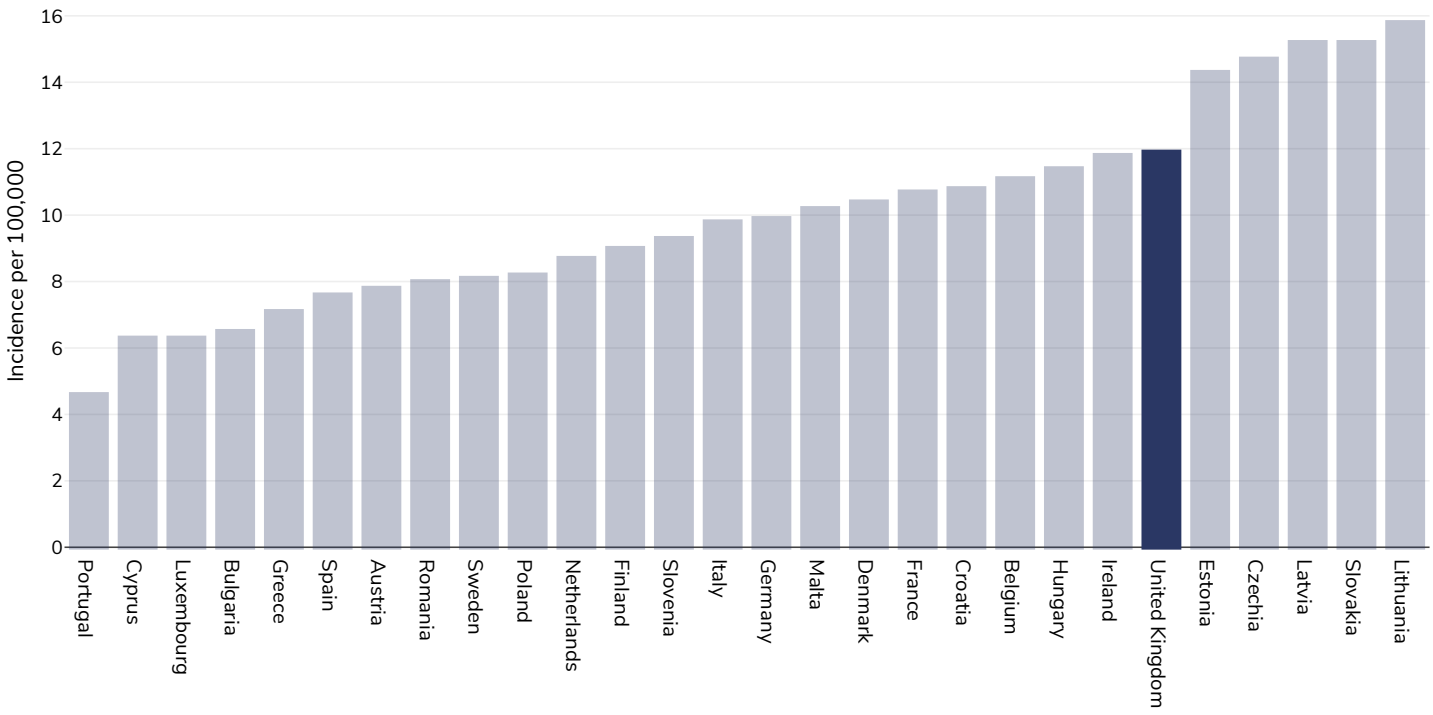
Kidney cancer

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 10.01.2371
Definitions:	Age-standardized indicence rates per 100 000

