

Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity Armenia



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DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

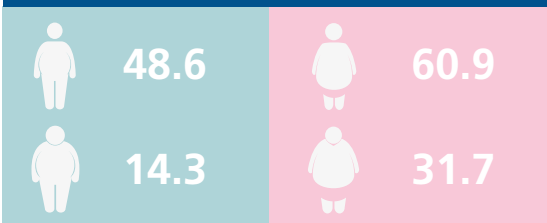
Total population	3 092 000
Median age (years)	32.1
Life expectancy at birth (years) female male	77.3 71.0
GDP per capita (US\$)	3030.7
GDP spent on health (%)	4.4

Monitoring and surveillance Overweight and obesity in three age groups

Adults (20 years and over)

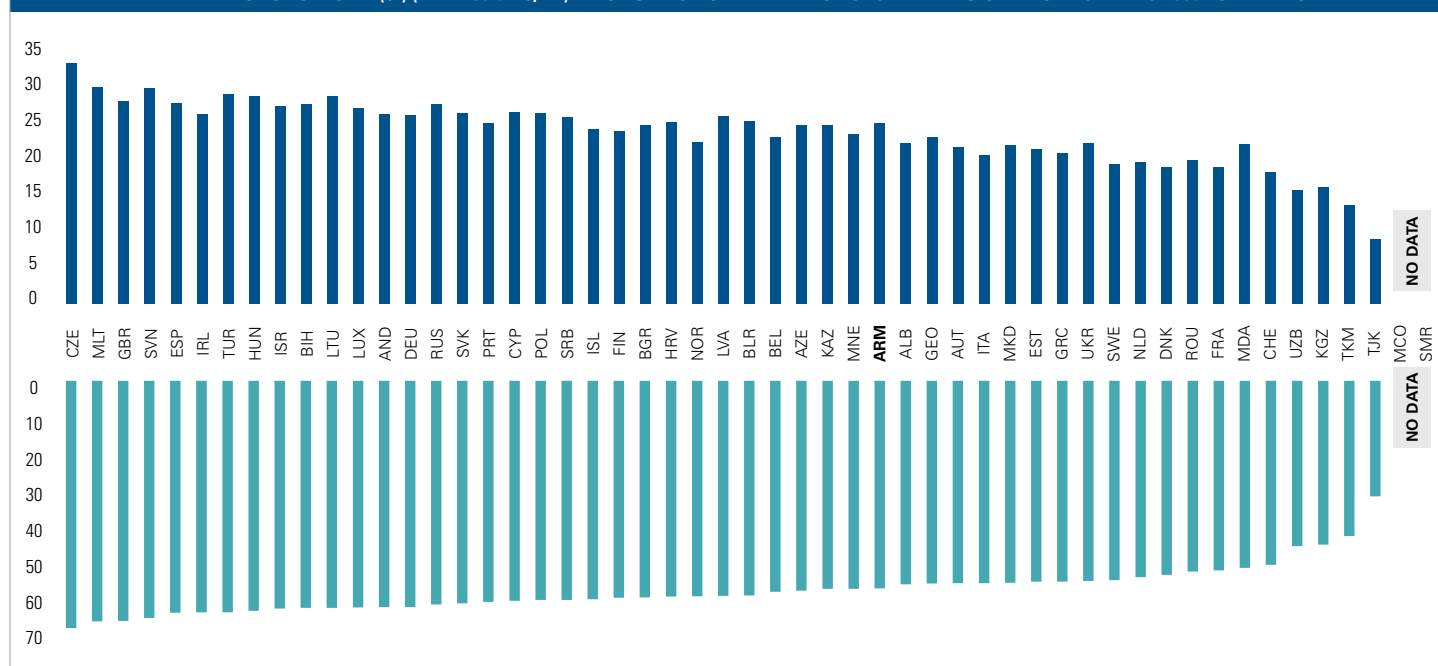
Intercountry comparable overweight and obesity estimates from 2008 (1) show that 55.5% of the adult population (≥ 20 years old) in Armenia were overweight and 24.0% were obese. The prevalence of overweight was lower among men (48.6%) than women (60.9%). The proportion of men and women that were obese was 14.3% and 31.7%, respectively. Adulthood obesity prevalence forecasts (2010–2030) predict that in 2020, 10% of men and 18% of women will be obese. By 2030, the model predicts that 12% of men and 16% of women will be obese.¹

PREVALENCE OF OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY (%) AMONG ARMENIAN ADULTS BASED ON WHO 2008 ESTIMATES



Source: WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository (1).

PREVALENCE OF OBESITY (%) (BMI ≥30.0 KG/M²) AMONG ADULTS IN THE WHO EUROPEAN REGION BASED ON WHO 2008 ESTIMATES



PREVALENCE OF OVERWEIGHT (%) (BMI ≥25.0 KG/M²) AMONG ADULTS IN THE WHO EUROPEAN REGION BASED ON WHO 2008 ESTIMATES

Notes. The country codes refer to the ISO 3166-1 Alpha-3 country codes. Data ranking for obesity is intentionally the same as for the overweight data. BMI: body mass index.

Source: WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository (1).

¹ Report on modelling adulthood obesity across the WHO European Region, prepared by consultants (led by T. Marsh and colleagues) for the WHO Regional Office for Europe in 2013.

Adolescents (10–19 years)

In terms of prevalence of overweight and obesity in adolescents, up to 26% of boys and 17% of girls among 11-year-olds were overweight, according to data from the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) survey (2009/2010).² Among 13-year-olds, the corresponding figures were 24% for boys and 13% for girls, and among 15-year-olds, 15% and 6%, respectively (2).

Children (0–9 years)

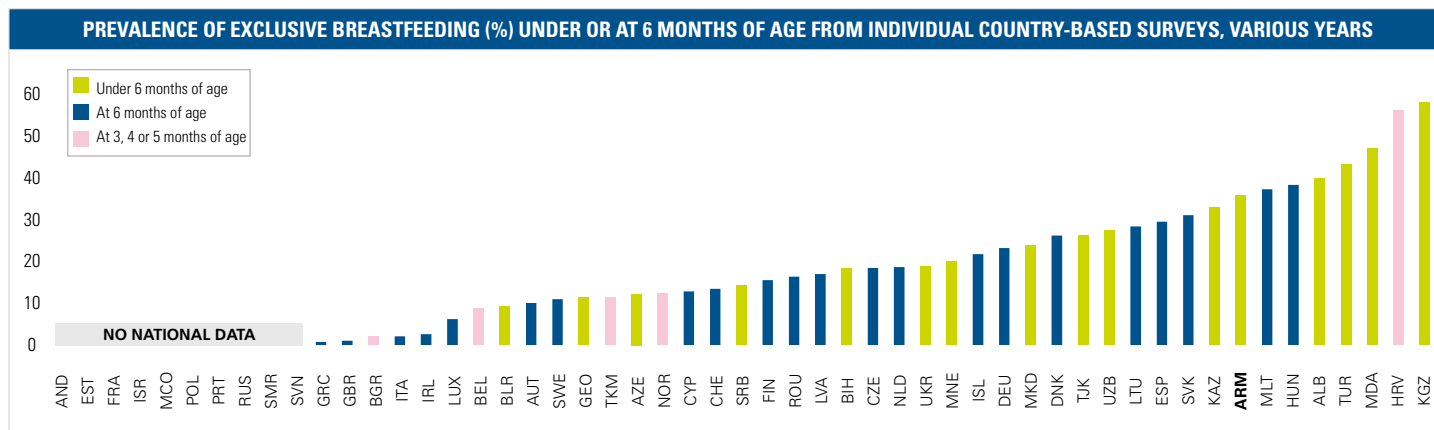
No prevalence figures are available for overweight and obesity in schoolchildren based on measured intercountry comparable data. Armenia is not yet participating in the WHO European Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative (COSI).

PREVALENCE OF OVERWEIGHT (%) IN ARMENIAN ADOLESCENTS (BASED ON SELF-REPORTED DATA ON HEIGHT AND WEIGHT)		
26	17	
24	13	
15	6	
11-year-olds	13-year-olds	15-year-olds

Source: Currie et al. (2).