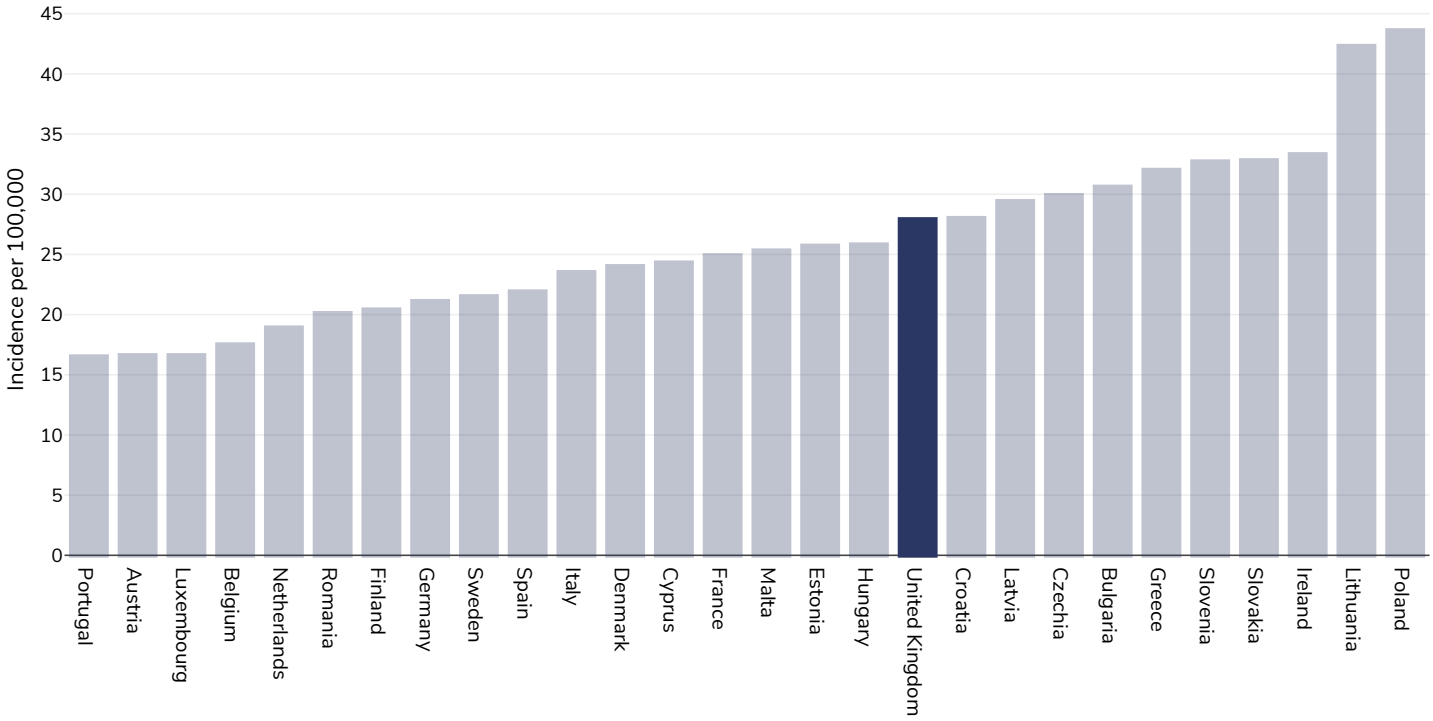
Women, 2020



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 10.01.2371
Definitions:	Age-standardized indicence rates per 100 000

Cancer of the uterus

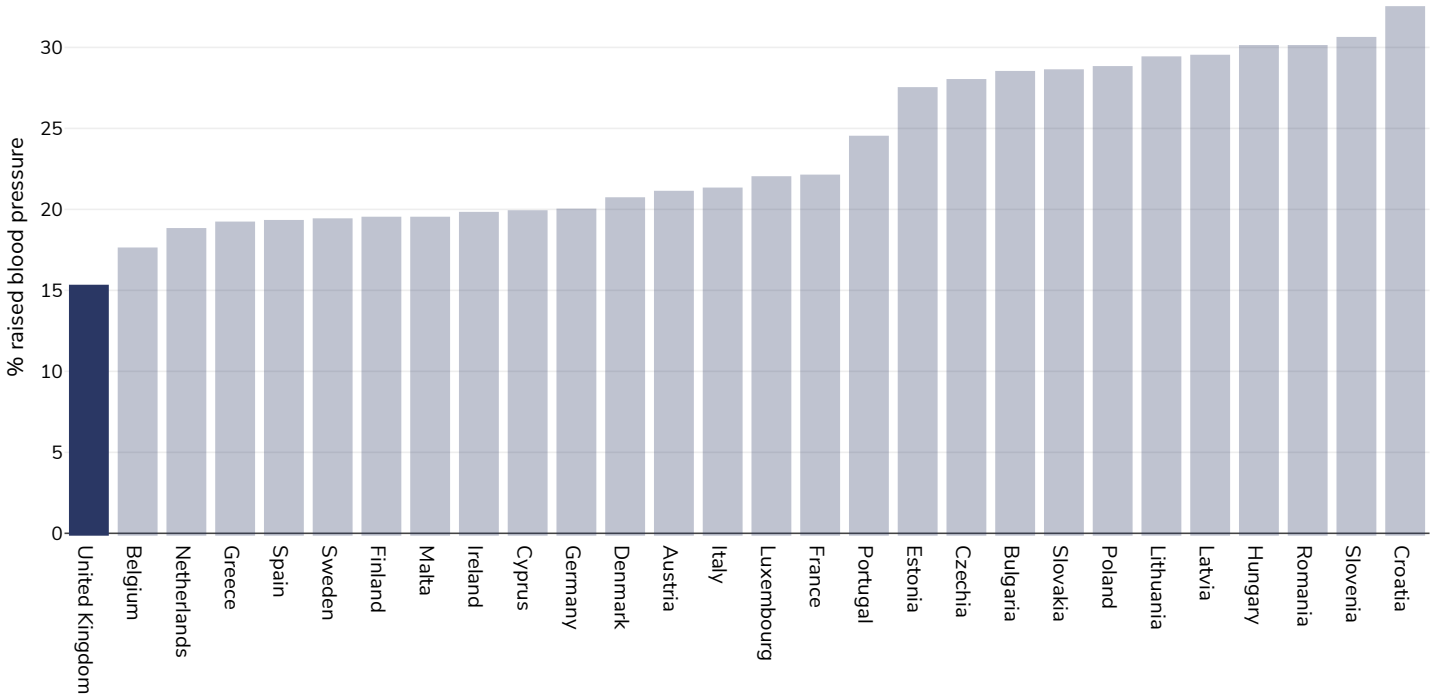
Women, 2020



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 10.01.2371
Definitions:	Age-standardized indicence rates per 100 000

Raised blood pressure

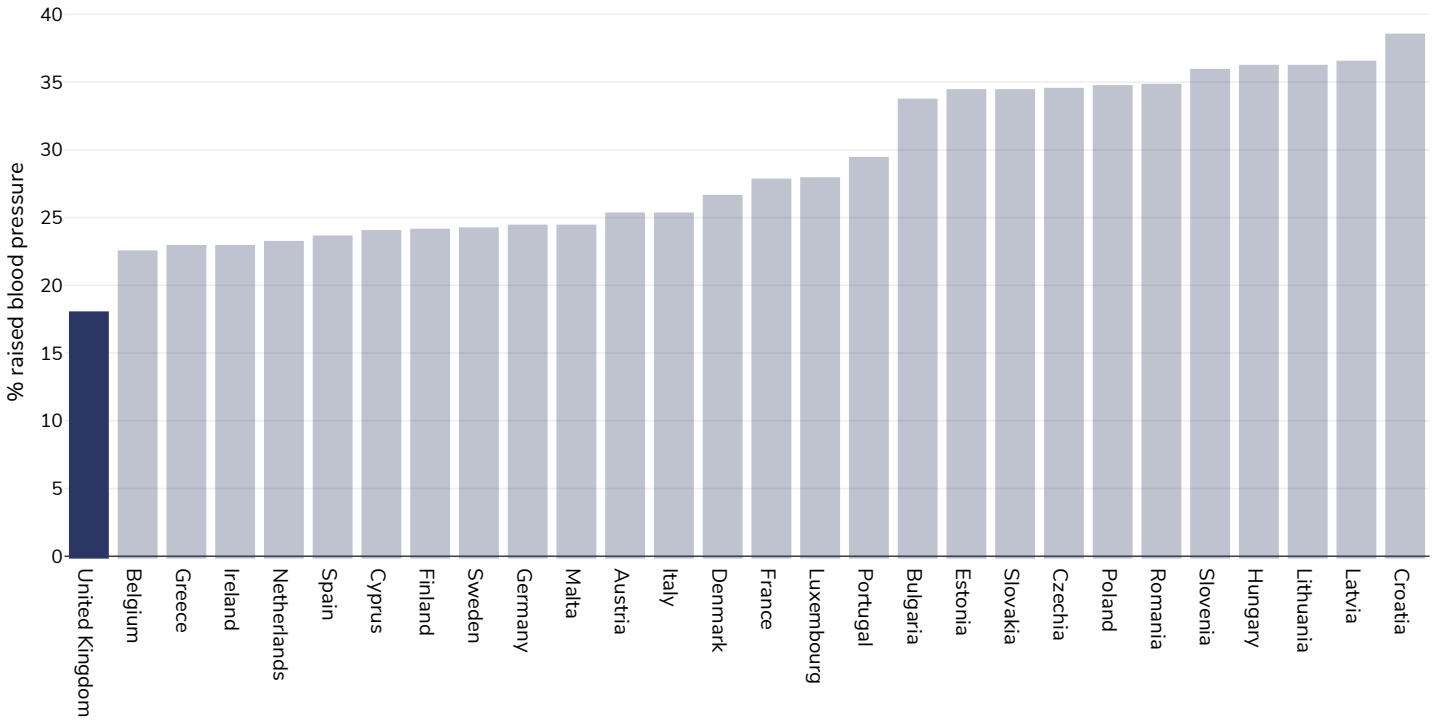
Adults, 2015



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>=140 OR DBP>=90).