Exclusive breastfeeding until 6 months of age

Nationally representative data from 2010 show that the prevalence of exclusive breastfeeding under 6 months of age was 34.6% in Armenia.³

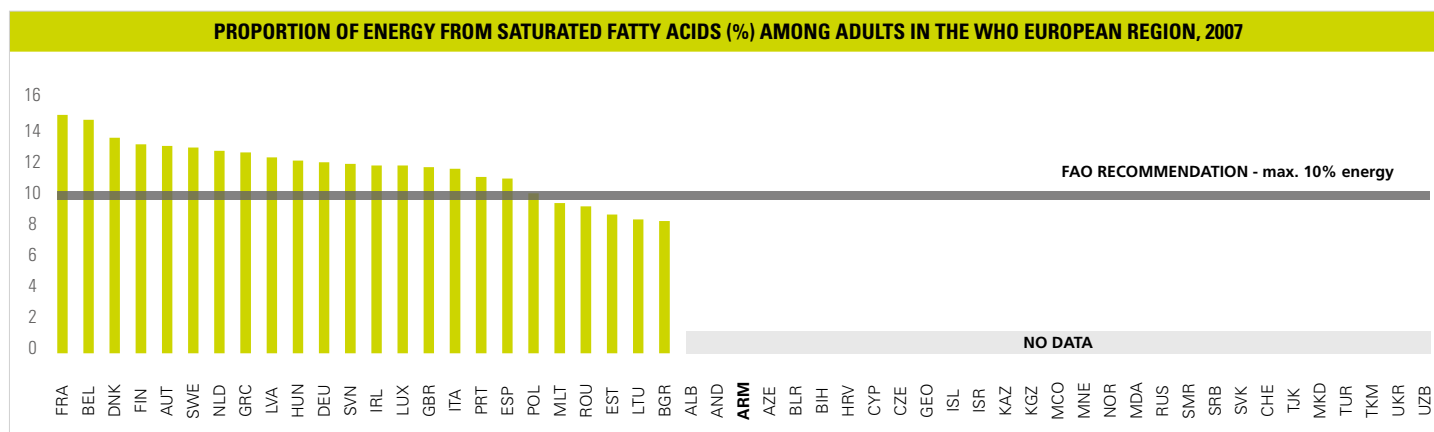


Notes. The country codes refer to the ISO 3166-1 Alpha-3 country codes. Data were derived from country-specific publications on surveys carried out in this field, not as part of a European-wide survey. Due to different data collection methods of the country-specific surveys, any comparisons between countries must be made with caution.

Source: WHO Regional Office for Europe grey literature from 2012 on breastfeeding.

Saturated fat intake

No data are available.



Notes. The country codes refer to the ISO 3166-1 Alpha-3 country codes. Ranking of data was carried out so that country data at the right-hand side of the graph – with values below the FAO recommendation – fall within the positive frame of the indicator. FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