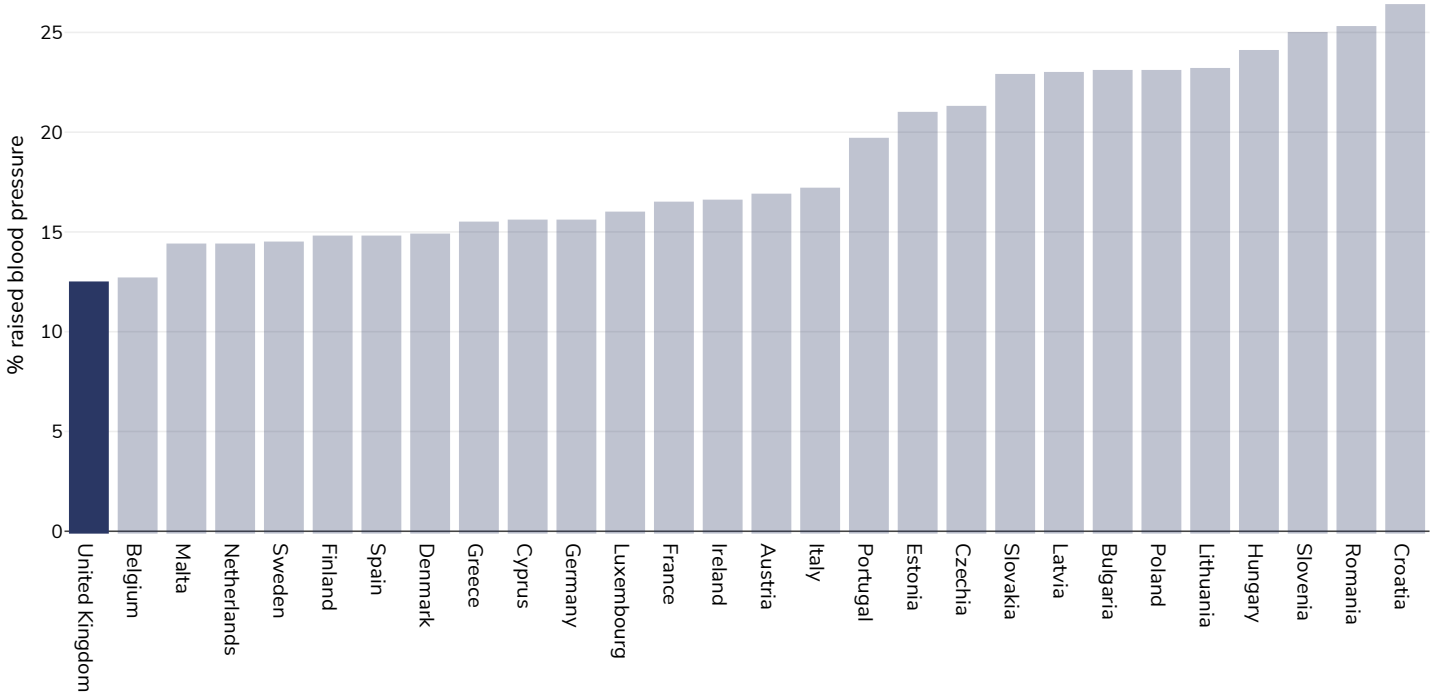
Men, 2015



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).

Women, 2015

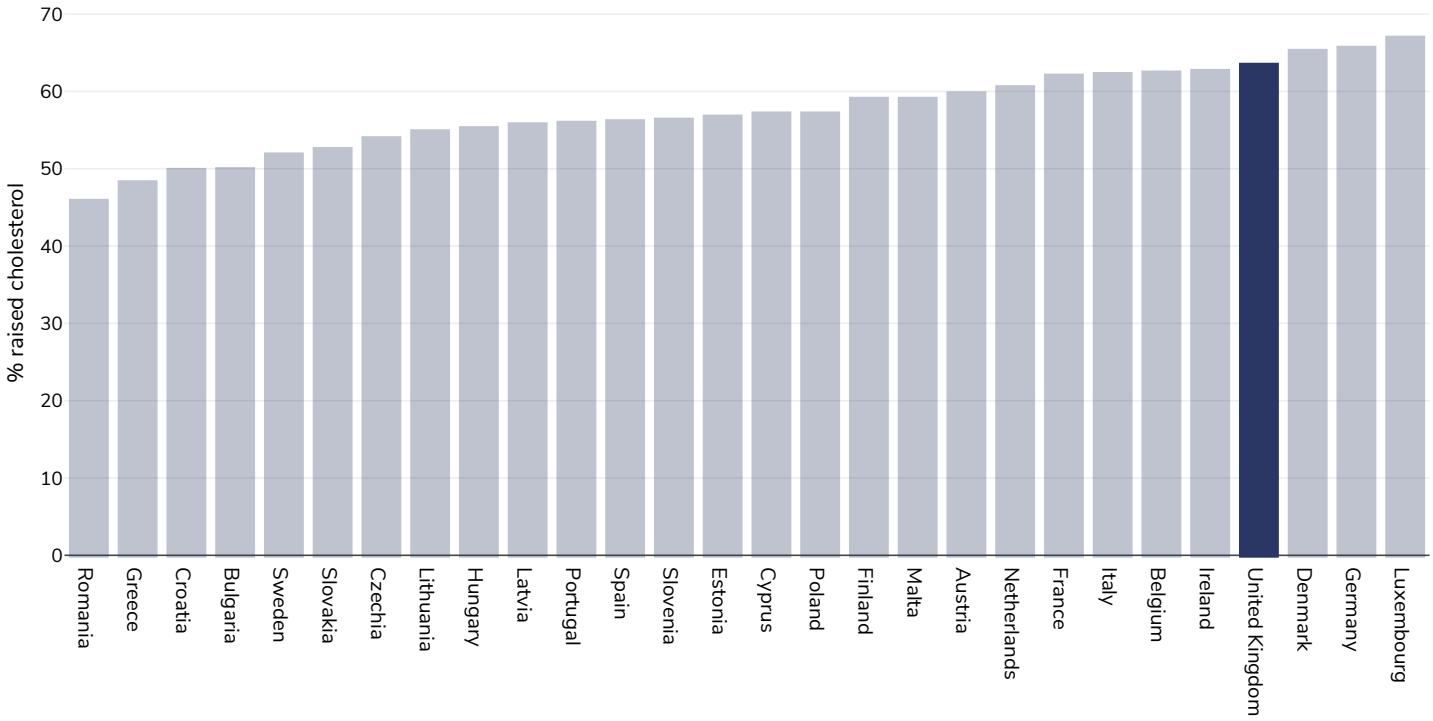


References: Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A875?lang=en

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

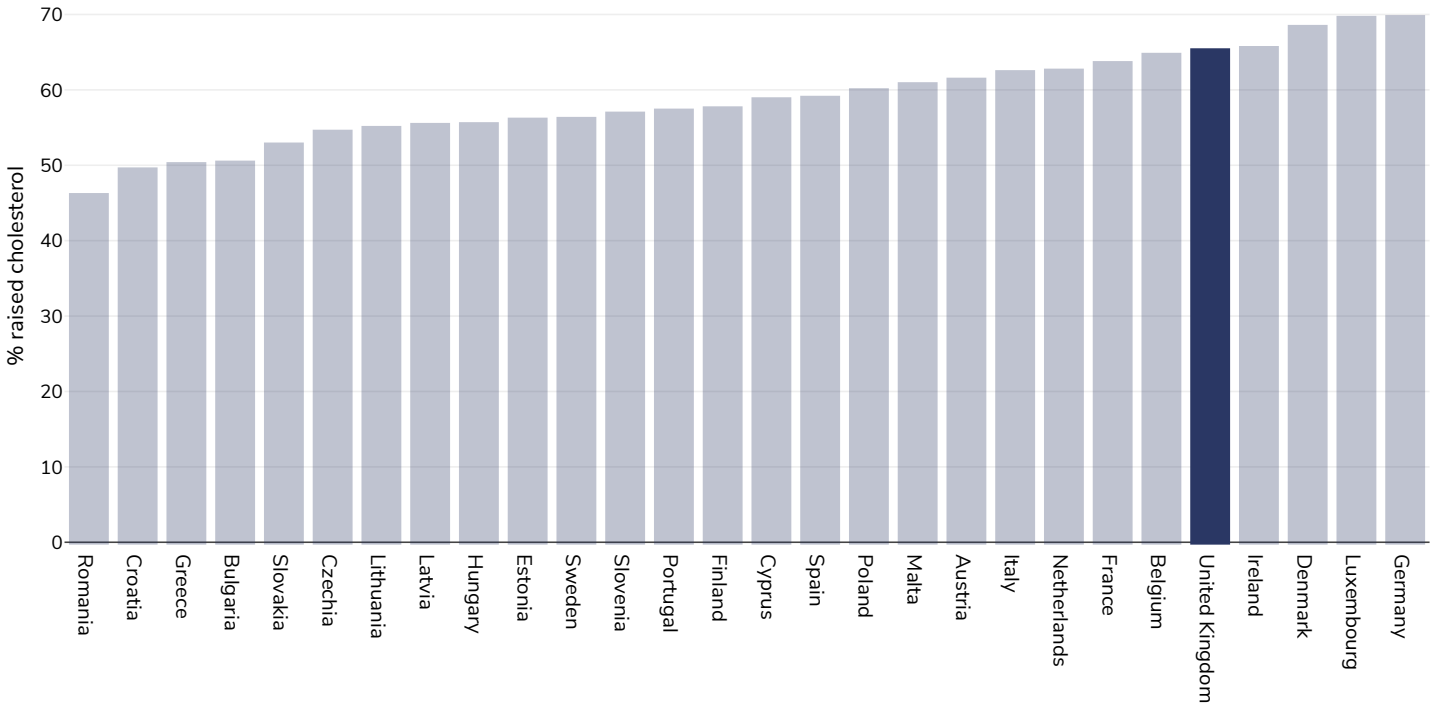
Raised cholesterol

Adults, 2008