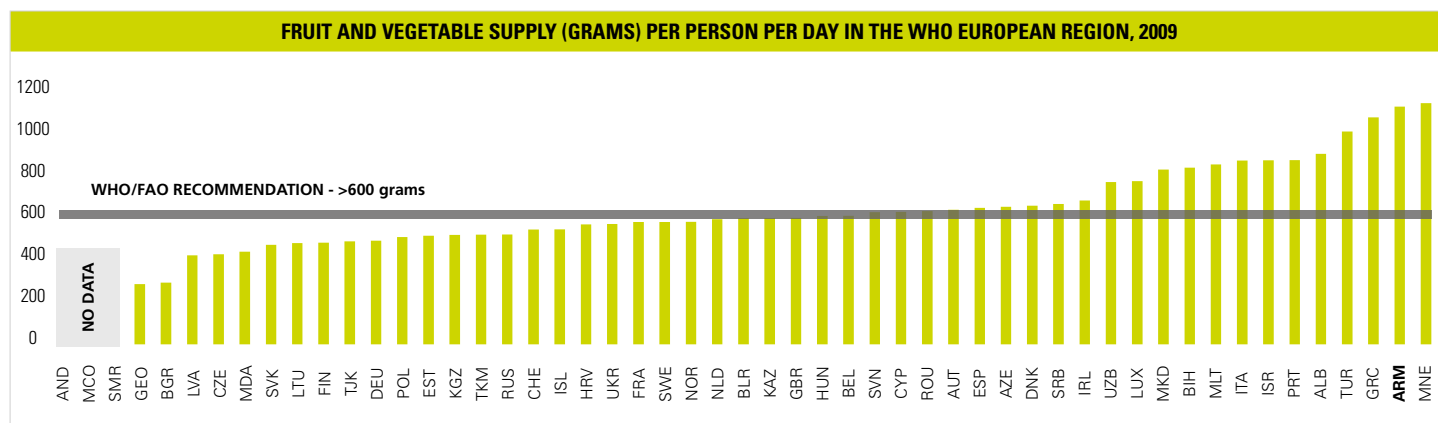
Source: FAOSTAT (3).

²Based on 2007 WHO growth reference.

³WHO Regional Office for Europe grey literature from 2012 on breastfeeding.

Fruit and vegetable supply

Armenia had a fruit and vegetable supply of 1106 grams per capita per day, according to 2009 estimates (3).

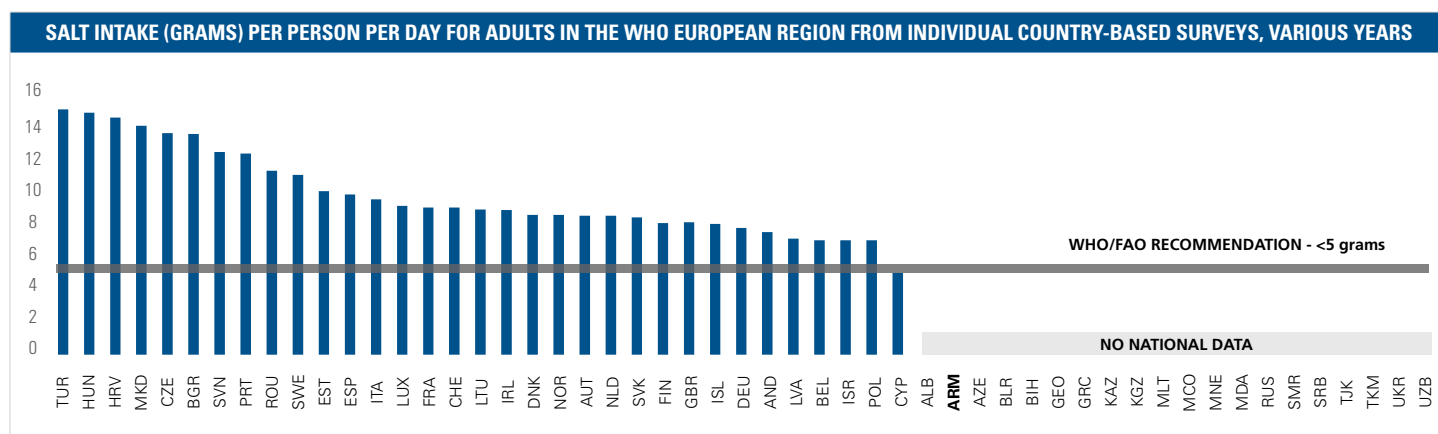


Notes. The country codes refer to the ISO 3166-1 Alpha-3 country codes. Ranking of data was carried out so that country data at the right-hand side of the graph – with values above the WHO/FAO recommendation – fall within the positive frame of the indicator.

Source: FAOSTAT (3).

Salt intake

No data are available.



Notes. The country codes refer to the ISO 3166-1 Alpha-3 country codes. Data were derived from country-specific publications on surveys carried out in this field, not as part of a European-wide survey. Due to different data collection methods of the country-specific surveys, any comparisons between countries must be made with caution. Ranking of data was carried out so that country data at the right-hand side of the graph – with values below the WHO/FAO recommendation – fall within the positive frame of the indicator.