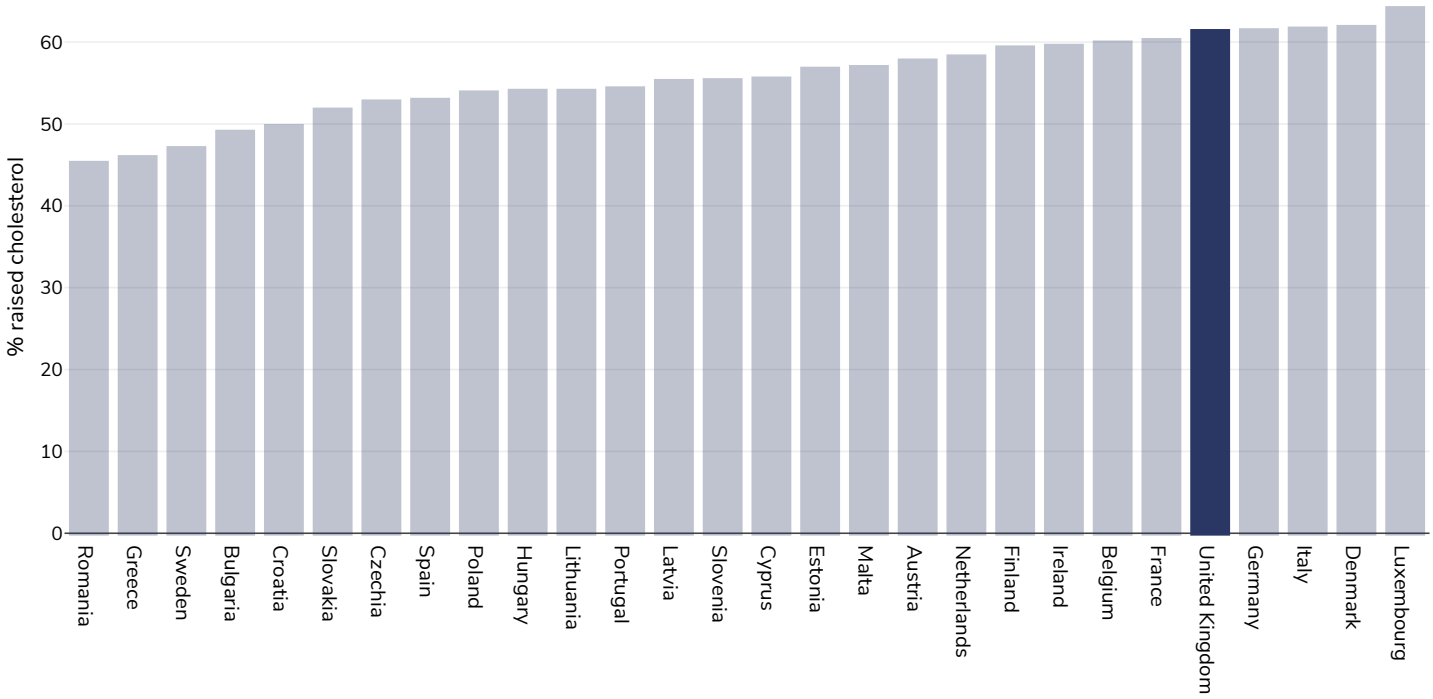
References:	Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A885
Definitions:	% Raised total cholesterol (>= 5.0 mmol/L) (age-standardized estimate).

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).

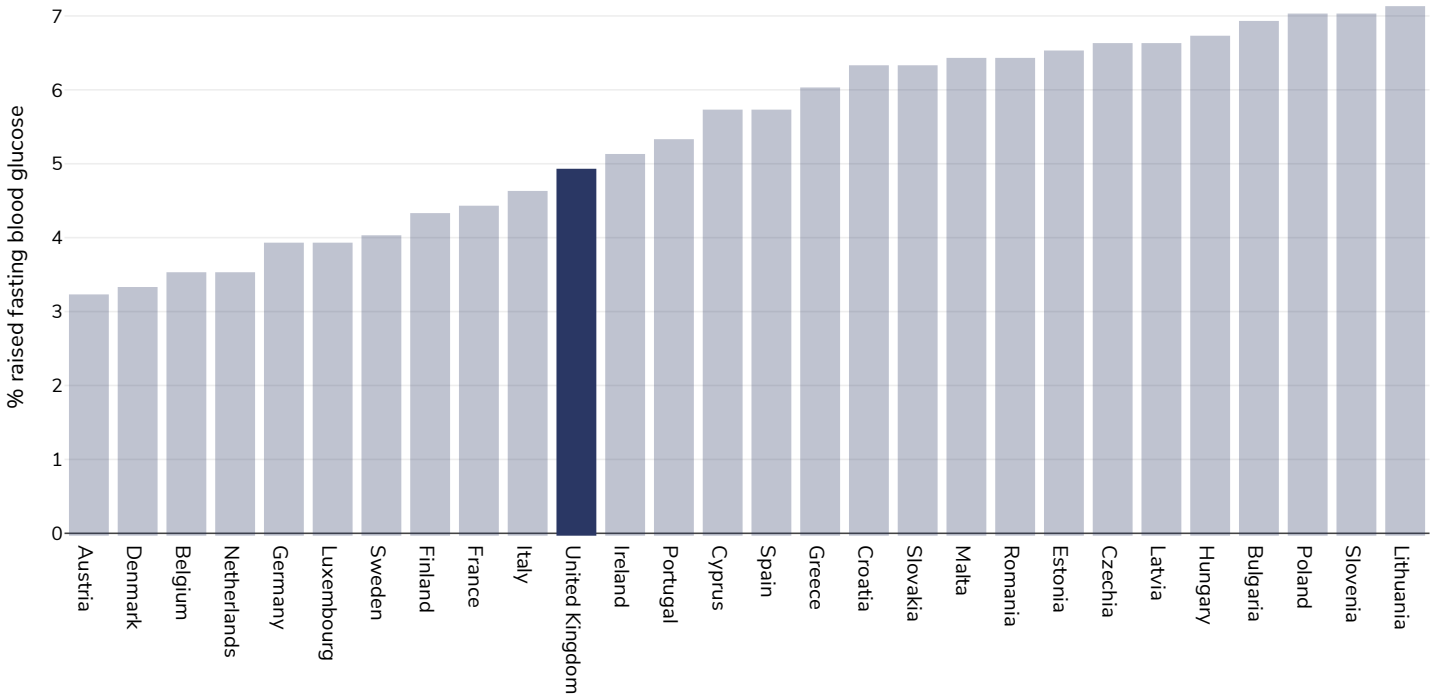
Women, 2008



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

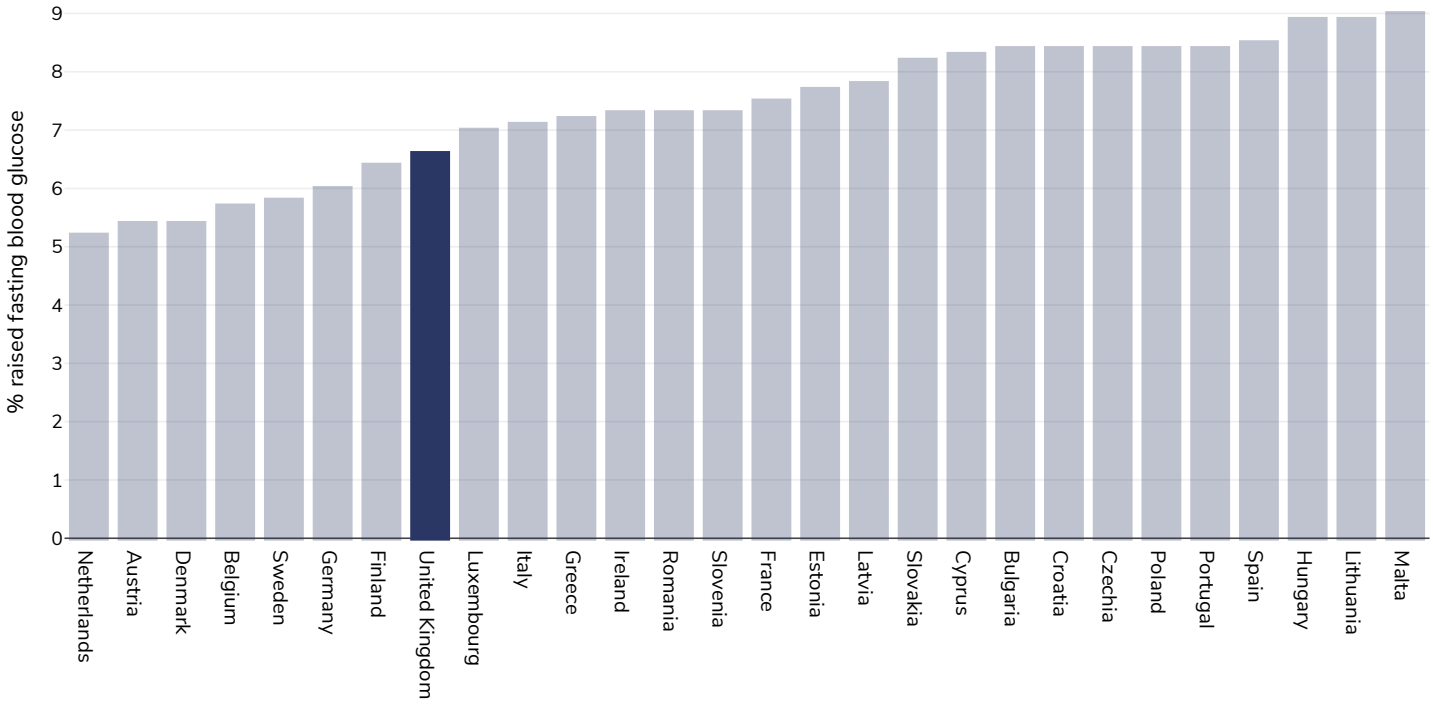
Men, 2014



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

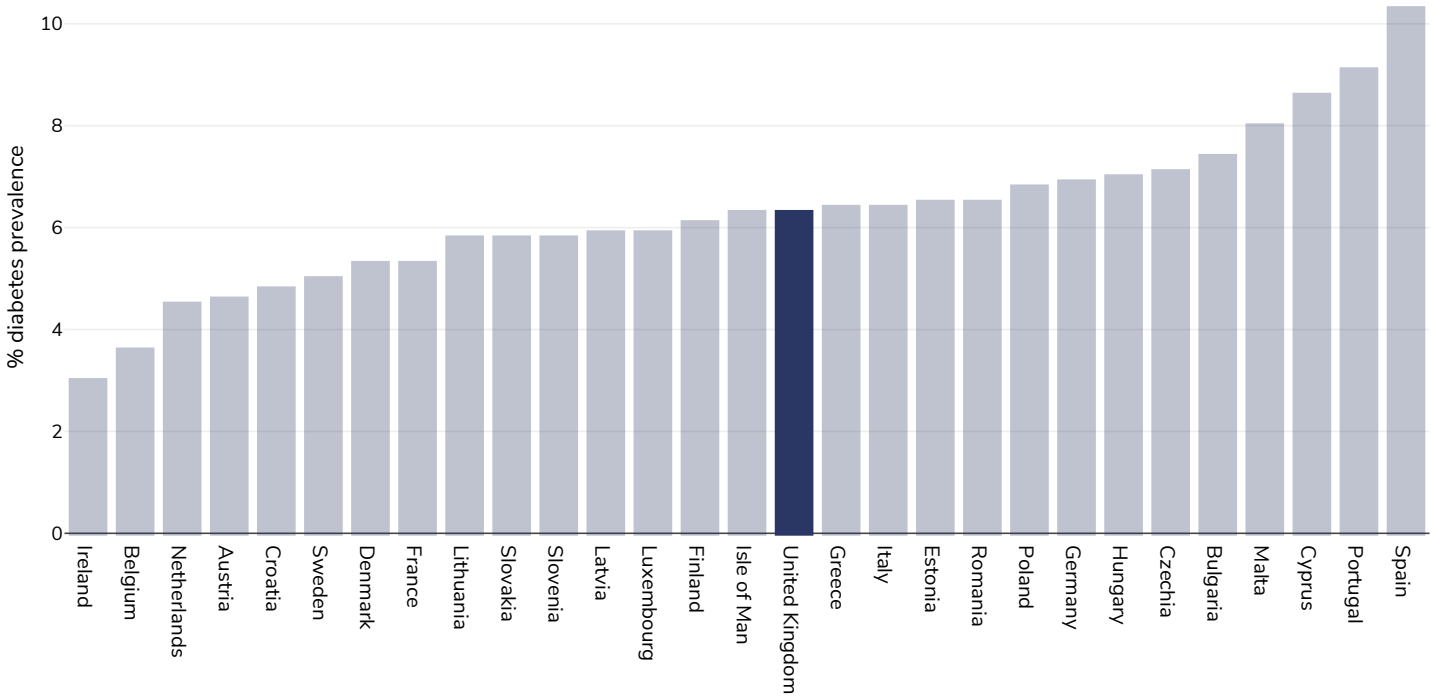


References: Global Health Observatory data repository, World Health Organisation, http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.A869?lang=en

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?	✓v
Back-of-pack nutrition declaration?	✓
Color coding?	✓v
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?	✓
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)?	✗

Key

✓ Present | ✓v Present (voluntary) | ✓ Incoming | ✗ Absent | ? Unknown

Last updated April 24, 2024

PDF created on April 25, 2024