Source: WHO Regional Office for Europe (4).

Iodine status

According to the most recent estimates on iodine status, published in 2012, the proportion of the population with an iodine level lower than 100 µg/L was 6.3% (5, 6).

Physical inactivity

No data are available for the adult population.

Policies and actions

The table below displays (a) monitoring and evaluation methods of salt intake in Armenia; (b) the stakeholder approach toward salt reduction; and (c) the population approach in terms of labelling and consumer awareness initiatives (4).

Salt reduction initiatives

Monitoring & evaluation	Stakeholder approach			Population approach						
				Labelling	Consumer awareness initiatives					
Industry self-reporting	Industry involvement	Food reformulation	Specific food category		Brochure Print	TV Radio	Web site Software	Education	Conference	Reporting
Salt content in food								Schools		
Salt intake								Health care facilities		
Consumer awareness										
Behavioural change										
Urinary salt excretion (24 hrs)										

Source: WHO Regional Office for Europe (4).

Trans fatty acids (TFA) policies

Legislation	Type of legislation	Measure

Source: WHO Regional Office for Europe grey literature from 2012 on TFA and health, TFA policy and food industry approaches.

Price policies (food taxation and subsidies)

Taxes	School fruit schemes

Source: WHO Regional Office for Europe grey literature from 2012 on diet and the use of fiscal policy in the control and prevention of noncommunicable diseases.

Marketing of food and non-alcoholic beverages to children (7)

No action has yet been taken regarding a reduction in the marketing of food and beverages to children in Armenia. The government decision draft "Children's National Nutrition Programme and Action Plan 2013–2015" was developed, which includes the development of legislation on the restriction/banning of the sale of goods that promote harmful food behaviour among children and adolescents in schools and entertainment areas.

Physical activity (PA), national policy documents and action plans

Sport	Target groups	Health	Education		Transportation	
Existence of national "sport for all" policy and/or national "sport for all" implementation programme	Existence of specific scheme or programme for community interventions to promote PA in the elderly	Counselling on PA as part of primary health care activities	Mandatory physical education in primary and secondary schools	Inclusion of PA in general teaching training	National or subnational schemes promoting active travel to school	Existence of an incentive scheme for companies or employees to promote active travel to work
	✓					

Source: country reporting template on Armenia from 2009 developed in the context of a WHO/EC project on monitoring progress on improving nutrition and PA and preventing obesity in the European Union (EU).

Leadership, partnerships and professional networks on health-enhancing physical activity (HEPA)

Existence of national coordination mechanism on HEPA promotion	Leading institution	Participating bodies

Source: country reporting template on Armenia from 2009 developed in the context of a WHO/EC project on monitoring progress on improving nutrition and PA and preventing obesity in the EU.

PA recommendations, goals and surveillance

Existence of national recommendation on HEPA	Target groups addressed by national HEPA policy	PA included in the national health monitoring system

Source: country reporting template on Armenia from 2009 developed in the context of a WHO/EC project on monitoring progress on improving nutrition and PA and preventing obesity in the EU.

References

1. WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository [online database]. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2013 (<http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main>, accessed 21 May 2013).
2. Currie C et al., eds. *Social determinants of health and well-being among young people: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study: international report from the 2009/2010 survey*. Copenhagen, WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2012 (Health Policy for Children and Adolescents, No. 6) (http://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/163857/Social-determinants-of-healthand-well-being-among-young-people.pdf, accessed 21 May 2013).
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5. Andersson M, Karumbunathan V, Zimmermann MB. Global iodine status in 2011 and trends over the past decade. *Journal of Nutrition*, 2012, 142(4):744–750.
6. Zimmerman MB, Andersson M. Update on iodine status worldwide. *Current Opinion in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Obesity*, 2012, 19(5):382–387.
7. *Marketing of foods high in fat, salt and sugar to children: update 2012–2013*. Copenhagen, WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2013 (http://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0019/191125/e96859.pdf, accessed 10 October 2013).